

English, Paper II

Time: 2.5 hours

Marks: 50

SECTION - I

(1-5) Read the passage given below. Then answer the questions that follow it. Write the answers in your answer book.

"Can you see that great plain there, with queer-looking hills on it? That is the Grimpen Mire. A false step on it means death to man or beast. Just yesterday I saw a pony sinking into it. Even in summer it's a dangerous place but after the rains it's just awful. Yet I know it very well. I can go into it and come out alive....."

(Arthur Conan Doyle : The Hound of the Baskervilles)

5×1=5

1. Who is the speaker?
2. What reason does he give Dr. Watson for going to Grimpen Mire?
3. What is the actual reason why he goes to Grimpen Mire?
4. "A false step on it means death to man or beast." How does this line become true in the case of the speaker?
5. What does Dr. Watson hear soon after this conversation?

Solution:

1. The speaker is Stapleton.
2. He tells Dr. Watson that he goes to Grimpen Mire because he knows the place well and can navigate it safely.
3. The actual reason he goes to Grimpen Mire is to tend to and hide the hound he uses to terrorise the Baskervilles.
4. The line becomes true in the case of the speaker because later in the story, Stapleton himself gets trapped in the mire and presumably dies.
5. Soon after this conversation, Dr. Watson hears a strange and eerie howling sound coming from the moor, which adds to the mystery of the Hound of the Baskervilles.

(6-10) Read the passage given below. Then answer the questions that follow it. Write the answers in your answer book.

5×1=5

Enquiry confirmed that we were being hauled up the inclines by the self-same wire ropes as thirteen years earlier, which knowledge made the journey feel distinctly more adventurous. We reached Parambikulam just as it was getting dark. In the verandah of the forest bungalow by the side of the tramway station I found a large squatted congregation of the local adivasis (Kadar), and in their midst, sprawled in one of those standard dak bungalow Victorian armchairs with legs splayed out on the extended arm rests, a barefooted 'topless' European male of sorts in crumpled Khaki shorts.

(Salim Ali : the Thrills of Bird Watching)

6. What can we gather about the territory from the phrase 'hauled up the inclines'?

7. How and why would old ropes make the journey more adventurous?
8. What does 'a large squatted congregation' mean?
9. What do the writer's descriptions of people and places reveal about him as a person?
10. Who is the 'European male' and what does his attire tell us about how he felt?

Solution:

6. The phrase "hailed up the inclines" suggests that the territory was hilly or mountainous, requiring rope mechanisms to assist in transportation.
7. The old ropes made the journey more adventurous because they had been in use for thirteen years, creating a sense of uncertainty and excitement about their reliability.
8. "A large squatted congregation" means a big group of people sitting close together on the ground.
9. The writer's descriptions show that he is observant, detail-oriented, and has a sense of curiosity about people and places. His choice of words also suggests a mix of admiration and amusement.
10. The "European male" is likely a British officer or forest official. His barefooted and 'topless' attire with crumpled khaki shorts suggests that he felt comfortable and informal, possibly adapting to the warm climate.

SECTION - II

(11-19). Answer FIVE questions choosing at least TWO from each Set.

5×2=10

SET - A

11. Why did Holmes decide to live on the Moor and not at Baskerville Hall?
12. What did Dr. Mortimer observe near Sir Charles' dead body?
13. How did Stapleton die?
14. How did Hugo's portrait help Holmes? What conclusion did Holmes draw from the portrait?
15. In what way did Barrymore help Dr. Watson in solving the murder of Sir Charles?

SET - B

16. Why did Gopal get interested in the ant?
(The Day the Viceroy Came)
17. Why is it important to keep body surface of animals and birds clean?
(Desmond Morris : Grooming)
18. Why does O' Henry describe Harvey Maxwell as "a New York broker, moved by buzzing wheels and uncoiling springs"?
(The Romance of a Busy Broker)
19. Why did the writer, M N Srinivas, prevent the village people from visiting him in Mysore? How did he feel afterwards?
(The Villagers' Curiosity)

Solution:

SET - A

11. Holmes decided to live on the moor instead of Baskerville Hall to investigate Stapleton secretly. He wanted to move unnoticed and observe events without raising suspicion.
12. Dr. Mortimer observed huge footprints of a hound near Sir Charles' dead body, which added to the mystery of his death.
13. Stapleton died in the Grimpen Mire while trying to escape. He got trapped in the deadly swamp and sank into it.
14. Hugo's portrait helped Holmes because he noticed a resemblance between Hugo Baskerville and Stapleton, leading him to conclude that Stapleton was a descendant of the Baskerville family, trying to claim the inheritance.
15. Barrymore helped Dr. Watson by giving him information about Sir Charles' secret meeting with Laura Lyons and revealing that his wife had seen Sir Charles waiting at the gate before his death.

