



ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, PRAYAGRAJ

FIRST UNIT TEST 2025-26

ENGLISH LITERATURE

CLASS – IX

TIME: 1 Hour

MM: 30

You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes. This time is to be spent reading the Question Paper.
The paper has four sections A, B, C and D. All questions are compulsory.

SECTION – A

Q 1) Read the following questions and choose the most appropriate response from the choices given below. (Please do not copy the question – simply write out in correct serial order the appropriate word or phrase) **[6]**

1. “Wherefore rejoice? What conquests brings he home?”
This line tells us that Marullus is feeling _____.
a) angry
b) weak
c) jealous
d) anxious
2. “Who else will soar above the view of men And keep us all in servile fearfulness.” What is Flavius’ apprehension with regard to Caesar?
a. He will become a popular king.
b. He will become a proud and arrogant dictator.
c. He will become obstinate and cruel.
d. He will become an ambitious politician.
3. What is the occupation of Mr. Sowerberry, the man who apprentices Oliver?
a. A local chemist.
b. A local shopkeeper.
c. A local undertaker.
d. A criminal.
4. The workhouse, where Oliver was born, was synonymous to _____.
a. the story being set in the Victorian era
b. poverty
c. harsh living conditions
d. Oliver’s bad luck
5. The poem ‘The Night Mail’ highlights the importance of _____.
a. a good postal system
b. the human desire to stay connected
c. travelling by train at night
d. a train’s journey to Scotland
6. Which figure of speech is used in the line given below? ‘The gradient’s against her, but she’s on time.’
a. Imagery
b. Personification
c. Metaphor
d. Alliteration

SECTION – B

DRAMA

(Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare)

Q 2) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Flavius

Hence home, you idle creatures, get you home.

Is this a holiday? What, know you not,

being mechanical, you ought not walk

Upon a working day without the sign of your profession?

- i. Who are Flavius and Marullus? Where are they at the moment? What did Flavius ask the idle commoners to do? **[2]**
- ii. Why are Flavius and Marullus upset with the commoners? **[2]**
- iii. How do they try to discourage the commoner’s celebration? **[2]**
- iv. Later in the scene, what orders did Flavius give to Marullus? Why was Marullus hesitant in carrying out the orders of Flavius? Which characteristic trait of Marullus is revealed by his hesitancy? **[2]**



SECTION – C

PROSE-SHORT STORIES

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

Q 3) Read the following extract from Charles Dicken's short story, Oliver Asks for More and answer the questions that follow:

She lifted her head from the pillow "Let me see the child and die."

- i. Describe the young woman. How did the young woman who gave birth to Oliver end up in the workhouse? [2]
- ii. What was the young woman's last wish and what happened to her soon after she fulfilled her wish? [2]
- iii. Why did Oliver and the other orphans look thin and pale? How were they treated at the workhouse? [2]
- iv. Later in the story, a decision was taken by the boys. What was the decision? Why was it taken and how did it affect Oliver's life? [2]

SECTION – D

POETRY

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

Q 4) Read the following extract from Wylan Hugh Auden's poem, The Night Mail and answer the questions that follow:

This is the Night Mail crossing the border,
Bringing the cheque and the postal order,
Letters for the rich, letters for the poor,
The shop at the corner, the girl next door.

- i. Describe the various regions through which the Night Mail passes as mentioned by the poet in the first extract. [2]
- ii. "Letters for the rich, letters for the poor, The shop at the corner, the girl next door." Comment on the significance of these lines. [2]
- iii. How do birds and sheep-dogs react when the Night Mail approaches them? [2]
- iv. Would you say that 'The Night Mail' is an apt title for this poem? Give two valid reasons for your answer. [2]