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The Shri Ram School Aravali ICSE Revision Paper 2015: Literature

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The Shri Ram School, Aravali
 Subject (Question Bank): English Literature
 Topic: Prose, Poetry & Drama
 Class: X

Name..... Sec..... Date.....

PROSE

ICSE - A COLLECTION OF POEMS AND SHORT STORIES

INDIA'S HEROES

Q1. 'India's Heroes' is a nested narrative.' Discuss with close reference to the text. (16)

Q2. Answer the following questions with reference to context:

"Wonderful!" Mrs. Baruah said. "Remember that it does not have to be a profession. You can also speak of someone whom you'd want to be like – maybe a role model or a mentor." (16)

- Describe the reaction of the students when Mrs. Baruah entered the class. Who were the first two speakers? What did they say? (3)
- Why was Kabeer nervous? How was his speech different from the others? (3)
- What time was each child given to make his/her speech? Why was Kabeer inspired by Vishnu Dattaram Zende? (3)
- Give a brief character sketch of Karambir Singh Kang. (3)
- What does the term 'heroism' mean to you? How does Kabeer become a hero in the end? (4)

THE KABULIWALA

Q1a. 'Friendship goes beyond age.' Discuss with close reference to the story, 'The Kabuliwala'. (8)

b. "In a moment I realised that we were both just the same- he was a father and so was I." Discuss with reference to the story. (8)

Q2. Answer the following questions with reference to context:

"Can't I see the girl for a moment?" Perhaps he was convinced that Mini was still the same little girl and would come out of the house running to greet him, 'Kabuliwala, O Kabuliwala,' as in the past." (16)

- Describe the first meeting between Mini and the Kabuliwala. (3)
- How does Mini change over the years? (3)
- For how long had the Kabuliwala not seen Mini? Why? (3)
- Why was the Kabuliwala denied a meeting with Mini? How does the occasion become more luminous in the end? (3)
- Give a brief image of Kolkata and its people as gleaned from the text. What are the underlying social evils highlighted through the story? (4)

Q3. Answer the following question with reference to context.

"Yet I am so dull and inert that every time I think of travelling.....and I fancied it all before my eyes"

- Who has been referred to as 'I' in the given passage? What is the 'little world' he lives in and where? (3)
- Who is the Kabuliwala? Describe him. (3)

- c. To whom was the Kabuliwala blaring out stories in his broken Bengali? What were some of the stories that were being told and about whom? (3)
- d. What was the mother's reaction towards the Kabuliwala and why? (3)
- e. What was the uniqueness of the relationship between the Kabuliwala and the listener of the stories? What was the reason behind this friendship? (4)

HUNGER

Q1. How does Nasira Sharma convey the dismal reality of the poor through the story, 'Hunger'? Comment on the twist in the story pointing out the irony of Rizwan's plight. (16)

Q2. Answer the following question with reference to context:

"At seven, he was to submit the first interview at the newspaper office. Dejected, he looked around and started walking with tired steps. He had not eaten anything since morning."

- a. Name the newspaper office where Rizwan had to submit the first interview? Why had he gone there in the first place? What were the conditions laid down for him by the newspaper office? (3)
- b. Why was he dejected? What were the unending problems back home that were causing him great anxiety?(3)
- c. How was Rizwan's conduct with men at the newspaper office different from that with Kasim? What does this tell us about him? (3)
- d. What satisfaction did Rizwan feel as he came out of the office after submitting Kasim's interview? Why was he worried at the same time? (3)
- e. Did Rizwan give up hope? How did he console himself as he walked home? Describe Rizwan's prospects using any two appropriate adjectives. (4)

THE LAST LEAF

Q1. Discuss the relationship between Behrman and Sue and Johnsy. How does it highlight the theme of friendship? (10+6)

Q2. Answer the following question with reference to context: (16)

"When it was light enough Johnsy, the merciless, commanded that the shade be raised.

The ivy leaf was still there.

Johnsy lay for a long time looking at it. And then she called to Sue who was stirring her chicken broth by the gas stove.

'I've been a bad girl Sudie,' said Johnsy. 'Something has made that last leaf stay there to show me how wicked I was...'

