

X

2018 EXAMINATION

# ICSE

## ENGLISH-II

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# Model Specimen Papers

## ENGLISH–II

### General Instructions for Students

*(Two hours)*

*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.*

*Attempt **five** questions in all.*

*You must attempt one question from each of the Sections A, B and C  
and any two other questions.*

*The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [ ].*

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# MODEL SPECIMEN PAPER-1

## SECTION A —DRAMA

### The Merchant of Venice—Shakespeare's

#### Question 1.

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

*Why, look you, how you storm!  
I would be friends with you and have your love,  
Forget the shames that you have stain'd me with,  
Supply your present wants, and take no doit  
Of usance for my moneys, and you'll not hear me :  
This is kind I offer.*

(i) Where does this scene take place ? Who is the speaker ? To whom is he talking ? [3]

Ans. The scene took place in Venice. The speaker is Shylock. He was talking to Antonio.

(ii) What are the 'shames' which the speaker says have stained him ? [3]

Ans. Shylock says so because Antonio called him a non-believer, merciless dog and spat on his long Jewish robe.

(iii) What are the 'present wants' ? Who is in need of the 'present wants' ? Why ? [3]

Ans. The present want was a sum of money of three thousand Ducats. Bassanio was in need of them because he wanted to go to Belmont to present himself as a worthwhile suitor to woo Portia.

(iv) Explain "This is kind I offer." What does the speaker propose to do immediately after this ? [3]

Ans. Assuring Antonio that he means to be friends, Shylock offers to make the loan without interest. Instead, he suggests that Antonio should forfeit a pound of his own flesh as the loan not to be repaid in due time.

(v) What do you think of Antonio and of Shylock with regard to the signing of the bond ? [4]

Ans. Shylock is cunning, cautious and crafty; he belongs to a race which has been persecuted since its beginnings. As a Christian, Antonio is easy-going, trusting, slightly melancholy, romantic and naïve.

Shylock trusts only in the intangible – that is, in the bond. Antonio trusts in the intangible, that is luck. Here, Shylock seems almost paranoid and vengeful, but on the other hand, Antonio seems ignorantly over-confident rather stupid because he is lacking in common sense.

#### Question 2.

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

*Portia : To these injunctions everyone doth swear  
That comes to hazard for my worthless self.  
Arragon : And so have I address'd me. Fortune now  
To my heart's hope ! – Gold, silver and base lead.*

(i) Who had tried his luck in trying to choose the correct casket before the prince of Arragon ? Which casket had that suitor chosen ? What did he find inside the casket ? [3]

Ans. The Prince of Morocco  
Golden casket

He finds an empty human skull holding a scroll in which is written that those who are attracted by the glittering outside of things are always deceived.

(ii) What are the three things Arragon was obliged by oath to obey ? [3]

Ans. He promises Portia that he will abide by her father's rules.

If he fails to choose the casket containing her portrait, he will never reveal which casket he chose.

He promises never to court another woman.

He will leave Belmont immediately.

**(iii) What was the inscription on the golden casket ? How do the actions of the martlet illustrate this inscription ?** [3]

**Ans.** The inscription on the golden casket is, “who chooseth me shall gain what many men desire”.

The chooser of the golden casket will get Portia because many men desire her. In fact the entire world desires her.

**(iv) Which casket does Arragon finally choose ? Whose portrait does he find inside ? Which casket actually contains Portia’s portrait ?** [3]

**Ans.** Silver casket

He finds the portrait of a blinking idiot – a picture of fool’s head.

Lead basket

**(v) Who enters soon after ? What does he say about the young Venetian who has just arrived ? What gifts has the Venetian brought with him ?** [4]

**Ans.** After the departure of the prince of Arragon, the servant announces that a young venetian has arrived in order to announce the approach of his master who has sent many warm greetings and rich presents to Portia.

