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No. of Questions — 12

VU—02—English (C)

No. of Printed Pages — 7

VARISHTHA UPADHYAYA EXAMINATION, 2015
ENGLISH (COMPULSORY)

Time : 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ Hours

Maximum Marks : 80

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE EXAMINEES :

1. Candidates must write first their Roll Nos. on the question paper first.
2. All the questions are compulsory.
3. Write the answer to each question in the given answer-book only.
4. For questions having more than one part, the answers to those parts are to be written together in continuity.
5. This paper is divided into three Sections A, B and C. All Sections are compulsory.
6. Separate instructions are given for each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.
7. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

VU—02—English (C)

VU-9002

[Turn over

SECTION – A**(READING)**

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

The end of sumptuary laws did not mean that everyone in European societies could now dress in the same way. The French Revolution had raised the question of equality and ended aristocratic privileges, as well as the laws that maintained those privileges. However differences between social strata remained. Clearly, the poor could not dress like rich, nor eat the same food. But laws no longer barred people's right to dress in the way they wished. Differences in earning, rather than sumptuary laws, now defined what the rich and poor could wear. And different classes developed their own culture of dress. The notion of what was beautiful or ugly, proper or improper, decent or vulgar, differed.

Styles of clothing also emphasised differences between men and women. Women in Victorian England were groomed from childhood to be docile and dutiful, submissive and obedient. The ideal woman was the one who could bear pain and suffering. While men were expected to be serious, strong, independent and aggressive, women were seen as frivolous, delicate, passive and docile. Norms of clothing reflected these ideals. From childhood, girls were tightly laced up and dressed in stays. The effort was to restrict the growth of their bodies, contain them within small moulds. When slightly older, girls had to wear tight fitting corsets. Tightly laced, small-waisted women were admired as attractive, elegant and graceful. Clothing thus played a part in creating the image of frail, submissive Victorian women.

Many women believed in the ideals of womanhood. The ideals were in the air they breathed the literature they read, the education they had received at school and at home. From childhood they grew up to believe that having a small waist was a womanly duty. Suffering pain was essential for a woman. To be seen as attractive, to be womanly, they had to wear the corset. The torture and pain this inflicted on the body was to be accepted as normal.

But not everyone accepted these values. Over the nineteenth century, ideas changed. By the 1830s, women in England began agitating for democratic rights. As the suffrage movement developed, many began campaigning for dress reform. Women's magazines described how tight dresses and corsets caused deformities and illness

among young girls. Such clothing restricted body growth and hampered blood circulation. Muscles remained underdeveloped and the spines got bent. Doctors reported that many women were regularly complaining of acute weakness, felt languid, and fainted frequently. Corsets then became necessary to hold up the weakened spine.

- (i) What was the main question raised by the French Revolution ? 1
- (ii) How were the women groomed in the Victorian England ? 1
- (iii) What defined the wearing of the rich and the poor ? 1
- (iv) Besides, wearing what else the styles of clothing emphasized ? 1
- (v) What qualities made one masculine ? 1
- (vi) What qualities made one feminine ? 1

Find out a word from the passage which means —

- (vii) A person / animal that is quiet and easily controlled 1
- (viii) A person / animal that has a quality of anger and determination. 1
- (ix) A special right or advantage. 1

2. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :

The idea that women's rights are human rights has presently gained momentum globally and has secured recognition internationally now. However this idea is not new to India. Swami Vivekananda observed a civilization could be judged by the way it treats its women. If a truly democratic and equitable society is to be created then women from all segments including the less privileged must be given voice in decisions that affect their lives and that of their family. Hence the fact of need for protection of women's rights has been present in the Indian social and political system.

Several steps have been taken by the Government for protection of rights of the women. To give recognition to the women, it has been made compulsory to include mother's name along with that of father in the various application forms required to be filled for an Indian child while seeking admission in a school. Several changes have been made in the personal laws to protect the women's rights and remove inherent inequalities.

The Government of India has taken several measures to help and support the women specially of the weaker sections of society. Those include the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh and the Mahila Samakhya programmes. The formation of Self Help Groups of women is another

important step in giving voice to the women. Financial independence has not only given boost to the confidence of women, it has freed their families from the clutches of the village money lenders.

