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S.K.S.S ARTS COLLEGE, THIRUPPANANDAL - 612504



QUESTION BANK

Title of the Paper

ONE ACT PLAYS

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Course: II B.A (ENGLISH)

Prepared by

Ms G.CHITRAISELVI M.A., B.Ed.,
Assistant Professor
Department of English

Bharathidasan University – Syllabus

SEMESTER – III

II B.A ENGLISH

ONE – ACT PLAYS

UNIT – I (BRITISH)

1. Riders to the Sea – J.M. Synge

UNIT – II (RUSSIAN)

2. The Swan Song – Anton Chekhov

UNIT – III (AMERICAN)

3. Lord Byron's Love Letter

UNIT – IV (INDIAN)

4. The Refugee - Asif Currimbhoy

UNIT – V (AFRICAN)

5. The Trick – Erisa Kironde



UNIT – I

Choose the Correct Answer

1. 'Riders to the Sea' is written by ----- .

- a) Osborne
- b) Synge
- c) Jonson
- d) Shaw

2. The bundle contains the clothes of ----- .

- a) Michael
- b) Bartley
- c) the Young Priest
- d) Eamon

3. Bartley is the ----- surviving son in the family.

- a) first
- b) eldest
- c) second
- d) last

4. The stick has been brought from Connemara by ----- .

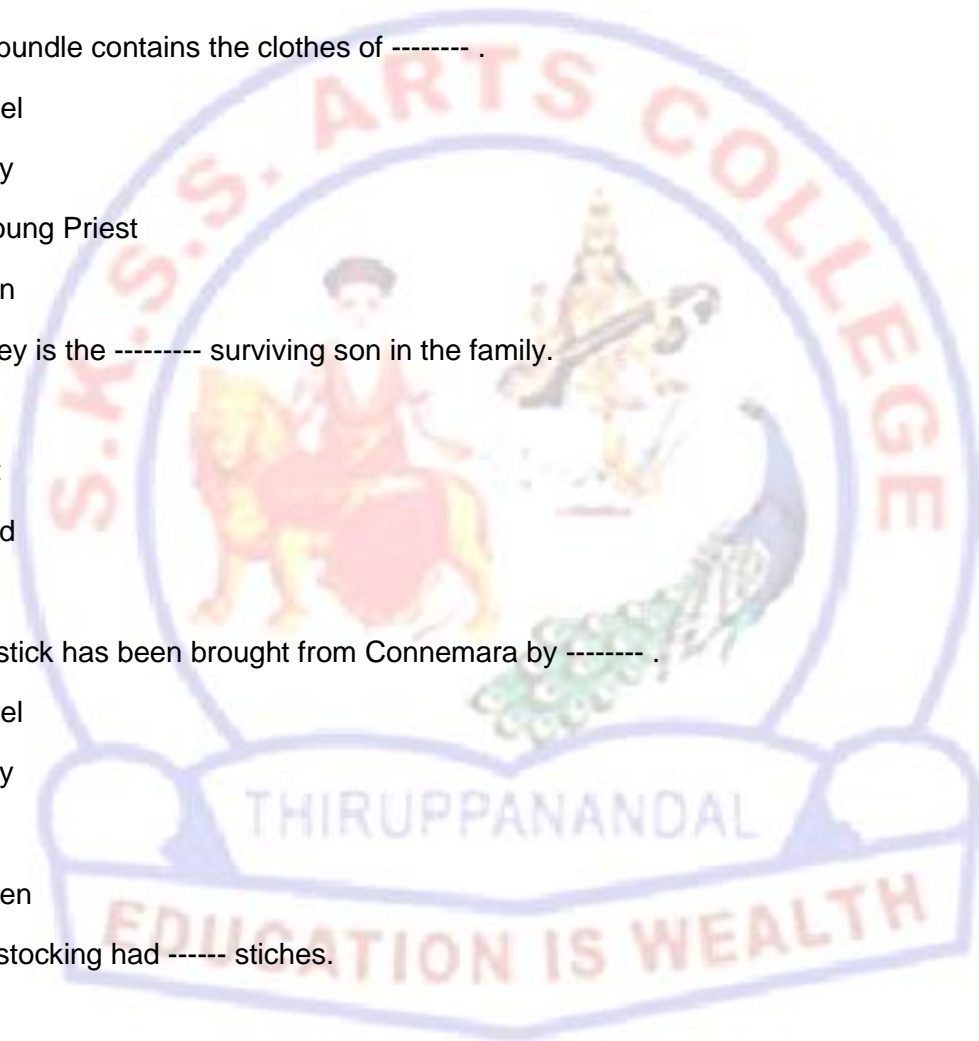
- a) Michael
- b) Bartley
- c) Patch
- d) Stephen

