

Roll No.

S.C.No.- S/20/2001601

B. A. EXAMINATION, 2020

(Sixth Semester) (Main)

ENGLISH (Compulsory)

Time : 2 Hours

Maximo Marks 80

Note : Attempt any Four questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Explain the following extract with referenceto the context:

All that glitters is not gold,
often have you heard that told:
Many a man his life hath sold
But my outside to behold:
Gilded tombs do worms enfold.
Had you been as wise as bold,
Young in limbs, in judgement old,

Or

If a Jew wrongs a Christian, what is his humility ? Revenge ! If a Christian wrongs a Jew, what should his sufferance be by Christian example ? Why, revenge. The villainy you teach me I will execute, and it shall go hard but I will better the instruction.

2. Answer any four of the following in about 50 words:

- (a) Which casket does the Prince of Arragon choose and why?
- (b) How does Antonio ill-treat Shylock and why?
- (c) What does Portia say about mercy ?

- (d) How is Shylock's trial unfair ?
- (e) Write a brief note on the qualities of Portia.
- (f) Comment on the ending of the play.

3. Write a detailed note on the comic elements in. The Merchant of Venice.

Or

Give a detailed description of the trial scene.

4. Comment on the view that Shylock is more sinned against than sinning.

Or

Critically analyse The Merchant of Venice as a tragi-comedy

5. Write a precis of the following passage:

Science has helped us to get rid of many sicknesses of the body. It is difficult to be happy if your body is full of pain. Scientists have made many discoveries which have helped to make pain less and to remove the causes of pain and sickness. By making it possible to cure terrible diseases such as malaria, smallpox, plague, pneumonia and tuberculosis. Science has made the life of the average man longer.

There are also many discoveries of science which have definitely brought unhappiness into the world. But that is not because the discoveries are bad- but because men are using them badly. For example, consider the discovery of gun powder and of other explosives, each more powerful than the previous one discovered. In ancient times, men could wound and kill each other only if they were near enough to strike each other with stones, arrows, spears or swords. Even in battles, the armies on

both sides usually consisted of a few thousand men, so the number wounded and killed was not very large. In most wars the peasants went on cultivating their fields peacefully, even when the armies were fighting a few miles away. But the invention of fire arms and high explosives caused a great change. A modern machine or a quick-firing gun, worked by a single man, can wound and kill hundreds of people in a few minutes. One modern bomb can kill hundreds of thousands of people immediately if dropped on a big city.

The scientists who invented these terrible weapons are not wicked men who enjoy killing. They are people with kind hearts, but they are more clever, and they earn their living by discovering new things. It is the leaders of the various nations who employ them to make discoveries which can be used to kill the people of other nations. The same discoveries could be used for useful purposes, if the leaders did not allow them to be used for killing, <https://www.cbluonline.com>

6. Draft a summary or abstract of the passage given below:

We are bombarded by many advertisements everyday. Vendors try all means and ways to gain our attention and sell us their products or services. Advertisements appear everywhere; on television programmes, radios, in the papers, magazines, pamphlets and soon.

Advertisements are actually very useful though we sometimes feel annoyed when they interrupt our favourite television programmes. They provide us with free information on the products and services. There are two types of advertisements. The informative advertisements are the ones which provide us with the details of the products or services. This information is especially useful if the product or service is new. For instance, when we need to buy a computer, advertisements describing the latest models and their different functions would be extremely helpful.

However, only a minority of the advertisements are informative ones. Many of them belong to the second category the persuasive kind. These advertisements not only tell us more about the products, at the same time, they persuade customers to buy them by claiming that their products are superior to others. These claims may sometimes be untrue.

Besides being informative and persuasive, advertisements also help to subsidize the prices of magazines and newspapers. Our newspapers are sold at a low price, owing to the advertisements in the papers; otherwise, the price would have been higher.

While advertisements can be good helpers for shopping, they do have their shortcomings. Most advertisements aim to sell only. Faults of the products or services are usually hidden from the consumers. Hence, sometimes, we feel deceived if the product or service we bought does not turn out the way the advertisements claim to be.

Sometimes, advertisements by rival competitors can get very intensive especially when there are many firms producing similar products. One common example is the washing powder. There are so many advertisements for the different brands that customers sometimes get confused over what they should buy. Furthermore, having more advertisements would mean that the production cost would be increased. These rises in cost are usually passed on to the consumers in the form of higher prices.

Hence, in conclusion, though I do advocate advertisements. I do not deny their flaws. Without them, we might have to buy things based on incomplete information or go through more complicated ways before getting to know the products or services. On the other hand, too many advertisements also complicate our buying decisions. So I would say that we cannot live without advertisements but we must be careful how we live with them

7. Give one-word substitute of any of the following:

- (i) Something that is suitable or safe to eat
- (ii) Something that is certain to happen and unable to be avoided or prevented
- (iii) A state of lawlessness or political disorder due to absence of governmental authority
- (iv) Sound that can be heard clearly
- (v) One who reads books eagerly
- (vi) Someone who advocates the cause of women
- (vii) One who lived at the same time
- (viii) A person going out of a country
- (ix) One who does not believe in God
- (x) A book which gives information on all Subjects
- (xi) A word no longer in use
- (xii) An animal or plant that lives upon the body of another
- (xiii) One who loves his/her country
- (xiv) A decision taken with the consent of all

8. Write a letter to the editor of a leading English daily to draw the attention of the authorities and general public to the problems faced by students during online classes.

Or

Write a letter to the RTO complaining about the bad behaviour of a bus conductor.

9. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

In the reign of the Great King Janaka. there lived a Yogi called Yajnavalkya, who was as noted for his piety as for his wisdom. Every morning while the golden dawn is slowly breaking over the far horizon, and birds were singing their sweetest songs. Yajnavalkya bathed himself in the cool water of a neighbouring stream and then went and sat on his dais to begin his sermon. One morning he was preaching as usual to his disciples among whom were learned Pandits, Sadhus, Sanyasis and many other men. These people noticed that Yajnavalkya, their Guru, was constantly looking at the door, as if he were expecting somebody. And they were not wrong. For Yajnavalkya was indeed waiting for his King, who also attended his lectures.

The disciples became jealous of this special attention given to the King. For they thought, in the eyes of a spiritual man, a king or a common man should be the same. So they could not understand why this special favour was granted to Janaka. At last, they decided to ask their Guru why he was partial towards the King.

Comprehension questions:

- (i) What was Yajnavalkya famous for?
- (ii) What was the Yogi's routine of life?
- (iii) What did people notice one day?
- (iv) Why was the Yogi frequently looking at the door?
- (v) What did the disciples decide ?

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