

Total No. of Printed Pages—12

HS/XII/A. Sc. Com./Ae/23

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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 from the alternatives given in the brackets (any *five*) : 1×5=5

(a) Benjamin was the oldest animal in the farm, and the ____ tempered.

(worst / bad)

(2)

- (b) The commandments were written on the tarred wall in great white letters that could be read _____ yards away.

(thirty / twenty)

- (c) The _____ led through a forest that reminded one of a cathedral.

(trail / spoor)

- (d) “That will keep him busy for a _____, said Xingu.”

(month / week)

- (e) Taking a four-anna coin, Sethji threw it down with as much bold assurance as if he _____ no value to it.

(attached / detached)

- (f) Sethji realised that he was up against a _____ opponent, a regular champion.

(rough / tough)

- (g) Quick was _____ at his own disappointment.

(amused / shocked)

- (h) A man so plump and bold could not allow himself even to appear upset by the _____ of his children.

(affection / roughness)

(3)

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

1×5=5

- (a) Mr. Jones' trap was drawn by Clover, the motherly mare.
- (b) The pigs revealed that during the past six months, they had taught themselves to read and write.
- (c) At the end of the ekka ride, Sethji was willing to shell out three annas and nothing more.
- (d) The jaguar's eyes were as large as dinner plates.
- (e) Sometimes the jaguar keeps travelling steadily for a thousand miles.
- (f) Robert Quick returned home after a holiday.
- (g) Jenny reproached her sister for her inability to control her laughter after their father was bitten by Snort.
- (h) Sethji enjoyed every opportunity of a free meal.

3. Fill in the blanks by choosing the right word from the alternatives given in the brackets (any *five*) :

1×5=5

- (a) The _____ lore of love and life.
(intricate / complex)
- (b) So shall thy _____ spirit yearn
To seek from its blind prayer release.
(cleansed / chastened)

(4)

(c) Another _____ was reached when we were twice attacked.

(phase / stage)

(d) _____ and put down copious notes.

(Observed / Absorbed)

(e) And hers the _____ and the calm.

(stillness / silence)

(f) The _____ clouds their state shall lend.

(floating / flying)

(g) Four seasons fill the _____ of the year.

(length / measure)

(h) Or else he would forego his _____ nature.

(mortal / immortal)

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

1×5=5

(a) The Lord is disappointed with Naidu's prayer.

(b) The Soul's prayer is a soliloquy.

(c) At the beginning of the pilgrimage, the pilgrims were very enthusiastic.

(d) Wordsworth laments the death of Lucy.

(5)

- (e) Lucy's natural instincts will be curbed and she shall instead absorb only what nature teaches her.
- (f) *The Human Seasons* is not a sonnet.
- (g) Old age is compared to summer by Keats.
- (h) The poem, *Enterprise* concludes on an optimistic note.

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

GROUP—A

- (a) How was the convict treated in prison?
- (b) Why did the Bishop not inform the police about the thievery?
- (c) How did the Bishop help the convict get to Paris?
- (d) What was the offer made by the Bishop to Mere Gringoire? Why did she refuse the offer?
- (e) Why did Persome accuse Marie of being ungrateful?
- (f) Who bought the salt-cellars from the Bishop? Why was he the preferred customer?
- (g) Give at least two instances from the play that prove that the Bishop was very kind to the people.

(6)

GROUP—B

- (a) What did Ross witness on the night of Duncan's murder?
- (b) How does Macbeth describe sleep?
- (c) How did Lady Macbeth make the preparations for Duncan's murder?
- (d) Why did Lady Macbeth decide that they needed to get into their nightgowns?
- (e) What was the reason behind Macbeth's inability to pronounce 'Amen', while he was in Duncan's chamber?
- (f) What did Macbeth wish for when he heard the knocking at the castle door? Who was at the door?
- (g) On what conditions was Banquo willing to follow Macbeth's advice?

SECTION—II

(Marks : 20)

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

- (a) How did the animals behave after they achieved success in their rebellion against Man?
- (b) What are some of the characteristics of the jaguar?

(7)

- (c) How do you know that Sethji gave great importance to keeping up appearances?
- (d) How will Sarojini Naidu benefit from pain?
- (e) How is Benjamin, the donkey, different from the other animals?
- (f) What were Kate and Jenny doing in the garden when their father arrived?
- (g) What does a person love to ruminate upon during the summer of his life?
- (h) How did the pilgrims spend their time in the second stage?
- (i) What gift will the murmuring rivulets give to the girl?

7. Rewrite the following sentences as directed : 1×10=10

- (a) He was shouting so much that we could not hear the music.