5. The stocking had ----- stitches.

- a) 50
- b) 48
- c) 56
- d) 67

6. She accepts her fate ----- .

- a) calmly
- b) happily
- c) noisily



d) lamenting

7. Death comes to ----- .

a) some one

b) every one

c) rich

d) old

8. 'Riders to the Sea' is a ----- .

a) comedy

b) tragedy

c) discussion drama

d) tragic comedy

9. Michael had been drowned in the sea -----.

a) 7 days back

b) 6 days back

c) 9 days back

d) 15 days back

10. 'The Riders to the Sea' is a play in ----- .

a) one – act

b) three – acts

c) two – acts

d) five – acts

Answer 1. b 2. a 3. d 4. a 5. c 6. a 7. b 8. b 9. c 10. a

Short Answer Questions (2 Marks)

1. Who is Maurya in 'Riders to the Sea' ?

2. What does Bartley want to do with the rope?

3. Who are the choral figures in the play?

4. What are the symbols in the play 'Riders to the Sea'?

5. How do the sisters identify the drowned man as Michael?

6. Why was Bartley going to the fair?

7. Why did Maurya want Bartley at home?

8. What did the young Priest give to Cathleen?

9. Why did J.M. Synge drop the idea of learning music in Germany?
10. When was the play 'Riders to the Sea' first published?

Paragraph Questions (5 Marks)

1. Write about the conflict in the play 'Riders to the Sea'?
2. What is the idea of tragedy in 'Riders to the Sea'?
3. How is tragedy caused in Shakespearean dramas?
4. How is Nature treated in Synge's play?
5. Write about the qualities of Maurya's character.
6. Write about the part played by Bartley.
7. Sketch the character of Cathleen.
8. How does Synge use the Anglo – Irish language?
9. Sketch the character of Michael.
10. What is the role of the sea in the play 'Riders to the Sea' .

Essay Questions (10 Marks)

1. Show the play 'Riders to the Sea' as a tragedy.
2. Show how 'Riders to the Sea' fulfills the essential features of one act play.
3. Give an estimate of Synge as a dramatist.
4. Write an essay on the Supernatural element in the play 'Riders to the Sea'.
5. Comment on the title 'Riders to the Sea'.
6. Write an essay about the treatment of three unities in the play 'Riders to the Sea'.
7. What impression have you formed of the character of Maurya?
8. Write about the character of Cathleen, Nora and Bartley.
9. Write an essay critical appreciation of the play 'Riders to the Sea'.
10. Bring out the symbolism in the play 'Riders to the Sea'.

UNIT – II

Choose the Correct Answer

1. Anton Chekov is a ----- dramatist.

- a) English
- b) American
- c) Russian
- d) French

2. Merry Andrew is a title for a ----- .

- a) tragedian
- b) comedian
- c) actor
- d) villain

3. "The Swan song" was written in ----- .

