

**ISC SEMESTER 1 EXAMINATION
SPECIMEN QUESTION PAPER
ELECTIVE ENGLISH**

Maximum Marks: 80

Time allowed: One and a half hours

(Candidates are allowed additional 15 minutes for only reading the paper.)

Attempt a total of five questions from three of the prescribed textbooks. Do not attempt extra questions.

The marks intended for questions are given in brackets [].

Select the correct option for each of the following questions.

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD – Harper Lee

Question 1

[16]

Choose the most appropriate option from among those given for each question or statement.

1. When Miss Maudie's house catches fire,

- (a) Mr Avery cannot use the stairs, which are on fire, so he tries to slither up a pillar but falls in the shrubbery. Nevertheless, he manages to clamber up, swing his legs over the railings of the window, and save a mattress and furniture, which he throws out of the window.
- (b) Mr Avery first throws the mattress and the furniture out of the window, tries to climb out of the window but gets wedged, wriggles, slides down a pillar, and then slips and falls into the shrubbery.
- (c) Mr Avery throws the mattress and the furniture out of the window, coughs in the smoke, wriggles out of the window and tries to jump the last few feet only to slip and fall into the shrubbery.

2. Miss Caroline Fisher,

- (a) twenty-one years old, was the youngest daughter of the Fisher family in Maycomb and looked like a peppermint drop.
- (b) twenty-one years old, looked and smelled like a peppermint drop, and thought Scout was a promising child.
- (c) with her bright auburn hair, pink cheeks and crimson nail polish, was twenty-one years old and looked and smelled like a peppermint drop.

3. Eula May was
 - (a) Dr Reynold's assistant
 - (b) Maycomb's telephone operator
 - (c) Scout's teacher

4. Atticus saved Miss Maudie's rocking chair from the fire because
 - (a) it was heavy and nobody else could carry it.
 - (b) it was what she valued most.
 - (c) it belonged to her father.

5. Which aspect of Miss Maudie's character is evident from the fire incident?
 - (a) She is kind and has a sense of humour.
 - (b) She is courageous and optimistic.
 - (c) She is generous and charitable.

6. The name of Uncle Jack's cat was
 - (a) Rose Alymer
 - (b) Rose Amyler
 - (c) Rose Aylmer

7. Why did Scout and Jem have mixed feelings about Christmas?
 - (a) They enjoyed Uncle Jack's visit but hated visiting Aunt Alexandra.
 - (b) They liked receiving presents but did not know whether they would like them.
 - (c) Calpurnia would be gone for a holiday and they would miss her.

8. What did Jem and Scout get to know about Atticus from Miss Maudie?
 - (a) He was nicknamed One Shot Finch.
 - (b) He was the deadest shot in Maycomb County.
 - (c) Both a. and b.

9. The main reason Atticus gave for his decision to defend Tom Robinson was
 - (a) there was no one else to defend Tom Robinson.
 - (b) Judge Taylor had asked him to defend Tom Robinson.
 - (c) he would not be able to hold his head up in town if he did not.

10. It is a sin to kill a Mockingbird
 - (a) because Atticus had said so.
 - (b) because it does not cause any harm.
 - (c) because it is a creature of nature.

11. The experience at Mrs Dubose's house is significant in the novel because
 - (a) Even in death, Mrs Dubose taught Jem a valuable lesson, a reminder of which was the camellia.
 - (b) Mrs Dubose wanted to trouble the children in the last few months she had to live.
 - (c) Atticus wanted to put a stop to their obsession with Boo Radley by engaging them in a reading activity.

