

සබ්බව දෙවන පළාතේ අධ්‍යාපන දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව மேல் மாகாணக் கல்வித் திணைக்களம் Department of Education - Western Province			
තෙවන වාර පරීක්ෂණය மூன்றாம் தவணைப் பரீட்சை -2026 Third Term Test			
ශ්‍රේණිය தரம் } 13 Grade	විෂය பாடம் } English Subject	පිටුව வினாத்தாள் } I Subject	පැය மணித்தியாலம் } 3 Hours
Additional Reading Time - 10 Minutes			

Instructions:-

- Answer all the questions in Part A and Part B.
- The texts you choose to answer questions from Part A must not be the same as those you answer from Part B.
- Write the number and letter of each question clearly.

Part A

(This part carries 32 Marks. Each question carries 8 marks)

- 1) Comment briefly on one of the following passages, explaining its significance to the play from which it is taken.
 - a) “Though I perchance am vicious in my guess
As I confess it is my nature’s plague
To spy into abuses, and of my jealousy
Shapes faults that are not that your wisdom then
From one that so imperfectly conjects
Would take no notice, no build yourself a trouble
Out of his scattering and unsure observance”
 - b) “Why doesn’t he get in touch? I feel like I ‘ve been here years (He takes his revolver out of its holster to check the ammunition) We ‘ve never let him down though, have we?, We’ve never let him down. I was thinking only the other day, Ben. We’re reliable, aren’t we?”

- c) “I mean that as soon as Laura Has got somebody to take care of her, married, a home of her own, independent, why, then you’ll be free to go wherever you please, on land, on sea, whichever way the wind blows you! But until that time you’ve got to look out for your sister, I don’t say me because I’m old and don’t matter. I say for your sister because she’s young and dependent”
- d) “You do look, my son, in a moved sort
As if you were dismayed be cheerful sir
Our revels are now ended. These our actors
(As I foretold you)were all sprits, and
Are melted into air, into thin air
And like the baseless fabric of this vision “
- e) “Look, have you ever walked down the passage to the office with the big glass door and the board outside: ‘Manager Bestuurder’ Imagine it, man, you Robert Zwelinzima, behind a desk in an office like that! It can happen, Robert, Quick Promotion to Chief Messenger. I’ll show you what we do.”
- 2) Comment briefly on any one of the following passages, explaining its significance to the novel from which it is taken.
- a) “Then she was standing before me, and suddenly the atmosphere underwent a peculiar change almost as though the two of us had been suddenly thrust onto some other plane of being altogether. I am afraid it is not easy to describe clearly what I mean here. All I can say is that everything around us suddenly became very still. It was my impression that Miss Kenton’s manner also underwent a sudden change, there was a strange seriousness in her expression, and it struck me. She seemed almost frightened”
- b) “This consciousness upon which he had intruded was the single opportunity of existence ever vouchsafed to Tess by an unsympathetic First cause her all; her every and only chance. How then could he look upon her as of less consequence than himself; as a pretty trifle to caress and grow weary of; and not deal in the greatest seriousness with the affection which he knew that he had awakened in her – so fervid and so impressionable as she was under her reserve, in order to that it might not agonize and wreck her?”
- c) “From the crush one man at a time – as much by pressure as by his own efforts – was ejected, like the palm – leaf stopper of a foaming toddy pot: collected his portion drank of the holy water and made his way out. My turn came: the level of the rice was already fallen so low that it was only by going close to the vessels that I could see any rice at all. One of the men rebuked me sharply. ‘Keep your distance. Do you want to devour pot and all ‘”?

