

CLASS : 12th Sr. Sec. (Academic) Code No. 3002

Series : SS-M/2016

Roll No.

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ENGLISH (Elective)

ACADEMIC

2nd SEMESTER

(Only for Fresh/Re-appear Candidates)

Evening Session

Time allowed : 2½ hours] [Maximum Marks : 80

- *Please make sure that the printed pages in this question paper are **16** in number and it contains **11** questions.*
- *The **Code No.** on the right side of the question paper should be written by the candidate on the front page of the answer-book.*
- *Before beginning to answer a question, its Serial Number must be written.*
- *Don't leave blank page/pages in your answer-book.*
- *Except answer-book, no extra sheet will be given. Write to the point and do not strike the written answer.*
- *Candidates must write their Roll Number on the question paper.*
- *Before answering the questions, ensure that you have been supplied the correct and complete question paper, **no claim in this regard, will be entertained after examination.***

General Instructions :

- (i) This question-paper is divided into **four** Sections : **A, B, C** and **D**.
- (ii) All the Sections are compulsory.
- (iii) Attempt all the parts of a question together.
- (iv) Stick to the word-limit wherever prescribed.

SECTION – A

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow : 1 × 8 = 8

The revolution in Information Technology (IT), far from helping India to leapfrog to a post-industrial society, threatens to rupture the social fabric by enriching a few at the cost of many. In a very short time and quite unexpectedly, India has risen to considerable eminence in the world of information technology. This year, software products are expected to account for \$ 5.7 billion in exports and will account for a quarter of the growth in the economy, which is expected to grow nearly seven per cent. Within eight years, predicts a recent study by McKinsey & Co. and the National Association of Software & Service Companies

(Nasscom), India's annual IT exports could hit \$ 50 billion – about 33 per cent of global software exports. Such a surge is expected to generate 2.2 million jobs – and push our growth rate near the double digits that many East Asian Tigers enjoyed before the 1997 crash.

Indian software companies too are carving out a niche, which other Indian companies couldn't even dream of. India's technology stocks now account for 30 per cent of the Bombay Stock Exchange's capitalization, up from 8 per cent a year ago. Some of the software companies through stock options have created thousands of rupee millionaires. This selective reading of statistics is so compelling that one is tempted to pose the ultimate question : Has India arrived ? Is India in the throes of a revolution ?

For the rapidly growing middle class, which was desperate to make its presence felt but remained mired in the great Indian outback of the global economy and regretfully watched the industrial revolution pass it by, this is the moment they have been waiting for. When countries like Japan and Germany, the objects of Indian admiration, should come knocking on our doors to solicit our talent to invigorate their industry, it is indeed redemption of sorts. And IT is the cause of it all.

The big question is, will IT do an encore for India as a nation, and not just for a wafer thin percentage of IT-literate Indians, mostly the poster boys of the IITs ?

This situation itself is a product of the skewed Nehruvian priorities : spending 60 per cent of the education budget to subsidise the IITs and IIMs, while spending the rest on secondary and primary education (in that order). And it is this celebrated IT revolution that threatens to perpetuate this order.

IT has, as yet, failed to touch the lives of the average citizen and India is nowhere close to being a knowledge economy or society. As per the International Data Corporation (IDC), in a survey of 55 countries, India ranks 54th on its Information Society Index. The 2000 World Times/IDC index measures the global impact of IT and Internet adoption and establishes a standard "by which all nations are measured according to their ability to assess and absorb information and IT", reads the introduction to the survey.

Countries in the survey were divided into skaters, striders, sprinters and strollers. Strollers, according to IDC's definition, are

"wandering towards the IT revolution without great haste, deterred by infrastructure costs, limited consumer demand and cultural fears." Ironically, India is strolling in the penultimate position, a notch above neighbouring, feudal Pakistan.

