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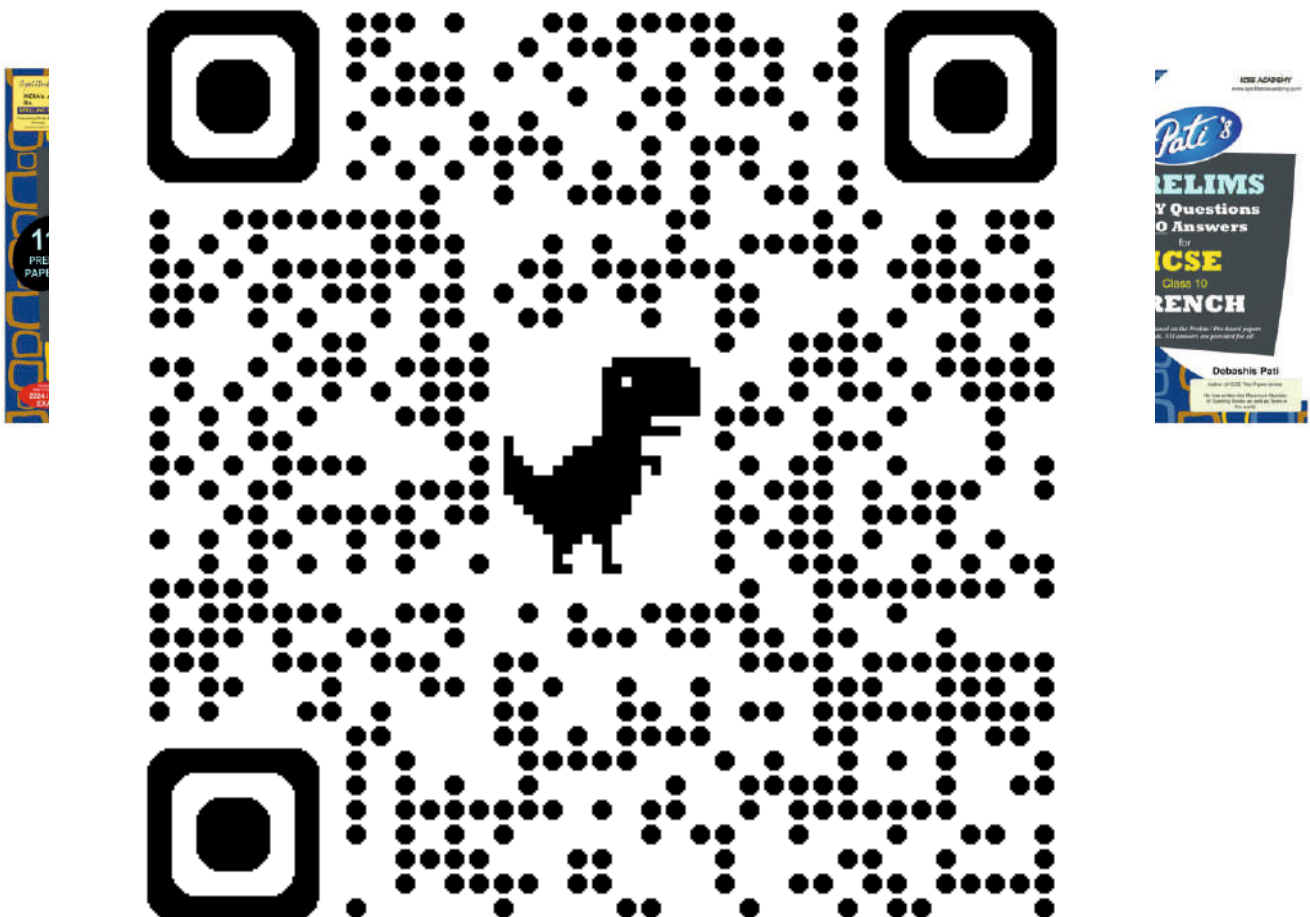
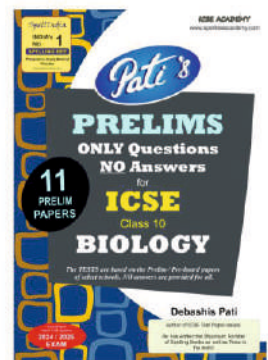
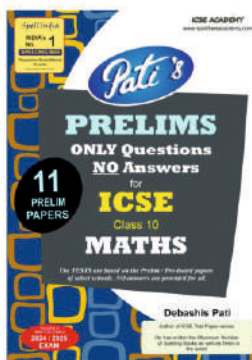
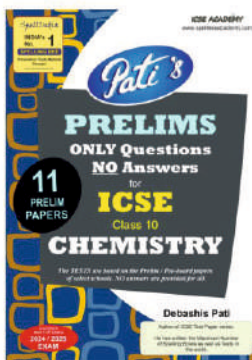
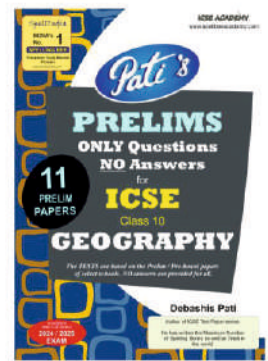
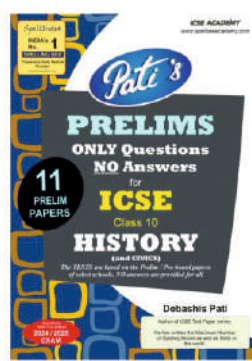
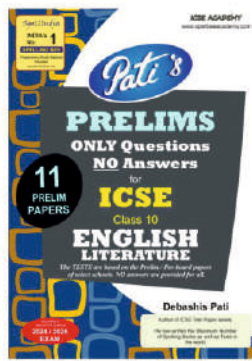
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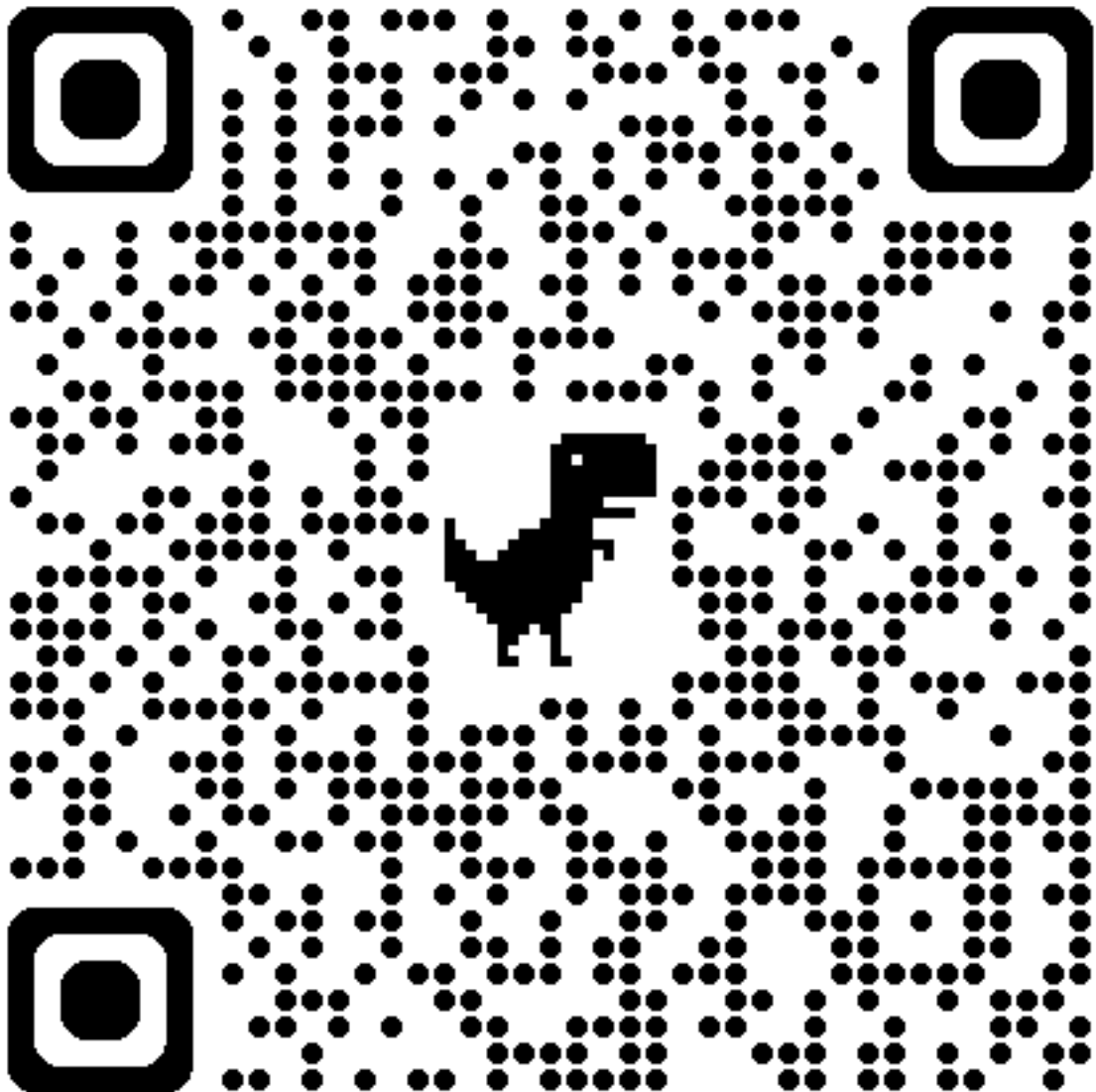




