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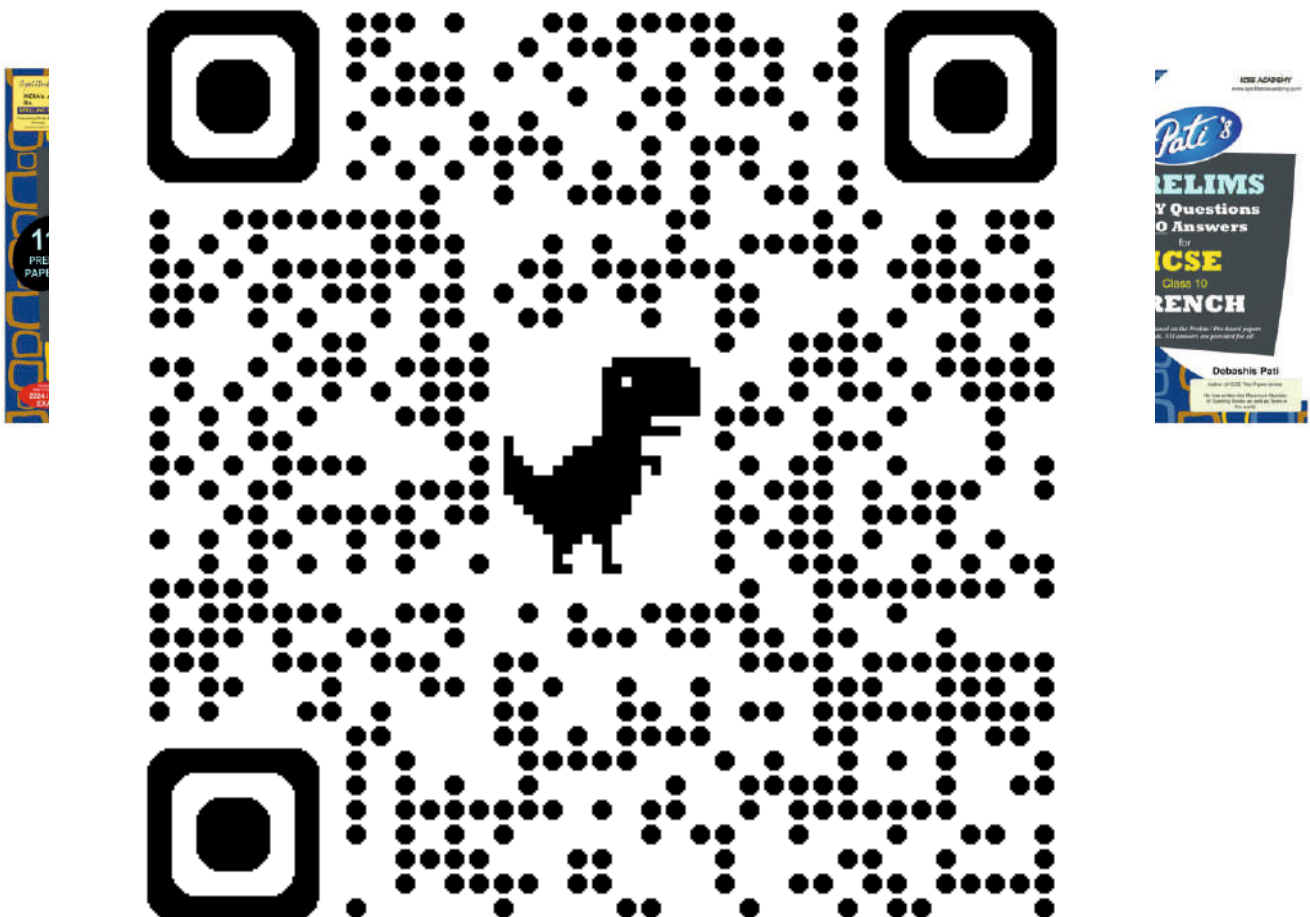
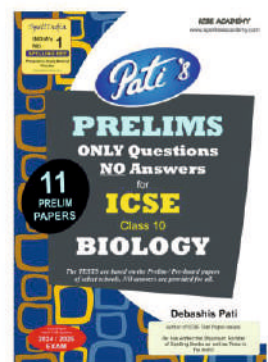
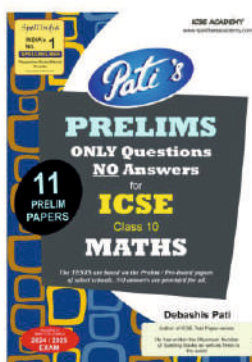
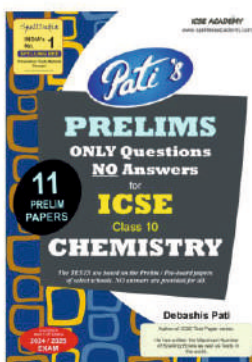
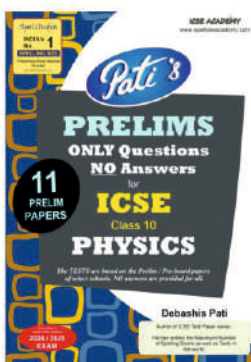
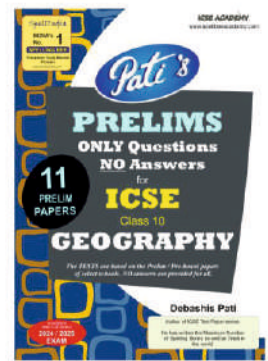
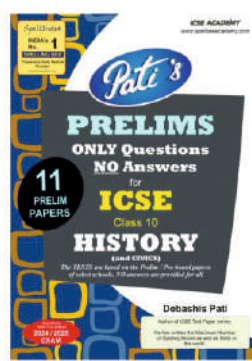
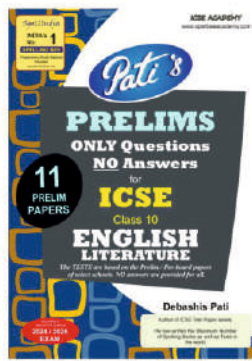
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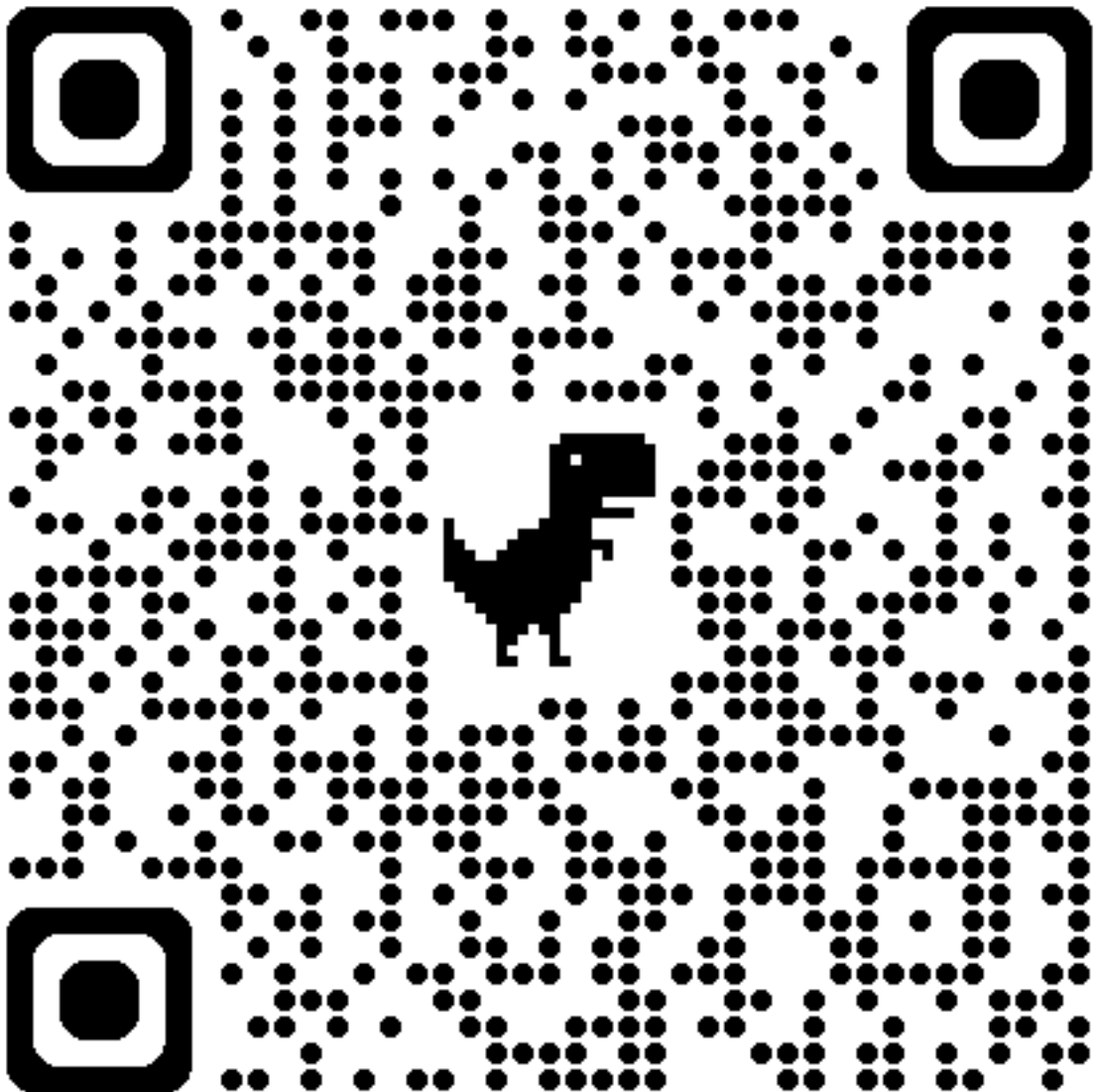




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Set 1 : Tests 31 to 40

SECTION B

DRAMA

(Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare)

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

Question 2

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

Brutus:

Must I budge?

Must I observe you? Must I stand and crouch

Under your testy humour? By the gods,

You shall digest the venom of your spleen,

Though it do split you

- i. Where are Brutus and Cassius at this time? What does Brutus ask Cassius to do right before these lines? [3]
- ii. Explain the lines: [3]
'*You shall digest the venom of your spleen,*
Though it do split you.'
Mention the significance of the word 'spleen' used in this context.
- i. How would Brutus react to Cassius' anger from that day onwards? How does Cassius react to these remarks by Brutus? [3]

Earlier in the scene, Cassius claims to be a better soldier than Brutus. How does he support this claim? Later in the play, which character ultimately demonstrates greater/better military skill? How? [3]

- v. Throughout the argument between these two, Brutus accuses Cassius of other faults. State two of these faults and mention how Cassius reacted to these accusations. Who, according to you, was correct in this argument? Provide evidence. [4]

Question 3

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

*Come down, behold no more,
O, coward that I am, to live so long,
To see my best friend taken before my face!*

- i. Who is the speaker of these lines? To whom are these lines addressed? What kind of a relationship do they share? [3]
- ii. Whom does the speaker refer to as "my best friend"? What news does the listener bring about him right before this extract? [3]
- iii. Was the news given by the listener accurate? What happens later in the scene that tells you so? [3]
- iv. How is this particular day significant to the speaker? What prophecy did the speaker make about this day earlier? What signs around him made him feel so? [3]
- v. What is the speaker's state of mind throughout the scene? What does this extract reveal about the speaker's character and his values? Provide examples from the text to support your answer. [4]

SECTION C

PROSE - SHORT STORIES

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

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

Question 4

Read the following extract from Stephen Leacock's short story, 'With the Photographer' and answer the questions that follow:

*"The face is quite wrong", he said.
"I know," I answered quietly; "I have always known it."
He sighed.*

- i. Where is the narrator right now? Who is 'he' in the above extract? Describe 'his' physical characteristics. [3]
- ii. What suggestion does 'he' give right after this extract to make the narrator's face look better? How does the narrator respond to this? [3]
- iii. What instructions did the photographer give the author before taking his photograph? [3]
- iv. In the proof of the photograph, what other adjustments have been done by 'him' to right the 'wrong face'? [3]
- v. Which character trait is highlighted when the narrator says, "I know,.. I have always known it." ? How does this trait compare or contrast with the narrator's final reaction after seeing his photograph? [4]

This Paper consist of 7 printed sides

Question 5

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

While I was thinking of all this, I heard my name called. It was my turn to recite. What would I not have given to be able to say that dreadful rule for the participle all through, very loud and clear, and without one mistake?

- i. Which lesson was going on? How does the narrator recite this rule? [3]
- ii. What is the narrator's state of mind at this time? Why does he feel so? [3]
- iii. What was the narrator thinking about when he said 'all this'? [3]
- iv. How does M. Hamel react to the narrator's recitation? What message/lecture does he give the gathered crowd about this? [3]
- v. Later in the story, M. Hamel says, "How is it; you pretend to be Frenchmen, and yet you can neither speak nor write your own language?" How does this statement comment upon the theme and the setting of the story? [4]

**SECTION D
POETRY**

(Treasure Trove - A Collection of ICSE Poems and Short Stories)

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

Question 6

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

*It ran with terror and with cunning crept.
It faltered: I could see it hesitate;
Then in the middle of the open sheet
Cower down in desperation to accept
Whatever I accorded it of fate.*

- i. What does 'it' refer to? What did the poet initially think 'it' was? What does the speaker do with 'it' at the end? [3]
- ii. Explain the attitude of the speaker towards 'it' in this extract. [3]
- iii. What made the speaker realise that 'it' had a mind of its own as well as intelligence? Give three reasons to justify your answer. [3]
- iv. What is the reason for the speaker's feeling of gladness? Comment on the lines: '**have none of the tenderer-than-thou!// Collectivistic regimenting love**' with reference to the extract. [3]
- v. What is the central theme of the poem? How does the speaker's action illustrate the theme of the poem? If you have to give the poem a different title, what will it be? Give a reason for your answer. [4]

Question 7:

Read the following extract from H.W. Longfellow's poem, 'Haunted Houses' and answer the questions that follow:

The stranger at my fireside cannot see
The forms I see, nor hear the sounds I hear;
He but perceives what is;
while unto me All that has been visible and clear

- i. Who is 'I' in the above stanza, and who is referred to as 'he' in the third line of the stanza? Who is the present occupant of the house? [3]
- ii. Give any three characteristic features of the phantoms as mentioned in the poem. [3]
- iii. Explain the last two lines of the extract. [3]
- iv. Later in the poem, the poet mentions 'a bridge of light.' What is this bridge of light? Explain its significance in the poem. [3]
- v. How do the poet's views of the ghosts differ from the traditional perceptions of ghosts? Explain the theme of the poem. [4]

THE END

SECTION -B (DRAMA)

Question 2: Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Brutus:

As Caesar loved me, I weep for him; as he was fortunate, I rejoice at it; as he was valiant, I honour him; but, as he was ambitious, I slew him. There is tears for his love; joy for his fortune; honour for his valour; and death for his ambition. Who is here so base that would be a bondman? If any, speak; for him have I offended. Who is here so rude that would not be a Roman? If any, speak; for him have I offended. Who is here so vile that will not love his country? If any, speak; for him have I offended. I pause for a reply.

- (i) What had been the theme of Brutus' speech? Give two examples from his speech to show that he tried to move them by his reasoning. [3]
- (ii) What is meant by a bondman? Whom does Brutus presume to have offended? What does Brutus indicate about one's love for one's country? [3]
- (iii) Give one incident to prove that Caesar loved Brutus. Why then did Brutus kill Caesar? [3]
- (iv) What reply did the listeners give to Brutus to the last sentence in the extract? How did the listeners react to Brutus' speech? [3]
- (v) Basing your choice on the speech of Brutus state whether he was a philosopher or a political leader. Give two examples from his speech to justify your choice. [4]

Question 3 : Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Messala:

Mistrust of good success hath done this deed. hateful error, melancholy's child,

Why dost thou show to the apt thoughts of men The things that are not? O error, soon conceived, Thou never comest unto a happy birth, But kill'st the mother that engender'd thee!

Titinius:

What, Pindarus! where art thou, Pindarus?

- (i) What was the 'mistrust of good success'? What error did Cassius make? How did his pessimism lead to his suicide? [3]
- (ii) Why is Pindarus called for? Who leaves the scene? Why? [3]
- (iii) What does Titinius do to himself? Why? [3]
- (iv) When Brutus enters the scene a little later, he refers to Julius Caesar. Why? What tribute does he pay to Cassius? [3]
- (v) How does the scene foretell the doom of the conspirators? What reason does Brutus give for this? [4]

SECTION - C (PROSE)

Question 4 : Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Martin's father worked at home. He wanted to know why Martin was out of breath.

