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HS/XII/A/e/25

2 0 2 5

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) After his release from prison, Raju decides to return to his old profession as a tourist guide.
- (b) Raju's fasting, towards the end of the novel, is purely a manipulative act with no genuine intention.

(2)

- (c) Rosie is portrayed as a woman who is willing to sacrifice everything for her art.
- (d) Marco reconciles with Rosie after her relationship with Raju ends.
- (e) Raju's life story is told in the novel through a series of flashbacks.
- (f) Raju's father is happy with his decision to manage Rosie's dancing career.

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

- (a) Would you like to see me cry?
- (b) I wish our people were not so cruel. What glory is there in killing wretched fugitives?
- (c) A Swiss? What was he doing in the Serbian army?
- (d) He humbugged us into giving him fifty able-bodied men for two hundred worn out chargers. They weren't even eatable.
- (e) Yes, sell your manhood for 30 levas, and buy me for 10!
- (f) If these hands ever touch you again, they shall touch my affianced bride.

(3)

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

(a) Thus the story comes to August 20, 1897, the anniversary of which Sir Ronald Ross called ____.

(Malaria Week / Discovery Day / Mosquito Day)

(b) ____ would be a maelstrom that you would never cross at all.

(Petrograd / The Strand / Piccadilly Circus)

(c) I am neither a Marxist, nor a Tolstoyan, but a ____.

(compromise / consensus / concession)

(d) ____ the silence of the seas
Among the farthest Hebrides.

(Shattering / Imploding / Breaking)

(e) I ____ her singing at her work.

(watch / saw / catch)

(f) But Patience, to prevent
That murmur, soon ____.

(replied / reply / replies)

(g) He turned; he spurred to the ____.

(westward / westroad / westside)

(h) The tip of one finger touched it! The ____ at last was hers!

(gun / musket / trigger)

(4)

SECTION—II

(Marks : 30)

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

- (a) How does Raju's uncle react to Raju's involvement with Rosie?
- (b) Describe James J. Malone in a few words.
- (c) Why was Sergius denied a promotion after the Battle of Slivnitsa ended?
- (d) Who is Louka? Describe her character and ambitions.
- (e) What warning did Bess give the highwayman and how does she deliver it?
- (f) Who are the 'red-coat' troop of men?
- (g) Give a description of the landlord's daughter.
- (h) How does Milton express his feelings about his blindness in the poem?
- (i) What is the emotional impact of the reaper's song on the poet?
- (j) What is often heard among the Arabian sands and the Hebrides?

(5)

- (k) Why did A. G. Gardiner choose to read the 'Blue-book'? How well did he read it? Why?
- (l) What does A. G. Gardiner mean by 'the rule of the road'?
- (m) What is elephantiasis?

(PART : B—DESCRIPTIVE)

(Marks : 50)

5. "Liberty is not a personal affair only but a social contract." Give three examples from A. G. Gardiner's essay to explain this statement. 5

Or

Show how Ross's researches have led to the discovery of the cause of malaria and its conquest.

6. Bring out the role of Tim the Ostler in the tragedy that befalls the highwayman and his beloved. 5

Or

What thoughts gave Milton some hope of redemption in the sonnet, *On His Blindness*? 5

Or

Why did Wordsworth say, "Will no one tell me what she sings"? What did he think was the theme of the reaper's song? What was his reaction at the end? 1+2+2=5

(6)

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

(a) How does Sergius's attitude towards war and military glory differ with the views of Captain Bluntschli?

(b) Examine the relationship between Raina and Louka. How does the playwright use their interactions to explore issues of class and social mobility?

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

(i) Catherine Petkoff

(ii) Nicola

(iii) Paul Petkoff

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

(a) What was the attitude of Raju's mother towards Rosie throughout the novel?

(b) How is the theme of redemption portrayed through the character of Raju?

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

(i) Marco

(ii) Joseph

(iii) Raju's father

(7)

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

Happy the man, whose wish and care
A few paternal acres bound,
Content to breathe his native air,
In his own ground.

Whose herds with milk, whose fields with bread,
Whose flocks supply him with attire,
Whose trees in summer yield him shade,
In winter fire.

Blest, who can unconcernedly find
Hours, days, and years slide soft away,
In health of body, peace of mind,
Quiet by day.

Sound sleep by night; study and ease,
Together mixed; sweet recreation;
And innocence, which most does please,
With meditation.

Thus let me live, unseen, unknown;
Thus unlamented let me die;
Steal from the world, and not a stone
Tell where I lie.

Questions :

- (a) How does the speaker describe the ideal life in the poem? 2
- (b) What does the speaker wish for in terms of fame and recognition? 2

(8)

- (c) What does the phrase “steal from the world” imply about the speaker’s attitude towards life and death? 2
- (d) In what ways does nature provide for the speaker’s needs in the poem? 2
- (e) What does the speaker mean by ‘paternal acres’? 2
- 10.** Write an essay in about 250 words on any *one* of the following topics : 10
- (a) Impact of reading literature in our lives
- (b) Global warming and the future of mankind
- (c) Menace of drug addiction
- (d) The advantages and disadvantages of being a teenager
