

Total No. of Printed Pages—16

HS/XII/A. Sc. Com. V/E/24

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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. Complete the following sentences using the right word from the alternatives given in the brackets (any five) : 1×5=5

(a) The share cropping arrangement was irksome to the _____.

(sharecroppers / peasants)

(2)

(b) Morning found the town of _____ black with peasants.
(Champaran / Motihari)

(c) Thinking ill of the world, that had never been kind to
the vagabond was a _____ pastime of his.
(cherished / joyous)

(d) To go up to the manor house would be like throwing
himself _____ into the lion's den.
(involuntarily / voluntarily)

(e) Those who live here are squatters who came from
Bangladesh back in _____.
(1971 / 1967)

(f) As custom demands, daughters-in-law must _____
their faces before male elders.
(cover / veil)

(g) I imagined I would _____ to the surface like a cork.
(bob / float)

(h) And then in the midst of the terror came a touch
of _____.
(peace / reason)

(3)

2. Write whether the following statements are *True* or *False*
(any *five*) : 1×5=5

- (a) Gandhi contented himself with large political or economic solutions.
- (b) Gandhi was asked by the magistrate to furnish bail for 120 minutes.
- (c) The rattrap peddler got hold of the pouch with the thirty kronors and thrust it into his pocket.
- (d) The Ironmaster assumed that the rattrap peddler felt embarrassed because of his miserable clothing.
- (e) The rag-pickers of Seemapuri have lived there for more than thirty years without an identity, without permits, without ration cards.
- (f) The rag-pickers have lost all initiatives and the ability to dream due to years of mind-numbing toil.
- (g) In October, the instructor told Douglas, "Now you can swim".
- (h) According to Douglas, "In Death there is peace."

(4)

3. Complete the following sentences using the right word from the alternatives given in the brackets (any five) : 1×5=5

(a) And now we will count to twelve and we will all keep _____.

(quiet / still)

(b) We would all be together in a sudden _____.

(strangeness / confusion)

(c) Its loveliness increases, it will never pass into _____.

(oblivion / nothingness)

(d) And such too is the grandeur of the _____.

(dooms / tombs)

(e) Green Island should be _____ than this.

(friendlier / kindlier)

(f) Take up the _____ squirrel up on your shoulder.

(man-trapped / hunter-trapped)

(g) Later, each one pulled, sitting cross-legged on the steps of the _____.

(verandah / choultry)

(h) _____ arrived in Tiruchchanur in overcrowded private buses.

(Relatives / Cousins)

(5)

4. Write whether the following statements are *True* or *False*
(any five) : 1×5=5

- (a) Pablo Neruda was the pen name of the Chilean writer Ricardo Eliecer Neftali Reyes Basoalto.
- (b) Pablo Neruda's policy is of peaceful coexistence.
- (c) *A Thing of Beauty* is an excerpt from a long narrative poem.
- (d) According to John Keats, the beautiful things are like a fountain of immortality bestowed upon us by God.
- (e) The family reunion finally happened in March of '59.
- (f) The cousins arrived in Tiruchchanur covered with years of dust.
- (g) If someone helps an animal in distress, it benefits the animal only.
- (h) Jon Silkin cries out for a sympathetic ear and deeper understanding for all of God's creations.

(6)

SECTION—II

(Marks : 30)

5. Answer any *five* of the following questions in not more than 2 sentences each : 1×5=5

- (a) Who visited Gandhi in 1942 at his Ashram in Sevagram?
- (b) What was the 'ordinary thing' that Gandhi did, that became a turning point in his life?
- (c) Why was the old crofter so friendly with the peddler?
- (d) Why did the Ironmaster send his daughter to the stranger?
- (e) What did the boy reply when the author asked him why he wasn't wearing chappals?
- (f) What does the bangle symbolise to an Indian woman?
- (g) When did Douglas develop his aversion to water?
- (h) What did the big bruiser of a boy yell to Douglas?