- (i) How old was Martin? On which floor was the apartment that he and his father had moved into? What did he fear would happen when he was in the elevator? [3]
- (ii) Why was Martin gasping for breath when he reached home? What did his father ask him? [3]
- (iii) What did Martin experience at school? Had he gotten used to it? How do you think it impacted him? [3]
- (iv) Why did Martin's father frown at him when he took the stairs? What did his facial expression seem to suggest? [3]
- (v) What according to you, Martin found scarier- the elevator or the old lady? Give reason to support your answer. [4]

Question 5 : Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Through the window I saw my classmates, already in their places, and M. Hamel walking up and down with his terrible iron ruler under his arm

- (i) How had Franz expected M. Hamel to react upon reaching late? How did M. Hamel react? [3]
- (ii) When did Franz see a crowd in front of the bulletin-board? Which type of news had come all from the bulletin-board for the past two years? What did he think upon seeing the crowd? [3]
- (iii) Who did Franz notice sitting on the back benches of the classroom? How did they look? Why was their presence surprising to Franz? [3]

- (iv) What news did M. Hamel share with the students? How did Franz feel upon hearing the news? [3]
- (v) How does the character of M. Hamel embody dedication and love for teaching? What lessons can be learnt from his character? [4]

SECTION - D (POETRY)

Question 6 : Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

He downs his horns and charges straight, with bellow answering bellow.
The strains of song are tossed and whirled by blast of brutal violence,

- (i) Who is the 'subject' in this extract? What does he do? Give three examples. [3]
- (ii) Write the meaning of 'bellow answering bellow'. What is the first 'bellow' and what is the second bellow? [3]
- (iii) Who else besides humans are affected by Bhishma's singing? How? [3]
- (iv) Give the meanings of 'strains', 'tossed and whirled', and 'brutal violence'. [3]
- (v) The listeners in the poem plead for the music to stop. Why do you think they might be making this request? [4]

Question 7: Read the extract 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) What does the speaker want to convey by saying that he has a mind? Which characteristic trait of the speaker is conveyed by this assertion? [3]
- (ii) Where does the speaker find the mind? In which 'guise' does he find it? How does he recognise it? [3]
- (iii) How does the speaker reward it for displaying its mind? Why does the speaker not punish it for trespassing his sheet of paper? [3]
- (iv) What is the reason for the speaker's feeling of gladness? Give the symbolic meaning of the line 'On any sheet the least display of mind.' [3]
- (v) What is the central theme of this poem? How is an inconsequential mite used to justify the theme of the poem? [4]

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:

Brutus: [Reading the letter] He greets me well. Your master, Pindarus,
In his own change, or by ill officers,
Hath given me some worthy cause to wish
Things done undone. But, if he be at hand,

I shall be satisfied.

Pindarus: I do not doubt

But that my noble master will appear

Such as he is, full of regard and honour.

- (i) Where does the scene take place? What is Cassius' relation with Pindarus? What does Pindarus give Brutus? [3]
- (ii) What is Brutus' response to Pindarus after reading the letter? [3]
- (iii) How does Pindarus respond to Brutus? What opinion do you hold of Pindarus after the conversation with Brutus about Cassius? [3]
- (iv) What accusation does Cassius put on Brutus in the scene? What does Lucilius have to say with regard to Cassius? Analyse Brutus' line, 'In his own change, or by ill officers, hath given me some worthy cause to wish/ Things done undone'. What does this reveal about Brutus' feeling towards Cassius? [3]
- (v) How does Brutus describe an insincere or hollow friendship? Was Brutus right of what he said? Comment on the friendship between Brutus and Cassius. [4]

Question 3

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

Cassius:

O look, Titinius, look, the villains fly!
Myself have to mine own turn'd enemy;
This ensign here of mine was turning back;
I slew the coward, and did take it from him.

- (i) Who are the 'villains' and the 'ensign'? What does Cassius do to the ensign and why? [3]
- (ii) Who is Titinius? What does Cassius tell Titinius to do when the latter says they are his tents in the battlefield? [3]
- (iii) What information does Pindarus give Cassius about Titinius of the battlefield? [3]
- (iv) What does Cassius say as Pindarus stabs him? What does his words reveal? What did Messala think of Cassius' death? [3]
- (v) Describe two aspects of Cassius' character. Brutus and Cassius both kill themselves by the end of the drama, whom do you sympathise with- Brutus or Cassius? Give reasons for your choice. [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 given below and answer the questions that follow:

'This face is my face. It is not yours, it is mine. I've lived with it for forty years and I know its faults. I know it's out of drawing'

- (I) What did the narrator mean by 'out of drawing'? State any two faults that had been pointed out to him before this extract. [3]
- (II) How did the photographer react initially with the narrator when he entered his studio? How did his(the photographer's) appearance and demeanour affect the narrator's perception of him earlier in the story? [3]
- (III) What did the narrator do while waiting to get his photograph taken? For how long did the narrator wait for his picture to be clicked? What did the narrator realise while waiting for his turn? [3]
- (iv) What was the photographer's reaction after taking the narrator's photograph? [3]
- (v) Do you think it is important to embrace one's unique features and imperfections? Comment. [4]

Question 5

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

Martin's father worked at home. He wanted to know why Martin was out of breath.

- (i) How old was Martin? On which floor was the apartment that he and his father had moved into? What did he fear would happen when he was in the elevator? [3]

- (ii) Why was Martin gasping for breath when he reached home? What did his father ask him? Why do you think Martin's father asked such a question? [3]
- (iii) What did Martin experience at school? How had he gotten used to it? How do you think it impacted him? [3]
- (iv) What impact did the fat lady have on Martin's daily life? What emotions does Martin experience throughout the story? [3]
- (v) How would you describe Martin's relationship with his father? Do you feel Martin's father's behaviour was justified. Give reason for your response. [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 given below and answer the questions that follow:

"The wretched brutes resent the blare the hour
they hear it sounded,
They whine and stare with feet in air or wonder
quite confounded.
The fishes dived below the lake in frantic search
for silence,"

- (i) Who are the 'wretched brutes' mentioned in the above extract? What is the significance of the word 'resent' in describing the reaction of the 'wretched brutes'? [3]
- (ii) What does the phrase, "They whine and stare with feet in air" tell you about the effect of the music on the animals? [3]
- (iii) Who all are affected by the Bhisma's singing? [3]
- (iv) Which phrase has been used in the poem to describe the goat? What is the significance of the billy goat's intervention in the poem? [3]
- (v) Which 'gift' is referred to in the poem? Despite the chaos described in the poem, Bhisma Lochan continues to sing. What does this tell you about his character and his approach to music? [4]

Question 7

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

There are more guests at table than the hosts
Invited; the illuminated hall
Is thronged with quiet, inoffensive ghosts,
As silent as the pictures on the wall.

- (i) What kind of houses are haunted? Who haunts these houses? [3]
 - (ii) What does the poet mean by "more guests at the table than the host invited"? [3]
 - (iii) What does the poet mean when he uses the phrase 'illuminated hall'? [3]
 - (iv) What thoughts does the description of the 'quiet, inoffensive ghosts' evoke in you? What do the 'pictures on the wall' symbolise in the context of this stanza? [3]
 - (v) What is the behaviour of these 'inoffensive ghosts' as explained in the poem? [4]
-

PART - II

Question: II

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

Antony: That's all I seek:
And am moreover suitor that I may
Produce his body to the market place.

- 1) What request did Antony make? What was his true purpose for such a request?
- 2) Did Brutus consent to this request? Who objects to it? Why does he do so?
- 3) What reasons does Brutus give for his decision? Why does he think it will do more good than harm? Was he right in his view? Give reason.

Question: III

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

From the world of spirits there descends
A bridge of light, connecting it with this,
The ether whose unsteady floor, that sways and bends,
Supports our thoughts above the dark abyss.

- 1) What are the 'thoughts' that wander above the dark abyss? What is the dark abyss?
- 2) What is the significance of this 'bridge of light'? Discuss.
- 3) Give four reasons to justify the poet's view that all houses are haunted.

Question: IV

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

When he crawled back into the machine again and drew a little black cloth over himself. This time he was very quiet in there. I knew that he was praying and I kept still. When the photographer came out at last, he looked very grave and shook his head.

