

Intermediate Examination, 2015

ENGLISH—FIRST PAPER

Time : 3 Hours 3 Min] 322 (DZ)

[M.M. : 50

1. Explain with reference to the context *one* of the following passages : 4

(a) Certain psychologists tell us that we forget things because we wish to forget them, and it may be that it is because of their antipathy to pills and potions that many people fail to remember them at the appointed hours. This does not explain, however, how it is that a lifelong devotee of medicines like myself is as forgetful of them as those who take them most unwillingly.

(b) Passion is not power, it is the abuse of power, the dispersion of power. Passion is like a furious storm which beats fiercely and wildly upon the embattled rock, whilst power is like the rock itself which remains silent and unmoved through it all.

(c) The quiet and gentle happiness which has at all times pervaded Indian life where oppression, disease and poverty have not overclouded it, will surely not vanish before the more hectic ways of the West.

2. Select *one* of the following passages and answer the questions that follow :

(a) I must have walked the streets till after midnight. At last I became so exhausted that I could walk no longer. I was tired, I was hungry, I was everything but discouraged. Just about the time when I reached extreme physical exhaustion, I came upon a portion of a street where the broad sidewalk was considerably elevated. I waited for a few minutes till I was sure that no passers-by could see me, and then crept under the sidewalk and lay for the night on the ground, with my satchel of clothing for a pillow. Nearly all night, I could hear the tramp of feet over my head.

(i) Why could the author not continue his journey? 1

(ii) Did the author lose courage? 1

(iii) Why was the author avoiding to be seen by passers-by? 1

(iv) Where did the author sleep in the night? 1

(b) There is a famous verse which tells us, *samsara visa vrksasya*. In this imperfect world, *sansara*, there are two fruits of inimitable quality. They are the study of our great classics and communion with great minds. These two are the things which mould men's minds and hearts. I am anxious that our great classics should be studied, the classics of all countries of which we are the inheritors.

(i) What are the two fruits referred to here? 1

(ii) What is the utility of these two things? 1

(iii) What has mankind inherited? 1

(iv) Who is 'I' in this passage? 1

3. Answer any *two* of the following questions in not more than 30 words each : 2+2=4

(a) Why did Cronshaw and Tom go to Monte Carlo?

(b) How did Ali lose his kite?

(c) Why did man think of capturing the horse?

4. Answer any *one* of the following questions in not more than 150 words : 6

(a) What is the secret of health, according to James Allen?

(b) What are the main functions of the heart?

5. Fill in the blanks in the following sentences selecting the most suitable words from those given within the brackets : $4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2$

(a) I flicked him again. (back, off, on, into)

(b) The double-minded man is in all his ways. (certain, wrong, furious, unstable)

(c) Widows have long to be burnt on their husband's pyres. (ceased, revolted, fainted, withdrawn)

(d) The of that room was my college examination. (cleaning, dusting, sweeping, rubbing)

6. Answer any *one* of the following questions in not more than 150 words : 5

(a) What is your opinion of Portia's character?

(b) How is Jessica's elopement connected with the plot of the play?

7. Answer any *one* of the following questions in not more than 30 words : 2

(a) What reasons did Shylock give for hating Antonio?

(b) How did Bassanio explain the loss of the ring?

8. Answer any *one* of the following questions in not more than 150 words : 5

(a) How do you like the story 'After Twenty Years'?

(b) Sketch the character of Gyan Babu's wife.

9. Answer any *one* of the following questions in about 30 words : 2

(a) What thoughts troubled Sanku after committing the theft?

(b) Why did Gafur kill the bull?

10. Explain with reference to the context any *two* of the following extracts : $3+3=6$

(a) Out of the day and night

A joy has taken flight ;

Fresh spring, and summer and winter hoar,

Move my faint heart with grief, but with delight

No more — Oh, never more !

(b) She shall be sportive as the fawn

That wild with glee across the lawn

Or up the mountain springs ;

And hers shall be the breathing balm,

And hers the silence and the calm

Of mute insensate things.

(c) The old order changeth, yielding place to new,

And God fulfils Himself in many ways,

Lest one good custom should corrupt the world.

11. Give the central idea of any *one* of the following poems : 4

(a) The True Beauty (b) On His Blindness

(c) My Heaven

12. Answer any *one* of the following questions in not more than 150 words : 4

(a) Why was Siddhartha unhappy even among the pleasures and luxuries of the world?

(b) Describe the city of Kapilvastu as it looked on the Prince's first visit.

13. (b) Point out the figures of speech in any *two* of the following : $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1$

(i) Opportunity knocks at the door but once.

(ii) I see a lily on thy brow.

(iii) Belinda smiled and all the world was gay.

(a) Define 'Oxymoron' and give an example of it.

$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1$