

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*.

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) **Macbeth** (*aside*) : The Prince of Cumberland: that is a step
On which I must fall down, or else o'erleap
For in my way it lies. Stars, hide your fires,
Let not light see my black and deep desires;
The eye wink at the hand. Yet let that be,
Which the eye fears when it is done to see.
(Exit)

Duncan : True, worthy Banquo, he is full so valiant
And in his commendations, I am fed;
It is a banquet to me.....

- (i) Where are Macbeth and Duncan? Who has been named Prince of Cumberland? [1]
- (ii) What are the "black and deep desires" referred to by Macbeth? How had these been aroused? [2]
-

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Turn over

- (iii) Explain the lines:
- “And in his commendations, I am fed,
It is a banquet to me”.
- (iv) How is Macbeth’s *aside* a contrast to what he has just said to Duncan? [2]
- (v) What comment did Duncan make about Macbeth at the end of the scene? Why are his words ironic? [2]
- (vi) Give the meanings of the following words/phrases in the context of the passage: [1½]

o’erleap; wink; valiant

- (b) Ross : Gentlemen, rise, his highness is not well.

Lady Macbeth joins the Lords.

Lady Macbeth : Sit, worthy friends. My lord is often thus
And hath been from his youth. Pray you, keep seat.
The fit is momentary; upon a thought
He will again be well. If much you note him
You shall offend him and extend his passion.
Feed, and regard him not. (*To Macbeth*) Are you a man?

- (i) Where are Lady Macbeth and Ross? [1]
- (ii) Why does Ross believe that “his highness is not well”? [2]
- (iii) Explain the lines:
- “The fit is momentary; upon a thought
He will again be well.” [1½]
- (iv) Why does Lady Macbeth reprimand her husband? [2]
- (v) Mention an earlier instance when Lady Macbeth came to her lord’s rescue. [2]
- (vi) Give the meanings of the following words in the context of the passage: [1½]
- rise; note; passion

- (c) Macbeth : Why should I play the Roman fool and die
On mine own sword? Whiles I see lives, the gashes
Do better upon them.

Enter Macduff

Macduff : Turn, hell-hound, turn.

Macbeth : Of all men else I have avoided thee,
But get thee back, my soul is too much charg'd
With blood of thine already.

Macduff : I have no words;
My voice is in my sword, thou bloodier villain
Than terms can give thee out.

(i) Where are Macbeth and Macduff? [1]

(ii) Why had Macbeth avoided meeting Macduff? [2]

(iii) Explain the lines:

“Why should I play the Roman fool and die
On mine own sword?” [1½]

(iv) Why does Macduff say “I have no words”? [2]

(v) On what note does this scene end? [2]

(vi) Give the meanings of the following words/phrases in the context of the passage: [1½]

gashes; charg'd; terms

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 : Thank you kindly, lady.

The Daughter : Make her give you the change. These things are only a penny a bunch.

The Mother : **Do** hold your tongue, Clara. (*To the girl*)
 You **can** keep the change..

The Flower Girl : **Oh**, thank you, lady.

The Mother : Now tell me **how** you know that **young** gentleman's name

The Flower Girl : I **didn't**.

The Mother : I **heard** you call him **by** it. **Don't** try to **deceive** me.

The Flower Girl : (*protesting*) Who's trying to **deceive** you?

- (i) Where **are** the **speakers**? [1]
- (ii) Why **does** the **mother** **ask** the **flower** **girl** to **keep** the change? [2]
- (iii) Who is the '**young** **gentleman**' **being** referred to? Why is he **being** mentioned in the **conversation**? [2]
- (iv) Why **does** the **mother** **accuse** the **flower** **girl** of **deceiving** her? [1]
- (v) How **does** the **flower** **girl** **defend** herself? [2]
- (vi) What is the **daughter's** **reaction** to the entire **episode**? [2]

(b) Mrs. Pearce : **Stop**, Mr. Higgins. I **won't** **allow** it. It's you that are **wicked**. **Go** home to your **parents**, **girl**; and tell them to **take** **better** **care** of you.

