



ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, PRAYAGRAJ

SECOND UNIT TEST - 2023

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Class-9

Max. Mks: 30

(Max Time; 90 minutes)

QUESTION 1

- a) Your school is organizing an Inter-school Dance Competition. Write a notice to be put up on your school notice board, informing the students about the event. [5]
- b) Write an email to the Principal of your neighbouring school informing him/her of the Inter-school Dance Competition to be held in your school and requesting him/her to send his/her students to participate in the event. [5]

QUESTION 2

Read the following passage carefully and answer the question that follow :-

I took a step forward and the band began to move. The head of a loathsome snake reared up at us! 'Stand back! It is an adder, the deadliest snake in India, cried Holmes. He caught the snake in the noose of the dog leash and swiftly threw it into the iron safe.

We left the terrified Miss Stoner in the security of a friendly house and informed the police before starting back for London. On the way, Holmes told me that doctor's make the greatest criminals and pointed out the details that had escaped my notice.

'When I saw the room, I became sure that no danger could come in from either the door or the window. The discovery that the bell rope was a dummy and the bed was clamped to the floor, made me suspect that something was passed through the ventilator, down the rope to the bed. The idea of a snake instantly occurred to me. The Doctor was ruthless and clever and knew about eastern poisons, that were unlikely to be traced. The whistle was used to recall the snake, before the morning light revealed it to the victim. He had trained it, probably with the milk we saw. The seat of his chair showed that he often stood on it. He needed to do this to reach the ventilator. The clanging noise, was made by the Doctor hastily shutting the snake into the safe. I only needed to test my suspicions, which I did. When I heard the snake hiss, I lit the light and attacked it. It retreated back through the ventilator and turned upon its master in its fury at being hit. In this way, Watson, I am indirectly responsible for the Doctor's death, but I cannot say that this lies very heavily on my conscience.

- a) In not more than 50 words, give an account of Holmes' observations that led to his assumption of a snake been used as a murder weapon by the Doctor. [8]

QUESTION 3

A- Fill in each of the numbered blank with the correct form of the word given in the brackets. Do not copy the passage but write in the serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. [4]

Example: (0) went

I (0) _____ (go) into the Administrative Block and (1) _____ (be) then (2) _____ (lead) into the office of the Superintendent. He was (3) _____ (sit) there, reading the newspaper. The large desk in front of him was (4) _____ (pile) high with a great assortment of papers, most of which looked official and scientific. A heap of them partially (5) _____ (cover) the telephone. As the Superintendent (6) _____ (stand) up, I (7) _____ (see) that he was an immensely tall man. He (8) _____ (come) towards me and stared at me, breathing heavily through his nose.



SECTION B

DRAMA: (JULIUS CAESAR BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE)

Question 2

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

*And let our hearts, as subtle masters do,
Stir up their servants to an act of rage,
And after seem to chide'em. This shall make
Our purpose necessary, and not envious;
Which so appearing to the common eyes,
We shall be call'd purgers, not murderers.*

- (i) Who is the speaker of these lines? What opinion does the speaker hold about Antony in this context? [2]
- (ii) What do clever masters do to their servants? [2]
- (iii) What do the common eyes stand for? Why is the speaker conscious of the opinion of the common people? [2]
- (iv) Why does Cassius suggest that Antony should be murdered along with Caesar? [2]

SECTION C

PROSE- SHORT STORIES

Question 3

Read the extract from Ruskin Bond's 'The Boy who Broke the Bank' given below and answer the questions that follow:

'So there you are!' cried Mrs Bhushan, 'I've been looking for you for almost an hour. Where did you disappear?'

'Nowhere,' replied Mr Bhushan. 'Had you remained stationary in one shop, I might have found you. But you go from one shop to another, like a bee in a flower garden.'

'Don't start grumbling. The heat is trying enough. I don't know what's happening to Pipalnagar. Even the bank's about to go bankrupt.'

- (i) Where did Mrs Bhushan find her husband finally? What was he doing? [2]
- (ii) What did Mrs Bhushan tell her husband? What was her source of information? [2]
- (iii) Name any two people who spread the rumour. How did each get the news? [2]
- (iv) Give a brief description of the character of Nathuram. [2]

SECTION D [Poetry]

Question 4

Read the extract from W.H.Auden's 'The Night Mail' given below and answer the questions that follow:

*"Thousands are still asleep
Dreaming of terrifying monsters,
Or of friendly tea beside that band at Cranston's
or Crawford's :*

*Asleep in working Glasgow, asleep in well-set Edinburgh,
Asleep in granite Aberdeen,
They continue their dreams,
And shall wake soon and long for letters,
And none will hear the postman's knock
Without a quickening of the heart,
For who can bear to feel himself forgotten?*

- (i) How does the poet describe Glasgow in the poem? [2]
- (ii) What kinds of letters are carried by the train? [2]
- (iii) What have the people been dreaming of? What do they expect when they wake up? [2]
- (iv) Explain how does the Night Mail help to promote human relations. [2]

*****ALL THE BEST*****