This is a Class 2 exam

Lebanon Evangelical School
for Boys and Girls
Loueizeh - Baabda

Stage Exam 05

07MAY2024

Do NOT write in this box. Your MARK will be placed here.

Subject :	English
Class :	10B and 10C
Teacher :	Miss Jovana
Duration :	1 hour

Please answer on the lined paper provided.

Your name :		*Time taken to complete exam*
Your Class :		
Exam Room :		
How many sheets, including cover sheet :		

- Do not open this paper until the teacher in charge instructs you to do so.
- The most important thing to remember in taking an exam is NEVER PANIC.
- If you are caught cheating in this exam, you will be awarded zero for ALL exams that are taken on this day.

I. ***The following passage is an excerpt from Green Willow, a Japanese folktale retold by Paul-Jordan Smith. Read the following piece carefully and answer the questions appropriately on the lined paper provided. (20 points)***

Tomotada was touched by the old man's words – and secretly, he was glad of the chance afforded him to see more of the young girl. Before long, a simple meal was set before him, and the girl herself came from behind the screen to serve the wine. She had changed her dress, and though her clothes were still of homespun, her long loose hair was neatly combed and smoothed. As she bent to fill his cup, Tomotada was amazed to see that she was even more beautiful than he had at first thought: she was the most beautiful creature he had ever seen. She moved with a grace that captivated him, and he could not take his eyes from her. The old man spoke apologetically, saying, "Please forgive the clumsy service of our daughter, Green Willow. She has been raised alone in these mountains and is only a poor, ignorant girl." But Tomotada protested that he considered himself lucky indeed to be served by so lovely a maiden. He saw that his admiring gaze made her blush, and he left his wine and food untasted before him. Suddenly struck by inspiration, he addressed her in a poem.

As I rode through the winter
I found a flower and thought,
"Here I shall spend the day."
But why does the blush of dawn appear
When the dark of night is still around us?

Without a moment's hesitation, the girl replied:

If my sleeve hides the faint color of dawn,
Perhaps when morning has truly come
My lord will remain.

1. What details help you form a mental picture of the girl? What literary device is used here? Provide details. *(3 points)*
2. The name of the girl as Green Willow is symbolic. What does it denote? Respond accordingly. *(2 points)*
3. The poem that Tomotada addresses the girl with says, "*But why does the blush of dawn appear when the dark of night is still around us?*". What does this phrase signify? Give details and explain appropriately. *(4 points)*
4. Green Willow responds with a poem towards Tomotada. Explain every line of the poem suitably and depict **two** literary devices given. *(4 points)*
5. What does *"the faint color of dawn"* symbolise? *(1 point)*
6. What is the main message of this excerpt? Develop your response. *(3 points)*
7. In **your** opinion, what happens next between Tomotada and Green Willow? Explain your response and provide evidence from the text. *(3 points)*

SE05 ANSWER KEY (10BC)

1. The literary device used by the author is imagery, to help the audience have a mental picture – with details – of the girl and her beauty. The details of the girl are descriptive, as even her name is symbolic, Green Willow. Green Willow is symbolic, describing her beauty as that of a tree, where she is one with nature, where she is nature, and her beauty stems from nature. She may be tall, slender, and graceful, just as a green willow tree that is one with the essence of nature. She is described as having long loose hair, moving with grace that captivated Tomotada. She is also depicted as having homespun clothes, which explains that she is not a very wealthy woman, where her clothes were knit at home, concluding her humility.
2. Green Willow is a symbolic name dedicated to the girl in the short excerpt. It denotes her characteristics, where she is a tall, slender, graceful woman, full of beauty and grace. She is a woman who is full of nature, where nature is her essence to the core. She is almost nature itself, where she moves with elegance and refinement that captivates someone's heart due to her beauty. Her hair is a symbol and a metaphor in one where it is loose but long, and represents a tree's branches, that sway in the wind. She is nature itself.
3. The poem's line of "*But why does the blush of dawn appear when the dark of night is still around us?*" is both a metaphor and a symbol. The author uses these literary devices and uses the theme of nature to represent hope through hopelessness. Tomotada is describing the woman's beauty through the blush of dawn, with her cheeks blushing as the morning light appears upon a dark, dreary night, full of lifelessness. The author also uses "but" to represent a turning point, to represent an opposing shift and point. He – the author – wants to explain how the woman's beauty is representative of nature, where nature in the dark can shine and light up due to its eccentric notions in life. Just as nature lights in the dark, pivotal for one's direction and hope, so does Green Willow give hope and light as the sun rises at dawn, providing direction and optimism to everyone.
4. The poem that Green Willow responds with describes her feelings. If Green Willow did not love Tomotada – or feel a certain way towards him – she would not have responded, and in return, gave him leeway and an answer for his affections and attractions towards her. Green Willow's poem has two literary devices, where the author constantly uses imagery and symbolism. Green Willow's poem explains how she loves Tomotada too much and therefore, is too shy to represent her blushing cheeks of attraction towards him. Japanese folklore depicts the culture of men and women, where women are meant to serve their men, call them with respectful titles of "my lord", and rarely show their attraction to its extremity. They are to show their attraction, but not to the extent, because their humility and embarrassment is what draws the men towards the women. The "color of dawn" are her cheeks blushing, and "when morning has truly come" is both a literal and metaphorical depiction of hope, light, and life of nature.
5. The "faint colour of dawn" in this Japanese folklore excerpt represents Green Willow's blushing cheeks.
6. The main message of this excerpt discusses nature and the woman's beauty. It does include information about the infatuation and attraction that Tomotada and Green Willow feel towards each other, but it mainly causes a depiction of nature and the woman. It depicts this to represent how the author wants to bring the notion and element of nature through a woman's soul and heart, where that is her beauty.

7. In my opinion, I believe that Green Willow is proposed to, and Tomotada is to be her wedded husband. I believe they fall in love, since Tomotada began his pursuit with a poem and Green Willow replied with a poem, in return. This is portrayed by Green Willow's blushing cheeks and Tomotada's amazement at this beautiful creature serving him. She may have looked like poorer than the women he was used to seeing, but she was no less beautiful to him, and that, in return, is where she considered him her lord, calling him, "my lord", the man she was meant to serve for the rest of her life, the man she fell in love with.