



ENGLISH

Reading in Prose

Note : Answer **all** questions. The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks.

1. Explain the following passages with reference to the context : 4×5
- (a) To be free-minded and cheerfully disposed at hours of meat and of sleep and of exercise is one of the best precepts of long lasting. As for the passions and studies of the mind; avoid envy; anxious fears; anger fretting inwards; subtle and knotty inquisitions;

(2)

joys and exhilarations in excess; sadness not communicated. Entertain hopes; mirth rather than joy; variety of delights, rather than surfeit of them; wonder and admiration and therefore novelties; studies that fill the mind with splendid and illustrious objects, as histories, fables and contemplations of nature.

OR

With the rights and duties of man thus simplified, it seems hardly necessary to illustrate truths that seem so incontrovertible. But such deeply rooted prejudices have clouded reason, and such spurious qualities have taken the name of 'virtues', that it is necessary to track the course of reason as it has been tangled in error..... so that we can set the simple axiom alongside the deviations from it that circumstances bring.

- (b) Still I would return some time or other to this enchanted spot; but I would return to it alone. What other self could I find to share that influx of thoughts of regret and delight, the fragments of which I could hardly conjure up myself, so much have they been broken and defaced ! I could stand on some tall rock and over

(3)

look the precipice of years that separates me from what I then was. I was at that time going shortly to visit the poet whom I have above named.

OR

Not too loving neither: that does not explain my meaning. Besides, why should that offend me ? The very act of separating themselves from the rest of the world, to have the fuller enjoyment of each other's society, implies that they prefer one another to all the world.

- (c) When an animal does his soft and fleshy parts to bad very quickly but his bones remain for a very long time. And it is these bones that we find and which tell us somethig of those animals of far off days. Butm suppose an animal has no bones, like the jelly fish. It will leave nothing behind when it dies.

OR

Reason – has its limits – its base – its degeneration. The walls round it – Agnosticism, Atheism. But must not stop. The beyond is acting upon influencing us every moment – the sky the stars acting upon us – even those not seen. Therefore must go beyond – reason alone can't go – finite cannot get at the infinite.

(4)

- (d) One day when I was in the fourth form, my mathematics teacher, Ramakrishna Iyer, was teaching another class. Inadvertently I wandered into that classroom and in the manner of an old-fashioned despot, Ramakrishna Iyer caught me by the neck and caned me in front of the whole class. Many months later, when I scored full marks in mathematics, he narrated the incident to the entire school at morning assembly "Whomsoever I cane becomes a great man! Take my word, this boy is going to bring glory to his school and to his teachers." His praise quite made up for the earlier humiliation!

OR

The scientific temper with its restless intellectual questioning, its reluctance to accept anything on trust, its capacity to doubt has been the spur to all adventure and experiment. It does not accept any view without scrutiny or criticism and is free to ask questions and doubt assertions. This spirit has given us an amazing mastery over the material environment.

(5)

- (e) There is a time in every man's education when he arrives at the conviction that envy is ignorance; that imitation is suicide; that he must take himself for better, for worse, as his portion; that though the wide universe is full of good, no kernel or nourishing corn can come to him but through his toil bestowed on that plot of ground which is given to him to till.

OR

The mass of men serve the state thus, not as men mainly, but as machines, with their bodies. They are the standing army, and the militia, jailers, constables, posse comitatus, etc. In most cases there is no free exercise whatever of the judgement or of moral sense; but they put themselves on a level with wood and earth and stones; and wooden men can perhaps be manufactured that will serve the purpose as well.

Unit-I

2. "Bacon's essays are storehouse of worldly wisdom." Discuss the statement.

16

OR

(6)

Write a critique on 'A Vindication of the Rights of Woman'.

Unit-II

3. Discuss William Hazlitt as romantic essayist. 16

OR

What are the complaints made by Lamb in 'A Bachelor's Complaint' ?

Unit-III

4. Write a detailed note on J. L. Nehru's prose style. 16

OR

Express the views of Swami Vivekananda on Reason, Faith and Love.

Unit-IV

5. Write a note on the autobiographical elements in 'Wings of Fire'. 16

OR

Discuss in detail the views of Radhakrishnan in 'Recovery of Faith'.

(7)

Unit-V

6. Write in detail about the prose style of Emerson. 16

OR

Critically examine Thoreau's 'Civil Disobedience'.