- 1) When the photographer entered into the machine for the second time, why does he remain there for long time than before? Why does the narrator think that he was praying? [3]
- 2) Why does the photographer look very grave? What does he say after this extract about the narrator? How does the narrator react? [3]
- 3) What do you think about the photographer from his activities? Give reasons to support your answer. [4]

SECTION II

(Answer one or more questions from this section)

DRAMA

JULIUS CAESAR by William Shakespeare

Question 1

Antony: *"If you have tears, prepare to shed them now.
You all do know this mantle: I remember
The first time ever Caesar put it on;
'Twas on a summer's evening, in his tent,
That day he overcame the Nervii."*

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- (ii) Where is Antony at this time?
Whom is he addressing? Who are the Nervii? [3]
- (iii) What three reasons does Antony give earlier to prove that Caesar was not ambitious? [3]
- (iii) Why was the stabbing of Caesar by Brutus described as the 'most unkindest cut of all' by Antony in his speech? [3]
- (iv) What document does Antony show the Tullians next? How will the listeners benefit according to the contents of the document? [3]
- (v) Give two reactions each of the mob after Brutus's speech and Antony's oration to bring out their fickle-mindedness. [4]

Question 3

Cassius: "A peevish schoolboy, worthless of such honour,
Join'd with a masker and a reveller."

- (i) Where does the scene take place?
Whom do the words 'peevish schoolboy' and 'reveller' refer to? [3]
- (ii) Why has Antony just accused the conspirators of being 'villains' and 'flatterers'? [3]
- (iii) Describe the reference made to Hybla bees made a little earlier. [3]
- (iv) A little later, what does Cassius confide to Messala? What does he fear now and why? [3]
- (v) Citing examples from Act 5, briefly comment on the characters of Antony and Cassius. [4]

SECTION C

(Answer one or more questions from this section)

PROSE – SHORT STORIES

TREASURE CHEST

Question 4

"The photographer rolled a machine into the middle of the room and crawled into it from behind."

- (i) Describe the photographer.
How long did the narrator have to wait for the photographer and what impression do you form about the photographer at the beginning? [3]
- (ii) Describe the photographer's initial attempt at taking a photograph before he starts giving instructions. [3]

- (iii) Mention the instructions given to the narrator before the photographer takes the picture. [3]
- (iv) Why does the narrator say "It seems that I was mistaken" before flying into a rage? [3]
- (v) What is the theme of the story? How far do you agree with it? Give at least two reasons for your answer. [4]

Question 5

"He listened to the faint push of his soft shoes through autumn leaves with satisfaction, and whistled a cold quiet whistle between his teeth, occasionally picking up a leaf as he passed, examining its skeletal pattern in the infrequent lamplights as he went on, smelling its rusty smell."

- (i) Whom does 'he' in the extract refer to?
What time of the day and year does this scene feature?
What was his usual practice in the evening? [3]
- (ii) Why did 'he' switch to wearing 'soft shoes'? [2]
- (iii) What would the other residents usually be doing at this time of the evening? How was it different in the daytime? Mention any two other programmes that 'he' calls out mockingly. [3]
- (iv) What reasons does 'he' give to the police car for being out? Why do you think the police car arrested him? Where was he taken? [3]
- (v) The narrator is a perfect example of a non-conformist. Give two reasons to support this observation.
What, do you think, is the author's purpose in writing this story? Give a reason for your answer. [4]

SECTION D

(Answer one or more questions from this section)

POETRY TREASURE CHEST

Question 6

*"These perturbations, this perpetual jar
Of earthly wants and aspirations high,
Come from the influence of an unseen star
And undiscovered planet in our sky."*

- (i) According to the poet, what kind of houses are haunted?
Why does the poet call the phantoms 'harmless'? [3]
- (ii) How is the poet's experience with the phantoms different from the stranger at the fireside? [3]
- (iii) What is the meaning of 'mortmain'? Explain the context in which the poet mentions it.

- (iii) Mention the instructions given to the narrator before the photographer takes the picture. [3]
- (iv) Why does the narrator say "It seems that I was mistaken" before flying into a rage? [3]
- (v) What is the theme of the story? How far do you agree with it? Give at least two reasons for your answer. [4]

Question 5

"He listened to the faint push of his soft shoes through slatted leaves with satisfaction, and whistled a cold quiet whistle between his teeth, occasionally picking up a leaf as he passed, examining its skeletal pattern in the infrequent lamplights as he went on, sniffing its rusty smell."

- (i) Whom does 'he' in the extract refer to? What time of the day and year does this story feature? What was his usual practice in the evening? [3]
- (ii) Why did 'he' switch to wearing 'soft shoes'? [2]
- (iii) What would the other residents usually be doing at this time of the evening? How was it different in the day time? Mention any two specific programmes that 'he' calls out mockingly. [3]
- (iv) What reasons does 'he' give to the police car for being out? Why do you think the police car arrested him? Where was he taken? [3]
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SECTION B

(Answer one or more questions from this section)

POETRY TREASURE CHEST

Question 6

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Of earthly wants and aspirations high,
Come from the influence of an unseen star,
And undiscovered planet in our sky."*

- (i) According to the poet, what kind of houses are haunted? Why does the poet call the phantoms 'harmless'? [3]
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- (iii) What is the meaning of 'mortmain'? Explain the context in which the poet mentions it.

SECTION B

(Answer one or more questions from this Section)

DRAMA

(Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare)

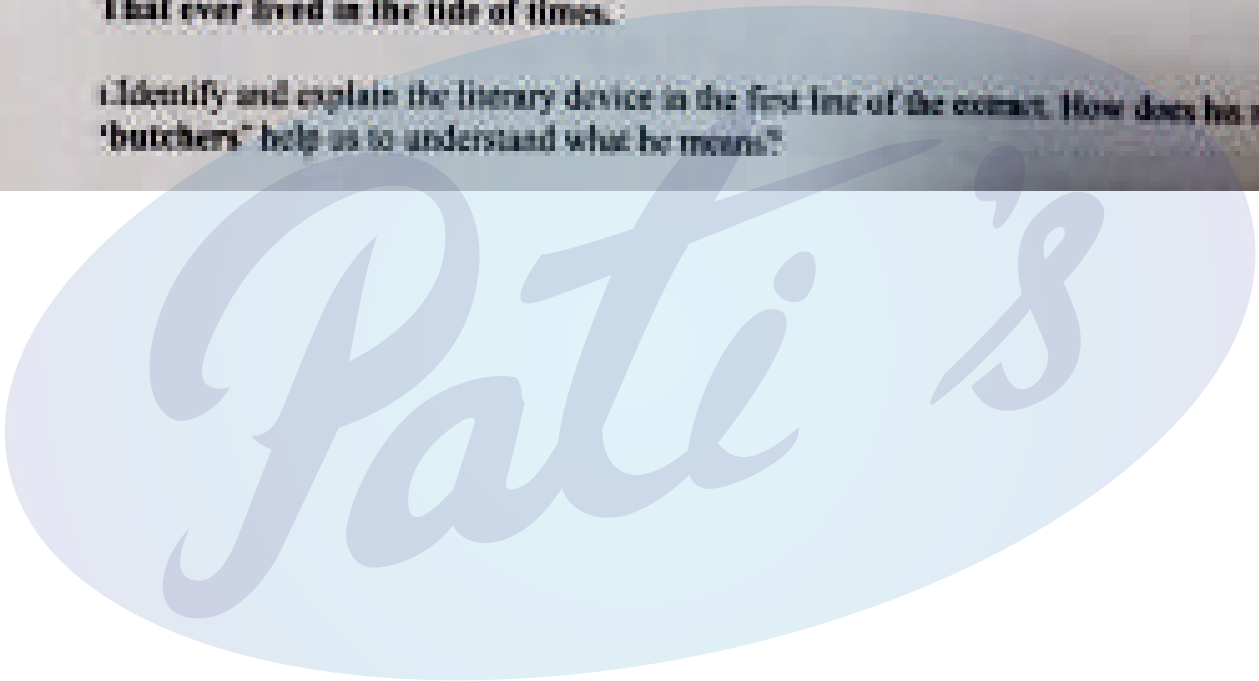
Question 2

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

**Antony: O, pardon me, thou bleeding piece of earth,
That I am meek and gentle with these butchers!
Thou art the ruins of the noblest man
That ever lived in the tide of times.**

(Identify and explain the literary device in the first line of the extract. How does his reference to 'butchers' help us to understand what he means?)

