

# MT EDUCARE LTD.

ICSE X

SUBJECT : **ENGLISH PAPER II**

BOARD PAPER – 2016  
QUESTION PAPER

## SECTION A -DRAMA

### The Merchant of Venice : Shakespeare

#### Question 1.

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow :

**Portia** : As from her lord, her governor, her king. Myself and what is mine  
to you and yours Is now converted : but now I was the lord Of this  
fair mansion, master of my servants, Queen o'er myself; and even  
now, but now,  
This house, these servants, and this same myself, Are yours, my  
lord :

#### Question :

- (i) Where are Portia and Bassanio ? What has just taken place which makes Portia to speak these words ? What was the inscription given in the lead casket ? [3]
- (ii) What does Bassanio say in praise of Portia's portrait ? [3]
- (iii) What news saddens Bassanio on this happy occasion ? What does Portia ask him to do ? [3]
- (iv) Who is Balthazar ? What was the work assigned to him by Portia ? [3]
- (v) Where does Portia really plan to go ? What similarity do we find between Portia and Antonio ? What does this scene reveal about the character of Portia ? Give a reason to justify your answer. [4]

#### Question 2.

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow :

But mercy is above this sceptred sway;  
It is enthroned in the hearts of kings,  
It is an attribute to God himself;  
And earthly power doth then show likest God's  
When mercy seasons justice.

#### Question :

- (i) Name the speaker. Why did the speaker appeal to the Jew for mercy ? Earlier who else in the play appealed for mercy ? [3]
- (ii) What are the three qualities of mercy which the speaker has stated just before the extract ? [3]
- (iii) Give the meaning of 'But mercy is above this sceptred sway'. How does Shylock turn down Portia's plea for mercy ? What does he insist on ? [3]
- (iv) What is Bassanio ready to do for Antonio in the court ? Why is Bassanio snubbed immediately by the disguised Portia ? [3]
- (v) Mention two prominent character traits of Shylock as highlighted through the scene from which the extract has been taken. Substantiate your answer with examples from the text. [4]

**Loyalties : John Galsworthy**

**Question 3.**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow :**

- Inspector** : [Sharply] Are you sure there was nobody in the room already ?
- De Levis** : [Taken aback] I don't know. I never thought. I didn't look under the bed, if you mean that.
- Inspector** : [jotting] Did not look under bed. Did you look under it after the theft ?
- De Levis** : No. I didn't.
- Inspector** : Ah ! Now, what did you do after you came back from your bath ? Just give us that precisely.

**Question :**

- (i) What reply did De Levis give to the inspector's last question in the extract ? [3]
- (ii) What made De Levis check the contents of his pocket book ? What did he find there ? Whom did he go to upon discovering the theft? [3]
- (iii) Who was Robert ? Where was Robert's room ? At what time did he take De Levis clothes and boots ? [3]
- (iv) What is the Inspector's final theory of the theft ? [3]
- (v) Whom did De Levis accuse of stealing his money ? What were his reasons for making this accusation ? [4]

**Question 4.**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow :**

- Mabel** : [Utterly surprised] Ronny ! Do they want me in Court ? Dancy No.
- Mabel** : What is it, then ? Why are you back ? Dancy Spun.
- Mable** : [Blank] Spun ? What do you mean ? What's spun ? Dancy The case. They've found out through those notes.
- Mable** : Oh ! [Staring at his face.] Who ?

**Question**

- (i) Where are Mabel and Dancy at this time ? What was Mabel doing just before this conversation ? [3]
- (ii) Why did Mabel say, "Do they want me in court ?" Explain the meaning of spun in the extract ? [3]
- (iii) What 'notes' is Dancy talking about now ? How does Mabel react immediately after the extract ? [3]
- (iv) Dancy leaves a note for his best friend towards the end of the play. What is the name of his best friend ? What is written in the note ? [3]
- (v) What does Dancy do at the end ? Why does he do that ? What is your opinion of Mabel and Dancy ? [4]

**SECTION B - POETRY**  
**A Collection of Poems**

**Question 5.**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follows : The woods are lovely, dark and deep.  
But I have promises to keep,  
And miles to go before I sleep,**

And miles to go before I sleep.  
(Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening : Robert Frost)

