

2026

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 (READING)

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

To make our lives meaningful, we need to mind our thoughts, because they are the foundation, the inspiration and motivating power of our deeds. We create our world by the way we think. Thoughts are the cause and conditions are its effect.

Our circumstances and conditions are not dictated by the world outside; it is the world inside us that creates it. Self awareness comes from the mind, which means our soul. Mind is the sum total of all the states of consciousness grouped under thoughts, will and feelings. Besides, self-consciousness we have the power to choose and think. Even when we are inactive on the bodily plane, we are all the time acting on the thought plane. Therefore, if we observe ourselves, we can easily mould our thoughts. If our thoughts are pure and noble, naturally our actions follows the same. If our thoughts are filled with jealousy hatred and greed, our actions will be the same. However, thought or intent is more responsible and dynamic than an act. One may perform a charitable act, but if he does not think

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charitably and is doing the act just for the sake of gain and glory, it is his thoughts that will determine the result. Theosophy teaches us that every thought no matter how fleeting, leaves a seed in the mind of the thinker. These small seeds together grow to make up a large thought seed and determine one's general character. Our thoughts affect the whole body. Each thought once generated and sent out becomes independent of the brain and will live upon its own energy depending upon its intensity.

Let us choose the seeds of our thoughts pertaining to the right ideas, noble and courageous aspirations that will be received by minds of the same nature. Everything in the universe is inter-related and inter-dependant, that we live with one another and by accepting the grand principle of universal brotherhood, we shall be in a position to appreciate that a heavy responsibility is even ours to think right. Let us reflect and send loving thoughts and lighten the load of the world's suffering.

- (a) Why do we need to mind our thoughts to make our lives meaningful? 2
- (b) What is mind according to the writer? 2
- (c) Why did the writer say that thoughts and intent are more responsible and dynamic than an act? 2
- (d) What does Theosophy teach us? 2
- (e) How can we bring the desired effect in our lives? 2
- (f) Find out the word(s) from the passage which has the same meaning with the following :
 - (i) to influence someone to behave in a particular way 1
 - (ii) excessive desire for more of something 1

2. *Read the following passage carefully and answer the question that follows in about 60 words : (Case based factual)*

One day a fire broke out in a thicket from the friction of bamboos in a strong wind. The birds and the animals were in a frightened confusion. A parrot who took shelter in the thicket wishes to show her compassion to repay the kindness he received in the thicket. He dipped himself in a pond nearby and flew over the fire and shook off all drops of water to extinguish the fire. On seeing this a holyman came and asked the parrot, "you have a gallant mind but what good do you expect to accomplish by a few drops of water against the great fire?"

- (a) What will you say if you were the parrot? 3

SECTION – B

(Writing Skill and Grammar)

3. (a) You are Arjun and your father's colleague Mr. Mehta called while your father was away. He wanted to inform your father that the flight to Delhi, originally scheduled for 9 a.m. tomorrow has been rescheduled to 7 a.m. and he should report at the airport by 5 a.m. Write a message to your father in about 50 words. 4

OR

- (b) The Directorate of Education (S), Govt. of Manipur, is organising an essay competition on the theme 'Conservation of Energy' for all the students of the state. Prepare a suitable poster to be sent to different schools for display on their notice board. Invent all necessary details in about 50 words. 4
4. (a) You are Arun, a staff reporter of Manipur Daily. You have witnessed a road accident involving a truck and a Maruti Car. Write a report (in about 120 words) including details of the number of people injured and the extent of damage caused to the colliding vehicles. 5

OR

- (b) The Eco Club of your school recently organised a Tree Plantation drive in and around your school campus, as part of World Environment Day. The Plantation drive was inaugurated by the Education Director. Write a report to be published in your School Magazine. You are Leena, the Editor of the School Magazine. Write the report in about 120 words. 5

5. (a) *Amplify the following topic in about 60 words :*

‘What you sow, so shall you reap’ 4

OR

- (b) Your school is organising a symposium on the topic “Healthy Eating Habits for Students”. As one of the speakers, write a presentation to be delivered at the event in about 60 words. You are Danny of class XI. 4

6. (a) You are Manoj of Babupara, Imphal. Write a letter to your friend Dhirajkumar of Section - 6 Dwarka, Delhi telling him about a book fair you had just visited in your city in about 120 words. 5

OR

- (b) You are Praveen of Nambol, Manipur. Write a letter to the General Manager of MSPDCL about the frequent break down in the supply of electricity in your area in about 120 words. 5

7. (a) *Write an essay on the topic in about 160 words :*

“The Importance of Mental Health in Students’ Lives”. 7

OR

- (b) *Write a debate either ‘for’ or ‘against’ the motion in about 160 words :*

“Social Media is harmful to teenagers”. 7

OR

- (c) Write a Speech in about 160 words on the topic :
“Why Reading Habits Are Declining Among Youths”.