Liza : I **ain't** **got** no **parents**. They **told** me I was **big** enough to **earn** my **own** **living** and **turned** me **out**.

Mrs. Pearce : Where's your mother?

- (i) Where **are** Mrs. **Pearce** and Liza? [1]
- (ii) Why is Mrs. **Pearce** **upset** with Mr. **Higgins**? [2]
- (iii) How was Liza **earning** her **own** **living**? [2]
- (iv) What **information** **does** Liza **give** **about** her mother? [1]
- (v) What **suggestion** **does** Mr. **Higgins** **give** Mrs. **Pearce**? [2]
- (vi) What **do** you **learn** **about** Mrs. **Pearce** **from** these lines? [2]

c) Pickering : Where is Eliza? We must keep an eye on her.

(Eliza joins them.)

Liza : I don't think I can bear much more. The people all stare so at me. An old lady has just told me that I speak exactly like Queen Victoria. I am sorry if I have lost your bet. I have done my best; but nothing can make me the same as these people.

Pickering : You have not lost it, my dear. You have won it ten times over.

- (i) Where are the speakers? Why are they here? [2]
- (ii) Who had greeted Higgins enthusiastically? What had he said? [2]
- (iii) How did the two of them differ in their assessment of Liza? [2]
- (iv) How had Liza behaved on this occasion? [1]
- (v) Which bet are they talking about? What were the terms of the bet? [2]
- (vi) Give one example of Higgins' bad behaviour on this occasion. [1]

SECTION B

*(Answer four questions on at least three textbooks which may include EITHER
Macbeth OR Pygmalion.)*

Macbeth — Shakespeare

Question 3 [20]

Macbeth and his wife had decided to act in a manner which would safeguard them from suspicion of Duncan's murder. How do they do this and how far are they successful?

Question 4 [20]

Which scene in the play *Macbeth* has made the greatest impression on your mind? Describe the scene vividly, giving reasons for your choice.

Pygmalion — George Bernard Shaw

Question 5 [20]

Referring closely to the first two Acts of the play *Pygmalion*, trace the sequence of events that lead to Eliza becoming Higgins' pupil.

Question 6 [20]

With close reference to the Ambassador's Garden Party, show how Eliza passes her test and is finally accepted by society.

The Mayor of Casterbridge — Thomas Hardy

Question 7 [20]

Choose *two* dramatic incidents from the novel and show their importance in the development of the novel's plot.

Question 8 [20]

Henchard tries to forge a bond with several people, but he is always destined to be alone. Comment with reference to Henchard's interaction with *any two* characters with whom he forms a brief association.

Question 9 [20]

Though, a fairly passive character, show how Elizabeth Jane Newson leaves an impact on the reader.

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

Question 10 [20]

Referring closely to the essay "*On Saying Please*" show how according to A.G. Gardiner "*We infect the World with our ill humour*".

Question 11 [20]

Why do you think Mahatma Gandhi believed that, "The Man of Prayer will be at Peace with himself and with the whole world"? Explain Gandhiji's theory of prayer as expressed in the essay, "*Prayer – The Essence of Religion*".

Question 12

[20]

What according to Lamb are the “infirmities of married people”? What complaints does he make about the treatment meted out to him by the wives of his married friends?

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

Question 13

[20]

The collection of short stories, *Hues* has several stories depicting the concerns of adolescence. Which story of an adolescent has appealed to you and why? Refer closely to the story in your answer.

Question 14

[20]

Referring closely to the short story *A Devoted Son*, evaluate the character of old Varmaji.

Question 15

[20]

The writer's account in *Third Thought* shows how growing self interest and selfish concerns can affect the thinking of an individual. Discuss.

Starlight — Edited by Guy Kenneth Dantes

Question 16

[20]

Describe the atmosphere created by Edgar Allen Poe in his poem, *The Raven*.

Question 17

[20]

The *Shield of Achilles* presents the realities of the present world as a contrast to an idyllic past. Discuss.

Question 18

[20]

Referring closely to the poem *Preludes*, show how the picture of modern city life is sordid as well as full of pity.