### Loyalties—John Galsworthy

#### Question 3.

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

*De Levis* : *Social Blackmail ? H’m !*

*Canynge* : *Not at all – simple warning. If you consider it necessary in your interests to start this scandal—no matter how, we shall consider it necessary in ours to dissociate ourselves completely from one who so recklessly disregards the unwritten code.*

**(i) Where are the speakers at present ? What is referred to as Social Black-mail ?** [3]

**Ans.** De Levis’ room at Charles Winsor’s country house.

When De Levis accuses Dancy of stealing the money, Gen. Canynge threatens him that he will be excluded from the aristocratic society. He will lose all the membership cards of the clubs. This type of exclusion from society was referred to as the social black mail.

**(ii) Who is Canynge ? What scandal is being referred to ? Why will it be a scandal ?** [3]

**Ans.** Dancy’s superior officer.

The scandle being referred to is De Levis accusing Dancy of stealing the money from his room. Dancy has been a Defense Officer and a gentleman and filing a case of theft against him at a respectable country house of Winsor, a gentleman will create a scandal.

**(iii) Which race does De Levis mention later ? What is his opinion about society ?** [3]

**Ans.** The race of Jews, De Levis mentions later.

De Levis being a Jew is attacked by one and all. Dancy, even though committing a crime, is protected by the aristocratic society just because he is a fellow Christian.

**(iv) What does Canynge do soon after and what does he find ? What was his reaction ? What does the discovery prove ?** [3]

**Ans.** General Canynge defends Dancy.

He finds Dancy guilty.

Canynge puts his hand on Dancy’s arm and puts his hand up to his face in surprise. The discovery proves that Dancy was out in the rain when the theft took place, contrary to his statement that he was in the hall writing letters.

- (v) **What is De Levis going through at this point of time ? What light does it throw upon his character ? What change do we see in his character later in the play ? Give a reason to justify your answer.** [4]

**Ans.** At this point of time, De Levis feels insulted and upset, as he is a victim of racial prejudices, being a Jew. He does not weaken by challenges. His face is long and disturbed.

Later De Levis becomes a thorough gentleman as he donates the whole amount to charity.

#### Question 4.

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

*De Levis* : Confront me with Dancy and give me fair play.

*Winsor* : [Aside to CANYNGE] Is it fair to Dancy not to let him know ?

*Canynge* : Our duty is to the Club now, Winsor. We must have this cleared up. [COLFORD comes in, followed by BORRING and DANCY].

*St. Erth* : Captain Dancy, a serious accusation has been made against you by this gentleman in the presence of several members of the Club.

*Dancy* : What is it ?

*St. Erth* : That you robbed him of that money at Winsor's.

*Dancy* : [Hard and tense] Indeed ! On what grounds is he good enough to say that ?

- (i) **How does De Levis respond to Dancy's last question in the extract ?** [3]

**Ans.** De Levis says that Dancy had been mad at him because he sold the filly Rosemary which Dancy had gifted him to save her keep. Dancy thought he deserved the money. Moreover Dancy had the room next to De Levis, he could jump like a cat and there was a creeper on his balcony which was crushed by the weight of a man. When De Levis went to the bath, Dancy's door was open and when he came out of the bath, the door was shut.

- (ii) **How did Dancy wish to settle the matter ? What was St Erth's suggestion ?** [3]

**Ans.** Dancy wanted to settle the matter by making De Levis sign an apology. Lord St. Erth tells De Levis that he is saying this without any proof. A case can be brought against him for making this accusation. Court needs proof and without it he may be fined and even sent to prison.

- (iii) **Why did Dancy's friends wish him to take legal action against De Levis ? What reasons did Dancy give for not wanting to do so ?** [3]

**Ans.** Dancy's friends wished him to file a defamation suit against De Levis for upholding the honour of the club of which he is a member.

Dancy replies that he has to think over it and he is in financial difficulties and litigation is a costly process.

- (iv) **When Mabel Dancy later requests De Levis to withdraw the charge, how does he respond ? What declaration does Dancy wish De Levis to sign ?** [3]

**Ans.** When Mabel asks De Levis to withdraw his wretched charge and write an apology to Dancy, De Levis replies that he would have given up, but when the race is insulted, he has nothing to say.