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Set 1 : Tests 41 to 50

SECTION B-DRAMA

Question 2

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

*Antony: Yet stay awhile; Thou shalt not back till I have borne the corpse
Into the market place, there shall I try.....*

- i. Whom is Antony addressing? Why is this person here? Where are they? [3]
- ii. What had Antony just said to this person before telling him to "stay awhile"? Did this person help Antony? How? [3]
- iii. What promises did Antony make to Brutus before giving a 'try'? [3]
- iv. Relate briefly how successful Antony was in his 'try' to the people. What reason does he give in his 'try'? [3]
- v. What trait of Antony's nature is shown in this passage? Provide examples of two occasions in the play (Acts 3 to 5) where different aspects of his character are shown from the one in this extract. [4]

Question 3

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

*"Give me thy hand Messala;
Be thou witness that against my will,
(As Pompey was) am I compelled to set
Upon one battle all our liberties
You know that I hold Epicurus strong
And his opinion. Now I change my mind."*

- i. Who was Messala? Where were Cassius and Messala currently? Why? [3]
- ii. Why did Cassius say, "against my will"? Why did he refer to Pompey in this connection? What did he fear? [3]
- iii. Who was Epicurus? What was his opinion? [3]
- iv. What does the phrase "now I change my mind" reveal about Cassius's fears? [3]
- v. In what manner was Cassius' feat justified later? Why do you feel Cassius was a better judge of military matters than Brutus? Give your reasons briefly. [4]

SECTION C-PROSE

Question 4

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

"After that Martin forced himself to take the elevator. He could have to get used to it, he told himself, just that he got used to be..."

- i. Why did Martin force himself to take the elevator? [3]
- ii. What had Martin got used to? What does this tell us about Martin and his father? [3]
- iii. What alternate way does Martin use to reach his apartment? How is this described? [3]
- iv. How did the entry and exit of the lady in the elevator add to the spooky and macabre element of the story? [3]
- v. The elevator is an undeniable necessity of life; however, Martin detested boarding it. With close reference to the story, explain the reasons to justify the above statement. [4]

Turn over.....

15

Question 5

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

"You Adjoa, you don't know what life is about . . . but . . . you don't know what problems there are in this life . . ." As far as I could see, there was only one problem. And it had nothing to do with what I knew Nana considered as "problems".

- i. Which "problems" is Nana referring to in the above extract? [3]
- ii. What did the narrator want to tell her grandmother and mother? What did it reveal about the narrator? [3]
- iii. In what ways did Mami have a progressive outlook as compared to Nana? [3]
- iv. What challenges did Adjoa face while examining the approved kind of legs? What were her findings? [3]
- v. In what ways does Adjoa's success in running challenge traditional beliefs and expectations about women's abilities and roles in her community? [4]

SECTION D-POETRYQuestion 6

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...*

- i. What does the speaker mean by "I have a mind"? In which 'guise' does he find it? How does he recognize it? [3]
- ii. Describe any two vivid examples of imagery used in the poem. [3]
- iii. Why did the speaker initially think that the mite did not have feet? What made him change his stance at the very next moment? [3]
- iv. Explain the meaning of the phrase "*Collective regimenting love*." [3]
- v. How does Robert Frost's "A Considerable Speck" criticize the communist ideology and satirize the tendency to prioritize group identity? [4]

Turn over.....

Question 7

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

But Bhisma's soared beyond our reach, however

we plead and grumble;...

- i. Who does "we" refer to in the above excerpt? What is the need for them to plead and grumble? How did Bhisma soar beyond their reach? [3]
- ii. How are 'we' deeply impacted by Bhisma Lochan Sharma? [3]
- iii. '*The poem speaks about the influence of Bhisma Lochan Sharma on fauna.*'
Substantiate the above statement. [3]
- iv. What is the significance of including flora and birds in the poem? [3]
- v. How does Sukumar Ray subtly convey the impact of British colonialism through his choice of words in the poem? [4]

QUESTION PAPER 42

Section B

(Answer one or more questions from this section)

Drama

(Julius Caesar)

Q.2) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow : [16]

Antony : O mighty Caesar ! dost thou lie so low?
Are all thy conquests, glories, triumphs, spoils,
Shrunk to this little measure? ↓

- i. What does Antony wish for and why does he make such a wish? (3)
- ii. How does Brutus try to convince Antony that they do not have any ill will towards him? (3)
- iii. What does Antony compare Caesar and the conspirators to? How does Antony win the confidence of the conspirators? (3)
- iv. What request does Antony make? Who objects to that request? Was the person who objected sound in his judgement of Antony? (3)
- v. What is the significance of Caesar's last words "Et tu, Brute" and what do they reveal about his character? (4)

Q.3) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: [16]

Cassius : Messala ,
This is my birth -day ; as this very day
Was Cassius born.

- i. Cassius narrates to Messala something he has seen that reflects his Fears. What is it? (3)
- ii. How can you conclude from what Cassius says a little later that he was prepared for the possible defeat ? (3)
- iii. What does he mean when he says , "As we were sickly prey ; their shadows seem a conopy most fatal"? (3)
- iv. How does Brutus console Cassius ? (3)
- v. How do Brutus and Cassius bid farewell to each other in Act 5, Scene1? Why were their words at the farewell prophetic? (4)

Section C
(Answer one or more questions from this section)
Poetry
(Treasure Chest)

Q.4) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: [16]

These perturbations, this perpetual jar
Of earthly wants and aspirations high,
Come from the influence of an unseen star...

- i. What brings balance in our lives as mentioned earlier in the poem? (3)
- ii. The poet uses the metaphor in the first two lines. Explain it. (3)
- iii. What do you mean by 'earthly wants and aspirations high'? (3)
- iv. What are 'perturbations'? (3)
- v. What is the influence of unseen undiscovered planet in the sky on us? (4)

Q.5) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: [16]

When great trees fall
In forests,
Small things recoil into silence,
their senses eroded beyond fear) When great souls die...

