

ENGLISH
PAPER 2
(LITERATURE IN ENGLISH)
(Prescribed Textbooks)

Maximum Marks: 80

Time Allotted: Three Hours

Reading Time: Additional Fifteen Minutes

Instructions to Candidates

1. You are allowed an **additional fifteen minutes** for **only** reading the question paper.
2. You must **NOT** start writing during reading time.
3. This question paper has **7 printed pages and one blank page**.
4. It has **five questions** in all.
5. Answer **all** questions.
6. While answering **Question 1 in Section A**, you are required to **write only ONE option as the correct answer**.
7. **Internal choice** has been given in the **long answer question** on Drama, Prose and Poetry.
8. **Do not exceed the prescribed word limit** while answering the questions in Section B.
9. The intended marks for questions are given in brackets [].

SECTION A – 20 MARKS

Question 1

[10]

Choose the correct options for the following questions.

- (i) What advice does Malcolm give to Macduff in Act IV Scene iii of the play, *Macbeth* when the latter learns about the murder of his wife and children?
- (a) To forget about the matter
 - (b) To change his grief into anger
 - (c) To forgive Macbeth for murder
 - (d) To report the matter to the King of England
- (ii) According to Lennox, in Act III, Scene vi of the play, *Macbeth*, why does Macduff live in “disgrace”?
- (a) He speaks tactfully and misleads Macbeth.
 - (b) He chooses his family over loyalty to the King.
 - (c) He is ambitious and wants the throne for himself.
 - (d) Macduff does not attend the banquet hosted by Macbeth.
- (iii) “He cannot buckle his distemper’d cause
Within the belt of rule.”
What does this statement by Caithness in Act V, Scene ii of the play, *Macbeth* imply?
- (a) He cannot control his temper any longer.
 - (b) Macbeth does not trust Lady Macbeth anymore.
 - (c) He is unable to rule without the help of witches.
 - (d) He cannot control his disorderly government even by force.
- (iv) In Act V Scene i of the play, *Macbeth*, what does the Doctor tell the Gentlewoman to ensure about Lady Macbeth?
- (P) To prevent her from visiting the witches
 - (Q) To take away any means by which she could harm herself
 - (R) To report her condition to Macbeth
 - (S) To always be watchful of her
- (a) Only (P) and (S)
 - (b) Only (Q) and (R)
 - (c) Only (R) and (S)
 - (d) Only (Q) and (S)

- (v) Read the two statements from the short story, *There Will Come Soft Rains*, and choose the correct option from the ones given below.
- Statement I:** ‘...the solvent spread on the linoleum, licking, eating, under the kitchen door, while the voices took it up in chorus: “Fire! fire! fire!”
- Statement II:** ‘While scurrying water rats squeaked from the walls, pistoled their water, and ran for more. And the wall sprays let down showers of mechanical rain.’
- (a) Statements I and II are similar.
- (b) Statements I and II are not related to each other.
- (c) Statement I is the reason for Statement II.
- (d) Statement II is the reason for Statement I.
- (vi) In the short story *Indigo*, what is Aniruddha’s reaction to the untimely visit by Uncle Mohit?
- (a) He ignores Uncle Mohit completely.
- (b) He treats Uncle Mohit with courtesy.
- (c) He requests Uncle Mohit to leave soon.
- (d) He becomes distracted and forgets about the trip.
- (vii) Which one of the following **BEST** explains the reason for the efforts made by Grandpa to impress Martin’s friends in the short story, *The Medicine Bag*?
- (a) He enjoys the attention.
- (b) He is proud of his heritage.
- (c) He does not want to embarrass Martin.
- (d) He wants to make the meeting memorable.
- (viii) What is the tone of the poet in the phrase ‘raven black’ in the poem, *Telephone Conversation*?
- (a) Ignorant and absurd
- (b) Satirical and impolite
- (c) Sad and disappointed
- (d) Discriminatory but calm
- (ix) Which of the following companions of Death are mentioned in the poem, *Death Be Not Proud*?
- (a) Sword, water and fire
- (b) Poison, war and sickness
- (c) Accidents, bruises and tragedies
- (d) Disease, mental health and wellbeing

- (x) Which one of the following characteristics of the 'river' differentiates it from 'small towns' in the poem, *Small Towns and the River*?
- (a) Its depth
 - (b) Its strong current
 - (c) Its ever flowing nature
 - (d) Its crystal blue colour

