

**Board**  
**Class X English Literature**  
**Sample Paper-2**  
**(Two hours)**

**General Instructions:**

**Total Marks: 80**

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*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 the paper is the time allotted for writing the answers.*

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*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 of questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [ ].*

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**SECTION A - DRAMA**  
***The Merchant of Venice: Shakespeare***

**Question 1.**

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

Portia:            In terms of choice I am not solely led  
  
                      By nice direction of a maiden's eyes.  
  
                      Besides, the lottery of my destiny  
  
                      Bars me the right of voluntary choosing.  
  
                      But if my father had not scanted me  
  
                      And hedged me by his wit to yield myself  
  
                      His wife who wins me by that means I told you,  
  
                      Yourself, renowned Prince, then stood as fair  
  
                      As any comer I have looked on yet  
  
                      For my affection.

- (i) Who is Portia talking to in the above lines? [3]
- (ii) Why did Portia say that she could not choose voluntarily? [3]
- (iii) Name the three suitors who come to seek Portia's hand. [3]
- (iv) What trick according to Portia, will work on the duke of Saxony's nephew? [3]

(v) What were the conditions laid down by Portia's father with choosing the casket? (4)

### Question 2.

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

Antonio: Grieve not that I am fall'n to this for you,  
For herein Fortune shows herself more kind  
Than is her custom. It is still her use  
To let the wretched man outlive his wealth,  
To view with hollow eye and wrinkled brow  
An age of poverty—from which lingering penance  
Of such misery doth she cut me off.  
Commend me to your honorable wife.  
Tell her the process of Antonio's end.  
Say how I loved you. Speak me fair in death.  
And when the tale is told, bid her be judge  
Whether Bassanio had not once a love.

- (i) When and to whom is Antonio talking to? [3]
- (ii) What does the bond say? [3]
- (iii) Who is present in the court to save Antonio? [3]
- (iv) What punishment does the court decide for Shylock? [3]
- (v) Describe the friendship between Antonio and Bassanio in your own words. [4]

### *Loyalties: John Galsworthy*

### Question 3.

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

MABEL: [After a moment's struggle] Oh! No! No, no! I'll follow—I'll come out to you there.

DANCY: D'you mean you'll stick to me?

MABEL: Of course I'll stick to you.

- (i) Where is Mabel thinking of following Dancy? [3]
- (ii) Why does Dancy want to go away? [3]
- (iii) Why does Dancy ask Mabel if she will stay with him? [3]
- (iv) What reason does Dancy give Mabel for stealing money? [3]
- (v) Do you think the climax of the play is justified? State reasons for your opinion. [4]

#### Question 4.

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

WINSOR: Look here, De Levis! This isn't a hotel. It's the sort of thing that doesn't happen in a decent house. Are you sure you're not mistaken, and didn't have them stolen on the course?

DE LEVIS: Absolutely. I counted them just before putting them under my pillow; then I locked the door and had the key here. There's only one door, you know.

WINSOR: How was your window?

DE LEVIS: Open.

WINSOR: [Drawing back the curtains of his own window] You've got a balcony like this. Any sign of a ladder or anything?

Where are Winsor and De Levis at this time? [3]

(i) Who is Lady Adela? What instructions have been given to her? [3]

(ii) Who enters the scene after sometime? What questions does Winsor ask that person? [3]

(iii) What suggestions are given to Winsor by the person who enters a short while later? How does Winsor react to this? [3]

(iv) On whom does De Levis express suspicion? How does he think the theft took place? [4]

## SECTION B – POETRY

### *A Collection of Poems*

#### Question 5.

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

Sarla and Tarla are married  
Their husbands are very nice boys.  
You won't believe but I have eleven grandchildren.  
How many issues you have? Three?  
That is good. These are days of family planning.  
I am not against. We have to change with times.  
Whole world is changing. In India also  
We are keeping up. Our progress is progressing.  
(The Professor: Nissim Ezekiel)

- (i) Why is it unbelievable that poet has eleven grandchildren? [3]
- (ii) Do you think that the poet has a problem with family planning? [3]
- (iii) What do the poet's sons work as? How does it reflect on  
the typical Indian perspectives on success? [3]
- (iv) What does the poet say about his daughters? Does it reflect gender bias? [3]
- (v) What does the speaker say about India's progress? [4]

#### Question 6.

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

What do you make O ye goldsmiths?  
Wristlet and anklet and ring  
Bells for the feet of blue pigeons,  
Frail as a dragon-fly's wing,  
Girdles of gold for the dancers,  
Scabbards of gold for the king.

