

Bs/Bca/Bba/ENG-205

2025

(2nd Semester)

ENGLISH

Paper : ENG (Bsc/Bca/Bba)-205

**(Short Stories, Drama, Grammar and
Language Skills)**

Full Marks : 70

Pass Marks : 45%

Time : 3 hours

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

UNIT—I

(Short Stories)

1. Describe in detail the gradual character development of the thief in *The Thief*. 10

Or

Do you think Achebe's *Marriage is a Private Affair* is an appropriate title for the story? Give your reasons.

Or

Determination and hard work is the key to success. How far is this justified in the life of Albert Edward Foreman in the story, *The Verger*?

2. Answer any *two* of the following questions in 1 or 2 sentence(s) each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- (a) How did Albert Edward Foreman's wife react when she learned of her husband's decision to become a tobacconist?
- (b) Briefly describe the physical appearance of Arun.
- (c) Bring out one instance which shows the superstitious attitude of village folks in the short story, *Marriage is a Private Affair*.

UNIT—II

(Drama)

3. "Love and charity triumphs over evil." In the light of this statement, explain how the beast inside the convict is finally defeated in the play, *The Bishop's Candlesticks*. 10

Or

Discuss *Refund* as a farce.

4. Answer any *two* of the following questions in 1 or 2 sentence(s) each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- (a) To whom were the silver salt cellars sold and why?

- (b) What was the absurd demand of Wasserkopf?
- (c) Briefly describe the character of Persome.

UNIT—III

(Grammar)

5. Use the following pairs of words to make sentences of your own : $1 \times 4 = 4$

- (a) Reign—Rein
- (b) Coarse—Course
- (c) Quiet—Quite
- (d) Eligible—Illegible

6. Make sentences with the following idioms : $1 \times 4 = 4$

- (a) Bird's-eye view
- (b) At the eleventh hour
- (c) Nip in the bud
- (d) Through thick and thin

7. Fill in the blanks using the correct tense : $\frac{1}{2} \times 4 = 2$

- (a) She _____ the gown in the wardrobe.
(hang, hung, hanged)
- (b) They _____ the trees quite thoughtlessly.
(fell, felled, filled)

(Turn Over)

(c) A chemist _____ medicines.
(sell, sells, sold)

(d) My father _____ the house early in the morning.
(leave, left, leaves)

8. Fill in the blanks with appropriate modals :
 $\frac{1}{2} \times 4 = 2$

(a) They _____ attend tomorrow's meeting.

(b) _____ you open the door, please?

(c) Your purse _____ be in your bag.

(d) You _____ try to reduce your weight.

9. Choose the correct option given within brackets to fill in the blanks :
 $\frac{1}{2} \times 4 = 2$

(a) We sat _____ the window and talked.
(besides, beside)

(b) The accused was released on _____.
(pail, bail)

(c) The doctor prescribed three _____ of the medicine daily.
(doses, dozes)

(d) Children should always wear _____.
(lose, loose)

UNIT—IV

(Language Skills)

10. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

In youth, we are impatient of those who are indifferent to our own tastes. As a boy, I could scarcely help feeling hostile to any one who was indifferent to the things about which I was enthusiastic in politics and literature. I could lose my temper easily in an argument about Stevenson and Kipling. Even my favourite seaside resort was a sacred place, and those who cared nothing for it I regarded as, at best, fools. Many food-lovers, I believe, continue throughout life to feel a similar abhorrence of those who are indifferent to food. The gourmet who, having prepared a perfect meal for his guest, finds that the man is suffering from indigestion and is unable to touch his choicest dishes, seethes inwardly with hatred. I have met a host of this kind. Before the third course arrived, he asked me, "Do you like duck?" Seeing how the land lay, I pretended to a somewhat exaggerated passion, for duck. "I'm glad to hear it," he said and added in a tone of profound sincerity, "I hate a man that doesn't love duck." Music I might have been

indifferent to, or poetry or the world state, or even the flowers in his beautiful garden, and he would have forgiven me. But I had to be careful about duck.

I myself have lost most of my resentment at other people's indifference. I have friends who are indifferent to birds, others who are indifferent to the sea, others who are indifferent to the country in which they were born and who take no more interest in it than in any other country. I know likeable men who are indifferent to cats, and others who are indifferent to everything sold in a bottle except medicine. How lovable Arnold Bennett was and yet he was indifferent to Dickens! The truth is, there is not enough room in the human spirit to like everything, if we are to like anything very much.

- (a) How did the author reacted as a young boy when he encountered people who were indifferent to his taste? 2
- (b) What do you understand by the word indifference? 2
- (c) Who is a gourmet? 1
- (d) How will a gourmet react towards someone who is unable to touch his choicest dishes? 2

- (e) Give the meaning of the following words : 1×2=2

(i) Abhorrence

(ii) Seethes

- (f) Bring out one incident from the passage where the author's cleverness is in display. 2
- (g) Does the author resent indifferent people throughout his life? Give a brief reasoned answer. 3

UNIT—V

(Précis Writing)

11. Write a précis of the following passage : 14

The man who is perpetually hesitating which of the two things he will do first, will do neither. The man who resolves, but suffers his resolution to be changed by the first counter-suggestions of a friend—who fluctuates from opinion to opinion, from plan to plan, and veers like a weather-cock to every point of the compass, with every breath of caprice that blows—can never accomplish any thing great or useful. Instead of being progressive in any thing, he will be at best stationary, and more probably retrograde in all. It is only the man who first consults wisely, then resolves firmly, and then

executes his purpose with flexible perseverance, undismayed by those petty difficulties which daunts a weaker spirit, that can advance to eminence in any line. Take your course wisely, but firmly and having taken it, hold upon it with heroic resolution, and the Alps and Pyrenees will sink before you.