Question 2

Complete the following sentences by providing a reason for each in brief. Do not write the question. [10]

- (i) In Act III Scene iv of the play, *Macbeth*, Macbeth says "The table's full" because _____
- (ii) In Act IV Scene iii of the play, *Macbeth*, Malcolm tells Macduff that he has none of the "king becoming graces" because _____
- (iii) In Act V Scene v of the play, *Macbeth*, Macbeth is upset at the advancement of English troops because _____
- (iv) In Act V Scene vii of the play, *Macbeth*, Macbeth does not want to fight Young Siward because _____
- (v) In the short story, *Atithi*, Annapurna assumed that Tarapada's mother did not love him because _____
- (vi) In the short story, *The Medicine Bag*, Grandpa hid money in his boots because _____
- (vii) In the short story, *The Cookie Lady*, Bubber felt exhausted on his way back home after his meetings with Mrs. Drew because _____
- (viii) In the poem, *Small Towns and the River*, the poet says that 'The dead are placed pointing west' because _____
- (ix) In the poem, *Tithonus*, Tithonus says one should not disobey the laws of nature because _____
- (x) In the poem, *Telephone Conversation*, the speaker describes the landlady as 'Lipstick coated, long gold-rolled / Cigarette-holder pipped' because _____

SECTION B – 60 MARKS

MACBETH – WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Question 3

- (i) How do the repeated appearances of Banquo's Ghost impact the Banquet and Macbeth in Act III, Scene iv of the play? [5]

Incorporate the following details and write your answer in a short paragraph of 100 - 150 words.

- Repeated appearances of Banquo's Ghost
- Impact of its appearances on the Banquet and Macbeth

- (ii) Referring to Act V of the play, *Macbeth*, describe the final confrontation between Macbeth and Macduff. [5]

Incorporate the following details and write your answer in a short paragraph of 100 - 150 words.

- Macbeth's unwillingness to kill Macduff
- Macduff's revelations and its consequences

- (iii) (a) How do the actions and mental states of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth reveal their inner guilt? Answer in about 200 - 250 words by referring to the Acts studied. [10]

OR

- (b) Discuss how Macbeth's repeated visits to the three witches show his inability to take correct decisions and leads to his subsequent downfall. [10]

Write your answer in 200 - 250 words by referring to the Acts studied.

PRISM- A COLLECTION OF SHORT STORIES

Question 4

- (i) Why does Tarapada repeatedly leave his home and go on various adventures in the short story, *Atithi*? Why does he choose to stay with Motilal Babu and his family? [5]

Incorporate the following details and write your answer in a short paragraph of 100 - 150 words.

- Motivation behind Tarapada's repeated departure
- Reasons for his stay with Motilal Babu

- (ii) Discuss the contents of the notebook that Aniruddha finds in the Dak Bungalow in the short story, *Indigo*. What do the contents reveal about the British planter? [5]
Incorporate the following details and write your answer in a short paragraph of 100 - 150 words.

- Contents of the notebook
- Characteristics of the British planter

- (iii) (a) How do Bubber's meetings with Mrs. Drew eventually lead to his tragic end in the short story, *The Cookie Lady*? Do you think his parents could have prevented the tragedy? Give reasons for your answer in about 200 - 250 words. [10]

OR

- (b) In the short story, *The Medicine Bag*, the author addresses the themes of cultural identity and generational differences. Discuss the statement in 200 - 250 words by making relevant references to the story. [10]

RHAPSODY: POETRY

Question 5

- (i) How does the poet challenge Death in the poem, *Death Be Not Proud*? [5]
Write your answer in a short paragraph of 100 - 150 words incorporating the following details.

- Reason for negating Death
- Any two instances of challenging Death

- (ii) How does a boon become a curse for Tithonus in the poem, *Tithonus*? [5]
Answer in 100 - 150 words incorporating the following details.

- Boon of immortality
- Implications of the boon on his life

- (iii) (a) The poem, *Beethoven*, illustrates Beethoven's determination and his ability to adapt himself to circumstances to create divine music. [10]
Justify the statement with close references to the poem, in about 200 - 250 words.

OR

- (b) What do you infer about the speaker in the poem, *Telephone Conversation*? Do you feel that the landlady and the speaker could have come to a mutual understanding? Give reasons for your answer in 200 - 250 words. [10]