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HALL TICKET NUMBER

Department of English

M.A. ENGLISH ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, JUNE 2011

Max. Time: 2 hours **Max. Marks: 100**

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do **not** reveal your identity in any manner in any part of the answer book.
2. Enter your Hall Ticket Number on the **first** page of **each** answer book. This paper comprises **three sections** in all. **Section I** is of an **objective** type. One third of a mark **(1/3)** will be deducted for every **wrong** answer. **No marks** will be deducted for questions **not attempted.** **Section II** comprises **essay topics** and **Section III poetry comprehension**.
3. Write your answers **only** in the space provided in the question paper. **No** additional paper or answer book will be given.
4. Space for **rough work** is provided on pages **17** and **18.**
5. This question paper contains **18 pages** in all. **Ensure** that **all the pages** have been printed before you start answering.
6. At the end of the examination **return all three sections** of the answer book to the invigilator.

[Turn to Page 2 for Section I]

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SECTION I : LANGUAGE
[TOTAL MARKS 25]

There are **25** questions to answer.
The questions carry **ONE MARK** each.
Put a tick mark (✓) against the correct answer ONLY in the appropriate box.

Choose the right answer from the options given under each item.

1. I tried to find the name of the poet who wrote the poem. But he was _____

- ☐ (a) anonymous
- ☐ (b) anomalous
- ☐ (c) incongruous
- ☐ (d) obvious

2. The six hundred rode _____ the valley of death.

- ☐ (a) at
- ☐ (b) into
- ☐ (c) for
- ☐ (d) below

3. The developments today reveal that the President has no _____ authority to continue in office.

- ☐ (a) morale
- ☐ (b) moral
- ☐ (c) mortal
- ☐ (d) amoral

4. He realised that he had said something totally out of context. He was forced to _____.

- ☐ (a) eat his own words
- ☐ (b) gulp his own words
- ☐ (c) mince his own words
- ☐ (d) digest his own words

5. The news on the television often _____ the people.

- ☐ (a) mislead
- ☐ (b) misleads
- ☐ (c) are misleading
- ☐ (d) is misleading

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6. *Thanks* to the mobile, you have forgotten your spellings. Which of the choices given below is **not** applicable?

- ☐ (a) a criticism
- ☐ (b) an appreciation
- ☐ (c) a factual statement
- ☐ (d) a humorous remark

7. She has a kindly _____.

- ☐ (a) deposition
- ☐ (b) disposition
- ☐ (c) dispensation
- ☐ (d) division

8. A new multi- _____ restaurant is opening today.

- ☐ (a) cushion
- ☐ (b) cousin
- ☐ (c) contain
- ☐ (d) cuisine

9. *Dissent* means _____

- ☐ (a) partiality or preference for; a favourable opinion arrived at beforehand
- ☐ (b) to disagree; to differ in opinion
- ☐ (c) to banish or exile; to withdraw from one's country
- ☐ (d) a relation between two things shown in the resemblance not of the things themselves but of their characteristics.

10. If the books <u>have been catalogued</u> last week, why haven't they been placed on the shelf? Replace the underlined phrase with the correct phrase.

- ☐ (a) were catalogued
- ☐ (b) would have been catalogued
- ☐ (c) was catalogued
- ☐ (d) had been catalogued

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11. The following sentence is ambiguous. Choose the right word to disambiguate it.

Include your children when baking cookies

- ☐ (a) combine
- ☐ (b) involve
- ☐ (c) subsume
- ☐ (d) embody

12. Choose the correctly punctuated sentence:

- ☐ (a) She invited him to her party and he accepted.
- ☐ (b) She invited him to her party and he, accepted.
- ☐ (c) She invited him to her party, and, he accepted.
- ☐ (d) She, invited him to her party and he accepted.

13. I'm sorry, Smita isn't _____ at the moment. Can I take a message?

- ☐ (a) in
- ☐ (b) away
- ☐ (c) up
- ☐ (d) off

14. After the party dispersed, I found a bunch of keys on the table. _____, someone had forgotten to collect it.

From the options given, choose the **incorrect** one.

- ☐ (a) Obviously
- ☐ (b) Clearly
- ☐ (c) Supposedly
- ☐ (d) Evidently

15. There isn't much to choose from, _____ ?

- ☐ (a) is there?
- ☐ (b) isn't it?
- ☐ (c) is it not?
- ☐ (d) isn't there?

