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இலக்கிய நயம் ஆங்கிலம்  
**Appreciation of English Literary Texts**

පැය තුනයි  
மூன்று மணித்தியாலம்  
**Three hours**

අමතර කියවීමේ කාලය - මිනිත්තු 10 යි  
மேலதிக வாசிப்பு நேரம் - 10 நிமிடங்கள்  
**Additional Reading Time - 10 minutes**

Use **additional reading time** to go through the question paper, select the questions and decide on the questions that you give priority in answering.

**Note:** Answer five questions only.

\* Answer question 1 and four others, selecting one from each section - POETRY, DRAMA, PROSE and FICTION.

**Part I**

**Section A - Answer all questions.**

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

- (i) "Because your lover threw wild hands towards the sky  
And the affrighted steed ran on alone."  
  - (a) From where are these lines taken? Who wrote them?
  - (b) What does the action in the first line indicate? Why does the steed run away? (05 mar)
  - (c) What is the theme reflected in the two lines?
- (ii) "They would put her on a throne  
Where I could not go to see her."  
  - (a) Name the work from which these lines are taken. Name the poet.
  - (b) Who speaks those words? Who is referred to as 'her'?
  - (c) What do the lines communicate about the speaker's feelings towards 'her'? (05 mar)
- (iii) "We kept steadying ourselves on the seats. No one spoke. No one uttered  
a sound."  
  - (a) From which work are these lines taken? Who wrote them?
  - (b) Why couldn't the characters keep steady on their seats? Why didn't they speak? (05 mar)
  - (c) What is the situation that made the characters behave in this way?
- (iv) "'I told you not to, and now I tell you that you may,' came the voice  
from the rain-water tank, rather impatiently."  
  - (a) From which text are these lines taken? Who wrote them?
  - (b) Who speaks these words? To whom are they spoken?
  - (c) What aspect of the speaker's character is reflected in these lines? (05 mar)
- (v) "Buy? what's 'Buy?' what's nice things? What do you want beside me?"  
  - (a) From which text are these lines taken? Who wrote them?
  - (b) Who is the speaker? To whom are the words spoken?
  - (c) What themes of the drama are reflected in these words? (05 mar)

- (vi) "You've mourned him - and quite right.  
But you can't go on weeping and wearing and mourning for ever."  
(a) From which text are these lines taken? Who wrote them?  
(b) Who speaks these words? To whom are they spoken?  
(c) How would you describe the speaker's attitude to the behaviour of the person spoken to?

(05 marks)

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

**Either**

- (a) Read the following passage and answer the given questions:

"The women bowed their heads, and covered their faces with their hands; the yellow flames began to climb upward among the snapping and crackling faggots, and wreaths of blue smoke to stream away on the wind; the clergyman lifted his hands and began a prayer—just then two young girls came flying through the great gate, uttering piercing screams, and threw themselves upon the women at the stake. Instantly they were torn away by the officers, and one of them was kept in a tight grip, but the other broke loose, saying she would die with her mother; and before she could be stopped she had flung her arms about her mother's neck again. She was torn away once more, and with her gown on fire. Two or three men held her, and the burning portion of her gown was snatched off and thrown flaming aside, she struggling all the while to free herself, and saying she would be alone in the world, now; and begging to be allowed to die with her mother. Both the girls screamed continually, and fought for freedom; but suddenly this tumult was drowned under a volley of heart-piercing shrieks of mortal agony."

- (i) What is the situation presented in the passage? Where does it take place? (02 marks)  
(ii) What difference do you see in the behaviour of the older women and their daughters? (02 marks)  
(iii) Write the meanings of the following in your own words:  
(a) kept in a tight grip (02 marks)  
(b) volley of heart-piercing shrieks  
(iv) Comment on the passage. To what theme does it relate? (04 marks)

**Or**

- (b) Read the following extract and answer the questions below it:

"Now seated on bed and holding the cup of Horlicks in one hand I looked down at Mother who was picking up an aluminium bowl which had collected rainwater leaking through the roof the previous night and very casually asked where Tony was. She straightened up without answering me and threw the water in the bowl out of the window - now it requires a certain skill to throw water out of a small window with bars where the lower half is covered with a curtain (that piece of a voile saree hung loosely over a string) and I was observing how Mother performed that feat making the water go clean through the narrow space between two bars - and now I glanced back at the doorway where Mrs. Mendis was standing when I looked down at mother to ask about Tony. Mrs. Mendis had vanished and now Mother walked out of the door and I heard her say that Tony is gone and her voice sounded like she was angry..."

