

**SY-523**

Reg. No. : .....

Name : .....



**SECOND YEAR HIGHER SECONDARY EXAMINATION, MARCH – 2024**

Part – III

Time : 2½ Hours

**ENGLISH LITERATURE**

Cool-off time : 15 Minutes

Maximum : 80 Scores

**General Instructions to Candidates :**

- There is a ‘Cool-off time’ of 15 minutes in addition to the writing time.
- Use the ‘Cool-off time’ to get familiar with questions and to plan your answers.
- Read questions carefully before answering.
- Certain sections of questions have choice. Follow the choice regulations.

**Questions 1 – 4. Fill in the blanks with suitable answers. Each carries 1 score.**

(4 × 1 = 4)

1. In the poem \_\_\_\_\_ , a person’s identity is reduced to a mere number.
2. The Magi undertook their journey in the \_\_\_\_\_ season.
3. The author of the poem ‘Bicycle’ is \_\_\_\_\_ .
4. The poem written by Maya Angelou to celebrate the protest by African-American people is \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Questions 5 – 8. Answer any three of the following questions in one or two sentences. Each carries 4 scores.**

(3 × 4 = 12)

5. “Both Producer’s Research and High Grade Living declare  
He was fully sensible to the advantages of the instalment plan  
And had everything necessary to the modern man.”

- (a) Identify the poem and the poet. (2)
- (b) Name the things mentioned in the poem as necessary for a modern man. (2)

6. “Then at dawn we came down a temperate valley,  
Wet, below the snow line, smelling of vegetation;”
- (a) Who are the ‘we’ mentioned in these lines ? (1)
- (b) What was the purpose of their journey ? (1)
- (c) Mention any four things they saw in the valley. (2)
7. “but mother, flashing her temper  
like her mother’s twisted silver  
grandchildren’s knickers  
wet as the cold pack on her head.”
- (a) Identify the figure of speech employed in the first two lines. (1)
- (b) Why was mother using a cold pack on her head ? (1)
- (c) Why did the mother disagree with cutting the trees ? (2)
8. “Is this your back that is unbent  
This back that never breaks under the weight of humiliation  
This back trembling with red scars  
And saying no to the whip under the midday sun.”
- (a) Who is addressed in these lines ? (1)
- (b) What is the humiliation the poet talks about ? (1)
- (c) Why does the poet say that the back never breaks ? (2)

**Questions 9 – 14. Answer any five of the following questions. Each carries 4 scores. (5 × 4 = 20)**

9. Why does the author say that the people of Azores are no better than their donkeys ?
10. Prepare a character sketch of Prof. Higgins.

11. How are pauses during actions and dialogues marked in a screen play ? What type of actions are written in capital letters ?
12. According to V Geetha, what happens to women who try to be tough and hard ?
13. How did English evolve during the Anglo-Saxon period ?
14. Briefly describe the ideas presented in the essay ‘Are the Rich Happy?’”

**Questions 15 – 19. Answer any four of the following questions. Each carries 5 scores. (4 × 5 = 20)**

15. ‘My Old Home’ is more about friendship than the author’s sentiments about his ancestral home. Explain.
16. Describe the inhuman attempts of the narrator to make Y’zur speak and the resulting tragedy.
17. ‘‘Lt. Aavon Eats His Hat’ is a tale of childish adults and mature children.’ Do you agree ? Justify your answer.
18. How does Salwa Bakr use an incident in a bus to depict the pathetic condition of people in ‘Doves On the Wing’.
19. Narrate how a bitter experience changed the life of a carefree girl in ‘We Too Are Human Beings’.

**Questions 20 – 24. Answer any three of the following questions. Each carries 8 scores. (3 × 8 = 24)**

20. War is not about glory but pain and horror. How is this statement proved in ‘No More Hiroshimas’.
- (Hints : The condition of the post – war city-life of the people in Hiroshima – the effect of bombing on nature – the horror evoked by the relics at the memorial – message in the concluding lines.)
21. Analyse the poem ‘Night Rain’ and explain how Sugatha Kumari draws a comparison between the rain and women.
- (Hints : Depiction of rain as various faces of women – as a mad woman – as a pensive daughter – as a friend – as a sympathetic witness to love and grief – as a suppressed woman.)
22. Narrate the journey of Eliza Doolittle from a flower girl to a lady of self-esteem.
- (Hints : The life of the flower girl – her appearance – language and behaviour – family background – training given by Prof. Higgins – her determination – transformation into an elegant lady – performance as a Duchess – final show down with Higgins.)
23. The society rejects everything that is different from the expected and accepted. How far is this true in the case of Gregor Samsa.
- (Hints : Gregor as a common salesman – accepted by family and society – his metamorphosis – the reaction of people around him – treatment by the family – his death – the disrespect to his dead body – his family as a symbol)
24. W.B. Yeats uses the swans and nature to voice the concerns and frustrations of old age. Discuss.
- (Theme – beauty of nature and swans – the youthful activities of the swans – the poet’s reflections on his own condition)
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