- a. What was the calamity that befell Johnsy? What was the doctor's prognosis about her that he shared with Sue? (3)
- b. Why did Johnsy command that the shade be raised? Why was the view outside the window so important for her? (3)
- c. Who was responsible for the fact that the last ivy leaf was still there? What inspiration had he been waiting for over the last twenty-five years? (3)
- d. What was the change in Johnsy after seeing that the last ivy leaf had not fallen despite the cold, wet and windy weather? What did she resolve to do? (3)
- e. What news does Sue disclose to Johnsy as she lay comfortably knitting a woollen scarf? Why does Sue call Behrman's painted leaf on the wall his 'masterpiece'? (4)

MY LOST DOLLAR

Q1. Sometimes humour can be used as an effective medium to communicate or bring to the fore certain social issues. Discuss the given statement in the light of the story "My Lost Dollar". (16)

Q2. Answer the following questions with reference to the given text:

"On the other hand I know I shall remember all my life that Todd owes me a dollar. It will make no difference, I trust, to our friendship, but I shall never be able to forget it."

- What has the author said immediately before this statement? (3)
- When did Todd borrow the dollar and why? Does the author remember the specific date and why? (3)
- What does the author say happens with him when someone borrows a dollar from him? What happens when he borrows a dollar from others? (3)
- Where had Todd gone? What did he send from there and what was the author's expectation? (3)
- How does the borrowed dollar lead to humour in the story? Explain briefly. (4)

PRINCESS SEPTEMBER

Q1. "There is a human tendency to treat everyone and everything that you like the way you want for yourself." Discuss the truth of this statement with close reference to the chapter 'Princess September'. (16)

Q2. Answer the following questions with reference to the given text:

"When he had finished his breakfast he began to sing again so beautifully that the Maids of Honour were quite surprised, for they had never heard anything like it, and the Princess September was very proud and happy.

'Now I want to show you to my eight sisters,' said the Princess.

She stretched.....for she was mindful of etiquette..."

- Who is 'he' mentioned in the first line of the extract? How did the Princess meet 'he'? (3)
- What mood was the Princess in before this and why? What had been her mother's response to it? (3)
- How did the Princess carry 'he' with her? Why was she proud of 'he'? (3)
- What does 'she was mindful of etiquette' mean? What does it reveal about the life in palace? (3)
- What inspires the bird to sing? How is this related to the central theme of the story? (4)

THE BET

Q1a. Compare and contrast the character of the banker and the lawyer. (10)

b. Discuss the irony in the story. (6)

Q2. Answer the following questions with reference to context:

"Tomorrow at twelve o'clock he will regain his freedom. By our agreement I ought to pay him two million. If I do pay him, it is all over with me: I shall be utterly ruined."

- a. Why does the banker grudge the lawyer his freedom? (3)
- b. What turn of events took place in the banker's life since the agreement? Why? (3)
- c. What does the banker decide to do to save himself from embarrassment? How does the author employ pathetic fallacy? (3)
- d. State any three terms and conditions of the agreement. (3)
- e. Describe briefly the wisdom gained by the lawyer through books. (4)

JOURNEY BY NIGHT

Q1. In the conflict between nature and civilization: nature triumphs. How does Sher Singh overcome the hurdles of nature to take his brother to the hospital? (16)

Q2. Answer the following questions with reference to context:

Thank goodness there was a bridge at the second river, he thought, seeing it already as his spirit strove faster than his body. That bridge, made of what lay to hand, was a kutchra impermanent thing, but it was at least a bridge.

- a. What was Sher Singh's experience while crossing the first river? (3)
- b. Why was Sher Singh crossing the rivers? Where was he going and for what purpose? (3)
- c. Describe the bridge at the second river. How was it made? (3)
- d. What had happened to the bridge at the second river? Describe Sher Singh's experience while crossing the second river. (3)
- e. Sher Singh's 'spirit strove faster than his body'. Why? Comment on the character of Sher Singh in the light of the above statement. (4)

GOD LIVES IN THE PANCH

Q1. Describe briefly how Jumman and Alagu react to the verdict of the panchayat on the two occasions that it was held. What truth did both eventually realise? (16)

Q2. Answer the following questions with reference to context:

With this purpose he negotiated for the purchase of Alagu's bullock; and ultimately, after trial, purchased it on the understanding that he would pay the price in a month's time.

