

Time : 3 hrs. 15 min.

English Class | 12

M.M. : 100

● **Instruction:** First 15 minutes are allotted for the candidates to read the question paper.

Note: This paper is divided into Section A and Section B. Both the sections are compulsory.

Section A

1. Explain with reference to the context any one of the following passages : 10

(a) This beautiful child—born in squalor and poverty, uneducated in both grammar and manners—had given me a glimpse of the warm soul of India.

Ans. Reference to the context : These lines have been taken from the lesson 'A Girl with a Basket' written by William C. Douglas. The author is so much impressed by the self-respecting behaviour of the little refugee girl that he praises the people of India for their virtues.

Explanation : During his visit to India the author saw people living in villages. He also saw the educated and cultured high class officers. He found that people of both these classes were full of self-respect. They knew how to behave decently. They were good citizens. They loved freedom. The writer felt deep praise for these qualities of Indians.

The author says that the beautiful little girl was born in a dirty and poor place. Her family was also very poor. The author found that the refugee girl was fully uneducated. She had no knowledge of grammar. She was not trained in good and cultured behaviour. But the self-respecting behaviour of the poor small girl gave the author a clear idea of the liveliness found in the people of India. She was the true representative of the self-respected soul of India.

(b) The charm and graciousness of the Indian way of life will continue, however much affected it may be by the labour saving devices of the West. People will still love the tales of the heroes of the *Mahabharata* and the *Ramayana* and of the loves of *Dushyanta* and *Shakuntala* and *Pururavas* and *Urvashi*.

Ans. Reference to the context : These lines have been taken from the lesson 'The Heritage of India' written by A.L. Basham. Hindu culture and

civilization has absorbed foreign cultures, so it has been changing rapidly.

Explanation : The author says that Hindu culture and civilization will continue. It will never destroy. Men will get inspiration from Indian holy book the Gita. The *Upanishads* will inspire men's thought in every sphere. In spite of the influence of western culture Indian people will love the inspiring stories of the *Mahabharata* and the *Ramayana*. The plays of *Kalidas* will continue to appeal them. They will enjoy the love stories of *Dushyanta* and *Shakuntala* and of *Pururava* and *Urvashi*.

2. Answer any one of the following questions in not more than 30 words : 5

(a) Why did the girl not accept money as charity?

Ans. The girl raised her chin, took out the money from the basket and returned its to author. The girl did not accept money as charity due to her pride and grace.

(b) What relationship did the author develop with his fellow-traveller?

Ans. The author developed a kind of distant relationship with the mosquito. It was based on mutual moral binding. It was the fact that fortune had made them fellow travellers.

(c) What are three important qualities of a valuable life?

Ans. Three important qualities of a valuable life are self control, charity and compassion.

3. Fill in the blanks in the following sentences, with the most suitable words given within the brackets : $4 \times 1 = 4$

(a) The people of India have a for Independence.

(hope, passion, hatred, gratitude)

Ans. passion

(b) I realized at once what I had given.

(favour, reward, insult, offence)

Ans. offence

(c) Widows have long been to be burn on their husband's pyres.

(compelled, continued, ceased, pressed)

Ans. ceased

- (d) He played me openly.
(without, after, with, in front of)

Ans. with

4. Answer any *two* of the following questions in about 30 words each : $5 + 5 = 10$

- (a) What did the astrologer tell her wife after dinner ?

Ans. After dinner the astrologer told his wife that he was very happy because the person whom he stabbed some years ago is still alive. He was before him in the evening. There was an agreement with him to answer a question correctly for eight annas.

- (b) What thoughts troubled Sanku after committing the theft ?

Ans. His hand trembled. He took the gold watch quickly out of his pocket. He felt suffocated and put again the watch on the table.

- (c) What did the child feel when he has lost ?

Ans. The child could not enjoy anything in the absence of his parents. He lost all interest in life and its activities.

5. Explain with reference to the context any *one* of the following extracts : 10

- (a) But a smooth and steadfast mind,
Gentle thoughts and calm desires,
Hearts with equal love combined,
Kindle never-dying fires;
Where these are not, I despise
Lovely cheeks or lips or eyes.

Ans. Reference to the context : These lines have been taken from the poem 'The True Beauty' composed by **Thomas Carew**. The poet says that beauty of mind and heart is higher than physical beauty and is everlasting. Beauty without these qualities is worthless.

