

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

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***Maximum Marks: 80***

***Time Allowed: Three Hours***

*(Candidates are allowed an **additional 15 minutes** for **only** reading the paper.*

*They must **NOT** start writing during this time.)*

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*Answer **all** questions in **Section A and Section B**.*

*The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [ ].*

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**SECTION A – 20 MARKS**

**Question 1**

**[10]**

**Choose the correct options for the following questions.**

- (i) **Captain:** “Doubtful it stood,  
As two spent swimmers that do cling together.  
And choke their art.”
- What does the Captain refer to through the phrase, “Doubtful it stood” in Act I Scene ii of the play, *Macbeth*? **(RECALL)**
- (a) The weather was doubtful.
  - (b) The outcome of the battle was doubtful.
  - (c) Macbeth was a doubtful character.
  - (d) The way the “swimmers” were standing was doubtful.
- (ii) Which aspect of Fortune is being traditionally personified when it is called “a rebel’s whore” in Act I Scene ii of the play, *Macbeth*? **(UNDERSTANDING)**
- (a) Fickleness.
  - (b) Vanity.
  - (c) Beauty.
  - (d) Femininity.

- (iii) **Banquo:** “All’s well.  
I dreamed last night of the three weird sisters;  
To you they have showed some truth.”  
What “truth” is being referred to by Banquo in Act II Scene i of the play, *Macbeth*?  
(RECALL)
- (a) Macbeth has become the King.
  - (b) Banquo’s sons have been given special positions.
  - (c) Macbeth has been made the Thane of Cawdor.
  - (d) Macbeth has got Sweno’s title.
- (iv) Lady Macbeth plans to “pour her spirits in Macbeth’s ear” and chastise him with the “valor” of her tongue. What does this suggest about her role in their relationship?  
(ANALYSIS)
- (a) She is the driving force behind the plot to kill Duncan.
  - (b) She is a dutiful wife who only thinks of her husband’s wellbeing.
  - (c) She is a loyal partner who obeys her husband.
  - (d) She is the caretaker of the family.
- (v) Which one of the following statements best expresses the theme of the short story, *Thank You Ma’am*?  
(ANALYSIS)
- (a) Lessons of life are better imbibed if they are taught with kindness and firmness.
  - (b) Individuals should share their money with those who need it.
  - (c) Certain moments in life can change how we see someone.
  - (d) Spare the rod and spoil the child.
- (vi) Read the two statements from the short story, *A Living God* and choose the correct option from the ones that follow. (ANALYSIS and REASONING)
- (i) **Statement 1:** As the quaking ceased, Hamaguchi’s keen old eyes were anxiously turned toward the village.
  - (ii) **Statement 2:** Thus, it chanced that Hamaguchi became aware of something unusual in the offing.
- (a) Statement (i) is independent of Statement (ii).
  - (b) Statement (i) is the reason for Statement (ii.)
  - (c) Statement (i) and Statement (ii) are similar.
  - (d) Statement (i) is the result of Statement (ii).

- (vii) Mark Twain uses his essay, *Advice to Youth* as a critique of conformity demanded by: **(UNDERSTANDING)**
- (a) Adults.
  - (b) Youngsters.
  - (c) Small children.
  - (d) Youngsters and small children.
- (viii) What does the line “love is not love/ which alters when it alteration finds,” in *Sonnet 116* suggest about Love? **(UNDERSTANDING)**
- (a) Love is conditional and alterable.
  - (b) Love is steadfast.
  - (c) Love is subject to the passage of time.
  - (d) Love is intense but fleeting.
- (ix) What is the underlying theme of the poem *Abhisara – the Tryst*? **(UNDERSTANDING)**
- (a) Compassion
  - (b) Brotherhood
  - (c) Equanimity
  - (d) Mindfulness
- (x) Which one of the following is **NOT** correct about the terminally ill patient wearing a lime green gown in the poem, *Why I like the Hospital*? **(UNDERSTANDING)**
- (a) The patient was pretending to be strong.
  - (b) He was not shouting at the doctor.
  - (c) He was crying inconsolably.
  - (d) He was hunched over a chair.