**Question**

- (i) Who is 'I' referred to in the extract ? Which season of the year is it ?  
What evidence is there in the poem to support your answer ? [3]
- (ii) Who has made him aware of his mistake ? How does it make the speaker aware of his mistake ? What does it seem to say ? [3]
- (iii) What are the three sounds heard ? [3]
- (iv) What has been said earlier by the poet about the owner of the woods ? [3]
- (v) What does lovely, dark and deep suggest ? What is the underlying significance in the repetition of the last two lines of the extract ? Mention the moral tag that the poet attaches to the poem. [4]

**Question 6.**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow :**

The morning stretched calm, beautiful, and warm.  
Sprawling half clad, I gazed out at the form  
Of shimmering leaves and shadows. Suddenly  
A strong flash, then another, startled me.  
I saw the old stone lantern brightly lit.  
(A Doctor's Journal Entry for August 6, 1945: Vikram Seth)

**Question**

- (i) In which country did the incident described in the poem occur ? What had caused the flashes ? What happened to his home soon after ? [3]
- (ii) Describe the injuries suffered by the Doctor. [3]
- (iii) What was his wife's name ? What happened to a house standing before them ? [3]
- (iv) How does he describe the people he met on the way ? [3]
- (v) Why were the people walking with their hands away from their bodies ? What was common to all of them ? What message does the poem convey? [4]

**SECTION C - PROSE**  
**Collection of Short Stories**

**Question 7.**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follows :**

"That only leaves October, November and December," said the Queen.  
"And after that we shall have to begin all over again."  
"No, we shan't," said the King, "because I think twelve daughters are enough for any man and after the birth of dear little December 1 shall be reluctantly compelled to cut off your head."  
He cried bitterly when he said this, for he was extremely fond of the Queen.

**Question**

- (i) Why did the king change the names of his daughters so many times ? [3]
- (ii) In what way was Princess September different from her sisters ? What reason does the author give for this difference in their temperaments ? [3]
- (iii) Which unusual birthday tradition did the King of Siam observe ? Mention some of the gifts that he gave. [3]
- (iv) Why did Princess September put the Nightingale in a cage ? What reasons did she give to the bird for putting it in a cage and then keeping it there ? [3]

- (v) How did the bird behave upon being locked in a cage ? What is the message of the story ? [4]

**Question 8.**

The Last Leaf explores the theme of Friendship and Self-Sacrifice. Discuss this with close reference to O'Henry's 'The Last Leaf'. [16]

**Animal Farm : George Orwell**

**Question 9.**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow :**

These three had elaborated Old Major's teachings into a complete system of thought, to which they gave the name of Animalism.

**Question**

- (i) Who had elaborated on Old Major's teachings ? [3]  
(ii) When and where did they hold their secret meetings ? How did the meetings end ? [3]  
(iii) What had the Old Major said about the 'nature of this life of ours' ? [3]  
(iv) Who were the most faithful disciples ? How did they contribute towards the preparations for the rebellion ? [3]  
(v) How did the animals celebrate the day after the rebellion ? [4]

**Question 10.**

Give an account of how Napoleon and his companions were unjust and cruel in their behavior towards the other animals. [16]

**Question 11.**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follows :**

NEXT MORNING ! HAD AN IDEA. IT WAS nothing clear cut, merely speculative, but I considered it all the way to school. Then, after assembly, as soon as they were quiet I waded in. this might be a bit rough, I thought, but here goes. "I am your teacher, and I think it right and proper that I should let you know something of my plans for this class."

**Question**

- (i) Who is 'I' in the above lines ? Where is he ? In what mood was he when he entered the class ? [3]  
(ii) What did the narrator expect from his students at this moment ? [3]  
(iii) Who entered soon after this ? What did she do that made the narrator angry ? What challenge did he give her ? [3]  
(iv) What was the effect of the challenge on her ? What plan did the narrator have in mind regarding the conduct of the young ladies ? Whose help did he seek for this ? [3]  
(v) What did the narrator expect from the boys ? What was the reaction of the children when they heard the narrator's expectations ? [4]

**Question 12.**

Give an account of the incidents of racial discrimination that Braithwaite has described in the novel 'To sir Wirth Love'. [16]