- a. When and from where had Alagu purchased the pair of bullocks? Describe the pair. (3)
- b. Why did Alagu sell the bullock? Who is 'he' to whom the bullock was sold? For what purpose did 'he' purchase the bullock? (3)
- c. How was the bullock's life at his new master's house different from his life at Alagu's? What effect did it have on the animal's health? (3)
- d. What led to the death of the bullock? Why did the person referred to as 'he' later refuse to pay for the bullock? (3)
- e. The dispute over the bullock was finally settled by the panchayat. What was its verdict and how did Alagu react to it? (4)

THE TIGER IN THE TUNNEL

Q1. Why is the story called 'The Tiger in the Tunnel'? How does this tiger in the tunnel change Tembu's life? (16)

Q2. Tembu, who was twelve, did not always sleep with his father at the station, for he had also to help in the home, where his mother and small sister were usually alone. They lived in a small tribal village on the outskirts of the forest, about three miles from the station. Their small rice fields did not provide them with more than a bare living and Baldeo considered himself lucky ...

- Why did Baldeo consider himself "lucky"? What was his job and responsibility? (3)
- State three reasons Baldeo walked confidently to the tunnel in spite of the eeriness of the place and the tales he had heard about various animals in the vicinity. (3)
- What alerted Baldeo to the presence of the tiger and then to its springing into the cutting? How did the tiger approach him? Why? (3)
- Describe the encounter between the tiger and Baldeo. (3)
- How did the tiger meet its end? (4)

POETRY

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STOPPING BY WOODS ON A SNOWY EVENING

Q1. Answer the following questions with reference to context: (16)

*He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.*

- Why does the little horse give its harness bells a shake? What is its role symbolically? (3)
- Name and explain the figure of speech used in:
*The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.* (3)
- How does the description of the woods highlight the mood of the poem? (3)
- What image do you get of the poet traveller through the poem? (3)
- Discuss the theme of the poem. Justify. (4)

A PSALM OF LIFE

Q1. Answer the following questions with reference to context: (16)

*In the world's broad field of battle,
In the bivouac of Life,
Be not like dumb, driven cattle!
Be a hero in the strife!*

- Name and explain the figure of speech used in :
In the world's broad field of battle,
In the bivouac of Life, (3)
- How can we be a 'hero in the strife'? What advice does the poet give us about how to lead life immediately after this? (3)
- How can we make our lives sublime? (3)

- d. Earlier, the poet states "Dust thou art, to dust returnest, / Was not spoken of the soul." How does he justify himself in the first two stanzas? (3)
- e. State the meaning of 'psalm'. Who has been addressed in the opening lines of the poem? How is the poem 'A Psalm of Life'? (4)

I BELIEVE

Q1. Answer the following questions with reference to context: (16)

I believe I can claw.....myself with them.

- a. Who has been referred to as 'I'? What action does the poet speak about in the stanza before this? (3)
- b. What is the figure of speech used here as well as in the entire poem? Write about the form and structure of this poem. (3)
- c. Give the meaning of the following: (3)
- Claw into the earth's belly
 - Priceless gems
 - Adorn
- d. Why does the speaker want to claw into the earth's belly? (3)
- e. The poem is marked by many binary opposites, namely 'Pierce the heavens- claw into the earth's belly; soar to the heights- dive right into the depths; do many things- the role assigned to me'. How is the theme of empowerment of women highlighted with reference to the last highlighted binary opposite? (4)

THE PROFESSOR

Q1. Answer the following questions with reference to context: (16)

*Other also doing well, though not so well.
Every family must have black sheep.
Sarla and Tarla are married,
Their husbands are very nice boys,
You won't believe but I have eleven grandchildren.*

