

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Class - XI



Government of Kerala
Department of Education

Prepared by
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INTRODUCTION

Terminal Evaluation is a very integral part of the Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation which was made a constitutional obligation by the RTE Act of 2009. The Kerala School Curriculum 2013 envisioned that the examination system should be recast towards an objective, valid and reliable assessment of learning outcomes which should promote the socio-emotional development of the learner. Moreover, it could be used to test the effectiveness of transactional strategies thereby improving the teaching-learning process. It also serves as the litmus test to check whether the intended curriculum is implemented.

Hence the responsibility of the question paper setter lies in bridging the gap between intended curriculum and implemented curriculum. During the course of the preparation of question paper, he/she should see to it on learning outcomes and that they should address the concerns of all types of learners.

Part III English Literature Optional text prescribed for Class XI gives due emphasis on literary aspects rather than linguistic aspects which makes the pattern of questions in English literature Optional Text different from that of Part I General English question paper. Various genres such as poetry, short story, non-fiction and one act plays penned by literary luminaries across the globe are represented in the text so as to facilitate the learner internalize the characteristic features of these genres and major thrust areas of each unit. Keeping in view, the syllabus, teacher text and text book, scheme of work, the learning based on experiences which have been gained by the students the question paper setter should frame the Term end question paper to evaluate the measurable and observable outcomes.

GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF QUESTION PAPER

- Before preparing the question paper, the question paper setter should familiarize himself with the textbook prescribed, LOs, thinking skills and scheme of work.
- A pool of quality questions may be prepared prior to the process of setting the question paper.
- A design of the question paper with due weight to content, learning outcomes, different types of questions and thinking skills should be prepared.
- A blue print based on the design should also be prepared.
- 60% weight should be given to thinking skills for conceptual attainment and 40% to thinking skills for conceptual generation.
- Stem of the question text should be relevant to the question posed.
- Questions should contain objective type, short answer type and essay type and the questions should be asked following the same order.
- 15 to 20% weight of total scores must be given to objective type questions.
- Essay type questions can be framed up to 32% of the total score.
- Choice can be given to short answer type and essay type questions but choice should not be provided for objective type questions.
- Choice can be given up to 30 to 32% of the questions.
- Choice to select essay questions from the poetry section should be given which must focus on one question from the first half of the section and one from the second half.
- One essay question each from the Non-fiction and One-act play section may be included.

- While giving choice, alternative questions should be from the same unit with the same level of thinking skills.
- The highest score that can be given to a question in the question paper is limited to 10% of the total score.
- While fixing the time for answering a question, time for reading, comprehending and writing the answer should also be taken into consideration.
- Two hours and thirty minutes for writing the answers and 15 minutes of cool off time to read the questions should be given.
- Multiple choice questions should be provided with four competitive distracters.
- Time allotted for each question should conform to the thinking skills involved.
- The minimum length of the answer should be clearly indicated.
- Issues of all types of learners should be addressed.
- Learning outcomes should be focused on.
- Question should be crystal clear and unambiguous.
- Question text should not be too lengthy and complicated.
- Questions may be framed based on a single or a cluster of learning outcomes scattered over one particular unit or many units.
- The possibilities of graded questions reflecting different thinking skills can be explored.
- Importance should be given to the literary aspects like figures of speech, rhyme scheme embedded in poetry and other specific aspects of different genres and contents in the text.
- The questions should not allow the examiners to interpret and to give mark in their own way.
- Sufficient hints should be provided for essay type questions.
- General instructions for the question paper should be given on the top.
- Name of subject, Class, Year, Total score, Individual and Total time should be given in the question paper.
- Instructions for the questions can be given at the beginning of the question text.
- Technical details regarding the word limit and the nature of answer should be highlighted in the instruction.
- The title of the text should be written in Italics.
- The details of marks should be highlighted (bold font).
- Undue emphasis on certain set patterns (objective or descriptive) should be avoided.
- Questions should not hurt the feelings of caste, religion, gender etc.
- After preparing the question paper a scoring key indicating value points and question based analysis should be drafted.
- Thinking skills should be integrated with the scoring key.
- Scoring key should give the expected outline of the answer and value for each point in specific and clear terms.
- Question-based analysis should be comprehensive as it should include content, learning outcomes, thinking skills, specific thinking skills, topics covered, form of questions, score allotted and time.

