

2025

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. *Answer the following question in about 120 words :*

(a) How did Sherlock Holmes lay a trap cleverly to arrest Culverton Smith? 8

Or

(b) How did Johnsy lay in her bedstead looking through the window thinking that she would not going to get well? 8

2. *Answer the following question in about 60 words :*

(a) “I’m the last Von Cernogratz that will die in our old castle and they had come to sing to me”.

How did Amalie hear the death music of her family and die? 4

Or

P.T.O.

- (b) "What for should I go to prison ?"
Why did Denis object to the magistrate's decision ? 4
3. *Answer the following question in about 50 words :*
Why did not Nehru take any interest about the next world ? 3
4. *Answer the following questions in about 35 words each :*
- (a) Why was Mr. Holmes regarded as the worst tenant in London? 2
- (b) Why did Nehru say that sixth century before Christ was a period of great interest ? 2
5. *Answer the following questions in one sentence each :*
- (a) Where did Sue and Johnsy meet for the first time ? 1
- (b) Why did Amalie change her name ? 1
- (c) Why did Denis unscrew the nut ? 1
- (d) What is the meaning of Buddha ? 1
6. *Answer the following questions by choosing the right option from the given alternatives :*
- (a) The Humberg Merchant was – 1
- (i) a miserly businessman
- (ii) the one who believed in the legend of Cernogratz
- (iii) a man of strong imagination
- (iv) not a member of essentially practical family

- (b) 'With your leave or without it, Mr. Holmes, I am going for a doctor this very hour'.

Who said the above statement ?

1

- (i) Dr. Watson
- (ii) Mrs. Hudson
- (iii) Culverton Smith
- (iv) Inspector Morton of Scotland Yard

SECTION – B

(POETRY)

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

- (a) Hears not also mortal life !

Hears not we, unthinking Creatures !

Slaves of folly, love of strife –

Voices of two different natures !

8

Or

- (b) But I wonder'd how it could utter joyous

leaves standing alone there,

Without its friends, its lover near – for I

knew I could not ;

8

8. Answer the following question in about 60 words :

- (a) Why did Thomas Hardy hate war ?

4

Or

- (b) Why was John Milton very anxious for his blindness ?

4

9. *Answer the following question in about 50 words :*
- Why did the poet think that it was time for the Second Coming ? 3
10. *Answer the following questions in about 35 words each :*
- (a) Why was man's ingratitude so forceful than the winter wind? 2
- (b) Why was the poet afraid of the anger of the lady? 2
11. *Answer the following questions in one sentence each :*
- (a) What does Shakespeare think of friendship? 1
- (b) What are the voices of two different natures? 1
- (c) What does the 'doubly dying' mean in the poem? 1
- (d) Why did the ploughman grow anxious? 1
12. *Answer the following questions by choosing the best option from the given alternatives :*
- (a) In the poem 'Patriotism' the poet talks about – 1
- (i) a patriot
- (ii) a man not interested in selfish acts
- (iii) a man who loves his own natiaveland
- (iv) a selfish person who dies unwept, unhonour'd and unsung
- (b) 'The oracle of the earth', in the poem 'A Wind Flashes The Grass' signifies – 1
- (i) blankness of mortality on earth
- (ii) the mystery of the earth
- (iii) the knowledge about the future of the earth
- (iv) the God's messenger on earth

SECTION – C
(COMPREHENSION)

13. *Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :*

It is well known to all that a new born baby sleeps more than twenty two hours. As he grows up, its pattern of sleep goes on changing. So it sleeps less and stays awake longer, playing or crying. By adulthood, the pattern is completely established and he sleeps between eight to nine hours a day. With the passage of time, the pattern goes on changing. During the previous centuries, people used to sleep early, soon after it was dark as they had no other modes of passing the time. They had no work in the evenings and with the commencement of dark, they would go to their bed. Thus their sleeping habits were fixed by the alternation of day and night. They woke up by day break and thus they could get nine hours of sleep on an average.

But in the modern context, the situation has changed. In the industrialised country, people can hardly enjoy less than eight hours of sleep per day and many of them believe that six and six and half hours of sleep is enough for them. According to the biologists and specialists, in sleep disorders a large number of people are not sleeping enough and thus sleeps deficit affects their health and performance. How did this change in our sleep habits come about? One cause was the introduction of the light bulb. When electric bulb came into common use, people would work till late in the evening or even till midnight. As the light of a civilized community became more and more complex, people began to deprive themselves of sleep in order to squeeze their busy schedule into the late evening hours.