(Rewrite the sentence using 'too')

- (b) He is not liked by anyone.

(Change the voice)

- (c) She was standing _____ him.

(Choose the correct word : beside/besides)

(8)

(d) John is so negative about everything.

(Add a question tag)

(e) We are credibly informed that the murderer has given himself up to the police.

(Substitute the underlined words
with one word)

(f) His behaviour annoys me greatly.

(Change the voice)

(g) The boat was drowned in the river.

(Correct the sentence)

(h) They were prohibited _____ entering the village.

(Insert an appropriate preposition)

(i) I was afraid that if I asked him again he _____ refuse.

(Choose the correct word : may/might)

(j) They live _____ the same roof.

(Insert an appropriate preposition)

(9)

(PART : B—DESCRIPTIVE)

(Marks : 50)

8. Answer any *two* of the following questions : 5×2=10

- (a) How does man tyrannize the animals?
- (b) Describe how Rod and his team finally capture the jaguar.
- (c) How do we know that Seth Chetaram considered religion more important than money?
- (d) What were Mr. Quick's feelings during the Committee members meeting? What did he decide to do?

9. Answer any *two* of the following questions : 5×2=10

- (a) What is God's answer to Sarojini Naidu's prayer?
- (b) "The work was done—."
What is the 'work' referred to by Wordsworth?
- (c) Describe the difference between the Spring and Winter seasons of a man's life according to Keats.
- (d) What made Nissim Ezekiel come to the conclusion that 'Home is where we have to gather grace' in the poem, *Enterprise*?

(10)

10. Explain with reference to the context (any *two*). Choose either Group—A or Group—B. 5×2=10

GROUP—A

(**The Bishop's Candlesticks**)

- (a) "If people lie to me they are poorer, not I."
- (b) "You are like a child, I can't trust you out of my sight."
- (c) "It was my fault. I led him into temptation."
- (d) "So anything you do for me you're doing to the devil, understand?"

GROUP—B

(**Macbeth**)

- (a) "Balm of hurt minds, great nature's second course, Chief nourisher in life's feast."
- (b) "A heavy summons lies like lead upon me, And yet I would not sleep."
- (c) "What should be spoken here, where our fate, Hid in an auger-hole, may rush and seize us?"
- (d) "Most sacrilegious Murther hath broke ope The Lord's anointed Temple, and stole thence The life o' th' building!"

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

Art occupies a position of great importance in the modern world. It obviously does not mean that modern art is better than the art of other generations. The quality, not the quantity, of modern art is important. Most people take conscious interest in art as art. And more people take to devote themselves to its practices than at any other period. Our age, though it has produced many masterpieces, is a thoroughly aesthetic age. The increase in the number of practitioners and amateurs in all the arts is not unconnected with the decrease in the number of religious believers. To minds whose religious needs have been denied their normal fulfilment, art brings a certain spiritual satisfaction in its lowest forms. In its higher and more significant forms it is a philosophy as well as a ritual. The Arts including music and certain important kinds of literature have been, at most periods, the handmaids of religion. Their principal function was to prove religion with the visible or audible symbols which create in the eyes of the beholder those feelings which for him personally are of God. Divorced from religion, the arts are now independently cultivated for their own sake. The aesthetic beauty which was once devoted to the service of God has not set up a God of its own. The cultivation of art for its own sake has become a substitute for religion.

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

A life of action and danger moderates the dread of death. It not only gives us fortitude to bear pain, but teaches us at every step the precarious tenure on which we hold

our present being. Sedentary and studious men are the most apprehensive on this line. Dr. Johnson was an instance in point. A few years seemed to him soon over, compared with those sweeping contemplations on time and infinity with which he had been used to pose himself. In the still life of a man of letters there was no obvious reason for a change. He might sit in an arm chair and pour out cups of tea to all eternity would it had been possible for him to do so. The most rational cure after all for the inordinate fear of death is to set a just value on life. If we mere wish to continue on the scene to indulge our headstrong humour and tormenting passions, we had better be gone at once; and if we only cherish a fondness for existence according to the good we desire from it, the pang we feel at parting with will not be very severe.

Questions :

- | | |
|--|---|
| (a) What type of people are afraid of death and why? | 3 |
| (b) How can we get rid of the fear of death? | 1 |
| (c) What idea do you form about Dr. Johnson from this passage? | 2 |
| (d) Give the meaning of the following words : | 4 |
| (i) Sedentary | |
| (ii) Fortitude | |
| (iii) Inordinate | |
| (iv) Headstrong | |

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