



A. Drama.

(Answer only one question)

1. Explain the function of the mechanicals drama in 'A Mid Summer Night's Dream'.
2. How far do the mechanicals and fairies support the theme of the drama 'A Mid Summer Night's Dream'?

B. (Answer only one question)

1. " 'House of Bernada Alba' is only an act of frustrated women." Discuss this statement.
2. 'House of Bernada Alba' employs many symbols. Write a note on them.

C. Short Stories. (Answer only one question)

- (1) How suitable is the title 'A Temporary Matter' to its content?
- (2) What are the themes discussed in 'Action and Reaction'?
- (3) How does the short story 'The Professional Mourners' appeal to the modern reader?
- (4) Write a note on symbolism of 'The Boarding House'.
- (5) " 'Hills Like White Elephants', follows the iceberg theory." Discuss the statement.

D. Poetry. (Answer only one question)

- (1) "Feminine Poets seems frustrated about life", Discuss this statement in relation to the poems you have learnt.
- (2) " 'A Far Cry from Africa' discusses the conflicts of one's birth and the racial war". Discuss how Derek Walcott brings out the internal and external conflict of the racial hybridity.

(3) 'The Night of the Scorpion'. Is this statement fair?

(17x4 = 68 marks)

II

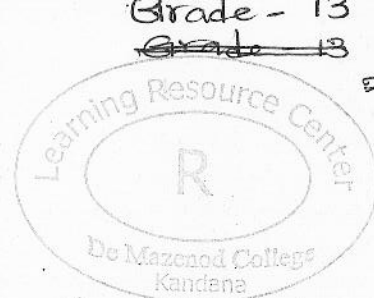
2. Refer contextually to the following extracts.
(Only for 4 extracts)

- (a) "...and she thought of some mothers who could not get their daughters off their hands."
- (b) What objects are the fountains of thy happy strain?
- (c) And he will not go behind his father's saying
And he likes having thought of it so well.
- (d) Smiling they wrote his lie : aged nineteen years.
- (e) Now, when alone, do my thoughts no longer hover....
- (f) walking thoughtfully from window to the fire, from the fire to window, that she received warmth from one, or discerning objects from the other

(8x4 = 32 marks)

PREPARATION EXAMINATION 2016
ENGLISH LITERATURE

PAPER II - 2hrs.



Read the poem below and answer the questions.

A. (1)

THE CAMBRIDGE LADIES

the Cambridge ladies who live in furnished souls
are unbeautiful and have comfortable minds
(also, with the church's protestant blessings
daughters, unscented shapeless spirited)
Line (5) they believe in Christ and Longfellow, both dead,
are invariably interested in so many things—
at the present writing one still finds
delighted fingers knitting for the is it Poles?
perhaps. While permanent faces coyly bandy
(10) scandal of Mrs. N and Professor D
... the Cambridge ladies do not care, above
Cambridge if sometimes in its box of
sky lavender and cornerless, the
moon rattles like a fragment of angry candy

(1923)

E. E. Cummings

- (1) Which phrase says that the women are not genuine? 5
- (2) Whom do you think Longfellow is?
- (3) What is it like the connection between Mrs. N and professor D? 5
- (4) List up 4 ill qualities of the ladies whom the poet talks about? 5
- (5) What can you gather about the Christian faith of the ladies? 5
- (6) Write what is meant by each of these phrases:
 - (i) they believe in christ and Longfellow, both dead. - 5
 - (ii) unscented shapeless spirits. - 5
 - (iii) Scandal of Mrs. N and Professor D -

2. Read the following passage and answer the questions.

In a tiny bar in the back streets of Georgetown four of us sat round a table, sipping rum and ginger beer and pondering a problem. Spread on the table in front of us was a large map of Guiana, and occasionally one of us would lean forward and peer at it, frowning fiercely. Our problem was to choose a place, out of all the fascinating names on the map, to serve as a base for our first animal-collecting trip to the interior. For two hours we had been trying to make up our minds, and we still had not found a solution. I stared at the map, tracing the course of the rivers and mountains, gloating over such wonderful names as Pomeoan Mazaruni, Kanuku, Berbice, and Essequibo.

"What about New Amsterdam?" asked Smith, choosing the one really commonplace name on the map.

I shuddered, Bob shook his head, and Ivan looked blank.

