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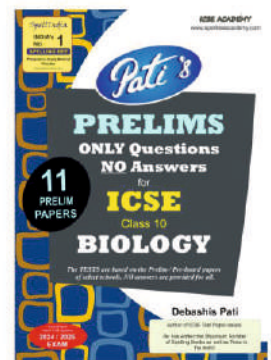
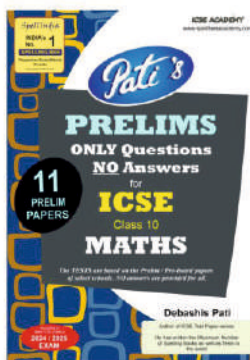
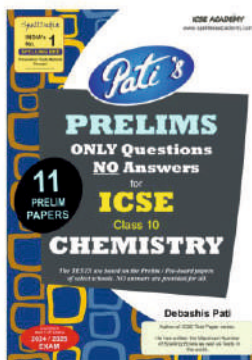
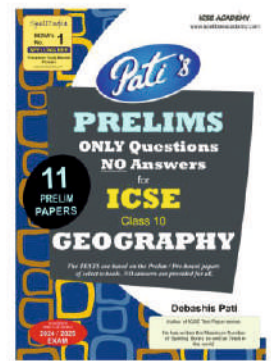
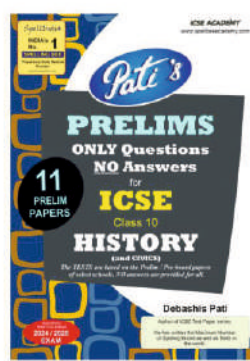
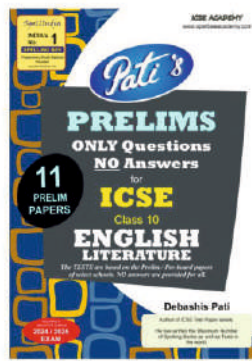
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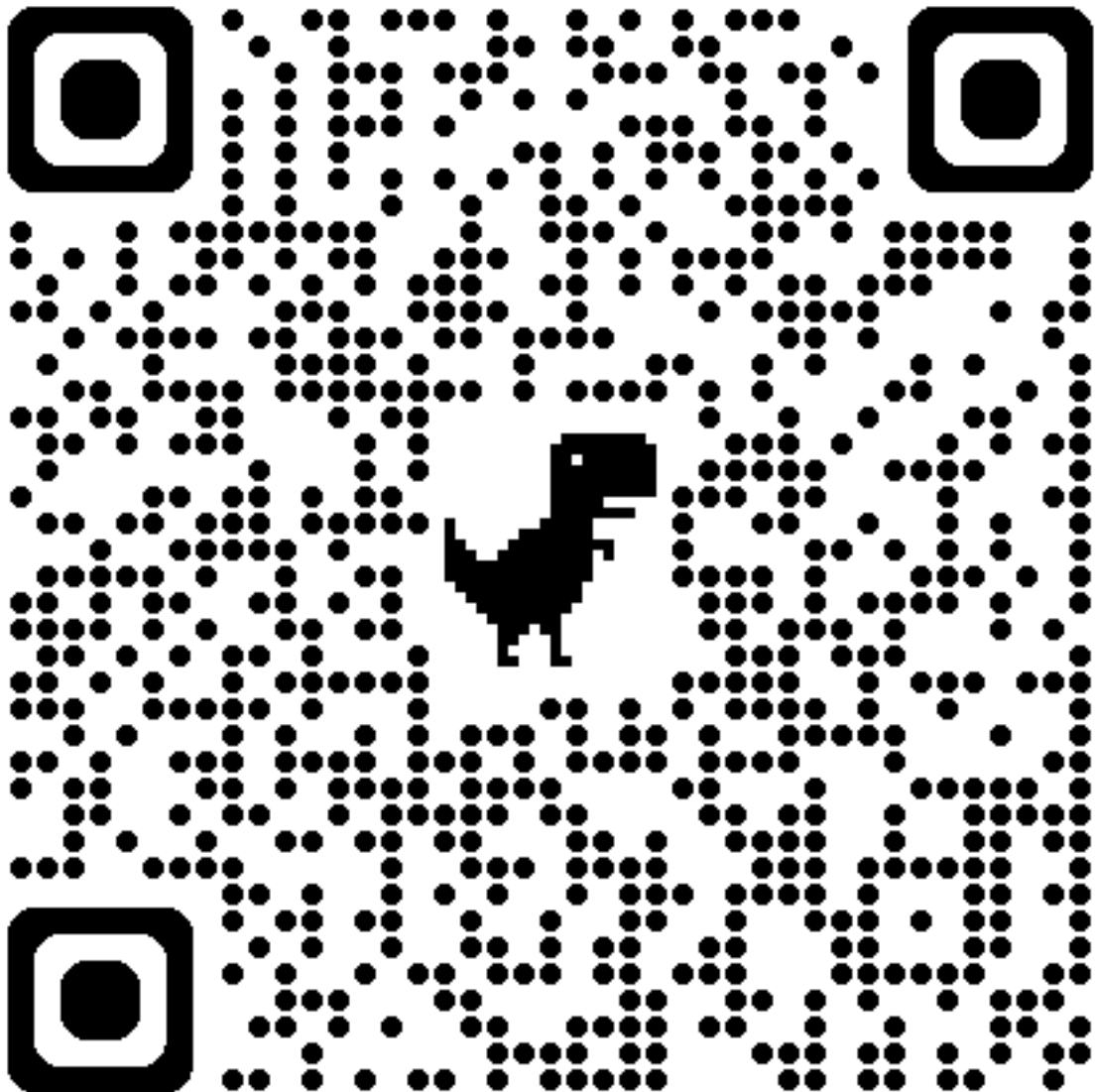


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SECTION B

(Answer any 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:

Cassius: I did not think you could have been so angry.

Brutus: O Cassius, I am sick of many griefs.

Cassius: Of your philosophy you make no use
If you give place to accidental evils.

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- Q1: Why is it unlikely that Brutus was truly so angry? [3]
 Explain - 'Of your philosophy you make no use, If you give place to accidental evils.'
- Q2: What sorrow and its reason does Brutus reveal to Cassius? [3]
- Q3: What does Brutus accuse Cassius of in the beginning of the scene? How does Cassius react to that? [3]
- Q4: Describe the settings that prepare the audience for the appearance of the ghost. [3]
- Q5: Mention any two aspects of Brutus' character that are revealed in this scene. What do you understand about the relationship between Brutus and Cassius? [4]

Question 3

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

Brutus: *They stand, and would have parley.*

Cassius: *Stand fast, Titinius: we must out and talk.*

Octavius: *Mark Antony, shall we give sign of battle?*

Antony: *No, Caesar; the generals would have some words*

- Q1: Where does this scene take place? Why do Brutus and Cassius decide that they 'must out and talk'? [3]
- Q2: What does Brutus mean when he says 'good words are better than bad strokes'? What does Antony say about Brutus' bad strokes? [3]
- Q3: Explain the reference to the eagles, ravens, crows and kites, and their significance. [3]
- Q4: Later in the scene, what inconsistency do you notice in Brutus' views about suicide? [3]
- Q5: Explain - 'O hateful Error, Melancholy's child'. What commentary does it offer on the human psyche and experience? [4]

SECTION C

(Answer one or more questions from this Section.)

