

Assignment 1 :

English Literature - 73

Grade - 12 -

2020 March/ April

1. Write an essay on one of the following topics, paying attention to relevant facts and supporting evidence, structure and organization, a coherent argument and accurate language and expression.

(30 marks)

- a) Challenges for humans in this century.
- b) Role of youth in the society
- c) If the world ends within 24 hours.....

2. Using your own words as far as possible, write a précis of the following passage in approximately 110 words. Supply a title. Divide your paper into 5 columns and number the lines. At the end of your précis, state the number of words you have used.

For most of us, television provides a timeless “eye on the world” through which we can see current and past happenings, people, places and even physical events we could not otherwise experience. We are exposed to lifestyles very different from our own – that of the millionaire, the drug addict, the prostitute or the religious missionary. We are being exposed to comedies, soap operas, and crime adventure programs, marital quarrels, medical consultation and financial hassles. Our TV brings into our living room individuals who, over a time, become so familiar that we just know how they would handle certain situations. Overall, TV appears to be a somewhat dramatized, but accurate representation of the non-TV world. However, like a fun-house mirror, while television actually reflects characteristics which are real, it distorts them.

For most of us, the TV world becomes our world three or four hours each day, seven days a week, throughout most of our lives. Further, the television world appears to be so realistic that we passively accept the people and situations presented and rarely question them. What exactly do we expect that could have negative effects on us?

Any society, including the one portrayed on television, has informal social rules suggesting how males and females of various ages, racial/ethnic groups and social classes should live. The rules indicate how we should act, who we should socialize with, how we should support ourselves, and generally how much wealth, status, and happiness we should have, in the real world, there is flexibility in these rules, with a variety of lifestyles and behaviours available to individuals. However the TV producer condenses these rules, projecting a simpler picture of society in an attempt to reach and extremely diverse audience. Producers feel the characters and stories must be instantly recognizable and believable to the businessman, the farmer, the housewife, the college professor. This is most easily accomplished by exaggerating the more commonly accepted social rules. The result is a rigid

and distorted image and research tells us that the distortions influence how we feel about non-TV people and what we expect from them.

These subtle influences have caused much public concern. Parents, educationists and special interest groups are becoming more conscious of how TV projects informal rules for males and females of various ages, racial/ethnic groups and social classes. While television is by no means the only influence on attitudes and expectations of people, its potential effect is considerable. It becomes important to ask: how accurate is the barrage of information we are exposed to daily?

3. Read the passage given and answer the questions,

She would not cry many tears at leaving the Stores. But in, her new home, in a distant unknown country, it would not be like that. Then she would be married- she, Eveline. People would treat her with respect then. She would not be treated as her mother had been. Even now, though she

was over nineteen, she sometimes felt herself in danger of her father's violence. She knew it was that that had given her the palpitations. When they were growing up he had never gone for her, like he used to go for Harry and Ernest, because she was a girl; but latterly he had begun to threaten her and say what he would do to her only for her dead mother's sake. And now she had nobody to protect her, 'Ernest was', dead and Harry, who was in, the church decorating business, was nearly always down somewhere in the country. Besides, the invariable squabble for money on Saturday nights had begun to weary her unspeakably. She always gave her entire wages- seven shillings- and Harry always sent up what he could. But the trouble was to get any money from her father. He said she used to, squander the money, that she had no head, that he wasn't going to give her his hard-earned money, to throw about the streets, and much more; for he was usually fairly bad on 'Saturday night. In the end he would give her the money and ask her had she any intention of buying Sunday's dinner, Then she had to rush out as quickly as she could and do her marketing, holding her black leather purse tightly in her hand as she elbowed her way through the crowds and returning home late under her load of provisions. She had hard work to keep the house together and to see that the two young children who, had been left to her charge went to school regularly, and got their meals regularly. It was hard work-a hard life-but now that she was about to leave it she did not find it a wholly undesirable life.

1. Why did Eveline yearn for respect? How is she going to gain it?
2. State the relationship between Eveline, her father and other siblings.
3. Would you think her father acted as a responsible father? Why did he accuse the daughter?
4. What's the role played by Eveline? What can you comment on her decisive circumstances'?
5. Explain in your own words "She was about to leave it, she did. not find it a wholly undesirable life"

(4x5=20 marks)

4. Read the following poem and answer the questions given below it, using your own words as far as possible. (20 marks)

Madam and Her Madam

I worked for a woman
She wasn't mean
But she had a twelve-room
House to clean.

Had to get breakfast,
Dinner, and supper, too
Then take care of her children
When I got through

Wash, iron, and scrub
Walk the dog around
It was too much,
Nearly broke me down.

I said, Madam,
Can it be
You trying to make a
Pack-horse out of me?

She opened her mouth.
She cried, Oh, no!
You know, Alberta,
I love you so!

I said, Madam,
That may be true
But I'll be dogged
If I love you!

(a) Who is the speaker of the poem and how would you describe her character? (04 marks)

(b) Would you agree that the woman mentioned in the first line is not really "mean"?

Give reasons for your answer. (04 marks)

(c) How does the poet use language to indicate the class positions of the two characters? (04 marks)

(d) Is the title meaningful? How would you explain it? (04 marks)

(e) Does the poem appeal to you? Give reasons for your answer. (04 marks)