12. Jem angrily destroyed Mrs Dubose's flowers when she
- (a) abused Cecil for steering clear of her property.
 - (b) said nasty things about her little helper.
 - (c) insulted Atticus over the case he had chosen to fight.
13. 'Atticus was sitting propped against the front door.' This statement refers to Atticus sitting
- (a) on his front porch.
 - (b) in front of Maycomb County Jail.
 - (c) in his office.
14. The visit to the First Purchase African M.E. church is significant because it helps Scout realise that
- (a) the black people go to church on Sundays.
 - (b) Zeebo is illiterate and needs to be educated.
 - (c) Calpurnia is like a bridge between the white and the black communities.
15. Boo is one of the mockingbirds of the novel because
- (a) he has horrible stories made up about him.
 - (b) he is harmless and innocent but his life is corrupted by those around him.
 - (c) he stays in the darkened Radley Place just as mockingbirds stay in their nests.
16. filled the knot hole in the tree with cement, saying it was
- (a) Nathan Radley, dying
 - (b) Nathan Radley, dangerous
 - (c) Radley Senior, his property

Question 2

[16]

Read the extract that follows and choose the most appropriate option for each question or statement that follows.

We strolled silently down the sidewalk, listening to porch swings creaking with the weight of the neighbourhood, listening to the soft-night murmurs of the grown people on our street. Occasionally we heard Miss Stephanie Crawford laugh.

"Well?" said Dill.

"Okay," said Jem. "Why don't you go on home, Scout?"

"What are you gonna do?"

1. What are Jem and Dill planning to do?
- (a) They were planning to play strip poker by Miss Rachel's fish pool.
 - (b) They were planning to peep in through the window with the loose shutter to see if they could get a look at Boo Radley.
 - (c) They wanted to watch Mr. Avery sneezing while sitting on his porch.

2. Why did they choose night time for their activity?
 - (a) They chose night because Atticus would be fast asleep.
 - (b) They chose night because Calpurnia did not stay in the house at night.
 - (c) They chose night because nobody could see them at night.
3. Why did Scout agree to accompany them?
 - (a) Jem said she was getting more like a girl every day.
 - (b) Scout was afraid to be left alone at night.
 - (c) She wanted to spend more time with Dill because he was going away.
4. “We thought it was better to go under the high wire fence”—which fence is being referred to here?
 - (a) the fence at the rear of Miss Rachel’s house, near the fish pond.
 - (b) the fence bordering Mr. Avery’s house.
 - (c) the fence at the rear of the Radley lot.
5. “Don’t get in a row of----- whatever you do, they’ll wake the-----.”
 - (a) collards; dead.
 - (b) scuppernongs; people
 - (c) chinaberries; sleeping
6. How did they stop the gate from squeaking?
 - (a) They poured oil on the hinges.
 - (b) They spat on the hinges.
 - (c) They pushed the gate gently inward.
7. What did Dill see through the widow when he was lifted up by Jem and Scout?
 - (a) a dark room.
 - (b) curtains.
 - (c) candles burning.
8. What happened when Jem put his weight by degrees on the bottom step?
 - (a) The step squeaked.
 - (b) The step was silent.
 - (c) The step cracked.
9. Who saw the shadow first?
 - (a) Jem
 - (b) Dill
 - (c) Scout
10. It was the shadow of-----
 - (a) a man with a gun.
 - (b) a man with a hat on.
 - (c) a tree moving in the wind.

11. What did they hear when they ran through the rows of swishing vegetables?
- (a) The roar of a shotgun.
 - (b) The sound of a bullet whistling past them.
 - (c) The roar of a rifle.
12. Why was Jem not with Scout and Dill when they escaped?
- (a) He was too big to squeeze under the wire.
 - (b) His pants had got caught in the wire.
 - (c) Jem had lost his pants and did not want to leave them behind.
13. What was the reason for the commotion in the neighbourhood?
- (a) The children had been found missing from their beds.
 - (b) Miss Stephanie had seen Boo Radley looking at her through her window.
 - (c) Mr. Nathan had shot at a Negro in his collard patch.
14. In what condition did Jem find his breeches when he went back to retrieve them?
- (a) They were all tangled up and hanging on the wire.
 - (b) They had been folded neatly and put across the fence.
 - (c) They had been sewed up in a crooked manner.
15. What does Jem realise from this incident?
- (a) That somebody knew he was coming back for his breeches.
 - (b) That somebody could tell what he was going to do because they knew him well.
 - (c) That somebody wanted him to give him back his mended breeches.
16. Which is the most important point about this incident which makes it significant to the plot of the novel?
- (a) It is an example of the children's attempt to see Boo Radley.
 - (b) It brings out the harsh nature of Nathan Radley.
 - (c) It is an evidence of Jem's gradual maturing.

