

redeems him from the sterile fertility of aimless struggle. Cultural is not a pose of intellect, or a code of convention but an attitude of life which finds nothing human alien, common or unclean. An education that brings up a young man in entire indifference to the misery and poverty surrounding him, to the general stringency of life, to the dumb pangs of tortured bodies and the lives submerged in the shadows is essentially a failure. If we do not realise the solidarity of the world passes by as the lowly and the lost, we are not cultured. The most deprived individual has his starting interest and the worst criminal is unique to his thumbprints as he knows to his cost. Great literature shames us out of our complacency and reveals to us something of the immense capacity of human soul for suffering and isolation. We may suffer, we may fail, we may be forgotten but we have succeeded in the true sense of the term, we refused to the vulgar, mean or squalid. If anything justifies life, it is nobility, greatness. Man notices our failings, but God sees our strivings.

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Roll No.

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B. A. (General) EXAMINATION

(For Batch 2014 & Onwards)

(Sixth Semester)

B.T.M. (Sixth Semester)

(For BTM Batch 2017 & Onwards)

ENGLISH (COMPULSORY)

Time : Three Hours

Maximum Marks : 80

Note : Attempt all questions.

1. Explain with reference to the context the following passage : 5

The quality of mercy is not strained

It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven

Upon the place beneath. It is twice blessed.

It blesteth him that gives and him that takes.

'Tis mightiest in the mightiest. It becomes

The throned monarch better than his crown.

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Or

In Belmont is a lady richly left;
And she is fair, and, fairer than that word,
Of wonderful virtues; sometimes from her eyes
I did receive fair speechless messages :
Her name is Portia, nothing under valued
To Cato's daughter, Brutus's Portia.

2. Answer any *five* of the following questions in about **30** words each : $5 \times 2 = 10$
- (i) What was Portia's father's will about her marriage ?
 - (ii) Who is Shylock ?
 - (iii) Who is Jessica ?
 - (iv) Why does Bassanio need money from Antonio ?
 - (v) Describe the scene of Jessica's elopement.
 - (vi) What does Portia say about mercy ?
 - (vii) What does Portia say about the French Lord ?
 - (viii) What does Bassanio's request lead to ?

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3. Attempt any *two* of the following questions in about **300** words each. : $10 \times 2 = 20$

- (i) Who is the merchant of Venice in the play 'The Merchant of Venice' ? Give reasons for your answer.
 - (ii) Critically examine 'The Merchant of Venice' as a tragi-comedy.
 - (iii) Describe Casket scene in your own words.
 - (iv) Attempt a character-sketch of Shylock as presented in the play 'The Merchant of Venice'.
4. Write short notes on any *four* of the given literary terms : $2.5 \times 4 = 10$
- (i) Comedy
 - (ii) Problem Play
 - (iii) Melodrama
 - (iv) Comedy of Manners
 - (v) Mime.

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5. Give one-word substitute for any five words : 5

- (i) The rule of the rich.
- (ii) A doctor who treats skin diseases.
- (iii) One who loves books.
- (iv) One who believes in God.
- (v) One who lives on vegetables.
- (vi) One who has all the knowledge.
- (vii) A speech or writing too full of words.
- (viii) An office with work but no salary.

6. Read the given passage and answer the questions that follow : $5 \times 2 = 10$

In every country people imagine that they are the best and the cleverest and the others are not as good as they are. The Englishman thinks that he and his country are the best, the Frenchman is very proud of France and everything French. The Germans and Italians think no less of their countries and many Indians imagine that India is in many ways the greatest country in the world. This is wrong. Everybody wants to think well of himself and his country. But really there is no person who has not got some good and bad qualities. In the same way, there is no country which is not

partly good and partly bad. We are, of course, most concerned with our own country, India. Unhappily, it is in a bad way today. Most of our people are poor and unhappy. They have no joy in their lives. We have to find out how we can make them happier. We have to see what is good in our ways and customs, and try to keep it, and whatever is bad we have to throw away. If we find anything good in other countries, we should certainly take it.

Questions :

- (i) What do you think is the writer's nationality ?
- (ii) People from how many countries are mentioned in the passage ?
- (iii) Would you say that the writer is an open-minded person ? How ?
- (iv) Do you generally agree with his views ? Why ?
- (v) Supply the synonyms for the words 'imagine' and 'certainly'.

Or

The recognition of the right of women to complete equally with men opened up new pathways of service and encouraged women to

pay an increasingly effective role in public affairs. Those who have watched India's social and political trends in the decades prior to her independence, regard the rapid advance of women and their easy adaptation to new ways of life as a staggering achievement. Much of the credit for this is due to the liberal attitude adopted towards women by the social and political thinkers of the day. They, one and all, believed that India's progress was closely linked with women's advancement, and that, if India wished to recapture her past greatness, she should permit her women to share fully in the glorious task.

Questions :

- (i) What is the result of the recognition of women's right to equality ?
- (ii) What does the author call a staggering achievement ?
- (iii) To whom does the credit for this go ?
- (iv) Why did social and political thinkers support women's advancement ?
- (v) Assign a suitable title of the passage.

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7. Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper to draw the attention of the authorities and public to the menace of encroachment on the city roads. 6

Or

Write a letter of complaint to the SDO Telephone Exchange as your landline phone has been out of order for the last seven days.

8. Paraphrase the following stanza from the poem : 6

How many loved your moments of glad grace,
And loved your beauty with love false or true,
But one man loved the pilgrim soul in you,
And loved the sorrows of your changing face.

9. Make a precis of the following passage and give it a suitable title : 6+2=8
Culture is not mere learning. It is discrimination, understanding of life. Liberal education aims at producing moral gifts—as well as intellectual, sweetness of temper as much as sanity of outlook. Into art of living, the cultured man carries a certain grace, a certain refinement, a certain distinction which

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P.T.O.