

Code No. 28/1

- Please check that this question paper contains 8 printed pages.
- Code number given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- Please check that this question paper contains 12 questions.
- Please write down the serial number of the question before attempting it.

ENGLISH (Elective)

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

General Instructions :

- (i) *Answer **all** questions.*
- (ii) *Your answers should be to the point. Stick to the word limit where given.*

1. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow :

(a) There can be little question that the attainment of a federation of all humanity, together with a sufficient measure of social justice, to ensure health, education, and a rough equality of opportunity to most of the children born into the world, would mean such a release and increase of human energy as to open a new phase in human history. The enormous waste caused by military preparation and the mutual annoyance of competing great powers, and the still more enormous waste due to the underproductiveness of great masses of people, either because they are too wealthy for stimulus or too poor for efficiency, would cease.

- (i) What, according to the writer, would open a new phase in human history ? 2
- (ii) What do military preparation and the rivalries between great powers lead to ? 1
- (iii) What are the causes of the underproductiveness of great masses of people ? 2

OR

The Battle of Waterloo was certainly fought on a certain day; but is *Hamlet* a better play than *Lear*? Nobody can say. Each must decide that question for himself. To admit authorities, however, heavily furred and gowned into our libraries and let them tell us how to read, what to read, what value to place upon what we read, is to destroy the spirit of freedom which is the breath of those sanctuaries. Everywhere else may be bound by laws and conventions — there we have none.

- (i) Who has to decide which book of literature is better than the other? 1
 - (ii) What does 'sanctuaries' refer to? What is the breath of those sanctuaries? 2
 - (iii) What destroys the spirit of freedom associated with the reading of books? 2
- (b) The French scientist took twenty bees from a hive on the edge of a lake. First he marked each bee with a spot of paint. Next, he took the bees six miles inland in a box. There he set them free. Seventeen of them returned to the hive. The three that did not fly home may have been young bees that had not made enough flights around home.
- (i) What experiment did the scientist conduct on twenty bees? 2
 - (ii) How many bees flew back to the hive? 1
 - (iii) What could be the possible reasons for the remaining bees not returning to their hive? 2

OR

The study of literature is the study of words : a vocabulary exercise on the highest level, a lesson in idioms, and an instruction in grammar-if often negatively ("The poet puts it this way. You had better not!"). And it must be a highly self-disciplined lecturer who is able to prevent one word from leading to another : "Note this interesting adjective. How different the meaning would have been, had the poet used this supposed synonym...."

- (i) How is the study of literature, the study of language? 2
- (ii) What type of teacher should he be 'who is able to prevent one word from leading to another' while teaching? 1
- (iii) Why has such teacher been called 'a highly self-disciplined lecturer'? 2

2. Answer the following questions in about 150 words each :
- (a) "Hunting for a gift may land you in bankruptcy." Why does the author say this ? 6
- OR**
- Newspapers are an integral part of human life. How ?
- (b) On what ground does Amrita Sher-Gil prefer Dostoevsky to Tolstoy as an artist ? 6
- OR**
- How can the pursuit of knowledge in the absence of wisdom become harmful ?
3. Answer the following questions in about 60 words each :
- (a) What is an earthquake ? How do earthquakes occur ? 4
- OR**
- Why does the author call books about success absurd ?
- (b) Is it possible to identify all poisonous substances in water ? Substantiate your answer with examples from the text. 4
- OR**
- What is the author's opinion about giving alms to the poor in his essay, 'I Tremble to Think' ?
4. Answer the following question in about 150 words :
- Why did the master scold the crowd when they used the word 'brute' in reference to the tiger ? 10
- OR**
- Why did the tiger feel 'restless' ? Where did he wish to go ?
5. Answer the following questions in about 60 words each :
- (a) What, according to the tiger's master, is the profound question asked by someone ? Why does he call it a profound question ? 3
- (b) What ideas regarding human beings did the tiger have when he stood before the captain's whip at the circus ? 2
6. Answer the following question in about 150 words :
- What message does the play 'The Bishop's Candlesticks' convey ? Illustrate your answer from the text. 10
- OR**
- "Greek or Trojan, all is one ... death is left undone." Does this justify the title of the play 'X = 0' ? Explain.
7. Answer the following questions in about 60 words each :
- (a) The Sergeant and the Policeman are talking about the escaped prisoner. What impression do you form of the prisoner from their dialogue ? 3
- (b) How do Corporal Brewster and Norah Brewster represent two different eras ? 2