- i. What does the falling tree symbolize? (3)
- ii. How does the falling of great trees affect small things? (3)
- iii. What do we come to remember when the great men die? (3)
- iv. What happens to our reality when the great souls die? (3)
- v. What is the importance of 'hope' in the context of the poem, and how is it conveyed? (4)

Section D
(Answer one or more questions from this section)
Prose
(Treasure Chest)

Q.6) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow :

'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. [16]

- i. Why could the narrator feel that her mother was weeping from inside? Why could not her grandmother hear her daughter's weeping? (3)
- ii. Why does the narrator feel that her grandmother would not have stopped

- even if she had heard her mother's inside weeping? What does this suggest about her grandmother and mother? (3)
- iii. Why does the narrator feel that except for talking about her legs her grandmother is a 'good grown-up'? What does it suggest about the narrator? (3)
- iv. What would the grandmother be discussing when she would bring in the narrator's father in her discussion? (3)
- v. Do you think that grandmother serves as the agent of patriarchy? (4)

Q.7) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

He thought about her whole day. Did she live in a building? He had never seen her before, and the building was not very big. Maybe she was visiting somebody? [16]

- i. What did Martin think about her all day and why? (3)
- ii. Why was Martin nervous when he got back to his building after school? (3)
- iii. Why did Martin feel ashamed of himself? What does it reveal about him? (3)
- iv. Why, did Martin hope that the elevator would not stop? What happened when it stopped at the third floor? (3)
- v. The story ends abruptly with no resolution, leaving the readers in suspense. Explain what would have happened according to you? Justify your views with reasons. (4)

.....

QUESTION PAPER 43

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 : *Be patient till the last .*

Romans , countrymen , and lovers! hear me

for my cause ;and be silent , that you may hear ...

....if there be any in this assembly, any dear friend of Caesar 's,
to him I say

- (i) Where is the speaker? What was the main reason for this public address? (3)
- (ii) To any friend of Caesar in the assembly what would Brutus say ? How does he further justify 'why Brutus rose against Caesar'? (3)
- (iii) Who enters in the midst of this address ? What plea does Brutus make to the citizens while he 'departs alone'? (3)
- (iv) *"...as he was ambitious, I slew him ."* says Brutus . How does Mark Antony skilfully prove in his speech that Caesar was anything but ambitious ? (3)
- (v) Brutus had the crowd with him after his speech yet Mark Anthony manages to turn them against Brutus and the conspirators after his address. How does he manage to achieve this? Was he a good orator or was the crowd too fickle minded? Justify your stand. (4)

Question 3

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

Brutus : *You wrong'd yourself to write such a case .*

Cassius : *In such a time as this it is not meet*

That every nice, offence should bear his comment .

Brutus : *Let me tell you ,Cassius , you yourself*

Are much condemned to have an itching palm ,

.....

- (i) Where are the speakers presently? According to Brutus in what way has Cassius *"wronged.. to write in such a case."* ? (3)
- (ii) Explain why Brutus accuses Cassius of having 'an itching palm'. Why does he feel it is detrimental in meting out justice? How does Cassius immediately react to this accusation? (3)
- (iii) Who would *"rather be a dog, and bay the moon , than such a Roman"* Explain the reasons for this outrage. (3)

- (iv) A little later Brutus says he wants Gods to dash him to pieces with all their thunderbolts. What prompted him to say this and what was the point he was making here? [3]
- (v) In this scene you see Brutus and Cassius embroiled in a heated argument. What is your take on the two? Of the two, who do you think is more aggressive and volatile? Give reasons for your answer. [4]

SECTION C

(Answer one or more questions from this Section.)

PROSE - SHORT STORIES

(Treasure Chest — A Collection of Poems and Short Stories)

Question 4

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

..... *That was what ...most dearly loved to do. He would stand upon the corner of an intersection and peer down long moonlit avenues of sidewalk in four directions deciding which way to go, but it really made no difference:*

- (i) Who stood 'upon the corner of an intersection'? What did he dearly love to do? Mention what he saw during these outings? [3]
- (ii) What kind of pattern did he follow on these occasions? For how many years was he practicing this pattern? In what way were his night walks rather weird? [3]
- (iii) Why was he intercepted by the police just a block away from his home? In what way was the police force of 2053 different from that you see today? [3]
- (iv) What reasons does the protagonist give to the police for being out in the night? Why are the police not convinced? What was the outcome? [3]
- (v) How does Ray Bradbury's '*The Pedestrian*' serve as a cautionary tale about the dangers of technological dependence and its impact on human connection and creativity?

Question 5

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

I started for school very late that morning and was in great dread of a scolding, especially because M. Hamel had said that he would question us on participles and I did not know the first word about them.

- (i) How does the speaker describe the atmosphere of the school that morning figuratively? In what way did it not have any semblance of a regular school day when he arrived? [3]
- (ii) What words of the teacher were like a thunder-clap to the narrator? [3]
- (iii) *"..now I understood why the old men of the village were sitting there .. in the class."*
What reasons did Franz think of instinctively to explain the presence of the elderly villagers in the class? [3]
- (iv) What does the teacher tell Franz when he is unable to read French fluently? In what way the teacher feels responsible for this failure? [3]
- (v) Through this story what lesson does the author impart to every reader? Do you think we too are guilty of the same mistake? Why do you think so? [4]

SECTION D

(Answer one or more questions from this Section.)

POETRY

(Treasure Chest — A collection of Poems and Short Stories)

Question 6

Read the following extract from Sukumar Ray 's poem, The Power Of Music and answer the questions that follow:

*And plead, My friend, we're near our end, oh
stop your singing quickly!*

- (i) Who is 'My friend' referring to? Why do people plead with him to stop singing? Why are they not able to enjoy his singing? [3]
- (ii) What literary devices does Sukumar Ray use to describe the impact of the protagonist's singing? Provide example from the text which gives insight how far his voice travelled. [3]

- (iii) What impact did his singing have on fishes, birds and trees? [3]
- (iv) Discuss the role of the billy goat in the poem. What do you think it represents, and why is its intervention significant? [3]
- (v) Do you think the poem is an absurd poem for amusement or does it have a lesson to impart? Give reasons for your answer. [4]

Question 7

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

*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.
And I had idly poised my pen in air*

- (i) What was the poet doing when he noticed the speck? Where was the speck? Explain what the poet means when he says '*would have been beneath my sight*'. [3]
- (ii) Why had the poet poised his pen in the air? What was that '*something strange about it*' that made him think? What insight did he get? [3]
- (iii) With examples show how the mite proved it had '*inclinations it could call its own*'. [3]
- (iv) Where and why does the mite cower down in desperation? What does the poet do with the mite? What does it tell you of his character? [3]
- (v) What does the poem suggest about the significance of small, seemingly insignificant beings in the grand scheme of life? Think and write of a moment when you overlooked something that turned out to be important or meaningful? [4]

QUESTION PAPER 44

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:

[16]

Antony : *Be it so;
I do desire no more.*

Brutus : *Prepare the body, then and follow us.*

Antony : *O, pardon me, thou bleeding piece of earth,
That I am meek, and gentle with these butchers!*

- (i) To what conditions laid down by Brutus does Antony respond, 'Be it so.'
- (ii) Where does Antony plan to take Caesar's body?
Who protests against Antony's request?
How is this person proved to be right in his protest?

- (iii) In his grief, how does Antony refer to Caesar's corpse?
What does he compare the stab wounds to? [3]
- (iv) What does Antony prophesy about civil war, over the wounds of Caesar? [3]
- (v) Who will appear from out of Hell to cause destruction?
Give two examples of how the human spirit will be desensitized on seeing this destruction. [4]

Question 3

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: [16]

Brutus : Sit thee down, Clitus. Slaying is the word;
It is a deed in fashion. Hark thee, Clitus.