[3]



STD X ENGLISH LITERATURE

- ii. What does Antony say about Caesar's wounds? [3]
- iii. What prophecy does Antony utter now? [3]
- iv. Explain: Cry "Hercule and let slip the dogs of war" [3]
- v. When, why and how had Antony been "meek and gentle" with these butchers. What is your opinion of Antony at this point? [4]

Question 3

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

Brutus: Are yet two Romans living such as these?
The last of all the Romans, fare thee well!
It is impossible that ever Rome
Should breed thy fellow. Friends, I owe more tears
To this dead man than you shall see me pay—

- i. Who are the two Romans? How does Brutus pay tribute to them? What does Brutus exclaim about Caesar when he sees the dead bodies of these two Romans? [3]
- ii. Why does Brutus say I owe more tears To this dead man than you shall see me pay? Where does he propose to send the bodies of the two Romans? Why? [3]
- iii. Explain: *O Hercules! Moloch's child!* Why do the words *Hercules* and *Moloch's child* begin with capital letters? [3]
- iv. Explain Antony's eulogy pronounced over the corpse of Brutus. [3]
- v. In what ways did the spirit of Caesar ultimately triumph and fulfil its vengeance? [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 Ama Ata Aidoo's story 'The Girl who ran' given below and answer the questions that follow:

"What kind of legs?" And always at that point, I knew from her voice that my mother was weeping inside. Nana never heard such inside weeping. Not that it would have stopped Nana, even if she had heard it.

STD X ENGLISH LITERATURE

- i. What has been the topic of discussion since Adju's birth? Why? [3]
- ii. "Mother was weeping inside" Discuss this statement with reference to the relation between Kaya and Nama [3]
- iii. Was Adju able to see 'the approved kind of legs'? Why? [3]
- iv. Kaya felt that she was locked into some kind of darkness. What darkness is referred to here? What does she wish for Adju? [3]
- v. Adju and Malala Yousafzai, despite their different cultural and geographical backgrounds, share common themes of resilience, the transformative power of education and the importance of challenging societal norms. Express your views. [4]

Question 5

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

'How is it; you pretend to be Frenchmen, and yet you can neither speak nor write your own language?' But you are not the worst, poor little Franz. We've all a great deal to reproach ourselves with.

Lfr was all much more tempting than the rule for participles. *but I had the strength to resist, and hurried off to school.* What is 'temptation' and why do you need strength to resist it? What did Franz do when he bunked school? Have you ever faced such a temptation? What did you do? [3]

ii. How was M. Hamel dressed on that day? When would he wear the dress he was wearing on that day? What was surprising about the back benches? [3]

iii. Which announcement of M. Hamel's came as a thunderclap to Franz? What similarity between the announcement and a thunderclap is implied? What qualities of the French language did the speaker eulogise? [3]

iv. "And I? I've been to blame also." How did M. Hamel blame himself? Discuss the character traits of M. Hamel. [3]

v. How does procrastination affect a student's exam preparation? What strategies can be implemented to overcome it? [4]

SECTION D

(Answer one or more questions from this Section)

POETRY

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

Question 5

Read the extract from the poem 'Haunted House' by H.W. Longfellow and answer the questions that follow:

We meet them at the door-way, on the stair,
Along the passages they come and go,
Impalpable impressions on the air,
A sense of something moving to and fro.

- i. Identify the literary device used in the third line of the extract. What does it suggest about the nature of these phantoms? [1]
- ii. How does the poem describe the presence of spirits during gatherings or dinners? How do the spirits in the 'illuminated hall' behave? [1]
- iii. What do you understand by the term 'mortman'? What does the term imply in the context of the poem? [1]
- iv. What might the 'unseen star' and 'undiscovered planet' metaphorically represent? How does the moon play a role in illustrating a connection to the mysterious? [1]
- v. What does the poet mean by 'opposite attractions and desires'? What would you do if you ever faced such a dilemma? [1]

Question 7

Read the extract from the poem 'When Great Trees Fall' by Maya Angelou and answer the questions that follow:

When great souls die,
The air around us becomes
Light, rare, sterile.
We breathe, briefly

- i. What do you understand by 'sterile air'? Why does the air become sterile and what is its effect? [1]
- ii. What do you understand by 'harmful clarity'? What is its effect? [1]
- iii. Death of a beloved one is as shattering as the fall of a great tree. With reference to this statement, explain how big and small creatures react when great trees fall. [1]
- iv. What are the regrets after the death of great souls? [1]
- v. The poem suggests that the world changes and is forever altered by the presence of great individuals. How do you think the achievements and philosophies of figures like Nelson Mandela and Mahatma Gandhi continue to shape modern society? [4]

Section B

(Answer one or more questions.)

Drama

(Julius Caesar)

Q.2) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

[16]

Mettelus Cimber- Is there no voice more worthy than my own
To sound more sweetly in great Caesar's ear
For the repealing of my banished brother?

- i. What appeal does Artemidorus make in the beginning of the scene? Why? (3)
- ii. What does Caesar do that compels Mettelus Cimber to speak the above lines? (3)
- iii. How does Caesar react when Brutus too asks for the repeal of Mettelus Cimber's brother? (3)
- iv. What were Caesar's last words? What is the significance of those words? (3)

Do you think Caesar's amputation made him responsible for his downfall?
Justify your opinion with examples from the text. (4)

Q.3) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: (16)

Octavius- They mean to warn us at Philippi here, answering before
we do demand of them.

- i. Where is the speaker? What reasons does Antony give to Octavius for the enemies attacking them first? (3)
- ii. What news does the messenger bring after this extract? (3)
- iii. How does Antony taunt Brutus when they meet face to face before the battle commences? (3)
- iv. How does Antony highlight the villain's hypocrisy and flattery towards Caesar when he was assassinated? (3)
- v. According to you, which side- Brutus and Cassius or Antony and Octavius seems more united in purpose in this scene? Justify with examples from the text. (4)

Section C

(Answer one or more questions from this section)

Poetry

(Treasure Chest)

Q.4) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: (16)

And as the moon from some dark gate of cloud
Throws o'er the sea floating bridge of light,
Across whose trembling planks our fancies crowd
Into the realm of mystery and night,

- i. How and when is 'a bridge of light' formed? (3)
- ii. 'Floating bridge of light', which imagery is used in this line? Why does the bridge float? (3)
- iii. What is the function of this bridge? (3)
- iv. What does the poet tell us about the world of spirits? (3)
- v. How does the poem highlight the theme of 'memory and legacy'? (4)

Q.5) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: (16)

A speck that would have been beneath my sight
On any but a paper sheet so white
Set off across what I had written there.

- i. What is a speck? Why was the poet able to see the speck in spite of its tiny size? (3)
- ii. How does the mite display his hesitation twice in the poem? (3)
- iii. How does the mite showcase its dire need to survive? (3)
- iv. What does the poet eventually decide to do with the speck? Why? (3)

- iv. How do you interpret the poem's ending? Does the speaker's reflection on the spark offer any resolution or insight into the larger questions of life and death? (4)

Section D

(Answer one or more questions from this section)

Prose

(Treasure Chest)

Q.6) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: [16]

"The ears are bad," he said; droop them a little more. Thank you.
Now the eyes. Roll them in under the lids.

- i. Describe the photographer. (3)
- ii. How does the photographer point out the narrator's flaws? (3)
- iii. How does the author revolt against the comments of the photographer? (3)
- iv. Why did the narrator and the photographer look at the picture in silence? (3)
- v. The poem highlights the theme of 'Insecurity and Self-Acceptance'. Elucidate. (4)

Q.7) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: [16]

In ten years of walking by night or day, for thousands of miles, he had never met another person walking, not once in all that time.

- i. How does the author show a contrast during the day and night? (3)
- ii. How does the author highlight the stereotype of the people? (3)
- iii. What did he encounter when he turned back on a side street, circling around towards his home? (3)
- iv. Why was what he encountered a rare, incredible thing during AD 2053? (3)
- v. How is the theme of conformity versus individuality explored through Leonard Mead's interactions with the police and society around him? (4)

QUESTION PAPER 38

Section B

Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare

Q2. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Antony: Thou art the ruins of the noblest man

That ever lived in the tide of times

Woe to the hand that shed this costly blood!

Over thy wounds do I now prophesy,

which, like dumb mouths, do ope their ruby lips,

To beg the voice and utterance of my tongue.

- (i) Who does Antony refer to as 'thou'? Explain the terms 'ruins' and 'tide of times'. [3]
- (ii) When Antony says, 'Woe to the hand...', whose hands is he speaking about? What does he do with these 'hands' a little earlier in the scene? [3]
- (iii) What does Antony say about the wounds? [3]
- (iv) In his prophesy Antony says, 'All pity chok'd with custom of fell deeds.' What does he mean by this line? [3]
- (v) Who will be ranging for revenge? How will this revenge be achieved? [4]

Q3. Read the given extract and answer the questions that follow:

Antony: But here's a parchment with a seal of Caesar

I found it in his closet, - tis his will.

Let but the commons hear this testament

Which, pardon me, I do not mean to read.

