

**ALTERNATIVE ENGLISH**  
**SYLLABUS FOR HIGHER SECONDARY SECOND YEAR COURSE**

**Background**

The course is intended to give students a high level of competence in English with an emphasis on the study of literary texts. The course will provide extensive exposure to a variety of rich texts from world literature as well as Indian writings in English, including classics. It also aims at developing a sensitivity to the creative and imaginative use of English in students and giving them a taste for reading with delight and discernment.

**Objectives**

**The general objectives at the initial stage are: -**

- I. To provide extensive exposure to a variety of writings in English, including some classics to develop a sensitivity to a literary and creative use of the language.
- II. To further expand the learner's vocabulary through the use of dictionary, thesaurus, and encyclopedia
- III. To develop a taste for reading
- IV. To critically examine a text
- V. To develop proficiency in English both in receptive and productive skills.

**At the end of the course, the learner**

- I. Grasps the global meaning of the texts, its gist and understands how its theme and sub-themes relate.
- II. Relates to the details provided in the texts. For example, how the details support a generalization or the conclusion either by classification or contrast and comparison.
- III. comprehends details, locates and identifies facts, arguments, logical relationships, generalizations, conclusion in the texts
- IV. Draws inferences, supplies missing details, predicts outcomes, grasps the significance of particular details and interprets texts.
- V. assesses and analyses the attitude and bias of the author
- VI. Infers the meaning of words and phrases from the context; differentiates between apparent synonyms and appreciates the nuances of words.
- VII. Appreciates stylistic nuances, the lexical structure --- its literal and figurative uses and analyses a variety of texts.
- VIII. identifies different styles of writing like humorous, satirical, contemplative, ironical and burlesque
- IX. can produce text-based writings (writing in response to questions or tasks based on prescribed as well as 'unseen' texts)
- X. Develops the advanced skills of reasoning, inferring, analysing, evaluating, and creating.
- XI. Develops familiarity with the poetic uses of language including features of the language through which artistic effect is achieved.

**Methods and Techniques**

The techniques used for teaching should promote habits of self-learning and reduce dependence on the teacher. The multi-skill, learners-centered, activity-based approach already recommended for the

previous stages of education, is still in place, though it will be used in such a way that silent reading of prescribed selected texts for comprehension will receive greater focus as one of the activities. Learners will be trained to read independently and intelligently, interacting actively with texts and other reference materials (dictionary, thesaurus, encyclopedia etc.) as necessary. Some pre-reading activity will generally be required, and course books should suggest those activities. It is important to remember that every text can generate different reading strategies.

Students should be encouraged to interpret texts in different ways while presenting their views. Some projects may also be assigned to students from time to time.

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One paper

Three hours

Marks 100

#### Unit wise distribution of Marks and Periods:

| Unit no   | Topic                     | Marks      | Periods    |
|-----------|---------------------------|------------|------------|
| Unit- I   | Prose                     | 40         | 90         |
| Unit-II   | Poetry                    | 30         | 40         |
| Unit- III | Grammar And Comprehension | 20         | 35         |
| Unit- IV  | Essay                     | 10         | 15         |
|           | <b>Total</b>              | <b>100</b> | <b>180</b> |

#### Distribution of course content [Unit Wise]

##### Selected Prose (Marks - 40)

- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. A Cup of Tea        | Katherine Mansfield      |
| 2. The Voyage          | Bhupen Hazarika          |
| 3. The Verger          | William Somerset Maugham |
| 4. The Martyr's Corner | R.K. Narayan             |
| 5. Bina Kutir          | Saurav Kumar Chaliha     |

##### Selected Poetry (Marks - 30)

- |                                       |                 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Ozymandias of Egypt                | P.B. Shelly     |
| 2. Because I Could Not Stop for Death | Emily Dickinson |
| 3. Strange Meeting                    | Wilfred Owen    |
| 4. The Solitude of Alexander Selkirk  | William Cowper  |
| 5. The Lake Isle of Innisfree         | WB Yates        |
| 6. Night of the Scorpion              | Nissim Ezekiel  |

##### Grammar (Marks 5+5 = 10)

1. Common Errors (Marks - 05)
2. Question Tags (Marks - 05)

##### Comprehension (Marks 10)

1. Comprehension based on a given conversational passage.

##### Essay (Marks - 10)

1. Essay Writing

**Weightage to Questions**

| Type of question |          | No Of questions | Marks     |
|------------------|----------|-----------------|-----------|
| Essay type       | 10 marks | 1               | 10        |
| LA type          | 5 marks  | 4               | 20        |
| SA Type          | 3 marks  | 6               | 18        |
|                  | 2 marks  | 11              | 22        |
| VSA Type         | 1 mark   | 20              | 20        |
|                  | ½ marks  | 20              | 10        |
|                  | Total    | 62 nos.         | 100 marks |

**Weightage to objective**

| Objective     | Marks | %   |
|---------------|-------|-----|
| Knowledge     | 20    | 20% |
| Understanding | 30    | 30% |
| Application   | 50    | 50% |

**Prescribed textbook:** Harmony: An Anthology of Prose and Poetry