- d) The cruelty is more active and direct. The literature contains reports on the more torments inflicted upon zoo animals: a shoebill dying of shock after having its beak smashed with a hammer; a moose stag losing its beard, along with a strip of the size of an index finger to a visitor's knife (this same moose was poisoned six months later); a monkey's arm broken after reaching out for proffered nuts; a deer's antlers attacked with a hacksaw; a zebra stabbed with a sword; and other assaults on other animals with walking sticks, umbrellas, hairpins, knitting needles, scissors and whatnot with an aim to taking an eye out or to injuring sexual parts. Animals are also poisoned. And there are indecencies even more bizarre; onanists breaking a sweat on monkey, ponies, birds; a religious freak who cut a snake's head off; a deranged man who took to urinating in an elk's mouth"
- e) "The whole formation of children took off. She put out a hand and a black head with the feel of freshly – washed sheep – skin brushed under it. Sometimes she could coax a small child, new on its legs, to come to her, but mostly she was too unfamiliar – looking, to them, to be trusted"
- 3) Comment briefly on the following passage , explaining its significance to the short story from which it is taken
- "I did something I never done before: hugged Maggie to me, then dragged her on into the room snatched the quilts out of Miss Wangero's hands and dumped them into Maggie's Lap, Maggie just sat there on my bed with her mouth open."
- 4) Comment briefly on the following extract, explaining its significance to the poem from which it is taken.
- "Quarterly, it is, money reproaches me:"
- "Why do you let me lie here wastefully?
- I am all you never had of goods and sex
- You could get them still by writing a few cheques "

Part B

(This part carries 68 marks; each question carries 17 marks)

5) Drama

Answer any one of the following questions. Do not answer the question which is based on the text you selected in question 1 of Part A above

- a) “Memories make man a prisoner of them, obstructing novelty and change.” Examine the above statement, making a detailed reference to Tennessee Williams’s play ‘The Glass Menagerie’.
- b) How do you relate Harold Pinter’s ‘The Dumb Waiter’ to the ubiquitous issue power structure and victimization? Illustrate your answer in relation to the play
- c) “Chance in Othello is at the centre of the tragedy and the tragic action would not have been possible without the ‘chance’ element.” Comment on this statement referring to the play Othello
- d) “Sizwe Bansi is Dead is a drama within drama”. How is this feature important for the plot development and to bring out issues of the drama?
- e) How far do you agree that The Tempest is about the abuse of power? How does Shakespeare dramatize the execution of power and does the play suggest the responsibilities of power?

6) Novel

Answer any one of the following question. Do not answer the question which is based on the text you selected in question 2 of Part A above

- a) Critically examine how Thomas Hardy finely blends ‘realism’ and ‘fairy tale element’ in a convincing way in his novel Tess of the d’Urbervilles.
- b) Discuss the extent to which Pi’s survival depends on his ability to embrace his animalistic instincts to survive.
- c) “The novel critiques the so called White Liberal mindset through the characters” Analyze this statement in relation to Nadine Gordimer’s July’s People.
- d) Evaluate how Kamala Markandaya brings out the authenticity of explicit and implicit human violence in the novel Nectar in a Sieve.
- e) How does Steven’s career as a butler reflect the broader societal shifts in Post-World War II, in the contemporary social context?

7) Short story

- a) Of the six short stories which one do you consider to be the most effective in bringing out the failure in communication and distanced human relationships? Write a critical appreciation of the story and justify your selection through a brief comparison with the other stories in your syllabus

OR

- b) What insights do the prescribed short stories offer about decision making in life? Do you think that these decisions affect the plot of the stories?

OR

- c) Can you consider Dee in Everyday Use and Kusuma in Action and Reaction in the same light of rising against culture and tradition in their respective social back grounds? Illustrate your answer with reference to the two stories.

8) Poetry

- a) Analyze the shared issues of the poems that deal with social class and social injustice by taking three poems belong to three different literary eras.

OR

- b) “The poets present inner conflict of an individual in search of true identity? How do the poets of the First World and the Third World present this in their poems?

OR

- c) Critically analyze one of the following:

- (i) The psychology of poetic personas in Remember, Sonnet 73 and Batter My Heart.
- (ii) Effectiveness of the use of humour and irony in three poems in your syllabus
- (iii) The power of memory and its effects in three prescribed poems.