

2021

**ALTERNATIVE ENGLISH**

**Full Marks – 80**

**Time – 3 Hours**

**General Instructions :**

- (i) This question paper is divided into four sections - A, B, C and D.
- (ii) All the sections are compulsory. Answer all the questions.
- (iii) Write the number of the question before attempting it.
- (iv) Figures in the margin indicate marks.

**SECTION – A (25 marks)**

**GRAMMAR AND COMPOSITION**

1. Choose the correct answer from the options given within brackets : 8×1=8
- (a) \_\_\_\_\_ of everything is bad. (Access / Excess)
  - (b) Sympathy lessens \_\_\_\_\_. (pain / pane)
  - (c) I told you about it \_\_\_\_\_ day. (some / one)
  - (d) \_\_\_\_\_ work is yet to be done. (Many/Much)
  - (e) She \_\_\_\_\_ that she had stolen the purse. (refused/denied)
  - (f) Mary seems \_\_\_\_\_ today.(happy / happily)
  - (g) Would you \_\_\_\_\_ some more coffee, please ? (want / like)
  - (h) He \_\_\_\_\_ me a great deal of money. (owes / owns)
2. Punctuate the following :  $\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{2}=2$
- will you tell megha that shruti is waiting for her
3. Make sentences using the following idioms and phrases to bring out their meanings : 5×1=5
- (a) to be down with
  - (b) few and far between
  - (c) beyond all question
  - (d) to hold good
  - (e) in black and white

4. Write an essay on *any one* of the topics in about 120-150 words :

6

(a) Impact of COVID-19 on Students' Education

**OR**

(b) My Favourite Subject

5. Write a précis of the following passage. Give a suitable title.

4

The man who is perpetually hesitating which of the two things he will do first, will do neither. The man who resolves, but suffers his resolution to be changed by the first counter-suggestion of a friend, - who fluctuates from opinion to opinion, from plan to plan, and veers like a weather-cock to every point of the compass, with every breath of caprice that blows - can never accomplish anything great or useful. Instead of being progressive in anything, he will be at best stationary, and more probably retrograde in all. It is only the man who first consults wisely, then resolves firmly, and then executes his purpose with flexible perseverance, undismayed by those petty difficulties which daunt a weaker spirit, that can advance to eminence at any line. Take your course wisely, but firmly; and having taken it, hold upon it with heroic resolution, and the Alps and Pyrenees will sink before you.

### SECTION – B (20 Marks)

#### POETRY

6. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow :

“As the spent radiance  
Of the winter sun,  
So is a woman  
With her travail done.”

(a) The poet is –

1

(i) Lord Byron

(ii) Thomas Hood

(iii) Joseph Campbell

(iv) Michael Drayton

- (b) What kind of woman is described here ? 1
- (i) a young woman (ii) an unmarried lady
- (iii) an old woman (iv) a spinster
- (c) The word 'travail' in this context means – 1
- (i) life's work (ii) life's journey
- (iii) troubles (iv) joys

7. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

'Alas, that the longest hill  
Must end in a vale; but still,  
Who climbs with toil, wheresoe'er,  
Shall find wings waiting there.'

- (a) Name the poem and the poet. 1+1=2
- (b) How is hard work rewarded with success ? 3
8. Write the substance of the following : 4
- She walks in beauty, like the night  
Of cloudless climes and starry skies;  
Thus mellow'd to that tender light  
Which heaven to gaudy day denies.  
And all that's best of dark and bright  
Meet in her aspect and her eyes.
9. Answer *any four* of the following questions : 4×2=8
- (a) Write the difference between the two countries that the poet speaks about in the poem, "I Vow to Thee My Country".
- (b) Explain the nature of an old woman as portrayed by the poet in the poem, "The Old Woman".
- (c) What is the central idea of the poem "A Fine Day" ?
- (d) To what did the narrator compare his ride in the poem "Going Down-Hill on a Bicycle"?

- (e) Explain the lines –  
 ‘A mind at peace with all below,  
 A heart whose love is innocent’.

**SECTION – C (25 Marks)**

**PROSE**

10. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow : 4×1=4

“You are making a mistake. I am your son-in-law Nalini”.

- (a) To whom did Nalini say these words ?
- |                 |                             |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| (i) Ramsharan   | (ii) Mohendranath Bannerjee |
| (iii) Kunjabala | (iv) Mohendranath Ghose     |
- (b) Name the lesson –
- |                      |                              |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| (i) The Happy Prince | (ii) Leo Tolstoy             |
| (iii) On Fame        | (iv) The Muscular Son-in-law |
- (c) The author is –
- |                   |                              |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| (i) Ronald Seth   | (ii) Hilaire Belloc          |
| (iii) Oscar Wilde | (iv) Prabhat K. Mukhopadhyay |
- (d) Nalini was not recognised because –
- (i) he looked like a ruffian
  - (ii) he carried a lathi in his hand
  - (iii) he had a gun-case with him
  - (iv) All of these

11. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow : 4×1=4

“They often came great distances to see him, would sit in his drawing room waiting for the master, expecting to see, when he came to them, a mighty and majestic man, with a patriarch’s flowing beard, a man of great dignity, a giant, a genius”.

- (a) The extract is taken from –
- (i) The Happy Prince (ii) The Muscular Son-in-Law  
(iii) Leo Tolstoy (iv) On Fame
- (b) The author is –
- (i) Maxim Gorky (ii) Ronald Seth  
(iii) JBS Haldane (iv) Hilaire Belloc
- (c) 'They' in the above lines are his –
- (i) relatives (ii) friends and family  
(iii) advisers and disciples (iv) countrymen
- (d) When they came they were often disappointed because the master –
- (i) could not see them (ii) looked like a peasant  
(iii) was a mighty and majestic man (iv) was very unpleasing

12. Answer *any one* of the following in about 100 –120 words :

6

- (a) Narrate how the Happy Prince gave away his jewels to help the poor.
- (b) Illustrate with examples how the suffering of a person could save another from a similar fate.

13. Answer the following questions in about 50 – 75 words :

- (a) Describe the various ways by which fame is acquired. 3
- (b) What was the strange mixture of character found in Tolstoy ? 3
14. (a) What is rickets? How can it be prevented ? 2
- (b) Why did Kunjabala ridicule Nalini ? 3



**SECTION – D (10 Marks)****RAPID READER**

15. Answer *any three* of the following in about 20 –30 words : 3×2=6
- (a) Why was David sent to London to work in a warehouse ?
  - (b) Why did Miss Betsey want a niece instead of a nephew ?
  - (c) Why did Peggotty run after the cart when David left ?
  - (d) Why were the Micawbers moving to Canterbury ?
16. Write a character sketch of Miss Betsey Trotwood in about 40 –50 words. 4
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