- (i) What is the rhyme scheme of the above lines? [3]
- (ii) Which of the five senses do the items sold by  
merchants in the above lines please? [3]
- (iii) What are the bells for the pigeons compared to? [3]
- (iv) What do the goldsmiths make for the king and the dancers? [3]
- (v) What are the figures of speech used in the poem? [4]

**SECTION C – PROSE**  
***Collection of Short Stories***

**Question 7.**

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

But this beautiful creature of metallic scales, with poison in its teeth, wanted only to get away, as the boy himself did. It subsided and slid off into the matted grass. Sher Singh drew a breath. The snake-feeling left his legs and he was able to walk on.”

- (i) Which creature has been described as ‘beautiful creature of metallic scales’? What did it do when Sher Singh stepped closer to it? [3]
- (ii) Where was Sher Singh heading towards? [3]
- (iii) Why did Sher Singh quicken his steps at night? [3]
- (iv) Why couldn’t Sher Singh’s mother take Kunwar to the hospital? [3]
- (v) What challenges did Sher Singh face on his way through the forest? [4]

**Question 8.**

The banker agreed to give the young man two million on a condition that he spends fifteen years in solitary confinement. How did the young man spend 15 years alone? Did the banker pay the young man the million? [16]

***Animal Farm: George Orwell***

**Question 9.**

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

It was just after the sheep had returned, on a pleasant evening when the animals had finished work and were making their way back to the farm buildings, that the terrified neighing of a horse sounded from the yard. Startled, the animals stopped in their tracks. It was Clover's voice. She neighed again, and all the animals broke into a gallop and rushed into the yard. Then they saw what Clover had seen.

It was a pig walking on his hind legs.

- (i) Why was Clover terrified to see? [3]
- (ii) What did the sheep bleat as they followed the pigs? [3]
- (iii) How many commandments did Benjamin and Clover see on the wall? [3]
- (iv) Who was invited by the pigs for a tour of inspection? [3]
- (v) How do the slogans sung by the sheep and the other actions contradict the Commandments of the Animal Farm? [4]

**Question 10.**

How is the ending of *Animal Farm* a stark contrast to the beginning of the story? Explain with reference to examples from the book. [16]

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

**Question 11.**

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

Denham looked at me pityingly, slipped the gloves off his large hands and casually dropped them at my feet. He had made his point. Looking quickly at the others I could read the disappointment and disgust in their faces. They thought I was afraid, scared of the hulking, loutish fellow.

'Okay, let's go.'

- (i) Who is Denham and where does the incident take place? [3]
- (ii) What does the narrator realize about Denham when they begin to box? [3]  
How does he try to defend himself?
- (iii) Give a brief account of another incident during the PT session between Mr Bell and Buckley. [3]
- (iv) Describe the Headmaster of Greenslade Secondary School. [3]
- (v) What conversation did the Headmaster have with the narrator before he accepted the job about the way children were treated in the school? [4]

**Question 12.**

Describe the incident between Patrik Fernman and Bobby Ellis. Why did the narrator want to go to the Juvenile Court? What was the outcome of the court proceedings? [16]

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# Solution

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## SECTION A - DRAMA

### *The Merchant of Venice: Shakespeare*

#### Question 1.

- i. Portia is talking to the Prince of Morocco, one of the prospective grooms and explaining him how her father has set a task for the suitors.
- ii. Portia said that she couldn't choose voluntarily because her father had arranged for a task that her suitors would have to complete so that the best man could marry her. Therefore, Portia had no say in this matter nor did she have the right to voluntarily choose her man.
- iii. The three suitors who came to seek Portia's hand in marriage were the Prince of Morocco, the Prince of Arragon and Bassanio.
- iv. The Duke of Saxony's nephew is a drunkard whom Portia doesn't want to marry. In order that he chooses the wrong casket, Portia asks Nerissa to place a big glass of white wine on the wrong casket so that he is tempted to make a mistake and choose the wrong one.
- v. According to the rules of the task, if the prospective suitor chooses the right box, he wins Portia. However, if he chooses the wrong box, he must vow never to woo any woman for life. That is, if the men fail the test, they will have to promise never to get married.

