

Portion: The Girl Who Can, The Pedestrian, The Last Lesson, A Considerable Speck, The Power of Music, Julius Caesar – Act 4 & 5

Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.

You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.

This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.

The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

*The paper has **four** Sections.*

***Section A** is compulsory – **All** questions in **Section A** must be answered.*

*You must attempt **one** question from each of the **Sections B, C and D** and **one** other question from any **Section** of your choice.*

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

SECTION A

*(Attempt **all** questions from this Section.)*

Question 1

Choose the correct answers to the questions from the given options.

(Do not copy the question, write the correct answers only.)

[16]

(i) The place Adjoa hails from is _____.

- (a) barren (b) fertile (c) a plateau (d) frequented by earthquakes

(ii) What did Maami feel for not having attended school?

- (a) school was not important for her (b) she felt locked in some kind of darkness
(c) she felt she was backward (d) her ambitions got curtailed

(iii) What does the story, *The Pedestrian*, focus on?

- (a) laudable advancement of science and technology (b) dehumanization of the people
(c) necessity of entertainment (d) None of these

(iv) Why were the lights on in Mead's house?

- (a) He was a rich man. (b) They beamed warmth.
(c) He was afraid of darkness. (d) There was a party going on.

(v) What were the things being taken for granted by the people of Alsace?

- (a) Teachers of the school (b) Time and school
(c) People around (d) Money and power

(vi) Franz saw a huge crowd assembled in front of the bulletin board, but did not stop. How would you evaluate his reaction?

- (a) Franz was too little to care about the news of lost battles.
(b) Nobody in Franz's family was in the army, so it did not matter.

- (c) Bad news had become very normal, so he went about his task.
 (d) It was too crowded for Franz to find out what news was up on the board.
- (vii) How did the mite taste or smell the ink?
 (a) with loathing (b) with relish (c) hesitatingly (d) with a shudder
- (viii) What does the phrase 'collectivistic regimenting love' imply?
 (a) love for the whole society or group
 (b) forced love
 (c) one-sided love
 (d) indiscriminate love for all irrespective of one's mental calibre.
- (ix) Which of these statements is **NOT** true?
 (a) Human listeners cannot tolerate Bhisma's noisy singing.
 (b) Animals too protest against Bhisma's noisy singing.
 (c) Only the sky remains watching carelessly.
 (d) Big trees and buildings collapse under the impact of Bhisma's loud voice.
- (x) Antony meets with Octavius and Lepidus, and together they discuss:
 (a) How they might have been able to save Caesar's life.
 (b) Which of them was most well-liked by Caesar.
 (c) Their shared witnessing of a corpse rising from its grave.
 (d) Which of the conspirators should be killed.
- (xi) Why does Cassius ask Pindarus to kill him?
 (a) The burning tents (b) Caesar's ghost
 (c) Brutus' death (d) Titinius' apparent capture
- (xii) What is the fundamental conflict between Cassius and Brutus in Act 4, Scene 3?
 (a) Cassius's guilt over killing Caesar versus Brutus's lack of remorse.
 (b) Cassius's disregard for Brutus's authority.
 (c) Brutus's sense of honor versus Cassius's pragmatism.
 (d) Brutus's unwillingness to discuss strategy with Cassius.
- (xiii) What is Brutus's philosophical position on the idea of suicide?
 (a) He supports it as an honorable way to avoid shame.
 (b) He firmly opposes it and prefers to accept whatever life brings.
 (c) He has no strong opinion on the matter.
 (d) He believes it is justifiable in certain circumstances.
- (xiv) Why does Antony spare Lucilius's life?
 (a) He mistakes Lucilius for Brutus.
 (b) He believes Lucilius can be turned into an ally.
 (c) He respects Lucilius's courage in battle.
 (d) He trades Lucilius for his own captive soldier.
- (xv) What reason does Brutus give to Volumnius for asking him to assist in his suicide?
 (a) Brutus fears the humiliation of capture.
 (b) Brutus believes his actions deserve death.
 (c) Brutus is afraid Caesar's ghost will hurt him.
 (d) Brutus thinks the enemy troops will retreat if he dies.

(xvi) According to Antony, Lepidus _____.

