

Class 12 English Literature Paper Analysis 2024

ISC Literature Question 2024 with Answers

Section A

QUESTION 1

Choose the correct options for the following questions.

[10]

- (i) **Antonio:** (*Aside to Sebastian*) Let it be tonight;
For now they are oppress'd with travail, they
Will not nor cannot use such vigilance
As when they are fresh.

What does Antonio refer to when he says "Let it be tonight..." in Act III, Scene iii of the play, *The Tempest*?

- (a) The murder of Alonso and Gonzalo.
- (b) The murder of Ferdinand.
- (c) Sebastian and Antonio's escape from the island.
- (d) Sebastian and Antonio's plan to steal Stephano's liquor.

* (ii) What role does Ariel play in Act IV of the play, *The Tempest*?

- (a) He helps the conspirators to plot against Prospero.
- (b) He assists Prospero in presenting the "vanity" of his art.
- (c) He guides Alonso, Sebastian and Antonio towards self realisation.
- (d) He protects Ferdinand and Miranda.

(iii) **Caliban:** No noise, and enter.

Do that good mischief which may make this island
Thine own forever, and I, thy Caliban,
For aye thy foot-licker.

In the above lines taken from Act IV Scene i of the play, *The Tempest*, what does Caliban refer to by the phrase "good mischief"?

- (a) The act of chasing the strange sounds.
- (b) The act of killing Prospero.
- (c) The act of marrying Miranda.
- (d) The act of stealing the gaudy clothes.

(iv) How does Prospero ask to be released from his "bands" in the Epilogue of the play, *The Tempest*?

- (a) With the audience clapping their hands.
- (b) With laughter from the audience.
- (c) With a universal shout from the audience.
- (d) With praises for the play from the audience.

(v) 'When the doctors came they said she had died of heart disease - of joy that kills. Which one of the following explains why the short story, *The Story of an Hour* ends with the phrase '...of joy that kills'?

- (I) To convey a sense of irony.
- (II) To make the readers judge Mrs. Mallard.
- (III) To convey Mrs. Mallard's sheer sense of shock.
- (IV) To explain Brently Mallard's shock at the incident.

- (a) Only (I) and (IV)
- (b) Only (I) and (II)
- (c) Only (I) and (III)
- (d) Only (II) and (IV)

SCHOOL

(vi) In the short story, *Fritz*, what had happened to Fritz according to Jayanto?

- (a) Jayanto had misplaced him in the garden.
- (b) The dogs had torn him apart.
- (c) Fritz had disappeared near the Deodar tree.
- (d) Fritz had died of old age.

(v) Inability to clear loans.

(viii) 'So was I once myself a swinger of birches.'

What mood of the poet is captured in the above lines taken from the poem, *Birches*?

- (a) Boredom
- (b) Nostalgia
- (c) Amusement
- (d) Loneliness

(vii) In the short story, *Quality*, what causes the death of the younger Gessler brother?

- (a) Slow starvation, rigid work schedule and dwindling customers.
- (b) Fever and cold due to bad weather.
- (c) Rude customers.
- (d) Inability to clear loans.

(ix) What is the central idea of the poem, *John Brown* ?

- (a) The love of a mother for her son.
- (b) Wars are necessary.
- (c) The illusion that war is glorious.
- (d) The heroism of soldiers.

(x) What is the phrase 'The Century's corpse outleant' in the poem, *The Dying Thrush*, a metaphor for?

(a) The passing of time and the end of an era.

(b) The glory of nature.

(c) The funeral of the thrush.

(d) The end of poet's life.

Question 2 -

Complete the following sentences by providing a reason for each in brief. Do not write the question.

(1) In Act V, Scene I of the play, *The Tempest*, Ariel reminds Prospero that it is the sixth hour because **Ariel needs to remind Prospero of the passage of time to ensure that his plans for reconciliation and resolution can proceed according to the schedule.**

(ii) At the end of the Masque in Act IV, Scene I of the play, *The Tempest*, Ferdinand feels that Prospero's behavior is unusual because **Prospero abruptly interrupts the joyful celebration and the masque, indicating that his intentions are more serious and consequential.**

(iii) In Act III Scene I of the play, *The Tempest*, upon hearing the music of Ariel, Stephano says that the island will prove to be a "brave kingdom" to him because **Stephano is easily influenced by the magical and enchanting atmosphere created by Ariel's music, leading him to believe that the island will offer him power and prosperity.**

iv) In Act V, Scene I of the play, *The Tempest*, the Boatswain does not remember how he arrived at Prospero's cell because **he has been under the influence of Prospero's enchantments, which may have caused him to forget certain events or details.**

v) In the short story, *B. Wordsworth*, when the narrator's mother refuses to buy B. Wordsworth's poem, B. Wordsworth remarks "It is the poet's tragedy" because **B. Wordsworth feels rejected and unappreciated, highlighting the common struggle of poets whose works are not valued or understood by society.**

vi) In the short story, *The Story of an Hour*, it is Josephine who breaks the tragic news of Brently Mallard's death to Mrs Mallard because **Josephine was chosen by the family to deliver the news with sensitivity, believing that she would be able to console Mrs Mallard and help her cope with the shock.**

SECTION B

(i) With close reference to Act III, describe Alonso's response to the perceived loss of his son, Ferdinand. Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 100-150 words. [5]

(ii) How do Prospero, Ferdinand and Caliban perceive Miranda? Give one example of each of their perceptions, from the Acts studied, to support your answer. Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 100-150 words.

(iii) (a) Despite being a half monster and half-human, Caliban comes across as superior to Stephano and Trinculo. Justify the statement with supporting evidence from the Acts studied in 200-250 words. [10]

OR

(b) Referring closely to any two instances from the Acts studied, show how music is used to influence the course of events/action in the play. Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 200-250 words.

ECHOES: PROSE

Question 4

(i) Describe the event that led the narrator, Shankar, to suggest digging the ground under the Deodar tree in the short story, Fritz. Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 100-150 words. [5]

(ii) Based on the short story, The Story of an Hour, discuss what can be inferred about the significance of the open window in Mrs. Mallard's room. Write your answer in a short paragraph of 100-150 words. [5]

(iii) (a) With reference to the short story Quality, trace the journey of the Gessler Brothers from "Id is an Ardt to the bitter realization of "Dey dake it away from us, who lofe our boods....bresently i baf no work." Write your answer in about 200-250 words. [10]

OR

(b) Miss Meadows' need for societal acceptance makes her overlook Basil's insensitivity and shortcomings. Discuss with reference to the short story. The Singing Lesson is about 200-250 words.[10]

QUESTION - 5

(i) What do you think prompts the poet's desire for a temporary escape in the poem, Birches? Why does he wish to come back to Earth? Write your answer in a short paragraph of about 100-150 words.

(ii) What leads Mathew Arnold to tell his beloved, "Ah, love, let us be true", in the last stanza of the poem, The Dover Beach? Write your answer in a short paragraph of 100-150 words. [5]

(iii)(a) Show how Carol Ann Duffy presents a disturbing picture of confinement and exploitation in the poem, The Dolphins. Write your answer in about 200-250 words. [10]

OR

(b) How does John Brown convey his firsthand experience of war to his mother and evoke a deep emotional response in the readers? Justify your answer in about 200-250 words with supporting details from the poem, by John Brown. [10]

SCHOOL