Clitus : What, I, my Lord? No, not for all the world.

- (i) Where does the scene take place?
Explain the line : *Slaying is the word...it is a deed in fashion.*
What does Brutus ask Clitus to do? [3]
- (ii) Who else is asked to do the same?
What is their reply?
What does this say about them? [3]
- (iii) Explain what Brutus means when he says : 'I shall have glory by this losing day, / More than Octavius and Mark Antony / By this vile conquest shall attain into'.
- (iv) Messala recommends Strato to Octavius. Why?
- (v) At the end of the scene which character is glorified?
Who speaks highly of the person?
Why?

(Answer one of them)

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

Question 4

He thought about her all day. Did she live in the building? He had never seen her before, and the building was not very big. Maybe she was visiting somebody? But 7.30 in the morning was too early for visiting.

- (i) Who is the 'he' in the above extract?
Who is he wondering about in the extract?
Why is the story titled 'The Elevator'?
- (ii) What about the woman's behaviour did 'he' question through the day?
- (iii) How did this woman indirectly cause an altercation between 'him' and his father?
Briefly comment on the father-son relationship.
- (iv) How did 'his' mental state cause him to physically injure himself soon after?
- (v) How does the author paint a picture of misery in the protagonist of this story?

Question 5

Except that I was afraid of saying that sort of thing aloud. Because someone would have told me never, never but NEVER to repeat such words. Or else, they would have laughed so much at what I'd said, they would have cried.

It's much better this way. To have acted it out to show them, although I could not have planned it.

As for my mother, she has been speechless as usual.

- Who is the someone referred to in the extract?
- What unplanned action did Adjoa carry out to prove her point?
- What was the point that she wanted to prove?
- Describe Adjoa's legs. What were 'the right kind of legs'?

- (iii) *'And my problem is that at this seven years of age...'* Name any three 'problems' that Adjos faced in her seven-year old life? [3]
- (iv) *'Nana is such a good grown-up.'* Do you think this statement is true? Justify your answer with two reasons. [3]
- (v) How does education give Adjos the opportunity to shine? What do her grandmother and mother think of school? [4]

SECTION D

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

POETRY

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

Question 6

*And I had idly poised my pen in air
To stop it with a period of ink
When something strange about it made me think,*

- (i) What does 'it' in the extract refer to? Why did the poet notice it? What is 'strange' about 'it'? [3]
- (ii) According to the poet, how did 'it' behave on the page? [3]
- (iii) State any two ways in which 'it' expresses its urge to live? Identify any one trait that 'it' shares with human beings. [3]
- (iv) *'No one can know how glad I am to find
On any sheet the least display of mind.'* Explain in your own words what Frost is commenting on? [3]
- (v) Comment on the title, 'A Considerable Speck'. How does Robert Frost beautifully explore the idea that nothing in nature is irrelevant? [4]

Question 7

*Great souls die and
Our reality, bound to
Them, takes leave of us.*

- (i) Explain the lines of the extract.
 - (ii) In nature, what is the symbol of a great soul?
How does its death impact its surroundings and those in it?
 - (iii) How does the poet poignantly capture the essence of grief that follows the passing of a dear one?
 - (iv) Which image in the poem symbolises the depth of grief?
Why do our souls shrink and our minds fall away?
 - (v) What message does the poet Maya Angelou want to share through the poem?
-

QUESTION PAPER 45

SECTION B

(Attempt 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: Well, to our work alive. What do you think
Of marching to Philippi presently?

Cassius: I do not think it good.

Brutus: Your reason?

- i) Why does Cassius think it is not advisable to march their troops to Philippi? What does he suggest? [3]
- ii) What is Brutus' view about the enemies that makes him want his army to march from Sardis to Philippi? [3]
- iii) Before leaving, what does Cassius say to Brutus about their quarrel? How do they depart? [3]
- iv) When Lucius is fast asleep in Brutus' tent, what does Brutus say and do? [3]
- v) A little later, what is Brutus's reaction at the sight of Caesar's ghost? What does he ask him? Bring out the qualities of Brutus in this scene. [4]

Question 3

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

Brutus: Come hither, good Voluminius; list a word.

Voluminius: What says my lord?

- i. What request had Brutus made to Voluminius? Why does he tell Voluminius that his hour has come? [3]
- ii. How does Brutus try to convince Voluminius to carry out the deed? What is Voluminius reply to him? [3]
- iii. How does Strato help Brutus to fulfil his wish? What does he tell Messala when he inquires about Brutus? [3]
- iv. What does Octavius intend to do with Brutus' men? What offer does he make to Strato? On what condition does Strato agree to take the offer? [3]
- v. At the end of the play, what does Antony say in praise of Brutus? From the play Julius Caesar, bring out the qualities of Octavius. [4]

SECTION C

(Answer one or more questions from this Section)

PROSE- SHORT STORIES

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

Question 4

Read the following extract from Ama Ata Aidoo's short story, 'The Girl Who Can' and answer the questions given below:

'School is another thing Nana and my mother discussed often and appeared to have different ideas about'

- i. Earlier in the story, what had Nana commented about the narrator's legs? What would she keep saying about women if they come into this world with all of her two legs? Why? [3]
- ii. According to the narrator, how does Nana's view about school differ from her mother? What aspirations does her mother have for her daughter's education? [3]
- iii. When the narrator was allowed to go to school, what accomplishment on the sports field seemed insignificant to the narrator to be told at home? What news did her mother and Nana did not believe at first? What did her Nana do? [3]
- iv. Since the time they heard the news, explain what had Nana been doing for the narrator all week? What thought humoured the narrator? [3]
- v. Later in the story, for what event did the narrator win the cup? What does the narrator's triumph prove about women in the story? Bring out any two qualities of the narrator. [4]

Question 5

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

'Sometimes he would walk for hours and miles and return only at midnight to his house.'

- i. Who is Leonard Mead? What does he most dearly love to do? [3]
- ii. Why did Leonard Mead decide to wear sneakers when strolling at night? [3]
- iii. What kind of experience does Leonard Mead speak of when he began his journey in a westerly direction, toward the hidden sea. [3]
- iv. How does Leonard Mead describe the place during the day at the cloverleaf intersection? What has happened to these highways now? [3]
- v. What happened to Leonard Mead when he was within a block of his destination? Why do you think was Leonard Mead stopped? What message does this short story wish to convey? [4]

SECTION D

(Attempt one or more questions from this Section)

POETRY

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

Question 6

Read the following extract from Sukumar Ray's poem, 'The Power of Music' and answer the questions that follow.

The welkin weeps to hear his screech, and mighty mansions tumble.