- (a) What is the difference of sleep pattern between a new born baby and an adult? 2
- (b) What are the changes of sleep habits with the passage of time? 2
- (c) What was the pattern of sleep in the previous centuries? 2
- (d) How does it bring about in the industrialised countries? 2
- (e) What are the cause of changes of sleep habits in the modern context? 2

SECTION – D
(COMPOSITION)

14. *Write an essay on any one of the topics in about 150 words :* 8
- (a) Teachers will never be replaced by computers
 - (b) Protecting our environment
 - (c) United we stand, Devided we fall
15. (a) You are Vanilla of Treebo Hr. Sec. School. Write a letter to your Principal requesting him to issue reading and character certificates to the effect that you are a regular student of the school. And also write why you need it. 8

Or

- (b) Suppose you are Ramboda, Hostel Warden, Wisdom Public School. Write a letter to the Sales Manager, Bharat Electronic and Domestic Appliances Limited, Kolkata, placing an order for a few fans, microwave ovens and some others that you wish to purchase for the hostel. Also ask for discount permissible on the purchase. 8
16. Write in eight lines about a parrot in the birdcage. 4
17. (a) Johna is the head girl of St. Thomas Hr. Sec. School. The Principal and the teaching staff had a meeting on fund rising for the physically disabled students in the neighbourhood. A certificate will be given for every doner. Write a notice for your school notice board requesting the students to donate generously. 4

Or

- (b) You are Nimbudayal. You have come out sucessfully in high rank in the H.S.L.C Examination. So you have decided to throw a party to your friends. Write a personal invitation to your friends giving the detail. 4
18. *Read the following passage and give your answers as directed :*

We have to combat with climate changes and achieve sustainable development at the same time. A sustainable society satisfies its needs without diminishing the prospects of the next generation. Contemporary society fails to meet this criterion. As a result the question of ecological sustainability arise in every continent. The

planners should understand that the vast treasure of plant and animal life plays a vital role in maintaining the ecological balance for human kind to survive.

On the other hand, the world as a whole has experienced remarkable economic progress at the cost of degradation of all the natural resources. So, both the developed and developing countries should share common but differentiated responsibilities. The developed countries have to rapidly re-directed their societies and economies towards green energy, energy efficiency and more sustainable consumption patterns. The countries in the developing world must get their chance to take a direct road toward a sustainable future, avoiding the deviation of relying on unsustainable energy forms such as fossil fuels. The ultimate objective is to stabilise the concentration of global greenhouse gases in the atmosphere at a level that would not be harmful to the mankind and the nature. A push to renewable energies with wind-power plants, solar power generator and use of biomass will create new jobs in this industry. Hence a more sustainable future.

- (a) Make notes of the main points of the given passage. 3
- (b) Develop the main points into a summary. 3

SECTION – E

(FUNCTIONAL GRAMMAR)

19. (a) *Arrange the following in the right order to make a meaningful sentence:*

place to place/ because I/ travel I/ I/ go/ from/ to/ like 1

- (b) *Change the voice of the following :*

What makes you angry? 1

- (c) *Change into indirect speech of the following :*

“The clock has stopped”, said my father. “Did you forget to change battery”? 1

- (d) *Write the following sentence correctly in respect of grammar, meaning and usage :* 1

If you had informed me, I had been cautious.

P.T.O.

(e) *Transform the following sentence into a positive sentence :*

India is the largest democracy in the world. 1

(f) We decided to suspend the strike.

Replace the underlined word by a phrasal verb. 1

(g) *Fill in the blank of the following with appropriate modal which expresses duty :*

Children _____ obey their parents. 1

20. (a) The old man rested at sunset.

The underlined word of the above sentence is a – 1

(i) noun clause (ii) adjective clause

(iii) adverb clause (iv) adjective phrase

(b) *Choose the most appropriate one from the given alternative answers to complete the sentence meaningfully :*

He talks as if he _____ a fool. 1

(i) is (ii) was

(iii) has been (iv) were

(c) *Choose whichever word you consider is the most appropriate for the blank space :*

Only those who completed twenty one years will be _____ to apply for the post. 1

(i) selected (ii) elected

(iii) legible (iv) eligible