- a) 1887
- b) 1888
- c) 1889
- d) 1890

4. At the age of 68 people go to ----- .

- a) church
- b) temple
- c) mosque
- d) pilgrimage

5. The old Clown refers to ----- .

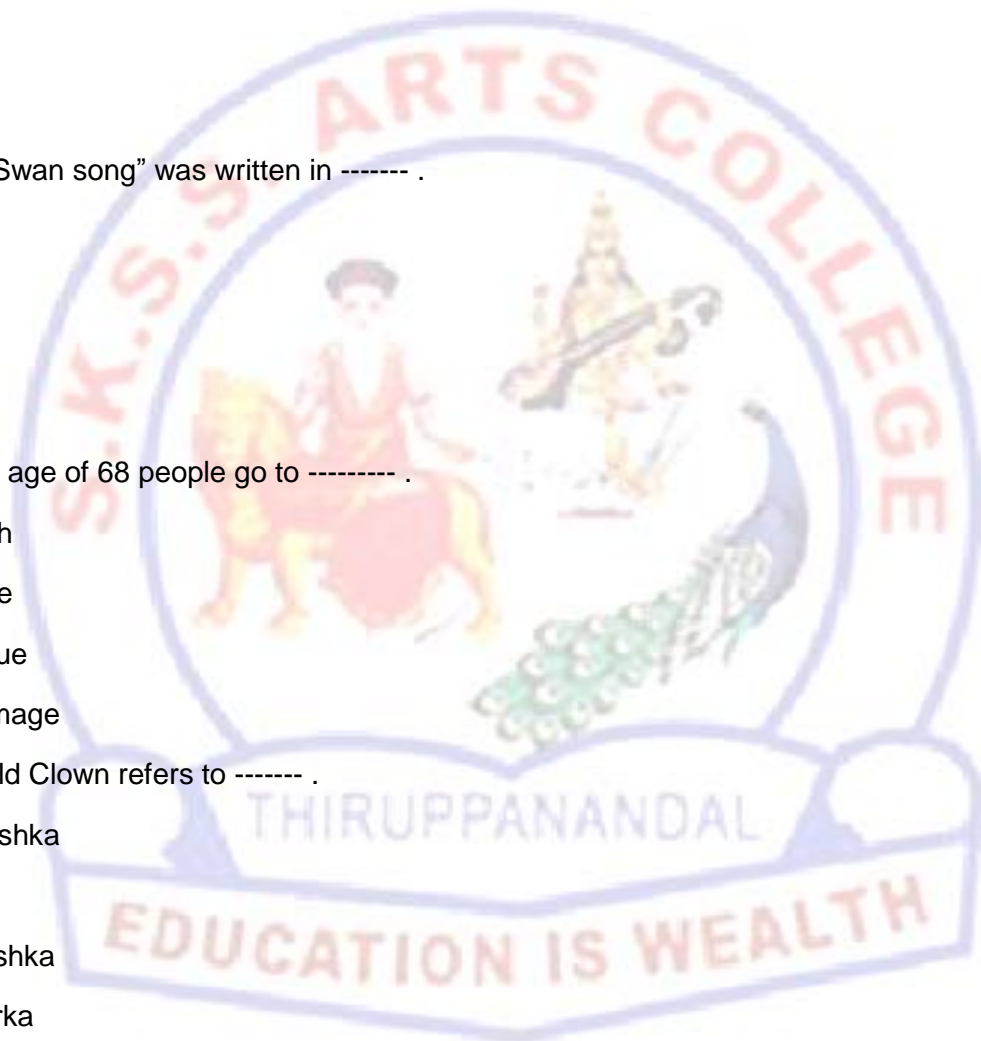
- a) Nikitushka
- b) Vasili
- c) Petrushka
- d) Yogarka

6. Ivanitch is a ----- .

- a) actor
- b) servant
- c) prompter
- d) manager

7. The empty stage represents a great ----- .

- a) truth



- b) value
- c) absurdity
- d) symbol

8. Svietlovidoff is ----- years old.

- a) 62
- b) 64
- c) 66
- d) 68

9. Nikita Ivanitch is an old ----- of Svietlovidoff.

- a) Friend
- b) neighbour
- c) prompter
- d) co – actor.

10. 'Swan Song' represents Svietlovidoff's ----- on the stage.

- a) Dance performance
- b) first performance
- c) last performance
- d) climax performance

Answer: 1. c 2. b 3. a 4. a 5. b 6. c 7. c 8. d 9. c 10. c

Short Answer Questions (2 Marks)

1. When did the audience greet and praise Vasili?
2. Who is the main character in " The Swan Song"?
3. What did Petrushka and Yegorka do?
4. How does Vasili describe himself in his last speech?
5. What makes Svietlovidoff think that he should give up drinking?
6. How does Vasili describe Ivanitch in his last speech.
7. Who are Petrushka and Yegorka?
8. How many years did Svietlovidoff spend his life on stage?
9. Why does Nikita cry at the end of the play?
10. How does the society look upon Svietlovidoff?

