

2019
ALTERNATIVE ENGLISH

Full Marks : 100

Pass Marks : 33

Time : Three hours

Read carefully the direction given for each question.

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

Answer the questions in your own words as far as practicable.

SECTION – A
(PROSE)

1. Explain the following extract with reference to the context:

- (a) The cry of the wolves rose on the still winter air and floated round the castle in long-drawn piercing wails; the old woman lay back on her bed with a look of long-delayed happiness on her face. 6

OR

- (b) 'Prison, eh ? Now listen. If I'd done anything wrong, then I'd go... but there's neither rhyme nor reason in sending me.... What for should I go to prison ?' 6

P.T.O.

2. Answer the following questions in about **80-90** words :

(a) Describe how Behrman saved the life of Johnsy. 6

OR

(b) 'Just stop, will you?' said Mr. Fotheringay.
Describe the events that happened after the turning earth stopped. 6

3. Answer the following questions in about **30** words each :

(a) What was the condition of Johnsy that the doctor had to say "entire pharmacopoeia look silly"? 2

(b) How did Fotheringay come to know that he had powers to work miracles? 2

(c) What, according to Nehru, must have been the social conditions in the sixth century that a number of great thinkers and founders of religions were to be born ? 2

(d) "The merchant from Hamburg said nothing;" Why did the merchant remain silent ? 2

(e) "You are a nuisance", the magistrate shouted.
Why did the magistrate call Denis a nuisance? 2

(f) Why, according to Nehru, should his daughter train and educate herself before she could decide anything big or vital ? 2

4. Answer the following questions in about **40** words each :
- (a) "Most of us are narrow-minded and not very wise".
In what respect does Nehru make the comment? 3
- (b) 'I'm in very great difficulties—'
What were the difficulties Fotheringay was telling to Maydig? 3
5. Answer the following questions in **one** sentence each :
- (a) What sort of beard had Behrman? 1
- (b) What, according to Cernogratz's legend, would happen when the soul of the dying one left its body? 1
- (c) Whose voice was first heard by Fotheringay after he was back in the Long Dragon? 1
- (d) Who is Mitrofan Petrov in the 'Male factor'? 1
- (e) From what did the parents of Siddartha try to keep him away? 1

SECTION – B
(POETRY)

6. Explain the following extract with reference to the context :

(a) Heigh – ho! Sing, heigh-ho! unto the green holly.
Most friendship is feigning, most loving mere folly.
Then, heigh-ho, the holly!
This life is most jolly.

6

OR

- (b) Yes; quaint and curious war is!
You shoot a fellow down
You'd treat if met where any bar is,
Or help to half-a-crown. 6

7. Answer the following question in about 80-90 words :

- (a) Bring out the differences of the fates of a patriot and an unpatriotic person after your reading of the poem 'Patriotism'. 6

OR

- (b) Bring out the similarities and differences between the live-oak and the poet, Walt Whitman as contained in your prescribed text. 6

8. Answer the following questions in about 30 words each :

- (a) Like her ordinary cry,
Like – but oh, how different!
Why, according to the poet, is the 'cry' similar yet so different? 2
- (b) What does Robert Browning expect to be when one wakes up some morning in England in the month of April? 2
- (c) 'The blood-dimmed tide is loosed'. Explain the imagery. 2
- (d) 'They too are afraid'
Why are the trees described to be afraid? 2
- (e) How does Tennyson describe the beauty of the dragon-fly as it flew in the morning sunshine? 2

- (f) What impression does Robert Browning have of thrush as the bird sings each song twice over? 2
9. Answer the following questions in about 40 words each :
- (a) "...a vast image out of 'Spiritus Mundi' Troubles my sight..."
Why does the image trouble the poet? 3
- (b) What does Ted Hughes want to convey us through 'A wind flashes the grass'? 3
10. Answer the following questions in one sentence each :
- (a) Why, according to Wordsworth, should we hold dear the "echo from beyond the grave"? 1
- (b) What makes the fields look rough in May as described in 'Home thoughts from abroad'? 1
- (c) Why is the mountain echo said to be 'unsolicited reply'? 1
- (d) 'An inner impulse rent the veil'
What does 'inner impulse' mean? 1
- (e) How does the dragon fly look like from head to tail? 1

SECTION – C
(COMPOSITION)

11. (a) As an Assistant Manager (Sales and Marketing) of Super Plastic Industries, Industrial Area, Noida, write a letter to M/S Fab furnitures, Tiddim Road, Imphal acknowledging the order of plastic chairs and garden tables they have placed with your company. You are Mahesh/Manisha. 7

OR

(b) Write a letter to the Editor, Probe Daily, Imphal highlighting the increasing problems with the garbage and plastic wastes despite varied awareness programmes. Write your name as Judith/Joseph, Ukhrul. 7

12. Write an essay on any one of the given topics in about **200** words : 10

(a) Mobile Phone, Internet and increasing crimes.

OR

(b) Increasing population and global Warming.

OR

(c) Tourism and Development of Manipur.

13. (a) Write in about 60-70 words an account of an exciting experience/a beautiful impression that you had about people/place. 5

OR

(b) Write a song poem in about 10-12 lines praying God for World peace. 5

SECTION – D
(COMPREHENSION)

14. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :

The most disquieting aspect of the wide-spread corruption in India is the fact that it is not anymore confined to politicians or the government machinery alone. It is prevalent amongst almost every section of the society, at every level.

As the practice of corruption is a dishonest act, one tends to think that most of the Indians are dishonest, the extent could be varying in degree between the individuals. The reason for the dishonesty is greediness and the desire to get things done at any cost. One can think that most of the countrymen are greedy and do not anymore consider that the means should justify the ends. This is not a flattering statement and many readers would desire that it would not be so and that such a statement could have been avoided. But, the fact is, that most of the Indians are involved in corrupt practices in one way or the other, either due to greed or due to so called compulsion. In any case, the willingness to sacrifice for the sake of not getting involved in corrupt dealings is conspicuous by its absence amongst the majority.

The study of world phenomenon of corruption has repeatedly branded India as one of the most corrupt countries in the world. Unfortunately, this view has not disturbed most of the Indians at all and they do not seem to care as to what others think of them; so long as the existing systems and practices would allow them to make money and get things done in one way or the other.

The irony is that India is still considered to be a very religious country and it is still widely believed that the religion is the basis of Indian life, thoughts and actions. The unfortunate situation in India is that those who call themselves most religious are often found to have indulged themselves in dishonest practices on many occasions. Several of the religious centres, of all religions, are suspected to be steeped in nepotism, as, such incidents have been repeatedly published in the press.

- (a) How widespread is corruption in India ? 2
- (b) Why is there widespread corruption in Indians ? 2
- (c) What does the writer mean by 'the irony' in the context / passage ? 1
- (d) Why, in the view of the writer, do the Indians not care even when India is branded as one of the most corrupt countries in the world ? 1
- (e) From where did the writer come to know about nepotism in several of the religious centres ? 1
- (f) Find out the word from the passage which means 'easy to see or notice' and rewrite the word. 1
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