

ENGLISH



PRACTICE QUESTIONS

THE TEMPEST: 16 PRACTICE QUESTIONS

SCORE

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PERCENTAGE

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STEMUP

Shakespeare: The Tempest

Read the following extract from Act 1 Scene 2 of *The Tempest* and then answer both parts of the question.

At this point in the play, Prospero has called Caliban from his cave, and Caliban answers with a complaint about how Prospero took over the island.

CALIBAN

I must eat my dinner.
This island's mine, by Sycorax my mother,
Which thou takest from me. When thou camest first,
Thou strokedst me and madest much of me, wouldst give me
Water with berries in't, and teach me how
To name the bigger light, and how the less,
That burn by day and night: and then I loved thee
And show'd thee all the qualities o' the isle,
The fresh springs, brine-pits, barren place and fertile:
Cursed be I that did so! All the charms
Of Sycorax, toads, beetles, bats, light on you!
For I am all the subjects that you have,
Which first was mine own king: and here you sty me
In this hard rock, whiles you do keep from me
The rest o' the island.

PROSPERO

Thou most lying slave,
Whom stripes may move, not kindness! I have used thee,
Filth as thou art, with human care, and lodged thee
In mine own cell, till thou didst seek to violate
The honour of my child.

(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents the character of Caliban in this extract.
Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Caliban claims the island is his by inheritance, while Prospero accuses him of ingratitude and of trying to violate Miranda.

Explain the importance of power and colonisation elsewhere in the play.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how power and colonisation is presented
- the effects power and colonisation has within the play

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

Shakespeare: The Tempest

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(b) In this extract, Caliban claims the island is his by inheritance, while Prospero accuses him of ingratitude and of trying to violate Miranda.

Explain the importance of the character of Caliban elsewhere in the play.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how Caliban is presented
- the effects Caliban has within the play

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

Shakespeare: The Tempest

Read the following extract from Act 1 Scene 2 of *The Tempest* and then answer both parts of the question.

At this point in the play, Ariel has asked Prospero for his freedom, and Prospero angrily reminds him of what he owes.

PROSPERO

Dost thou forget
From what a torment I did free thee?

ARIEL

No.

PROSPERO

Thou dost, and think'st it much to tread the ooze
Of the salt deep,
To run upon the sharp wind of the north,
To do me business in the veins o' the earth
When it is baked with frost.

ARIEL

I do not, sir.

PROSPERO

Thou liest, malignant thing! Hast thou forgot
The foul witch Sycorax, who with age and envy
Was grown into a hoop? hast thou forgot her?

ARIEL

No, sir.

PROSPERO

Thou hast. Where was she born? speak; tell me.

ARIEL

Sir, in Argier.

(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents the character of Prospero in this extract.
Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Prospero reminds Ariel of the torment he was freed from and questions him about the witch Sycorax.

Explain the importance of freedom and servitude elsewhere in the play.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how freedom and servitude is presented
- the effects freedom and servitude has within the play

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(b) In this extract, Prospero reminds Ariel of the torment he was freed from and questions him about the witch Sycorax.

Explain the importance of the character of Prospero elsewhere in the play.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how Prospero is presented
- the effects Prospero has within the play

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

Shakespeare: The Tempest

Read the following extract from Act 2 Scene 1 of *The Tempest* and then answer both parts of the question.

At this point in the play, the shipwrecked lords are exploring the island, and Gonzalo imagines how he would rule it while Antonio and Sebastian mock him.

GONZALO

Had I plantation of this isle, my lord, -

ANTONIO

He'd sow't with nettle-seed.

SEBASTIAN

Or docks, or mallows.

GONZALO

And were the king on't, what would I do?

SEBASTIAN

'Scape being drunk for want of wine.

