

Total No. of Printed Pages—8

**HS/XII/A/e/23**

**2 0 2 3**

**ELECTIVE 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 : 20 )

**1.** State whether the following statements are *True* or *False* :

1×6=6

- (a) Raju feared that the ancient temple was actually a crocodile place.
- (b) To Raju, Rosie was very glamorous.
- (c) Gaffur knew a king cobra charmer.

( 2 )

(d) The jail superintendent was a stern disciplinarian.

(e) In jail, Raju was referred to as Vadhyar.

(f) Rosie sold all her diamonds to help Mani.

2. Name the speaker and the person spoken to : 1×6=6

(a) Don't ask me for promises until I know what I'm promising.

(b) It's so hard to know what a gentleman considers right. I thought from your trying to kiss me that you had given up being so particular.

(c) You have deceived me. You are my rival. I brook no rivals.

(d) You could have annexed Serbia and made Prince Alexander Emperor of the Balkans. That's what I would have done.

(e) Civilized people don't hang out their washing to dry where visitors can see it; so you'd better have all that put somewhere else.

(f) Be quick. If you are away five minutes, it will seem five hours.

( 3 )

3. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate words : 1×8=8

(a) The red-coats looked to their \_\_\_\_\_.  
She stood up, straight and still.

( priming / lading / forming )

(b) Back, he spurred like a madman, shrieking a \_\_\_\_\_ to  
the sky.

( coerce / curse / spurt )

(c) Will no one tell me what she \_\_\_\_\_?

( thinks / sings / flings )

(d) They also \_\_\_\_\_ who only stand and wait.

( work / labour / serve )

(e) The great moments of heroism and sacrifice are \_\_\_\_\_.

( precious / rare / special )

(f) The first few \_\_\_\_\_ placed under the microscope  
revealed nothing.

( mosquitoes / larvae / worms )

( 4 )

- (g) A French doctor named Laveran, working in Algeria, definitely suggested that the mosquito might spread \_\_\_\_.

( fever / elephantiasis / malaria )

- (h) You have liberty to laugh at me, but I have liberty to be \_\_\_\_ to you.

( detached / indifferent / unconcerned )

SECTION—II

( Marks : 30 )

4. Answer any *ten* of the following questions in 2 to 3 sentences each : 3×10=30

- (a) What did Raina put in the coat that was lent to Bluntschli and why?

- (b) According to Petkoff, what is the reason for Catherine's 'usual' sore throats?

- (c) How does Raina introduce the Petkoffs to Bluntschli?

- (d) Why did Sergius challenge Bluntschli to a duel?

( 5 )

- (e) What is the main theme of *The Guide*?
- (f) Briefly describe what Raju learned from scrap.
- (g) What was Rosie's new name? What did it indicate?
- (h) What does the narrator mean by 'social sense'? (*Rule of the Road*)
- (i) Why is malaria called 'a Plague'?
- (j) What was the similarity between Milton and the third servant in the *Parable of the Talents*?
- (k) Who was Tim? Describe his appearance. (*The Highway Man*)
- (l) How did Wordsworth feel after hearing the song of that reaper?
- (m) In brief, describe the setting of the poem, *The Solitary Reaper*.

( 6 )

( PART : B—DESCRIPTIVE )

( Marks : 50 )

5. Who according to the narrator was not a 'clubbable man'?  
What reasons did he give to support his statement? 5

Or

Write a note on Manson's work on elephantiasis.

6. How does Milton hope to serve God in his poem, *On His Blindness*? 5

Or

Show how the poem, *The Highwayman* celebrates the true love of its central characters.

Or

What is the central idea of Wordsworth's poem, *The Solitary Reaper*?

7. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 10

(a) Attempt a character sketch of Sergius.

(b) What is 'higher love' according to Raina? Bring out the scene of 'higher love' between Raina and Sergius.

(c) Write short notes on any *two* of the following : 5×2=10

(i) Nicola

(ii) Catherine

(iii) Bluntschli

( 7 )

8. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 10

- (a) Describe Raju's activities in the Central Jail.
- (b) Analyze the character of Velan as reflected in the novel, *The Guide*.
- (c) Write short notes on any *two* of the following : 5×2=10
  - (i) Raju
  - (ii) Marco
  - (iii) Rosie

9. Read the poem given below and answer the questions that follow :

O FRIEND! I know not which way I must look  
For comfort, being, as I am, opprest,  
To think that now our life is only drest  
For show; mean handy-work of craftsman, cook,  
Or groom ! We must run glittering like a brook  
In the open sunshine, or we are unblest :  
The wealthiest man among us is the best :  
No grandeur now in nature or in book  
Delights us. Rapine, avarice, expense,  
This is idolatry; and these we adore;  
Plain living and high thinking are no more :  
The homely beauty of the good old cause  
Is gone; our peace, our fearful innocence,  
And pure religion breathing household laws.

( 8 )

Questions :

2×5=10

- (a) Why is the poet 'oppressed'?
- (b) What are the things that do not delight 'us' anymore?
- (c) Mention the things that the poet associates with idolatry.
- (d) What does the expression 'plain living and high thinking' mean?
- (e) What according to the poet is 'The homely beauty of the good old cause'?

**10.** Write an essay in about 250 words on any *one* of the following topics :

10

- (a) The demerits of social media
- (b) Should plastic be banned?
- (c) Your favourite childhood memory
- (d) Online shopping

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