THE HUNGRY TIDE: *Amitav Ghosh*

Question 3

[16]

Choose the most appropriate option from among those given for each question or statement.

1. When Piya is on the train to Canning
- (a) A man expresses his puzzlement at her destination and jogs her hand to spill tea all over himself, so she decides to shift to a seat near the window after offering him a handful of tissues.
 - (b) Piya finds a seat near a window, says 'Wow!' in unfeigned admiration at the linguistic skills of the man opposite her but spills tea on being startled at the man's comment on her choice of destination, and finally offers him a handful of tissues.

- (c) Piya offers the man in the seat opposite her a handful of tissue, forbears from reminding him that he jogged her hand, expresses admiration with an unfeigned ‘Wow!’, and then the man expresses his puzzlement at her destination.
2. From the very opening of the novel, we get the impression that Kanai
- (a) was self-assured, certain of his ability to handle most circumstances, exuded urban prosperity and affluence, and prided himself on being able to size women up.
 - (b) had close-cropped hair and looked like a teenage boy; he was discreet and hated overhearing other people’s conversation though he had a fine knowledge of language.
 - (c) was immensely proud of his ability to size women up and his urban affluence as well as his teenage-boy looks.
3. Kanai was unmarried
- (a) but had had liaisons with several women on and off.
 - (b) but was committed to a well-known Odissi dancer.
 - (c) and, despite his interest in women, lived a solitary and celibate life.
4. Nirmal had died in
- (a) Canning, a couple of years after Kanai met him at a bookshop.
 - (b) Calcutta, shortly after the encounter at the bookshop.
 - (c) Lusibari, two years after the encounter at the bookshop.
5. Nilima believed that in his last days, Nirmal was
- (a) relocated to the resettlement camp in central India with the refugees.
 - (b) imprisoned and made to confess in writing to crimes he did not commit.
 - (c) put on to a bus, sent off, but let off somewhere by someone who recognised him.
6. Nirmal had bought a copy of
- (a) Duino Elegies translated by Rainer Maria Rilke.
 - (b) Duino Elegies translated by Buddhadeb Basu.
 - (c) Dino Elegies translated by Buddhadeb Basu.
7. Horen was
- (a) a fisherman who lived in Satjelia.
 - (b) a fisherman who lived in Canning.
 - (c) owner of a boat in Lusibari.
8. The name of the school in Lusibari was
- (a) Lord Canning High School.
 - (b) Sir Daniel Hamilton High School.
 - (c) BabadonTrust High School.
9. S’Daniel’s dream of a “new kind of country” was
- (a) idealistic.
 - (b) bound to come true.
 - (c) cynical.