- i. What kind of a person was Bhisma Lochan Sharma? Where could one hear him humming when summer comes? How would he sing? [3]
- ii. How are people affected by his singing? What do they plead to Bhisma then? [3]
- iii. What happens to the bullock carts and horses when he sings? How do the wretched brutes react to his singing? [3]
- iv. Why do the fishes dive? What can one hear when the trees collapse? Identify and explain the figure of speech in the given line: *'The welkin weeps to hear his screech, and mighty mansions tumble.'* [3]
- v. According to the poet, what is the billy goat known as? Briefly explain how does this billy goat stop Bhisma from singing? In what way are you affected when you read about the fate of humans, animals and even non-living things affected by the unpleasant voice of the singer? [4]

Question 7

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

'When something strange about it made me think'

- i. Where was the poet writing? What does the poet initially think the small speck is? What do you mean by 'duly poised my pen'? [3]
 - ii. What does the poet mean when he says 'that the living mite has its own inclinations'? Give examples from the poem that shows that the mite used its inclinations. [3]
 - iii. Why does the poet think that the mite could not have feet? What position does the mite eventually take? How does the poet address the mite later in the poem? [3]
 - iv. Explain 'Collectivistic regimenting love'. In this poem whom does the poet satirise? [3]
 - v. What does the poet ultimately decide to do with the mite? Which quality of the mite did it appreciate? Why do you think the poet chose a 'Considerable Speck' to express his appreciation? [4]
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QUESTION PAPER 46

SECTION II

(Answer one or more questions from this section)

DRAMA

JULIUS CAESAR by William Shakespeare

Question 2

*Antony: "This is a slight unmeritable man,
Meet to be sent on errands. Is it fit,
The three-fold world divided, he should stand
One of the three to share it?"*

- (i) Where are the speakers?
Who is being talked about here?
What errand has this person been sent on? [3]
- (ii) Why does Antony go on to compare this man to an ass that bears gold? What is his intention about this man? [3]
- (iii) What two traits of this 'innumerable man' does Antony go on to enumerate? What other plans does Antony make with Octavius? [3]
- (iv) Give the meaning of the following word or phrases:
(a) store of provender
(b) proscription
(c) slight innumerable [3]
- (v) Although Antony has been portrayed as a masker and reveller in the earlier part of the play, he shows a completely different aspect of his character in this short scene. Bring out two negative character traits of Antony, with suitable examples from Act 4. [4]

Question 3

Brutus: "Nay, I am sure it is, Voluminus.
Thou seest the world, Voluminus, how it goes;
Our enemies have beat us to the pit."

- (i) Where does the scene take place?
Explain the metaphor used by Brutus when he refers to the 'pit'. [3]
- (ii) What does he go on to ask Voluminus and why? How does Voluminus react to it? [3]
- (iii) What frame of mind is Brutus in at the moment and why? What does he tell Voluminus about Caesar's ghost? [3]
- (iv) What were Brutus' last words before dying?
In an earlier scene, why does Messala refer to Cassius' death as 'O hateful error, melancholy's child'? Explain. [3]
- (v) Why does Antony refer to Brutus as the 'noblest Roman of them all'?
Do you agree? Give reasons. [4]

SECTION C
(Answer one or more questions from this section)
PROSE – SHORT STORIES
TREASURE CHEST

Question 4

"When I went home to tell my mother and Nana, they had not believed it at first. So, Nana had taken it upon herself to go and 'ask into it properly'. She came home to tell my mother that it was really true."

- (i) Which part of Africa is the story set in?
Why were the people who lived there more fortunate? [3]
- (ii) With reference to the extract, what had the mother and Nana not believed at first?
How did they react to it once it was confirmed that 'it was really true'? [3]
- (iii) What was the general attitude of the grown-ups towards the problems of the youngsters, based on Adjou's personal experience? Why was it confusing? [3]
- (iv) What opinion does Nana have about the kind of legs a woman should have and why?
Why didn't she approve of Adjou's legs? [3]
- (v) What was Adjou's achievement at the end of the story? What does it symbolise with reference to the women in the world?
Name one woman who has achieved something remarkable despite obstacles. Give a reason for your choice. [4]

Question 5

*"Don't go so fast, bub; you'll get to your school in plenty of time!"
I thought he was making fun of me, and reached M. Hamel's little garden all out of breath.*

- (i) Whom does 'I' in the extract refer to?
Why did he think Wachter was making fun of him? What news did the bulletin board usually convey? [3]
- (ii) Mention three things that were different in school that morning. [3]
- (iii) 'What a thunder-clap these words were to me!' What 'words' does the boy refer to? What was his first regret? [3]
- (iv) According to Hamel, why shouldn't the boy blame himself alone for not being able to recite the rule for the participle? [3]
- (v) Why is it important to hold onto our language?
Mention one valuable lesson you have learnt from the story. Why is it valuable to you? [4]

QUESTION PAPER 47

SECTION B DRAMA

(Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare)

✓ **Question 2**

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

Cassius: Pardon, Caesar; Caesar, pardon;

As low as to thy foot doth Cassius fall, To beg enfranchisement for Publius Cimber,

Caesar: I could be well mov'd, if I were as you;

If I could pray to move, prayers would move me;

But I am constant as the northern star...

(Julius Caesar-Shakespeare)

3

P.T.O

- a) Where does this scene take place? Whom does Caesar address in these lines, and for what reason did they try to 'move' Caesar? [3]
- b) Earlier in the scene, in what manner does Metellus Cimber flatter Caesar? How does Caesar reply to Metellus's petition? [3]
- c) How does Caesar compare himself with the northern star, in the lines that follow this extract? [3]
- d) To what else does Caesar compare himself, after this extract? What do you learn of his attitude from these comparisons? [3]
- e) Soon after this extract, why does Casca ask his hands to speak? What happens next? How does Caesar react when Brutus strikes him? What does Cinna cry out now? [4]

Question 3

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

Titinius: I will be here again, even with a thought. [Exit]
 Cassius: Go, Pindarus, get higher on that hill;
 My sight was ever thick. Regard Titinius,
 And tell me what thou not'st about the field [Exit Pindarus]
 (Julius Caesar-Shakespeare)

- a) Who are Titinius and Pindarus? Where are these people at the moment? Why? [3]
- b) Explain the meaning "even with a thought". Why had Titinius gone? [3]
- c) What report did Pindarus now give about Titinius? How did Cassius interpret this report? Why? [3]
- d) What action did Cassius now take? How did the outcome of this action affect Pindarus? [3]
- e) How did (i) Titinius and (ii) Brutus react to what Cassius did? [4]

SECTION C
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:

As far as I could see, there was only one problem. And it had nothing to do with what I knew Nana considered as 'problems', or what Maami thinks of as 'the problem'. Maami is my mother. Nana is my mother's mother. And they say I am seven years old. And my problem is that at seven years of age, there are things I can think in my head, but which, maybe, I do not have the proper language to speak them out with. And that, I think, is a very serious problem.
 (The Girl Who Can - Ama Ata Aidoo)

- a) Who is the narrator of the story? What part of Africa is the story about? What is peculiar about the place? [3]
- b) What were Adjoa mother's views on education? [3]
- c) Who is particular about girls' legs and why? [3]
- d) She has been speechless as usual? Who did Adjoa say this about? Why? [3]
- e) How does the story-writer, Ama Ata Aidoo portray the mentality of the women in Pre-Colonial Africa? What are the traits of character displayed by Nana? [4]

Question 5

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

"I WANT my photograph taken," I said. The photographer looked at me without enthusiasm. He was a drooping man in a gray suit, with the dim eye of a natural scientist. But there is no need to describe him. Everybody knows what a photographer is like.

"Sit there," he said, "and wait."
(With the Photographer-Stephen Leacock)

- a) Describe the studio of the photographer. [3]
- b) Why does the narrator want to get a picture of himself? [3]
- c) What changes had the photographer brought about in the looks of the narrator? [3]
- d) The narrator calls the photograph a 'worthless bauble'. What does bauble mean? The narrator seems to get emotional at the end. Why? [3]
- e) What are your thoughts about the photographer? Do you have any suggestions for him? [4]

SECTION D
POEM-SHORT STORIES
(Treasure Chest - A Collection of ICSE Poems and Short Stories)

Question 6

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

We have no title-deeds to house or lands,
Owners and occupants of earlier dates
From graves forgotten stretch their dusty hands,
And hold in mortmain still their old estates.
The spirit-world around this world of sense
Floats like an atmosphere, and everywhere
Wafts through these earthly mists and vapors dense
A vital breath of more ethereal air
(Haunted Houses-H.W. Longfellow)