- (i) What does Antony say about Caesar at the beginning of this speech? How would he be doing injustice to Brutus and Cassius? [3]
- (ii) Who does Antony want to speak instead of the honourable men? What is his intention behind showing Caesar's will to the commons? [3]
- (iii) According to Antony, what will the commons do if they hear the contents of Caesar's will? [3]
- (iv) A little later Antony says that it is not proper for the citizens to know how much Caesar loved them. What reason does he give them for this remark? [3]
- (v) Towards the end of this scene, Antony says, 'now let it work'. What mood is he in when he makes this remark? What two traits of Mark Antony are highlighted in this scene? Justify. [4]

Section C

Prose- Short stories

Q4. Read the following extract from William Sleator's short story, 'The Elevator' given below and answer the questions that follow:

She had large fleshy cheeks and no chin, just a huge mass of neck. Her blue eyes were tiny but sharp. They seemed to be boring into Martin's face. Martin looked away but the woman didn't turn around. Was she still looking at him? He glanced at her quickly and then looked away again.

- (i) Who is 'she' referred to in the extract? Where is she at present? What is she wearing? [3]
- (ii) According to Martin, how was she different from other passengers who used the elevator? [3]
- (iii) Why did Martin want to close his eyes? What does this signify about him? [3]
- (iv) What happened when Martin started running down the stairs? What were Martin's father's feelings on the way to the hospital? With reference to the reactions of his father, was he responsible in some way to intensify Martin's fear? [3]
- (v) With reference to the theme of overcoming one's fears by facing them, give incidents from the story where Martin's fear got the better of him? What in your opinion is the best solution to rid oneself of fear? [4]

Section D

Poetry- Treasure Chest

Q5. Read the extract from the poem, 'The Glove and the Lady' and answer the questions that follow:

De Lorge's love o'erheard the King, a bustling life he gave
 With smiling lips and sharp bright eyes, which always gleamed the same;
 She thought, the Count my lover is brave as troops of men,
 He surely would do wondrous things to show his love of me;
 King, ladies, lovers, all look on; the occasion is divine;
 I'll drop my glove, to prove his love, and glory will be mine.

- (i) Where is King Francis and what is the event being held? Who are present along with the king for the event? [3]
- (ii) What comment made by the king did de Lorge's lover overhear? What did she think about the king? [3]
- (iii) What was the lady's internal monologue? What was she sure about? What Act struck her? [3]
- (iv) Why did the king approve of Count de Lorge's act of throwing the glove at the lady's face? [3]
- (v) How does Leigh Hunt use the interaction between the Count and his lady love to explore themes of honor and manipulation in the poem? [4]

SECTION B

(Answer one or more question from this section)

DRAMA

(Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare)

QUESTION - 2

-CASSIUS

This is my birthday; as this very day
Was Cassius born. Give me thy hand,
Be thou my witness that against my will,
As Pompey was, am I compell'd to set
Upon one battle all our liberties.

(i) To whom are these words addressed? Where is the scene taking place? Why is Cassius reluctant to fight the battle? [3]

(ii) Identify and explain the different Omens observed by Cassius. [2]

(iii) Give the meaning of the following words or statements from Act 5, Scene 1. [2]

- a. Answering before we do demand of them:
- b. I am in their bosoms:
- c. Hybla:

(iv) Name the philosophy which Cato adopted. What is Brutus' attitude concerning suicide? What is Brutus' response when Cassius asks if he is "contented to be led in triumph / Through the streets of Rome?"

(v) How and why did Cassius die?

QUESTION 3

Read the extract given below and answer the question that follow.

Lucilius-With courtesy and with respect enough,
But not with such familiar instances,
Nor with such free and friendly conference,
As he hath us'd of old.

(i) Who is being spoken about? Where does this scene take place? Who is Lucilius speaking about?

Who is being the change in the Lucilius's attitude observed in this friend's act?

(ii) How does the listener assess "a hot friend cooling" after the extract and to whom are "hollow men" compared to? [2]

- Why does Brutus ask Cassius to speak his grief softly? What does Cassius instruct Portia to do? (3)
- (vi) Who guards the door of the text? How are Lucius and Titinius connected to Brutus and Cassius? (3)
- (vii) Compare the relationship between Brutus and Cassius to that of Antony and Octavius who appear more rational and logical. Give a reason for your answer. (4)

SECTION C

(Answer one or more questions from this section)

PROSE-SHORT STORIES

(Treasure Chest- a Collection of ICSE Short Stories and Poems)

QUESTION - 4

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

"The elevator creaked down to twelve, then eleven. The piggy eyes were still looking at him. She had to be crazy. Why else would she stare at him like this? What was she going to do next?"

- (i) Who was Martin? Express Martin's initial reaction when the fat lady entered the elevator. (3)
- (ii) What was expected of Martin to reconcile with? How does the author describe the elevator to create a sense of unease? (3)
- (iii) Why did the father not like Martin to visit the neighbour along with him? On which floor did the neighbour live and what was her name? What was the father's piece of advice to Martin? (3)
- (iv) Give the meaning for the following words:
a) creaked b) hobbled and c) piggy eyes. (3)
- (v) Who according to you was "She"-a visitor or a resident of a building or a figment of Martin's imagination. Give reasons to justify your answer. (4)

QUESTION - 5

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

"He listened to the faint push of his soft shoes through autumn leaves with satisfaction ... occasionally picking up a leaf as he passed, examining its skeletal pattern in the infrequent lamplights as he went on, smelling its rusty smell."

- (i) Where was the narrator? Why had he gone there? What details in this passage illustrate Mr. Mead's appreciation for nature? (3)
- (ii) Why does Mr. Mead find satisfaction in the simple act of walking? (3)
- (iii) What is the symbolism in *The Pedestrian*? What is suggested about Mead by comparing him to a hawk? (3)
- (iv) How does the use of a "phonograph voice" affect the tone of the interaction? (3)
- (v) Why did the police car take Mr. Mead to the centre? Where was Mr. Mead taken by the police car at the end of the text? Explain how Mr. Mead's actions reflect his personality. (4)

SECTION D

(Answer one or more questions from this section)

POETRY

(Treasure Chest- a Collection of ICSE Short Stories and Poems)

QUESTION - 6

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

"Ramped and roared the lions, with horrid laughing jaws,
They bit, they glared, gave blows like beams, a wind went with their paws;
With wallowing might and stifled roar they rolled on one another,
Till all the pit with sand and mane was in a thunderous smother,
The bloody foam above the bars came whisking through the air,
Said Francis then, 'Fath, gentleman, we're better here than there.'"

- (iii) What kind of royal sport was in progress? Who were watching it? Who stole the heart of King Francis?
What idea struck De Lorge's beloved? How did she put it into practice? What could have happened to De Lorge? [3]
- (iv) Identify the poetic devices expressed by the following lines/phrases? [3]
- A. "smiling lips and sharp bright eyes"
B. "the Count my lover is brave as brave can be"
C. "loved a royal sport"
- (v) Explain briefly the characteristic traits of Count de Lorge and Count de Lorge's lover as revealed in the poem. [3]
- (vi) Discuss the role of societal pressure in shaping the characters' actions. [4]

QUESTION - 7

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

"Plainly with an intelligence I dealt,
It seemed too tiny to have room for text,
You must have had a set of them complete
To express how much it didn't want to die.
It ran with terror and with cunning crept,
It faltered: I could see it hesitate."

- (i) What is a speck? What did it turn out to be? What had the poet been doing on the sheet of paper? [3]
- (ii) Give the meaning for the following phrases. [3]
- A. Idly poised pen in the air -
B. Collectivistic regimenting love -
C. Tender-than - thou
- (iii) Why did the speaker at first think that the mite did not have feet? What made him change his stance at the next moment? [3]
- (iv) How can you say that the mite is intelligent? Give any three instances to prove the same. [3]
- (v) What made the mite suspicious and how would you describe the speaker's attitude towards the speck he saw on his manuscript sheet? [4]

SECTION B - DRAMA
(Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare)

Question 2

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

Titinius: What, Pindarus! Where art thou, Pindarus?

Messala: Seek him, Titinius, whilst I go to meet
The noble Brutus, trusting this report
into his ears. I may say 'trusting' it:
For piercing steel, and darts envenomed
Shall be as welcome to the ears of Brutus
As tidings of this sight.

- i. Where are the speakers? Who is Pindarus? What message does Messala wish to convey to Brutus? [3]
- ii. Earlier in this scene, where does Cassius send Titinius? Why? [3]
- iii. What does Cassius then ask Pindarus to do? What reason does he give for doing so? [3]
- iv. What report does Pindarus convey to Cassius that upsets him? What mood does he fall into? Was he right in blaming himself? Give a reason to justify your answer. [3]
- v. Immediately following this extract, what two noble gestures does Titinius perform? What arrangements does Brutus make for Cassius at the end of the scene? What reason does he give for doing so? [4]

Question 3

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

Antony: Villains! You did not so when your wife daggers
Hack'd one another in the sides of Caesar:
You show'd your teeth like apes and fawn'd like hounds,
And bow'd like bondmen, kissing Caesar's feet.
What damned Casca, like a cur, behind
Struck Caesar on the neck. O you flatterers!