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - I

HIGHER SECONDARY EXAMINATION

English Literature

HSE I

Marks: 80

Time: 2 ½ hrs

General Instructions to Candidates:

- There is a cool-off time of 15 minutes in addition to the writing time of two and a half hours.
- You are neither allowed to write your answers nor to discuss anything with others during the cool-off time.
- Use the cool-off time to get familiar with the questions and to plan your answers.
- Read the questions carefully before answering.
- All questions are compulsory, and only internal choice is allowed.
- When you select a question, all the sub-questions must be answered from the same question itself.
- Electronic devices are not allowed inside the examination hall.

Choose the correct answer from the options given in brackets (1-5). Each question carries one mark. All questions are compulsory.

1. A sonnet can be defined as
 - a. A 16 line lyric with the rhyme scheme abab cdcd
 - b. A 14 line lyric with the rhyme scheme abab cdcd efef gg
 - c. A 16 line lyric with alternate rhyme
 - d. A 14 line lyric with alternate rhyme
2. To which genre of English poetry does Blake's *The Tyger* belong?
 - a. Epic
 - b. Lyric
 - c. Dramatic monologue
 - d. Ballad
3. How are the daughters and wives who buy the bangles described by Sarojini Naidu?
 - a. happy
 - b. sad
 - c. jealous
 - d. faithful
4. *"I was confused and stood undecided."* Why?
 - a. because God was begging to the speaker for alms
 - b. because the speaker didn't know how to preserve his friend's beauty
 - c. because the speaker was unhappy with his duchess' behavior
 - d. because the speaker didn't know how to save the highwayman

5. What is the adjective used by Frost to describe Eve's voice?

- a. daylong
- b. sweetened
- c. melodious
- d. eternal

(5x1=5)

Answer the following questions in a word or phrase. (6-12) Each question carries one mark. All questions are compulsory.

6. Name the figures of speech used in the following lines.

"My sparrow, you are not here."

7. A long lyric poem serious in subject and treatment, elevated in style and elaborate in stanza structure is called _____.

8. *"I call that piece a wonder."* What is the wonder mentioned by the Duke?

9. What will break its jail according to the poet in the poem *Oppression*?

10. A song like narrative poem which tells a story is called a _____.

11. Identify the figure of speech expressed in the lines,

"Till a' the seas gang dry."

12. Neruda's poem *If You Forget Me* was published in a collection titled _____. (7x1=7)

Write answers to the following questions (13-16) briefly in three or four sentences. Each question carries two marks.

13. What does the expression '*sands of life*' indicate in *A Red Red Rose*?

14. How does the poet describe the landlord's daughter in *The Highwayman*?

15. The story *A Canary for One* is set in Paris. Is there any significance in the choice of this location?

16. Describe the appearance of the young girl at the railway station in *The Night Train at Deoli*.

(4x2=8)

Answer the questions from 17 to 20 in a paragraph of not more than eight sentences. Each question carries four marks.

17. According to Llosa, what are the defects of specialization in knowledge?

18. Does Eve in *Never Again would Birds' Song be the Same* represent womanhood as a whole? Justify.

19. What is the significance of the title of the poem *Oppression*?

20. Discuss the importance of courtesy words in elevating the quality of life in the light of the essay *On Saying Please*. (4x4=16)

Answer any four from the questions 21-26. Each answer should not exceed a page. Each question carries five marks.