GONZALO

I' the commonwealth I would by contraries

Execute all things; for no kind of traffic

Would I admit; no name of magistrate;

Letters should not be known; riches, poverty,

And use of service, none; contract, succession,

Bourn, bound of land, tilth, vineyard, none;

No use of metal, corn, or wine, or oil;

No occupation; all men idle, all;

And women too, but innocent and pure;

No sovereignty; -

SEBASTIAN

Yet he would be king on't.

(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents the character of Gonzalo in this extract.

Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Gonzalo describes a perfect commonwealth without laws or work, and Antonio and Sebastian make fun of his vision.

Explain the importance of utopia and political power elsewhere in the play.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how utopia and political power is presented
- the effects utopia and political power has within the play

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

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Read the following extract from Act 2 Scene 1 of *The Tempest* and then answer both parts of the question.

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(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents utopia and political power in this extract.

Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Gonzalo describes a perfect commonwealth without laws or work, and Antonio and Sebastian make fun of his vision.

Explain the importance of the character of Gonzalo elsewhere in the play.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how Gonzalo is presented
- the effects Gonzalo has within the play

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

Shakespeare: The Tempest

Read the following extract from Act 3 Scene 1 of *The Tempest* and then answer both parts of the question.

At this point in the play, Ferdinand has been set to carry logs by Prospero, and Miranda has come to him while her father secretly watches.

MIRANDA

Do you love me?

FERDINAND

O heaven, O earth, bear witness to this sound

And crown what I profess with kind event

If I speak true! if hollowly, invert

What best is boded me to mischief! I

Beyond all limit of what else i' the world

Do love, prize, honour you.

MIRANDA

I am a fool

To weep at what I am glad of.

PROSPERO

Fair encounter

Of two most rare affections! Heavens rain grace

On that which breeds between 'em!

FERDINAND

Wherefore weep you?

MIRANDA

At mine unworthiness that dare not offer

What I desire to give, and much less take

What I shall die to want. But this is trifling;

And all the more it seeks to hide itself,

The bigger bulk it shows. Hence, bashful cunning!

(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents the character of Miranda in this extract.

Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Miranda asks Ferdinand whether he loves her, and they confess their feelings while Prospero watches unseen and approves.

Explain the importance of love and innocence elsewhere in the play.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how love and innocence is presented
- the effects love and innocence has within the play

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

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(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents love and innocence in this extract.

Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

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(b) In this extract, Miranda asks Ferdinand whether he loves her, and they confess their feelings while Prospero watches unseen and approves.

Explain the importance of the character of Miranda elsewhere in the play.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how Miranda is presented
- the effects Miranda has within the play

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

Shakespeare: The Tempest

Read the following extract from Act 3 Scene 2 of *The Tempest* and then answer both parts of the question.

At this point in the play, Stephano and Trinculo are frightened by strange music, and Caliban reassures them that the island is full of noises.

CALIBAN

Be not afeard; the isle is full of noises,
Sounds and sweet airs, that give delight and hurt not.
Sometimes a thousand twangling instruments
Will hum about mine ears, and sometime voices
That, if I then had waked after long sleep,
Will make me sleep again: and then, in dreaming,
The clouds methought would open and show riches
Ready to drop upon me that, when I waked,
I cried to dream again.

STEPHANO

This will prove a brave kingdom to me, where I shall
have my music for nothing.

CALIBAN

When Prospero is destroyed.

(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents the character of Caliban in this extract.
Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Caliban describes the beautiful sounds of the island and a dream of riches, but Stephano thinks only of gaining a kingdom.

Explain the importance of nature and imagination elsewhere in the play.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how nature and imagination is presented
- the effects nature and imagination has within the play

(20)

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(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents nature and imagination in this extract.
Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

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(b) In this extract, Caliban describes the beautiful sounds of the island and a dream of riches, but Stephano thinks only of gaining a kingdom.

Explain the importance of the character of Caliban elsewhere in the play.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how Caliban is presented
- the effects Caliban has within the play

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

Shakespeare: The Tempest

Read the following extract from Act 4 Scene 1 of *The Tempest* and then answer both parts of the question.

