

THE UNIVERSITY OF BURDWAN
B.A. Part-III (General) Examination, 2020

Subject: English

Paper: IV

Time: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 50

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Candidates are to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

(NEW SYLLABUS)

1. Answer **any three** of the following questions: 3X10=30

- a. Discuss Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities* as a historical novel.
- b. Is it fair to call *A Farewell to Arms* an antiwar novel? Discuss.
- c. What are the greatest challenges to good communication? Discuss.
- d. The other day you bought a pair of the best quality shoes from a renowned store. But after a week, the shoes developed cracks in the sole. Write a letter to the Sales Manager, asking for replacement of the shoes or the refund of the price paid.
- e. A super speciality hospital was inaugurated in your town by the Health Minister. As a reporter of a renowned English newspaper, write a brief report on the inauguration of the hospital.

2. Answer **any four** of the following questions: 4X5=20

- a. Why was the North Tower jail 'infamous'?
- b. Is Catherine truly in love with Henry in *A Farewell to Arms*? Discuss.
- c. Write a short note on communication tools.
- d. As the Principal of a college, draft a notice informing students about the provision for online classes made by the college due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- e. As the CEO of a big corporate house, write a circular to inform employees about the revised working hours of the company.
- f. As the branch manager of a bank, write a memo to all employees of your bank stating that carrying identity cards to the workplace is compulsory.

Or

Prepare a file note on a meeting of the Cultural Committee of your college held to plan the annual cultural programme.

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(OLD SYLLABUS)

1. Answer **any three** of the following questions: 3X10=30

(a) Grandparents are a source of joy to us. Narrate the most memorable experience you have had with your grandparents.

(b) Courage does not mean the absence of fear, but implies an attempt to conquer fear. Describe some of your worst fears and how you managed to overcome them.

(c) Write a brief essay on *any one* of the following topics:

(i) My favourite author (ii) Working from home during lockdown (iii) Environmental pollution

(d) You are interested in pursuing a course in journalism. Write a letter to a renowned institute of journalism, seeking information about suitable courses, eligibility, fee structure and placement opportunities.

(e) Write a letter to your friend describing your experience of attending online classes during the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown.

2. Answer **any four** of the following questions: 4X5=20

(a) An NGO organized a free Covid test camp in a slum close to your neighbourhood. You visited the camp. Write a report on the arrangements made for the occasion by the NGO.

(b) You are a reporter of an English newspaper. You witnessed a quarrel among a group of boys outside a college gate over some minor issue. Write a report for your newspaper, giving an account of the quarrel.

(c) You are being interviewed for the job of a teacher in a school. Write a dialogue between you and the Principal of the school at the time of the interview.

(d) Frame a dialogue between a doctor and his patient on following health and safety guidelines for preventing the spread of COVID-19 and keeping the country healthy.

(e) Correct the errors in the following passage:

Teaching is the noblest of profession. A teacher has a sacred duty to perform. It is he on whom rest the responsibility of moulding the characters of young children. Apart from developing their intellect, he can inculcate upon them qualities of good citizenship. Only he who himself leads a life of simplicity, purity and discipline can successfully cultivate these habits over his pupils. Beside, a teacher usually remains young in spirit. Perpetual contact with young people keeps him happy and cheerful.

(f) Make a precis of the following passage and give an appropriate title to it:

Speech is a great blessing but it can also be a great curse, for while it helps us to make our intentions and desires known to our fellows, it can also, if we use it carelessly, make our attitude completely misunderstood. A slip of tongue, the use of an unusual word, or an ambiguous word, and so on, may create an enemy where we had hoped to win a friend. Again different classes of people use different vocabularies, and the ordinary speech of an educated man may strike an uneducated listener as showing pride; unwittingly we may use a word which bears a different meaning to our listener from what it does to men of our own class. Thus, speech is not a gift to use lightly without thought, but one which demands careful handling; only a fool will express himself alike to all kinds and conditions of men.