The field of literacy is one where women have played an important role, be it at the stage of atmosphere building or teaching of the illiterates specially in the state of Rajasthan. As far as literacy is concerned, the women have played an important role. They have been appreciated by the Government also, and every year when the Akshar Mitra (Friends of Letters) awards are given quite a number of women get awards too.

Ours is developing country and media has a prominent role in shaping or remoulding the attitudes of its populace. By giving space to success stories of women, the media can effectively contribute to the glorious world of women and her existence.

- (a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. 4
- (b) Write a summary of the passage and suggest a suitable title. 2

SECTION – B

(WRITING)

3. You have constructed a new house. You want to let out a portion of that house. Write an advertisement to be published in the 'To Let' classified columns of a local newspaper. 4

OR

You are the Editor of your school magazine. Draft a notice for your school students and staff members inviting articles, sketches etc. for your school magazine. Sign as PQR of Govt. S. S. School, Sitapur. 4

4. Your club organised a blood donation camp in your city. Write a report in about 100 words. 7

OR

Write a factual description of your School Morning Assembly in about 100 words. 7

5. Your residential area is facing sanitation problem as well as bad roads and drainage problem. Write a letter to the Editor of local newspaper complaining about it. 7

OR

Write a job application for the Post of Clerk advertised in the local newspaper of your city. 7

6. We all agree that reading is a wonderful journey to the heart. On the basis of your experience write a speech on 'Joy of reading'. 7

OR

Write an article to be published in a local newspaper about the use and misuse of Cellphone keeping in view of student life. 7

SECTION – C

(TEXTUAL QUESTIONS)

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

Driving from my parent's home to Cochin

last Friday morning,

I saw my mother beside me, doze, open mouthed,

her face ashen like that

of a corpse and realised with pain that

she was as old as she looked.

- (i) Where was the poet driving to and with whom ? 2
- (ii) What did she notice while her mother sat beside her ? 1
- (iii) Find word from the extract which means 'dead body'. 1

OR

Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool

Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.

The massive weight of uncle's wedding band.

Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.

- (i) What was lying heavy ? 2
- (ii) Where were Aunt's fingers fluttering through ? 1
- (iii) Find word from the extract which means 'moving about'. 1

8. Answer any *three* of the following questions in 30 – 40 words each :
 $3 \times 2 = 6$

(i) What does the poet want for the children of the slums ?

(*An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum*)

(ii) What does counting up to twelve and keeping still help us achieve ?
 (*Keeping Quiet*)

(iii) List the things of beauty mentioned in the poem.

(*A Thing of Beauty*)

(iv) What was the plea of the folk who had put up the Roadside Stand ?
 (*A Roadside Stand*)

9. Answer the following questions in 30 – 40 words each :

(i) What did Frenz notice that was unusual about the school that day ?

(*The Last Lesson*) 2

(ii) Why did the peddler sign himself as Captain Von Stable ?

(*The Rattrap*) 2

(iii) Why is Rajkumar Shukla described as being resolute ?

(*Indigo*) 2

(iv) Why didn't Sophie want Jansie to know about her story with Danny ?
 (*Going Places*) 2

10. Answer the following question in about 125 words :

How did the instructor "build a swimmer" out of Douglas ?

(*Deep Water*) 7

OR

What are some of the positive views on interviews ?

(*The Interview*) 7

11. Answer the following question in about 125 words :

Why is an adult's perspective on life different from that of a child's ?

(*Should Wizard Hit Mommy ?*) 7

OR

What is it that draws Derry towards Mr. Lamb in spite of himself ?

(*On The Face of It*) 7

12. Answer the following questions in 30 – 40 words each :

(i) What does the third level refer to ? (*The Third Level*) 2

(ii) What does the chief astrologer predict to be the cause of the Maharaja's death ? (*The Tiger King*) 2

(iii) What kind of a person was Evans ? (*Evans Tries An O-Level*) 2

(iv) Bama's experience is that of a victim of the caste system. What kind of discrimination does Zitkala-Sa's experience depict ?

(*Memories of Childhood*) 2

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