- a) In the above stanza, who does 'we' refer to? Explain the line 'from graves forgotten stretch their dusty hands'. [3]
- b) The poet mentions two worlds in the poem. What are these two worlds? How are they connected? [3]
- c) Mention any three descriptions to show the house is haunted by harmless ghosts? [3]
- d) Explain the meaning of 'Our little lives are kept in equipoise/By opposite attractions and desires'. [3]
- e) How is the poem different from the other poems of the typical ghost genre? State the theme of the poem. [4]

Question 7

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

This was no dust speck by my breathing blown,
But unmistakably a living mite
With inclinations it could call its own.
It paused as with suspicion of my pen,
And then came racing wildly on again
To where my manuscript was not yet dry,
(A Considerable Speck-Robert Frost)

- a) What made the poet think that it was no dust speck? Bring out the meaning of 'breathing blown'. Why does the poet feel that the speck would have gone unnoticed? [3]
- b) Bring out the meaning of, 'I let it lie there till I hope it slept. /I have a mind myself and recognise'. [3]
- c) Explain with reference To the poem the meaning of the phrase- 'Collectivistic Regimenting Love'. [3]
- d) State the behavior of the mite in detail starting with hesitation and ending in surrender. [3]
- e) Comment on the title of the poem.
In your evaluation, what profound truth does the poet want to convey through the poem? [4]

QUESTION PAPER 48

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: Must I judge? Must I observe you? Must I stand and crouch
Under your leaty honour? 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: *You shall digest the venom of your spleen
Though it do split you.* [3]

Mention the significance of the word 'spleen' in this context. [3]

(iii) How did Brutus react to Cassius's anger later in this scene? What was Cassius' reaction to the remarks by Brutus? [3]

(iv) Earlier in this 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. Who according to you, was correct in this argument? Provide evidence from the text. [4]

Question 4

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

- Brutus: If they that friend demand why Brutus rose against Caesar, this is my answer:
Not that I loved Caesar less, but that I loved Rome more.*
- (i) Where does this scene take place? Who was the other person with Brutus when he entered the scene? Why did he exit the scene? [3]
- (ii) How did Brutus address the Romans? What was his point in the opening lines of his speech? [3]
- (iii) What was the response of Brutus to:
 a. Caesar's fortune
 b. Caesar's valour
 c. Caesar's ambition [3]
- (iv) Who enters the scene as Brutus completes his speech? What does Brutus say with regard to this person? [3]
- (v) What evidence is found in this scene that tells you that this person is not a friend of Brutus? [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 following extract 'The Girl who Cries' by Ama Ata Aidoo, and answer the questions that follow.
'You know what she did? She carried the gleaming cup on her back. Like they do with babies and other very precious things. And this time, not taking the trouble to walk by herself.'

- (i) What moment of pride does the passage refer to? [3]
- (ii) How does Nana react to Adjoa's achievement? [3]
- (iii) What change of heart and mind is seen in Nana's personality? How does it seem different from her earlier attitude? [3]
- (iv) Give three instances from the story to show that Nana had a dominating nature. [3]
- (v) Ama Ata Aidoo highlights the theme of conflict in her story 'The Girl who Cries'. Justify. [4]

Question 5

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

'You are not only skinny and weak and bad at sports, but you are also a coward. After that Martin always took the elevator. He would have to get used to it, he told himself, just like he got used to being bullied at school.'

- (i) What had Martin done and how was his condition which upset his father? [3]
- (ii) What did the father want his son to become? [3]
- (iii) What was about the elevator that made Martin anxious before his meeting with the fat lady? [3]
- (iv) How did the fat lady make Martin feel uneasy during their first encounter? [3]
- (v) What kind of a boy was Martin? What message is conveyed to us through Martin's character? [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 following extract from Robert Frost's poem 'A Considerable Speck' and answer the questions that follow.

*'Since it was walking I knew not of
I let it lie there till I hope it slept
I have a mind myself and recognize
Blind 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'*

- (a) What does the poet say about the size of the mite just before this extract? (3)
- (b) Describe the actions of the mite before it settles down in the middle of the paper. (3)
- (c) What are the thoughts that run across the poet's mind when he sees the survival instincts displayed by the mite? (3)
- (d) Comment on the central idea of the poem 'A Considerable Speck'. If you have to give the poem a different title, what will it be? Give a reason for your answer. (3)
- (e) Discuss the speaker's preference when he says, 'I have none of the tenderer-than-thou collection regenerating love'. What kind of mindset is he criticising? (4)

Question 7

Read the following extract from Leigh Hunt's poem 'The Glove and the Lions' given below and answer the questions that follow.

*Ramped and roared the lions, with horrid laughing jaws
They bit, they gnawed, gave blows like beams
A wind went with their paws.*

- (a) Where were the lions? Who all were watching them? (3)
- (b) How can you say that the fight between the lions was quite ferocious and brutal? (3)
- (c) Identify two figure of speeches used in this extract and explain both. (3)
- (d) What test was devised for the Count? How did the Count react and what was his unexpected action thereafter? Why did he behave in that manner? (3)
- (e) List two qualities of the count. What does the poet convey through this poem? (4)

QUESTION PAPER 49

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:

As Caesar loves me, I weep for him.
As he was fortunate, I rejoice at it.
As he was valiant, I honour him.

- (i) Who is the speaker? Where is he delivering his speech? What was the occasion of his speech? [3]
- (ii) How did the speaker portray his motives for murdering Caesar? What was the reaction of the crowd? [3]
- (iii) Who objected that the speaker must give Mark Antony the permission to speak? However, under what condition did the speaker allow him to speak? [3]
- (iv) What specific glories of Caesar did Mark Antony highlight in his speech? [3]
- (v) What was recorded in the will of Caesar? [4]

Question 3

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

This was the noblest Roman of them all.
All the conspirators save only he
Did that they did in envy of great Caesar.

- (i) Who is the speaker? Who are the listeners? Where are they? [3]
- (ii) Who was 'the noblest Roman of them all'? State in what way was the 'Noblest Roman' a perfect human being? [3]
- (iii) What orders were given regarding the funeral of 'the noblest Roman'? Did he deserve such a funeral? Give reason to justify your answer. [3]
- (iv) Who was the hereditary successor to Rome? How does his choice of position at the battlefield demonstrate his ambition and leadership qualities to be the successor? [4]
- (v) Give the character sketch of the 'Noblest Roman'. [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:

"I have always wanted to tell them not to worry. I mean **nana** and my mother. That it did not have to be an issue for my two favourite people to fight over."

- (i) Who is the speaker? Describe the land where she was born. [3]
- (ii) Which issue does the speaker refer to? Why is this an issue? [3]
- (iii) How old is the speaker? What did she achieve later in her life? How did the mother react to it? [3]
- (iv) Explain Briefly the change in the attitude of the narrator's grandmother by the end of the story? What brought about this change? [3]
- (v) Give the Character sketch of the 'mother'. [4]

Question 5

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

"He turned back on a side street, circling around towards his home. He was within his destination where the lone car turned a corner quite suddenly and flashed a fierce white cone of light upon him."

- (i) Who is referred to as 'he'? What would be the routine of 'he'? Which month of the year and the time does the passage talk about? [3]
- (ii) To whom does 'he' compare himself? Why? What kind of a person is 'he'? [3]
- (iii) Where did 'he' live? Why was 'he' taking a walk on the street? How has 'he' described the kind of life lived by the city people? [3]
- (iv) Where precisely was 'he' when he saw a Lone Car? What was the 'Lone Car' in reality? Why was there only one 'Lone Car' in the city? [3]
- (v) How does Ray Bradbury's "The Pedestrian" explore the dangers of excessive reliance on technology and the loss of human connection? [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:

From the world of spirits there descends
a bridge of light, connecting it with
this, a'er whose unsteady floor,
that sways and bends, wander
our thoughts above the dark abyss.