Typically, used to singing paeans of the quality of Indian IT companies and the sheer numbers of IT professionals in the country, industry apologists like Nasscom dismissed the ranking as faulty. The excuse being that a critical criteria used to rank countries was PC penetration in relation to the population in the country and not just the number of PCs in isolation from the rest of the country.

Questions :

- (i) How does the revolution in information technology threaten to rupture the social fabric ?
- (a) By enriching a few at the cost of many
 - (b) By enriching all at the cost of money
 - (c) Both (a) & (b)
 - (d) Neither (a) nor (b)

- (ii) How many jobs are expected to be generated in the expansion of the world of information Technology ?
- (a) 2.2 million jobs
 - (b) 22000 jobs
 - (c) 22 crore jobs
 - (d) 2.2 billion jobs
- (iii) How much crores Indian Software Companies account for Bombay Stock Exchange's Capitalization ?
- (a) 10%
 - (b) 20%
 - (c) 30%
 - (d) 40%
- (iv) What is the contribution of IT to Indian global economy ?
- (a) Invigorate industry
 - (b) Watch industrial revolution
 - (c) Both (a) & (b)
 - (d) Neither (a) nor (b)

- (v) What is going to be threatened by IT revolution ?
- (a) Priority to Secondary Education
 - (b) Priority to Primary Education
 - (c) Priority to subsidize IITs & IIMs
 - (d) None of the above
- (vi) What is the ranking of India according to Information Society Index in a survey of 55 countries ?
- (a) 51st place
 - (b) 52nd place
 - (c) 53rd place
 - (d) 54th place
- (vii) What are the strollers doing ?
- (a) Wandering towards IT revolution
 - (b) Limited consumer demand and cultural fears
 - (c) No great haste deterred by infrastructure costs
 - (d) All of the above

(viii) Find words from the passage which mean the same as :

(a) produce,

(b) build.

2. Read the stanza given below and answer the questions that follow : 1 × 8 = 8

*When you are old and grey and full of sleep,
And nodding by the fire, take down this book,
And slowly read, and dream of the soft look
Your eyes had once, and of their shadows deep;*

*How many loved your moments of glad grace,
And loved your beauty with love false or true,
But one man loved the pilgrim soul in you,
And loved the sorrows of your changing face;
And bending down beside the glowing bars,
Murmur, a little sadly, how Love fled
And paced upon the mountains overhead
And hid his face amid a crowd of stars.*

Questions :

- (i) What is the gist of the poem ?
- (ii) What kind of love is presented here :
 - (a) Love based on spiritual relationship.
 - (b) Love based on physical passion.
- (iii) What is being remembered here and how ?
- (iv) What picture of the beloved does the poet portray in first four lines ?
- (v) What does the poet want his beloved to remember ?
- (vi) What does the poet do in the final stanza with a masterful stroke ?
- (vii) Find words from the passage which mean the same as :
 - (a) whisper,
 - (b) bright.
- (viii) Give a suitable title to the stanza.

SECTION – B

3. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow : 1 × 4 = 4

Tao Ying tries to smooth it down, as if she was brushing away topsoil to get to a firm foundation. She can feel the softness of her son's skull, rubbery and elastic to the touch. Apparently there is a gap on the top of everyone's head, where the two halves meet. If they don't meet properly, a person can end up with a permanently gaping mouth. Even when the hemispheres are a perfect match, it still takes a while for them to seal. This is the door to life itself – if it remains open, the world outside will feel like water, flowing into the body through this slit. Every time Tao Ying happens upon this aperture on her son's head, she would be overwhelmed by a sense of responsibility. It was she who had brought this delicate creature into the world after all. Although she senses her own insignificance in the world, that her existence makes no difference to anyone else, she also

realises that to this little boy she is the centre of the universe and she must try to be the most perfect, flawless mother possible.

Questions :

- (i) Name the story and its writer.
- (ii) What does Tao Ying feel about her son ?
- (iii) What is the door to life mentioned in the passage ?
- (iv) What does she want to become for this little boy ?