Paragraph Questions (5 Marks)

1. How does Chekhov portray 'Retirement' in "The Swan Song"?
2. Justify "The Swan Song" as a character study of a stage actor
3. Sketch the characteristics of Svietlovidov.
4. What is the assimilation of "The Swan Song" ?
5. Describe Svietlovidoff's life as a young man as given in his own account it.
6. How does Svietlovidoff reassure himself that he is still a talented actor?
7. How did the society look upon the actor Svietlovidoff?
8. Why has Chekhov given the title 'Swan Song' for the one – act play?
9. Narrate the miserable condition of Svietlovidoff.
10. Write an account of Svietlovidoff 's failure in marriage?

Essay Questions (10 Marks)

1. Discuss the significance of the title "The Swan Song".
2. Critically analyse and assimilate "The Swan Song" .
3. Write an essay on the theme and style of Anton Chekhov.
4. Write your interpretation of "The Swan Song" .
5. What are Sivetlodoff's feelings when he looks back at his long career as an actor?
6. Sketch the character of Nikitushka .
7. How does Chekhov present his observation of the human Vanities and weakness in the play 'Swan Song'.
8. What does the empty stage in the one – act play 'Swan Song' ?
9. Write an account of the character Vasili.
10. Sketch the character of petrushka.

UNIT – III

Choose the Correct Answer

1. The Grandmother refers to the ----- .
 - a) Spinster
 - b) Matron
 - c) Old Woman

d) Lady Love

2. The Spinster is a woman of -----.

a) twenty

b) forty

c) thirty

d) Sixty

3. Panorama means ----- .

a) picture

b) scenery

c) portrait

d) painting

4. Tennessee Williams is ----- play Wright.

a) An English

b) An American

c) A Russian

d) A French

5. At the beginning of the play the Spinster is ----- .

a) eating

b) sewing

c) singing

d) dancing

6. Lord Byron swam the ----- .

a) Hellespont

b) Thames

c) Nile

d) Ohio

7. ----- drowned in a storm on the Mediterranean

a) Shelley

b) Keats

c) Yeats

d) Frost



8. The Grand - Daughter was a ----- .

- a) Mother of two Children
- b) Spinster
- c) divorcee
- d) lady just married

9. The name of the husband of the Matron was ----- .

- a) Byron
- b) Winston
- c) Williams
- d) Duncan

10. The Grand mother, while young met Lord Byron in ----- .

- a) Italy
- b) France
- c) Austria
- d) Greece

Answer : 1. c 2. b 3. b 4. b 5. b 6. a 7. a 8. b 9. b 10. d

Short Answer Questions (2 Marks)

- 1. What is Mardi Gras?
- 2. Who is the Matron?
- 3. What is the role of Winston Tutwiler?
- 4. Comment on the setting of the play.
- 5. How did the glove provide an opportunity for romance?
- 6. Whose letter is it actually?
- 7. What was the English poet doing at the ruins?
- 8. How did the old woman and her grand – daughter cheat the tourists?
- 9. Where did the old woman and her grand – daughter live?
- 10. How does the story of Byron's love letter at last crack?

Paragraph Questions (5 Marks)

- 1. How is the performance of the Spinster and the old woman Dramatic?
- 2. Comment on the content of the Journal.
- 3. What is the cause of Byron's death? Why does the old woman seclude herself?

4. How does the old woman describe the atmosphere at Acropolis?
5. Sketch the character of old woman .
6. How does the old woman describe her supposed relationship with Lord Byron?
7. What did the old woman and the Spinster tell the Matron about Byron?
8. Sketch the character of Spinster.
9. Write a short note on Matron and her husband.
10. Why do the Matron and her husband come to the house of the old woman?

Essay Questions (10 Marks)

1. Write critical appreciation of "Lord Byron's Love Letter" .
2. Narrate the story of the young Woman's meeting with Byron.
3. Write the theme of illusion in "Lord Byron's Love Letter".
4. Write about the old woman and the Spinster in "Lord Byron's Love Letter".
5. Lord Byron's Love Letter is a funny play – Discuss.
6. The play 'Lord Byron's Love Letter' is a comic presentation of human weakness. Discuss
7. Write an essay on the character of Matron.
8. Write an essay on the role of Winston Tutwiler.
9. Describe the opening scene of the 'Lord Byron's Love Letter'
10. How do the Spinster and the old woman tell the story of Byron? Why were they ' disappointed – Discuss.