Dancy wishes De Levis to sign an apology.

- (v) **What information does Gilman give to Twisden ? Why did Twisden decide to withdraw from the case ?** [4]

**Ans.** Gilman informs Twisden that he gave the change for a fifty pound note to a gentleman. He further informed that he knew the number of that note which appeared in the evening newspaper. He says that the note was given to him by Paolio Ricardos.

Twisden decides to withdraw from the case as he did not want to argue for a criminal. This shows that Twisden is an honest gentleman who values honesty more than money. He is loyal to his profession and winning the case does not matter to him as much as values.

**SECTION B — POETRY**  
**A Collection of Poems**

**Question 5.**

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

*'Tell me not in mournful numbers,  
Life is but an empty dream!  
For the soul is dead that slumbers,  
And things are not what they seem.'*

*(A Psalm of Life—H. W. Longfellow)*

- (i) Explain—'Tell me not in mournful numbers, Life is but an empty dream!' What should not be considered the goal of life? [3]

**Ans.** Mournful numbers are verses with a sad tone and content. Life is worthless and purposeless for one who is oneself inactive and dull. Grave should not be considered as the goal of life.

- (ii) What is the beating of the heart compared to? How is the heart described? What does the beating of the heart remind us of? [3]

**Ans.** Beat of heart is compared to the funeral marches. Our hearts although strong and brave, are beating marches to the grave, like the drums covered with cloth.

- (iii) What does the poet mean when he compares the world to a battle field? What should our role be in this battle? [3]

**Ans.** The poet regards the life as struggle and the world as battle field. Man has to decide whether he wishes to lead a human life of noble motives or an animal life of merely eating and sleeping purposelessly.

- (iv) How should we view the past and the future? What advice does the poet give in this context? [3]

**Ans.** According to the poet, it is wisdom to think only of present for the past is dead and useless. It is wasting of time to feel sorry for that. The future too is useless. It is a paradise of fools.

- (v) What do we learn from the lives of great men? What is the final message of the poem? Give one reason why the poem appeals to you. [4]

**Ans.** The lives of great men teach us how to work and achieve our goals. We can get fulfilment and make our lives sublime through our actions. The poet urges us to act and give up a life of dejection and inactivity. He wants us to be prepared to face any destiny. He urges us to pursue our goals, achieve success, work hard and wait patiently for the results.

**Question 6.**

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

*Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high  
Where knowledge is free  
Where the world has not been broken up into fragments  
By narrow domestic walls.*

*(Where the Mind is Without Fear : Rabindranath Tagore)*

- (i) To whom is the poet praying? Whose mind is the poet referring to in the beginning of the poem? Why? [3]

**Ans.** To God.

A great mind should be always free from fear thought it is not so in practice. People are always afraid of circumstances and their fellow beings. To grow intellectually, it is important to think fearlessly and rationally.

- (ii) In which situation is the head held high? What does he mean by 'knowledge is free'? What are 'narrow domestic walls'? [3]

**Ans.** A mind free from fear, superstition and other ends of life.

Everybody has equal rights to knowledge. Nobody should be deprived of education on grounds of poverty, caste, creed or sex.

There should not be factionalism in his country. The people must rise above the narrow considerations of caste, religion and community. The people should remain one forgetting all their petty difference.

**(iii) What does the poet mean by 'tireless striving' ? What does 'clear stream' refer to ? Explain. [3]**

**Ans.** The poet means that the people of his country should be motivated enough to strive without exhaustion till they attain full satisfaction in reaching their goals and perfection.

Reason has been compared with a clear stream because it is our rational thinking and clarity of thought which will help us in uprooting the useless customs and traditions. Reasoning and logical thinking will purify our thoughts and free us from impurities and evil in our lives.

**(iv) What is meant by 'dead habit' ? What is 'dead habit' compared to and why ? [3]**

**Ans.** Blind customs and traditions.

Dull desert sand.

Freedom is the outcome of various ingredients of values. The travel begins in the colours of patriotism, with the first step of 'freedom from fear' leading people to attain knowledge and making free from the evils.