10. Fokir's contribution to Piya's project is best described as
- (a) providential, as without his rescue Piya would not have survived to continue the project.
 - (b) timely and significant, considering his vast, intuitive knowledge of the natural world.
 - (c) limited, since he knew no English and Piya and he could not converse.
11. In the notebook that Kanai found in Nirmal's study, Kanai read his uncle's words that spoke of
- (a) writing from Kusum's thatch-roof hut without any light, hence his writing, in both Bangla and English, would be cramped and untidy, without the customary salutations of a letter.
 - (b) possessing nothing in the world but the notebook, a pen and Rilke's poem, which due to his illness, he had not been able to read.
 - (c) writing in a thatch-roof hut in which he was a guest and from where he could see the sun had risen from the east with the tide rising as if to meet it, and wondering what living in this kind of a hut for almost a year had meant to Kusum.
12. Nirmal had originally been from and once the events of cut him off from his family, had decided to stay on in Calcutta, where
- (a) Dhaka, Partition, he established himself as a leftist intellectual and writer.
 - (b) Dhaka, the Great War, he established himself as a leftist intellectual.
 - (c) Myanmar, Partition, he established himself as an intellectual writer.
13. Faced with the appalling situation, worse than they expected, in Lusibari when they first arrived, Nirmal and Nilima reacted:
- (a) in their own ways but with horror, asking themselves, 'What is to be done?', and contemplated returning to Calcutta.
 - (b) differently, with Nirmal delving into Lenin's pamphlets for answers he could not find and Nilima talking to the women there.
 - (c) differently, with Nirmal losing himself in his notebook and Nilima noting the borderless saris and lack of adornment.
14. Kanai first saw Kusum at
- (a) Hamilton High School.
 - (b) Satjelia fishing jetty.
 - (c) a Women's Union meeting.
15. In Lusibari, once had a providential escape from a venomous snake while attempting to fasten the mosquito net in near darkness.
- (a) Nilima
 - (b) Kusum
 - (c) Kanai
16. Horen warned Kusum against
- (a) going to Satjelia with her father.
 - (b) going to Calcutta with Dilip Choudhury.
 - (c) going to Calcutta with the troupe of actors.

Question 4

[16]

Read the extract that follows and choose the most appropriate option for each question or statement that follows.

It was from Kusum that Kanai learnt that a troupe of travelling actors was soon to come to Lusibari to stage performances of *The Glory of Bon Bibi*. He had heard mention of this story a couple of times on the island but was unsure about its particulars.

1. Kusum fervently believed in the Bon Bibi, but Nirmal dismissed the story as
 - (a) rural superstition.
 - (b) false consciousness.
 - (c) poetic fallacy.

2. During the performance, the backdrop was provided by
 - (a) a few planks of wood on a trestle.
 - (b) an open scaffolding of bamboo poles.
 - (c) sheets of suspended painted cloth.

3. Night came early to Lusibari because
 - (a) sunset is early in mangrove country.
 - (b) candles and lamps cost too much money.
 - (c) tigers prowled uncomfortably close.

4. The greatest surprise for Kanai was because
 - (a) the story began in the heavens.
 - (b) the story began in the Sunderbands rather than the heavens.
 - (c) the story began in Arabia.

5. The twins were named
 - (a) Bon Bibi and Shah Jongoli.
 - (b) Bon Bibi and Ibrahim.
 - (c) Bon Bibi and Gabriel.

6. The twins were entrusted with a divine mission to
 - (a) the country of eighteen tides.
 - (b) the country of twenty-one tides.
 - (c) the country of sixteen tides.

7. Dokkhin Rai
 - (a) controlled every animal and spirit in the forest.
 - (b) loved mankind.
 - (c) both a. and b.

8. The pact between Dokkhin Rai and Dhona
 - (a) would allow Dhona's crew to escape the island with the hives.
 - (b) would give Dhona's crew the plump hives and Dukhey.
 - (c) would give Dhona wealth in exchange for Dukhey.

