

2024

FOUNDATIONS OF STORYTELLING AND NARRATIVE DESIGN

Full Marks: 100

Time: Three hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions.

Answer **Question No. 1** and *any four* from the rest.

1. A) Fill in the blanks: (10x1 = 10)

- i. The narrative form of storytelling using music and song is called a _____.
- ii. _____ storytelling relies heavily on the storyteller's voice, gestures and expressions.
- iii. The invention of the printing press facilitated the medium of _____ storytelling.
- iv. Side characters in a story are also known as _____ characters.
- v. The turning point of a story is called _____.
- vi. The plot where the story ends where it began is called _____ plot.
- vii. The external conflict in which a character struggles with machines, robots or AI is categorized under _____ vs _____.
- viii. The narrative structure 'Hero's Journey' is also called _____.
- ix. The narrative structure used in the movie The Lion King is _____.
- x. In multimedia _____ often speak louder than words.

B) State True or False: (10x1=10)

- i) Folktales can have fairies and other magical creatures.
- ii) In Visual Storytelling, dialogues play an important part.
- iii) Interactive stories can have multiple endings.
- iv) An antagonist is always a villain.
- v) Setting of a story is based on time and space.
- vi) There are mainly two types of Point of Views in storytelling:
- vii) A story within a story structure is called parallel narrative.
- viii) In multimedia projects, narrative design is closely linked to user experience.
- ix) The same story can be experienced differently by different people.
- x) A script is created right after the creation of a storyboard.

2. A) Describe the role of storytelling in culture and society. (10)
B) Explain Experiential and Transmedia storytelling with examples. (5+5 = 10)
3. A) What are the different types of plots in a story? (7)
B) Identify the type of plot in the story of a movie that you have seen. (3)
C) Explain how the *Setting* and *Theme* of a story affects a reader. (5+5=10)
4. A) Briefly describe the different types of external conflict with examples. (5x2=10)
B) What are the different PoV in a story? Justify your answer with an example. (6)
C) Explain why PoV is important in a story. (4)
5. Read the story below and answer the queries. (10x2=20)

Central Institute of Technology
Kokrajhar :: Bodoland

The Broken String

I was once known as Aiden, a master violinist who let my envy consume me. Life in the serene town of Evergreen revolved around art and music, and I thrived on admiration. My rival, Ethan, my childhood friend, shared my world but eclipsed my talents. Where my music was precise, his was transcendent. And people noticed.

Ethan received an invitation to the Grand Harmonic Festival, an honour I had long desired. When he came to share the news, he wore his signature smile, full of warmth. But to me, it was a smirk, a reminder of his effortless brilliance. I seethed as he asked me to join him as his accompanist, his equal. Equal? The word tasted bitter.

I declined, masking my refusal with false modesty. Inside, I plotted to reclaim the spotlight. I couldn't let him rise while I stood in his shadow. I began crafting a plan to sabotage his performance, all while pretending to support him.

Clara, my younger sister, was always the voice of reason. She admired Ethan's kindness and often tried to remind me of his loyalty. "He sees you as a brother," she said one evening. I scoffed, dismissing her words as idealism. I didn't need Ethan's friendship. Or so I thought.

On the day of the festival, I followed Ethan to the rehearsal hall. His violin, a gift from his late mother, was his treasure. I planned to loosen its strings, ensuring a failure he couldn't recover from. But as I reached for it, a small envelope fell from his bag. It contained a letter addressed to me.

The letter was a confession of sorts. Ethan wrote about his admiration for me, how he saw my passion as unyielding. He expressed gratitude for my companionship and admitted he had recommended me to the festival committee for a solo performance next year. Shame clawed at me, but my jealousy drowned it out. "He's just trying to secure his place as the hero," I muttered.

That evening, Ethan invited Clara and me to the festival's prelude dinner. Surrounded by the town's elite, I plastered a smile while my resentment simmered. Clara gave me wary looks, sensing the storm within.

Contd..

On the day of the performance, Ethan asked me to tune his violin. "I trust you with this," he said. The weight of his words hit me, but I couldn't stop. I weakened the strings, ensuring they would snap mid-performance.

As Ethan took the stage, the first note echoed like a dream. The audience was spellbound. I clenched my fists, waiting for my moment of triumph. Then, as he reached the crescendo, a string snapped. The hall fell silent. Ethan froze, his face pale. But instead of faltering, he turned to me. "Aiden," he called, "would you join me?" I froze. His eyes were filled not with anger but trust. The crowd urged me forward, and Clara's pleading gaze met mine. I couldn't refuse. I walked onto the stage, guilt weighing heavily. We performed together, his confidence bolstering my faltering notes. The music soared, a melody of forgiveness and connection. The audience erupted in applause.

After the performance, Ethan handed me his violin. "It belongs to someone who loves music as much as my mother did," he said softly. My shame became unbearable. I couldn't speak, couldn't confess.

Weeks later, Ethan fell ill. The doctors said it was terminal, a sickness he had hidden from everyone. He had played that night knowing it might be his last. My betrayal felt insurmountable. I spent every moment by his side, nursing him, hoping to atone.

In his final days, Ethan told me he knew about the violin. "I didn't call you on stage to punish you, Aiden. I wanted you to remember why we started making music together." His forgiveness shattered me and rebuilt me all at once.

Ethan passed away, leaving me his violin and a note: "Play for the world, Aiden, but never forget to play for the ones you love." I became a new man, performing not for accolades but for the joy of connection. My music, once cold and technical, found warmth. I founded the Harmony Foundation in Ethan's name, nurturing young talents.

I was Aiden, the man consumed by envy, transformed by friendship and sacrifice. Ethan's legacy lived through me, a broken string mended with love.

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- i. Identify the protagonist, antagonist and side characters of the story.
- ii. What is the theme of the story?
- iii. Which type of plot has been followed in the above story?
- iv. Which type of conflict is depicted in the story?
- v. What was the conflict about?
- vi. In whose PoV is the story narrated?
- vii. Which narrative structure is followed in the story?
- viii. Identify the climax of the story.
- ix. Where is the story taking place?
- x. What is the message of the story?

6. A) Create a character profile of a non-human character whom you think would be great for a fantasy-based story. Provide the following information: (10)
- Basic information
 - Personality traits
 - Backstory
 - Internal Conflict
 - Relationships
 - Skills and abilities
 - Goals and desires
 - Character Arc
 - Dialogue and Voice
 - Symbolism and Themes.
- B) Draw the character based on your creation. (10)
7. Write short notes on *any four* from the following: (4x5 = 20)
- Folktale
 - Digital Storytelling
 - Pacing
 - Notion
 - Character Arc
 - Freytag's Pyramid
 - Script

