

2024

ENGLISH

Paper : ENG0300104

( Rhetoric, Prosody, Grammar and  
Comprehension )

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2½ hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks  
for the questions*

1. Answer the following questions : 1×8=8
- (a) What is the term for excessive exaggeration in rhetoric?
  - (b) Name the rhetorical device that compares two things using 'like' or 'as'.
  - (c) How many metrical feet does a pentameter have?
  - (d) Which term refers to the arrangement of stressed and unstressed syllables in poetry?

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- (e) Which term describes a pause in or near the middle of a line of verse?
- (f) Give an example of a trochee.
- (g) Identify the type of diffuseness in the sentence, "The hot summer sun was scorching".
- (h) "Chocolate is the best ice cream flavour." Identify whether this statement is a fact or an opinion.

2. Answer any six of the following questions :

2×6=12

- (a) Distinguish between fact and opinion with relevant examples.
- (b) Define rhetoric with illustrations.
- (c) Briefly explain personification with relevant examples.
- (d) Distinguish between poetry and verse.
- (e) Identify the link between verbosity and diffuseness of style.
- (f) Define solecism and give suitable examples.

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- (g) What is rhyme? Define with examples.
- (h) Complete the following sentences by filling in the correct form of the verb in brackets :  $\frac{1}{2} \times 4 = 2$ 
  - (i) She \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to the library every Saturday.
  - (ii) They \_\_\_\_\_ (finish) their homework before dinner last night.
  - (iii) By this time tomorrow, we \_\_\_\_\_ (leave) for our trip.
  - (iv) I \_\_\_\_\_ (not see) him since last year.
- (i) Complete each of the following sentences with the appropriate preposition :  $\frac{1}{2} \times 4 = 2$ 
  - (i) He's been waiting \_\_\_\_\_ his friend for over an hour.
  - (ii) They are going \_\_\_\_\_ a concert tonight.
  - (iii) I moved here \_\_\_\_\_ 2010.
  - (iv) He walked \_\_\_\_\_ the room quietly.
- (j) What is a heroic couplet? Define briefly.

3. Answer any *four* of the following questions :

5×4=20

(a) Read the following passage and answer the given questions :

1×5=5

Naval architects never claim that a ship is unsinkable, but the sinking of the passenger-and-car ferry *Estonia* in the Baltic surely should have never have happened. It was well designed and carefully maintained. It carried the proper number of lifeboats. It had been thoroughly inspected the day of its fatal voyage. Yet hours later, the *Estonia* rolled over and sank in a cold, stormy night. It went down so quickly that most of those on board, caught in their dark, flooding cabins, had no chance to save themselves : Of those who managed to scramble overboard, only 139 survived. The rest died of hypothermia before the rescuers could pluck them from the cold sea. The final death toll amounted to 912 souls. However, there were an unpleasant number of questions about

why the *Estonia* sank and why so many survivors were men in the prime of life, while most of the dead were women, children and the elderly.

- (i) What type of ship was the *Estonia*?
- (ii) Where did the sinking of the *Estonia* take place?
- (iii) What was the likely cause of death for most who went overboard?
- (iv) Which groups primarily made up the deceased in the disaster?
- (v) What questions arose after the *Estonia* disaster?

(b) The following sentences violate the rules of brevity. Name the nature of the violation in each case and write their correct forms :

1×5=5

- (i) Everybody knows that he is in the habit of walking in a state of somnambulism.
- (ii) He was the universal favourite of all the boys in the school.

- (iii) The judge passed orders to the effect that the property might be restored again to its legal and rightful owner.
- (iv) For this reason, therefore, I shall publish a sheet, full of thoughts, everyday.
- (v) The learned man doth never intermix the correction and amendment of his mind with the use and employment thereof.
- (c) Define, illustrate and describe the functions of any two rhetorical devices based on association.  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 2 = 5$
- (d) Distinguish between the following :  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 2 = 5$
- (i) Metonymy and synecdoche
- (ii) Alliteration and assonance
- (e) Mark out the accents in the following lines and identify the meter, also showing any irregular patterns :
- The curfew tolls the knell of parting day,  
The lowing herd wind slowly o'er the lea,

( Continued )

The plowman homeward plods his  
weary way,  
And leaves the world to darkness  
and to me.

Now fades the glimm'ring landscape  
on the sight,  
And all the air a solemn stillness holds,  
Save where the beetle wheels his  
droning flight,  
And drowsy tinklings lull the distant folds;

- (f) Define a stanza, and explain and give examples of any two types of stanzas.  $1+2+2=5$

- (g) Write a summary of the passage given below, capturing the main ideas expressed :

Travel is something which people do everyday. It is very difficult to avoid the need to travel. It may be a trip to school, university or to work. Travelling can often take a long time, especially when great distances need to be covered. People often enjoy travelling abroad for holidays. But for some people travelling

is not fun at all. Some people suffer from travel sickness. This means that they will become very unwell each time they travel.

Travelling can be either affordable or costly. It often depends on how far you want to travel and the choice of transport. Using a bicycle will not cost anything as you power it by using your legs. However, the use of a bicycle can be hardwork and can take a lot of time to travel long distances. Cars and motorcycles are faster modes of transport, but are more expensive to use as gasoline is needed for them to work. It can usually be assumed that the longer you wish to travel, the more expensive and time consuming it will be.