UNIT – IV

Choose the Correct Answer

1. Yassin looks on ----- .
 - a) sadly
 - b) blankly
 - c) happily
 - d) angrily
2. Exodus means ----- .
 - a) removal
 - b) termination
 - c) clearance
 - d) migration

3. ----- are throwing the Pakistani Army out.

- a) Indian Army
- b) Bangladesh Army
- c) Mukti Fauj
- d) British Army

4. Sen Gupta asked Yassin to stay in his ----- .

- a) Friend's room
- b) Bed room
- c) Study room
- d) Son's room

5. The ----- employs theatrical devices like the flash back.

- a) dramatist
- b) poet
- c) scripter
- d) artist

6. Professor Mosin has found Yassin a job at the ----- .

- a) Municipal Corporation
- b) Calcutta Bank
- c) University
- d) Government Office

7. Sen Gupta knew Yassin's mother ----- well in his earlier days.

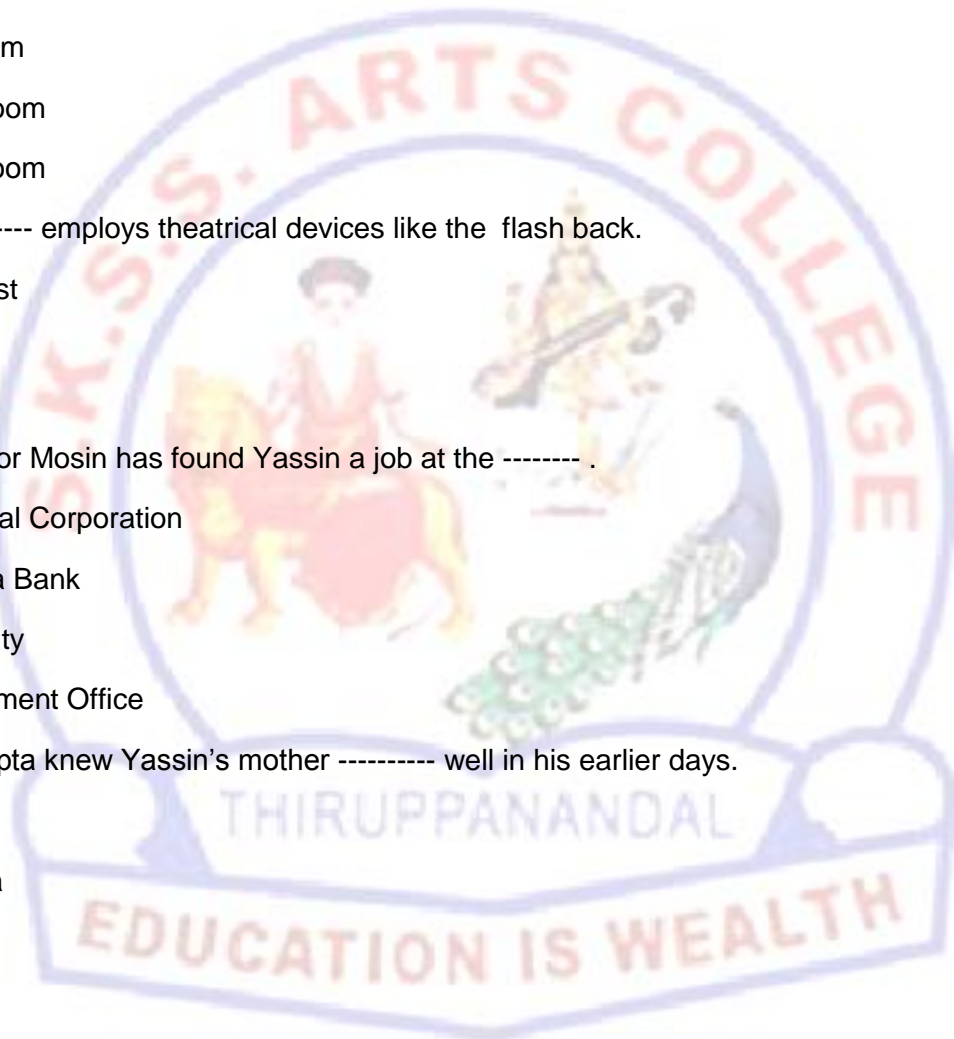
- a) Sarala
- b) Rukaiya
- c) Romila
- d) Fatima