#### Question 2.

- i. Antonio is talking to his friend Bassanio when they are in the court so that Shylock can take his pound of flesh from Antonio as per the bond.
- ii. According to the bond, if Antonio failed to repay the loan taken from Shylock, he was entitled to give away a pound of his flesh to Shylock as compensation.
- iii. Portia, disguised as Balthazar, a lawyer, comes to Antonio's rescue. She asks Shylock to take his pound of flesh without dropping a single drop of blood. If he sheds even

one drop of Christian blood, or cuts more than what is mentioned in the bond, the state of Venice will confiscate his land and property under the Venetian law.

- iv. Portia proved in front of the court that Shylock conspired to kill a citizen of Venice and hence, was punishable under the Venetian law. This meant that Shylock would have to give away half of his wealth to Antonio while the other half would go to the state. Further, Antonio insisted that Shylock should immediately become a Christian and when he dies he must leave all his property to his son-in-law Lorenzo and his daughter.
- v. The readers may believe that Antonio should strain his relationship with Bassanio because of the latter's poor spending habits. However, we see that Antonio isn't disappointed with Bassanio at all even after Bassanio's urge to spend has landed Antonio in front of a greedy Jew seeking revenge. Antonio and Bassanio have great affection for each other. Antonio is prepared to give away everything for his friend. In fact, in the final scenes of the play, he states that he loves both his wife and Bassanio dearly. He values Bassanio's feelings for Portia so much that he agrees to borrow money from Shylock so that he can go and meet Portia. When he fails to pay back the loan, Bassanio is felt pulled by his friendship to help Antonio.

### ***Loyalties: John Galsworthy***

#### **Question 3.**

- i. Dancy wants to go to Morocco and Mabel wishes to follow him there.
- ii. The police have found out that Dancy stole De Levis' money at Meldon Court owned by Charles Windsor and therefore, Dancy wants to escape.
- iii. Dancy feels guilty of putting Mabel into trouble by stealing money. He thinks that she will surely leave him and go away. However, Mabel says that she will stick to him and be with him wherever he goes.
- iv. De Levis sold the horse that Dancy had sold him. This angered Dancy as according to him, De Levis should have shared the amount that he got by selling the horse which originally belonged to him. In order to seek revenge, Dancy stole the money.
- v. In my opinion, the end of the play is not justified. Dancy kills himself when the police arrive to arrest him. He chooses to die instead of confessing his crime and going to prison. Mabel and Dancy have been married only for a few months and this tragedy unfolds. Dancy's death leaves Mabel in a very awkward position. After his death, Mabel is left to the mercy of Major Colford, Dancy's brother. She will be taunted by people who disliked Dancy and more so because he was a thief.



#### **Question 4.**

- i. Winsor and De Levis are in the dressing room of Charles Winsor. He is the owner of Meldon Court.
- ii. Lady Adela is the wife of Charles Winsor. She has been instructed to call Margaret and the Dancys, who are living at the manor as guests.
- iii. Treisure, the butler of the manor, enters after sometime. Winsor asks him who valets De Levis, when he was up last, when did he go to bed and whether he was trustworthy.
- iv. Treisure suggests that the place should be cordoned off. No one should be allowed to move out of the house. A complete search should be conducted. Winsor refuses to suspect anyone as he doesn't want to insult his guests.
- v. De Levis suspects Ronny Dancy, an ex-army man and his guest at the manor. He has pulled off a tenner from De Levis by jumping on to a narrow bookcase four feet high and balance there. De Levis thinks that Dancy can easily make a seven feet jump between the two balconies of their rooms. According to De Levis, Dancy came up, watched him go to the bathroom, tried his door, slipped back into the dressing room, saw his window was open, took that jump stole the notes, filled the case up, crushed the creeper outside, jumped back, and slipped downstairs again. He added that all this wouldn't have taken Dancy more than four minutes.

#### **SECTION B – POETRY**

##### ***A Collection of Poems***

#### **Question 5.**

- i. The poet tells his readers that he has eleven grandchildren. During his time, a married couple would have many children, and it was possible to have several grandchildren. Nowadays, families don't have more than two children and hence, it is unbelievable that he has eleven grandchildren.
- ii. It is not clearly mentioned that the poet dislikes family planning. However, the satire in his words suggests that he is not comfortable with families deciding to have only a single child or maximum two children.
- iii. The poet says that one of his sons is a Sales Manager, another is a Bank Manager while the third one, the black sheep of the family isn't doing as good as the other two

sons. This shows that for an average Indian parent, all that matters is that their children earn money doing well in the conventional fields.