The use of a plane is necessary for people wanting to travel very long distances. A pilot will fly a plane from an airport for many thousands of miles to take people to places far away. Although traffic is rarely a problem for airplanes,

it can take a lot of preparation to travel by plane. People often need to arrive at the airport three hours prior to departure.

A train is another mode of transport which is ideal for travelling long distances within the same country, or between countries which are connected by land. A train driver will stop at train stations on route to allow passengers wishing to proceed to the scheduled destination to board the train.

A number of destinations can be travelled to by using the sea. People often depart from a harbour in a ferry which is driven by a captain. If the journey is a long distance, people may choose to sleep on the ferry while they wait to arrive at their destination. Some people choose to go on a cruise for their holiday, which would involve stopping at many different city ports for a short amount of time. People who need to travel short distances may choose not to

use any transport at all. People often rely on their legs to take them to places nearby. This is often encouraged as certain modes of transport have been said to produce harmful emissions and damage the environment.

(h) Elucidate some key features of an ideal paragraph.

4. Answer any *two* of the following questions :

10×2=20

(a) Write a summary of the following passage, capturing the main ideas expressed. Identify and explain the kind of writing (descriptive, argumentative, informative, contemplative, etc.) used in the passage. Comment on the features of style, such as, choice of words, sentence structure, etc. in the passage :

All children, except one, grow up. They soon know that they will grow up, and the way Wendy knew was this. One day when she was two years old she was playing in a garden, and she plucked another flower and ran with it to her

mother. I suppose she must have looked rather delightful, for Mrs. Darling put her hand to her heart and cried, "Oh, why can't you remain like this for ever!" This was all that passed between them on the subject, but henceforth Wendy knew that she must grow up. You always know after you are two. Two is the beginning of the end. Of course they lived at 14 [their house number on their street], and until Wendy came her mother was the chief one. She was a lovely lady, with a romantic mind and such a sweet mocking mouth. Her romantic mind was like the tiny boxes, one within the other, that come from the puzzling East, however many you discover there is always one more; and her sweet mocking mouth had one kiss on it that Wendy could never get, through there it was, perfectly conspicuous in the right-hand corner.

The way Mr. Darling won her was this : the many gentlemen who had been boys when she was a girl discovered

simultaneously that they loved her, and they all ran to her house to propose to her except Mr. Darling, who took a cab and nipped in first, and so he got her. He got all of her, except the innermost box and the kiss. He never knew about the box, and in time he gave up trying for the kiss. Wendy thought Napoleon could have got it, but I can picture him trying, and then going off in a passion, slamming the door.

- (b) Identify and explain the use of at least five rhetorical devices in the extract given below :

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,  
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;  
Conspiring with him how to load and bless  
With fruit the vines that round the

thatch-eves run;  
To bend with apples the moss'd cottage-trees;  
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;

To swell the gourd, and plump the  
hazel shells

With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,

( Continued )

And still more, later flowers for the bees,  
Until they think warm days will never cease,  
For summer has o'er-brimm'd their  
clammy cells.

Who hath not seen thee oft amid thy store?  
Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find

Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,  
Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind;

Or on a half-reap'd furrow sound asleep,  
Drows'd with the fume of poppies,  
while thy hook

Spares the next swath and all its  
twined flowers:

And sometimes like a gleaner thou dost keep  
Steady they laden head across a brook;

Or by a cyder-press, with patient look,  
Thou watchest the last ooziings hours  
by hours.

Where are the songs of spring? Ay,  
Where are they?

Think not of them, thou hast thy  
music too,—

While barred clouds bloom the soft-dying day,  
And touch the stubble-plains with  
rosy hue;  
Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn  
Among the river shallows, borne aloft  
Or sinking as the light wind lives  
or dies;  
And full-grown lambs loud bleat from  
hilly bourn;  
Hedge-cricket sing; and now with  
treble soft  
The red-breast whistles from a garden-croft;  
And gathering swallows twitter in  
the skies.

(c) What is a 'measure' or 'foot' in prosody?  
Define and illustrate any two disyllabic  
and any two trisyllabic measures.

(d) Why is brevity or word economy  
important in good composition? What  
are the different forms of diffuseness  
that mars brevity in writing? Discuss  
with relevant illustrations.

(e) What are some of the key features of a  
visual or picturesque style of writing?  
Examine the following passage carefully  
and examine the features (in terms of  
language, imagery, figures of speech,  
style, etc.) that contribute to its  
vividness :

I drown in the drumming ploughland,  
I drag up  
Heel after heel from the swallowing of  
the earth's mouth,  
From clay that clutches my each step to  
the ankle  
With the habit of the dogged grave,  
but the hawk  
Effortlessly at height hangs his still eye.  
His wings hold all creation in a  
weightless quiet,  
Steady as a hallucination in the  
streaming air.  
While banging wind kills these  
stubborn hedges,  
Thumbs my eyes, throws my breath,  
tackles my heart,

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And rain hacks my head to the bone,  
the hawk hangs  
The diamond point of will that polestars  
The sea drowner's endurance :

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