



Silver Grove School

Practice set [B](2025-26)

CLASS – IX A

SUBJECT: Literature in English – Paper II

Time: 2.00 Hrs

M.M.: 80

Name: _____

Roll No.: _____

Instructions:

1. Read all the questions attentively.
2. The paper has **four** Sections.
3. **Section A** is compulsory – **All** questions in Section **A** must be answered.
4. You must attempt **one** question from each of the Sections **B**, **C** and **D** and **one** other question from any Section of your choice.
5. The intended marks for each question are given in brackets [].

Section – A

(Multiple Choice Questions)

Question 1

Choose the correct answers to the questions from the given options.

[16]

(Do not copy the question, write the correct answers only.)

- (i) The Act II of Scene I is important because
 - a) the conspiracy to murder Caesar is hatched.
 - b) Portia complains to Brutus.
 - c) we get to know of Brutus' harsh nature.
 - d) the plan to save Caesar is made
- (ii) Which of the following options is NOT true about an owl's cry?
 - a) annoying
 - b) sign of bad luck
 - c) unsettling to the mind
 - d) frightening
- (iii) Who of the following does Cassius compare the dreadful night with, in Act I of Scene 3?
 - a) Brutus
 - b) Caesar
 - c) himself
 - d) with Casca
- (iv) What special human quality does Brutus reveal when he lets Lucius enjoy the honey- heavy dew of slumber?
 - a) His affection for Lucius.
 - b) His disgust for Lucius sleeping so soundly.
 - c) His irritation to see Lucius fast asleep.
 - d) His tolerance.
- (v) Why does Portia Consider herself to be a cut above other women?

- a) She feels she is better looking and richer than other women.
 - b) She is Lord Brutus' wife.
 - c) She is Cato's daughter.
 - d) She is not only Lord Brutus' wife but also Cato's daughter.
- (vi) How does Artemidorous get to know of the conspiracy?
- a) He has overheard the conspirators planning assassination.
 - b) It has been leaked out by one of the conspirators.
 - c) He was present in Brutus's house
 - d) Brutus had confided in him about the plans to murder Cesar.
- (vii) Which of these statements is **NOT** true?
- a) The doctor lit up his stone Lantern.
 - b) The doctor's clothes were inexplicably gone.
 - c) The doctor's wife came out numb and scared.
 - d) One of the doctor's cheeks was torn by a piece of glass.
- (viii) Which of these statements is **NOT** true?
- a) The train starts its journey climbing hills slowly.
 - b) The train carries letters and many other things for different people.
 - c) The train is heading for London.
 - d) The people wait for the mail anxiously in the morning.
- (ix) Which of the given options contains the figure of speech that appears in the following line from Thomas Hood's poem 'I remember I remember':
- 'The little window where the sun
Came peeping in at morn.'*
- a) Because I could not stop for death
He kindly stopped for me.
 - b) Frail as a dragon-fly's wing.
 - c) A hundred years should go to praise
Thine eyes and on thy forehead gaze.
 - d) My spirit flew in feathers then.
- (x) What special human quality does 'The Night Mail' celebrate?
- a) The wait for the mail
 - b) The longing to get some later
 - c) The longing to be connected and remembered by someone
 - d) The longing to get some news
- (xi) Which of the following options best describes the word 'artifice' in the title of the poem 'A Work of Artifice'?
- a) Art
 - b) Trickery
 - c) Intelligence
 - d) Artifice
- (xii) Why was it difficult to imagine what Bonku Babu might say or do, if one day he did get angry?
1. His behaviour was unpredictable
 2. He was never cross
 3. No one had ever seen him get cross.
 4. He was a foolish man.
- (xiii) What did Nathu do to emphasize his point and thereby give himself confidence?

- a) Refusing to work
 - b) Abusing his employer
 - c) Banged the pen against the dustbin several times
 - d) Breaking the dustbin
- (xiv) Who took Phatik up roughly, and carried him to the house'.
- a) Makhan
 - b) Phatik's father
 - c) A servant
 - d) Phatik's mother
- (xv) Who according to Phatik's mother was a perpetual nuisance?
- a) Phatik
 - b) Makhan
 - c) Phatik's sister
 - d) Phatik's brother
- (xvi) What indication is there that Bonku Babu was conscious of his age?
- a) His hair was greying
 - b) He was turning cranky
 - c) He remembered his old students
 - d) He knew it would be difficult for him to find another job.

Section – B

Drama

(Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare)

Question 2

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

[Enter Calpurnia]

Calpurnia:

What mean you, Caesar? Think you To walk forth?

You shall not stir out of your house today.

Caesar:

Caesar shall forth: the things that threaten'd me

Ne'er look'd but on my back; when they shall see

The face of Caesar, they are vanished.