**(v) What does the poet wish for at the end of the poem ? What does the poem tell the readers about the poet ? Give a reason to justify your answer. [4]**

**Ans.** The poet pleads to God to broaden the minds of his countrymen and to make them act for the betterment and progress of all and not only for themselves.

The poet seems too much spiritual and believing on the mercy of God.

The poem is a pleading poem in which the speaker is requesting God to guide his people and his country to the world of extremity where everything is free to everyone.

## SECTION C — PROSE

### A Collection of Short Stories

#### Question 7.

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

*"He was not accustomed to facing the entire class and speaking out aloud. He knew that he did not have a flair for making speeches. However, he had worked hard on his assignment and had written it from the depth of his heart."*

*(India's Heroes—Anonymous)*

**(i) Who was 'he' ? What evidence is there that he was not used to facing the entire class ? [3]**

**Ans.** Kabeer.

When Kabeer got up to speak, his hands shook slightly and some perspiration could be seen on his forehead.

**(ii) What was the assignment ? How was 'his' assignment different from the others ? [3]**

**Ans.** The assignment was to prepare a speech on the topic 'What would you like to be when you grow up'.

Kabeer's assignment was different because it did not focus on any single person, profession or quality. It was a combination of traits and people from different walks of life, who had stirred his heart. He had written the assignment from the depth of his heart.

**(iii) Who was the first person to feature in 'his' assignment ? What did 'he' say about him ? [3]**

**Ans.** Vishnu Dattaram Zende.

He was an announcer in the Mumbai railways. On 26th November, he heard a loud explosion at one end of a CST platform, and saw some people wounded. He could have

run away to a safer place but he was devoted towards his duty. He continued to make announcements telling people to go out from a different exit to save their lives. The terrorists fired a bullet into his cabin but he was not hit. His courage saved many lives.

**(iv) Who was the General Manager of the Taj Hotel ? What role did he play ? [3]**

**Ans.** Mr. Karambir Singh Kang.

The manager was brave, loyal calm and noble. When the hotel was under attack, he did not panic. Instead, he helped the guests and the staff member to leave the hotel for a safer place. His nobility lies in the fact that he tried to save others lives without caring for his own tragedy.

**(v) What, according to this speaker, is the only true religion in the world ? What human qualities have been highlighted through 'his' speech ? [4]**

**Ans.** The true religion in the world is love and respect for all human beings and the human qualities that have been highlighted through this speech are :

Patriotism, duty and responsibility, courage and bravery.

### **Question 8.**

**Describe the first meeting and the last meeting between the Kabuliwala and Mini. What realisation dawns upon the Kabuliwala after the last meeting with Mini. [16]**

**Ans.** 'The Kabuliwala' is a poignant example of this very strange fact. This story by Rabindranath Tagore is the story of a magical friendship that grows between two very unexpected souls. It is the story of Mini and her friend the Kabuliwala.

It begins on a morning when Mini is with her father in his study. She calls out to a fruit-peddler who happens to be walking down their street. However, the moment he approached the house, Mini goes into hiding. When the Kabuliwala does call for her, Mini emerges but remains close to her father out of fear and suspicion. Rahamat, the Kabuliwala, offers her some raisins and apricots, but Mini refuses to accept them. That was their first meeting.

At first Mini was feared that the person might take her to his land by packing her in his bag, but she overcame her fears soon, and she had a joke about the bag. She asked the Kabuliwala what he had in his bag. She became quite intimate with the Kabuliwala.

All it takes is a few days and the two of them become great friends. The narrator notices his daughter Mini, chattering away to the Kabuliwala, who is listening intently to all that she is saying. Rahamat has also given her lots of nuts and raisins. This and the fact that Rahamat proves to be a great listener, gels the two of them together in a lasting friendship.

As time goes by the two of them develop their own unique way of communicating with each other. They have a collection of phrases and jokes that they kept repeating every time they meet. It would make the two of them double up in laughter.

