

# RAMAKRISHNA MISSION VIDYAMANDIRA

(Residential Autonomous College affiliated to University of Calcutta)

B.A./B.Sc. FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION, MARCH 2021

FIRST YEAR [BATCH 2020-23]

ALTERNATIVE ENGLISH

Paper : I

Date : 22/03/2021

Time : 12 noon – 2 pm

Full Marks : 50

## Group - A

1. Answer **any five** of the following questions: [5×2]

- i) How did the narrator describe his grandfather's portrait in Khushwant Singh's 'The Portrait of a Lady'?
- ii) How did the sparrows react to the grandmother's death in Khushwant Singh's 'The Portrait of a Lady'?
- iii) What was the last wish of the poet's mother in Jayanta Mahapatra's 'Dawn at Puri'?
- iv) "A skull on the holy sands" – what does the 'skull' signify?
- v) In K.A. Abbas' short story, 'Sparrows', what was Rahim Khan's ambition as a young man? Why had his parents opposed it?
- vi) To whom was Radha married off in K.A. Abbas' short story, 'Sparrows'? Why was her marriage hastily arranged?
- vii) What is the significance of the repetition "I rise/I rise/I rise." at the end of Maya Angelou's poem 'Still I Rise'?

2. Answer **any three** of the following questions: [3×5]

- i) How are the widows described in Jayanta Mahapatra's poem, 'Dawn at Puri'?
- ii) In K.A. Abbas' short story, 'Sparrows', how did Rahim Khan treat his wife and children? Why did he do so?
- iii) In Khushwant Singh's short story, 'The Portrait of a Lady', how did the relationship between the narrator and his grandmother change?
- iv) In Maya Angelou's poem, 'Still I Rise', why is the narrator so optimistic about rising up?
- v) How does the narrator upset her oppressors in Maya Angelou's poem, 'Still I Rise'?

## Group - B

3. Write an application along with your Curriculum Vitae, offering your candidature for the post of Sales Executive in Eastern Mechanical Works Pvt. Ltd., 136 J L Nehru Road, Kolkata 700036, West Bengal. [15]

### **Group – C**

4. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow in your own words.

Undoubtedly the greatest cricketer of all time, Sir Donald Bradman, more popularly known as Don Bradman, was born on 27 August 1908. He played his first cricket match at the age of eleven in Bowral. He scored 55 runs in that match, and the ground on which he played is now called 'Bradman Oval'. He scored his first century at the age of only twelve. Young Donald enhanced his cricketing skill by throwing a golf ball against a brick wall and hitting it as it bounced back with a cricket stump. When Don was only thirteen, his father took him to the Sydney Cricket Ground to watch a Test match. At that time, Don had reportedly said to his father, 'I shall never be satisfied until I play on this ground.'

In 1928-29, Sir Don was selected in the Australian team for the Test series against England after playing only nine first class matches. He made his test debut in the first test at Brisbane. But, in that match he failed miserably, scoring 18 and 1 respectively in the two innings. As a result, he was made the twelfth man for the second test of the series. However, when selected for the third test at Melbourne, he scored his first Test century.

In the 1932-33 series, in an attempt to curtail Bradman's batting ability, England adopted the bodyline bowling technique during its Australian tour. However, even though that restricted Bradman's scoring spree, he still managed to retain the highest average among the Australian players.

- i) How old was Bradman when he played his first cricket match? How many runs did he score in that match? (2)
- ii) How did young Bradman enhance his cricketing skill? (2)
- iii) How did Bradman perform in his debut Test match? How did he stage his comeback? (3)
- iv) What was the English strategy in the 1932-33 series against Australia? (3)

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