PROSE - SHORT STORIES

(Treasure Trove — A 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 that follow:

"What I am sure of is that when I came out of the land of sweet, soft silence into the world of noise and comprehension, the first topic I met was my legs."

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...6...

- Q1: What did the speaker mean by the line given above? Did Nana make the speaker feel unwelcome when she was born? [3]
- Q2: How did her mother defend her? What does it tell you about her mother's personality? [3]
- Q3: Nana's behaviour towards the speaker underwent a noticeable change in the story. Comment. [3]
- Q4: What was once seen as a weakness turned into the speaker's greatest strength. Justify. [3]
- Q5: Justify the title of the story, highlighting characteristics of the speaker. [4]

Question 5

Read the following extract from 'The Pedestrian' by Ray Bradbury, and answer the questions that follow:

'He walked like a man suddenly drunk. As he passed the front window of the car he looked in. As he expected,...'

- Q1: When is the story set? What did Mr Leonard Mead most dearly love to do? [3]
- Q2: What does Mr Mead compare his place of walking to? [3]
- Q3: The CloverLeaf intersection became a stark contrast at night. Justify. [3]
- Q4: Why was Mr Mead looked upon as suspicious? [3]
- Q5: What did Mr Mead see inside the car? What does this story underscore? [4]

SECTION D

(Answer one or more questions from this Section.)

POETRY

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

Question 6

Read the extract given below from the poem 'When Great Trees Fall' and answer the questions that follow:

When great trees fall,
rocks on distant hill shudder,
lions hunker down
in tall grasses,
and even elephants
to move after safety.

...7

- Q1: What is the impact of trees' falling on wild animals? State the symbolic reference of the line 'rocks on different hills shudder'? [3]
- Q2: How are the small things affected by the death of great souls? [3]
- Q3: What is the significance of the 'promised walks' that is mentioned in the end? [3]
- Q4: How does the poem provide consolation to those grieving the death of a loved one in the poem? [3]
- Q5: Explain the line 'We can be. Be and be better.'? How is the ending of the poem different from the beginning? [4]

Question 7

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

It paused as with suspicion of my pen,
And then came racing wildly on again,
To where my manuscript was not yet dry,
Then paused again and either drank or smelt-
With loathing, for again it turned to fly.

- Q1: Why did the mite turn to fly? [3]
- Q2: How does the poet describe the mite and its actions at the beginning of the poem? [3]
- Q3: Explain- 'Collectivistic regimenting love' and 'recognise mind'. [3]
- Q4: How does the tone of the poem change gradually? Comment. [3]
- Q5: Why did the mite cower down? How does it reflect the poet's philosophy of respectful life? [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.

(16)

Cassius: O look Titinius, look, the villains fly!

- (i) Where does this scene take place? What is Cassius' mental state? (3)
- (ii) Why does Titinius say that Brutus gave the word 'too early'? (3)
- (iii) What does the conversation between Titinius and Cassius imply about the understanding between Cassius and Brutus? What can it lead to? (3)
- (iv) How had Cassius helped Pindarus? What did Cassius ask for in return? (3)
- (v) Mention two positive personality traits of both Brutus and Cassius using supporting instances from the text. (4)

Question 3

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

(16)

Brutus: Let me tell you, Cassius, you yourself
Are much condemned to have an itching palm.

- (i) In the given extract, what is Brutus implying? Why does he mention the ides of March in this context? (3)
- (ii) "O ye gods! Ye gods! Must I endure all this?"... How does Brutus respond to Cassius' angry outburst? (3)
- (iii) "O insupportable and touching loss!" Which loss is Cassius referring to? What was the reason behind it? (3)
- (iv) Why does Cassius advise Brutus that 'tis better if the enemy seek us'? (3)
- (v) Citing appropriate examples, highlight various aspects of Brutus' disposition towards Cassius in this scene. (4)

SECTION C

(Answer one or more questions from this Section)

PROSE Treasure Chest: A Collection of Poems and Short Stories

Question 4

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. (16)

What a thunderclap these words were to me!

- (i) What did M Hamel say just before the lines of the given extract? (3)
- (ii) How did M Hamel explain the importance of our mother tongue? (3)
- (iii) What changes did Franz notice in the school environment when he reached school late that day? (3)
- (iv) 'Vive La France!' M Hamel wrote these words on the board and gestured for everyone to leave. What does this tell us about him? (3)
- (v) Explain the transformation of Franz's feelings towards M Hamel. (4)

Question 5

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. (16)

She would once stop whatever she was doing and mouth open, stare at me for a very long time.

- (i) Why did Adjoa find her Nana's behaviour inconsistent? How did it impact her? (3)
- (ii) What were Adjoa's outstanding characteristics as a child of seven? (3)
- (iii) How did Adjoa's mother defend her? (3)
- (iv) How did Nana express her pleasure at Adjoa's achievement in school? (3)
- (v) The author has showcased the strengths and weaknesses of the two women in the story. Bring out the truth of this statement. (4)

SECTION D

(Answer one or more questions from this Section)

POETRY Treasure Chest: A Collection of Poems and Short Stories

Question 6

(16)

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

When summer comes, we hear the hums

Bhisma Locha Sharma.

- (i) Why does the poet use the phrases 'hell bent' and 'staked his life' to describe Bhisma's singing? (3)
- (ii) How did the 'brutes' react to Bhisma's singing? What happened to the trees? (3)
- (iii) What was the aftermath of Bhisma's singing on the people? (3)
- (iv) What was so different about the billy goat's approach? (3)
- (v) What is the key takeaway of this poem? (4)

Question 7

(16)

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

All houses wherein men have lived and died

Are haunted houses.

- (i) Explain the lines of the given extract. Which emotions do we associate with these houses? (3)
- (ii) What kind of phantoms have been described by the poet? What do they signify? (3)
- (iii) How does the poet perceive the 'spirit world'? (3)
- (iv) How are our lives kept in 'equipoise'? (3)
- (v) Elucidate the mystic relationship between the past and the present giving suitable references from the poem. (4)

SECTION B

(Answer one or more questions from this section.)

DRAMA

(Julius Caesar- William Shakespeare)

Question 2

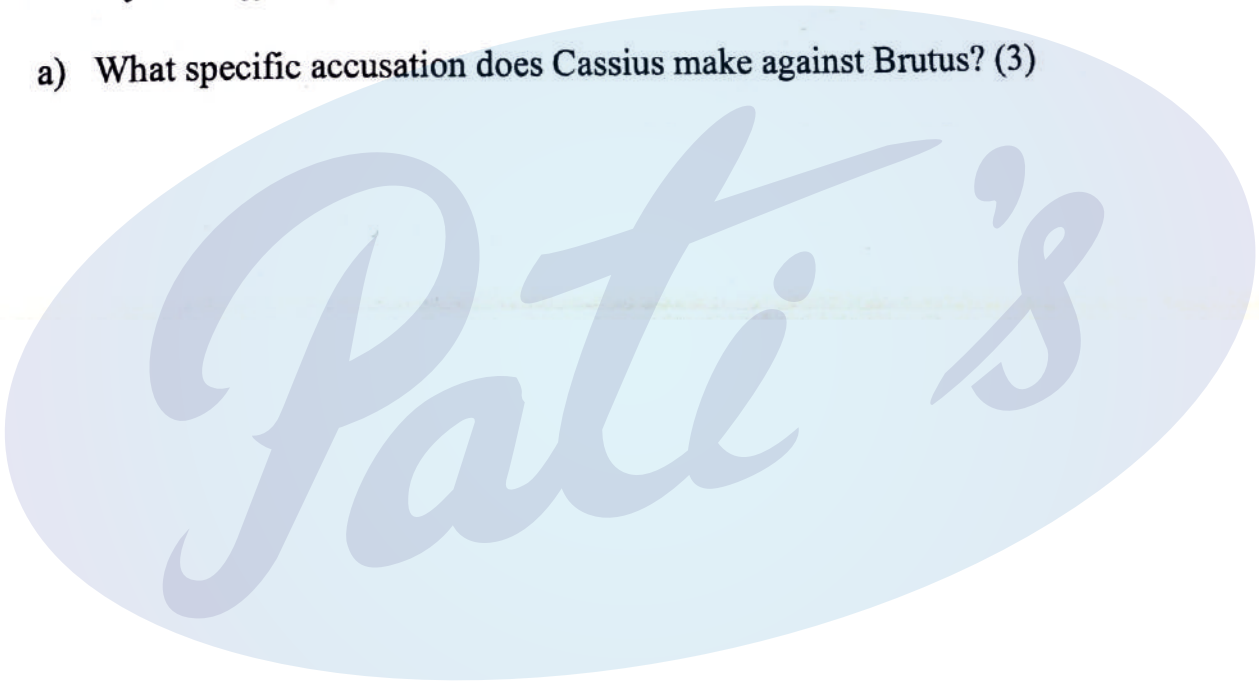
Read the given reference and answer the following questions: (16)

Cassius

In such a time as this it is not meet

That every nice offense should bear his comment.

- a) What specific accusation does Cassius make against Brutus? (3)



- b) What accusations does Brutus level against Cassius? What term does he use to describe Cassius in this context? (3)
- c) Why does Brutus question the motives behind Julius Caesar's assassination? (3)
- d) What does Brutus express he would rather do than engage in such dishonourable behaviour? (3)
- e) How does Cassius describe himself in comparison to Brutus? What warning does Cassius give to Brutus? What does it imply? (4)

Question 3

Read the given reference and answer the following questions: (16)

Anthony

Post back with speed, and tell him what

hath chanc'd Here is a mourning

Rome, a dangerous Rome,

No Rome of safety for Octavius yet;

Hie hence and tell him so. Yet, stay awhile; Thou

shalt not back till I have borne this corpse Into

the marketplace: there shall I try,

In my oration, how the people take thee

cruel issue of these bloody men;

According to which, thou shalt discourse To

young Octavius of the state of things. Lend me

your hand.

- a. What instructions does Antony give the servant? (3)
- b. Why does Antony say, 'Rome is dangerous'? Who is it not safe for? Why? (3)
- c. Mention any *three* predictions that Antony makes when he is left alone with Julius Caesar's dead body. (3)
- d. What was Brutus' and Cassius' opinion of Antony? Whose assessment about Antony was correct? Justify. (3)
- e. What aspects of Antony's character are revealed during Act III? (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 'The Girl Who Can' and answer the following questions: [16]

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

- How did Adjoa's mother's lack of education affect her perspective? What, according to her, could education enable her daughter to do in the future. (3)
- What, according to Nana, is essential for a woman regarding her legs? (3)
- What challenges does Adjoa face in observing the legs of women in her village? (3)
- How did Maami and Nana initially react to the news of Adjoa participating in the district games? (3)
- What did Nana do upon returning to the village after the district sports event? Explain its significance. What did Adjoa finally realise about the potential of legs beyond their traditional role? (4)

Question 5

Read the extract from Ray Bradbury's 'The Pedestrian' and answer the following questions: [16]

The streets were silent, long,..... dry river beds, the streets, for company.

- Why is the city deserted at night? (3)
- In what way is the city like a graveyard? (3)
- Where is the speaker himself wandering? What kind of desert is Arizona? (3)
- What kind of person is the speaker? (3)
- Why do you think the story is set in November? (4)

SECTION D

(Answer one or more questions from this section.)

POETRY

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

Question 6

Read the extract from 'A Considerable Speck' by Robert Frost given below and answer the questions that follow: (16)

*A speck that would have been beneath my sight
On any but a paper sheet so white.*

- What does the speaker initially mistake the speck for? What realisation does the speaker come to about the speck? (3)
- Where does the speck move to in the writer's manuscript? What does the speck do when it reaches that place? (3)
- How does the poet humanise the speck? What is its significance? (3)
- Why does the speaker refrain from harming the speck? What does the speaker's treatment of the microscopic item reveal about his character? (3)

Question 7

Read the extract from 'When Great Trees Fall' by Maya Angelou given below and answer the questions that follow: (16)

*And when great souls die,
After a period of peace blooms,*

Q6] e How does the poet depict his personal disposition? What expectations of condemnatory society does he express to you

*slowly and always
irregularly. Spaces fill with a kind of
soothing electric vibration.
Our senses, restored, never to be the same whisper to us.
They existed. They existed.
We can be. Be and be
Better. For they existed.*

- a. How does the death of inspirational figures impact human senses? (3)
- b. What happens to the human soul after the death of inspirational personalities? (3)
- c. How can human beings change for the better after the death of great souls? (3)
- d. What is the impact of inspirational personalities on the environment? (3)
- e. What insight does the poet give into the mental and emotional effects of losing someone (4)

Section B: Drama
Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare
(Answer one or more questions from this section)

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

Caesar: *Are we all ready? What is now amiss,
That Caesar and his senate must redress?*

Metellus: *Most high, most mighty, and most puissant Caesar,
Metellus Cimber throws before thy seat*

A humble heart,-

[He kneels]

Caesar: *I must prevent thee, Cimber..*

- i. What do 'redress' and 'puissant' mean? What does Metellus kneel for? What is the real reason? [3]
- ii. What does Caesar mean by *I must prevent thee*? What does he go on to say about himself in the same passage? [3]
- iii. What does Caesar have to say about Cimber's petition? Who else joins in the request? How does Caesar react to him? [3]
- iv. When Cassius also joins in the request, Caesar says, "I could be well mov'd if I were you." What does he exactly mean by this? To what does he compare himself? [3]
- v. Which 'quality' of the world does Caesar mention? In what way is he different from others? Which quality of himself does he boast of? [4]

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

*Antony: Octavius, lead your battle softly on,
Upon the left hand of the even field.*

Octavius: Upon the right hand I; keep thou the left.

Antony: Why do you cross me in this exigent?

Octavius: I do not cross you; but I will do so.

