

CSM : 14

GENERAL ENGLISH

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Full Marks : 100

Marks for each question is indicated against it.

Attempt all questions.

1. Write an essay in about 1000 words on any of the given topics: **(20)**
 - (a) FIFA World Cup unifies the Nation. Do you agree?
 - (b) Factors for improving the economy of Mizoram.
 - (c) Transformation by Information Technology on Mizo Society.

2. Write a précis of the following passage in about *one third* of its original length: **(15)**

These are two considerations which deserve at least a word in any discussion of the future of the Indian theatre. The first is the rapid development of the cinema as a competitive for prophesied favour. At first, in the early flush of cinematic triumph people - some of whom might have been expected to, know better - prophesied the extinction of the theatre. It is now clear that though here and there, temporarily, the theatre may be affected, the cinema cannot hope to replace the stage and elbow it out of existence. Experience in the West has shown that the stage will always be required as a federal studio. For the technique is different and great stage actors have, always, to their disgust, discovered that film acting is at least only second best to them; it cannot mean to them what the stage means. Something is lacking in the human touch. In the theatre heart responds to heart and mind acts on mind in a way unknown to the cinema.

Thus there is no danger of extinction to the theatre. On the other hand, the rivalry of the screen ought to and will put theatre to a new test and give it a new stimulus that may well lead to still higher planes of artistic achievement.

Finally, a word about a national language spoken, written and thought might do for the theatre in India. With the new awakening in social life the need of a common tongue is being increasingly felt. Much work is being done to bring out a common linguistic medium. The day when it is accepted will be a great day for the Indian theatre, as it will be for all art in the country. But the theatre, because its life blood is spoken word, will gain most. With a common tongue, with a live national consciousness, the theatre will become to its own as definite instrument of national unity reflecting the national mind, interpreting the national heart and dreaming national dreams for the future.

3. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Nationalism, of course, is a curious phenomenon which at a certain stage in a country's history gives life, growth, strength and unity but, at the same time, it has a tendency to limit one, because one thinks of one's country as something different from the rest of the world. The perspective changes and one is continuously thinking of one's own struggles and virtues and failings to the exclusion of other thoughts. The result is that the same nationalism, which is the symbol of growth of people, becomes a symbol of cessation of that growth in mind. Nationalism, when it becomes successful, sometimes goes on spreading in an aggressive way and becomes a danger internationally. Whatever line of thought you follow, you arrive at a conclusion that some kind of balance must be found. Otherwise something that was good can turn into evil. Culture, which is essentially good, becomes not only static but aggressive and something that breeds conflict and hatred when looked at from a wrong point of view. We turn to economic theories because they have an undoubted importance. It is folly to talk of culture or even of God when human beings starve and die. Before one can talk about anything else one must provide one of the essentials of life to human beings. That is where economics comes in. Human beings today are not in the mood to tolerate this suffering and starvation and inequality when they see that the burden is not equally shared. Others profit while they only bear the burden.

So if we approach our fellow human beings or countries in a friendly way, with our minds and hearts open and prepared to accept whatever good comes to them - and that does not mean surrendering something that we consider of essential value to truth or to our own genius - then we shall be led not only towards understanding but the right type of understanding.

- (a) What are the factors that hinder the growth of the mind? **(3)**
- (b) Mention the failures that hamper the presence of fruitful mind. **(3)**
- (c) How can evil be avoided in the formation of nationalism? **(3)**
- (d) What solution can be applied to achieve a balance in culture? **(3)**
- (e) What is the right type of understanding provided by the writer? **(3)**

4. Rewrite the following sentences as directed: **(10×1=10)**

- (a) It was done by the butler. (*change to active*)
- (b) The accident shocked her. (*change to passive*)
- (c) The son promised his mother that he would never be rude to her. (*change to direct*)
- (d) The strike was going to be called off. The leader told me that. (*change to complex*)
- (e) Eight people got into the elevator. It was crowded. Three people got off. (*change to compound*)
- (f) The husband asked his wife, "Are you coming?" (*change the narration*)

- (g) Choose the correct alternative:
- (i) Could you give me _____ honey, please? (some / any)
 - (ii) He hasn't finished the work _____ (still / yet)
- (h) Put the words in the sentences in the right order:
- (i) They offered a job me.
 - (ii) We made captain him.

5. Fill in the blanks with the correct prepositions (any ten): **(10×1=10)**

- (a) Compare your answers _____ your partner.
- (b) This key holder is very special _____ me.
- (c) Kittens and mice are _____ the same place.
- (d) Write _____ me soon.
- (e) Have you got a piece _____ paper?
- (f) I'm tall _____ black hair and brown eyes.
- (g) We have got a house _____ a big garden.
- (h) I come _____ a big family.
- (i) Match the pictures _____ the names.
- (j) Is your house _____ the country?
- (k) Guess. What have I got _____ my hand?
- (l) I have got two pens. What _____ you?

6. Use each of the words provided below to make sentences that bring out their meaning clearly: **(5×2=10)**

- (a) Sobriety
- (b) Liquidate
- (c) Gigantic
- (d) Magnify
- (e) Susceptible

7. Fill in the blanks using one of the following linkers/connectors: **(5×1=5)**
though, otherwise, nevertheless, however, despite

- (a) Jack was not tired _____ he took a nap.
- (b) The neighbourhood isn't very interesting. I like the house _____.
- (c) The children slept _____ the noise.
- (d) She is extremely rich; _____ she's not snobbish.
- (e) You'd better take a taxi _____ you'll arrive late.

8. Choose the appropriate word to fill in the blanks: (5×1=5)

- (a) My daughter likes purple _____. (stationary/stationery)
- (b) The government's decision met with much _____. (descent/dissent)
- (c) We went before the teen _____. (council/counsel)
- (d) A joke should _____ (precede/proceed) your speech.
- (e) _____ (Can/May) I have another orange?

9. Make sentences with the following idioms and phrases (any five): (5×2=10)

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|---------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) Baker's Dozen | (b) Field Day |
| (c) Graveyard Shift | (d) It takes two to tango |
| (e) Knock on wood | (f) On the same page |
| (g) Pull the plug | (h) Run out of steam |

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