

LOYOLA SCHOOL, BHUBANESWAR
Half Yearly Evaluation, September 2025

Class: X

Subject: English Literature

F.M. = 80

Time: 2 Hrs.

Answers to this paper must be written on the paper provided separately

You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.

This time is to be spent in reading the Question paper.

The time given at the head of this paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

Section A is compulsory.

Attempt one question from each of the Sections B, C and D and 'one other' Question from any section of your choice. The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].

SECTION A

Attempt all questions from this Section

Question -1

[16]

1. What does Cinna proclaim after Caesar's death?

- a) "Rome is free."
- b) "Liberty! Freedom! Tyranny is dead!"
- c) "Liberty, Freedom, and Enfranchisement!"
- d) "Rejoice, Senators!"

2. In Act III, Scene 2: What does Antony claim lives/live on after men die?

- a) ambition
- b) wealth
- c) evil deeds
- d) good deeds

3. What is the significance of Act III, Scene 3 in the play?

- a) It shows the dangerous effects of mob mentality.
- b) It introduces a new conspirator.
- c) It defends Antony's actions and words.
- d) It shows the love of Roman citizens for Caesar.

4. What is the central idea of Maya Angelou's poem?

- a) When a great tree falls, it affects all the trees in the jungle.
- b) The death of an ancient tree causes all the creatures to recoil into silence forever.
- c) The impact of the loss of a loved one on those left behind and struggling to cope with it.
- d) The loss of the loved one creates an emptiness and the survivor cannot move beyond it.

5. What did the King imply by saying, "No love, but vanity, sets love a task like that"?

- a) True love is tested by reckless challenges.
- b) Self-importance leads to unreasonable demands in love.
- c) The Count proved his love by accepting the challenge.
- d) Love gives the right to set such challenges.

6. Which of the following best describes the tone of the poem, "The Power of Music"?
- a) humorous and satirical
 - b) reflective and sombre
 - c) nostalgic and sentimental
 - d) gentle and sincere
7. 'As silent as the pictures on the wall'. Which of the given options contains the same figure of speech that appears in this line?
- a) 'Where the mind is without fear, and the head is held high'
 - b) 'When summer comes, we hear the hums'
 - c) 'Some are like fields of sunlit corn'
 - d) 'Because I could not stop for Death - He kindly stopped for me'
8. Which of the following did NOT happen when people heard Bhisma Lochan's singing?
- a) The people tried to flee in panic.
 - b) They became pale and sick.
 - c) They were shocked and stunned.
 - d) They recoiled into silence.
9. Choose the option that lists the sequence of events in the correct order with reference to 'With the Photographer' ____
- 1. While the photographer clicks the narrator's photo without his consent.
 - 2. However, the photographer still finds fault in his face and expresses his dislike.
 - 3. Decisively, the narrator starts to get up from the seat to leave.
 - 4. The narrator endures the pain of multiple poses instructed to him.
- a) 1,2,4,3
 - b) 1,3,4,2
 - c) 4,1,3,2
 - d) 4,2,3,1
10. Which body feature of the narrator had not been tampered with 'in the first proof' of the photograph?
- a) eyes
 - b) eyebrows
 - c) mouth
 - d) Ears

11. Which sentence below uses the correct meaning of the word 'sagacious' as in the poem, 'The Power of Music'?
- a) The silly goat was provoked to attack Bhisma.
 - b) The robbers were ruthless and fierce.
 - c) The walls were coloured in a soothing sage green.
 - d) The wise men gathered to take a decision.
12. Which theme of the poem, 'The Glove and the Lions' is displayed in the line, 'He bowed, and in a moment leaped among the lions wild'?
- a) Vanity and Desire for glory
 - b) Obsession with adventure
 - c) Chivalry and Courage
 - d) Pride and self-importance
13. What did Nana 'take upon herself' in the later part of the story? ('The Girl Who Can')
- a) To walk Adjoa to her school
 - b) To tell Adjoa's secret to Kaya
 - c) To teach Adjoa the importance of clean clothes
 - d) To confirm if Adjoa was a school runner
14. Which of the following actions is Not mentioned in the lions' fight, as described in Leigh Hunt's poem?
- a) The lions gave blows like beams.
 - b) They violently rolled over each other with muffled roars.
 - c) They roared and glared at each other.
 - d) They purred and rubbed heads at the start of the fight.
15. What was the photographer's initial comment on the narrator's face?
- a) "The face is too dull."
 - b) "The face is narrow."
 - c) "The face is quite wrong."
 - d) "The face is too hard."
16. Select the option that shows the correct relationship between Statements (1) and (2)
- Statement 1- Cassius fears that their conspiracy has been discovered.**
- Statement 2- Popilius Lena wishes Cassius good fortune in his enterprise.**
- a) Statement 1 is the cause of Statement 2
 - b) Statement 2 is independent of Statement 1
 - c) Statement 2 is the cause of Statement 1.
 - d) Statement 1 is a contradiction of Statement 2.

