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BCMENLS 101

**I Semester B.Com. Examination, December 2024/January 2025
(SEP) (2024 – 25 Batch Onwards)
ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

Time : 3 Hours

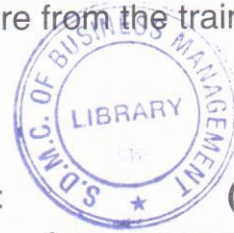
Max. Marks : 80

**SECTION – A
(Prose)**

- I. A) Answer **any one** of the following in about **200** words : **(1×10=10)**
- 1) Bring out the pathos in the story 'The Paddy Harvest'.
 - 2) Discuss the role of passive resistance in achieving self-rule or home-rule as envisioned by Gandhi.
 - 3) How does the author paint a vivid picture of the characters in the lesson 'The Chair' ?
 - 4) Comment on the title of the essay 'Why I want a Wife'.
- B) Answer **any two** of the following in about **100** words **each** : **(2×5=10)**
- 1) Write a note on Thopamma as seen in the lesson 'The Paddy Harvest'.
 - 2) How does Gandhi refute the idea that passive resistance is the tactics of the weak ?
 - 3) Why do the villagers need the chair and how do they use it ?
 - 4) What are the household chores expected of a wife ?
 - 5) What is the narrator's reaction to the girl's departure from the train ?

**SECTION – B
(Poetry)**

- ii. A) Answer **any one** of the following in about **200** words : **(1×10=10)**
- 1) "The poem 'The Sonnet-Ballad' is the lamentation of a woman whose beloved has gone to war". Elaborate.
 - 2) Examine the theme of nostalgia in the poem 'The House of My Childhood'.
 - 3) What qualities of the cuckoo charm the speaker in the poem 'To the Cuckoo' ? Why ?
 - 4) How are the themes of love and memory brought together in the elegy 'Tonight I can Write' ?

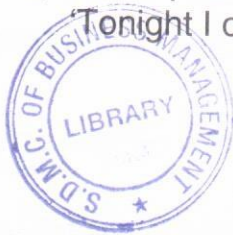


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B) Answer **any two** of the following in about **100 words each** : **(2×5=10)**

- 1) How does the poem 'Mother' use imagery to convey the mother's daily life ?
- 2) What is the reason for the speaker's sadness in the poem 'The Sonnet Ballad' ?
- 3) How does Dilip Chitre describe the state of his childhood home ?
- 4) How does the poet welcome the Cuckoo in the poem 'To the Cuckoo' ?
- 5) What prompts the speaker to write the saddest lines in the poem 'Tonight I can Write' ? Elaborate.



SECTION – C
(Grammar and Composition)
Unit – I

III. A) Skim the following paragraph and answer the questions that follow : **(3×1=3)**

The Indian Army is the land-based branch and the largest component of the Indian Armed Forces. The President of India is the Supreme Commander of the Indian Army, and it is commanded by the Chief of Army Staff (COAS), who is a four-star general. Two officers have been conferred with the rank of field marshal, a five-star rank, which is a ceremonial position of great honour. The Indian Army originated from the armies of the East India Company, which eventually became the British Indian Army, and the armies of the princely states, which finally became the national army after independence. The units and regiments of the Indian Army have diverse histories and have participated in a number of battles and campaigns across the world, earning a large number of battle and theatre honours before and after independence.

- 1) Who is the Supreme Commander of the Indian Army ?
- 2) Name the five-star rank conferred on the officers of the Indian Army.
- 3) How did the Indian Army originate ?

B) Scan the following paragraph and answer the questions that follow : **(2×1=2)**

The Mona Lisa was one of Leonardo Da Vinci's favourite paintings, and he carried it around with him until he died. Today it is regarded as the most famous painting in the world, and is viewed by thousands of people annually. Who is this painted figure ? Many suggestions have been made, and the most likely candidate is Lisa Gherardini, the wife of a Florentine silk merchant. Another more likely, but popular theory is that the painting was a self-portrait. There are similarities between the facial features of the Mona



Lisa and the artist's self-portrait painted many years later. Could this be the reason for Vinci giving the portrait such an enigmatic smile ? Today, the Mona Lisa looks rather sombre, in dull shades of brown and yellow. This is due to the layer of varnish covering the paint, which has yellowed over the years. It is possible that the painting was once brighter and more colourful than it is now.

- 1) Name two influences on Da Vinci's painting of Mona Lisa.
- 2) Why does the painting of Mona Lisa appear dull now?

IV. Write a bibliography in MLA format using the following details : 3

Place of Publication : London
Name of the Publisher : Penguin Books Ltd.
Author : John Norwich
Year : 1982
Title : A History of Venice



V. Write an editorial on **any one** of the following topics in about **100** words : 5

- 1) Adventure sports is not for the weak-hearted.
- 2) Fashion industry and its influence on students.

VI. Design a brochure on **any one** of the following topics: 4

- 1) Inauguration of your college library's new wing.
- 2) New Year charity fund raiser to be organised in your city.

VII. 1) Write a covering letter to The General Manager, Social Bank, Gujarat in response to their advertisement in *The Hindu* for the post of Assistant Manager for their branch at Jamnagar, Gujarat. (1×4=4)

OR

- 2) Write an email covering letter to The Administrator, Adarsh Coaching Centre, Noida, for the post of Marketing Executive.

Unit – II

VIII. Write a script in about **eight** sentences on the following : 4

You are attending an interview for the post of a costume designer for a television production company. Answer the following questions asked by the interviewer.

Interviewer : Please introduce yourself.

Candidate : _____



Interviewer : What knowledge do you have about designing costumes ?

Candidate : _____

Interviewer : What is your experience in this field ?

Candidate : _____

Interviewer : What are your views on the fashion sense of TV actors ?

Candidate : _____

IX. Answer **any one** of the following in **four** sentences :

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- 1) Introduce yourself to your classmates on your first day in college.
- 2) Give instructions to create an email account.

X. State whether the underlined parts in the following sentences are phrases or clauses :

(4x1=4)

- 1) Surabhi sang melodiously which won her loads of applause.
- 2) The dog hid the bone under the rubble.
- 3) Students wanted to know if they had performed beyond expectations.
- 4) Harpreeth scored a century which was unbelievable.

XI. Do as directed:

1) Fill in the blanks using the right form of tenses :

- a) Who has _____ the book from my table ? (take)
- b) Peter _____ my bike to the railway station last evening. (ride)

2) Fill in the blanks choosing the appropriate form of the verb given in brackets :

(2x1=2)

- a) The appearance of the leopards _____ taken seriously by the residents. (was/were)
- b) Either of the two teams _____ to play the match. (has/have)

XII. Write a speech on **any one** of the following in about **100** words :

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- 1) A welcome speech on the occasion of Independence Day celebration in college.
- 2) A motivational speech at the Student Meet organised in your city.