- i. Where are the speakers? What message have they just received? [3]
- ii. What light has been thrown by this exchange on the character of Octavius? [3]
- iii. What is the difference between left and right hands of the field? How have their hopes been answered? [3]
- iv. What do 'cross' and 'exigent' mean? What had Antony said the enemy would do? What explanation does he give on hearing the enemy's arrival? [3]
- v. Who enters the scene now? How does Antony accuse Brutus? What does Brutus reply to him? [4]

Section C: Short Stories
(Answer one or more questions from this section)

Q4. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

"The ears are bad," he said, "Droop them a little more. Thank you. Now the eyes. Roll them in under the lids. Put the hands on the knees, please, and turn the face just a little upward. Yes, that's better."

- (a) Describe the photographer's appearance. Why did he look at the author without enthusiasm? What impression did he get of the photographer? [3]
- (b) Where did the photographer make the author sit? Describe the photographer's initial attempt to take a picture. [3]
- (c) What instructions did the photographer give the author before taking his photograph? [3]
- (d) Which feature in the author's photograph had some resemblance to his face? How did the photographer offer to set this right? [3]
- (e) Comment on the photographer's retouching and altering of the author's photograph. Mention *one* modern-day equivalent of what the photographer attempted to do. Give one reason why the photographer's action was insensitive. [4]

Q5. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

"Oh, I almost forgot," his father reached out and pressed number _____. "What are you doing?" asked Martin, trying not to sound afraid.

- i. Which number did Martin's father press and why? [3]
- ii. Was Martin afraid? If so, why? [3]
- iii. How did Martin plead with his father? What was the father's response? [3]
- iv. What did Martin try to do after this? What all happened after that? [3]
- v. How do you feel about Martin after reading the story? [4]

Section D - Poems

(Answer one or more questions from this section)

Q6. Read the extract 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.*

- i. Who are the 'the wretched brutes'? Why are they wretched? Give the meaning of the phrase. [3]
- ii. What is 'blare'? Where is the sound coming from? [3]
- iii. What is said about the source of the sound? How did it affect the listeners
- iv. Explain- *They whine and stare with feet in air or wonder quite confounded.* [3]
- v. Who comes as the saviour and how? What does the world gain? [4]

Q7. Read the extract 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.*

- (a) How is the speaker's perception different from that of the stranger? [3]
- (b) 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]
- (c) Why does the poet feel that all houses are haunted? [3]
- (d) Give any three characteristic features of the phantoms as mentioned in the poem Haunted Houses. [3]
- (e) Where in the house do we meet these phantoms? [4]

SECTION-B

(Answer any two questions from this section)

DRAMA

Question 2.

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

Octavius: You may do your will;
But he's a tried and valiant soldier.

Antony: So is my horse, Octavius; and for that
I do appoint him store of provender.
It is a creature that I teach to fight,
To wind, to stop, to run directly on,
His corporal motion govern'd by my spirit.

- (i) Where are Antony and Octavius? What are they doing? Who is being discussed in the above extract? [3]
- (ii) Where has Antony sent the person being discussed and why? What is Antony's attitude towards that person? [3]
- (iii) Immediately before the extract, what is the comparison Antony makes about the person being discussed? [3]
- (iv) Later in the scene, Antony says, "And now, Octavius, Listen great things". What 'great things' does he speak of? [3]
- v) State one characteristic of Octavius that can be observed from this scene. Justify your answer with an example. At the end of the play, how does Octavius pay homage to Brutus? [4]

Question 3

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, Thrusting this report
Into his ears; I may say thrusting it;
For piercing steel, and darts evenomed
Shall be as welcome to the ears of Brutus
As tidings of this sight.

Titinius: Hie you, Messala,
And I will seek for Pindarus the while.

- (i) Where are the speakers? Who is Pindarus? What report 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? At the end of the scene, what arrangements does Brutus make for Cassius? What reason does he give for doing so? [4]

SECTION C

(Answer one or more questions from this Section)

PROSE - SHORT STORIES

Question 4

Read the following extract from Ray Bradbury short story 'The Pedestrian' 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) What was the thing that Leonard Mead most dearly loved to do? When is the story set? [3]
- ii) Why did Mead switch to wearing sneakers when he went for a walk? [3]
- iii) To what does Mead compare his walk through the empty streets? Mention two reasons he gives for making this comparison? [3]
- iv) What reasons does Mead give for being out alone on the street at night? Why is this viewed with suspicion? [3]
- v) Where is Mead taken at the end of the story? Why is he taken to this place? If you had to describe this story in a single word, what word would you use? Give a reason for your choice of word. [4]

Question 5

Read the following extract from Ama Ata Aidoo's short story *The Girl Who Can* and answer the questions that follow:

"Like all this business to do with my legs. 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. But I didn't want either to be told not to repeat that or it to be considered so funny that anyone would laugh at me until they cried."

- (a) Where does the story take place? What is the main conflict faced by the protagonist? [3]
- (b) Describe the relationship between Adjoa and her grandmother. Why was she made to feel inadequate? [3]
- (c) Identify three ways Adjoa is shown to be an affectionate child in the story. [3]
- (d) How did Nana's behaviour change from the time Adjoa was selected as a runner to represent her school at the district sports meet? How would you justify Nana's actions? [3]
- (e) Adjoa won the cup for the best-all-round athlete. What change did this bring about in Nana's perspective? [3]
- How did the grandmother feel at the end of the story? Give a reason to justify your answer. [4]

SECTION D

(Answer one or more questions from this Section)

POETRY

Question 6

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

The bullock-carts are overturned, and horses
line the roadside.
But Bhisma Lochan, unconcerned, goes
Booming out his boardside.

- i) In which season would one hear Bhisma Lochan Sharma singing? Where would one hear his voice? [3]
- ii) What do these lines tell us about Bhisma Lochan Sharma? How did people react when they heard his song? [3]
- iii) After reading the poem give any three characteristic features that you can associate with Bhisma Lochan Sharma. [3]
- iv) What happens to mighty mansions, the welkin and trees when they hear Bhisma Lochan Sharma singing? [3]
- v) How did the most sagacious fellow grant the world the golden gift of silence? Mention two ways in which music helps a person. [4]

Question 7

Read the following extract from the story 'When Great Trees Fall' and answer the questions that follow.

When great trees fall
In forest,
Small things recoil into silence,
Their senses
Eroded beyond fear.

- i) What effect does the falling of a 'great tree' have on the creatures of the forest? [3]
- ii) How does the death of a great soul affect the lives of those left behind in the immediate aftermath of their passing? [3]
- iii) Explain in your own words the line "Small things ... eroded by fear". [3]
- iv) How is one's memory affected by the death of a great soul? [3]
- v) What is a 'Great Tree' a metaphor for? What is the central message of Angelou's poem 'When Great Trees Fall'? [4]

SECTION B

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

DRAMA

(Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare)

Question 2

Read the extract from *Julius Caesar Act IV Scene 3* given below and answer the questions that follow:

BRUTUS: "Now I have taken heart thou vanishest.

