RAJASTHAN BOARD

QUESTION PAPER

2024

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SS–20–Eng. Lit.

SENIOR SECONDARY EXAMINATION, 2024

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Time : 3 **Hours 15 Minutes**

Maximum Marks : 80

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE EXAMINEES :

1) Candidates must write his/her Roll No. on the question paper.

2) **All** the questions are compulsory.

3) For questions having more than one part, the answers to those parts are to be written together in continuity.

4) Write answers of all the questions in your answer-book only.

5) Write down the serial number of the question before attempting it.

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TEAR HERE TO OPEN THE QUESTION PAPER

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SECTION - A

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

By and large people in India desire a democratic way of life. But of late, due to the failure, or suppression, of democratic Government in a number of Asian countries, many people in India have become apprehensive about the future of democracy in this country. The deteriorating economic and political conditions have also made people doubtful about the efficacy of democracy to face critical situation successfully. While there are many who only 'pine for what is not' and thoughtlessly wish for alternative forms of Government, there are others who with their firm faith in democracy, consider the prevalent democratic structure in India only a base imitation of the outward forms of the British parliamentary democracy. They want that the constitutional and political set-up should be differently constituted if the goal of true democracy is to be achieved.

The question of forms and formalities may be important but there are certain essentials which have to be guaranteed before any democratic system can hope to succeed. Dr. Radhakrishnan rightly drew attention to these essential prerequisites in the speech he delivered while performing an opening ceremony of the new Orissa Legislature building. Disciplined parties, a devoted and patriotic leadership, he said, were the 'sine qua non' of a successful parliamentary democracy in any country. He also considered a free press, an independent judiciary and a clean and efficient administration necessary for making democracy a success.

However, since in a democratic government, ultimate power rests with elected representatives, they count more than anything else. For unless the people are determined and prepared for an open rebellion, the press, the judiciary and the administration, can be in dubious ways coerced to conform to the wishes of the party in power. Directly or indirectly the press can be gagged, the judiciary weakened by amending legislation to nullify judicial pronouncements and the administration corrupted by the corrupt leaders at the top. The first thing, therefore, is to turn our attention to the political parties if we want to mend our affairs.

There is much to be desired so far as the political parties in India are concerned. The political parties are today organised not on any ideological basis but on personal or group basis. Dr. Radhakrishnan in this regard says : "Politics is after all means to an end; it devises arrangement by which social and economic justice is secured for all. No democracy will be worth the name if it confines its activities only to enabling the elected representatives to squabble for power and jockey for positions and leaves the purpose of the state to be fulfilled by fits and starts".

1) By and large people in India desire : **[1]**

A) a peaceful way of life
B) a democratic way of life
C) a noble way of life
D) a luxurious way of life

2) 'Sine qua non' means : **[1]**

A) easy way

B) democratic system

C) a necessary or indispensable requirement

D) hope to succeed

3) In a democratic government, ultimate power rests : **[1]**

A) with the elected representatives B) with the judiciary

C) with the administration D) with the press

4) Where did Dr. Radhakrishnan deliver his speech? **[1]**

5) Why have many people in India become apprehensive about the future of democracy in the country? **[1]**

6) On what basis the political parties are today organised? **[1]**

Find words from the passage which are opposite of :

7) 'Unconcerned' **[1]**

8) 'Closing' **[1]**

Read the given poem carefully and answer the following questions.

(1)

Break, break, break,
On thy cold gray stones, O Sea!
And I would that my tongue could utter
The thoughts that arise in me.

(2)

O, well for the fisherman's boy
That he shouts with his sister at play!
O, well for the sailor's lad,
That he sings in his boat on the bay!

(3)

And the stately ships go on
To their haven under the hill;
But O for the touch of a vanish'd hand,
And the sound of a voice that is still!

(4)

Break, break, break,

At the foot of thy crags, O Sea!

But the tender grace of a day that is dead

Will never come back to me.