- a. Who is the 'other' mentioned in the first line? What does the phrase 'not so well' mean over here? What aspect of the 'other' one is being discussed here? (3)
- b. What does the speaker mean by 'Every family must have a black sheep'? Why and with whom is the comparison of this 'black sheep' being done? (3)
- c. What does the poet focus on when he mentions the names of his daughters? What is the difference between the description of his sons and daughters? (3)
- d. What follows the mention of eleven grandchildren? What is the irony that is brought out here? (3)
- e. In brief, critically comment on the use of language as a means to bring out the irony in this poem. (4)

SMALL PAIN IN MY CHEST

Q1. Answer the following questions with reference to context: (16)

*"I wonder if you'd help me' sir", he smiled as best he could.
"A sip of.....
....."*

.....for I have a small pain in my chest.”

- Who has been referred to as ‘he’ in the above extract? Whom is he addressing as ‘sir’? What time of the day is it? (3)
- Where was ‘he’ seated and how? What help did he request from ‘sir’? (3)
- What do we get to know has happened at the place where ‘he’ is, which has led him to seek help? Describe what the person referred to as ‘sir’ saw around him? (3)
- Why does the narrator say that ‘he’ “smiled as best as he could”? What had happened to him? (3)
- What is the significance of “the small pain in my chest”? What is the larger pain? Compare briefly. (4)

IF THOU MUST LOVE ME

Q1. Answer the following questions with reference to context: (16)

*Neither love me for
Thine own dear pity's wiping my cheeks dry,
A creature might forget to weep who bore
Thy comfort long, and lose thy love thereby.*

- Who is the poet addressing here? What kind of love is she unwilling to accept as mentioned in the second line of the extract? (3)
- Explain the poet's reasons for not wishing to receive such a kind of love. (3)
- What according to Elizabeth Barrett are the other kinds of impermanent love? Why does she call them impermanent? (3)
- How does Barrett bring out the central theme of true love in the final two lines of the poem? Explain. (3)
- What is the form of the poem is ‘If Thou Must Love Me’. Explain the features that qualify this poem as a sonnet. (4)

THE INCHCAPE ROCK

Q1. Answer the following questions with reference to context: (16)

*They hear no sound, the swell is strong;
Though the wind hath fallen they drift along,
Till the vessel strikes with a shivering shock,
'Oh Christ! It is the Inchcape Rock!'
Sir Ralph the Rover tore his hair;
He cursed himself in his despair,
The waves rush in on every side,
The ship is sinking beneath the tide.*

- Which sound do the sailors strain to hear? Describe their present plight which makes them strain their ears. (3)
- Why had Sir Ralph the Rover cut off the bell from its float on the Inchcape Rock? What mood was he in, when he had done so? (3)
- What mood is he in now as suggested in the given extract? Which of his actions from the extract helps you to gauge his present mood? (3)
- Which remark of Sir Ralph the Rover from the given extract suggests irony to you? Explain. (3)

- e. What fate do Sir Ralph and his sailors meet? What theme does Robert Southey bring out through the fate of Sir Ralph? What kind of a poem is 'The Inchcape Rock'? (4)

IN THE BAZAARS OF HYDERABAD

Q1. Answer the following questions with reference to context: (16)

What do you call, O ye pedlars?

Chessmen and ivory dice.

What do you make, O ye goldsmiths?

- a. What are the different things that are made by the goldsmiths? (3)
- b. Why is the intention of the poetess in highlighting the various things that are made by the goldsmiths? (3)
- c. Name and explain the figure of speech used by the poetess immediately after the line of reference. (3)
- d. In what form is the poem set? Discuss the impact of repetition of words and phrases. What motivated the poetess to write the poem? (3)
- e. The poem has a feast of sensory images. Describe any four images that describe sight, sound, smell and touch. (4)

WHERE THE MIND IS WITHOUT FEAR

Q1. Answer the following questions with reference to context: (16)

Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high

Where knowledge is free

Where the world has not been broken up into fragments

By narrow domestic walls.

