

SSC Previous Question Paper - 2008

English Paper - II

Time : 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ Hours]

PARTS A & B

[Max. Marks : 50

Instructions :

1. Answer the questions under **Part A** on a separate answer book.
2. Write the answers to the questions under **Part B** on the question paper itself.
3. Start answering the questions as you read them.

Time : 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ Hours]

PART - A

[Marks : 30

[1 - 10] Answer ANY FIVE of the following questions. Each answer must be in one or two sentences. 5 × 1 = 5

1. What kind of man was Shylock ? Why did Shylock and Antonio hate each other ?
2. Who was Jessica ? Why was she unhappy ?
3. Who, in Nerissa's opinion was the most suitable husband for Portia ?
4. Why was Shylock against Jessica marrying Lorenzo ?
5. What did Antonio write in his letter to Bassanio ?
6. What work did Portia give Balthazar ?
7. What did Portia ask Shylock to do "according to the law of Venice" ?
8. Why did Bassanio try to tell Portia that he had given away the ring to the lawyer ?
9. What appeal did the Duke make to Shylock ? What was Shylock's reply ?
10. Why did many princes and noblemen want to marry Portia ?

11. Read the following passage carefully.

A famous actor in a highly successful play once played the role of an aristocrat who had been imprisoned for twenty years. In the last act of the play, a jailor would come on to the stage with a letter which he would give the prisoner. Even though the prisoner was expected to read the letter at each performance, he always insisted that it should be written out in full.

Now answer the following questions.

5 × 1 = 5

- a) What role did the famous actor play ?
- b) Who was imprisoned ?
- c) Who would bring the letter on to the stage ?
- d) What was expected from the prisoner ?
- e) What did the prisoner-actor insist on ?

12. Write a story using the hints given below in about 200 words. Divide it into three or four paragraphs. 10

A) An ant - afraid of men - wished to be strong and big like a cat - saw a dog chasing cat - wished to be a dog - saw a boy throwing stones at the dog - thought - better to remain an ant - no one would notice it.

OR

B) A king very fond of stories - man who tells a story that never ends - to marry his daughter - a handsome young man begins his story - "a little ant - nothing to eat - sees a big building - decides to take some rice from it - crawls inside - carries a grain of rice on back - crawls home" - the young man goes on about little ant - king understand - marries off his daughter to him.

13. Write a letter to your friend in Chennai, who wants to visit you in February. Tell him that you are preparing for examinations and ask him to visit you in April. 10

OR

You sent a registered letter to your uncle, twenty days ago. But he has not received it so far. Write a letter to the local Post-Master complaining about this.

Time : 1 Hour]

PART - B

[Marks : 20

Note : Write the answers to the questions in this part on the question paper itself.

Instructions :

- Use CAPITAL LETTERS while answering the multiple choice questions.
- Marks will not be awarded, if there is any over-writing or rewriting.

14. Read the following passage carefully.

The police saw at once how finger-prints could help them. They began to keep records of the finger-prints of people who were known to be criminals.

When the police want to find out whether a suspect has committed other crimes before, they take his finger-prints and compare them with those they have. With so many prints on record, it would seem very hard to check, but an expert can usually find out in a few minutes.

Now answer the following questions in a word or a phrase each.

5 × 1 = 5

- A) Who wanted to use the finger-prints ?
Ans.
- B) What did the police keep ?
Ans.
- C) How did the police find out whether a suspect committed other crimes before ?
Ans.
- D) Who can check the finger-prints easily ?
Ans.
- E) One word in the passage means murderers or burglars. What is that word ?
Ans.

15. Read the following passage carefully.

Each year a ring of new wood cells is added to the trunk. The earliest wood cells become pressed together so tightly that they die. These form the hardest wood in a tree's trunk known as the 'heart wood'. Like this, each year the trunk of a tree gets a new ring of wood cells. So, by counting the rings, you can tell the age of a tree.

There are Bristlecone pines in California and Arizona in the U.S., in which scientists have counted more than 3,500 rings. These are the oldest living trees known. When Columbus landed in America in 1492, these trees were already more than 3,000 years old.

Now answer the following questions.

- a) Each of the following questions has four choices. Tick (✓) the right answer. 4 × 1 = 4

1. You can tell the age of a tree :

- A) by looking at the trunk of the tree. () B) by counting rings in the trunk of the tree. ()
C) by counting the leaves of the tree. () D) by counting the branches of a tree. ()

2. The 'heart wood' is :

- A) on the outside of the trunk. () B) the hardest wood in the trunk. ()
C) at the bottom of the tree. () D) on the bark of the tree. ()

fell him
10

it

ks : 20

the finger-

ey take his
ould seem

x 1 = 5

ome pressed
as the heart
ng the rings,

ave counted
n America in

4 x 1 = 4

the tree. ()
tree. ()

()
()

3. Some Bristlecone plants in the U.S. :

- A) are more than 3,500 years old. ()
- B) are about than 3,000 years old. ()
- C) are less than 3,000 years old. ()
- D) are more than 4,000 years old. ()

4. The oldest living trees are

- A) in India ()
- B) in Russia ()
- C) in U.S. ()
- D) in U.K. ()

b) Given below are SIX statements. Three of them are TRUE according to the passage. Find the TRUE statements and write (T) against them in the brackets. 3 x 1 = 3

- 1) Each year the trunk of a tree gets a new ring of wood cells. ()
- 2) The 'heart wood' is seen only in very old trees. ()
- 3) 'Heart wood' is made of dead cells. ()
- 4) The oldest living trees are more than 3,500 years old. ()
- 5) Columbus reached America 3,000 years ago. ()
- 6) California and Arizona are in Russia. ()

16. Read the following passage carefully.

The Earth rotates around itself and also revolves round the Sun. To rotate itself, it takes one day and to revolve round the Sun it takes 365.25 days. The Moon is very near to the Earth. It revolves round the Sun in a zig-zag way. The Earth revolves round the Sun in an elliptic orbit. The Earth's orbit around the Sun is not always the same. When the Moon is in between the Earth and the Sun, that shadow of the Moon falls on the Earth. People living in this shadow on Earth cannot see the Sun. This is called the eclipse of the Sun or Solar Eclipse. When the Sun, the Earth and the Moon come in the straight line, full eclipse of the Moon occurs. The Solar Eclipse occurs on a new Moon day and the Lunar Eclipse occurs on a full Moon day. But Eclipses do not occur on every new Moon and full Moon days.

Now answer the following questions.

2 x 1 = 2

a) What are the two eclipses referred to in the passage ?

- i)
- ii)

b) There are FIVE words in List A. The meanings of four of them are given in List B. Choose the right word from List A to match the meaning in List B and write it in the space provided against each meaning. 4 x 1/2 = 2

List A : elliptic, orbit, revolve, solar, zig-zag

- List B :
- i) path followed by a planet
 - ii) move round something
 - iii) related to the Sun
 - iv) oval in shape

c) Complete the following sentences using a word or a phrase each.

2 x 1/2 = 1

- i) The Earth revolves round the
- ii) The Earth takes to rotate around itself.

d) The Earth has two kinds of motions. What are they ?

2 x 1 = 2

- i)
- ii)

e) Answer the following in a word or a phrase each.

2 x 1/2 = 1

- i) When does the Solar Eclipse occur ?
.....
- ii) How does the Earth revolve round the Sun ?
.....