- (a) is the most talented poet in Italy.
- (b) is the most intelligent of Antony's alliance.
- (c) is secretly working with Brutus.
- (d) is going to be the scapegoat if plans go poorly.

SECTION B

(Answer one or more questions from this Section.)

DRAMA

(Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare)

Question 2

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Antony

This is a slight unmeritable man.

- (i) Whom is Antony talking about? Who else is with Antony? Where are they? [3]
- (ii) Whom does Antony later compare him with? Why? [3]
- (iii) What plans of Antony's are revealed in this scene? [3]
- (iv) How would you describe Antony based on this scene? [3]
- (v) Compare and contrast Cassius and Antony's personalities. [4]

Question 3

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

*It is more worthy to leap in ourselves
Than tarry till they push us. Good Volumnius,
Thou know'st that we two went to school together.
Even for that our love of old, I prithee
Hold thou my sword-hilts whilst I run on it.*

- (i) Who is the speaker of the above lines? Who else is present? Where are they? [3]
- (ii) What has happened to one of the other conspirators in the previous scene? How and why did it happen? [3]
- (iii) What request does the speaker make? To whom? What does it reveal about him? [3]
- (iv) In what frame of mind is the speaker? Why? [3]
- (v) Attempt a character sketch of the speaker based upon the entire play. [4]

SECTION C

(Answer one or more questions from this Section.)

PROSE – SHORT STORIES

(Treasure Chest – A Collection of ICSE Poems and Short Stories)

Question 4

Read the extract from Ray Bradbury's short story, 'The Pedestrian' given below and answer the questions that follow:

He turned back on a side street, circling around toward his home. He was with a block of his destination when the lone car turned a corner quite suddenly and flashed a fierce white cone of light upon him. He stood entranced, not unlike a night moth, stunned by the illumination, and then drawn toward it.

- (i) Whom does 'he' refer to? What was his profession? Where was he and why? [3]
- (ii) What is the lone car? Why is there a lone car? How has it been described? [3]
- (iii) What questions does the lone car ask the speaker? What replies does it get? [3]
- (iv) In what way is the speaker different from the remaining citizens? [3]
- (v) What happens to the speaker at the end of the story? Is it justified? [4]

Question 5

Read the extract from Alphonse Daudet's short story, 'The Last Lesson' given below and answer the questions that follow:

For a moment I thought of running away and spending the day out of doors. It was so warm, so bright ! The birds were chirping at the edge of the woods, and in the open field, back of the saw-mill the Prussian soldiers were drilling.

- (i) Who is the speaker of the above lines? Why did he think of running away? [3]
- (ii) Where did the speaker go instead of running away? How did he find the atmosphere there? [3]
- (iii) How was the atmosphere different than on other days? [3]
- (iv) What regrets does M. Hamel express? In what way does he engage in nostalgia? [3]
- (v) Why do you think a person ought to learn one's native language or mother tongue? [4]

SECTION D

(Answer **one or more** questions from this Section.)

POETRY

(Treasure Chest – A Collection of ICSE Poems and Short Stories)

Question 6

Read the extract from Sukumar Ray's poem, 'The Power of Music' given below and answer the questions that follow:

*The people, dazed, retire amazed although they
know it's well-meant.
They're trampled in the panic rout or languish
pale and sickly.
And plead, 'My friend, we're near our end, oh
stop your singing quickly!'*

- (i) Whom are the people pleading to? Why? [3]
- (ii) How are people, animals and objects affected by the above person's singing? [3]
- (iii) How would you describe the person mentioned in the above extract? [3]
- (iv) Does the person's singing ever stop? How so? [3]
- (v) Comment on the title of the poem. [4]

Question 7

Read the extract from Robert Frost's poem, 'A Considerable Speck' given below and answer the questions that follow:

*I have a mind myself and recognize
Mind when I meet with it in any guise
No one can know how glad I am to find
On any sheet the least display of mind.*

- (i) Whom is the poet talking about in the above lines? How does the poet describe its physical appearance? [3]
- (ii) How have its actions and movements been described? [3]
- (iii) Why does the poet feel he had met a mind? [3]
- (iv) Explain the last two lines of the above extract. [3]
- (v) What does this poem teach us? How can we implement the lesson in our daily lives? [4]