- iv. After the poet has given details about his sons, he simply says that his two daughters are married and that their husbands are 'nice boys'. He doesn't give any details about the daughters apart from their marital status. This hints that it doesn't matter whether a girl is doing professionally well as long as she is married and her husband is a good man.
- v. The professor says that the world is changing and that we have to change with the times. He says that change is unavoidable. He further adds that as new values are being adapted, old values are vanishing.

#### **Question 6.**

- i. The rhyme scheme of the poem is abcbdb.
- ii. In the given stanza, the ornaments made by the goldsmiths are a pleasure to the eyes and the tinkling anklets and bells are music to the ears.
- iii. The bells for the pigeons are compared to the wings to a dragon fly.
- iv. Golden girdles are made for the dancers while the goldsmiths make gold scabbards for the king.
- v. The poet uses repetition to ask questions to the merchants selling their wares in the market. The phrase 'What do you' has been repeated at the beginning of each stanza. Examples of simile from the poem are 'frail as a dragonfly's wing', where the bells for the blue pigeon' feet are described to be as delicate as the wings of the dragonfly. There are instances of climax in the lines: What do you grind, O ye maidens? Sandalwood, henna, and spice.

### **SECTION C – PROSE** ***Collection of Short Stories***

#### **Question 7**

[4]

- i. The beautiful creature of metallic scales is a cobra snake. As soon as Sher Singh stepped close to it, it swayed, subsided, and slid into the matted grass without harming the boy.

- ii. Sher Singh was heading towards the hospital at Kalaghat. His little brother was seriously ill, and he wanted to cross the two rivers so that he could get a lift to the hospital.
- iii. As night fell, Sher Singh could see bear tracks in the dust. He could make out the square front paw and the long back one. This made him uncomfortable as he had once seen a man who had been mauled by a bear.
- iv. Sher Singh's mother had to stay behind to look after the house, mind the cattle and work the land. Without all this, they would all starve.
- v. Luxuriant bamboos sprang fast from its nodules; impenetrable thorn thickets fought for air and undergrowth and scrub and grass. This made it difficult for Sher Singh to walk. There were many animals such as monkeys, raucous peacocks, tigers, panthers, bears and elephants. The beasts of prey posed more danger to humans and to domestic animals now than before because the deer were now so poached and decimated.

### **Question 8.**

In the short story named *The Bet* by Anton Chekov, we read about a rather strange bet between a banker and a young man. The banker wagers two million on a condition that the young man spends fifteen years of his life in solitary confinement. It is decided that the young man should spend the years of his captivity under the strictest supervision in one of the lodges in the banker's garden. It is agreed that for fifteen years he should not cross the threshold of the lodge, see human beings, hear the human voice, or receive letters and newspapers.

For the first year of his confinement, the prisoner suffered severely from loneliness and depression, as expressed in his notes. He refused wine and tobacco. The books that he chose to read were of a light character; novels with a complicated love plot, sensational and fantastic stories, and so on.

In the second year, there was no sound of the piano and the prisoner read only classics. In his fifth year of confinement, the prisoner played the piano again and asked for wine. People who watched him said that he did nothing except eating and drinking all through the year. He would lie on his bed frequently yawning and angrily talking to himself. He did not read books. Sometimes at night he would sit down to write; he would spend hours writing, and in the morning tear up all that he had written. More than once he could be heard crying.

studied languages, philosophy, and history. In the course of four years some six hundred volumes were procured by the banker at the prisoner's request.

The prisoner learned six languages and even asked the banker to get his knowledge tested by other people. After ten years of imprisonment, he sat still at the table and read nothing but the Gospel, followed by Theology, and histories of religion.

In the last two years of his confinement, the prisoner sought to indiscriminate reading. He read natural sciences, Byron, Shakespeare, chemistry, manual of medicine, a novel, a treatise on philosophy and theology.

At the end of the fifteen year period, the banker was quite reluctant to pay the man the amount that was promised. When he unlocked the lodge door where the prisoner was kept, he was almost thinking of killing the man so that he wouldn't have to pay the two million. However, when he saw the man, he felt sorry for him. The prisoner had turned into a mere skeleton with skin drawn tightly over his bones. His hair was already streaked with silver, and seeing his emaciated, aged-looking face, no one would have believed that he was only forty. He had left a note for the banker which said that he was renouncing the two million as after years of reading he had come to despise freedom and life and health, and all that was called the good things of the world in the books. He would get out of the lodge five hours before the time fixed to finish the bet so that he wouldn't be eligible to receive the money.