- (i) What connects the 'Bridge of light'? What are the 'thoughts' that wander above the dark Abyss? [3]
- (ii) Whose floor is referred as 'Unsteady'? Why? [3]
- (iii) What is the significance of the 'Bridge of Light'? [3]
- (iv) Which figure of speech is used for the title of the poem? Quote two examples from the poem in which the poet has used simile? [3]
- (v) Give four reasons to justify the poet's view that all humans are haunted? [4]

Question 7

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

**But Bhishma Lochan, unconcerned, goes
booming out his broadside,
the wretched brutes resent the blare the hour
they hear it sounded,
they whine and stare with feet in air or wonder
quite confounded.**

- (i) What was Bhishma Lochan 'unconcerned' about? What is meant by 'goes booming out his broadside'? [3]
- (ii) What does the poet say about Bhishma Lochan's continuous singing? [3]
- (iii) How are the fishes, trees and animals affected by Bhishma Lochan's singing? [3]
- (iv) In the poem, what does the Billy Goat do to Bhishma Lochan Sharma which the others could not do? Why is it described as the most sagacious fellow? [3]
- (v) What are the themes of the poem? [4]
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QUESTION PAPER 50

Section B

(Answer one or more questions from this Section.)

DRAMA

(Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare)

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that [16]
follow:

O mighty Caesar! dost thou lie so low?

Are all thy conquests, glories, triumphs, spoils,

Shrunk to this little measure? Fare thee well.

- (i) Who is the speaker of the given lines? Where is he at this moment? [3]
What is the context of the above lines?
- (ii) The speaker subtly expresses doubt about the conspirator's [3]
intentions. What are those intentions? What request does he mention
about 'that specific hour' being fit to satisfy those intentions?
- (iii) What reason does Brutus give for not granting the speaker's wish? [3]
How does he justify to the speaker the reasons for their act? What
does the speaker do to show his act of friendship?
- (iv) What is the second request made by the speaker? What character [3]
traits do you assess of the speaker? Justify with reference to the
scene.
- (v) The speaker curses the outcome of the conspiracy and prophecies [4]
doom for Rome. What specific threats does the speaker anticipate
and how does his speech contribute to making them a reality?

Question 3

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that [16]
follow:

Remember March, the ides of March remember:

Did not great Julius bleed for justice' sake?

- (i) Who is the speaker of the above lines? Whom is the speaker addressing? Where is the conversation taking place? [3]
- (ii) What do the above words reveal about the speaker's motives for assassinating Caesar? What are his views about justice? How does this speech set the tone for the rest of the scene? [3]
- (iii) In the line, "I had rather be a dog, and bay the moon, than such a Roman", what does the speaker's comparison of himself to a dog signify? How does this reflect his feelings towards the corruption he perceives in Rome? [3]
- (iv) How does the listener boast about himself following the speaker's explanation? How does this contribute to the escalating tension between them? [3]
- (v) How do the following events in Act IV scene 3 set the stage for the climax: [4]
- The argument between the speaker and the listener.
 - The appearance of Caesar's ghost.
 - The decision to march to Philippi.

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 Alma ata Aido's short story, 'The Girl Who Can' given below and answer the questions that follow: [16]

And my problem is that at these seven years of age, there are things I can think in my head, but which, maybe, I do not have the proper language to speak them out with.

- (i) Who is the narrator? What problem does the narrator face? What are the consequences of this problem? [3]
- (ii) What struggles does the narrator face to put forth her point to the grandmother? Which sentence would her grandmother repeat to her every time? What would the grandmother end up doing? [3]
- (iii) According to Nana, what was wrong with narrator's legs? How did narrator's mother try to defend the narrator? How does Nana's [3]

perspective change?

- (iv) Describing the setting of the story. Explain the relationship of Nana with the narrator and the narrator's mother. [3]
- (v) How does the author throw light on the mentality of the women in the Pre-Colonial society? Write the character traits of Nana giving valid references from the text. [4]

Question 5 Read the extract from Ray Bradbury's short story, 'The [16]

Pedestrian' given below and answer the questions that follow:

He would stand upon the corner of an intersection and peer down long moonlit avenues of sidewalk in four directions, deciding which way to go, but it really made no difference.

- (i) Whom does the word 'he' refer to? Where does the story take place and at what time of day and in which month does it take place? [3]
- (ii) What direction did the character take on this particular evening? Describe the atmosphere and its effect on the lone walker. [3]
- (iii) What did he ask the lonely looking houses? What is the implication of these questions? [3]
- (iv) What happens to him when he starts to turn towards his home? Why was his behaviour considered threatening? What does his brightly lit house convey? [3]
- (v) Explaining the theme of a dystopian world with valid references used by the writer in the story, what kind of life does the protagonist hint at? [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 following extract from the poem 'When Great Trees [16]

Fall' by Maya Angelou and answer the questions that follow:

We breathe briefly.

Our eyes, briefly,

see with

a hurtful clarity.

- (i) What is said about the air around us as we hear the news of the death of inspirational souls? What happens to our eyes and vision? [3]
- (ii) What regrets are mentioned in the poem? Why do they keep gnawing? [3]
- (iii) Mention the repercussions felt by the features and creatures of nature at the fall of great trees. Explain them and their reaction. [3]
- (iv) Describe the effect on people when 'great souls die', as portrayed in the poem. What emotions are impacted after the death of the 'great souls'? [3]
- (v) 'Spaces fill with a kind of soothing electric vibration.' [4]
What is the 'electric vibration' mentioned in the above line? By explaining two themes of the poem, what profound message does the poet aim to convey to the readers?

Question 7

Read the following extract from the poem 'The Power of Music' [16]
by Sukumar Ray and answer the questions that follow:

*They're trampled in the panic route or languish
pale and sickly.*

- (i) Whom does 'they' refer to in the extract? What happens to them and what do they plead? [3]
- (ii) What are the animals referred to? What is Bhishma's reaction throughout? What kind of people does he represent? [3]
- (iii) What word does the poet use to describe the sky a little later? How according to the poet do the birds react? What happens to the mansions? [3]
- (iv) Which figurative technique is used to bring out the excessive effect of loud music? Whose entry is mentioned in the extract? What does this creature do? [3]
- (v) What is the after effect of the creature's entry? Comment on the theme of the poem. [4]