- i. Who are referred to as villains? How does one of the villains react to being called a traitor? [3]
- ii. Explain the reference to Hybla bees made by Cassius and Brutus just before the above extract. [3]
- iii. Later Cassius says, "You know that I held Epicurus strong, and his opinion; now I change my mind, and partly credit things that do presage." What does Cassius mean by this? Why does he change his mind and partly credit things that do presage? [3]
- iv. Towards the end of the scene, Cassius says to Brutus, "Then if we lose this battle you are contented to be led in triumph through the streets of Rome?" What is Brutus' response to this? [3]
- v. Using suitable examples from the play, briefly contrast the characters of Brutus and Antony. [4]

SECTION C - PROSE
(Treasure Chest – A Collection of ICSE Poems and Short Stories)

Question 4

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

Through the window I saw my classmates, already in their places, and M. Hamel waking up and down with his fumble iron ruler under his arm. I had to open the door and go in before everybody. You can imagine how I blushed and how frightened I was.

But nothing happened, M. Hamel saw me and said very kindly:

"Go to your place quickly, little Franz. We were beginning without you."

- i. What did he notice that was unusual about school that day? What had been put up on the bulletin-board? [3]
- ii. Why was Franz in great dread of a scolding that day as he approached school? What tempted him as he neared school? [3]
- iii. Franz thinks, "Will they sing in German, even the pigeons?" What made Franz think this? Comment on the sarcasm used in the given line. [3]
- iv. Why did Franz feel that he was able to clearly understand the last lesson taught by M. Hamel quite easily? How did his feelings about M. Hamel and school change? [3]
- v. The characters in the story, 'The Last Lesson' suddenly realise how precious their language is to them. Give evidences from the story that shows you this. Why does this happen? [4]

Question 5

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

"Stop," I said with emotion but, I think, with dignity. "This face is my face. It is not yours, it is mine. I've lived with it for forty years and I know its faults. I know it's out of drawing. I know it wasn't made for me, but it's my face, the only one I have ..."

- i. Who is the speaker of the above extract? Who is he speaking to? What is the occasion? [3]
- ii. What had prompted the speaker to say, "It is not yours, it is mine."? [3]
- iii. What was the tone of the speaker? What had followed immediately after the above lines were spoken? [3]
- iv. When did the speaker go back to the other person? What had made the other person feel proud of? Why do you think both the speaker and the other person looked at the proof of the work in silence? [3]
- v. Comment on how Stephen Leacock has used wit and irony in the story 'With the Photographer', to criticize the absurdity and discomfort often associated with formal photography sessions. [4]

SECTION D - POEMS
(Treasure Chest – A Collection of ICSE Poems and Short Stories)

Question 6

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

*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!
The bullock-carts are overturned, and horses
line the roadside;
But Bhisma Lochan, unconcerned, goes
booming out his broadside.*

- i. Who is Bhisma Lochan Sharma? How has the poet described his singing? [3]
- ii. Who are 'They' referred to in the first line of the extract? To whom do they plead, and why? [3]
- iii. Who else besides 'They' are affected by Bhisma's singing? How are they affected? [3]
- iv. Who finally succeeds in stopping Bhisma from singing? How was the success achieved? [3]
- v. The poem 'The Power of Music' contains skillfully hidden criticism and satire of the state of society during early 20th-century colonial India. Elucidate how the poet achieves this objective under the garb of a humorous account of an irrepressible singer. [4]

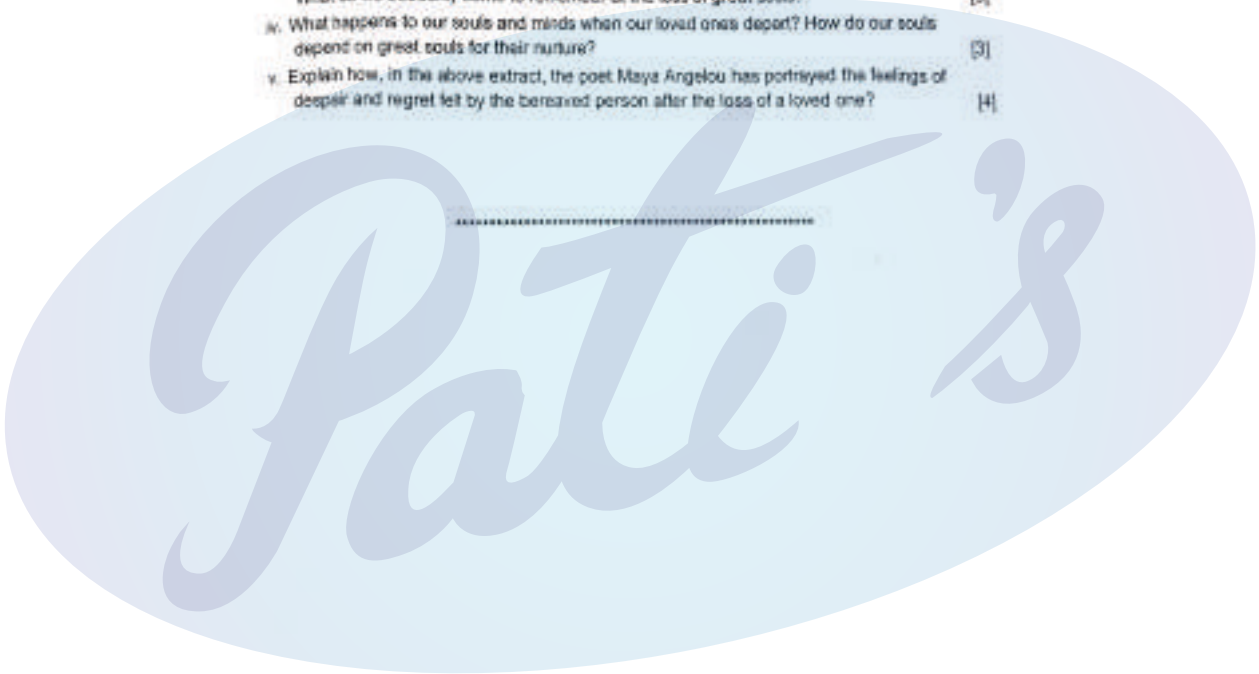
Question 7

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

*When great souls die,
the air around us becomes
light, rare, sterile.
We breathe, briefly.*

Our eyes, briefly,
see with
a hurtful clarity.

- i. What image from the world of nature has been used earlier in the poem? How has the poet described the devastation caused in the world of nature? [3]
- ii. Explain the line: 'Our eyes, briefly,
see with a hurtful clarity'. [3]
- iii. Why has the poet used a pause in the line, 'We breathe, briefly'?
What do we suddenly come to remember of the loss of great souls? [3]
- iv. What happens to our souls and minds when our loved ones depart? How do our souls depend on great souls for their nurture? [3]
- v. Explain how, in the above extract, the poet Maya Angelou has portrayed the feelings of despair and regret felt by the bereaved person after the loss of a loved one? [4]