This friendship is brought to an abrupt end when Rahamat is sentenced to several years in prison. Many years later, on his release, Rahamat makes it a point to visit Mini, his little friend. It so happens that he comes on the very day she is to be married. Initially the narrator is hesitant to allow Rahamat to meet his daughter, but when he realizes how much the Kabuliwala loved his daughter, he calls for Mini.

When the Kabuliwala sees Mini in her bridal attire he is baffled and it takes time for reality to sink in. He realises that Mini has grown up and things can never be the same. Mini is the typical bride, quite and demure. She doesn't utter a word and when Rahamat asks her the old question whether she is going to her in-laws' house, she blushed and leaves. This meeting is their last and it leaves the Kabuliwala broken-hearted for he knows it is the end of their friendship.

He was reminded of his own daughter who was of the same age when he unfolded the grimy piece of paper on which the little hands of his daughter has been traced. Kabuliwala is reminded that his daughter too might have grown up.

**Animal Farm** – George Orwell**Question 9.**

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

*All that year the animals worked like slaves. But they were happy in their work, they grudged no effort or sacrifice, well aware that everything that they did was for the benefit of themselves and those of their kind who would come after them and not for a pack of idle thieving human beings.*

*Throughout the spring and summer they worked a sixty-hour week, and in August*

*.....*

**(i) What did Napoleon announce in August ? [3]**

**Ans.** In August Napoleon announced that there would be work on Sunday afternoons as well. This work was strictly voluntary, but any animal who absented himself from it would have his rations reduced by half. Even so, it was found necessary to leave certain tasks undone.

**(ii) How much time had elapsed since the constitution of the Animal Farm ? As summer wore on, what unforeseen shortages began to be felt ? [3]**

**Ans.** As the summer wore on, various unforeseen shortages began to make themselves felt. There was need of paraffin oil, nails, string, dog biscuits, and iron for the horses' shoes, none of which could be produced on the farm. Later there would also be need for seeds and artificial manures, besides various tools and, finally, the machinery for the windmill.

**(iii) What new policy did Napoleon make ? The new policy brought a vague uneasiness among the animals. What did they recall ? [3]**

**Ans.** From now onwards Animal Farm would engage in trade with the neighbouring farms: not, of course, for any commercial purpose, but simply in order to obtain certain materials which were urgently necessary. The needs of the windmill must over-ride everything else, he said. He was therefore making arrangements to sell a stack of hay and part of the current year's wheat crop, and later on, if more money was needed, it would have to be made up by the sale of eggs, for which there was always a market in Willingdon. The hens, said Napoleon, should welcome this sacrifice as their own special contribution towards the building of the windmill. The animals were conscious of a vague uneasiness. Never to have any dealings with human beings, never to engage in trade, never to make use of money. All the animals remembered passing such resolutions : or at least they thought that they remembered it.

**(iv) Who had agreed to act as an intermediary between the Animal farm and the outside world ? Describe him. [3]**

**Ans.** Mr. Whymper, a solicitor living in Wellington, had agreed to act as intermediary between Animal Farm and the outside world, and would visit the farm every Monday morning to receive his instructions.

He was a sly-looking little man with side whiskers, a solicitor in a very small way of business, but sharp enough to have realized earlier than anyone else that Animal Farm would need a broker and that the commissions would be worth having.

**(v) What roused the pride of the animals and made them reconcile to the new arrangement ? In the meanwhile, what sudden decision was taken by the pigs ? What do we learn about Napoleon at this juncture ? [4]**

**Ans.** The sight of Napoleon, on all fours, delivering orders to Whymper, who stood on two legs, roused their pride and partly reconciled them to the new arrangement.

The pigs not only took their meals in the kitchen and used the drawing-room as a recreation room, but also slept in the beds.

