

2018

CBCS

1st Semester

ENGLISH

PAPER—AECC-CORE

(General)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 Hours

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

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

Illustrate the answers wherever necessary.

British Poetry-I

1. Answer any *two* questions : 2×10

(a) Consider 'To A Skylark' of Wordsworth as a lyric Poem.

(b) Critically appreciate Shakespeare's

"Shall I compare Thee to a Summer's Day".

(Turn Over)

(c) Identify the figures of speech in the following lines—

(i) Life is but an empty dream.

(ii) Our sweetest songs are those that tell of saddest thought

(iii) I came, I saw, I conquered.

(iv) Art is long, life is short.

(v) Red as a rose is she.

(d) Scan the following stanza :

The curfew tolls the knell of parting day.

The lowing herd wind slowly o'er the lea.

The Ploughman homeward plods his weary way.

And leaves the world to darkness and to me.

2. Answer any *four* questions:

4×5

(a) Explain the line—

'our sweetest, songs are those that tell of saddest thought'.

(b) Why is the poet reluctant to compare his friend's beauty with that of summer's day?

(c) What is the central theme of Pope's "Ode on Solitude"?

(d) What are the basic differences between Shelley's Skylark and Wordsworth's Skylark?

(e) Explain the line—

'Batter my heart, three person'd God'.

(f) 'God doth not need

Either man's work or His own Gift'.

—From where these lines are taken? Briefly explain the lines.

3. Answer any *ten* questions :

10×2

(a) "Every fair from fair sometimes declines"—How is 'fair' used here? What is the meaning of "every fair from fair"?

(b) Why does the poet start the *Sonnet 18* with an interrogative sentence?

(c) "Summer's lease hath all too short a date"—What is the meaning of 'lease'? What is the image here?

(d) "But thy eternal summer shall not fade"—whose 'eternal summer' is suggested here? Why does the poet claim that 'eternal summer' will not fade?

(e) What is the metrical scheme of Donne's *Batter My Heart*?

- (f) What do you mean by “three person’d God”?
- (g) What does the poet mean by “blithe spirit”?
- (h) What does Shelley want from the skylark in the very last stanza?
- (i) With whom the poet compares autumn season in *Ode to Autumn*?
- (j) Why does Milton use the word ‘talent’ in his poem *On His Blindness*?
- (k) Why does Milton lament his blindness?
- (l) What does the poet mean by “pilgrim of the sky” in *To the Skylark*?
- (m) What is metaphor? Give an example.
- (n) “Earth has not anything to show more fair than this”—identify the figure of speech in this line.
- (o) “Shall I compare thee to a summer’s day?”—Scan this line.
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Language, Variety and Stylistics

Group—A

1. Answer any *ten* questions : 10×2

- (a) LSRW are the *four* language skills. What do they stand for? In normal cases, which of these do you acquire first and last?
- (b) What may be the probable reasons for 'miscommunication'?
- (c) What is a 'code' in the system of language or communication? What do 'coding' and 'decoding' mean?
- (d) Match the pairs :
 - (i) Basic English = Saussure;
 - (ii) Linguistic Competence = C. K. Ogden;
 - (iii) Communicative Competence = Chomsky;
 - (iv) Structuralism = Dell Hymes.
- (e) Refer to two instances/occasions where we use the 'informal' kind of language. Is it usually written, spoken or non-verbal?
- (f) What is a dialect? Why is it not considered the 'standard form' of the language?

- (g) Refer to four different features of the human language.
- (h) Give examples where 'silence' can also communicate a message.
- (i) Name any four theories of human communication.
- (j) Mention some body-gestures often used to communicate.
- (k) Can the animal communicate at all? How?
- (l) Refer to some dialects of English or of your mother tongue.
- (m) What are the advantages of written forms of communication?
- (n) Why is 'style' important in language and communication?
- (o) What are the characteristic marks of formal language?

Group—B

2. Answer any *four* questions : 4×5

- (a) Define 'addresser', 'addressee', 'message', 'context' and 'discourse'.
- (b) Explain the differences between 'standard' and 'non-standard' forms of language.

- (c) What is a 'register'? How is it different for 'idiolect' (personalized style of language)?
- (d) Write a short note on the advantages and disadvantage of electronic mode of communication.
- (e) (i) 'I had to repair my shoes' (ii) He mended his car himself.—Explain why both the sentences are wrong.
- (f) What may be the barriers in effective human communication?

Group—C

3. Answer any *two* questions : 2×10

- (a) How can a statement become expression? Answer the question with references to the concepts of declaration, expression, subjective language and objective language.
- (b) 'Variety is the spice of life'—How would you relate this to the human language? Are the varieties a hindrance for communication?
- (c) Explain with examples the rules of collocation and their importance.

- (d) Make a stylistic assessment of the following poem :

'Some say the world will end in fire,
Some say in ice.
From what I've tasted of desire
I hold with those who favor fire.
But if it had to perish twice,
I think I know enough of hate
To say that for destruction ice
Is also great
And would suffice.'