8. Like Mita , Yassin took seeks a ----- in life.

- a) peaceful mind
- b) blissful heart
- c) moral purpose
- d) true identity

9. Mita announces that ----- has broken out in the refugee camp.

- a) Malaria



- b) Chicken – pox
- c) Cholera
- d) Viral Fever

10. The plot centres round Yassin, a young ----- from East Pakistan.

- a) Soldier
- b) Teacher
- c) Artist
- d) Refugee

Answer : 1. a 2. d 3. c 4. c 5. a 6. c 7. b 8. c 9. c 10. d

Short Answer Questions (2 Marks)

1. Name the protagonist of the play 'The Refugee'.
2. Who welcomes Yassin? Describe him.
3. What does Sen Gupta look back in nostalgia?
4. Whom does the family invite?
5. Comment upon the East and West Bengalis.
6. How does Yassin respond to Sen Gupta ?
7. What happened in the Refugee camp?
8. Why is Yassin guilty?
9. Who is an odd character?
10. Why does Mita accuse Yassin?

Paragraph Questions (5 Marks)

1. Sketch the character of Sen Gupta .
2. Write a short note on Mita.
3. Give an account of Ashok.
4. Describe the character of Prof. Mosin in the play 'The Refugee'.
5. Write a short note on Ramul.
6. Sketch the character of Sarala.
7. What do you mean by Mukti Bahini?
8. What caused the exodus of refugees in to India during 1971?
9. How do the refugees show their love to their motherland?
10. What was the social problem created by the heavy influx of Refugees?

Essay Questions (10 Marks)

1. Explain the conflicts in the play 'The Refugee'.
2. Explain the chaos in Indian society.
3. Write a note on the characterization in 'The Refugee'.
4. Justify the title of the play 'The Refugee'.
5. Write an account on Yassin's arrival in to Indian as a refugee.
6. Explain yassin's unsteady state of mind .
7. Write an account on Yassin's non – committal attitude towards refugee problem.
8. How did Yassin describe his miraculous escape from West Pakistan?
9. bring out the importance of the opening scene of 'The Refugee'.
10. Write an essay on the role of Sen Gupta and his wife.

UNIT – V

Choose the Correct Answer

1. The action of the play "The Trick" takes place in a ----- .
 - a) big house
 - b) rectangular hut
 - c) mansion
 - d) shed
2. There is a pot containing ----- near the fire place.
 - a) whisky
 - b) brandy
 - c) waragi
 - d) rum
3. ----- is the queer man in the play.
 - a) Musician
 - b) Kazungu
 - c) Kalekezi
 - d) Drummer

4. ----- is covered with a blanket.

