

[ 22-HKBD1SN-23A ]

**B.A./BSW 1st Semester (New) Exam. 2022 (W)**

( *General English* )

[ GEG S1-01 ]

*Full Marks : 70/80*

*Time : 3 hours*

*The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks.*

**[ Learners admitted in and after 2020 need to answer only Q.No. 1 to Q.No. 3 (total 70 marks) ]**

1. Answer any *five* of the following questions (each in around 50 words):  $2 \times 5 = 10$
- (a) (i) To what does the poet compare the little children in the poem "Holy Thursday" ?  
(ii) What do the images suggest ?  $1+1 = 2$
- (b) (i) Name the sailor and the island where the sailor spent four years without any human contact.  
(ii) How did he spend his life there ?  $1+1 = 2$
- (c) What prompted the Irish Airman to fight as revealed in the poem 'An Irish Airman Foresees His Death' ?
- (d) (i) How did Banquo and Macbeth react to the predictions of the three witches ?  
(ii) What did the witches particularly predict to Banquo ?  $1+1 = 2$

(Turn Over)

(2)

- (e) What is the significance of the word 'Idle' in the title of the poem 'Tears Idle Tears'?
- (f) Why did Simon Lee 'not care for husbandry or tillage'?

2. Answer any six from the following (each in around 120 words):  $4 \times 6 = 24$

- (a) Write a precis of the following passage and add a suitable title to it.

In every country people imagine that they are the best and the cleverest and the others are not as good as they are. The Englishman thinks that he and his country are the best; the Frenchman is very proud of France. The Germans and the Italians think no less of their countries and many Indians imagine that India is in many ways the greatest country in the world. This is wrong. Everybody wants to think well of himself and his country. But really there is no person who has not some good and some bad qualities. In the same way, there is no country which is not partly good and partly bad. We must take the good wherever we find it and try to remove the bad wherever it may be. We are, of course, concerned with our own country, India. Unhappily, it is not in an absolutely good way today. Most of our people are poor and have to struggle hard. They are naturally unhappy. But we have to find ways to make them happy. We have to see what is good in our ways and customs and try to keep it and whatever is bad we have to throw away. If we find anything good in other countries, we should take it.  $3+1 = 4$

- (b) Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

In the wealthier nations, newspapers were now produced in such large numbers as to bring about the emergence of what is called the mass circulation press. Advances in education had made literacy progress and more people were able to buy newspapers, both because wages had risen and because the newspapers were cheaper. Other factors favouring the mass press included the adoption of printing techniques which introduced long runs, circulation by railways and other fast means of transport, the financial support provided by advertising and not least, the increased flow of up-to-date news transmitted by telegraph, telephones, fax and e-mail services.

- (i) What does the phrase 'mass circulation press' mean?

(3)

- (ii) Why are more and more people able to buy newspapers now?
- (iii) State one factor favouring mass press.
- (iv) How is the improvement of economic condition helpful for the circulation of newspapers?  $1+1+1+1 = 4$

- (c) Rewrite the following sentences using the verbs given in brackets in the correct tense forms.  $1 \times 4 = 4$

(i) If it —— (rain), I will not go out.

(ii) He —— (be) here since Monday.

(iii) He —— (stay) here until I come.

(iv) I —— (know) him for a long time.

- (d) 'In the fourth Act of *Macbeth*, Macbeth visits the three witches again to know about the truth of their prediction.'

What were the answers of the witches to his queries?

- (e) Write in your own words a summary of the poem 'Wolf'.

- (f) Explain with reference to the context either of the following passages:

(i) I've heard of hearts unkind, kind deeds  
With coldness still returning;  
Alas! the gratitude of men  
Hath oftener left me mourning'.

Or

(ii) 'I am monarch of all I survey  
My right there is none to dispute;  
From the centre all round to the sea  
I am lord of the fowl and the brute'.

- (g) Describe in your own words the images and similes used by William Blake to create the vivid picture of the innocent children in the poem 'Holy Thursday'.

( 4 )

3. Answer any *six* of the following questions (each in around 200 words):  $6 \times 6 = 36$

- (a) Describe Simon Lee's activities as a huntsman. What is his present condition ?
- (b) Discuss how in each stanza in the poem 'Tears Idle Tears' there is a predominant image to bring to focus our sense of sadness.
- (c) Write a note on the thoughts of the Irish airman confronting death. Does the poem 'An Irish Airman Foresees His Death' reveal Yeats's own perception of war ?  $4+2 = 6$
- (d) Describe in your own words the life and experiences of Alexander Selkirk in the lonely island.
- (e) Write a note on the major character of Macbeth.
- (f) Describe the refugee camp as revealed in the poem 'A Mother in a Refugee Camp' and comment on the one woman who, unlike other mothers, held on to her hope despite being a victim of the war.
- (g) Discuss the life and works of William Shakespeare in details.

**( Q. No. 4 is only for learners admitted before 2020 )**

4. Answer any *one* of the following questions (in around 250 words):  $10 \times 1 = 10$

- (a) Narrate in your own words the events that lead to the tragic end of Macbeth.
- (b) Write a brief summary highlighting the theme(s) and poetic style employed in the poem 'Snake'.