8. (a) Do as directed : 5
- (i) Raja Ramanna was also known for his musical talents. He earned the title of “Bomb Uncle” after the 1974 Pokhran test.
(Rewrite using a non-finite clause as post modifier)
- (ii) We’d better turn and make for home as fast as possible.
(Identify phrasal verb)
- (iii) My sister was married on my sixteenth birthday.
(Identify ‘head’ and ‘modifier’)
- (iv) It is very cold today. (Add the appropriate tag)
- (v) The court asked employees not to stay away from work.
(Change into interrogative clause)
- (b) Do as directed :
- (i) Break the following words into separate syllables by putting a dot or slash (. /) after each syllable : 2
select; institution; brilliant; luggage
- (ii) Mark the ‘stress’ on the following words : 2
produce (as noun); produce (as verb); complicate; maintain
- (iii) What is the falling tone ? Give an example of the falling tone. 1

9. Read the passage given below and answer in your own language the questions that follow :

Mahatma Gandhi symbolizes the wisdom of ancient India and the requirement of modern times. For him the independence of India meant the liberation of its people from bondage — political, economical and social; for him freedom was a composite whole and the three components were inseparable. He was never aiming at a chauvinist India, militarily powerful and dominant, but a cooperative India living in harmony in a community of nations equally cooperative and non-aggressive. He laid great emphasis on ‘right’ means since wrong means could not produce right results. The goals, if achieved with wrong means, he believed, would corrupt the society and the purpose would be lost. It was on these high moral principles that the struggle for India’s independence was founded and fought. It was also on these values that the principles of ‘Panchsheel’ and the concept of ‘non-alignment’ were formulated soon after independence.

Mahatma’s model of governance was based on a decentralized system with emphasis on the role of the individual. But India adopted a foreign model of Westminster type of parliamentary democracy based on the 1935 Government of India Act passed by the British Parliament. It was probably more convenient, or the time available from 1947 to 1950 was too short to analyze the matter in depth. Adoption of

a foreign model is never easy and even more difficult when the conditions are so much at variance. The British system evolved over a long period of time based on the aspirations of an island people, speaking a common language, broadly having a common religion, common education system, and above all common set of values. India with its infinite variety faced different problems, which required different solutions. The very essence of the British system is at variance with the Indian ethos which is founded on consensus. Even in war, Gautam Buddha had said, that victory should be such in which there is no defeat.

The British parliamentary system has two important components — discipline and equanimity; discipline to accept the system based on an unwritten constitution, dependent on precedents and conventions; and equanimity to wait for their chance with grace to obtain the mandate of the people. In India the record of adherence to these values leaves much to be desired. People’s verdict is the backbone of true democracy. Floor crossings by the legislators whether due to political convenience or allurements of money or power render the verdict of the people redundant. Preventing voters from casting their votes by use of force resulting in violence in certain parts of the country forbids the free expression of the will of the people. Vote banks based on caste and religion also thwart issue based voting. The entry of antisocial elements into the fray has also led to booth capturing at gun point by professional muscle-men at certain places. The high cost of elections is also responsible for distortion of values and for giving rise to a new set of politicians.

India is a democracy and not an autocracy. Unless democratic norms are followed in letter and spirit, the fragile democracy could degenerate into mobocracy or the rule of antisocial elements and war-lords. With the growing fissiparous tendencies, the danger to the Indian polity, which derives its inspiration from Mahatma Gandhi, is real. In the rapidly changing world order it is necessary for India to rededicate itself to its time-honoured values and practices. Otherwise it could be swept away in the storm losing both its past and its future.

- (i) What did Mahatma Gandhi mean by the independence of India ? 2
- (ii) Why did he lay emphasis on the right means for the achievement of his goals ? 2
- (iii) Why did India need a different model of governance from the foreign one adopted by it ? 2
- (iv) What does the author mean by discipline and equanimity — two important components of British Parliamentary system ? 2
- (v) How does the use of force forbid the free expression of the will of the people ? 2

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

I sit and look out upon all the sorrows of the world, and upon
all oppression and shame,

I hear secret convulsive sobs from young men at anguish with
themselves, remorseful after deeds done,

I see in low life the mother misused by her children, dying,
neglected, gaunt, desperate,

I see the workings of battle, pestilence, tyranny, I see martyrs
and prisoners,

I observe a famine at sea, I observe the sailors casting lots who
shall be kill'd to preserve the lives of the rest,

I observe the slights and degradations cast by arrogant persons
upon labourers, the poor, and upon Negroes, and the like;

All these — all the meanness and agony without end I sitting
look out upon,

See, hear, and am silent.

- (i) What does the poet look out upon ? 1
- (ii) What does he, see about the mother who is treated badly by her children ? 1
- (iii) What does he see in the battlefield ? 1
- (iv) Why do the sailors cast lots when a famine takes place at sea ? 1
- (v) How do the arrogant persons treat the poor and Negroes ? 1
11. Over a million senior citizens live in Delhi and about ten percent of them lead a lonely life. They are very vulnerable and need both physical and emotional security. As the reporter of a national daily, write a report in 100-125 words suggesting ways and means for their security. 5
12. Write an essay in 200 - 250 words on any *one* of the following topics : 10
- (i) Pleasures of Reading
- (ii) Need for Emotional Integration of the Country
- (iii) Women as Real Preservers of our Culture