Explanation : The poet finally tells that beauty of mind and heart is greater and lasting than physical beauty. The poet has already told us about a woman with physical charms. Now he tells us about a woman who has better qualities. A noble woman's mind is healthy and stable. She never thinks of fierce things. Her desires are free from all harms. They are simple and pure. She loves equally to all human beings. The love that a man feels for her will be true and permanent. A woman who does not have these virtues is hateful even if she is beautiful.

- (b) For so the whole round earth is every way
Bound by gold chains about the feet of God.
But now, farewell !

Ans. Reference to the context : These lines have been taken from the poem 'The Passing of Arthur' composed by **Alfred Lord Tennyson**. King Arthur tells Sir Bedivere that prayer has great importance for man in every way. Men should pray to God for themselves and for their friends. Prayer is the link between men and God.

Explanation : King Arthur is going away in the barge. He says to Sir Bedivere that he should pray to God for his soul. He also explains to him why he should pray. Animals like sheep and goats do not know what they do. They have no intelligence. They are guided by instinct. Men know God so they are better than sheep and goats. If they do not pray to God for themselves and their friends, they are just like those animals. They are not better. Prayer is very important. It is the only link between God and man. Prayer is the valuable bond which brings man under the protection of God.

6. Give the central idea of any *one* of the following poems : 7

- (a) A Lament

- (b) My Heaven

- (c) Character of a Happy Life

Ans. (a) A Lament
(P.B. Shelley)

The poet is sad and depressed. He has lost his youth and its joys. He remembers them and feels disappointed. Death is approaching him slowly which will snatch his life and its joys from him.

- (b) My Heaven

(Rabindranath Tagore)

The poet desires for ideal perfection in his motherland. He wants real and spiritual freedom. He wants his countrymen to be fearless, self-respecting and free from narrow loyalties. Men should be perfectly reasonable and should always try for perfection. His country will then be a heaven in itself.

- (c) Character of a Happy Life

(Sir Henry Wotton)

A man is happy if he is not subject to another's will. He is not a slave to his passions. He does not fear death and public criticism. He works as his conscience says. He does not envy the progress of others. He does not harm others. For him joys and sorrows are alike. He is content with what he has.

7. Write the definition of any *one* of the following figures of speech with two examples. $2 + 2 = 4$

- (a) Oxymoron

- (b) Metaphor

- (c) Hyperbole.

Ans. (a) Oxymoron: Contradictory qualities are predicted at once of the same thing.

Example: (i) He is an innocent criminal.

(ii) My friend is regularly irregular.

(b) Metaphor: In this figure of speech two things of different kinds are compared without using 'like' 'so' or 'as'.

Example: (i) Revenge is a kind of wild justice.

(ii) She is a fen of stagnant water.

(c) Hyperbole: By this figure things are represented so greater or lesser, better or worse, than they really are.

Example: (i) The waves rose mountains high.

(ii) Rivers of blood flowed in the battle.

Section B

8. (a) Change any *one* of the following sentences into indirect form of speech : 2

- (i) I said to him, "Can you not do this work?"
 (ii) The boys said to the teacher, "Please, help us."

Ans. (i) I asked him if he could not do that work.
 (ii) The boys requested the teacher to help them.

(b) Combine any *one* of the following sentences as directed within the brackets : 2

- (i) He has failed many times. He still hopes to succeed. (*into one simple sentence*)
 (ii) He was innocent. That was the verdict of the jury. (*into one complex sentence*)

Ans. (i) Having failed many times, still he hopes to succeed.
 (ii) Jury gave the verdict that he was innocent.

(c) Transform any *one* of the following sentences as directed within the brackets : 2

- (i) Why did you not complete your work yesterday. (*into passive voice*)
 (ii) Gandhiji was one of the greatest leaders of the world. (*into positive degree*)

Ans. (i) Why was the work not completed by you yesterday?
 (ii) Very few leaders were as great as Gandhiji.

(d) Correct any *two* of the following sentences : 2 × 1 = 2

- (i) He availed his casual leave.
 (ii) Kalidas was one of the greatest poet of Sanskrit.
 (iii) She resembles to her brother.
 (iv) The school was closed since yesterday.

Ans. (i) He has availed his casual leave.
 (ii) Kalidas was one of the greatest poets of Sanskrit.
 (iii) She resembles her brother.
 (iv) The school is closed since yesterday.