**Question 10.**

**Boxer lives his life in patient and unquestioning service. How far is this statement true ? Throw light on Boxer's character. [16]**

**Ans.** Horses are all around prized for their quality, and Boxer is no exemption. Standing just about six-feet tall, Boxer is a given resident of the homestead whose unbelievable quality is an extraordinary resource for the resistance and the ranch. When he finds out about Animalism, Boxer devotes himself completely to the insubordination's cause. At the Battle of the Cowshed, Boxer turns out to be an important trooper, thumping a steady kid oblivious with his powerful foot. (Take note of that Boxer, nonetheless, is not homicidal and feels incredible regret when he supposes he has murdered the kid.) His rising right on time to take a shot at the ranch and his own saying — "I will work harder" — uncover his dedication to the creatures' cause. He additionally ends up being the most profitable individual from the windmill-building group.

Boxer's extraordinary quality, in any case, is coordinated by his similarly shocking blamelessness and innocence. He is not a wise creature (review his powerlessness to take in any of the letters in order past the letter D) and in this manner can just think in straightforward mottos, the second ("Napoleon is constantly right") uncovers his untainted reliance on an infinitely knowledgeable pioneer. Notwithstanding when he crumples while remaking the windmill, his first contemplations are not of himself but rather of the work: "It is my lung ... It doesn't make a difference. I think you will have the capacity to complete the windmill without me." His expectations of resigning with Benjamin after his crumple show the degree of his blamelessness, since the peruser realizes that Napoleon has no aim of accommodating an old, sick stallion. Notwithstanding when he is being directed to his demise at the knacker's, Boxer should be recounted his horrible destiny by Benjamin and Clover. He winds up noticeably shrewd to Napoleon's ways past the point of no return, and his demise is another case of Napoleon's oppression.

**To Sir, With Love** —E. R. Braithwaite

**Question 11.**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follows :**

*"What's your name ?" he asked.*

*"Braithwaite," I replied, "Ricardo Braithwaite."*

*"I'm Pinkus and this is Mama Pinkus." The introduction was effected with a filial devotion which was good to see.*

*"How d'you do, Mama Pinkus."*

*"I think I know some place for you." He went to the little noticeboard and removed a small card on which was written a short advertisement of a room to let near-by.*

**(i) Why was Braithwaite looking for a new place to stay ? Why was he impressed by the place that was on rent ?** [3]

**Ans.** Braithwaite decided to look for a rented house as daily he used to reach school late due to the late arrival of the train. Braithwaite was not very satisfied with the place on rent as it was a terrace in a rather dingy street but on entering the house it was neat and clean.

**(ii) What reception did he get when he reached the address that had been advertised ? Whom did the house belong to ?** [3]

**Ans.** The owner of the house refused to let.

It was the house of Barbara Pegg, a student of Braithwaite.

**(iii) Why did Mrs. Pegg come to see Braithwaite ? What reply did Braithwaite give to her ?** [3]

**Ans.** She felt ashamed of the rude behaviour. Braithwaite took it lightly and refused to stay there till the August vacations.

**(iv) What changes occurred in Pamela's personality after the August holiday ?** [3]

**Ans.** Her behaviour changed with Braithwaite. Now, she took more care and showed a lot of concern towards Braithwaite.

(v) **What comment did Potter make when Braithwaite hurt himself ? What did he mean by that comment ? How did Pamela react to Potter’s remark ?** [4]

**Ans.** Potter called Braithwaite a nigger and irresponsible teacher. Pamela was furious with the statement. She came to support Braithwaite calling him that he was her sir.

**Question 12.**

**Give an account of the trip to The Victoria and Albert Museum that was planned by Braithwaite for his class.** [16]

**Ans.** When Braithwaite mentioned his idea to the headmaster about visiting the Victoria and Albert Museum, the headmaster was happy but asked to take Miss Gillian Blanchard for assistance. On Thursday Braithwaite was surprised to see each student wearing neat and clean clothes, ironed and hair combed.

After reaching the Museum the children were divided into two small groups to work out on some particular aspect of Mid-Victorian dress design, material stitch craft, accessories, hair-cutting, wigs, etc.

During the visit Braithwaite and Gillian became close friends with great liking for each other. The next day of the trip left deep impact on the mind of Braithwaite as that day as a token of love, to share and care he was greeted and welcomed by the students by offering Braithwaite a bouquet of flowers.

