

ENGLISH
Paper - 2
(Prescribed Textbooks)
(Three hours)

*(Candidates are allowed additional 15 minutes for only reading the paper.
They must NOT start writing during this time.)*

*Answer one question from Section A and four questions from Section B.
In Section B choose questions on at least three textbooks which may include EITHER
Shakespeare's Macbeth OR Bernard Shaw's Pygmalion.
If you answer two questions on any one text, do not base them on the same material.
Note: You are required to select questions on one play only,
EITHER Macbeth OR Pygmalion in Sections A and B.
The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].*

SECTION A
(Answer one question)
Macbeth — Shakespeare

Question 1

Choose two of the passages (a) to (c) and answer briefly the questions that follow:

- (a) Lady Macbeth (reads): 'They met me in the day of success, and I have learned by the perfectest report they have more in them than mortal knowledge. When I burned in desire to question them further, they made themselves air, into which they vanished. Whiles I stood rapt in the wonder of it, came missives from the king who all-hailed me Thane of Cawdor, by which title before these weird sisters saluted me and referred me to the coming on of time, with "Hail, king that shalt be." This have I thought good to deliver thee, my dearest partner of greatness, that thou mightst not lose the dues of rejoicing by being ignorant of what greatness is promised thee. Lay it to thy heart and farewell.'
- Glamis thou art, and Cawdor, and shalt be
What thou art promis'd;

This Paper consists of 8 printed pages.

(i) Where is Lady Macbeth? What is Macbeth's purpose in sending the letter to her? [1]

(ii) Which "day of success" does Macbeth refer to? Which immediate reward had Macbeth received as a result of this success? [2]

(iii) Explain the lines:
 "..... I have
 Learned by the perfectest report they have more in them than
 mortal knowledge." [1½]

(iv) Which aspect of Lady Macbeth's nature is revealed by her words, "Glamis thou art... promised"? Give one other example of this aspect of her nature from the play. [2]

(v) Which weakness in her husband's nature does Lady Macbeth mention? What does she propose to do about it? [2]

(vi) Give the meaning of the following words in the context of the passage:
 missives, deliver, dues [1½]

(b) Malcolm : Merciful heaven —
 What, man, ne'er pull your hat upon your brows:
 Give sorrow words; the grief that does not speak,
 Whispers the o'erfraught heart and bids its break.
 Macduff : My children too?
 Ross : Wife, children, servants, all
 That could be found.
 Macduff : And I must be from thence?
 My wife killed too?
 Ross : I have said.
 Malcolm : Be comforted.
 : Let's make us med'cines of our great revenge
 : To cure this deadly grief.
 Macduff : He has no children. All my pretty ones?
 Did you say all? O hell-kite! All?
 What, all my pretty chickens and their dam
 At one fell swoop?

(i) Where are Macduff and Malcolm? Why are they here? [1]

(ii) Why has Ross come to meet them? What account does he give of the condition of Scotland under Macbeth? [2]

(iii) Explain the lines:

"Be comforted.
Let's make us med'cines of our great revenge
To cure this deadly grief."

[1½]

(iv) Why, in your opinion does Macduff say, "He has no children"? [2]

(v) How does Macduff express his sense of guilt and remorse? What vow does he take? [2]

(vi) Give the meanings of the following words in the context of the passage: [1½]
o'erfraught; dam; swoop

(c) Doctor : Not so sick, my lord,
As she is troubled with thick-coming fancies
That keep her from her rest.

Macbeth : Cure her of that.
Canst thou not minister to a mind diseas'd,
Pluck from the memory a rooted sorrow,
Raze out the written troubles of the brain,
And with some sweet oblivious antidote
Cleanse the stuff'd bosom of that perilous stuff
Which weighs upon the heart?

(i) Where are Macbeth and the doctor? Which disturbing news has Macbeth just received? [1]

(ii) About whom is the doctor reporting? What instructions had he given about her in an earlier scene? [2]

(iii) Explain the lines:

"Not so sick my lord
As she is troubled with thick-coming fancies
That keep her from her rest."