(7)

6. Answer any *five* of the following questions in not more than 2 sentences each : 1×5=5

- (a) In the poem *Keeping Quiet*, what does the poet want the fishermen not to do?
- (b) According to Neruda, how should those who prepare Green wars behave?
- (c) In the poem *A Thing of Beauty*, what do we find in mid forest?
- (d) According to Keats, what are the things that cause pain to human beings?
- (e) In *Caring for Animals*, why should we attend to the unnecessary beast?
- (f) What were the conditions of the animals—dogs, horses, cat and owl in the poem, *Caring for Animals*?
- (g) What does the poet mean by ‘dust of unlettered years’?
- (h) What was the relationship between the poet and Sundari?

(8)

7. (a) Rewrite the following as directed : 1×8=8

(i) Who killed the snake?

(Change the voice)

(ii) No other continent in the world is as large as Asia.

(Change into superlative degree)

(iii) He is so weak that he cannot carry the bag.

(Use 'too')

(iv) Ravi has magic powers to make himself incapable of being seen.

(Use one word substitution for the underlined words)

(v) Everyone loves a good meal.

(Change into interrogative)

(vi) You will not succeed if you do not work hard.

(Begin with unless)

(vii) As soon as Lily sat down to study, the lights went off.

(Use 'No sooner')

(viii) It is a brilliant idea.

(Change into exclamatory sentence)

(9)

(b) Change the following into direct/indirect speech :

1×4=4

(i) I enquired of him who he was.

(ii) Ratna said, "I am trying for a job here."

(iii) The Inspector said, "Let no one touch the body."

(iv) The hungry child begged them to give him some food.

(c) Rewrite any *three* of the following sentences in the correct form :

1×3=3

(i) He as well as his brothers are intelligent.

(ii) Cats live by milk.

(iii) Our mathematics teacher is giving us too much tasks.

(iv) Whole town turned out to welcome the famous movie star.

8. Answer any *five* of the following questions in not more than 2 sentences each :

1×5=5

(a) Why did Simon say that he needed no sheepskins?

(b) How many years did Michael spend with Simon and his family?

(10)

- (c) Describe briefly the gentleman who came to order boots.
- (d) What did Michael see behind the gentleman?
- (e) Prior to 1992, who partially noted and explored a few number of caves of Meghalaya?
- (f) Which cave is revered by Hindu Sadhus?
- (g) Who traces their common descent to Ka Pah Syntiew?
- (h) Name at least five common species found in the caves of Meghalaya.

(11)

(PART : B—DESCRIPTIVE)

(Marks : 50)

9. Answer any *two* of the following questions : $5 \times 2 = 10$

- (a) How did Gandhi's actions on behalf of the peasants influence the lawyers? Why did they react that way? $3+2=5$
- (b) "Why the devil did I take that fellow's money?" Who said this? Whose money did he steal? Why did he feel he was sitting in a trap? $1+1+3=5$
- (c) "Listening to them, I see two distinct worlds." Who did Anees Jung, listen to? What were the two distinct worlds? $1+4=5$
- (d) How did Douglas know that he had finally conquered his fear of water? What was the biggest lesson that he learnt during his lessons in swimming? $2\frac{1}{2}+2\frac{1}{2}=5$

10. Answer any *two* of the following questions : $5 \times 2 = 10$

- (a) Do you think Neruda recommends total inactivity? Describe the poet's view in relation to this point. $1+4=5$
- (b) According to Keats how does Nature have a positive impact on us? 5

(12)

(c) Why do you think small animals have bitter eyes?
What did the poet suggest that we should do to
animals? 2+3=5

(d) "Her three daughters floating like safe planets near
her."

Who is the poet referring to? What does he compare
the mother and the daughters to? What does the poet
remember about the mother? 1+2+2=5

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

(a) What thoughts went through Simon's mind when he
first sees the stranger? Why did he come back for
him? 5+5=10

(b) Narrate Mary's account of how she became the
mother of the twins.