21. Describe how war affects the human psyche on the basis of your reading the story *A Canary for One*.

22. Describe the first meeting between the narrator and the young girl in *The Night Train at Deoli*.
23. Basheer breaks the general concepts about vice and virtue in the story '*The Man*'. Substantiate.
24. Compare and contrast the characters of Ms Rosemary Fell and Ms Smith in Katherine Mansfield's short story *A Cup of Tea*.
25. Work holism has become a major problem of the modern industrialized society. How far is the protagonist in this story a satirical representative of the busy men around us?
26. Describe the elements of sarcasm and irony in the story *The Orator*. **(4x5=20)**

Answer the following questions in not less than 300 words. To the questions 27 to 28 write from the internal choices. Each question carries eight marks.

27. a. Assess the features of essays of A.G .Gardiner in the light of the essay *On Saying Please*.
(Hints: style – diction – tone – linguistic features)

Or

- b. Write an essay on the lasting impression created by the teacher among his boys in the essay *Last Day at School*.

(Hints: relationship between the teacher and the boys – expression of love) **(8x1=8)**

28. a. A dramatic monologue is defined as a lyric in which a speaker, who is not the poet, addresses a silent listener in a specific situation at a dramatic moment in his life. How far does this definition apply to *My Last Duchess*?

Or

- b. The poem *Elegy for a Jane* explores the impact of one human life on another, outside the context of family or romantic love. Write a critical review of the poem in terms of theme, message, mood, tone, figures of speech and other stylistic features.

(Hints: theme - elegiac features) **(8x1=8)**

Attempt an essay on the question given below. Maximum page limit should be three. Question carries eight marks.

29. Discuss Dorothy C Calhoun's radio play *When Lincoln Comes to Pittsburgh* in the light of historical elements of the time as well as an effective portrayal of child psychology.

(Hints- Lincoln's visit to Pittsburgh- a great event in the history of America- effects on people-John's eagerness to see the president-overcomes the obstacles- meeting with the president- John's achievement beyond the expectation of the grown ups-turns a young hero) **(8x1=8)**



ANSWER KEY/VALUE POINTS

Qn No	Answer key/value points	Score	Total
1	b	1	1
2	b	1	1
3	a	1	1
4	a	1	1
5	a	1	1
6	Metaphor	1	1
7	ode	1	1
8	Portrait of the Duchess	1	1
9	Song	1	1
10	ballad	1	1
11	hyperbole	1	1
12	The Captain's Verses	1	1
13	Transience of life Permanence of love	1 1	2
14	Black eyed Red lipped Bonny Curly hair	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	2
15	Paris - city of love Husband and wife on the verge of divorce	1 1	2
16	Shawl over shoulders Barefoot Old clothes Pale skin/troubled eyes	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	2
17	Content related to the context Organization of ideas Language and style	1 1 2	4
18	Contextual presentation of ideas Cohesion of ideas Language and style	1 1 2	4
19	Content related to the context Organization of ideas Language and style	1 1 2	4
20	Contextual presentation of ideas Cohesion of ideas Language and style	1 1 2	4
21	Content relevant to the context Sequencing of ideas Use of appropriate language	1 1 3	5
22	Contextual presentation of ideas Cohesion of ideas Language and style	1 1 3	5
23	Presentation of relevant ideas Organization of ideas Appropriate use of language	1 1 3	5

24	Content related to the context Appropriate use of linkers Language and style	1 1 3	5
25	Contextual presentation of ideas Cohesion of ideas Language and style	1 1 3	5
26	Content relevant to the context Sequencing of ideas Use of appropriate language	1 1 3	5
27 a.	Presentation of relevant ideas Illustrating with suitable examples Organization of ideas Appropriate use of language	4 2 1 1	8
b.	Presentation of relevant details Appropriate use of language Proper sequencing Style	1 1 1 5	
28 a.	Contextual presentation of ideas Cohesion of ideas Language and style	4 2 2	8
b.	Presentation of relevant details Proper sequencing of ideas Appropriate use of language Coherent style	1 1 1 5	
29	Content relevant to the context Sequencing of ideas Use of appropriate language	2 2 4	8

