

# RAMAKRISHNA MISSION VIDYAMANDIRA

(Residential Autonomous College affiliated to University of Calcutta)

B.A./B.Sc. FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION, MARCH 2022

FIRST YEAR [BATCH 2021-24]

COMPULSORY ENGLISH

Date : 03/03/2022

Time : 3 pm – 5 pm

Paper : I

Full Marks : 50

1. Answer **any three** of the following questions: [3×4]

- What arrangements did Shamnath make for the dinner party?
- How did the boss treat Shamnath's mother in the party?
- Briefly describe the second encounter between the narrator and the young girl selling baskets at the Deoli railway platform.
- How did the narrator react when he could not find the girl at the Deoli station on his second journey to Dehra? Why did he react in such a manner?

2. Answer **any four** of the following questions: [4×5]

- What according to Shakespeare is the third stage of human life? How does he describe it?
- How does Shakespeare describe the penultimate stage of human life?
- How does Shakespeare compare the human life with a stage?
- Why does Sassoon describe the song as 'wordless' in his poem, 'Everyone Sang'?
- Comment on the significance of the title of Sassoon's poem, 'Everyone Sang'.

3. Explain with reference to the context **any two** of the following extracts: [2×4]

- 'And one man in his time plays many parts,  
His acts being seven ages.'
- 'My heart was shaken with tears; and horror  
Drifted away.'
- 'I never break my journey at Deoli, but I pass through as often as I can.'

4. Read the following passage carefully and answer the following questions in your own words. [2×5]

Father Gonzaga arrived before seven o'clock, alarmed at the strange news. By that time onlookers less frivolous than those at dawn had already arrived and they were making all kinds of conjectures concerning the captive's future. The simplest among them thought that he should be named mayor of the world. Others of sterner mind felt that he should be promoted to the rank of five-star general in order to win all wars. Some visionaries hoped that he could be put to stud in order to implant the earth a race of winged wise men who could take charge of the universe. But Father Gonzaga, before becoming a priest, had been a robust woodcutter. Standing by the wire, he reviewed his catechism in an instant and asked them to open the door so that he could take a close look at that pitiful man who looked more like a huge decrepit hen among the fascinated chickens. He was lying in the corner drying his open wings in the sunlight among the fruit peels and breakfast leftovers that the early risers had thrown him. Alien to the impertinences of the world, he only lifted his antiquarian eyes and murmured something in his dialect when Father Gonzaga went into the chicken coop and said good morning to him in Latin. The parish priest had his first suspicion of an imposter when he saw that he did not understand the language of God or know how to greet His ministers. Then he noticed that seen close up he was much too human: he had an unbearable smell of the outdoors, the back side of

his wings was strewn with parasites and his main feathers had been mistreated by terrestrial winds, and nothing about him measured up to the proud dignity of angels. Then he came out of the chicken coop and in a brief sermon warned the curious against the risks of being ingenuous. He reminded them that the devil had the bad habit of making use of carnival tricks in order to confuse the unwary. He argued that if wings were not the essential element in determining the difference between a hawk and an airplane, they were even less so in the recognition of angels. Nevertheless, he promised to write a letter to his bishop so that the latter would write his primate so that the latter would write to the Supreme Pontiff in order to get the final verdict from the highest courts.

- i) Why was Father Gonzaga suspicious of the winged man?
- ii) What conjectures did the onlookers make about the captive's future?
- iii) What cautionary sermon did Father Gonzaga deliver?
- iv) How did Father Gonzaga treat the captive winged man?
- v) In what condition was the captive winged man?

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