(c) Write about the legends and myths associated with
Krem Marai.

(d) Describe the geological birth of Meghalaya.

12. Write an essay on any *one* of the following topics : 10

(a) The importance of English language

(b) Benefits of physical exercise

(c) My favourite childhood memory

(d) Harmful effects of junk food

(13)

Or

Write a letter to the Editor of a local newspaper, complaining against the increase in price of vegetables and essential commodities.

Or

Draft a notice to your fellow students to participate in 'Tobacco Free, Meghalaya' rally.

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

India has over 400000 telecom towers at present, but the growth in the number of towers is just 3 percent annually, which compares poorly with the 12 million subscribers added by industry every year. Telecom service providers say that a 'health scare' among the public is what prevents additional towers from coming up in large numbers. What is the truth in this?

A Bioinitiative Report in 2012 pointed towards health hazards due to radiation from cell towers. The most common of these are sleep disorders, headache, irritability, concentration problems, memory loss, depression, hearing loss and joint problems. More severe problems include seizures, paralysis, miscarriage, infertility and cancer. Many countries have lower radiation norms, says Girish Kumar, a professor in the electrical engineering department of IIT, Mumbai. For instance, Austria has a radiation limit of 1 milliwatt per square metre. In countries such as Russia, China, Italy and Poland, the allowed limit is 100 milliwatt

per square metre. “If mobile coverage is possible in these countries, then there is no reason why we cannot have low radiation levels in our country”, says Kumar.

There was a wave of protests in Mumbai over possible radiation effects of cell phone towers. The protests grew after film actress Juhi Chawla stepped in to first get mobile towers opposite her home in Mumbai’s Malabar Hill removed and subsequently mobilised support from the public and activists to launch a full-fledged awareness campaign against cell phone towers. She wanted telecom companies to lower radiation levels on towers near residential areas, put a cap on the number of antennae and place towers at a distance from buildings. Meanwhile, reports on the ill-effects of radiation poured in. For instance, residents of the Sree Samarth building in Dadar’s Parsi Colony claimed that they saw six cases of cancer in the building in a period of just three years, allegedly caused by radiation from telecom towers in the area. The link between the towers and cancer was not proved in any of the cases, but they set panic bells ringing in government circles. In 2014, the Department of Telecommunications undertook a study on radiation levels through its Telecom Enforcement Resource and Monitoring (TERM) Wing in Mumbai. It addressed the public grievances and reassured them that operators are indeed adhering to the prescribed norms on radiation. Union Telecom Minister Ravi Prasad, also told India Today that there are no conclusive studies to prove that radiation from these towers is a health hazard.

The American Cancer Society, a non-profit organization, says that radiation levels from cell phone towers are low

(15)

since the towers are mounted high above ground level and signals are transmitted intermittently, unless someone is exposed directly in front of the antennae, the radiation impact would be limited, the society says.

Questions :

- (a) How many telecom towers are present in India and what is the growth rate annually? 1
- (b) Name the common health hazards due to radiation. 1
- (c) What is the allowed limit of radiation in Austria, Russia, China, Italy and Poland? 1
- (d) What were the ill-effects of radiation faced by the residents of Dadar's Parsi Colony? 1
- (e) Which department of telecommunication undertook a study on radiation? 1
- (f) Name the severe problems of health hazards that are caused by radiation. 1
- (g) Which cancer society says that radiation levels from cell phone are low? 1
- (h) Choose the correct meaning of the given word from the options given in context to the passage : $\frac{1}{2} \times 6 = 3$
- (i) Seizures
(1) fit
(2) illness

- (ii)* Radiation
 - (1) circulation
 - (2) emission
- (iii)* Grievance
 - (1) complaint
 - (2) protest
- (iv)* Adhering
 - (1) complying
 - (2) clinging
- (v)* Transmitted
 - (1) convey
 - (2) passed on
- (vi)* Antennae
 - (1) aerial
 - (2) wire