The banker didn't have to pay the young man, now old and haggard, any money. He took from the table the writing in which the millions were renounced and locked it up in the fireproof safe to avoid arousing unnecessary talk. As for the man who lived in the lodge for fifteen years, he climbed out of the window into the garden towards the gate, and disappeared.

### ***Animal Farm: George Orwell***

#### **Question 9.**

- i. Clover was terrified to see Squealer walking on his hind legs with a whip in his trotter.
- ii. The sheep burst out bleating 'Four legs good, two legs better!' as they followed the pigs who were walking on hind legs.
- iii. Benjamin and Clover could see only one commandment on the wall and it read: All animals are equal but some animals are more equal than others.

- iv. Mr. Pilkington, of Foxwood, along with a few other neighbouring farmers, had been invited to the farm for an inspection.
- v. One of the commandments of the Animal Farm read 'Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy'. However, the pigs were seen trotting on two legs and carrying a whip in their hands. In the beginning the animals had destroyed all possible traces of Mr Jones' reigns on the farm. But now, the pigs themselves were carrying whips and wearing clothes.

### **Question 10.**

After the animals successfully carry out the Rebellion against Mr Jones, they become the sole owners of a farm that is devoid of human owners in the whole of England. The Manor Farm is renamed as Animal Farm. All the things that are reminiscent of humans are destroyed or discarded. The harness-room at the end of the stables is broken open. The bits, the nose-rings, the dog-chains, the knives which Mr. Jones used to castrate the pigs and lambs, are all flung down the well. The reins, the halters, the blinkers, the degrading nosebags, were thrown on to the rubbish fire which was burning in the yard. When the animals saw the whips going up in flames, they capered with joy.

Snowball threw on to the fire the ribbons with which the horses' manes and tails had usually been decorated on market days. According to him, ribbons were to be considered as clothes, which were a mark of human beings. All animals are asked to go naked. After this, Napoleon took the animals to the store-shed and handed out a double ration of corn to everybody, with two biscuits for each dog. It was decided that the farmhouse where the Jones lived would be preserved as a museum and that no animal would ever live there.

Snowball and Napoleon had managed to reduce the principals of Animalism into Seven Commandments which ran thus: **1.** Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy. **2.** Whatever goes upon four legs, or has wings, is a friend. **3.** No animal shall wear clothes. **4.** No animal shall sleep in a bed. **5.** No animal shall drink alcohol. **6.** No animal shall kill any other animal. **7.** All animals are equal.

As the story progresses, one can see that the commandments are bent as per the convenience of the pigs. All the milk is mixed with the pigs mash because the pigs, who are the brainworkers, need nutrition so that they can watch over the welfare of the animals. The pigs tell the other animals that if they do not consume the milk and the apples, their brains wouldn't function well and Jones would come back. This incident contradicts the last commandment that all animals are equal. In addition, after Snowball was ousted from the farm, the dogs wagged their tails to Napoleon in the same way as the other dogs had been used to do to Mr. Jones.

Although the fourth commandment prohibited the animals from sleeping in bed, the pigs suddenly moved into the farmhouse and took up their residence there. They used the kitchen to have meals, the drawing room as for recreation, and the beds to sleep. Much to the animals' surprise, the fourth commandment had been modified to 'No animal shall sleep in a bed *with sheets*.' For this, Squealer reasoned that it was necessary for the brains of the farm to have a quieter place to work in and that the Leader (Napoleon) should not live in a sty but in a more suitable place. In addition, he again threatened the animals that if the pigs failed in performing their duty, Jones would come back and ruin their lives.

In the seventh chapter, some animals are killed by Napoleon's dogs as it is revealed that they have been conspiring with Snowball to ruin the farm. Four pigs, three hens, a goose and three sheep were killed after being declared as traitors. A few days later the animals remembered how the sixth commandment 'No animal shall kill any other animal' had been violated but no one really had the courage to question Napoleon's decision. When Clover and Benjamin went to the wall to read the sixth commandment, it then read "No animal shall kill any other animal *without cause*."

At the end of the novel, we see a great deal of discrimination between the pigs and the other animals. It was decided that all the barley would be reserved for the pigs. Every pig was receiving a ration of a pint of beer daily, with half a gallon for Napoleon himself. This contradicted the fifth commandment 'No animal shall drink alcohol'.

Years passed by and it was evident that the farm had grown richer without making the animals richer except of course, the pigs and the dogs. On one such day, Clover was horrified to see Squealer walking on his hind legs, violating the very first commandment 'Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy'. He was carrying a whip in his trotter, bringing back memories of how Mr Jones used 'tools' to get work done. Following him, there were sheep bleating 'Four legs good, two legs better!'

