

Total No. of Printed Pages—8

HS/XII/A/e/20

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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) It is Velan's unwavering faith that gives Raju the power he needs to try the fast for real.
 - (b) Nalini had to scrape up a bail bond for ten thousand rupees.
 - (c) "The Cultural History of South India" was written by Marco.

(2)

- (d) To make himself more 'modern' for Rosie, Marco spent money on new clothes and invested in hair and face lotions and perfumes of all kinds.
- (e) Raju's lawyer is shrewd at spinning his tales and manages to get Raju only two years instead of ten in prison.
- (f) James J. Malone is a TV producer from New Delhi.

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

- (a) A shocking sacrifice, isn't it? Such beauty! such intellect! such modesty! wasted on a middle-aged servant man.
- (b) Yes : sell your manhood for 30 levas, and buy me for 10.
- (c) My rank is the highest known in Switzerland : I am a free citizen.
- (d) You are a romantic idiot.
- (e) A Swiss? What was he doing in the Serbian army?
- (f) I have found a Russian officer, thank Heaven :

(3)

3. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate words : $1 \times 8 = 8$

(a) The filaria _____ could neither walk nor fly.

(parasite / worm / insect)

(b) In the course of _____ years, Ross discovered the enemy and showed how it could be conquered.

(four / two / five)

(c) "I'm going to walk where I like. We've got _____ now."

(freedom / rights / liberty)

(d) We are much more conscious of the _____ of others in this respect than of our own.

(imperfections / flaws / faults)

(e) But they _____ his daughter and bound her to the foot of her narrow bed.

(silenced / smothered / gagged)

(f) They stretched and strained in the darkness and the hours _____ by like years.

(passed / trailed / crawled)

(g) I listened, motionless and still;
And, as I _____ up the hill,

(climbed / mounted / walked)

(h) And that one _____ which is death to hide.

(work / gift / talent)

(4)

SECTION—II

(Marks : 30)

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

- (a) How does the Highwayman respond to the news about Bess?
- (b) What is the ostler's name? Describe him. 1+2=3
- (c) Who are referred to as the 'mosquito-men'?
- (d) Why is the policeman a symbol of liberty and not tyranny?
- (e) Give one example of a person who had no social sense in Gardiner's essay.
- (f) Who, according to Milton, serve God best?
- (g) How could Wordsworth hear the song of the Solitary Reaper when it could be heard no more?
- (h) Who are the 'weary bands' in Wordsworth's poem? What welcome notes do they hear? 1+2=3
- (i) What was the tragedy that befell Raju that made him change his business venture?

(5)

- (j) Who is Raju's creditor? What trouble did Raju face with him? 1+2=3
- (k) Why was Sergius's cavalry charge at Slivnitsa considered 'foolish'?
- (l) Why and how did Sergius challenge Bluntschli to a fight?
- (m) Describe Petkoff's library.

(PART : B—DESCRIPTIVE)

(Marks : 50)

5. What was Sir Patrick Manson's 'discovery' that set certain men thinking? 5

Or

What did A. G. Gardiner mean by the term 'liberty drunk'? Cite examples from the text to substantiate your answer. 5

6. What is the cause of Milton's lament in his Sonnet, *On His Blindness*? How does he ultimately console and resign himself to his fate? 2+3=5

Or

The Solitary Reaper is a poem that depicts a simple peasant girl with an extraordinary voice. What qualities make the girl unforgettable? 5

(6)

Or

Describe Alfred Noyes's *The Highwayman* as a romantic ballad of love and betrayal. 5

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

- (a) Sergius's exclamation at the end of the play, "What a man! Is he a man!" is so poignant and fitting. Examine Bluntschli's character in the light of the remark made by Sergius.
- (b) How is the theme of class discrimination and social snobbery highlighted in *Arms and the Man*?
- (c) Write short notes on any *two* of the following : 5×2=10
- (i) Paul Petkoff
 - (ii) Raina
 - (iii) Nicola

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

- (a) Describe the theme of marriage as depicted in R. K. Narayan's novel, *The Guide*.
- (b) The coming of the Railway train to Malgudi was a turning point in Raju's life and career. Describe the development of his character as 'Railway Raju'.
- (c) Write short notes on any *two* of the following : 5×2=10
- (i) Raju's uncle
 - (ii) Velan
 - (iii) Raju's father

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

Home they brought her warrior dead :
She nor swoon'd nor utter'd cry :
All her maidens, watching, said,
"She must weep or she will die."

Then they praised him, soft and low,
Call'd him worthy to be loved,
Truest friend and noblest foe;
Yet she neither spoke nor moved.

Stole a maiden from her place,
Lightly to the warrior stept,
Took the face-cloth from the face;
Yet she neither moved nor wept.

Rose a nurse of ninety years,
Set his child upon her knee—
Like summer tempest came her tears—
"Sweet my child, I live for thee."

- (a) Who is 'her' in the first line and what was 'her' reaction when she saw the warrior's dead body? 2
- (b) What are the mourners' deliberate attempt to make the wife cry? 2
- (c) What did one of the maidens do to break her out of the state of shock? 2

(8)

(d) What is the dominant theme in the poem? 2

(e) Explain how the nurse was wiser than the maidens. 2

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

(a) Is technology limiting creativity?

(b) An experience that taught you to appreciate life more

(c) A perfect vacation destination

(d) Books—A treasure-house of knowledge

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