Ill spirit., I would hold more talk with thee. —

Boy Lucius! —Varrus! —Claudio! —Sirs awake! Claudio!" ^{Brutus} ~~Caesar~~

(i) Where does this scene take place? Who had visited ~~Caesar~~ just before this extract? [3]

(ii) Describe ^{Brutus} ~~Caesar~~'s reaction at seeing the vision before him? What does he attribute it to? [3]

(iii) How does ^{Brutus} ~~Caesar~~ describe the apparition before him? Comment on the interaction that happens between them. [3]

(iv) What does ^{Brutus} ~~Caesar~~ ask Claudio and Varrus after waking them? What bearing does this incident have on his decision regarding the forthcoming battle? [3]

^{Try to} (v) Do you think that the vision seen by Brutus was real or a reflection of his guilt? How does this scene foreshadow latter events in the play? [4]

Question 3

Read the following extract from *Julius Caesar Act V Scene III* and answer the questions that follow:

Titinius: *O setting Sun,*

As thy red rays thou dost sink to night

So in his red blood Cassius' day is set,

The sun of Rome is set. Our day is gone.

Clouds, dews, and dangers come! Our deeds are done.

Mistrust of my success hath done this deed.

- (i) Where does this scene take place? Who was Titinius and what was the nature of the relationship that Titinius and Cassius shared? [3]
- (ii) Give two words that would best describe Titinius's mood in the given extract. Justify your choice of words. [3]
- (iii) Earlier in Act V, Cassius shares some concerns about the battle with Brutus. What had he noticed while marching from Sardis? How were these thoughts different from his Epicurean view? [3]
- (iv) How did Cassius die? What were his dying words? [3]
- (v) What does the phrase 'this deed' in the last line of the extract refer to? [3]

Explain in your own words what Titinius means by "Mistrust of my success hath done this deed." [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 from *'With the Photographer'* by Stephen Leacock and answer the questions that follow:

"Cover it with an inch of gloss, shade it, emboss it, gild it, till even you acknowledge that it is finished. Then when you have done all that — keep it for yourself and your friends. They may value it. To me it is but a worthless bauble."

I broke into tears and left."

- (i) When was the author asked to visit the photographer next and why? What was the reason for the delay? [3]
- (ii) What was the narrator's reaction on seeing his photograph? Contrary to this, what was the photographer's attitude towards his handiwork? [3]
- (iii) What changes did the photographer want to make before the final photograph? What impression do you get of the photographer in this instance? [3]
- (iv) Do you think that the photographer was justified in using editing techniques to make the photograph look better? How did the narrator express his feelings towards the situation at the end of the story? [3]
- (v) Why does the narrator call the photograph a worthless 'bauble'? What according to you has the author tried to convey through this story? [4]

Question 5

Read the following extract from 'The Pedestrian' by Ray Bradbury, and answer the questions that follow:

On this particular evening he began his journey in a westerly direction, toward the hidden sea. There was a good crystal frost in the air; it cut the nose and made the lungs blaze like a Christmas tree inside; you could feel the cold light going on and off, all the branches filled with invisible snow.

- (i) In which month and year is the story set? What was Leonard Mead accustomed to doing and why? [3]
- (ii) What does the speaker compare himself with in the given extract? [In which context does he mention Arizona?] [3]
- (iii) What kind of picture does the writer present of the city? State two words or phrases used by the pedestrian to describe the people of the city. [3]
- (iv) Who or what does Mead encounter when heading home? What reasons does Mead give for being out alone on the street at night? [3]
- (v) Where is Mead taken to at the end of the story? Why is he taken to this place? If you had to describe this story in a single word, what word would you use? Give a reason for your choice of word. [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 from 'Haunted Houses' by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and answer the questions that follow:

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

- (i) Where does the moon throw a floating bridge of light? Why does the moonlight appear to be like 'trembling planks'? [3]
- (ii) How has Longfellow used personification and visual imagery to describe natural elements in the poem? [3]
- (iii) Why does the poet describe the cloud as a 'dark gate'? What does the 'bridge of light' symbolise? [3]
- (iv) What kind of perturbations does the poet mention in the poem? What helps humans to achieve equipoise? [3]
- (v) Examine the main theme addressed in the poem. How does Longfellow transform the common fear of ghosts into a comforting reflection on memory, faith, and unseen companionship? [4]

Question 7

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

*'They're trampled in the panic routine languish
Pale and sickly.
And please, "My friend, we're near our end, oh
Stop your singing quickly!"*

- (i) What is the impact of Bhishma Lochan's singing? [3]
- (ii) What do the people request the singer to do? What is meant by the phrase 'But Bhishma Lochan, unconcerned....'? [3]
- (iii) Comment on the overall 'style' of the poem. Identify a major poetic device used in the poem giving a suitable example from the text. [3]
- (iv) Who is finally able to stop Bhishma Lochan's singing and how? [3]
- (v) Why is Bhishma Lochan's silence considered a 'golden gift'? Suggest an alternative title for the poem giving a valid reason. [4]

SECTION B-DRAMA

Question 2

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

*On such a full sea are we now afloat,
And we must take the current when it serves
Or lose our ventures. pardon me,*

CASSIUS

Then, with your will, go on. We'll along ourselves, and meet them.....

- i. Who are 'them' referred to in the extract? Where do they plan to meet? Who else has promised to meet Brutus there? [3]
- ii. What does Brutus mean by 'full sea' and 'current'? Explain the metaphor. [3]
- iii. What was Brutus' 'will'? Why did Brutus advocate for it so vehemently? [3]
- iv. What has happened a little earlier that prompts Brutus to say these words? [3]
- v. Although Brutus and Cassius are allies, they have contrasting views on almost all matters of strategic importance. State two specific instances from the text where this difference is clearly apparent. Shakespeare has effectively shown that no human being is perfect; with close reference to this scene, identify one major flaw in each

character, Brutus and Cassius, and support your answer with evidence from the text. [4]

Question 3

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

ANTONY

*Villains, you did not so when your vile daggers
Hacked one another in the sides of Caesar.*

- i. Antony's statement, '*Hacked one another in the sides of Caesar*' is a powerful comment on betrayal and shattered loyalty. Substantiate this statement with reference to the context. [3]
- ii. Soon after this extract, which animals did Antony allude to, and what was the significance of these comparisons in the context of his argument? [3]
- iii. Brutus and Cassius use an extended metaphor involving bees, what specific type of bees do they refer to? What three qualities do they claim Antony has robbed from the bees? State one symbolic importance. [3]
- iv. A little later, what did Octavius pledge to show his solidarity towards Rome and Caesar? How did Brutus respond to it? [3]
- v. Cassius made specific observations to define the characters of Mark Antony and Octavius. What did he say about them? Provide textual evidence to prove that Cassius was accurate in his assessment of these two characters. [4]

SECTION C-PROSE

Question 4

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

"And then let me touch wood; it is a sad business. And you know, such things are not for talking about every day. But if any female child decides to come into this world with legs, then they might as well be legs."

- i. According to Nana, what is a "sad business"? What are her reasons for this perspective? What does her viewpoint reveal about her character? [3]
- ii. What obstacles did Adjoa encounter when attempting to examine the legs of the approved kind? What discoveries did she make during this process? [3]

- iii. Analyze the role of education in Adjoa's life and evaluate its influence on her future prospects. [3]
- iv. Describe Nana's assessment of Adjoa's father's character and provide textual evidence to support your answer. [3]
- v. In what ways does this story challenge conventional gender roles for women in Ghanaian society? Provide two real-life examples of women who have overcome societal barriers and demonstrated their capabilities. [4]

Question 5

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

Martin, a thin twelve-year-old, felt nervous in it from the first day he and his father moved into the apartment. Of course, he was always uncomfortable in elevators, afraid they would fall, but there was something especially unpleasant.

- i. How does the description of the elevator contribute to building suspense in the story? [3]
- ii. What motivated Martin to begin using the elevator regularly, and how did his father's attitude influence this decision? [3]
- iii. In your opinion, what was the primary source of Martin's fear: the mysterious woman or the elevator itself? Justify your answer. [3]
- iv. The text mentioned, "Martin felt quite safe from the fat lady now." Why did Martin feel safe? [3]
- v. How would you characterize the relationship between Martin and his father? Support your reasons with specific examples from the text. What is the underlying message of this story? [4]

SECTION D-POETRY

Question 6

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

Bhisma Lochan Sharma.
You catch his strain on hill and plain from Delhi
down to Burma
He sings as though he's staked his life, he sings
as though he's hell-bent;

- i. What happens to people when they listen to Bhisma Lochan Sharma's music? [3]
- ii. How does people's pleading affect Bhisma Lochan Sharma? Why are they pleading? What does it suggest about the man whom they plead for? [3]
- iii. How is the billy goat described in the poem, and why is this description used? [3]
- iv. Why does the poet choose a specific season, and how does this seasonal choice impact the poem's theme? [3]
- v. Identify two examples of auditory imagery and two examples of visual imagery. Explain how these images contribute to the poem's flow. [4]

Question 7

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

*When something strange about it made me think,
This was no dust speck by my breathing blown,
But unmistakably a living mite
With inclinations it could call its own.*

- i. Why did it pause with suspicion? What did 'it' do after taking a pause? [3]
- ii. Why did the speaker initially believe that the mite had no feet? What caused the speaker to immediately change this opinion? [3]
- iii. Explain the lines:
 - a) *With inclinations it could call its own.*
 - b) *Cower down in desperation to accept
Whatever I accorded it of fate* [3]
- iv. What is the speaker's stance on the "tenderer-than-thou / Collectivistic regimenting love" that is sweeping the modern world? [3]
- v. What are the various terms used in the poem when referring to 'it'? The poem contains the word 'mind' in two different contexts. What is the meaning and importance of this term in each instance? [4]

QUESTION PAPER 9

SECTION B

(Answer one or more questions from this Section.)

DRAMA

(Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare)

Question 2

Read the extract from 'Julius Caesar' Act 4, Scene 3 given below and answer the questions that follow:

**Cassius: Then, with your will go on;
We'll along ourselves, and meet them at Philippi.**

- (i) Who is the 'them' referred to in the given extract? Why was Cassius not in favour of marching to Philippi earlier? [3]
- (ii) What explanation does Brutus provide for choosing to march towards Philippi even though Cassius warns against it? How did this decision turn out to be a tactical error in the eventual outcome of the battle? [3]
- (iii) What does Brutus mean when he says, "Our legions are brim full, our cause is ripe"? Why does he say, "We, at the height, are ready to decline"? [3]
- (iv) A little later in the scene, Cassius says, "This was an ill beginning of the night." What was the 'ill beginning' that is referred to? What was the cause of the ill beginning? [3]
- (v) Considering the arguments of Cassius and Brutus about whether to march to Philippi or not, which argument according to you focuses more on strategy? Give a reason for your answer. [4]

Towards the end of the scene, Brutus sees a mysterious apparition in his tent. What does it tell Brutus? What effect does this encounter with the apparition have on Brutus?

Question 3

Read the extract from 'Julius Caesar' Act 5, Scene 1, given below and answer the questions that follow:

**Cassius: Be thou witness that against my will,
(As Pompey was) am I compell'd to set
Upon one battle all our liberties.
You know that I held Epicurus strong,
And in his opinion; now I change my mind,**

- (i) Who is Cassius speaking to? Where are Cassius and this person at this time? Give two phrases that Cassius has used a little earlier to sarcastically describe Octavius and Antony? [3]
- (ii) Who was Epicurus and what did he believe in? How does Cassius' attitude show a departure from his earlier held Epicurean philosophy? [3]
- (iii) Cassius recalls seeing ominous signs before the battle. Describe these signs and explain how Cassius interprets these signs? [3]
- (iv) In the event of losing the battle, what resolution does Brutus make about his own fate? What does this reveal about his character? [3]

How does the farewell between Brutus and Cassius differ from their earlier [4]
interactions in the play as seen in Act 4?

What emotions does this farewell evoke in you as a reader? Give a reason for your
answer.

SECTION C

(Answer one or more questions from this Section)

PROSE - SHORT STORIES

(Treasure Trove - 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:

And on his way he would see the cottages and homes with their dark windows,...

- (i) What did Leonard Mead most dearly love to do every evening? [3]
- (ii) As Leonard Mead walked past the cottages and homes, what sights and sounds did
he come across? [3]
- (iii) In what respect did Leonard Mead's own house stand out from the rest in the
neighbourhood? What does this difference reveal about his personality? [3]
- (iv) How did the atmosphere of the city during the day contrast with what Leonard Mead
experienced at night? [3]
- (v) What does the deserted appearance of the streets reveal about human life and society
in A.D. 2053? What underlying message does the story convey? [4]

Question 5

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

*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 unusual sights and sounds made Franz feel that something was different about
school that morning? What did he observe through the window before entering the
classroom? [3]
- (ii) What significant announcement did M. Hamel make to the class, and how did it
affect the students and villagers? [3]
- (iii) How did M. Hamel express his feelings about the French language? What do his
words reflect? [3]
- (iv) M. Hamel initially viewed as a stern teacher, appeared to be a changed man during
the last lesson. Explain giving examples from the text.

- (v) How did Franz's attitude towards his studies, particularly the grammar lesson, reveal a change in his understanding of learning that day? [4]
Do you believe the title 'The Last Lesson' is appropriate? Justify giving two examples.

SECTION D

(Answer one or more questions from this section)

POETRY-TREASURE CHEST

(Treasure Trove- 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:

*But Bhisma Lochan, unconcerned, goes
booming out his broadside.
The wretched brutes resent the blare the hour
They hear it sounded,*

- (i) How does Sukumar Ray portray Bhisma Lochan Sharma in the poem? How can we conclude that Bhisma Lochan Sharma was passionate about singing? Which hyperbolic expression does Sukumar Ray use to suggest the powerful reach of Bhisma Lochan Sharma's singing? [3]
- (ii) State the reaction of the people to Bhisma Lochan Sharma's singing as mentioned in the poem. What do these reactions indicate about the quality of his music? [3]
- (iii) Who are the 'wretched brutes' mentioned in the given extract? What is the significance of the word 'resent' in describing the reaction of the wretched brutes? How do the brutes respond to the singing? [3]
- (iv) Which phrase in the poem is used to describe the goat? What is the significance of the billy goat's intervention in the poem? [3]
- (v) What is the tone of the poem? Comment on the title of the poem. [4]
Do you think music has the power to unite people? Justify

Question 7

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

'There are more guests at the table than the hosts invited,'

- (i) Why are there more guests at the table? How do these uninvited guests behave at the table? How does the poet describe the presence of these ghosts? [3]
- (ii) How is the stranger different from the speaker?