SECTION B

Read the extracts given below and answer the questions.
DRAMA

Question - 2 **Antony: “O, pardon me, thou bleeding piece of earth the noblest man
That ever lived in the tide of times.”**

- a) Why does Antony ask ‘thou bleeding piece of earth’ to pardon him? Describe Antony’s initial reaction when he saw ‘the bleeding corpse’ the first time he came to meet Brutus. [3]
- b) What are the *two* requests of Antony for which Brutus agrees? How does Cassius feel about the permission granted to Antony? [3]
- c) What are Brutus’ conditions for fulfilling Antony’s requests? [3]
- d) Antony earlier says, “Here wast *thou* bay’d, *brave hart*” -
What does the term ‘brave hart’ suggest? To what custom of the hunters do Antony’s words refer?
Explain these words of Antony with reference to ‘thou’. [3]
- e) Explain: ‘Woe to the hands that shed this costly blood’. What does then Antony ‘prophecy’ over the wounds of the noblest man who is no more? [Mention any *three* horrific sights] [4]

Question - 3 “**And, in his mantle muffling up his face,
Even at the base of Pompey’s statue,
Which all the while ran blood, great Caesar fell.**”

- a) On which earlier occasion did Caesar wear the same ‘mantle’? Which two names apart from Brutus’ does Antony mention as he shows the mantle? What was his motive in mentioning those names? [3]
- b) What followed the ‘cursed steel’ with which Brutus stabbed Caesar? Why did it follow the ‘cursed steel’? [3]
- c) What happened when Caesar saw Brutus stab him? Ironically, Antony calls Brutus ‘an honourable man’. So, give *any other two* terms of praise that Antony uses for Brutus in his speech. [3]
- d) What would people do if they came to know of the contents of Caesar’s will? [3]
- e) What was the effect of Antony’s action of showing Caesar’s wounds to the crowd? *Mention* two key differences between the two funeral speeches mentioned in Act III-Scene 2. *Which* quality of Antony’s personality as shown in this scene appeals to you as a reader? [4]

SECTION – C

POETRY

Question - 4 **“All houses wherein men have lived and died
Are haunted houses.”**

- a) Where can we, according to the speaker, meet the ‘phantoms’ in a haunted house? [3]
- b) *Explain* the line: ‘There are more guests at table than the hosts Invited;’
How do ‘these guests’ behave at the table? [3]

- c) 'The stranger at my fireside cannot see...but perceives...' With reference to these words, *mention* the contrasts drawn by the speaker between himself and the stranger? [3]
- d) Explain the term 'mortmain'. Who holds the estates in 'mortmain'?
Explain the line: 'From graves forgotten stretch their dusty hands' [3]
- e) *Explain* the two types of instincts mentioned in the poem. *Why* is it essential to overcome the struggle of these two conflicting instincts in your opinion? *Mention* any one aspect of this poem that you liked the most, *with a suitable reason*. [4]

**Question - 5 When great trees fall
In forests.....**

- a) State 'the three effects of the fall of great trees in the forest' with reference to 'the opening stanza' of the poem. [3]
- b) *Explain* the extract: 'small things recoil into silence, their senses eroded beyond fear.' *What* does the phrase, 'eroded beyond fear' suggest with reference to human beings? [3]
- c) What happens to our memory when 'great souls' die? What phrases in the poem are used to suggest the feelings of gnawing pain and regret then? [3]
- d) What happens to 'our reality' when 'great souls' die? What is our first reaction when they die? What does the image of 'dark, cold caves' convey to the reader? [3]
- e) What 'spaces' does the speaker talk about in the final stanza of the poem? How are these spaces filled? What is the message conveyed by the concluding lines ('They existed...Be and be better...') of the poem? [4]

SECTION – D

PROSE – Treasure Trove of Short Stories

Question - 6 "I WANT my photograph taken," I said.

- a) What was the photographer's initial reaction to the narrator's words? What do you get to know about the photographer's physical appearance at the beginning of the story? [3]
- b) Why did the narrator want the photographer to click his photo? What kind of a photograph did the narrator expect from the photographer? [3]
- c) How did the narrator spend his time while waiting for the photographer? What did he realize during the waiting time? [3]
- d) Describe- where the narrator was made to sit in the studio after an hour. What did the photographer immediately do after instructing the narrator to sit? [3]
- e) What important lessons (*any two*) can we learn from the narrator's experience with the photographer? How is the story still relevant today? Give *an example* of a hilarious situation from the story that is relatable to the struggles of a studio experience. [4]

Question - 7 “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.”

- a) What is mentioned about the birthplace of Adjoa in the opening lines of the story? What is the ‘first example’ of Nana’s role as a disciplinarian in Adjoa’s life seen immediately at the start of the story? [3]
- b) What is Adjoa’s problem at the tender age of seven? Why is it a serious problem? [3]
- c) What is Nana’s ideal view of a perfect woman? [3]
- d) Why is Adjoa a source of worry and concern for Nana? What does Adjoa want to see in order to understand Nana’s concept of a perfect female? Why is it not an easy task? [3]
- e) ‘There is a change in Nana’s perspective towards the end of the story.’ What important event brought about this change? What all did Nana do for Adjoa then? What did Adjoa’s triumph finally prove? [4]

*****ALL THE BEST*****