

# RAMAKRISHNA MISSION VIDYAMANDIRA

(Residential Autonomous College affiliated to University of Calcutta)

B.A./B.Sc. FOURTH SEMESTER EXAMINATION, MAY 2025

SECOND YEAR [BATCH 2023-27]

COMPULSORY ENGLISH

Paper : 4INSAEC1

Date : 30/04/2025

Time : 11 am – 1 pm

Full Marks : 50

## Group-A

1. Answer **any five** of the following questions:

[5×6]

- a) What are the three paintings that W. H. Auden might be referring to in ‘Musée des Beaux Arts’, and why do you think they are significant to the poem’s central theme?
- b) How does ‘Musée des Beaux Arts’ explore the theme of general indifference toward suffering? Do you think the poem takes a pessimistic stance, merely observing this indifference as a natural part of life, or is Auden criticizing the modern world for normalizing it? What aspects of suffering seem to disturb the poet the most?
- c) How does Edgar Allan Poe explore the themes of guilt and paranoia in ‘The Tell-Tale Heart’? Discuss how these themes influence the narrator’s actions and mental state.
- d) How does ‘The Tell-Tale Heart’ present the narrator as unreliable?
- e) Comment on the imagery in the poem ‘Composed Upon Westminster Bridge’.
- f) What were Ratan Babu's considerations about travel and friendship as expressed in the story ‘Ratan Babu and that Man’?
- g) Do you read the story ‘Ratan Babu and that Man’ as a crime thriller or one with supernatural elements? Give reasons.

## Group-B

2. Read the passage carefully and answer the following questions:

I remember him as if it were yesterday, as he came plodding to the inn door, his sea- chest following behind him in a hand-barrow — a tall, strong, heavy, nut-brown man, his tarry pigtail falling over the shoulder of his soiled blue coat, his hands ragged and scarred, with black, broken nails, and the sabre cut across one cheek, a dirty, livid white. I remember him looking round the cover and whistling to himself as he did so, and then breaking out in that old sea-song that he sang so often afterwards:

“Fifteen men on the dead man’s chest — Yo-ho-ho, and a bottle of rum!” in the high, old tottering voice that seemed to have been tuned and broken at the capstan bars. Then he rapped on the door with a bit of stick like a handspike that he carried, and when my father appeared, called roughly for a glass of rum. This, when it was brought to him, he drank slowly, like a connoisseur, lingering on the taste and still looking about him at the cliffs and up at our signboard. “This is a handy cove,” says he at length; “and a pleasant sittytated grog-shop. Much company, mate?”

My father told him no, very little company, the more was the pity. “Well, then,” said he, “this is the berth for me. Here you, matey,” he cried to the man who trundled the barrow; “bring up alongside and help up my chest. I’ll stay here a bit,” he continued. “I’m a plain man; rum and bacon and eggs is what I want, and that head up there for to watch ships off. What you mought call me? You mought call me captain. Oh, I see what you’re at — there”; and he threw down three or four gold pieces on the threshold. “You can tell me when I’ve worked through that,” says he, looking as fierce as a commander.

- a) Describe the physical appearance of the man who arrived at the inn. (2)
- b) What did the man request from the innkeeper upon his arrival? (2)
- c) How does the man establish his authority and presence at the inn? (3)
- d) Suggest a suitable title for the passage. Provide a justification for your chosen title. (1+2)

### Group-C

- 3. Fill up with appropriate articles and prepositions as necessary: [5×1]
  - a) He gave me \_\_\_ piece of advice that changed my life.
  - b) She is married \_\_\_ a doctor.
  - c) They have been living here \_\_\_ 2015.
  - d) We are looking forward \_\_\_ the trip.
  - e) This is \_\_\_ most delicious cake I have ever had.
  
- 4. Transform the following sentences as directed in the brackets: [5×1]
  - a) He worked hard, but he failed. (Simple sentence)
  - b) He confessed his guilt. (Complex sentence)
  - c) When she heard the news, she fainted. (Simple sentence)
  - d) He worked hard to pass the exam. (Compound sentence)
  - e) I was busy, so I couldn’t attend the meeting. (Complex sentence)