

(7 pages)

NOVEMBER 2023

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Time : Three hours

Maximum : 75 marks

PART A — (5 × 2 = 10 marks)

- I. Annotate FIVE of the following.
1. Most blameless is he, centred in the sphere
Of common duties, decent not to fail
In offices of tenderness and pay
Meet adoration to my household gods,
 2. At the end we preferred to travel all night,
Sleeping in snatches,
With the voices singing in our ears, saying
That this was all folly.
 3. And though the last lights off the black West went
Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward,
springs—
Because the Holy Ghost over the bent
World broods with warm breast and with ah!
bright wings.

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8. Hearts with one purpose alone
Through summer and winter seem
Enchanted to a stone
To trouble the living stream.
PART B — (35 marks)
- II. Analyze any THREE of the following passages and answer the questions given below. (3 × 5 = 15)
9. Alexander is touched in a very delicate place by the disregard or Diogenes. Where was the glory of having taken Rome for these tumultuous barbarians, who poured into the Senate-house and found the Fathers sitting silent and unmoved by their success? It is a sore thing to have labored along and scaled the arduous hilltops and when all is done, find humanity indifferent to your achievement. Hence physicists condemn the unphysical; financiers have only a superficial toleration for those who know little of stocks; literary persons despise the unlettered and people of all pursuits combine to disparage those who have none.
 - (a) What is so very painful according to the writer?
 - (b) Give the synonym for the word : arduous.
 - (c) Explain the line of argument in the given passage.

4. But now I only hear
Its melancholy, long, withdrawing roar,
Retreating, to the breath
Of the night-wind, down the vast edges drear
That he was popular with his mates and liked a drink.
The Press are convinced that he bought a paper every day
And that his reactions to advertisements were normal in every way.
Policies taken out in his name prove that he was fully insured,
6. Looking as if she were alive. I call
That piece a wonder, now; Fra Pandolf's hands
Worked busily a day, and there she stands.
Will't please you sit and look at her?
7. Till, with a sudden sharp hot stink of fox
It enters the dark hole of the head.
The window is starless still; the clock ticks,
The page is printed.

10. Such information as we — that is, the big public — possess on this subject has come to us in a rather indirect way, apropos of President Truman's decision not to hand over certain secrets to the USSR. Some months ago, when the bomb was still only a rumour, there was a widespread belief that splitting the atom was merely a problem for the physicists and that when they had solved it a new and devastating weapon would be within reach of almost everybody. (At any moment, so the rumour went, some lonely lunatic in a laboratory might blow civilisation to smithereens, as easily as touching off a firework.)
 - (a) What is the danger of the atomic bomb, according to the passage?
 - (b) Give the synonym for the word: smithereens.
 - (c) What was the secret did President Truman withhold?
11. I haven't the smallest intention of doing anything of the kind. To begin with, I dined there on Monday and once a week is quite enough to dine with one's own relations. In the second place, whenever I do dine there I am always treated as a member of the family and sent down with either no woman at all, or two. In the third place, know perfectly well whom she will place me next to, to-night. She will place me next Mary Farquhar, who always flirts with her own husband across the dinner-table. That is not very pleasant. Indeed, it is not even decent ... and that sort of thing is

enormously on the increase. The amount of women in London who flirt with their own husbands is perfectly scandalous. It looks so bad. It is simply washing one's clean linen in public. Besides, now that I know you to be a confirmed Bunburying. I naturally want to talk to you about Bunburying. I want to tell you the rules.

- (a) Who is the speaker and to whom these lines are spoken to?
- (b) Give the meaning of the idiom: Washing one's clean linen in public.
- (c) Why does the speaker go Bunburying?

12. Well, to speak with perfect candour, Cecily, I wish that you were fully forty-two, and more than usually plain for your age. Ernest has a strong upright nature. He is the very soul of truth and honour. Disloyalty would be as impossible to him as deception. But even men of the noblest possible moral character are extremely susceptible to the influence of the physical charms of others. Modern, no less than Ancient History, supplies us with many most painful examples of what I refer to. If it were not so, indeed, History would be quite unreadable.

- (a) What sort of a person was Ernest, according to the passage?
- (b) Give the synonym for the word : candour
- (c) Who does Cecily marry in the end?

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18. Describe the first meeting between Oak and Bathsheba in Hardy's novel, "Far from the madding crowd".

19. Why and how was Troy killed in the novel "Far From the Madding Crowd"?

PART C -- (3 × 10 = 30 marks)

IV. Write essays on any THREE of the following in 300 words each.

20. Explain Tennyson's point of view of life as exemplified in his poem "Ulysses".

21. What are the arguments put forth by Stevenson in defense of Idlers?

22. Consider the play "Importance of Being Ernest" as a pure comedy.

23. Write an essay on the aspects of Symbolism in the story, "The Dead".

24. Analyse the character of Bathsheba in Hardy's "Far from the Madding Crowd".

13. When there was peace, he was for peace: when there was war, he went. He was married and added five children to the population, Which our Eugenist says was the right number for a parent of his generation. And our teachers report that he never interfered with their education. Was he free? Was he happy? The question is absurd: Had anything been wrong, we should certainly have heard.

- (a) What picture do you get of the person described here?
- (b) Who is a Eugenist?
- (c) Explain the traits of a Totalitarian state.

III. Answer any FOUR of the following questions in about 100 words. (4 × 5 = 20)

14. Why does Jack Worthing tell a lie?
15. Briefly sketch the character of Miss Cecily Cardew.
16. Describe the house in which the narrator and her partner live in the story "A Haunted House".
17. Why did Nicky act against his father's warnings and what was the result in the story "The Facts of Life"?

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