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Set 02

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - II

HIGHER SECONDARY EXAMINATION

English Literature

HSE I

Marks: 80

Time: 2 ½ hrs

General Instructions to Candidates:

- There is a cool-off time of 15 minutes in addition to the writing time of two and a half hours.
- You are neither allowed to write your answers nor to discuss anything with others during the cool-off time.
- Use the cool-off time to get familiar with the questions and to plan your answers.
- Read the questions carefully before answering.
- All questions are compulsory, and only internal choice is allowed.
- When you select a question, all the sub-questions must be answered from the same question itself.
- Electronic devices are not allowed inside the examination hall.

I. Fill in the blanks with suitable answers. Each question carries 1 mark.

- a. The companion poem to the *The Tyger* which is included in the collection *Songs of Innocence* is _____.
- b. The cuckoo is addressed as “*O blithe Newcomer*”. The meaning of the word ‘blithe’ here is _____.
- c. The character who represents the egoism and pretentiousness of the upper class society in Katherine Mansfield’s *A Cup of Tea* is _____.
- d. “*The moon was a ghostly galleon.*” The figure of speech used here is _____.

(4x1=4)

II. Answer the questions by choosing the most suitable answers. Each answer carries ½ marks.

5. Which among the following is applicable to the poem *My Last Duchess*?
 - a. Dramatic monologue
 - b. Elegy
 - c. Devotional song
 - d. Presence of a listener is implied
 - e. Laments the death of someone dear
 - f. Sonnet
 - g. Psychological in nature

(4 x ½ = 2)

6. Which among the following best suits the beggar in the poem *I Had Gone A- Begging*?
- a. miserly
 - b. wonder-struck
 - c. generous
 - d. confused
 - e. satisfied
 - f. remorseful
 - g. undecided
 - h. cruel
- (4x ½ =2)

III. Choose the correct answer from the choices given. Each question carries 1 mark.

7. “She forewent the pomp of the alluring pompadour.” What does the underlined word mean?
- a. An expensive perfume
 - b. A hair style
 - c. A beautiful dress
 - d. A gold necklace
8. “Americans make perfect husbands,” says the old lady in the story *A Canary for One*. The literary device used here is _____.
- a. Personification
 - b. Irony
 - c. Satire
 - d. Imagery
9. Which are the two afflictions that caused the death of Ivanovitch Babilinov?
- a. A lavish wife and smoking
 - b. A miserly wife and smoking
 - c. A bad wife and smoking
 - d. A bad wife and alcoholism
10. _____ is not a legal offence, and it does not excuse assault and battery.
- a. Rudeness
 - b. Dishonesty
 - c. Discourtesy
 - d. Disobedience
- (4x1=4)

IV. Answer the following questions briefly in three or four sentences. Each question carries 2 marks.

11. How did Bess try to save the highway man? Was this action necessary?

12. What are the complaints made by the Duke about his 'Last Duchess'?
13. "She's absolutely lovely." Why did Philip make such a remark about Miss Smith?
14. How do the students express their love for the teacher in *Last Day at School*? (4x2=8)

V. Answer the following questions in a paragraph of not more than eight sentences. Each question carries 4 marks.

15. Blake's *The Tyger* is a fine lyric which marvels at the supreme artistry of the Almighty who created both the lamb and the tiger. Justify this statement.
16. What do you think is the theme of Neruda's celebrated poem *If You Forget Me*?
17. Llosa states that literature has become a more and more female activity. Substantiate your views based on *Why Literature*.
18. Give an account of the boy's adventurous trip to meet Lincoln in the play *When Lincoln Comes to Pittsburgh*.
19. Briefly describe the character of Maxwell in the story *The Romance of the Busy Broker*.
20. Write a short paragraph on the theme of *Since Brass, Nor Stone, Nor Earth, Nor Boundless Sea*. (6x4=24)

VI. Answer any one question from the following questions. Each answer should not exceed a page. Each question carries 5 marks.