"Well, then, what about the Mazaruni?"

"Flooded," said Bob concisely.

"Guiana," I quoted ecstatically from a guide book, "is an Amerindian word meaning Land of Water."

"There must be *somewhere* you can go," said Smith in exasperation; "we've been sitting here for hours; for goodness' sake make up your minds, and let's get to bed."

I looked at Ivan; for the last hour he had apparently been in a trance, and had made no suggestions.

"What do you think, Ivan?" I asked him. "After all, you were born here, so you ought to know the best place to get specimens."

Ivan awoke from his trance, and a worried expression spread across his face, making him look like a St Bernard that had mislaid its barrel.

"Well, sir," he began, in his incredibly cultured voice. "I think you'd do well if you went to Adventure."

"Where?" asked Bob and I in unison.

"Adventure, sir," he stabbed at the map; "it's a small village just here, near the mouth of the Essequibo." I looked at Smith.

"We're going to Adventure," I said firmly. "I must go to a place with a name like that."

"Good!" said my partner. "Now that's settled can we go to bed?"

"He has no soul," said Bob sorrowfully; "the word Adventure means nothing to him."

To get to this village with the provocative name proved easier than I had anticipated. It transpired that all we had to do was to go down to the quay in Georgetown and ask for a ticket. It struck me as a trifle incongruous, even in these modern days to be able to ask for a ticket to Adventure and, moreover, to start one's journey there on a large and ugly ferryboat. I felt that we should have set off in canoes paddled by fierce-looking warriors.

However, bright and early one morning a taxi deposited Bob, Ivan, myself, and our odd assortment of luggage on the quay. Leaving my companions to argue with the driver over the correct fare, I walked up to the booking-office and uttered the magic words.

"Three singles to Adventure, please," I said, trying to look as nonchalant as possible.

"Yes, sir," said the clerk. "First or second class?"

This was almost too much for me; it was bad enough. I felt to be able to ask for tickets to Adventure, but when it came down to a question of first or second class I began to wonder if the place was worth going to. We would probably find it was a thriving seaside resort, with cinemas, snack-bars, neon lights and other doubtful privileges of civilization. Turning round, I saw Ivan staggering along under a great load of our possessions, and I called him over to settle this apparently delicate question of class. He explained that if one travelled second class one was herded somewhere down in the bilges of the ferry and, later on, in the bilges of the river steamer. A first-class ticket, however, gave you the privilege of sitting on a dilapidated deck-chair on the top deck of the ferry, and on the river steamer you could even get lunch. So I purchased three first-class single tickets to Adventure.

- (1) Why did they finally decide to travel 'into interiors' through Adventure? 4
- (2) Is the writer in a serious tone when he writes this or you feel otherwise? Give reasons for your answer? 5
- (3) What sort of a person you think Smith is? Give reasons for your answer. 5
- (4) Why did he feel "almost too much" to be asked if he wanted first class or second class tickets? 5

c. Summarise this passage to one third of it.
The passage has 258 words.

International travel in the eighties can be simple. Maybe too simple. The traveller can have every minute of his or her itinerary planned so that the actual travel experience is reduced to being whisked from taxi to airport to shuttle to hotel to tour bus and on and on until, without a hair out of place, the traveller is deposited back at his or her home doorstep.

International travel is in this manner easy, fast, sleek and efficient. But fast, sleek and efficient can also mean drab, impersonal and unfulfilling. The depersonalization of travel — an often intense interpersonal experience — makes us forget that international travellers are actually unofficial emissaries and peace-keepers of the strongest sort. As the world gets smaller by virtue of faster, more efficient transport and communication, all countries come closer together and their inhabitants become neighbours.

In that sense, tourism is a neighbourly act: friendly and personal, people to people. Thus it is important that travellers take their emissary roles seriously. Not that one shouldn't have fun while on holiday, but consider also your duty (and a pleasant duty it is!) as a visitor from one nation to another. Take time to contemplate the richness of the culture as you look upon the temples, the palaces and the peoples, so that you may gain perspective on the planet's incredible diversity of peoples. It's not a great task, but an important one. Even within the confines of a hectic holiday schedule there is time for contemplation. But sometimes we need help in finding it.

(18 marks)

$$\frac{\square}{70} \times 100 = \square$$