Braithwaite becomes a successful teacher. He is able to see students as individuals. He is able to overcome his prejudice and “hateful thoughts” because he learns to love his students despite their shortcomings. Braithwaite learns the most important role he can play in the lives of his underprivileged students’, that is to provide them with “affection, confidence, and guidance, more or less in that order, because experience has shown that those are their most immediate needs.” Braithwaite’s novel illustrates the importance of an equal partnership between teacher and student combined with the shared goal of learning.

□□

# MODEL SPECIMEN PAPER-2

## SECTION A—DRAMA

### The Merchant of Venice—Shakespeare's

#### Question 1.

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

**Salerio** : *My wind, cooling my broth  
Would blow me to an ague, when I thought  
What harm a wind too great might do at sea.  
I should not see the sandy hour-glass run  
But I should think of shallows and of flats,  
And see my wealthy Andrew dock'd in sand  
Vailing her high-top lower than her ribs  
To kiss her burial. Should I go to church  
And see the holy edifice of stone,  
And not bethink me straight of dangerous rocks,  
Which touching but my gentle vessel's side  
Would scatter all her spices on the stream,  
Enrobe the roaring waters with my silks,  
And, in word, but even now worth this,  
And now worth nothing ? Shall I have the thought  
To think on this, and shall I lack the thought  
That such a thing bechanc'd would make me sad ?  
But tell not me. I know Antonio  
Is sad to think upon his merchandise.*

(i) What does the speaker mean by 'would blow me to an ague' ? What prompts him to say this ?

**Ans.** By saying 'would blow me to an 'ague' Salerio means 'it would make him feel terrified and induce fits of shivering. While blowing wind to cool his broth, it would remind him of the destruction which the gales blowing at the sea might cause to his ships.

(ii) What is meant by 'sandy hour-glass' ? What would it make Salerio think of ?

**Ans.** The hour glass was an ancient device used for measuring time. Two spheres of glass were joined together. There was a tiny hole in the centre to enable sand to fall from one sphere to another. The entire process took just one hour. The running of the hour-glass would make him think of shallow waters and the sandy-banks.

(iii) What does Salerio mean when he speaks of 'my wealthy Andrew' ? In which danger does he imagine his 'Andrew' to be in ?

**Ans.** 'My wealthy Andrew' refers to Salerio's richly laden ship. He visualizes his imaginary ship, Andrew to be stuck in the sands of the sand bank.

(iv) Explain the lines : "but even now worth this and now worth nothing."

**Ans.** Just before an imaginary disaster Salerio's imaginary ship 'Andrew' would be worth a fortune, but after its wreckage, it would be worth nothing. All its rich merchandise would be washed away by the waves of the sea.

(v) What do you understand by the term-the holy edifice of stone. What would it remind Salerio of ?

**Ans.** "The holy edifice of stone" refers to the stone building of the church. It would bring to his mind, the dangerous rocks in the sea, which might cause immense damage to his imaginary ship. The cargo the ship would be carrying *i.e.*, spices and silk would be scattered on the surface of the water.

**Question 2.**

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

**Antonio** : *You know me well, and herein spend but time  
To wind about my love with circumstances;  
And out of doubt you do me now more wrong  
In making question of my uttermost  
Than if you had made waste of all I have.  
Then do but say to me what I should do  
That in your knowledge may by me be done  
And I am prest unto it : therefore speak.*

(i) **Where is Antonio ? Who else is present with him ?**

**Ans.** Antonio was in a street of Venice. Bassanio was present with him there.

(ii) **Whom did Antonio accuse the 'somebody else' of ?**

**Ans.** Bassanio was accused of doubting Antonio's willingness to help the former, to the best of his ability.

(iii) **What request did he make to Antonio ? Why ?**

**Ans.** Bassanio requested Antonio to give him a fresh loan since he required the money to carry out his plan of wooing and marrying Portia.

(iv) **Under which circumstances did Antonio utter the statement 'To wind about my love with circumstance' and why ?**

**Ans.** Antonio wanted that Bassanio should be precise and come to the point for Antonio was prepared to do anything for him. He was of the view that Bassanio was simply wasting his time, by appealing to his love in a roundabout fashion. He had simply to tell Antonio what he wanted and he would do it most willingly.