- a. Why does the poet feel that his country should not feel any kind of fear? (3)
- b. What does the poet mean by 'Where knowledge is free'? What were the restrictions imposed on the spread of knowledge? (3)
- c. What does the poet mean by 'fragments' and 'narrow domestic walls'? Why are they called 'narrow'? (3)
- d. In what way can the 'narrow domestic walls' be harmful to a nation? (3)
- e. What is a sonnet? How is the poem a part of a sonnet? (4)

A DOCTOR'S JOURNAL ENTRY FOR AUGUST 6, 1945

Q1. Answer the following questions with reference to context: (16)

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.

Magnesium flares? While I debated it,

The roof, the walls and, as it seemed the world

Collapsed in timber and debris, dust swirled

Around me-

- a. How is the morning described? In what mood is the narrator? (3)
- b. Who is 'I'? What was he debating about? (3)

- c. How does the explosion affect the area? (3)
- d. What was the narrator's physical condition after the explosion? (3)
- e. What is the relevance of the date? What is the narrative technique used in the poem? What is the main theme of the poem and how does the narrative technique intensify the theme? (4)

DRAMA

MERCHANT OF VENICE-William Shakespeare

Answer the following questions with reference to the context:

Q1. Gratiano:

*... Why should a man, whose blood is warm within,
Sit like his grandsire cut in alabaster?
Sleep when he wakes? And creep into the jaundice
By being peevish? I tell thee what, Antonio, -
I love thee and it is my love that speaks, - ...*

- a. Give the meaning of : (3)
- “.... Why should a man, whose blood is warm within,
Sit like his grandsire cut in alabaster?
Sleep when he wakes? And creep into the jaundice
By being peevish?”
- b. What explanation does Gratiano offer about why men put on a grave appearance? What are his suspicions about such men? (3)
- c. What advice does Gratiano eventually give Antonio? Why? (3)
- d. Why has Bassanio come to meet Antonio? Why has he been described a 'too prodigal'? (3)
- e. Explain the metaphor used by Bassanio to explain his purpose of visit. What is Antonio's reaction? (4)

Q2. Lorenzo: *Hold here, take this [Gives money]: tell gentle Jessica
I will not fail her; speak it privately;
Go. – Gentlemen...*

- a. Where is this scene set? Who has been referred to as 'gentlemen'? Where does the person spoken to go immediately after this and why? (3)
- b. What has Lorenzo received? What does he say about it? What instructions does he give the 'gentlemen'? (3)
- c. Later, what explanation does Salarino give about how Lorenzo's tardiness is uncharacteristic of lovers? (3)
- d. Describe Jessica's thoughts about her disguise. (3)
- e. Discuss the plan and elopement of Jessica and Lorenzo? (4)

Q3. [Bassanio reads the letter]

Gratiano

*Nerissa, cheer yon stranger; bid her welcome. –
Your hand, Salerio: what's the news from Venice?
How doth that royal merchant, good Antonio?
I know he will be glad of our success;*

- What does Gratiano say immediately after this? Explain the mythological allusion used to convey the lady's fame in the world and their 'success'. (3)
- Briefly explain how Bassanio is successful in his mission. (3)
- What news does Bassanio get from Venice? (3)
- Discuss Portia's plan to come to Antonio's aid and ease her husband's anxiety. (3)
- Do you think that the play should have been named after Portia? Give reasons for your answer. (4)

Q4. Nerissa: *First there is the Neapolitan prince.*

Portia: *Ay, that's a colt indeed, for he doth nothing
But talk of his horse; and he makes it a great
Appropriation to his own good parts that he
can shoe himself.*

Nerissa: *Then is there the county Palatine.*

- From where has the Neapolitan prince arrived? What are the people of his nation famous for? Why is he being discussed by Portia and Nerissa? (3)
- Where are Portia and Nerissa as they speak? What is Portia's state of mind when the scene begins? What strange provision has her father made in his will regarding Portia's choice of husband? (3)
- Why does Portia call this prince a 'colt'? Explain her remark, "*and he makes it a great Appropriation to his own good parts that he/ can shoe himself.*" (3)
- Who is the county Palatine? Where is he from? What is the reason that Portia calls him, 'the weeping philosopher'? (3)
- Name the other four suitors mentioned by Nerissa. Later in the scene, after Portia has commented on each suitor, Nerissa assures her that she need not fear 'the having of any of these lords.' Why does she say so? (4)

