

Total No. of Printed Pages—12

HS/XII/A. Sc. Com/Ae/18

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ALTERNATIVE ENGLISH

Full Marks : 100

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

General Instructions :

- (i) Write all the answers in the Answer Script.
- (ii) Attempt Part—A (Objective Questions) serially.
- (iii) Attempt all parts of a question together at one place.

(PART : A—OBJECTIVE)

(Marks : 50)

SECTION—I

(Marks : 30)

- 1.** Fill in the blanks by choosing the right word(s) from the alternatives given in the brackets (any *five*) : 1×5=5

(a) _____ was the oldest animal on the farm.

(Benjamin / Old Major)

(2)

(b) Remove Man from the scene, and the root cause of hunger and _____ is abolished for ever.

(labour / overwork)

(c) In half an hour the jaguar had reached the cage and was _____ at the door, threatening to tear it from its hinges.

(lashing / hitting)

(d) We retreated a _____ yards or so along the trail and held a council of war.

(hundred / fifty)

(e) Sethji realized that he was up against a tough _____, a regular champion.

(opponent / rival)

(f) As soon as I saw your face I knew you were a man of principle and _____.

(honesty / integrity)

(g) Jenny stopped in her languid stroll, snatched a bamboo from the border, and hurled it at Snort like a _____.

(spear / lance)

(3)

2. Write whether the following statements are *True* or *False* (any five) : 1×5=5

- (a) The Commandments were written on the tarred wall in great white letters that could be read forty yards away.
- (b) The pigs were generally recognised as being the cleverest of the farm animals.
- (c) Rod and his friends want to capture the jaguar alive and unharmed.
- (d) The farmer who owed Sethji five rupees had paid neither principal nor interest for five months.
- (e) The ekka driver asked twelve annas from Sethji for the ride in his ekka.
- (f) Quick never asked for affection from his girls.
- (g) Kate ran up to her father to see his cut and make sure that the bandage was sticking.

(4)

3. Complete the following sentences using the right word from the alternatives given in the brackets (any five) : 1×5=5

(a) 'I, _____ from My sevenfold height,
Will teach thee of My quickening grace.'
(bending / rising)

(b) And pain shall cleanse thee like a flame,
To _____ the dross from thy desire.
(purge / purify)

(c) Or up the mountain springs;
And hers shall be the _____ balm.
(breathing / body)

(d) The stars of midnight shall be _____
To her; and she shall lean her ear,
(near / dear)

(e) Four seasons fill the _____ of the year;
(measure / duration)

(f) Spring's honied cud of _____ thought he loves
To ruminare.
(youthful / lusty)

(g) We noticed nothing as we went,
A _____ crowd of little hope,
(struggling / straggling)

(5)

4. Write whether the following statements are *True* or *False* (any five) : 1×5=5

- (a) *The Soul's Prayer* is a discussion between the poet and God about the nature of existence.
- (b) Nature describes Lucy as the loveliest flower on earth.
- (c) The floating clouds would imbibe Lucy with grace.
- (d) During his Summer man takes in all beauty with an easy span.
- (e) Autumn comes after Summer in *The Human Seasons*.
- (f) Two pilgrims part company with the rest of the group because of the differences among them as to how to cross a desert patch.
- (g) The poem, *Enterprise* concludes on a note of exultation and optimism.

(6)

5. Answer any *five* of the following questions in 2/3 sentences each, choosing *either* from Group—A or from Group—B : 2×5=10

GROUP—A

- (a) What made Persomé lose her temper?
- (b) What complaints does Persomé have against her brother?
- (c) How does the convict behave when he encounters the Bishop?
- (d) Why does the convict call the prison a 'hell'?
- (e) How does the Bishop treat the convict?
- (f) Who was Jeanette? What was the cause of her death?

GROUP—B

- (a) How does Banquo describe the night sky in the beginning of Act II, Scene I of *Macbeth*?
- (b) Why does Macbeth refuse to take the daggers back to the scene of the crime?
- (c) What does Macbeth wish the knocking at the castle door could do? Who was knocking at the door?
- (d) What does Macbeth do to the supposed murderers of King Duncan and why?
- (e) What do Malcolm and Donalbain decide on doing after the murder of the King? Why do they decide to do so?
- (f) How does Macbeth become the King of Scotland?

(7)

SECTION—II

(Marks : 20)

6. Answer any *five* of the following questions in
2/3 sentences each : 2×5=10

- (a) Who was Old Major?
- (b) Why were Rod and his group trailing the jaguar?
- (c) How does the debt collector start off his day?
- (d) What did Robert Quick think that his 'small girls' would do on his return from work?
- (e) Explain the phrase 'mystic knowledge of the grave'.
- (f) 'The work was done.' What work was done by Nature for Lucy?
- (g) What is Winter like in *The Human Seasons*?
- (h) How did the pilgrims react after 'a section claimed its liberty to leave the group'?