(v) **How did the other person cause Antonio greater injury ?**

**Ans.** Antonio was deeply hurt and greatly injured when he came to know that Bassanio had doubted his willingness to come to his aid.

### Loyalties —John Galsworthy

**Question 3.**

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

**Winsor** : *It must have been done from the window, unless someone had a skeleton key. Who knew you'd got that money ? Where did Kentman pay you ?*

**De Levis** : *Just round the corner in the further paddock.*

(i) **Introduce the persons engaged in conversation.**

**Ans.** Charles Winsor and Ferdinand De Levis are engaged in conversation in Act I, Scene I of the play 'Loyalties' written by John Galsworthy.

(ii) **Explain the context.**

**Ans.** De Levis, staying as a guest with Charles Winsor at his country house, finds his money stolen from his room. He reports the matter at once to his hosts, though it is the midnight time.

Initially, the Winsors express surprise that such an incident could take place in a decent house like theirs. They ask their guest to be sure if he did not lose his money elsewhere before coming to their house. It is suggested that he might have lost it on the race course where De Levis has been all the day. But the youngman is sure that he does have the money with him. He placed it under his pillow before going out to the bathroom. On return, he found the money missing.

(iii) **What is supposed to have been done from the window ? Which window ?**

**Ans.** Theft of money is supposed to have been done from the window opening on a balcony. While the door is locked by De Levis while leaving it, the window remained open. The thief might have come from the window and escapes from the same route.

**(iv) What is the second possibility ?**

**Ans.** The second possibility is that some one had a skeleton key which could open many locks. It has been used by the thief to open the door lock. He in that case entered the room from the door. He took the money from under the pillow, went out of the door after locking it again.

**(v) What kind of person could be suspected ?**

**Ans.** The person who knew that De Levis had a large sum of money that day, could have committed the crime. Such a person could be suspected to steal it. The theft was not a mere chance. It was calculated and based on definite information about the money in the possession of its owner.

**Question 4.**

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

*Treasure : I should say about eleven-fifteen, sir. As soon as Major Colford and Captain Dancy had finished billiards. What was Mr. De Levis doing out of his room, if I may ask, sir ?*

*Winsor : Having a bath; with his room locked and the key in his pocket.*

**(i) Who are the persons named Treasure and Winsor ? What are they talking about ?**

**Ans.** Charics Winsor is the owner of the country house, Meldon Court near Newmarket. Treasure is his butler. They figure in John Galsworthy's play Loyalties'.

**(ii) What did Treasure do at about eleven fifteen ?**

**Ans.** Winsor is making enquiries from his butler after getting the report that De Levis has lost his money. A large sum of about a thousand pounds has been stolen from his room. De Levis is one of the guests staying at that country house. This has happened after eleven at night.

On a question from Winsor, his butler, Treasure says that he shut himself up at about fifteen minutes past eleven.

**(iii) Major Colford and Captain Dancy had finished billiards at about eleven fifteen :**

**(a) Who are Major Colford and Captain Dancy ?**

**(b) What did they do after finishing billiards ?**

**(c) What do you think actually happened after that ?**

**Ans.** The butler points out that he retired to his room at the time when Major Colford and Captain Dancy had finished billiards.

(a) Major Colford and Captain Dancy are the two guests staying at the country house of the Winsors.

(b) It is not clear if they did anything after they finished playing billiards. They are supposed to have retired to their rooms.

(c) In his statement Dancy later explained that he was writing letters in the hall after finishing the play. But this is not the reality. He actually returned to his room. From its balcony he jumped into De Levis's balcony. From there he entered the window of the room, stole the money lying under the pillow, and returned to his room from the same route.

**(iv) What does Treasure ask about De Levis ?**

**Ans.** Treasure is surprised how the theft took place between eleven fifteen and eleven thirty. He wonders where De Levis was at that time and what he was doing out of his room at

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