

ELECTIVE ENGLISH

Maximum Marks: 80

Time Allowed: Three hours

(Candidates are allowed **additional 15 minutes** for **only** reading the paper.

They must **NOT** start writing during this time).

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].

Attempt **ten** questions from Question 1 **and five** questions from Question 2 in Section A on **any three** out of the five prescribed textbooks.

Attempt **three** questions from Section B on **any three** out of the five prescribed textbooks.

Do not attempt extra questions.

SECTION A – 20 MARKS

(Attempt **any ten** subparts of Question 1 and **any five** subparts of Question 2)

Question 1

Choose the most appropriate option from among those given for **any ten** of the questions or statements from any **three** of the prescribed textbooks.

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD – Harper Lee

- (i) Scout and Jem discovered gifts in the knot-hole of _____. [1]
- (a) a mango tree
 - (b) an oak tree
 - (c) a camellia bush
- (ii) When Scout asked how a snake felt, what did Jem fetch? [1]
- (a) A hose pipe
 - (b) Calpurnia's ladle
 - (c) A broom
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- (iii) Who had Atticus covered all time with a double-barrelled shotgun at the Maycomb jailhouse? [1]
- (a) Mr. Avery
 - (b) Mr. Underwood
 - (c) Judge Taylor
- (iv) The novel can be called [1]
- (a) a Bildungsroman.
 - (b) historical fiction.
 - (c) an autobiography.

THE HUNGRY TIDE: *Amitav Ghosh*

- (v) The ‘barefoot nurse’ programme by the Trust was meant to [1]
- (a) absorb poor widows in and around Lusibari in useful work.
 - (b) provide medical assistance to remote villages.
 - (c) teach nurses to hold literacy classes for the unlettered in villages.
- (vi) Why was Nilima surprised at the date of Nirmal’s diary? [1]
- (a) It was a year in which Nirmal had done no writing.
 - (b) It was the year the flood had washed away all school children’s ‘khatas’.
 - (c) It was the year Nirmal had retired as headmaster.
- (vii) What did Nirmal consider the story of Bon Bibi to be? [1]
- (a) Rural superstition
 - (b) False consciousness
 - (c) Poetic fallacy

- (viii) In Lusibari, who had a providential escape from a venomous snake while fastening a mosquito net in the darkness? [1]
- (a) Nilima
 - (b) Kusum
 - (c) Kanai

A DOLL'S HOUSE: *Henrik Ibsen*

- (ix) What best describes the way Nora manipulates Torvald? [1]
- (a) Nora plays up her femininity by emphasising on her beauty and helplessness.
 - (b) Nora is dramatic about leaving Torvald so that he will try to win her back.
 - (c) Nora cannot manipulate Torvald because he has power over her.
- (x) Which of the following is not an example of the sacrifice women make in the play? [1]
- (a) Anne Marie has to give up her daughter in order to work as a nanny.
 - (b) Nora uses her allowance to pay off the loan she takes to save Torvald's life.
 - (c) Nora is forced to spend her spare time caring for her children.
- (xi) Why does Nora feel she can spend more money that Christmas? [1]
- (a) Torvald has increased her allowance.
 - (b) Torvald has got a new position which means a better salary.
 - (c) Torvald offers to pay the bills of his "skylark".
- (xii) Torvald hates indebtedness because [1]
- (a) a home in debt can never be free.
 - (b) it would make him too much like Nora's father.
 - (c) it is a hereditary ill.

DEATH OF A SALESMAN: *Arthur Miller*

- (xiii) What does Charley offer Willy? [1]
- (a) Moral support
 - (b) A job
 - (c) Companionship
- (xiv) While talking to Happy, Biff considers borrowing money from [1]
- (a) Howard Wagner to buy a ranch.
 - (b) Bill Oliver to open a sporting goods store.
 - (c) Bill Oliver to buy a ranch.
- (xv) Linda is Willy's [1]
- (a) pillar and support.
 - (b) foundation and pillar.
 - (c) foundation and support.
- (xvi) Where did Bernard tell Willy he was taking a train to? [1]
- (a) Washington
 - (b) Ebbets Field
 - (c) Boston

NINETEENTH AND TWENTIETH CENTURY VERSE – *Ed. Chris Woodhead*

- (xvii) The use of the word “bodkin” in *The Ship of Death* implies [1]
- (a) metaphorically stitching together one's preparation for death.
 - (b) considering – but rejecting – suicide.
 - (c) considering – and embracing – suicide.