[1½]

(iv) What do Macbeth's questions to the doctor tell you about his state of mind? What does the doctor say in answer? [2]

(v) What does Macbeth go on to ask the doctor to do? What are the doctor's feelings at the end of the scene? [2]

(vi) Give the meanings of the following words in the context of the passage: [1½]
rooted; raze; oblivious

Pygmalion — George Bernard Shaw

Question 2

Choose two of the passages (a) to (c) and answer briefly the questions that follow:

(a) The Flower Girl : Ought to be ashamed of himself, unmanly coward!

The Gentleman : But is there a living in that?

The Note Taker : Oh yes. Quite a fat one. This is an age of upstarts. Men begin in Kentish Town with £80 a year, and end in Park Lane with a hundred thousand. They want to drop Kentish Town; but they give themselves away every time they open their mouths. Now I can teach them —

The Flower Girl : Let him mind his own business and leave a poor girl —

- (i) Where and how have the Gentleman and the Note Taker met? [1]
- (ii) What does the Gentleman mean by "But is there a living in that?" What had the Note Taker just said about his skills? [2]
- (iii) What is the Flower Girl's attitude to the Note Taker? What is the reason for this attitude? [2]
- (iv) What is the significance of 'Kentish Town' and 'Park Lane'? [1]
- (v) How does the Note Taker express his disgust at the Flower Girl's speech? [2]
- (vi) What does he tell her about the English Language? In what manner could he help her? [2]

(b) Mrs. Higgins : How does your housekeeper get on with her?

Higgins : Mrs. Pearce? Oh, she's jolly glad to get so much taken off her hands; for before Eliza came, she used to have to find things and remind me of my appointments. But she's got some silly bee in her bonnet about Eliza. She keeps saying "You don't think, sir": doesn't she, Pick?

Pickering : Yes that's the formula. "You don't think, sir." That's the end of every conversation about Eliza.

Higgins : As if I ever stop thinking about the girl and her confounded vowels and consonants.

- (i) Where are Higgins and Pickering? Why are they here? [2]
- (ii) To what extent have they achieved the purpose with which they had come to this place? [2]
- (iii) Why do you think Mrs. Higgins mentions Mrs. Pearce? How had Higgins persuaded Mrs. Pearce to let Eliza stay at Wimpole Street? [2]
- (iv) What did Mrs. Pearce try to convey when she declared "You don't think, sir"? [1]
- (v) What does Mrs. Higgins call Higgins and Pickering when she hears about their excitement at training Eliza? [1]
- (vi) Which achievements of Eliza do Pickering and Higgins relate to Mrs. Higgins? What is your opinion about them at this point in the play? [2]
- (c) The Parlor-Maid : [*at the door*] Mr. Henry, maam, is downstairs with Colonel Pickering.
- Mrs. Higgins : Well, shew them up.
- The Parlor-Maid : Theyre using the telephone, maam. Telephoning to the police, I think.
- Mrs. Higgins : What!
- The Parlor-Maid : [*coming further in and lowering her voice*] Mr. Henry is in a state, maam. I thought I'd better tell you.
- Mrs. Higgins : If you had told me that Mr. Henry was not in a state it would have been more surprising. Tell them to come up when theyve finished with the police. I suppose he's lost something.
- The Parlor-Maid : Yes, maam[*going*].
- (i) Where are Mrs. Higgins and the Parlor Maid? [1]
- (ii) Why are Mr. Henry and Colonel Pickering telephoning the police? [1]
- (iii) What does the Parlor-Maid mean when she says "Mr. Henry is in a state, maam"? [2]
- (iv) What instructions does Mrs. Higgins give the Parlor Maid as she is leaving? [2]
- (v) When Higgins meets his mother, what "confounded thing" does he share with her? [2]
- (vi) Who enters the scene in the midst of the conversation and what does Mrs. Higgins learn from him? [2]

SECTION B

(Answer **four** questions on at least **three** textbooks which may include **EITHER**

Macbeth **OR** *Pygmalion*.)