- 1
- (iii) From where does the “bridge of light” descend? What does the poet compare the “floating bridge of light” to? What is the purpose of this comparison? [3]
- (iv) What feelings are evoked in the last stanza of the poem? What central theme does Longfellow explore in ‘*Haunted Houses*’? [3]
- (v) What perception of ghosts has the poet tried to convey in the poem? If you could step onto H.W. Longfellow’s “bridge of light,” what would you hope to discover on the other side? [4]
-



Section B - Drama

(Attempt at least one question from this section)

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

[16]

LUCILLIUS

With courtesy and with respect enough,
But not with such familiar instances
Nor with such free and friendly conference
As he hath used of old.

- a. Whom does Lucilius speak the above words to, and about whom? What hint does this short conversation give about the rising tension in the scene? 3
- b. What change of behaviour did Lucilius experience from Cassius, and how does the listener interpret it? 3
- c. Why does Brutus choose not to argue with Cassius in front of their armies? What does this reveal about his character? 3
- d. What is Brutus' reply when Cassius accuses him of having wronged him? What does Brutus ask Cassius to bid his army generals do? Why? 3
- e. Why does Pindarus come before his master to meet Brutus? Where had Cassius decided to spend the night, and whom does Brutus ask to guard his tent? 4

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

[16]

Why this, Volumnius:

The ghost of Caesar hath appeared to me
Two several times by night. At Sardis once,
And this last night here in Philippi fields.
I know my hour is come.

- a. What news does Clitus bring to Brutus about Statilius? How does Brutus feel upon hearing this news? 3
- b. Who was the first and the last person to refuse Brutus's request to end his life, what was the reasons for their refusal, and who finally assisted Brutus and how? 3
- c. How does Brutus' statement, "I shall have glory by this losing day," reflect his outlook? What traits of his friends does Brutus praise in his farewell speech before his death? 3

- d. What were Brutus' last words to Caesar? Whose prediction about Brutus's fate proved true, and in what way? 3
- e. What does Strato tell Mesala about Brutus' death? What does Strato's remark tell us about the way Brutus died? How will Brutus be honoured after his death? 4

Section C - Prose

(Attempt at least one question from this section)

Q4. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow: [16]

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.

- a. What rules were imposed upon the people in the dystopian world of 'The Pedestrian'? 3
- b. What do Leonard Mead's actions and observations in the above extract reveal about his personality? 3
- c. What all does Mead see and hear in those dark houses? How was it possible? 3
- d. What contrast does Bradbury draw between the town's highways during the day and at night? 3
- e. What does Bradbury's description of the police reveal about their role and the nature of the society? 4

Q5. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow: [16]

Then, from one thing to another, M. Hamel went on to talk of the French language, saying that it was the most beautiful language in the world — the clearest, the most logical; that we must guard it among us and never forget it, because when a people are enslaved, as long as they hold fast to their language it is as if they had the key to their prison.

- a. Why was the narrator in great dread that morning, and what made him tempted to stay out of school? 3
- b. How do Franz's feelings on entering late and M. Hamel's behaviour reveal the teacher's character? 3
- c. How does Franz react to the news of the last French lesson, and what does his reaction reveal about his feelings toward learning on the last day? 3
- d. "We've all a great deal to reproach ourselves with." Explain. How, according to you, is learning your mother tongue important? 3
- e. Why do you think the villagers, who normally did not attend school, were present on that day? 4

Section D - Poetry

(Attempt at least one question from this section)

Q6. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

[16]

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.

- Which two opposite words best describe Bhisma Lochan Sharma's singing, and how did he respond to its effects on others? 3
- Describe any three exaggerated impacts of Bhisma Lochan Sharma's singing on nature. 3
- Mention a line that is repeated in the poem. What does it emphasise? 3
- What physical hardships do the people face because of Bhisma Lochan Sharma's singing? 3
- How does the poem 'The Power of Music' highlight the theme of 'Impact of Ignorance'? What two important messages does the impact of art convey to the reader? 4

Q7. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

[16]

She dropped her glove, to prove his love, then looked at him and smiled;

He bowed, and in a moment leaped among the lions wild:

The leap was quick, return was quick, he has regained his place,

Then threw the glove, but not with love, right in the lady's face.

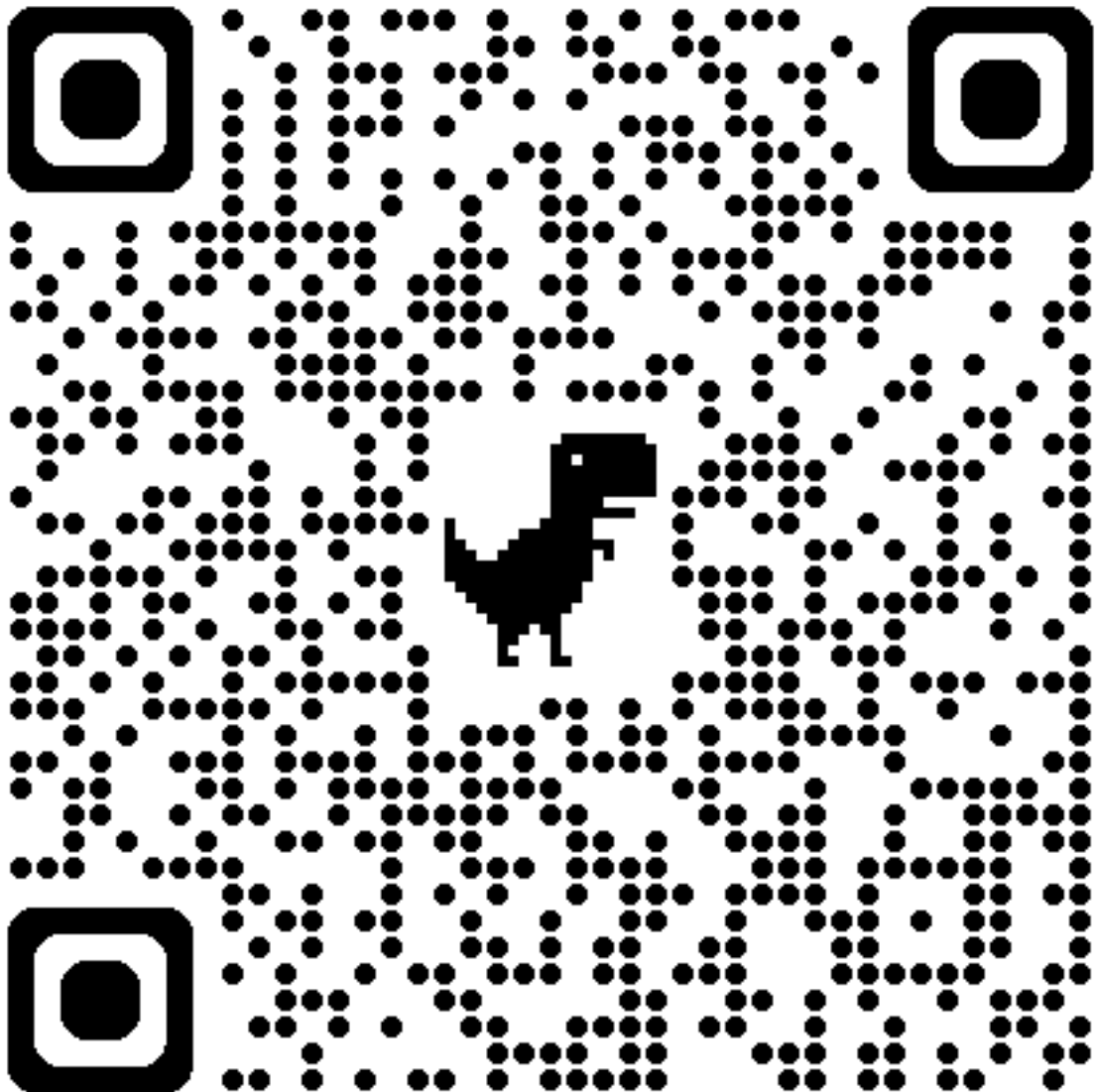
- "Faith, gentlemen, we're better here than there." Explain. 3
- Which sounds does the poet use in the second stanza to bring the scene to life? What atmosphere does it create? 3
- How does the lady's action reflect the theme of vanity and hunger for social approval in the poem? 3
- What does Count de Lorge's action of accepting her offer and throwing the glove "right in the lady's face" reveal about his character? 3
- How does the poet portray King Francis and his courtiers in the first stanza, and what is the royal sport like? 4