SET - B

16. Gopal got interested in the ant because it was carrying a tiny grain of sugar with great effort, which made him curious and reflective about nature's small wonders.
17. It is important to keep the body surface of animals and birds clean because grooming helps remove dirt, parasites, and dead skin, keeping them healthy and improving social bonding in some species.
18. O. Henry describes Harvey Maxwell as "a New York broker, moved by buzzing wheels and uncoiling springs" because he was always busy, mechanical, and driven by his fast-paced job, working tirelessly like a machine.
19. M. N. Srinivas prevented the village people from visiting him in Mysore because he was busy with academic work. Later, he felt guilty and regretful for not maintaining his bond with them.

SECTION - III

(20-21) Rearrange the scrambled sentences in each set (A & B) to form meaningful paragraphs. Do not copy the actual sentences in your answer-book. Write only the letters corresponding to the sentences in the proper order.

2×2.5=5

SET-A

20. (a) Sumo wrestlers credit chanko-nabe - a stew of vegetables, broth, noodles and meat or sea-food - for their girth.
- (b) V The junior wrestlers cook the dish daily for the champs who get to eat it first.
- (c) One famous wrestler is said to have consumed 65 bowls of it - that is about 13 kilos of meat in one sitting.
- (d) They down it as a late breakfast after training for several hours.
- (e) Lucky for him the next scheduled activity after chanko-nabe is a nap.

SET-B

21. (a) Then the barber asked him what kind of cut he wanted.
 (b) He was thrilled to settle down into the chair where admirals had previously sat.
 (c) Then he added, 'But without the bald spot.'
 (d) I took my six-year-old son to the barber at our naval base.
 (e) Sonu proudly pointed to my crew cut and said, 'A haircut just like my Dad's!'

Solution:

SET - A

- (a) Sumo wrestlers credit chanko-nabe - a stew of vegetables, broth, noodles and meat or seafood - for their girth.
 (d) They down it as a late breakfast after training for several hours.
 (b) The junior wrestlers cook the dish daily for the champs who get to eat it first.
 (c) One famous wrestler is said to have consumed 65 bowls of it - that is about 13 kilos of meat in one sitting.
 (e) Lucky for him, the next scheduled activity after chanko-nabe is a nap.

SET - B

- (d) I took my six-year-old son to the barber at our naval base.
 (b) He was thrilled to settle down into the chair where admirals had previously sat.
 (a) Then the barber asked him what kind of cut he wanted.
 (e) Sonu proudly pointed to my crew cut and said, 'A haircut just like my Dad's!'
 (c) Then he added, 'But without the bald spot.'

22. Read the following advertisement which appeared in a newspaper:

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Required English, Drawing, Art, Craft & Music Teaching staff for CBSE affiliated school. Required candidate should be M.A./B.A./B.Ed./Atd, GDA, MA, BEd with 0 to 2 years of experience of teaching in an English medium school, - with computer skills Good salary.

Posts vacant:

English (2 posts), Drawing & Arts, Music (1 post each) for our CBSE affiliated school Smt. Tulsibai Ranglalji Zambad Vidyaniketan. Std. 1st to 10 and Nursery, LKG, UKG (2-2 posts) Interested candidates send your details along with expected salary as early as possible to the following address:

Mr. Prem Zambad

Anand Nagar, Buldana Road, Amravati, 443404, Maharashtra

Write a letter to the address above, applying for the job. State your qualifications, along with other details, which you consider, would be in your favour:

Solution:

Bengaluru, Karnataka, 560068

abc@gmail.com

Mob: XXXYYYYZ

25th February

Mr. Prem Zambad
 Smt. Tulsibai Ranglalji Zambad Vidyaniketan
 Anand Nagar, Buldana Road
 Amravati - 443404, Maharashtra

Subject: Application for the Post of English Teacher

Dear Sir,

I am writing to apply for the position of English Teacher at your esteemed CBSE-affiliated school, as advertised. I hold an M.A. in English and a B.Ed. degree from [Your University Name], and I have [X] years of experience teaching English in an English medium school.