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16. Corruption cannot be called a pan-Indian phenomenon. What does 'pan' mean?

- ☐ (a) only
- ☐ (b) within
- ☐ (c) across
- ☐ (d) all

17. The king secretly cherished _____ that the young adventurer would fancy marrying the princess.

- ☐ (a) the hope
- ☐ (b) an hope
- ☐ (c) hoping
- ☐ (d) hopes

18. Which of the following wouldn't idiomatically modify "forgot"?

- ☐ (a) clean
- ☐ (b) clear
- ☐ (c) quite
- ☐ (d) entirely

19. Can you put him _____ for the night?

- ☐ (a) up
- ☐ (b) of
- ☐ (c) at
- ☐ (d) in

In Questions **20** and **21**, replace the items in bold with the correct option:

20. In studying for an assignment it is wise to read the material over quickly at **first, than** see the major points, and finally outline the essay.

- ☐ (a) first: then
- ☐ (b) first-then
- ☐ (c) first, then
- ☐ (d) first-than

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21. **Its** high time you quit smoking

- ☐ (a) It was
- ☐ (b) It's
- ☐ (c) Won't it be
- ☐ (d) Will it

22. I was _____ the road to Delhi at the time.

- ☐ (a) by
- ☐ (b) at
- ☐ (c) in
- ☐ (d) on

23. 'Do you wake up grumpy in the morning?' 'No. He gets up on his own.' The question here hasn't received the answer it sought because _____

- ☐ (a) Grumpy has been mistaken for a person.
- ☐ (b) Grumpy has been mistaken for a thing.
- ☐ (c) Grumpy has been mistaken for a mood.
- ☐ (d) Grumpy's meaning has been mistaken.

24. The phrase 'To be above board' means:

- ☐ (a) to stand above a board, say in a swimming pool
- ☐ (b) to be honest
- ☐ (c) to remain indifferent or unfazed
- ☐ (d) to be on the top deck of a ship

25. The phrase 'Confusing Idioms' means:

(i) Idioms that are confusing
(ii) Getting mixed up with idioms
(iii) Idioms are confusing

Choose the right answer from the options given below:

- ☐ (a) (i) and (ii)
- ☐ (b) (i) and (iii)
- ☐ (c) (ii) and (iii)
- ☐ (d) (i), (ii) and (iii)

[SECTION – I ENDS]

[TURN TO PAGE 7 FOR SECTION II]

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SECTION II : ESSAY
[TOTAL MARKS 40]

Write an essay on any **one** of the following topics in the space provided **within** this answer book.

1. My nation, my language
2. If I were a sparrow
3. Why I like Indian films
4. Shifting responsibility
5. Some creative uses of boredom
6. Linguistic embarrassments
7. Book or blog – is that a question?
8. As others see us
9. Natural disasters
10. People's revolutions

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[BEGIN YOUR ANSWER ON PAGE 8]

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SECTION III : COMPREHENSION
[TOTAL MARKS 35]

Read the following poem carefully and answer the subsequent questions **only** in the space provided for each. Questions **1** to **5** carry **5** marks each; question **6** carries **10** marks.

Dream-Pedlary

IF there were dreams to sell,
What would you buy?
Some cost a passing bell;
Some a light sigh,
That shakes from Life's fresh crown
Only a rose-leaf down.
If there were dreams to sell,
Merry and sad to tell,
And the crier rang the bell,
What would you buy?

A cottage lone and still,
With bowers nigh,
Shadowy, my woes to still,
Until I die.
Such pearls from Life's fresh crown
Fain would I shake me down.
Were dreams to have at will,
This would best heal my ill,
This would I buy.

Thomas Lovell Beddoes

[TURN TO PAGE 14 FOR QUESTIONS AND ANSWER SPACE]

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1. What is the basic premise of the poem? (5 Marks)

2. What are the different prices of the various dreams that the poet mentions? (5 marks)

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3. Which particular dream does the poet want to buy?

(5 Marks)

4. Comment on the dominant mood of the poem.

(5 Marks)

5. Comment on the sounds of the last words of each line and identify the pattern, if any.

(5 Marks)

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6. Comment on the relation of this poem with the proverb "If wishes were horses, beggars would ride."

(10 Marks)

[THE EXAMINATION PAPER ENDS HERE]

Turn to page 17 and 18 for rough work

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