- (i) In what mood does Calpurnia speak to Caesar? Why does she warn him? When had he earlier been warned of this day? [3]
- (ii) What has Caesar noticed about the night? What did he ask his servant to do then? Why? [3]
- (iii) What aspect of the character of Calpurnia as well as of Caesar is hinted at, in the extract? Give reasons to justify your answer [3]
- (iv) What does Caesar say later about cowards? What does he say in the extract to show that he is not threatened? [3]
- (v) Caesar says: "Caesar shall forth." On what are Calpurnia's fears based? State two unusual things which she has heard to have happened? [4]

Question 3

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

Antony: *I shall remember:*

When Caesar says 'do this' it is perform'd.

Caesar: *Set on; and leave no ceremony out.*

- (i) What has Caesar just told Antony for him(Antony) to remember [3]
- (ii) What characteristics trait of Caesar is revealed through these instructions given to Antony? [3]
- (iii) What festival is being celebrated? What Instructions has Caesar given earlier to Calpurnia in this scene? [3]
- (iv) What does Antony say in reply to Caesar? Which characteristic trait of Antony towards Caesar is revealed here? [3]
- (v) What orders does Caesar give now? After reading in the above extract, what do you learn about Caesar? [4]

Section – C

Prose – Short Stories

(Treasure Chest – a collection of ICSE Short Stories and Poems)

Question 4

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

Only the other day – less than two months ago – they were talking about ghosts. “Usually, Bonku Babu kept his mouth shut. That day, for some unknown reason, he opened it and declared that he was not afraid of ghosts, that was all! But it was enough to offer a golden opportunity to the others. On his way back home later that night, Bonku Babu was attacked by a ‘spook’. As he was passing under a tamarind Tree, a tall, thin figure leapt down and landed on his back. As it happened this Apparition had smeared black ink all over itself, possibly at the suggestions of someone at the meeting.

At the meeting

- (i) Who is Nathu? Why was he grumbling? [3]
- (ii) ‘Using a small broom he raised the dust.’ Whom does the word ‘he’ refer to? Did the dust disappear? [3]
- (iii) Who happened to pass by while Nathu was working? Where was that person going? [3]
- (iv) What did the passerby ask Nathu? What was his tone? What was the name of the owner of the Pipalnagar bank? [3]
- (v) What light does this extract throw on Nathu’s state of mind? What assurance did Sitaram give to Nathu before leaving? What did Sitaram carry on his head? [4]

Question 5

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

No one was able to discover who the baby’s father was, or what his mother’s name was. Mr Bumble, an important officer in the town, invented a name for the baby. He chose the name Oliver Twist.

‘We name the new babies here in order from A to Z.’ he explained when people asked. ‘I named the last one Swubble. This one is Twist. The next one will be Unwin’.

At the age of nine, Oliver was a pale, thin child. He and the other workhouse boys Never had enough warm clothes or food. They were given only three meals of thin Soup every day. On Sundays they had a small piece of bread.

- (i) What were the organisers of the work house not able to find out? [3]
- (ii) Who was Mr Bumble? What did he do for the baby? Explain on your own. [3]
- (iii) Who are *we* mentioned in the passage? How did *we* name new babies? [3]
- (iv) How did Oliver look at the age of nine? Why did he look thin and pale? [3]
- (v) What was the usual food of work house boys? What special thing was given to them on Sundays? [4]

Section – D

Poetry

(Treasure Chest – A Collection of ICSE Short Stories and Poems)

Question 6

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

Asleep in granite Aberdeen,
They continue their dreams,
And shall wake soon and long for letters,
And none will hear the postman's knock
Without a quickening of the heart,
For who can bear to feel himself forgotten?

- (i) Describe the initial stage of the train's night journey, what was the purpose? [3]
- (ii) What has it carried for the people? Describe each thing. [3]
- (iii) What does it mean *Asleep in granite Aberdeen*? Explain in your own. [3]
- (iv) What have the people been dreaming of? What do they expect when they wake up? [3]
- (v) Point out the two figures of speech used in last lines. In what way does the poet emphasis 'human connection'? [4]

Question 7

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

Suddenly
A strong flash, then another, startled me.
I saw the old stone lantern brightly lit.
Magnesium flares ? While I debated it.
The roof, the walls and, as it seemed, the u
Collapsed in timber and debris, dust swirl
Around me – in the garden now – and, weird
My drawers and undershirt disappeared.

- (i) Who is the speaker ? Where was he at the moment? What pleased him?
[3]
- (ii) What happened suddenly? What thought came across the speaker's mind?
[3]
- (iii) What happened to the house and the speaker's clothes?
[3]
- (iv) What did he call later in panic? What were his fears? [3]
- (v) Describe the physical condition of the doctor and his wife? [4]