9. (a) Use any *three* of the following idioms / phrases in your own sentences so as to bring out their meanings clearly : 3 × 1 = 3

- (i) at sixes and sevens
 (ii) to nip in the bud
 (iii) a fair-weather friend
 (iv) to any fro
 (v) carry out.

Ans. (i) **At sixes and sevens** : His mind is not stable, as he is always at sixes and sevens in his attitude.
 (ii) **To nip in the bud** : His faults should be nipped in the bud.
 (iii) **A fair-weather friend** : Nowadays we have only a fair-weather friend and not a real sympathizer.
 (iv) **To and fro** : Both of these girls move together and are the real epitome of moving to and fro.
 (v) **Carry out** : Commitments have been made with little intention of carrying them out.

(b) Write antonyms of the following words :

3 × 1 = 3

- (i) adversity (ii) dynamic
 (iii) ambiguous.

Ans. (i) prosperity
 (ii) static
 (iii) clear.

(c) Write synonyms of the following words :

3 × 1 = 3

- (i) reverence (ii) summit
 (iii) negligent.

Ans. (i) admiration
 (ii) peak
 (ii) careless.

(d) Substitute one word for the following expressions : 3 × 1 = 3

- (i) the remedy for all diseases.
 (ii) that which can't be believed.
 (iii) a person widely known for evil deeds.

Ans. (i) elixir
 (ii) incredible
 (iii) notorious.

(e) Use the following words in sentences of your own so as to bring out the difference in their meanings clearly : 1 + 1 = 2

- (i) human (ii) humane.

Ans. (i) **Human** : To err is *human*, to forgive is divine.
 (ii) **Humane** : We should become *humane* to help others.

10. Translate the following into English : 10

स्वामी विवेकानन्द देश के एक महान सपूत थे। पश्चिमी देशों में उन्होंने भारत का झण्डा ऊँचा किया। उनका जन्म कोलकाता के एक सम्भ्रान्त बंगाली परिवार में हुआ था। उनका बचपन का नाम नरेन्द्र था, परन्तु संन्यासी होने पर वे विवेकानन्द बन गए। गुरु से मिली शिक्षा को उन्होंने अपने जीवन में उतारने का सफल प्रयास किया। राष्ट्रधर्म को मानवधर्म से जोड़कर स्वामी जी ने देश को एक नई दिशा दी। उन्होंने अमेरिका के शिकागो नामक शहर में अपने ज्ञान से सारे विश्व को आकर्षित किया। उनका व्यक्तित्व इतना सौम्य और आकर्षक था कि हर व्यक्ति उनसे प्रभावित हो जाता था। केसरिया वस्त्र और सिर पर पगड़ी उनकी एक अलग पहचान थी। विदेश से लौटने पर उन्होंने देशवासियों से कहा "अंग्रेजी पढ़ो, परन्तु अंग्रेज मत बनो।" कृतज्ञ राष्ट्र स्वामी जी को सदैव याद करता रहेगा।

Ans. Swami Vivekanand was the worthy son of the nation. He raised high the Indian flag in western countries. He took birth in a prosperous Bengali family of Kolkata. His childhood name was Narendra, but after renouncing the world he became Vivekanand. He successfully tried to adopt the learnings of his guru in his life. He mingled religion of nation with human religion and gave new direction to the nation. Through his knowledge he attracted the whole world in the city of Chicago in America. His personality was so placid and attractive that each and every person was influenced by him. He had a unique identity with saffron dress and turban on head. After returning from foreign he spoke to countrymen 'study English but don't become Englishmen'. The grateful nation will always remember Swamiji.

11. Write an essay on any *one* of the following topics in about 200 words : 12

- (a) Nationalism
- (b) Your Idea of a Happy Man
- (c) Afforestation
- (d) Our Prime Minister
- (e) Terrorism and World Peace.

Ans. (a) Nationalism

Introduction : Our country is a perfect example of the saying, "Unity in diversity." Our nation is composed of different cultures, religions and languages. India has a diversity in each of these things. There are many religions, many languages and many castes. Our country has no uniform religion, language or caste, but when it comes to the nationality all of us are united.

A great necessity : National integration is necessary for the nation's existence. If we keep our unity, no foreign power could either enslave us or weaken us. Communal riots result in much loss. A lot of property is destroyed. Men are killed. Work stops and production stops with it. National money is wasted on controlling the riots and giving compensations. If there is national integration, this loss will stop and the country will prosper.