[see page three]



- (i) What is the incident described in this passage? Where does it take place? (02 ma)
- (ii) Why doesn't the mother answer the narrator's question? (02 ma)
- (iii) Write the meanings of the following in your own words.
- (a) straightened up
- (b) performed that feat (02 ma)
- (iv) What does the leaking roof and the curtains made of a voile saree say about their life? (04 ma)

Or

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- (c) Read the following extract and answer the questions below it:

"The cousin shook off the hold contemptuously. "He is writing, that's all. Wants to be a writer."

'Writer' meant in Jagan's dictionary only one thing—a 'clerk'—an Anglo-Indian, colonial term from the days when Macaulay had devised a system of education to provide a constant supply of clerical staff for the East India Company. Jagan felt aghast. Here he was trying to shape the boy into an aristocrat with a bicycle, college life, striped shirts, and everything, and he wanted to be a 'writer'! Strange!

"Why does he want to be a writer?" he asked.

'I don't know. You will have to ask him.'

"Where does he want to work? It's degrading!" he cried, 'after all the trouble I have taken to build up a reputation and a status!' He beat his brow in despair."

- (i) What is the incident described in the extract? When does it take place? (02 mar)
- (ii) As described in the extract, why is Jagan worried and troubled? (02 mar)
- (iii) Explain the following phrases taken from the extract in your own words.
- (a) shook off the hold contemptuously
- (b) build up a reputation and a status (02 mar)
- (iv) Describe Jagan's character as reflected in the above extract. (04 mar)

## Part II

### POETRY

(Answer one question only)

2. Discuss Emily Dickinson's **A Bird Came Down the Walk** as a minute observation of nature.
3. "War is **not** kind." Discuss how this idea is presented in Stephen Crane's **War is Kind**.
4. "Gabriel Okara's **Once Upon a Time** is a depiction of people's pretence and hypocrisy." Discuss.
5. Examine the importance of close family relationships as represented in Gabriela Mistral's **Fear**.
6. Examine how lazy people are laughed at and satirized in Rudyard Kipling's **The Camel's Hump**.

(15 mar)

**DRAMA**

*(Answer one question only)*

7. "Both Smirnov and Popova in the play, **The Bear**, have similar characteristics." Do you agree? Support your answer with detailed reference to the play.
8. "**Twilight of a Crane** is simply a love story between a husband and a wife." Does this sum up the main theme of the drama? Justify your answer with close reference to the play.

*(15 marks)*

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**PROSE**

*(Answer one question only)*

9. "In **The Lumber Room** despite ill-treatment, Nicholas remains happy." Support your answer with examples from the text.
10. What does **The Nightingale and the Rose** tell you about love? Discuss referring to the text.
11. "**Wave** is a powerful recreation of the overpowering forces of nature." Discuss the statement with reference to the text.
12. "At the heart of **The Lahore Attack** is the love for cricket and fear of violence." Discuss this statement with reference to the text.

*(15 marks)*

**FICTION**

*(Answer one question only)*

13. "**Bringing Tony Home** is seemingly a journey a young boy makes with his dog." What does this story say about the needs of a child?
14. What are the challenges Edward Tudor and Tom Canty face in **The Prince and the Pauper** when they change their identities? Support your answer with examples from the text.
15. "In **The Vendor of Sweets**, in spite of his weaknesses, Jagan attracts our sympathy more than Mali." Support your answer with examples from the text.

*(15 marks)*

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