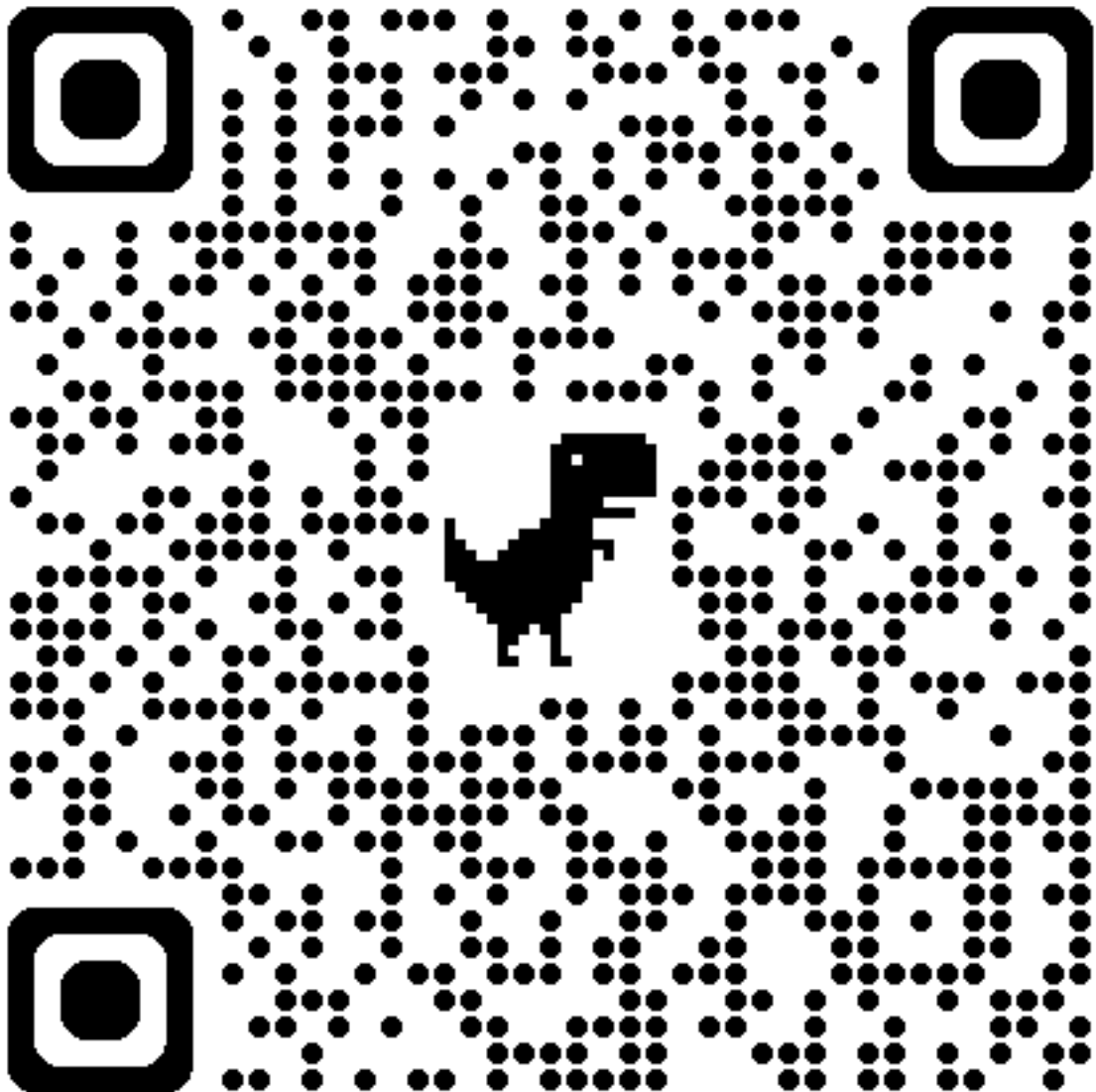
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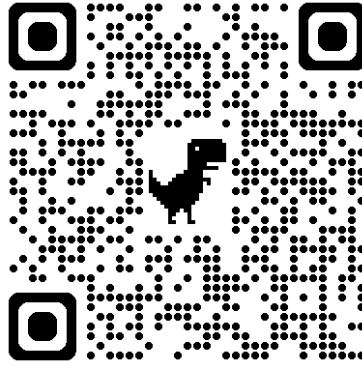


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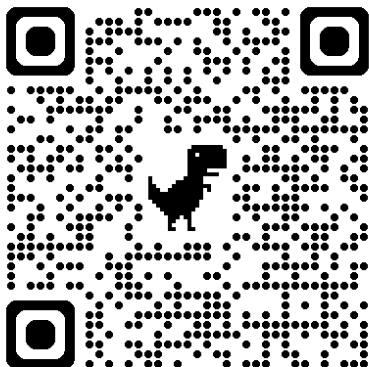
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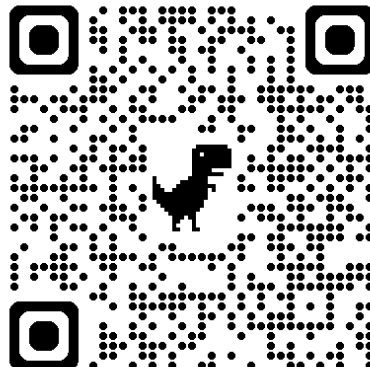
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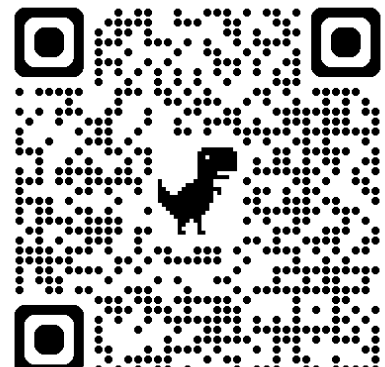
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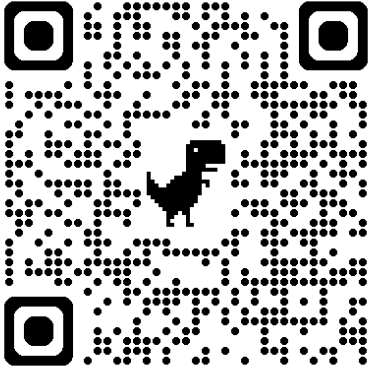
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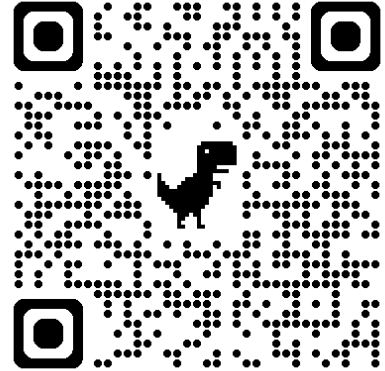
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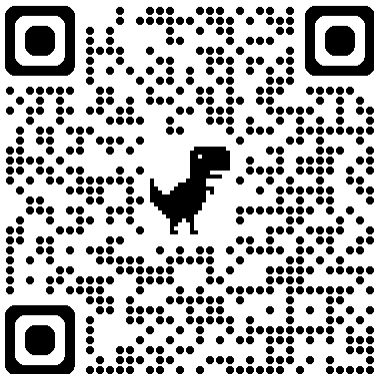
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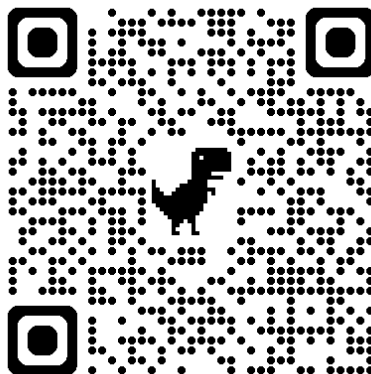
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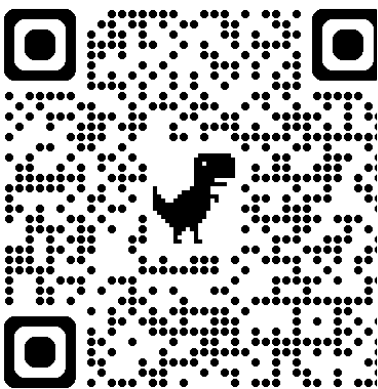
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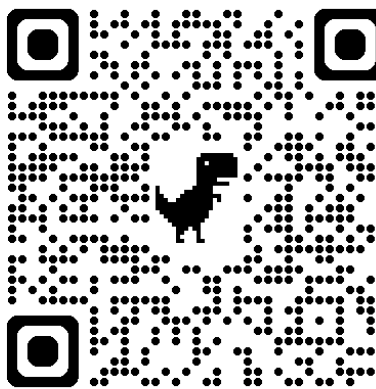
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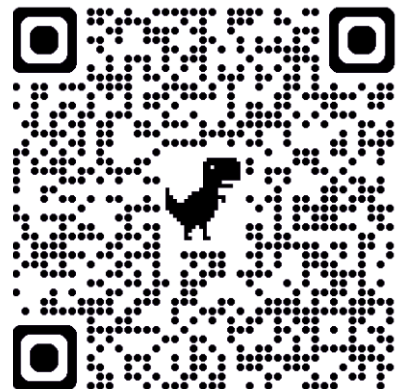
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