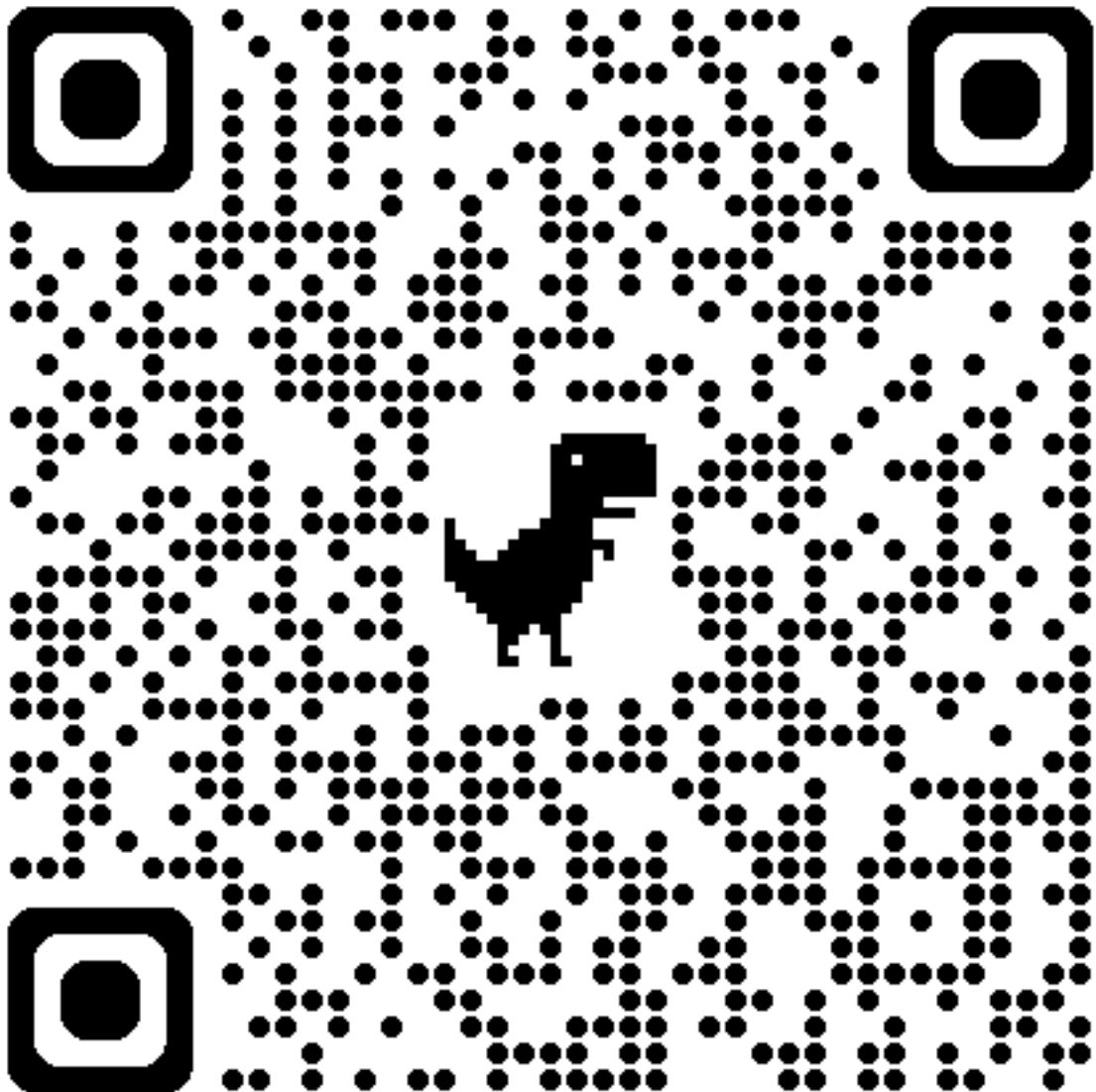




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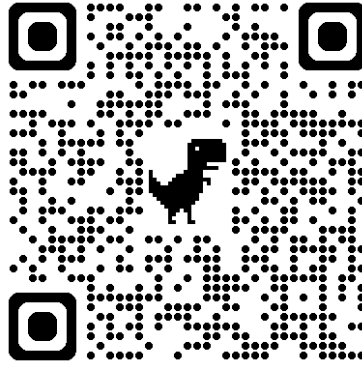


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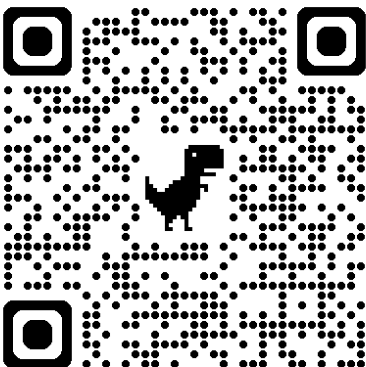
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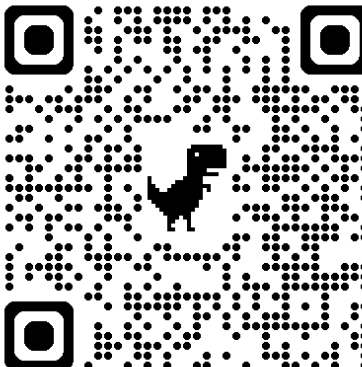
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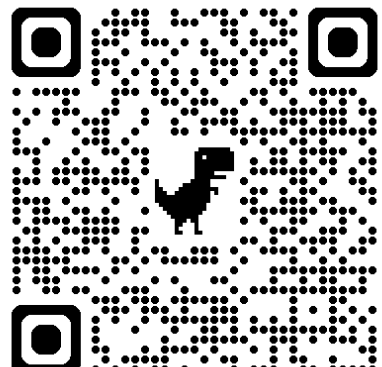
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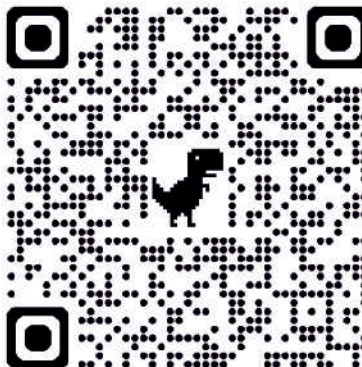
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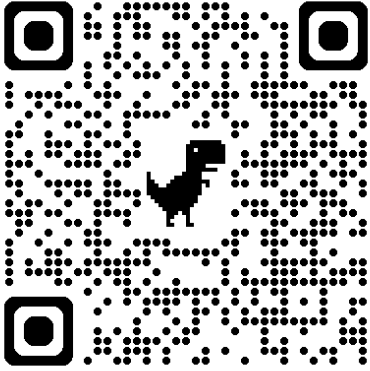
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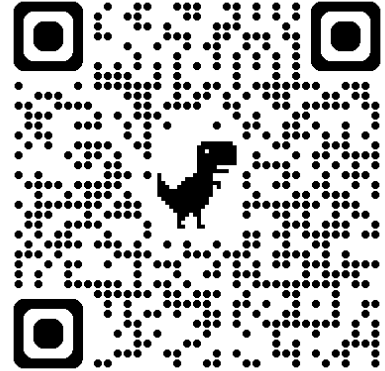
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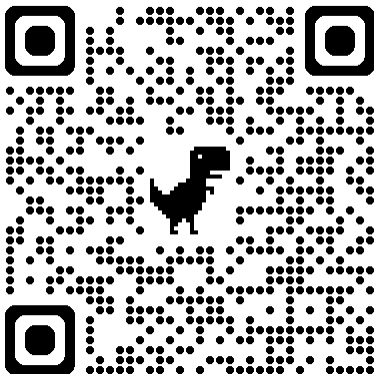
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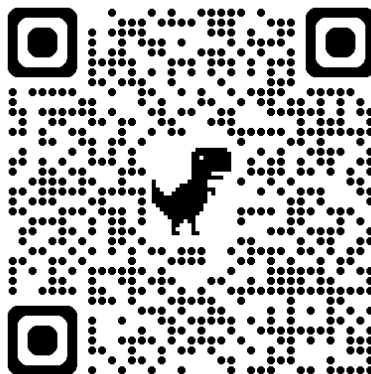
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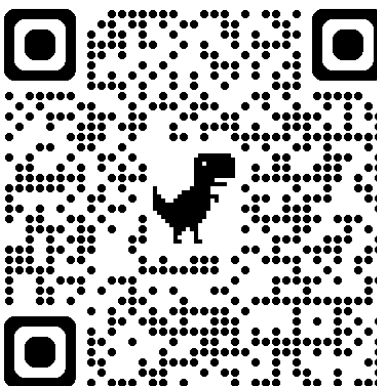
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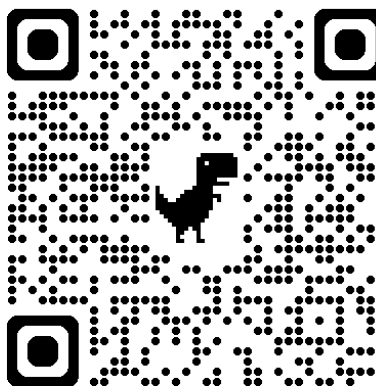
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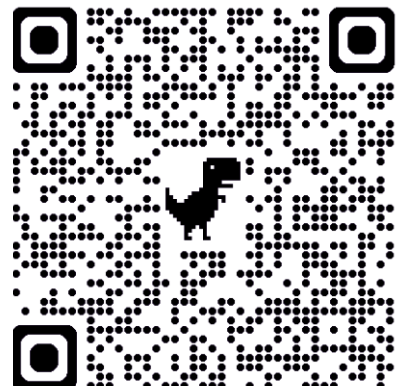
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