Finally, the wall had only one commandment which read 'All animals are equal but some animals are more equal than others'. The pigs henceforth used whips in their trotters to supervise the work on the farm. Although Mr Jones died an alcoholic in another part of the country, Mr. Pilkington was invited to the farm for an inspection and it was decided among the pigs and the humans that both the parties would work together. Animal Farm was renamed as Manor Farm, and the animals could no longer distinguish between the pigs and the humans anymore.

### ***To Sir, With Love: E.R. Braithwaite***

#### **Question 11.**

- i. Denham is a student of Greenslade School which Braithwaite has just joined. The incident takes place in the school gym during the PT period.

- ii. When they begin to box, the narrator realizes that Denham is really good at boxing and quick on his feet. He tries to defend himself by dodging in order to try avoiding his blows. He also tries to parry and side step so that he doesn't injure the boy.
- iii. Mr Bell was a stickler for perfection and particularly hard on Richard Buckley, a short, fat, and the least athletic boy. Noticing his absence during the PT session with vaulting horse, he advanced towards the boy menacingly. Out of fear, the boy threw himself on the buck and both came crashing down. He lay pale and immobile while the rest of the boys rushed to help him. Potter broke a metal bound leg of the buck and advanced toward Bell screaming and swearing. Luckily, Braithwaite walked into the room and distracted Potter and took the club from him.
- iv. Mr Florian is the Headmaster of Greenslade Secondary School. He is well-dressed, short and a little hunch backed. His head is large for his small body frame and covered with curly white hair. Although his face is thin and tanned, it is youthful with high cheekbones, a hooked nose and a full mouth. His large, brown eyes are filled with excitement and wonder.
- v. Mr Florian tells the author that the children in the school are understood to be difficult as some students from the junior classes are deviant in their behaviour. He is against giving corporal punishment to these students. Poverty and environment have made them face a great deal of stress and pressure affect their physically and emotionally. He expects the teachers to understand and support them. Even if they are rude and have bad habits, they should be treated with love and affection. He wants the teachers to guide the students such that they acquire confidence. They should be encouraged to speak for themselves and should have disciplined freedom.

## **Question 12.**

One day Headmaster Florian called Braithwaite to his office and informed him that Patrick Fernman had been arrested by the police the previous night on a charge of wounding another boy named Bobby Ellis with a flick knife during a scuffle. Fernman was on remand and would remain in custody until he was brought before the Magistrates at the Juvenile Court.

Patrick was a well behaved boy and couldn't have hurt someone. When Braithwaite prepared a report to be presented to the court, it stated that the wounded youth, Bobby Ellis, was a rugged thirteen-year-old who was a bully and a badly behaved boy. When he went home to meet the Fernmans, he came to know about the whole story behind the attack. The flick-knife was Grandma Fernman's prized possession. She used it to cut away tiny shreds of knotted silk during her weaving. It was Patrick's job to get it sharpened from

a barber at Shadwell. On one such occasion, Patrick was taking it to the barber in a velvet-lined case. He came across Bobby and unwisely showed him the knife in the box. Bobby tried to touch it and Patrick refused to allow him to do so. The bully that Bobby was, he tried to take the knife by force and an argument followed, which led to the box smashing. Patrick tried to seize the knife and hurt Bobby, injuring his hand in the process.

Braithwaite wanted to attend the Juvenile Court proceedings to see and hear how the Law dealt with young offenders. He also wanted to check how these offenders behaved when faced with trial.

Three charges were made against Patrick: 1. Being in possession of an offensive weapon, to wit an eight-inch knife. 2. Wounding in intent to commit bodily harm. 3. Malicious wounding.

It was further revealed that Patrick had no previous record of any trouble with Patrick whereas Bobby had appeared in the court last month as he had burnt his mother with a hot poker. Bobby was under supervision for one calendar year. The Chairman explained Frenman how serious his offence was and how close it was to murder. However, the proceedings concluding that Patrick hadn't armed himself with a weapon to hurt Bobby but was simply on an errand to sharpen it as told by his grandma. Greenslade Secondary School was also asked to be more responsible for the education and development of young minds. Schools couldn't escape the final responsibility of their students.

The Chairman finally softened on Patrick since it was evident from his face that he was ashamed of putting his family in such an awkward position. However, he would be one year of probation and that would need him to report to a probation officer weekly once for a year. He was free to go with his parents.