

B.A./ B.Sc./ B.S.W./B.V.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2015
THIRD SEMESTER

COURSE : FOUNDATION CORE
PAPER : ENGLISH CORE – III
TIME : 3 HOURS

MAX. MARKS: 100

I. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: (15 marks)

KIRAN: I should have hated him. Like I hated my father, my brothers and my husband. But all I felt for him was pity.

HASMUKH: Enough! I say, enough! I paid you to do my work. Not ridicule me!

KIRAN: Even his attempts at ruling over you after his death, through his will are pathetic. (*Hasmukh sticks his fingers into his ears and shuts his eyes.*) The only reason he wanted to do that is because his father had ruled over his family. All his life he was merely being a good boy to his father.

SONAL: How little I knew him. If I had understood him when he was alive, I would have died laughing.

HASMUKH: (*slapping his ears and shutting his eyes even tighter.*) I can still hear them! I can still hear and see these women!

KIRAN: Thank God, Ajit has escaped.

SONAL: Escaped?

KIRAN: He may not be the greatest rebel on earth, but at least he is free of his father's beliefs. He resists. In a small way, but at least it's a start. That is enough to prove that Ajit has won and Hasmukh has lost.

1. Why does Kiran feel pity for Hasmukh? (4 marks)

2. How according to Kiran has Ajit won and Hasmukh lost? (4 marks)

3. How does Sonal react to Kiran calling Hasmukh "pathetic"? (3 marks)

3. Frame sentences with any **four** of the following: (4 marks)

pathetic enough merely resist start prove ridicule

II. Read the following excerpt and answer the questions given below: (15 marks)

What needs to be done?

Fill out the application

enclose the résumé.

Regardless of the length of life,

a resume is best kept short.

Concise, well-chosen facts are de rigueur.

Landscapes are replaced by addresses,

shaky memories give way to unshakeable dates.

Of all your loves, mention only the marriage;

of all your children, only those who were born.

Who knows you matters more than whom you know.

Trips only if taken abroad.

Memberships in what but without why.

Honors, but not how they were earned.

1) What are some of the “well-chosen facts” found in a résumé? (4 marks)

2) Why is a résumé not the complete record of a person’s life? (4 marks)

3) What according to the poet should be the length of the résumé? (3 marks)

4) Make sentences of your own using any **four** of the following. (4 marks)

enclose application replace mention earn honors concise

III. Answer any TWO of the following in about two paragraphs (125-150 words): (2 x 10 = 20 marks)

- 1) Attempt a character sketch of Preeti.
- 2) What is Szymborska’s opinion about the usefulness of a résumé?
- 3) How does Dhasal describe Delhi in 1985?
- 4) Describe Hasmukh’s relationship with his son.

IV. Answer any ONE of the following in about 250 words. (1 x 15 = 15 marks)

1. My Favourite Toy as a Child.
2. Online Shopping.
3. Superstitious Beliefs.

V. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate tense forms of the verbs given in brackets: (10 marks)

Last Sunday Jim and Jane ----- (drive) to the countryside to visit their friends when they realised they needed to stop for petrol. Jim was filling petrol when he----- (see) a polar bear standing by a pump. He ----- (think) it was very strange and when he went to the cashier to pay, he asked, "Why is there a polar bear standing next to the pump?" The cashier replied, "I don't know. It ----- (be) there all morning." Jim said, "Well, we can't leave it there, it's too dangerous. Polar bears ----- (be) gentle creatures. He might have an accident. What should I do?"

The cashier suggested, "You should take it to the zoo." "That's a good idea," Jim said. "I ----- (take) him now." So they put the polar bear in the car and ----- (drive) away. One week later, they ----- (return) to the same garage to fill petrol and the polar bear was still in the car. When the man went to pay, the cashier said to him, "I thought you ----- (take) the polar bear to the zoo." The man replied, "We did. It had a really good time so tonight, we ----- (take) him to a fish restaurant."

VI. Change the following sentences into indirect speech: (5 marks)

1. Raj said, "I am unwell today."
2. "Bring me a glass of milk," said the swami to the villagers.
3. "Sit down, girls," said the teacher.
4. "Hurry up," Bluebeard said to his wife, "do not waste time."
5. Alice said, "How clever I am!"

VII. Read the passage given below and answer the following questions: (20 marks)

It's not news that reading has countless benefits: Poetry stimulates parts of the brain linked to memory and sparks self-reflection; kids who read the Harry Potter books tend to be better people. But what about people who only read newspapers? Or people who scan Twitter all day? Are those readers' brains different from literary junkies who peruse the pages of 19th century fictional classics? The answer is: Yes — reading enhances connectivity in the brain. But readers of fiction? They're a special breed.

A 2013 Emory University study looked at the brains of fiction readers. Researchers compared the brains of people after they read to the brains of people who didn't read. The brains of the readers — they read Robert Harris' Pompeii over a nine-day period at night — showed more activity in certain areas than those who didn't read. Specifically, researchers found heightened connectivity in the left temporal cortex, part of the brain typically associated with understanding language. The researchers also found increased

connectivity in the central sulcus of the brain, the primary sensory region, which helps the brain visualise movement. When you visualise yourself scoring a touchdown while playing football, you can actually somewhat feel yourself in the action. A similar process happens when you envision yourself as a character in a book, you can take on the emotions they are feeling.

It may sound crazy, but it's true! Fiction readers make great friends as they tend to be more aware of others' emotions. This is further apparent in a 2013 study that investigated emotional transportation, which is how sensitive people are to others' feelings. Researchers calculated emotional transportation by having participants express how a story they read affected them emotionally on a five-point scale — for example, how the main character's success made them feel, and how sorry they felt for the characters.

In the study, empathy was only apparent in the groups of people who read fiction and who were emotionally transported. Meanwhile, those who were not transported demonstrated a decrease in empathy. Need more proof? Psychologists David Comer Kidd and Emanuele Castano at the New School for Social Research focused on the effect of literary fiction, rather than popular fiction, on readers. For the experiment, participants either read a piece of literary fiction or popular fiction, followed by identifying facial emotions solely through the eyes. Those who read literary fiction scored consistently higher, by about 10%. "We believe that one critical difference between literary and popular fiction is the extent to which the characters are complex, ambiguous, difficult to get to know, etc. versus stereotyped, simple," Castano says. Literary fiction enhanced participants' empathy because they had to work harder at fleshing out the characters. The process of trying to understand what those characters are feeling and the motives behind them is the same in our relationships with other people. Kidd argues that applying the skills we use when reading critically to the real world makes sense because "the same psychological processes are used to navigate fiction and real relationships. Fiction is not just a simulator of a social experience, it is a social experience."

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| 1. | What are the benefits of reading listed in this passage? | 4 marks |
| 2. | How are the brains of fiction readers different? | 4 marks |
| 3. | What is emotional transportation? | 4 marks |
| 4. | What difference did the researchers find between the readers of literary fiction and the readers of popular fiction? | 3 marks |
| 5. | Summarise the above passage. | 5 marks |