7

GRAMMAR

8. (a) Combine the following two simple sentences into a compound sentence :
He works in a shop. He studies in College. 1
- (b) Change the given sentence into Indirect Speech : 1
“Please don’t go away” she said.
9. Four alternatives marked, (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) are given for the following questions. Choose the best options from the alternatives given to answer the questions.
- (a) Ramesh succeeded _____ dint of perseverance and hard work. 1
(i) in (ii) of
(iii) by (iv) with
- (b) Devanshi _____ (get) a new car now. 1
(i) got (ii) has got
(iii) had got (iv) is getting
- (c) Should the committee approve the budget, the treasurer _____ present the revised figures at the annual meeting. 1
(i) shall (ii) will
(iii) shall not (iv) will not
- (d) “You are coming with us, _____ ?” 1
(i) don’t you (ii) won’t you
(iii) are’t you (iv) can’t you

- (e) Which of the following sentence is in the passive? 1
- (i) The students gave the teacher a gift.
 - (ii) They will finish the work by evening.
 - (iii) The proposal was approved by the manager.
 - (iv) He is reading a novel.
- (f) The passengers were afraid but the captain _____ them that there was no danger. 1
- (i) instructed (ii) advised
 - (iii) promised (iv) assured
- (g) My car broke down on the way to college yesterday. 1
- The phrase "broke down" means –
- (i) dashed against another vehicle
 - (ii) broke into pieces
 - (iii) stopped due to mechanical failure
 - (iv) turned upside down
- (h) A dwelling in which soldiers live is called : 1
- (i) Camp (ii) Barracks
 - (iii) Tents (iv) Cottage

SECTION – C
(PROSE)

10. Answer the following question in about 100 - 120 words :

- (a) "It's master's order to drag you to him and give you a good thrashing"
Why was Gafur beaten and tortured by the landlord? 5

OR

(b) "You have already been answered". Said the hermit.

How did the hermit answer the King's three questions? 5

11. Answer any two from the following questions in about 40 words each :

(a) Why, according to J.B.S. Haldane, is a scientist a curious mixture of pride and humility? 3

(b) How did Maeterlinck's book "Life of the Bee, The White Ant and The Ant" influence Nehru's world view? 3

(c) Why does J.B. Priestly say that we live in a curious age? 3

12. Answer any five from the following questions in about 30 words :

(a) According to Nehru how should the study of history teach us? 2

(b) Explain, Gafur's refusal to go to the Jute Mills at Fulbere. 2

(c) Why did the wounded man want to kill the King? 2

(d) What according to Priestly is the cause of destruction and violence today? 2

(e) How did the Pre-Christians view disease in ancient times? 2

(f) Why is the King not satisfied with the answers given to the second question by the wise men? 2

13. Answer the following questions in one sentence :

(a) In what way, according to Nehru, does India's freedom struggle help in the progress of the world? 1

(b) "I heard you pulling it, father"

What did Amina hear? 1

14. (a) Choose the correct answer from the four alternatives given : 1

Priestly expects the students to develop a sense of –

- (i) ignorance (ii) responsibility
(iii) hypocrisy (iv) political enthusiasm

- (b) Two statements are given, Assertion (A) and Reason (R) from the lesson 'The Scientific Points of View' by J.B.S. Haldane. Read the two statements and choose the correct answer from the given option : 1

Assertion (A) : Haldane suggests that a scientific outlook leads to a more just society.

Reason (R) : Haldane believes that science eliminates bases and prejudices, leading to fairer judgement and decisions.

- (i) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
(ii) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
(iii) (A) is true but (R) is false
(iv) (A) is false but (R) is true

SECTION – D

(POETRY)

15. Explain the following extract with reference to the context in about 100 - 120 words : 5

(a) "Thus let me live, unseen, unknown

Thus unlamented let me die

Steal from the world, and not a stone

Tell where I lie".

OR

- (b) There's nobody on the house-tops now
Just a palsied few at the window
For the best of sight is, all allow,
At the Shambles' Gate". 5

16. *Answer any two of the following questions in about 40 words :*

- (a) How does John Keats describe man's summer days in the poem 'The Human season'? 3
- (b) Why does the poem "The Brook" repeat the lines 'For men may come and men may go, But I go on forever'? 3
- (c) Why does John Donne say "And having done that, thou has done/I fear no more". 3

17. *Answer any five from the following questions in about 30 words each :*

- (a) How does the thought of his friend console Shakespear's sadness? 2
- (b) "I loved the garish day, and, spite of fears, Pride ruled my will.
Explain the significance of the line. 2
- (c) Why does the poet say that God's steps are silent? 2
- (d) How does the Brook reach Phillip's farm to join the 'Brimming river'? 2
- (e) How does the Poet find the dimpled spider? 2
- (f) Why did the Patriot say "Alack, it was I who leaped at the sea"? 2

18. *Answer the following questions in one sentence each :*

- (a) "The night is dark and I am far from home".
What does 'home' refer to here? 1

(b) What brings to the mind of the poet during the sessions of sweet silent thought?

1

19. Choose the correct answer from the given four alternatives :

(a) During the month of July, God comes –

1

(i) On a thundering chariot of light

(ii) On a thundering chariot of cloud

(iii) On a thundering chariot of gold

(iv) On a thundering chariot of silver

20. An Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are given from the lesson 'The Human Seasons' by John Keats. Read the statements and choose the correct answer from the given options :

Assertion (A) : Keats describes the spring season in human life as a time of quiet reflection.

Reason (R) : Spring is called 'lusty' symbolising vigour, excitement and youthful enthusiasm.

1

(i) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)

(ii) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)

(iii) (A) is true but (R) is false

(iv) (A) is false but (R) is true