## Question 2

[10]

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

- (i) In Act I Scene i of the play, *Macbeth*, the heath is an appropriate place for the witches to meet because\_\_\_\_\_. (ANALYSIS)
- (ii) In Act I Scene iv of the play *Macbeth*, Duncan’s words, “He was a gentleman on whom I built/ An absolute trust,” are ironic because\_\_\_\_\_. (EVALUATE)
- (iii) In Act I Scene iii of the play, *Macbeth*, Macbeth thinks that supernatural soliciting could not be ill because\_\_\_\_\_. (UNDERSTANDING)
- (iv) Lady Macbeth was unable to kill Duncan herself because \_\_\_\_\_. (UNDERSTANDING)
- (v) In the short story, *A Living God*, the coastline had broadened because\_\_\_\_\_. (UNDERSTANDING)
- (vi) In the essay, *Advice to Youth*, Mark Twain says that it is best to target the very young for instructions because\_\_\_\_\_. (RECALL)
- (vii) In the short story, *The Paper Menagerie*, Jack’s mother left him a box to be opened during the festival of Qingming because\_\_\_\_\_. (RECALL)
- (viii) In the poem, *Abhisara-The Tryst*, Vasavdatta was hurriedly driven away from the town because\_\_\_\_\_. (RECALL)
- (ix) In the poem, *Why I Like the Hospital*, the speaker was slouching along the garage because\_\_\_\_\_. (UNDERSTANDING)
- (x) In Shakespeare’s *Sonnet 116*, the poet calls Love, the star to every wandering bark because\_\_\_\_\_. (ANALYSIS)

**SECTION B – 60 MARKS**  
**MACBETH - WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE**

**Question 3**

- (i) Referring closely to the words of the Sergeant and Ross in Act I Scene ii, show how Macbeth is presented as a brave and mighty figure. [5]

In your answer you should incorporate the following details and answer within 100-150 words. (RECALL)

- Emphasise the language and description used to create the image of bravery.
- Mention Duncan's responses and their effect.

- (ii) What reasons does Macbeth give for not killing Duncan? Why does he go ahead despite the initial reservations? [5]

In your answer, you should incorporate the following details and answer within 100-150 words. (RECALL and UNDERSTANDING)

- Explore Macbeth's fears
- Mention his responsibilities
- Talk about his strongest impulse to go ahead

- (iii) (a) With reference to Act II of the play, show how Lady Macbeth supports the over imaginative Macbeth after the murder of Duncan. Highlight the key differences in their personalities. [10]

Answer in 200-250 words. (EVALUATE)

**OR**

- (b) What kingly qualities did Duncan possess? Could some of his good qualities as a person be regarded as defects in a king? Give reasons. Answer in 200-250 words. [10]

(EVALUATE)

## PRISM- A COLLECTION OF SHORT STORIES

### Question 4

- (i) Why did the boy snatch Mrs. Jones' purse in the short story, *Thank You Ma'am*? [5]  
What important life lesson did Mrs. Jones impart to him during this encounter?

In your answer, you should incorporate the following details and answer within 100-150 words. (UNDERSTANDING and ANALYSIS)

- Give a reason for the boy's action.
- Describe the life lessons given by Mrs. Jones.

- (ii) Referring closely to his words in *Advice to Youth*, cite two instances of Mark Twain's puckish humour. [5]

In your answer, you should incorporate the following details and answer within 100-150 words. (RECALL)

- You are required to state the two instances.
- Briefly discuss the overt and covert intent of Twain's statements in the two instances stated by you.

- (iii) (a) Trace the journey of Jack and his changing relationship with his mother through his association with Laohu in the short story, *The Paper Menagerie*. How does it finally become the agent that initiates Jack's homecoming? [10]

Write your answer in about 200 to 250 words. (EVALUATE)

OR

- (b) How does the short story, *The Great Automatic Grammatizator*, explore the theme of the impact of technology on creativity and literature? [10]

Answer in 200-250 words. (EVALUATE)

## RHAPSODY: A COLLECTION OF POEMS

### Question 5

- (i) How does Tagore depict the fleeting nature of youth and beauty through the changing seasons in his poem, *Abhisara-The Tryst*? [5]

(UNDERSTANDING)

You are required to answer in 100-150 words by incorporating the following details.

- Vasavdatta's beauty and the subsequent change in her physical condition.
- Use of nature imagery to create the impact

- (ii) What images does the poet use in *Sonnet 116* to convey his perception of Love? Why are these images effective? [5]

(ANALYSIS and RECALL)

You are required to answer in 100-150 words by incorporating the following details.

- Refer to specific images to show how the poet has conveyed his thought.
- Examine why those images are effective.

- (iii) (a) How does Wilfred Owen challenge the traditional ideals of heroism and valour in war in his poem, *Strange Meeting*? Do wars create more problems than they solve? Give your views. [10]

Answer in 200-250 words (ANALYSIS and INTERPRETATION)

OR

- (b) Examine the poem *Death of a Naturalist* as an exploration of the poet's growth from childhood to adolescence. [10]

Answer in 200-250 words (EVALUATE)