

INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION, 2012**English-First Paper**

Time : 3 Hours 15 Min.]

322 (HL)

[Max. Marks : 50

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

(a) 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.

(b) Magnanimity and mercy were the noblest attributes of man. In the exercise of these high qualities, I could recover my prestige. At present, I was a ridiculous figure, a thing for laughter and derision. By being merciful, I could reassert the moral dignity of man and go back to my corner with honour.

(c) This time the Creator took care to employ only a little of the harder materials. To the new animal He made. He gave neither horns nor claws; He gave it teeth that could chew but not bite. The energy, He gave it, was enough to make it useful on the battle-field, but He gave it no taste of its own for battles.

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

(a) Today, when the conception of nationalism has developed, much more, Indians in foreign countries inevitably form a national group and hang together for various purposes, in spite of their internal differences. An Indian Christian is looked upon as an Indian wherever he may go. An Indian Moslem is considered an Indian in Turkey or Arabia or Iran or any other country where Islam is the dominant religion.

(i) What do you understand by the expression 'conception of nationalism'? 1

(ii) How do Indians live in foreign countries? 1

(iii) Does an Indian Christian in England become an Englishman? 1

(iv) Where is Islam the dominant religion? 1

(b) Compassion, 'daya', is the quality which is more characteristic of women than of men. I read recently a book which speaks about the decline of womanhood, and says that this is so because there is a decline in compassion. In other words, the natural quality of women is compassion. If you do not have compassion, you are not human. It is therefore, essential for every human being to develop the quality of considerateness, kindness and compassion. Without these qualities, we are only human animals, 'nara pasu', not more than that.

(i) What distinguishes a woman from a man? 1

(ii) What is the decline of womanhood due to? 1

(iii) When is a man not human? 1

(iv) What do we lose if we do not have these qualities? 1

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

(a) What are the three things necessary to free thinking?

(b) How did Tom blackmail his brother George?

(c) What is the commonest form of forgetfulness?

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

(a) "Sweet are the uses of adversity."

Justify this in the light of the lesson 'My Struggle for An Education.'

(b) What Chief features of the Indian culture have been emphasized by A.L. Basham?

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

(a) In the fable, the grasshopper stands for (hard work, kindness, enjoyment industry)

(b) I bought one tiny for a few annas. (fan, cup, pencil, basket)

(c) Ordinarily, good memory is so common that we regard a man who does not possess it as (eccentric, inefficient, inconsiderate, prosaic)

(d) True health and success go together. (positive, true, immortal, sincere)

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

(a) What are the four stories that form the basis of the play 'The Merchant of Venice'? Are they interconnected?

(b) Give your opinion of the character of Antonio.

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

(a) Why did the Prince of Morocco choose the golden casket?

(b) What is Shylock's reply to Antonio's request for a loan?

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

(a) Describe the plight of Gafur and the factors responsible for it.

(b) Describe the psychology of the childhood as it is presented in the story "The Lost Child".

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

(a) Where did Sanku work? What were his problems?

(b) Why did Gyan Babu's wife tell him to put in his resignation?

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

(a) The old order changeth, yielding place to new.

And God fulfils Himself in many ways

Lest one good custom should corrupt the world.

(b) 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) I see a lily on the brow.

With anguish moist and fever dew;

And on the cheeks a fading rose,

Fast withereth too.

11. Give the Central idea of one of the following poems : 4

(a) The True Beauty

(b) O Captain! My Captain!

(c) The Song of the Free.

12. Answer one of the following questions in about 150 words : 4

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

(b) What lesson do you draw from the story, "The Light of Asia"?

13. (a) Define Personification or Apostrophe and give an example of it. $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1$

(b) Point out the figures of speech in two of the following : 1

(i) So like a shattered column lay the king.

(ii) He is now in the sunset of his days.

(iii) All the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand.