

(7 pages)

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71268/LZ13A

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 50 marks

Answer any FIVE questions.

Each question carries 10 marks.

1. (a) Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow : (5)

In American restaurants they call for 'toasted English', referring to English muffins which though being made in America, now retain 'English' as a sort of concession to their origin. The same may be said of their language too. They too went through a phase of throwing out the British but retaining their language and letting it flourish on American soil : the resultant language is somewhat different from its British counterpart; it may be said to have gone through a process of 'toasting'. One noticeable result of this toasting is that much of the formalism surrounding the use of English has been abandoned.

Language Through Literature - I

In America, they have freed the language from the stifling tyranny of the passive voice. Where we would say ceremoniously 'Trespassing Prohibited', their signboards, as I noticed in the parks of Berkeley, merely say, 'Newly Planted, Don't Walk' Or 'Absolutely No Parking' leaves no room for speculation, and no motorist need spend too much time peering out and studying the notice. In a similar situation our authorities are likely to plant a twenty-line inscription on the landscape to say, 'Under Municipal Act so and so this area has been reserved, etc., etc., and any vehicle stationed thereon will be deemed to have contravened subsection so and so of the Motor Vehicles Act, etc., etc.' I saw on many American office doors just 'Do Not Enter'. The traffic signs at pedestrian crossings never mince words; they just say 'Go' or 'Wait'. In a Hollywood studio, I was rather startled to read 'Mark Stevens - Keep out' Mark Stevens is a busy television personality who did not like to be disturbed by visitors. Incidentally, it left me wondering why, if Mr Stevens does not like interruptions, he should announce his name at all on the door! But it is one of the minor mysteries that make travel through that country so engrossing.

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The 'toasting' of English has been achieved through other means also. Americans have evolved certain basic keywords which may be used anywhere, anyhow, words which have universal, multipurpose use. I may make my point clear if I mention the example of the word 'check' which may safely be labelled the American National Expression. While British usage confines it to its bare dictionary definitions, the American uses it anywhere, this expression being so devised that one may blindly utter it and still find that it is appropriate for the occasion. 'I'll check' means 'I'll find out, investigate, examine, scrutinise, verify or probe. 'Your check' means your ticket, token or whatever you may have to produce. 'Check room' is where you leave your possessions for a while. 'Check girl' is one who takes care of your coat, umbrella or anything else you may leave in custody. 'Check in' and 'Check out' (at first I heard it as 'Chuck out' and felt rather disturbed) refer to one's arrival in a hotel and departure there from. And there are scores of other incidental uses for the word. If you are ever hard up for a noun or a verb you may safely utter the word 'check' and feel confident that it will fit in. 'Fabulous' is another word that is used in that country freely, without much premeditation. Of course everyone knows what fabulous means, but the American usage has enlarged its sense. I found a lady in Wisconsin declare 'Oh, those

cats of mine are fabulous', meaning that they were eccentric. 'Oh, so and so, he is fabulous!' may mean anything from a sincere compliment to an insinuation that so and so displays a mild form of charming lunacy.

- (i) What is, known as 'Toasted English' in the American restaurants?
- (ii) What is the result of roasting English?
- (iii) How is 'Trespassing prohibited' replaced in America?
- (iv) How do the American traffic signs direct the pedestrians?
- (v) What do mean by 'Check in' and 'Check out'?

- (b) Answer the following questions : (5 × 1 = 5)
- (i) Find the etymological derivation of the word 'multi'.
 - (ii) The cats disappeared under the table. (Convert the sentence into Present perfect tense)
 - (iii) Every child has broken into its own money box. All of them know this. (Combine the following to a compound sentence)
 - (iv) Through an greater part on recorded history there was nothing of that kind. (Identify the errors)
 - (v) Discrimination against woman start at birth itself (Correct the sentence)

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[P.T.O.]

2. (a) Read the following lines and answer the questions that follow : (5)

The world is too much us ; late and soon
betting and spending, we lay waste out
powers ; -

Little we see in Nature that it ours ;
We have given our hearts away, a sordid boon!
This sea that bares her bosom to the moon ;
The winds that will be howling at all hours,
And are up-gathered now like sleeping flowers.
For this, for everything, we are out of tune ;
It moves us not, Great God ! I'd rather be
A pagan suckled in a creed outworn ;
So might I, standing on this pleasant tea,
Have glimpses that would me less forlorn ;
Have sight of Proteus rising from the sea ;
Or hear old Triton blow his wreathed horn.

- (i) What is the genre of the poem?
(ii) What does 'The World is Too Much With Us' lament?
(iii) Why have people given up the life of harmony with nature, according to the poet?
(iv) Why does the poet want to be a Pagan?
(v) Does the poet believe that the beauty of nature disappeared?

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5. (a) How does 'A Marriage Proposal' highlight the tendency of affluent people while seeking alliances? (5)
(b) Create a web page for yourself. (5)

6. Write an essay in 300 words, on any of the following : (10)

- (a) Global warming and climate change
(b) Ageing populations and its impact.

- (b) Answer the following questions : (5)

(i) The poet expresses his despair over humanity's inability to be comforted by nature. (Identify the content word)

(ii) Wordsworth said 'My heart leaps up when I behold a rainbow in the sky' (Punctuate the sentence properly)

(iii) Create two words using the following words as prefixed

(1) Post (2) tele.

(iv) Emily Dickinson emphasises the importance of hope (Convert this into Passive voice)

(v) Pen is mightier than the sword. (Identify the figure of speech)

3. (a) Write a brief essay on the following in 200 words : (5)

Narrate the story of 'How Much Does A Man Need'.

(b) Write a letter to your friend giving your view about online examination. (5)

4. (a) What are the implications of the explosion of information, in a post-truth world, according to Chi Luu? (5)

(b) Write a blog on fitness and the need to keep fit. (5)

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