Causes of disintegration : Selfishness in everyone is the root cause of disintegration. People think of their small interests. They do not think of the whole country. Some fight for their state, some fight for their tribe, some fight for their language. One particular community has always fought for its religion. The selfishness of the leaders does the greatest harm. They think only of retaining their own chair. They bow down to the vote banks. Individuals and voters are selfish. They vote for their personal interest and send the enemies of integration to power. The internal enemies have friends outside. Those friends continue to instigate them.

Solution to the problem : The need of the day is to keep communal harmony in India. Political parties can play an important role. For this, all political parties, should sit together. They should decide the necessary steps for integration. They must teach people that they are Indians first. They should be more disciplined. They should sacrifice their personal interests in the interest of their country. Then every party should swear to support these steps. These steps should be very strict. The country has waited for seven decades. It cannot and should not wait any more. The necessary steps for national integration should be taken at once. Newspapers, television, cinema can also play a useful role in developing the feeling of oneness among the people.

Conclusion : We have to create a national awakening among the people of our country. Those, who are found involved in anti-national and anti-social activities,

should be dealt with a heavy hand. There is the National Integration Council under the Government of India, making for national unity. United we stand, divided we fall.

(b) My Idea of a Happy Man

Happiness is a state of mind which can only be inculcated in a mind and developed but not acquired through material possessions. Many people confuse happiness with pleasure which is wrong. A man may be a billionaire but still unhappy whereas a pauper may be far happier.

Human nature longs for variety in life. It is natural to welcome a change every now and then to keep away from boredom. Some changes to divert one's mind from the usual routine adds charm to life. There is greater joy in doing things the different way everytime. Nature can be quoted as the best example for human happiness.

There was a time when people did not have much money or luxuries nor beautiful and comfortable hours. But they spend their tension-free life in the lap of nature, enjoying God-given Bounties like fresh air, cool breeze, pure lakes and river water and warm sun rays which now have not much significance for the modern tension-ridden man.

A money-minded man is often mean and cruel and such a man can never be happy. Real happiness can be attained by being merciful, kind and sympathetic and helpful to others and leading a busy but contented, truthful and honest life. One must always give full attention to one's character and purity of mind. An unhealthy mind is a den of unhappiness. Social work and a philanthropic attitude to life are the best ways to be happy. According to Sir Henry Wotton :

*"How happy is he born or taught
That serveth not another's will
Whose armour is his honest thought
And simple truth his utmost skill !"*

(c) Afforestation

Forests are the part of the national property. Therefore they are rightly known as green gold. In ancient days they were the chief source of wood for fuel, but for the modern civilization they are useful for humanity in various ways. So we should adopt the policy of afforestation in place of deforestation.

Forests are also very important from cultural point of view. The Vedas were written in forests. The ancient Ashram schools were held in these forests. Nearly 7.5 lac sq. km of Indian land is covered by forests. It is 23 per cent of the total land of the country. There is a great importance of forests in national economy.

'Van Mahotsav' is observed and trees are planted in July and August every year. Forest development programme has been taken up. There are forest colleges and forest research centres in Dehradun, Bengaluru and Coimbatore. From administration

point of view forests are classified as Reserved, Protected and Unclassified.

Afforestation is must for the progress and development of the nation. Forests check floods and help rainfall. They also increase fertility of a country. But the destruction of India's forests has brought the country to the brink of environmental disaster. According to the National Forest Policy, one-third of the country's geographical area should be under good forest cover.

The destruction of natural vegetal cover causes the loss of topsoil. Rural poverty and ecological imbalance are correlate. Poverty increases with environmental degradation. As the need of the poor and the industrialists keep increasing, forests continue to disappear. There is no universal species that can be grown on all land. Our approach should be to select suitable species, which are fastest growing.

The work of afforestation cannot be left to the traditional departments. We have to build from the bottom up with plantations and small forests to thousands of plantations.

(d) Our Prime Minister

Introduction : Narendra Modi served as the prime minister of India from 2014 to 2019. Again he was sworn in as India's prime minister on 30th May 2019, making the start of his second term in office. He is the first ever prime minister to be born after independence. He has the distinction of being the longest serving chief minister of Gujarat with his term spanning from October 2001 to May 2014.

His childhood : Narendra Modi was born on 17 September 1950 in a small town of Gujarat. His family belonged to the other backward class. The initial hardships of life not only taught the value of hard work but also exposed him to the avoidable sufferings of the common people.

Devoted worker of RSS : In his initial years, he worked with the RSS, a nationalist organization devoted to nation building and later devoted himself in politics working with the BJP.

Development-oriented programmes : Inspired by the motto of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas', Modi has ushered in a paradigm shift in governance that has led to inclusive, development-oriented and corruption-free governance. Today, India is home to the world's largest healthcare programme 'Ayushman Bharat'. Covering over 50 crore Indians, Ayushman Bharat provides top quality and affordable healthcare to the poor.

Initiator of welfare schemes : The prime minister launched the 'Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana', that aimed at opening bank accounts for every Indian. Now over 35 crore Jan Dhan Accounts have been opened. Modi has emphasised on 'Jan Suraksha' by giving insurance and pension cover to the most vulnerable sections of society.

Honours and awards : Recognising his efforts towards environmental conservation, PM Modi was honoured with the United Nations 'Champions of the Earth Award'. Modi has been conferred various honours including the highest civilian honour of Saudi Arabia, Russian Federation, Palestine, Afghanistan, UAE, and the Maldives.

Conclusion : Narendra Modi is a 'People's Leader', dedicated to solving their problems and improving their well-being. Nothing is more satisfying to him than being amongst the people, sharing their joys and alleviating their sorrows. He is known as India's most techno-savvy leader. He is very active on social media platforms.

(e) Terrorism and World Peace

Introduction : Terrorism means 'to use terror-inspiring methods by terrorists to force a government or a community to make them agree to fulfil their demand.' When a group of persons want to have an independent state, or some special right in constitution, they attack the established government with arms and ammunition. Such persons are called terrorists. They disturb the peace of the state and the people. They kill innocent persons and peace-loving community and thus create terror in the hearts of people.

Countries suffering from terrorism : The evil of terrorism has now become the problem of day-to-day life of most of the countries of the world. India, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Pakistan, etc., are many of the countries, that are suffering from this problem. There are some countries of the world that prepare terrorists. They give them training arms and necessary equipments and other things for their training and living. Then they send them to their neighbouring countries only to create trouble there.

Checks on terrorism : In India, terrorism has prevailed in north-east India in Nagaland, Mizoram and Tripura. In Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan has been creating a great trouble of terror. This neighbouring country has been sending terrorists into our country for many years. It has been supporting them with arms and ammunitions, money and training. The aim of this country is to annex Jammu and Kashmir through creating terror in our country. Thousands of lives of peace-loving people have been taken.

Pakistani intelligence agency ISI has spread its network in our country. Its main purpose is to spread terrorism on Indian soil. India wants that the nations of the world should declare Pakistan a terrorist state. A new form of terrorists is the Jehadi terrorists. They propagate the spread of fundamentalism of Islam. Attacks on Trade Centre of U.S.A., attack on Indian Parliament, attacks on Shrines Raghunath temple in Jammu, Akshardham in Gujarat were made by the Jehadi group of terrorists.

Conclusion : Terrorism is always harmful. It can destroy peace and prosperity of a country. The innocent and peace-loving people are killed. So it is the duty of every government to crush terrorism with an iron hand. An international conference should be held to deal with this problem of terror under the sponsorship of the United Nations.

12. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

There seems to be a general opinion in the country that Sardar Patel was slightly of a harsh and rough temperament. People call him 'Iron man of India'. He was, no doubt, an iron man, in the sense that one could rely on him for strict and efficient administration. But as a man, to those who had the good fortune of coming into close contact with him, he was kind and considerate. At times he even became emotional, where his personal friends and followers were concerned. Once he judged the

man and found him correct, he trusted him fully and got him to do anything he wanted. He love for all and sundry was boundless.

Questions :

- (a) Why was Sardar Patel called the 'Iron Man of India' ? 2

Ans. Sardar Patel was strict and efficient administrator, therefore he was called the Iron man of India.

- (b) What kind of man was Sardar Patel in his private life ? 2

Ans. In his private life Sardar Patel was kind and considerate.

- (c) (i) Explain the underlined portions. 1
(ii) Give a suitable title to the above passage. 1

Ans. (i) *One could rely to him for strict and efficient administration* : he was honest in his dealing and strictly followed his words so people could rely on his deeds and actions.

- (ii) Title to the passage : 'Iron Man of India'.