9) ..... is 'I' in the third line of the given poem? **[1]**

A) Sea B) Wave

C) Poet D) Poet's friend

10) The thoughts that arise in ..... . **[1]**

A) me B) you

C) sea D) none

11) But the tender grace of a day that is ..... . **[1]**

A) bay B) dead

C) hill D) still

12) Who or what is being addressed in the first line? **[1]**

13) What did the poet say about the fisherman's boy and the sailor lad? **[1]**

14) Where are the ships going? **[1]**

15) Who are the people mentioned in the second stanza? **[1]**

16) Find the similar word of the following from the given poem : 'Charm'. **[1]**

SECTION - B

17) Write an essay in about 150-200 words on the given topic : **[8]**

An Ideal Teacher

OR

Women Empowerment

18) You are Vivek/Vaishnavi of class 12th of Govt. S.S. School Muralipura Jaipur. Write a speech in about 150-200 words to be delivered in the prayer assembly. **[8]**

'Importance of Morning Walk'

OR

You are Sachin/Sunita of class 12th studying in Govt. S. S. School Benad (Jaipur). Write an article in about 150-200 words to the editor of the school magazine.

'*The Importance of Games for Students*'

SECTION - C

19) Write on any two literary terms in about 40-50 words : **[2×3=6]**

i) Indo-Anglian Literature

ii) Stream of consciousness

iii) Anglo-Indian Literature

iv) Interior Monologue

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :

This was a crucial piece of information, because I feared she was an unforgettable woman whose real name I never knew, and who wore a similar ring on her right forefinger which, in those days, was even more unusual than it is now. I had met her thirty four years earlier in Vienna, eating sausage with boiled potatoes and drinking draft beer in a tavern frequented by Latin American students. I had come from Rome that morning, and I still remember my immediate response to her splendid Soprano's bosom, the languid foxtail on her coat collar, and that Egyptian ring in the shape of a serpent. She spoke an elementary Spanish in a metallic accent without pausing for breath, and I thought she was the only Austrian at the long wooden table. But no, she had been born in Colombia and had come to Austria between the wars. When she was little more than a child, to study music and voice. She was about thirty, and did not carry her years well for she had never been pretty and had begun to age before her time. But she was a charming human being. And one of the most awe-inspiring.

20) What type of ring the woman was wearing? **[2]**

21) Where and when had the writer met the woman? **[2]**

22) Where had the woman been born? And why did she come to Austria? **[2]**

Answer the following question in about 100 words: **[6]**

23) Draw a character sketch of 'Captain - Hagberd'. (*Tomorrow*)

OR

Draw a character sketch of 'Eveline'. (*Eveline*)

Answer the following question in about 60 words: **[4]**

24) According to the writer the novel is more than Poetry, Philosophy, Science, or any other book. Why? (*Why the Novel Matters*)

OR

Who was Maitreyi? What was her question? (*The Argumentative Indian*)

Read the extract of the poem carefully and answer the questions that follow:

When we were children
My brother and I
And always playing on the sands
Drawing birds and animals
Our great - grandmother said one day,
You see this house of ours
Now three hundred years old,
It's falling to little bits
Before our very eyes
The walls are cracked and torn
And moistened by the rain.

25) Who used to play on the sands? **[2]**

26) Why is the house falling to little bits? **[2]**

27) Write the meaning of 'moistened by the rain'. **[2]**

OR

(1)

A Bird sat careless on the fence
One gossiped in the lane
On silver matters charmed a Snake
Just winding round a stone --

(2)

Bright Flowers slit a Calyx
And soared upon a Stem
Like Hindered Flags - Sweet hoisted -
With Spices - in the Hem -

25) How many creatures are mentioned in these stanzas? What are they doing? **[2]**

26) Where did the bright flowers soar? **[2]**

27) Which figure of speech is used in the second stanza of the extract? **[2]**

Answer the following question in about 100 words : **[6]**

28) Write the theme of the poem 'The Divine Image'. (*Poems by Blake*)

OR

Write the summary of the poem 'On Shakespeare. 1630'. (*Poems by Milton*)

Answer the following question in about 60 words : **[4]**

29) How genuine is the love that Manjula expresses for her sister? (*Broken Image*)

OR

How did the 'Spell of the Earth' affect the monk? (*Chandalika*)

Answer the following question in about 60 words : **[4]**

30) What did people say about the Master? (*A Tiger for Malgudi*)

OR

How did the Master save the tiger in the school? (*A Tiger for Malgudi*)

Answer the following question in about 100 words : **[6]**

31) How can you say that the novel revolves around "Raja", the Tiger? Can he be termed as the Hero of the novel? (*A Tiger for Malgudi*)

OR

Draw a character sketch of 'The Captain'. (*A Tiger for Malgudi*)

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