I have strong communication skills and am well-versed in integrating technology into teaching, ensuring an interactive and engaging learning environment. Additionally, I am adept at lesson planning and classroom management. My proficiency in computer applications for teaching further enhances my ability to deliver effective lessons.

I am keen to contribute to your institution's academic excellence and holistic student development. I have attached my resume for your kind consideration. I would be grateful for the opportunity to discuss my application further. Looking forward to your positive response.

Yours sincerely,
 Mohan Reddy

23. Read the following dialogue. Then write a paragraph expressing your views on the topic discussed in the dialogue.

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Mukesh : Dad next year I'm going to college. I want you to get me a new car. It can be a Nano, I don't mind.

Mukesh's Dad : No I won't buy a car for you till you are 20. Though 18 years olds are licensed to drive in our country, I think that's too early. I don't think youngsters are mature enough to handle cars before they are 20 years.

Mukesh : No Dad! That's too late! Ill miss out on all the fun. I won't be able to take out my friends for movies and long drives.

Mukesh's Dad : I know. For young people like you the idea of driving a car is appealing only because it's fashionable and fun. But car is an important mode of transportation and should be used that way. You can get one when you get your first job. Next year when you join college you can take the college bus. It's safe.

Mukesh : After I get a job? Oh no Dad that'll be too late to get a car!

Solution:

Driving is a serious responsibility that requires both skill and maturity. While the legal driving age in our country is 18, Mukesh's father is right in believing that

many young people may not be mature enough to handle a car safely before the age of 20. Many youngsters view driving as a source of fun rather than a necessity, often neglecting road safety. Accidents involving young drivers are common due to their inexperience and tendency to take risks. Mukesh's father is also correct in prioritising safety over luxury, suggesting that Mukesh use the college bus instead. Owning a car should not be about fashion or peer pressure but about responsibility. Hence, waiting until one is financially independent and mature enough is a wise decision.

(24-25) Read the newspaper report given below.

A couple rewarded by local villagers

(The Hindu)

Karimnagar: A couple from Nellore found a baby boy lying in front of their guest house. They took the boy and handed him over to the local police. The boy's parents were identified, who said that the boy had gone missing for a week. They were relieved to get their son back. The local villagers were so happy at the incident that they rewarded the couple by giving them a year's stock of rice that the couple could take back with them.

In the meanwhile investigations are being carried out by the local police to find out the reasons for stealing the baby and who could have been involved in such an activity.

24. Imagine that you were present at the site where the local villagers rewarded the couple for saving the boy. Write a letter to your friend in Hyderabad describing how you felt about the incident.

10

25. Write a letter to the Editor of the Newspaper in which the report appeared requesting him to publish more such reports so that more people can get inspired by such good deeds.

5

Solution:

24. Letter to a Friend in Hyderabad

Begur, Bangalore, 560068

25th February

Dear Ashok,

I hope you are doing well. I want to share an amazing incident that I witnessed in Karimnagar. A kind-hearted couple from Nellore found a lost baby boy near their guest house and immediately handed him over to the police. It turns out the child had been missing for a week, and his parents were overjoyed to be reunited with him.

What touched me the most was how the local villagers showed their gratitude.

They rewarded the couple with a year's stock of rice as a token of appreciation. It

was heartwarming to see how kindness is still valued in our society. This event reminded me that small acts of humanity can make a big difference. I hope such inspiring stories reach more people. Looking forward to catching up soon!

Take care,
Akash

25. Letter to the Editor

Begur, Bengaluru
25th February

The Editor,
The Hindu,
MG Road, Bengaluru

Subject: Request to Publish More Stories of Kindness and Good Deeds

Respected Sir/Madam,

I recently read the report about the kind couple from Nellore who rescued a lost child and was deeply moved by their selfless act. Their gesture not only reunited a missing child with his family but also restored faith in humanity. The villagers' appreciation in the form of a reward was equally heartening.

I believe that such positive stories should be highlighted more often in newspapers. They serve as a source of inspiration and encourage people to help others in need. In today's world, where negativity often dominates the news, stories of kindness and goodwill can make a significant impact.

I request you to publish more such reports so that people can be motivated to spread kindness and compassion.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,
Mohan Reddy