At this point in the play, Prospero has suddenly ended the masque he conjured for Ferdinand and Miranda because he remembered Caliban's plot, and he tries to calm the worried Ferdinand.

PROSPERO

You do look, my son, in a moved sort,
As if you were dismay'd: be cheerful, sir.
Our revels now are ended. These our actors,
As I foretold you, were all spirits and
Are melted into air, into thin air:
And, like the baseless fabric of this vision,
The cloud-capp'd towers, the gorgeous palaces,
The solemn temples, the great globe itself,
Ye all which it inherit, shall dissolve
And, like this insubstantial pageant faded,
Leave not a rack behind. We are such stuff
As dreams are made on, and our little life
Is rounded with a sleep. Sir, I am vex'd;
Bear with my weakness; my brain is troubled:
Be not disturb'd with my infirmity:
If you be pleased, retire into my cell
And there repose: a turn or two I'll walk,
To still my beating mind.

(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents the character of Prospero in this extract.
Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Prospero says the spirits have melted into air and compares the whole world, and human life, to an insubstantial dream.

Explain the importance of illusion and the brevity of life elsewhere in the play.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how illusion and the brevity of life is presented
- the effects illusion and the brevity of life has within the play

(20)

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Read the following extract from Act 4 Scene 1 of *The Tempest* and then answer both parts of the question.

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(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents illusion and the brevity of life in this extract.
Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Prospero says the spirits have melted into air and compares the whole world, and human life, to an insubstantial dream.

Explain the importance of the character of Prospero elsewhere in the play.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how Prospero is presented
- the effects Prospero has within the play

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

Shakespeare: The Tempest

Read the following extract from Act 5 Scene 1 of *The Tempest* and then answer both parts of the question.

At this point in the play, Prospero has his enemies under his spell, and Ariel has said that his feelings would be moved if he were human.

ARIEL

Mine would, sir, were I human.

PROSPERO

And mine shall.

Hast thou, which art but air, a touch, a feeling
Of their afflictions, and shall not myself,
One of their kind, that relish all as sharply,
Passion as they, be kindlier moved than thou art?
Though with their high wrongs I am struck to the quick,
Yet with my nobler reason 'gaitist my fury
Do I take part: the rarer action is
In virtue than in vengeance: they being penitent,
The sole drift of my purpose doth extend
Not a frown further. Go release them, Ariel:
My charms I'll break, their senses I'll restore,
And they shall be themselves.

(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents the character of Prospero in this extract.
Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Prospero decides that it is nobler to forgive than to take revenge, and sends Ariel to release his enemies.

Explain the importance of forgiveness and revenge elsewhere in the play.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how forgiveness and revenge is presented
- the effects forgiveness and revenge has within the play

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

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Explain the importance of the character of Prospero elsewhere in the play.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how Prospero is presented
- the effects Prospero has within the play

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

Shakespeare: The Tempest

Read the following extract from Act 5 Scene 1 of *The Tempest* and then answer both parts of the question.

At this point in the play, the action has ended and Prospero turns directly to the audience to ask for their applause.

PROSPERO

Now my charms are all o'erthrown,
And what strength I have's mine own,
Which is most faint: now, 'tis true,
I must be here confined by you,
Or sent to Naples. Let me not,
Since I have my dukedom got
And pardon'd the deceiver, dwell
In this bare island by your spell;
But release me from my bands
With the help of your good hands:
Gentle breath of yours my sails
Must fill, or else my project fails,
Which was to please. Now I want
Spirits to enforce, art to enchant,
And my ending is despair,
Unless I be relieved by prayer,
Which pierces so that it assaults
Mercy itself and frees all faults.
As you from crimes would pardon'd be,
Let your indulgence set me free.

(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents the character of Prospero in this extract.
Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Prospero says his magic is gone and asks the audience to set him free with their applause and prayers.

Explain the importance of freedom and forgiveness elsewhere in the play.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how freedom and forgiveness is presented
- the effects freedom and forgiveness has within the play

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