7. Rewrite the following sentences as directed : $1 \times 10 = 10$

(a) The clerk will give you a cheque.
(Change the voice)

(b) Mary is one who can speak two languages.
(Substitute the underlined words with
one word)

(c) The tree is so high that I cannot climb it.
(Rewrite the sentence using 'too')

(d) There is no rose without a thorn.
(Change into an affirmative sentence)

(e) Everybody will help a man in distress.
(Change into an interrogative sentence)

(f) The boy is void ____ common sense.
(Insert an appropriate preposition)

(g) Cars pollute the environment.
(Add a question tag)

(h) He denied that he was not a thief.
(Correct the sentence)

(i) Four million African slaves were emancipated by Lincoln.
(Change the voice)

(j) I am ____ university student.
(Insert an appropriate article)

(9)

(PART : B—DESCRIPTIVE)

(Marks : 50)

8. Answer any *two* of the following questions : $5 \times 2 = 10$

(a) Narrate the circumstances that led to the outbreak of the rebellion in George Orwell's *The Rebellion*.

(b) "Xingu suddenly quit stirring and his jaw dropped open. An idea was taking possession of him."

What was the idea that had taken possession of Xingu? Was his idea successful? $2+3=5$

(c) How does the ekka driver outsmart the miserly debt collector and make him pay his fare?

(d) "Robert Quick realises that his daughters are growing up and so is he." Describe the events that lead to this realisation and Quick's emotional responses.

9. Answer any *two* of the following questions : $5 \times 2 = 10$

(a) In *The Soul's Prayer*, what was God's reply to the poet's prayer?

(b) Discuss Nature's scheme of Lucy's education as prescribed in the poem, *The Education of Nature*.

(c) How does Keats describe the 'Four seasons in the mind of Man'?

(d) What was the mood of the pilgrims at the start of their pilgrimage? What was their reaction on arriving at their destination? $2+3=5$

(10)

10. Explain, with reference to the context, any *two*, *either*
from Group—A *or* from Group—B : 5×2=10

GROUP—A

(**The Bishop's Candlesticks**)

- (a) My dear, there is so much suffering in the world,
and I can do so little (sighs), so very little.
- (b) Ah, that is hard, very hard, I, I — He might have
left me those. They were all I had.
- (c) I didn't believe there was any good in the world —
one doesn't when one has been in Hell, but
somehow I — I know you're good and, and it's a
queer thing to ask but — but could you, would
you bless me before I go — I — I think it would
help me.

GROUP—B

(**Macbeth**)

- (a) Or art thou but
A dagger of the mind, a false creation,
Proceeding from the heat-oppressed brain?
- (b) Infirm of purpose !
Give me the daggers. The sleeping and the dead
Are but as pictures; 'tis the eye of childhood
That fears a painted devil.
- (c) You are, and do not know't :
The spring, the head, the fountain of your blood
Is stopp'd; the very source of it is stopp'd.

11. Write a précis of the following passage and give a suitable title to it : 8+2=10

Man first appeared on earth half a million years ago. Then he was little more than an animal. Even so, early man had certain big advantages over the animals. He had a large brain, he had an upright body, with nimble hands; and he had in his brain, special group of nerve cells, not present in animals, that enabled him to invent a language and to use it to communicate with his fellowmen. This ability to speak was of supreme value because it allowed men to share ideas, and to plan together; so that tasks impossible for a single person could be successfully undertaken by intelligent teamwork. Speech also enabled ideas to be passed on from generation to generation so that the stock of human knowledge slowly increased. It was these special advantages that put men far ahead of all other living creatures in the struggle for existence. They can pit their wits against their difficulties and master them. Since those far-off times when he first made his appearance, man has achieved a great deal.

12. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

As daylight can be seen through very small holes, so little things will illustrate a person's character. Indeed, character consists in little acts, well and honourably performed, daily life being the quarry from which we build it up and rough-hew the habits which form it. One of the most marked tests of character is the manner in which we conduct ourselves towards others. A graceful behaviour towards superiors, inferiors and equals, is a constant source of pleasure.

It pleases others because it indicates respect for their personality; but it gives tenfold more pleasure to ourselves. Gentleness in society is like the silent influence of light which gives colour to all nature and it is far more powerful than loudness of force and far more fruitful.

- (a) What shows our character best? 1
- (b) What does our character consist of? 1
- (c) What is one of the most important tests of character? 2
- (d) What is the good of graceful behaviour? 2
- (e) Find words in the passage which mean—
- (i) to show the meaning or truth of something more clearly, especially by giving examples;
 - (ii) dig up, mine;
 - (iii) behaving in a polite and pleasant way;
 - (iv) to behave in a particular way in a public or formal situation. $\frac{1}{2} \times 4 = 2$
- (f) Give a suitable title for the passage. 2