Q5. Morocco:

*By this scimitar,
That slew Sophy and a Persian prince
That won three fields of Sultan Solyman,
I would outstare the sternest eyes that look,
Outbrave the heart most daring on the earth,
Pluck the young sucking cubs from the she-bear,
Yea, mock the lion when he roars for prey,
To win thee, lady. But, alas the while!
If Hercules and Lichas play at dice
Which is the better man, the greater throw
May turn by fortune from the weaker hand:
So is Alcides beaten by his page;
And so may I, blind Fortune leading me,
Miss that which one unworthier may attain,
And die with grieving.*

- What is a 'scimitar'? What conquests did Morocco make by using his scimitar? (3)
- State two brave deeds Morocco is prepared to carry out in order to woo Portia. (3)
- Who are Hercules and Lichas? What could happen if they were to play a game of dice? In what way is this game applicable to Morocco? (3)
- Why is 'Fortune' said to be blind? What does Morocco fear, since blind fortune is leading him to choose the casket? (3)
- What final instruction does Portia give to Morocco before he is led to make the choice? Why does Portia ask Morocco to go to the temple before he makes the choice of the caskets? (4)

Q6. Jessica:

*Alack, what heinous sin is it in me
To be ashamed to be my father's child!
But though I am a daughter to his blood,
I am not to his manners. O Lorenzo,
If thou keep promise,*

- Where is Jessica as she speaks? Who has she just bidden farewell to? What reason did she give him for being sorry about his leaving? (3)
- What errand has she requested him to run when he reaches his new destination? Who does she fear may overhear their conversation and why does she fear him? (3)
- What emotion, other than shame, does Jessica reveal when she exclaims "what heinous sin is it in me"? How has Shakespeare portrayed her father's character so far in the play? (3)
- What has Jessica to say about her relation to her father? How does the person she has just said farewell to, address her, immediately before Jessica's speech in the given extract? (3)
- What promise made by Lorenzo, does she refer to in the last line of the extract? What does Jessica hope to do if Lorenzo keeps his promise? What does this tell you about Jessica's feelings for her father? (4)

Q7. Shylock: *Lock up my doors; and when you hear the drum*

*And the vile squealing of wry-neck'd fife,
Clamber not you up to the casements then,
Nor thrust your head into the public street
To gaze on Christian fools with varnish'd faces;
But stop my house's ears, I mean my casements:
Let not the sound of shallow foppery enter
My sober house.-By Jacob's staff, I swear
I have no mind of feasting forth to-night;*

- Who is the speaker of the above lines? To whom is he giving his advice? Why should the doors be locked? (3)
- Where is the speaker going? What reason does he give for his going out? Who was Jacob? Why does the speaker swear by Jacob's staff? (3)
- Give the meaning of: (3)
 - Clamber not you up to the casements.
 - Sound of shallow foppery.
- Who are the 'Christian fools with varnished faces'? What were they planning against the speaker? What warning did the speaker have of it earlier? (3)
- Does the person, to whom the advice is given, follow the speaker's advice? Why? (4)

Q8. Morocco:

*"Who chooseth me shall gain what many men desire."
Why, that's the lady; all the world desires her;
From the four corners of the earth they come,
To kiss this shrine, this mortal, breathing saint:
The Hyrcanian deserts and the vasty wilds
Of Wild Arabia are as... now
For princes to come view fair Portia.*

- Which casket bore this inscription? Why was the prince of Morocco reading the inscription? (3)

- b. Who is the lady mentioned in the extract and how does the prince of Morocco describe the lady? Identify and explain the figure of speech used to describe her. (3)
- c. Immediately after the extract, the prince mentions 'the watery kingdom' across which 'foreign spirits' or suitors come to see the fair lady. How has the watery kingdom been described by Morocco? What is the figure of speech used in the description? (3)
- d. What are the 'Hyrcanian deserts' and the 'vasty wilds'? Which casket does he choose and why? (3)
- e. Does the prince of Morocco deserve the lady? Give reasons for your opinion. (4)

Q9. Arragon:

*What says the golden chest? Ha! Let me see:
 "Who chooseth me shall gain what many men desire."
 What many men desire! that 'many' may be meant
 By the fool multitude, that choose my show,
 Not learning more than the fond eye doth teach,
 Which pries not to the interior, but, like the martlet,
 Builds in the weather on the outward wall,
 Even in the force and road of casualty.
 I will not choose what many men desire,
 Because I will not jump with common spirits,
 And rank me with the barbarous multitudes.*

- a. What does the inscription on the gold casket say? Which casket does the speaker choose? (3)
- b. How does Arragon interpret the meaning of 'many men' given on the gold casket? (3)
- c. How does Arragon compare the martlet to the foolish multitude? (3)
- d. Give the meaning of: (3)
- In the force and road of casualty.
 - Rank me with the barbarous multitudes.
- e. How is the theme of appearance and reality brought out in the choice of caskets? (4)

Q10. Arragon:

*Still more fool I shall appear
 By the time I linger here:
 With one fool's head I came to woo,
 But I go away with two.
 Sweet, adieu, I'll keep my oath,
 Patiently to bear my wroth.*

- a. What does the inscription on the silver casket say? Why did the principles of the inscription on the silver casket appeal to Arragon? (3)
- b. After which incident does Arragon speak these words? In what mood is he? With which fool's head did he come to woo? (3)
- c. Which second head did he get? Briefly state what was written on the schedule attached to the second head. (3)
- d. What is your opinion of the prince of Arragon? (3)
- e. After the departure of the prince, what did Portia say about him? State the old saying uttered by Nerissa after the prince's departure. (4)

Q11: Bassanio: *This is no answer, thou unfeeling man,*

To excuse the current of thy cruelty.

Shylock: *I am not bound to please thee with my answer.*

Bassanio: *Do all men kill the things they do not love?*

Shylock: *Hates any man the thing he would not kill?*

Bassanio: *Every offence is not a hate at first.*

Shylock: *What wouldst thou have a serpent sting thee twice?*

- Where does this conversation take place? What is the occasion of this conversation? (3)
- What answer has Shylock given for his cruel demand, just before this? (3)
- What advice does Antonio give Bassanio, immediately after this? (3)
- Explain what Bassanio means when he says, 'Every offence is not a hate at first.' (3)
- What offer does Shylock refuse soon after this? Whom does Shylock consider a serpent and for what reason? (4)

Q12. Portia:

I could teach you

How to choose right, but then I am forsworn;

So will I never be: so may you miss me;

But if you do, you'll make me wish a sin,

That I had been forsworn. So may you miss me;

But if you d, you'll make me wish a sin

That I had been forsworn. Beshrew your eyes,

They have o'erlook'd me and divided me.

- Who is Portia addressing here? Where are they now? What is Portia's state of mind as she speaks to the person? (3)
- What could she teach but will not? Why? (3)
- To whom had she forsworn? How is she forsworn? (3)
- What does Portia mean when she says, 'So will I never be: so may you miss me'? (3)
- What 'sin' is Portia willing to commit if she knew that the person spoken to would make the wrong choice? What does this tell you about her? (4)

Q13. Portia: *This night is but the daylight sick;*

It looks a little paler: 'tis a day,

Such as the day when the sun is hid.

Enter Bassanio, Antonio, Gratiano and their Followers.

Bassanio: *We should hold day with the Antipodes,*

If you walk in absence of the sun.

- Explain: *We should hold day with the Antipodes/ If you walk in absence of the sun.* (3)
- What does Portia say immediately after this? (3)
- What explanation does Portia give earlier about why the candle could not be seen when the moon shone? Where was the candle burning? (3)
- A little later the lovers are seen quarrelling. State the reason for the quarrel. (3)
- Discuss how the issue about the rings is resolved. What message does Shakespeare intend to convey through this? (4)

Q14. Portia: *And look what notes and garments he doth give thee,*

Bring them, I pray thee, with imagined speed

Unto the tranect, to the common ferry

Which trades to Venice. Waste no time in words,

But get thee gone: I shall be there before thee.