21. How are the crucial phases in the life of an Indian woman depicted in Sarojini Naidu's *Bangle Sellers*?

Or

22. Prepare a short paragraph considering *Elegy for Jane* as a typical elegy. (1x5=5)

VII. Answer any two of the following. Answer should not exceed a page. Each question carries 5 marks.

23. Explain the symbolic significance of the scene of wreck in the story *A Canary for One*.
24. In *The Night Train at Deoli*, the author juxtaposes dreams with reality. Substantiate.
25. Basheer presents mankind in all its variety in the story *The Man*. Write a paragraph on the experience of the narrator and the reactions of the people present at the restaurant on the basis of this statement. (2x5=10)

VIII. Answer any one of the following in not more than a page. Each question carries 5 marks.

26. Alice Walker's essay *Am I Blue* is a powerful reflection on slavery and freedom. Comment.

Or

27. "Good manners are infectious." Elucidate the statement in the light of the essay *On Saying Please*. (5x1=5)

IX. Answer any one of the following questions in not less than 300 words. Each question carries 8 marks.

28. Prepare a write-up considering Wordsworth's poem *To the Cuckoo* as a romantic lyric.

(Hints - elements of Romantic poetry- natural world inspires noble, elevated thoughts- expression of emotions through lyric- address to the cuckoo)

Or

29. The poem *Oppression* is a powerful warning to man's tendency to suppress his fellow beings on the basis of caste, creed, colour etc. Express your views on this statement in the form of an article.

(Theme- condition of Afro- Americans- oppression- protest by the poet- hope for future etc.)

(8x1=8)

X. Answer the following question in not less than 300 words.

30. The plot of *The Boy Comes Home* is built around the conflict between a youth and an adult. Justify this statement.

(Hints- Theme- characters- conflict between characters- difference of personality and age- how the conflict is solved- who is in the right etc.)

(8x1=8)

ANSWER KEY/VALUE POINTS

Qn No	Answer key/value points	Score	Total
1.	The Lamb	1	1
2.	Casual or carefree	1	1
3.	Rosemary Fell	1	1
4.	Metaphor	1	1
5.	a c e h	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	2
6.	b d f c	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	2
7.	B	1	1
8	B	1	1
9	D	1	1
10	C	1	1
11	Relevant ideas Use of linkers	1 1	2
12	Listing the character traits Organization of ideas	1 1	2
13	Content related to context Proper use of language and reasoning	1 1	2
14	Content related to context Proper use of sentences	1 1	2
15	Writing a few sentences on the theme Adding opinions Proper use of language and style	1 1 2	4
16	Content related to theme Style Appropriate usage of language	1 1 2	4
17	Presentation of relevant content Organization of ideas Appropriate use of language	1 1 2	4
18	Contextual presentation of ideas Organization in proper sequence Appropriateness of style and language	1 1 2	4
19	Expression of relevant ideas Proper organization Appropriate use of language and style	1 1 2	4
20	Presentation of theme Expression of ideas in an organized way Proper use of language and style	1 1 2	4
21	Contextual presentation of content Proper use of language Sequencing of ideas	2 1 2	5

22	Contextual presentation of ideas Organization in proper sequence Appropriateness of style and language	2 1 2	5
23	Presentation of relevant content Expression of ideas in an organized way Clarity of thought and content	2 1 2	5
24	Presentation of theme Organization of ideas Proper use of language	2 1 2	5
25.	Narration of the theme Organization of ideas Appropriate use of language	2 1 2	5
26.	Expressing the ideas of slavery and discrimination as presented in the story Organisation of ideas Language and style	2 1 2	5
27.	A paragraph on the ideas expressed by the author Organisation of ideas Language and style	2 1 2	5
28	Presentation of relevant content Sequencing of ideas Proper use of language	2 2 4	8
29	Presentation of the theme Organization of ideas Language and style	2 2 4	8
30	Narration of the theme and the conflict Sequencing of ideas Proper use of language and style	2 2 4	8