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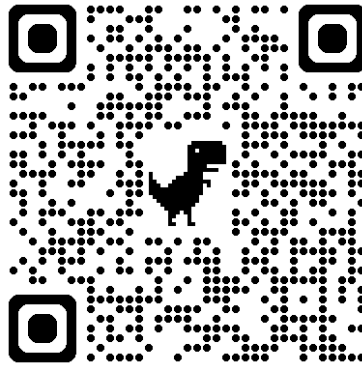


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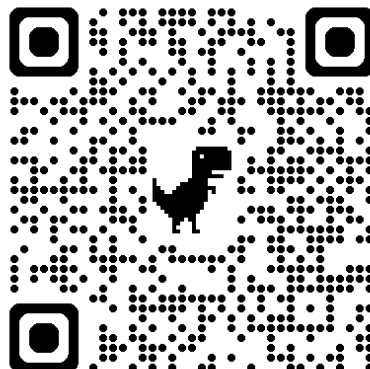
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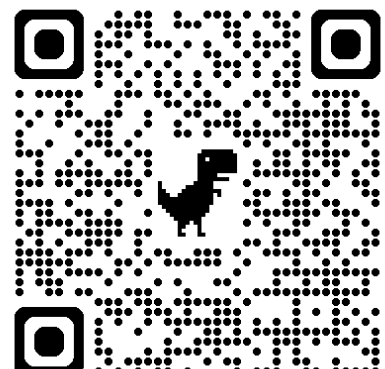
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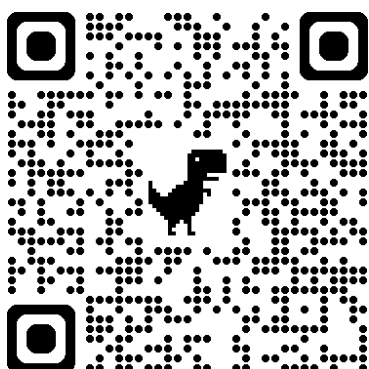
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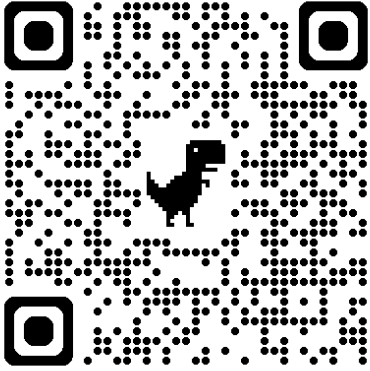
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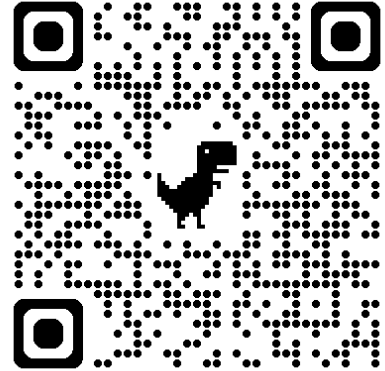
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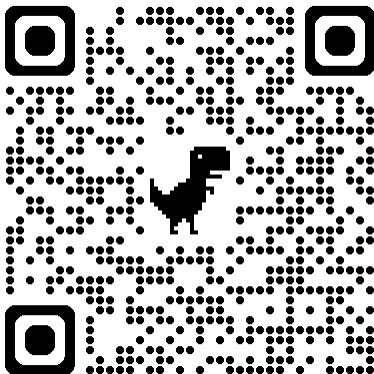
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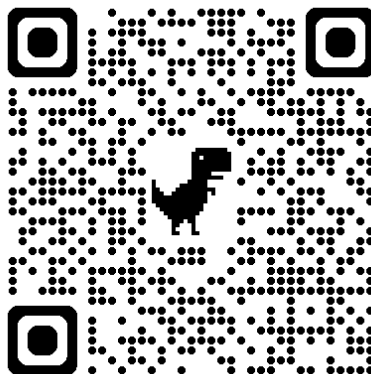
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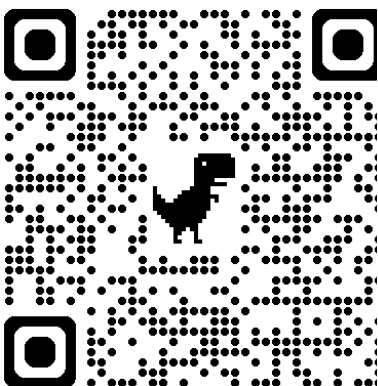
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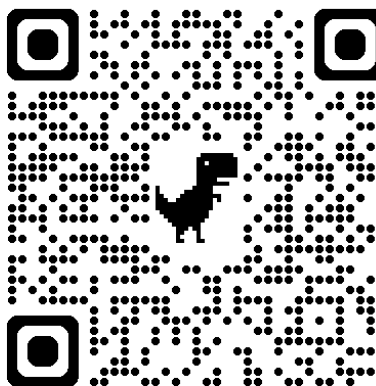
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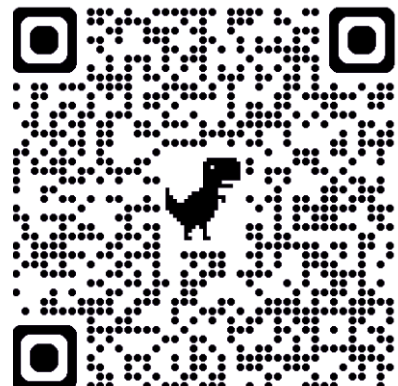
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