4. Read the stanza given below and answer the questions that follow : 1 × 4 = 4

The trees are in their autumn beauty,

The woodland paths are dry,

Under the October twilight the water

Mirrors a still sky;

Upon the brimming water among the stones

Are nine-and-fifty swans.

The nineteenth autumn has come upon me

Since I first made my count;

I saw, before I had well finished,

All suddenly mount

And scatter wheeling in great broken rings

Upon their clamorous wings.

I have looked upon those brilliant creatures,

And now my heart is sore.

All's changed since I, hearing at twilight.

Questions :

- (i) Name the poem and the poet.
- (ii) How is the beauty of autumn described ?
- (iii) How many swans were there ?
- (iv) Why is the poet sore at heart ?

- 5.** Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow : 1 × 4 = 4

And that's what you learn, when you're a novelist. And that's what you are very liable **not**

to know, if you're a parson, or a philosopher, or a scientist, or a stupid person. If you're a parson, you talk about souls in heaven. If you're a novelist, you know that paradise is in the palm of your hand, and on the end of your nose, because both are alive; and alive, and man alive, which is more than you can say, for certain, of paradise. Paradise is after life, and I for one am not keen on anything that is *after* life. If you are a philosopher, you talk about infinity; and the pure spirit which knows all things. But if you pick up a novel, you realise immediately that infinity is just a handle to this self-same jug of a body of mine; while as for knowing, if I find my finger in the fire, I know that fire burns with a knowledge so emphatic and vital, it leaves Nirvana merely a conjecture. Oh, yes, my body, me alive, *knows*, and knows intensely. And as for the sum of all knowledge, it can't be anything more than an accumulation of all the things I know in the body, and you, dear reader, know in the body.

Questions :

- (i) Name the chapter and its author.

- (ii) What will you do as a parson ?
- (iii) What will you talk about as a philosopher ?
- (iv) Find words from the passage which mean the same as :
 - (a) eternity,
 - (b) complete bliss, delight and peace.

6. Answer in about **100** words : 7

How does Captain Hagberd prepare for Harry's home coming ? *(Tomorrow)*

OR

Summarise the poem "*Trees*" by Emily Dickinson.

7. Attempt any **five** of the following : $2 \times 5 = 10$

- (i) What do you know about Bessie Carvil ? *(Tomorrow).*
- (ii) What does Tao Ying do ? *(One Centimetre).*
- (iii) Give the central idea of Emily Dickinson's "*Trees*".

- (iv) Justify the title of A. K. Ramanujan's poem
"Time and Time Again."
- (v) What is the central idea of Kamala Das'
"Blood" ?
- (vi) "The novel is one bright book of life." Justify.
(Why the Novel Matters).
- (vii) What are the historical roots of democracy ?

SECTION – C**(Drama)**

- 8.** Answer in about **100** words : 7

The play *"Broken Images"* deals with a Kannada woman. Writer who unexpectedly produces an international best seller in English. Describe her character sketch.

OR

Summarise Girish Karnad's *"Broken Images"* highlighting the key issues dealt in here.

- 9.** Answer any **four** of the following in about **30** words each : $2 \times 4 = 8$
- (i) How was Manjula's writing novel in English ?

- (ii) What is so special about Manjula's manuscript of the novel ?
- (iii) How did the advance money help her ?
- (iv) Who is Malini ?
- (v) To whom is Manjula's book '*The River Has No Memories*' dedicated and why ?
- (vi) What do you know about Pramod Murty ?

SECTION – D

- 10.** What are the **three** major issues Amartya Sen discusses in "*The Argumentative Indian*" in relation to India's dialogic tradition ? 10

OR

Summarise in your own words what Issac Asimov writes about the Prescientific Universe from the essay of the same name.

- 11.** Write short notes on any **five** of the following : 10

Simile, Metaphor, Imagery, Rhyme Scheme, Rhythm, Lyric, Stress.

