

2024

(Ability Enhancement Course)

Paper : AEC0100402

(Alternative English—I)

Full Marks : 30

Time : 1½ hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

1. Answer the following questions : 1×5=5

- (a) What does the figure of the witch symbolize in the poem, *So Many Oaks*?
- (b) Where was the narrator's grandmother's farm located in the story, *The Ring*?
- (c) What does the word 'gaily' suggest about the palanquin bearers' attitude?



(2)

- (d) In which verse collection is the poem, *This Is a Photograph of Me* included?
- (e) What was the Hindi song that Prafulla intended to sing in *Audition*?

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

2×5=10

- (a) What is the effect of water on the light in *This Is a Photograph of Me*?
- (b) State the reason why human beings are called blind and deaf in the poem, *So Many Oaks*.
- (c) Who is the subject of *No Second Troy*, and what does the classical allusion mean?
- (d) How did the grandmother feel after finding her ring in the short story, *The Ring*?
- (e) Why did Prafulla, in the story, *Audition*, vow that he would never sing again in his life?

(3)

- (f) How does Sarojini Naidu use simile and metaphor in *Palanquin Bearers*? Provide one example of each.
- (g) What is the colour worn by the speaker in the poem, *So Many Oaks*, and why does she wear it?
- (h) Where was the first child of Uncle Con and Aunt Annie at the time of the story's narration in *The Ring*?
- (i) How does Dipak plan to help his friend Prafulla in the story, *Audition*?
- (j) Where did the narrator pick up the 'jockey's crop' in the story, *The Ring*?

3. Answer any *three* of the following questions :

5×3=15

- (a) Discuss the poet's feelings of admiration and frustration as they appear in *No Second Troy*.
- (b) Comment on the significance of the title, *Audition*.

- (c) Assess the significance of different colours referred to in *So Many Oaks*.
- (d) How do the palanquin bearers convey a sense of collective responsibility in *Palanquin Bearers*?
- (e) State your views on the image of the speaker's self in *This Is a Photograph of Me*.
- (f) Comment on the grandmother's strength and composure as depicted in the short story, *The Ring*.

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