Macbeth — *Shakespeare*

Question 3

[20]

The Sleepwalking Scene (Act V Scene i) introduces us to a broken, guilt-ridden Lady Macbeth, who is very different from the person whom we encounter in the earlier scenes of the play. Referring closely to the scene, describe the vast change in Lady Macbeth. Discuss with appropriate reasons what you feel for her at this stage.

Question 4

[20]

While they are in England, Malcolm and Macduff discuss the “king – becoming graces”. In the light of their discussion, evaluate the qualities of the following as kings:

- (a) Duncan
- (b) Macbeth
- (c) Edward the Confessor
- (d) Malcolm.

Pygmalion — *George Bernard Shaw*

Question 5

[20]

Humour is an integral part of Shaw's plays. Which act has struck you as being the most humorous? Give a vivid description of the act and analyse how Shaw has succeeded in creating a humorous impact in this act.

Question 6

[20]

Referring closely to the play *Pygmalion*, express your views on Higgins as a son, a friend and a teacher.

The Mayor of Casterbridge — Thomas Hardy

Question 7

[20]

Give a brief account of the first episode set in *The Three Mariners* and discuss what you learn about the characters of Farfrae and Elizabeth-Jane from the episode.

Question 8

[20]

The Mayor of Casterbridge is a novel haunted by the past. How far is this statement true? Discuss with close reference to the novel.

Question 9

[20]

‘The female characters in Hardy’s novel, *The Mayor of Casterbridge*, reflect the harsh treatment of women in early 19th Century England.’ Discuss the relevance of this statement with special reference to Susan, Lucetta and Elizabeth – Jane.

Footprints (A Collection of Essays) — Edited by Stephen DaCosta

Question 10

[20]

Referring closely to the essay, *The Future is Now: A Zest for Living*, relate how handicapped children were dealt with in the past. What suggestions does the speaker offer to the parents of blind children?

Question 11

[20]

What observation does Lamb make about married people in his essay *A Bachelor’s Complaint of the Behaviour of Married People*? How does he describe the attitudes of wives towards their husbands’ bachelor friends?

Question 12

[20]

Dr. Karan Singh in his essay, *Youth and the Tasks Ahead*, mentions the dimensions which are vital for India’s youth to be of effective service to the nation. Give an account of the dimensions which he considers important.

**Hues - An Anthology of Short Stories — Barry Antunis, Anupam Banerjee,
S. Thomas & Sumana Saha**

Question 13

[20]

In the short story *What Men Live By*, the Angel Michael is sent down to earth by God to learn the three truths of life. Describe the manner in which the three truths are revealed to him. What does the story state about the ultimate principle guiding the life of man?

Question 14

[20]

With close reference to the short story, *The Fortune Teller*, give a vivid account of Mrs. MacLeary's visit to the fortune teller and its repercussions. How does the author use humour to comment on the ironies of life.

Question 15

[20]

"*Love Across the Salt Desert* is a moving story which depicts the transformation that love brings about in a shy diffident young man." Bring out the truth of this observation through close reference to the story.

Starlight — Edited by Guy Kenneth Dantes

Question 16

[20]

Referring closely to the poem *A Prayer For My Daughter*, describe the attitudes and qualities that the poet wishes to cultivate in his daughter. Why does he feel that these qualities are important in a human being?

Question 17

[20]

Ode To The West Wind is Shelley's celebration of the revitalising power of Nature. Describe the effect of the wind on the earth, sea and sky. Why does the poet envy the West Wind and how does he want the wind to help him?

Question 18

[20]

Analyse the main theme of the poem *I'm Getting Old Now*, referring closely to the images evoked in it.