- a) Kalekezi
- b) Musician
- c) Kamuli
- d) kazungu

5. Cassava means a ----- .

- a) tropical plant
- b) cake
- c) drink
- d) fruit

6. Kalekezi is a ----- husband.

- a) detestable
- b) kind
- c) rude
- d) loving

7. The Playwright Erisa Kironda belongs to ----- .

- a) Nigeria
- b) Uganda
- c) Liberia
- d) British

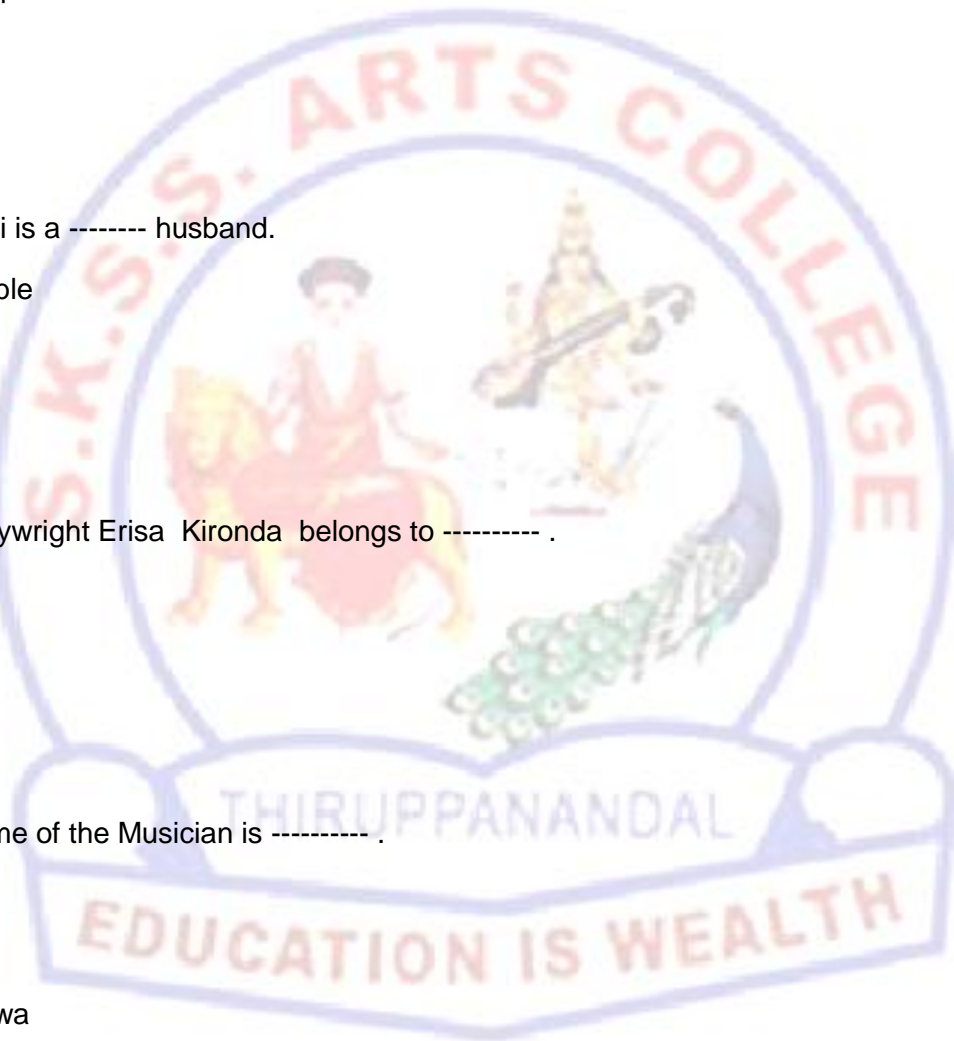
8. The name of the Musician is ----- .

- a) Mukasa
- b) Baroka
- c) Majangwa
- d) kazungu

9. At first ----- proposes to Kumuli.

- a) Kazungu
- b) Majangwa
- c) Mukasa
- d) Morodo

10. Kalekezi used to walk to Nalubabwe to sell ----- .



- a) Coffee seeds
- b) Waragi
- c) Cotton
- d) Nylon

Answer : 1. b 2. c 3. c 4. a 5. a 6. a 7. b 8. c 9. b 10. b

Short Answer Questions (2 Marks)

1. Why is the Musician never lonely or afraid?
2. What did Kalekezi moan that morning?
3. From where does the Musician come? How?
4. Why does Kamuli go out to see Kazungu?
5. What did the old man ask for?
6. How did Kalekezi smell according to the Musician?
7. When does Kazungu want to move in with Kamuli?
8. Why does Kamuli decide to go with the Musician?
9. How much money does Kamuli count from her wallet?
10. What is the reason for Kalekezi for pretending to be dead?

Paragraph Questions (5 Marks)

1. How does the Musician prove Mukasa's death?
2. What gave Kazungu a hard trip?
3. How talented was Mukasa in handling cattle?
4. Why is Kamuli disappointed with her husband?
5. What sort of a person is Kazungu?
6. What is Kalekezi's reaction to Kamuli's trick and how does Kamuli try to counter it?
7. What type of a life does the Musician promise Kamuli?
8. Why is Kamuli sent out of the hut by Kalekezi?
9. How does the play 'The Trick' end?
10. What does the Musician see inside the hut of Kalekezi?

Essay Questions (10 Marks)

1. What is the Trick that Kalekezi plays on his wife? Look at the humour in the situation and comment on it.
2. Do you think that Kamuli is bad wife and she deserves the punishment that she gets from her husband?

3. What was the Trick played by Kalekezi in the play by Erisa Kironde?
Why did he do so? Explain.
4. Sketch the character of kalekezi.
5. Sketch the character of Kamuli.
6. Sketch the character of Musician.
7. Comment on Musician and Kamuli relationship.
8. Write the character of kazungu.
9. Sketch the character of Mukasa.
10. Bring out the various themes in the play 'The Trick'.