- (xviii) Where was the narrator of *As the team's head brass* sitting? [1]
- (a) Among the boughs of a fallen elm, by a woodpecker's round hole
 - (b) Among the boughs of a fallen spruce, by a woodpecker's round hole
 - (c) Among the boughs of a fallen fir, by a peewit's round hole
- (xix) In *Musee des Beaux Arts*, what must the "expensive delicate ship" have seen? [1]
- (a) A boy falling out of the sky
 - (b) A pair of white legs in the green sea
 - (c) Nothing, but may have heard the forsaken cry
- (xx) Edward Thomas uses a _____ to compare himself to a river in the evening in the poem *Beauty*. [1]
- (a) metaphor
 - (b) consonance
 - (c) simile

Question 2

Briefly answer **any five** of the following questions from **any three** of the prescribed textbooks:

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD – *Harper Lee*

- (i) What does Mr. Avery attribute as the cause for the unusual coldest weather in Maycomb since 1885? [2]
- (ii) On the first day of school who, according to Scout, was the "filthiest human" she had ever seen and why? [2]

THE HUNGRY TIDE: *Amitav Ghosh*

- (iii) How did Nilima get to know Moyna’s husband was Fokir? [2]
- (iv) What was Nilima’s reaction when Kanai told her he was going away for a few days into the forest? [2]

A DOLL’S HOUSE: *Henrik Ibsen*

- (v) What jobs does Nora do secretly to earn money to pay off the loan? [2]
- (vi) What are the terms of Krogstad’s blackmail? [2]

DEATH OF A SALESMAN: *Arthur Miller*

- (vii) Mention two consequences of the episode at Boston. [2]
- (viii) What two reasons were given by Howard Wagner to Willy for refusing to give him a desk job in New York? [2]

NINETEENTH AND TWENTIETH CENTURY VERSE – *Ed. Chris Woodhead*

- (ix) Give any two examples Auden uses in *Musee des Beaux Arts* to illustrate indifference to human suffering. [2]
- (x) In Seamus Heaney’s poem *Follower*, what does the poet say he “wanted to grow up” and do? What does he say he “ever did”? [2]

SECTION B – 60 MARKS

Attempt **three** questions from Section B on **any three** out of the five prescribed textbooks.

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD – *Harper Lee*

Question 3

- (i) How does Scout defy the conventions of a ‘Southern lady’ in her dress and behaviour? [20]

OR

- (ii) Write short notes on:
- (a) Charles Baker Harris [10]
- (b) Aunt Alexandra’s views on Maycomb society and appropriate behaviour [10]

THE HUNGRY TIDE: *Amitav Ghosh*

Question 4

- (i) Give a detailed description of Piya’s first meeting with Fokir. Do you consider this incident significant to the plot? [20]

OR

- (ii) Write short notes on:
- (a) Piya’s observations as Fokir and Tutul catch crabs while she tracks the Orcaella. [10]
- (b) Kanai’s description of the creation and destruction of Port Canning. [10]

A DOLL’S HOUSE: *Henrik Ibsen*

Question 5

- (ii) Analyse the character and role of Mrs Linde in the play *A Doll’s House*. [20]

OR

- (ii) Write short notes on:
- (a) The Tarantella [10]
- (b) Nora as a victim of blackmail [10]

DEATH OF A SALESMAN: *Arthur Miller*

Question 6

- (i) With close reference to *Death of a Salesman*, assess the character of Happy Loman. Do you feel he is truly 'happy'? [20]

OR

- (ii) Write short notes on:
- (a) The significance of stockings in the play. [10]
- (b) Charley as a friend. [10]

NINETEENTH AND TWENTIETH CENTURY VERSE – *Ed. Chris Woodhead*

Question 7

- (i) W.H. Auden's *The Unknown Citizen* is written in praise of a man who has recently died and is termed as an ideal role model by the government. Discuss. [20]

OR

- (ii) Write short notes on:
- (a) The poet as an "artful voyeur" in the past and the present, as suggested in *Punishment*. [10]
- (b) The intricate detail of the progress of the fox in Ted Hughes' *The Thought-Fox*. [10]