Balthazar: *Madam, I go with all convenient speed. [Exit]*

Portia: *Come on Nerissa; I have work in hand
That you yet know not of: we'll see our husbands
Before they think of us.*

Nerissa: *Shall they see us?*

- Where does Portia send Balthazar? Why does she choose him to do the errand for her? (3)
- What does Balthazar take with him? To whom is he to give it? (3)
- Give the meaning of: (3)
 - with imaginary speed.
 - to the common ferry/Which trades to Venice.
- What was the purpose of sending Balthazar to Portia's cousin? (3)
- What hints does Portia give to Nerissa in the extract regarding their mission? When and how are the rest of the plans to be revealed? (4)

Q15. Shylock: *Antonio is a good man,*

Bassanio: *Have you heard any imputation to the contrary?*

Shylock: *Ho, no, no, no, no, no; my meaning in saying
He is a good man is to have you understand
me that he is sufficient. Yet his means are in
supposition; he hath an argosy... ..
...Three thousand ducats; I think I may
take his bond.*

- Who is being referred to as the 'good man'? What does Shylock mean by the term 'good man'? What does Bassanio understand it to mean and ask? (3)
- What does Shylock mean when he says 'he is sufficient...yet his means are in supposition'? (3)
- Give the meaning of the following terms: (3)
 - Imputation
 - Supposition
 - Argosy
- How does Shylock say is the 'good man's' wealth distributed over the world right now? (3)
- What are the risks that Shylock recounts with Bassanio with regard to the 'good man's' argosies? (4)

Q16. Launcelot: *An it shall please you to break up this, it shall seem to signify.*

Lorenzo: *I know the hand: in faith, 'tis a fair hand;
And whiter than the paper it writ on
Is the fair hand that writ.*

Gratiano: *Love news, in faith.*

- Where does the scene take place? What is being planned and for whom? Who else is present at the time of this conversation? (3)
- Who is Launcelot and who had been his previous master? What does he mean by 'An it shall please you to break up this, it shall seem to signify'? (3)
- Give the meaning of: (3)
 - Know the hand
 - In faith
 - Break up this
- Who is Lorenzo referring to in the given lines? What does he say? (3)
- What plan does Lorenzo share with Gratiano before this scene ends? (4)

Q17. Salarino: *He came too late, the ship was under sail;
But there the duke was given to understand*

*That in a gondola were seen together
Lorenzo and his amorous Jessica:
Besides, Antonio certified the duke
They were not with Bassanio in the ship.*

Salanio: *I never heard a passion so confused,
So strange, outrageous, and so variable,*

- Where is this scene taking place? Who was said to have left with Bassanio? Who are the two opposing characters that are being discussed in this scene? (3)
- Who had beckoned the duke and why? What was the result? (3)
- Give the meaning of: (3)
 - Amorous
 - Outrageous
 - Variable
- What were the 'utterances' that Salanio has heard? (3)
- The two friends feel very deeply about Antonio. They discuss a few things about him. Discuss four of those, in brief. (4)

Q18. Shylock: *I'll have my bond; speak not against my bond:
I have sworn an oath that I will have my bond.
Thou call'dst me dog before thou hadst a cause;
But, since I am a dog, beware my fangs:
The duke shall grant me justice. I do wonder,
Thou naughty gaoler, that thou art so fond
To come aboard with him at his request.*

Antonio: *I pray thee, hear me speak.*

Shylock: *I have my bond; I will not hear thee speak;
I'll have my bond; and therefore speak no more.
I'll not be made a soft and dull-eyed fool,
To shake the head, relent and sigh, and yield
To Christian intercessors. Follow not;
I'll have no speaking: I'll have my bond.*

- Where is the scene set? Who are the other two characters who are present in this scene? What is this scene preparing us for? (3)
- In the opening of this scene, Shylock points out three things with regard to Antonio. What are they? (3)
- Give the meaning of: (3)
 - Abroad
 - Dull-eyed
 - Intercessors
- What do the following lines mean 'Thou call'dst me dog before thou hadst a cause; but,.....at his request.' (3)
- Antonio seems to accept his fate. What reason does he give to say that no one can save him? What is his final wish? (4)