

PART - I

1. Section A - Answer all questions

Read the given extracts and answer the questions given below them.

POETRY

(i) "The wrinkled sea beneath him crawls;
He watches from his mountain walls,"

- (a) Name the poem from which these lines are taken. Who is the poet?
- (b) Who is referred to as "He"?
- (c) Find a poetic technique used in these lines and give an example.
- (d) Why does the sea crawl beneath him?

(05 marks)

(ii) "She had two sons at rising day,
To-night she'll be alone."

- (a) In which work do these lines appear? Who is the poet?
- (b) Why would she feel lonely at night?
- (c) What has caused this situation?
- (d) What are the feelings of the speaker?

(05 marks)

(iii) "Up there he's a king on throne,
but at home you should hear him moan."

- (a) Where are these lines taken from? Who wrote them?
- (b) Who is referred to as "he"?
- (c) Name the poetic device used in the first line and give an example.
- (d) How would you explain the life of the clown in relation to these lines?

(05 marks)

PROSE

(vi) "Don't talk nonsense," said the prisoner in the tank; "Go and fetch the ladder"

- (a) From which text are these lines taken? Who wrote them?
- (b) Who speaks these lines and who is addressed?
- (c) Why is the speaker described as a 'prisoner'?
- (d) What qualities of the speaker's character are reflected with what she utters here?

(05 marks)

- (v) "I saw him and, I think Oh my God, you were out first ball, run out the next innings and now you have been shot. What a terrible first tour."
 (a) From which text are these lines taken? Who is the speaker?
 (b) Who is referred to as "him"?
 (c) What emotion is created here in the audience?
 (d) Why does the speaker change his tone of voice here? (05 marks)
- (vi) "I am afraid it will not go with my dress," she answered.
 (a) From which text is this extract taken? Who wrote it?
 (b) Who speaks these lines? To whom are they spoken?
 (c) What is referred to as "it"? Why does the speaker refuse it?
 (d) How would you describe the speaker's character here? (05 marks)

Section B - Answer the questions in **either** (a) , (b) **or** (c)

(a) The Prince and the Pauper

Read the following passage and answer the questions given below.

"In truth, yes, so. Please you, sir save when one is hungry. There be Punch - and - Judy shows, and monkeys - oh, such antic creatures! and so bravely dressed! - and there be plays wherein they that play do shout and fight till all are slain, and 'tis so fine to see, and costeth but a farthing - albeit 'tis main hard to get the farthing, please your worship"

- (i) Who is the speaker here? Who is addressed?
 (ii) Briefly describe this situation.
 (iii) Explain the meanings of the following in your own words.
 (a) fight till all are slain
 (b) albeit
 (iv) What do you learn about the way of life of the speaker? (10 marks)

(b) Bringing Tony Home

For the next couple of weeks I moved around like in a dream and I lingered on in a world of memories and shadows. My mind was a confusing montage of images constantly cross cutting between past and present, fantasy and fact. Through it all there was a recurring motif. It was an episode from my childhood over forty years back in time, something which was always there in my memory as clearly as if it happened yesterday. But now it kept coming back with an intensity I had never felt before.

- (i) What is the situation described in the passage? Who is the speaker?
 (ii) Why is the speaker's mind unsettled?
 (iii) Write the meanings of the following in your own words.
 (a) lingered
 (b) recurring
 (iv) What does this passage reveal about the relationship of the speaker with a familiar setting? (10 marks)

(c) **The Vendor of Sweets**

He never possessed more than two sets of clothes at any one time and he delivered all the excess yarn in neat bundles to the local handloom committee in changes for cash; although the cash he thus earned was less than five rupees a month, he felt a sentimental thrill in receiving it, as he had begun the habit when Gandhi visited the town over twenty years ago and had been commended for it.

- (i) Who is referred to as 'He' in this extract?
(ii) Who has influenced him to act in the manner described in the passage?
(iii) Explain the meanings of the following in your own words.
(a) sentimental
(b) commended
(iv) What quality of 'he' is reflected in this extract? (10 marks)

PART II

POETRY

(Answer *two* questions from this section)

- (02) How does William Blake convey the idea that the nature positively influences lives on the earth through his poem *'To the Evening Star?'*
(03) How does Wislawa Szymborska make a movie like presentation in verse encapsulated into four minutes to trace the violence that has become a common occurrence in modern society with her poem *'The Terrorist, He's Watching?'*
(04) How does Yasmine Goonaratne analyze the irrational and meaningless violence that painted a bleak picture of Sri Lankan society using the image of the big match in her poem *Big Match, 1983?*
(05) How does Edward Lowbury effectively use humour to bring out the consequences of excessive, careless speech in his poem *The Huntsman?*

(15 marks for each question)

PROSE

(Answer *two* questions from this section)

- (06) How would you evaluate Kumar Sangakkara as a great leader committed to the game of Cricket as well as a great Sri Lankan with the text of his speech *The Lahore Attack?*
(07) 'Love is a wonderful thing that shouldn't change with reason, philosophy and power.' To what extent is this discussed in the story *'The Nightingale and the Rose?'*
(08) How far do you agree to suggest the idea that the world of children is more imaginative than that of adults and children with their witticism can smartly outwit adults in the short story *The Lumber Room?*
(09) 'The prose passage *'Wave'* is not only about grief but it is a very fine story about love.' Discuss.

(15 marks for each question)