9. Bon Bibi showed the world that
- (a) the demon king was not as powerful as people thought he was.
 - (b) the greedy would be punished and the righteous rewarded.
 - (c) even if the poor were abandoned by their own, they would not die.
10. Kanai found the performance
- (a) boring in comparison to what he had seen at the Academy of Fine Arts in Calcutta.
 - (b) disastrously crude because the actors were not on cue.
 - (c) utterly absorbing and moving.
11. The performance about Bon Bibi is significant because
- (a) it is real to the locals and a way to connect to their history and tradition.
 - (b) it brings out Kanai's indifference.
 - (c) it is a pageant in a colourless part of the country.
12. The faith in Bon Bibi in times of need shows
- (a) the unwillingness of the villagers to rely on modernity.
 - (b) the fear of the natural world.
 - (c) the evidence of man as an intruder in the world of nature and folklore.
13. Kusum and Kanai left the last performance of the story of Bon Bibi
- (a) together.
 - (b) separately.
 - (c) not at all; they stayed right till the end.
14. When Kusum said, "I called her too", she was referring to
- (a) when she wanted to rescue her mother from Sonargachhi.
 - (b) when she saw a *bagh* approaching them.
 - (c) when the tiger mauled her father.
15. Kusum's father had stormed out of the house
- (a) to retrieve his gamchha.
 - (b) to get firewood.
 - (c) because there was insufficient food in the house.
16. This was the last time Kanai saw Kusum before he returned to Kolkata.
- (a) True
 - (b) False.
 - (c) It has not been specified in the novel.

A DOLL'S HOUSE: *Henrik Ibsen*

Question 5

[16]

Choose the most appropriate option from among those given for each question or statement.

1. The correct sequence of actions in Act 1 of the play is
 - (a) Nora expresses her desire to say 'damn' but is interrupted by the entry of Dr Rank and later Krogstad; she then tells Torvald about Mrs Linde's search for employment.
 - (b) Dr Rank meets Mrs Linde and Nora informs Torvald that Mrs Linde is seeking employment; she tells Dr Rank that Mrs Linde had got the macaroons and expresses her desire to say 'damn'.
 - (c) Nora munches on the macaroons, thanking Mrs Linde for the gift, and is interrupted by the entry of Dr Rank; she tells Torvald about Mrs Linde.

2. In the play, Torvald comes across as
 - (a) a condescending man, quick to judge people, and with an exalted sense of the self.
 - (b) a character with an exalted sense of the self who has a great need for political approval.
 - (c) a character with an exalted sense of the self, quick to judge and decry Nora's mother for Nora's deceit.

3. Torvald argues with Nora, telling her that his increased salary is due only in
 - (a) one month.
 - (b) six months.
 - (c) three months.

4. Torvald exits to meet Dr Rank in the
 - (a) study.
 - (b) drawing room.
 - (c) front porch.

5. Earning money made Nora very tired; nonetheless, it was fun to work and earn money and made her feel almost like
 - (a) a man.
 - (b) a working mother.
 - (c) a working woman.

6. When Torvald fell ill, the family went to
 - (a) France.
 - (b) Tunisia.
 - (c) Italy.

7. When Nora speaks of her freedom to Mrs Linde, she says she will be "absolutely free" to --
 - (a) play with her children.
 - (b) to keep a clean house to Torvald's liking.
 - (c) both a. and b.

8. Nora's admiration of Mrs. Linde's patience suggests a desire for independence.
- (a) The underlined word is correct – no change required.
 - (b) The underlined word is incorrect and should be replaced by *courage*.
 - (c) The underlined word is incorrect and should be replaced by *maturity*.
9. Mrs. Linde confirms that her husband died five years ago.
- (a) The underlined word is correct – no change required.
 - (b) The underlined word is incorrect and should be replaced by *three*.
 - (c) The underlined word is incorrect and should be replaced by *two*.
10. Nora embezzled her father's money to secretly repay a loan.
- (a) The underlined words are correct – no change required.
 - (b) The underlined words are incorrect and should be replaced by *forged her father's signature for her husband's health*.
 - (c) The underlined words are incorrect and should be replaced by *forged her father's signature to secretly repay a loan*.
11. When Nora says, “When Torvald is no longer devoted to me as he is now; when my dancing and dressing up and reciting have palled on him; then it may be a good thing to have something in reserve –” she is referring to
- (a) her intention to save some money for the future.
 - (b) the lie about the loan could be preserved for the future.
 - (c) her decision never to tell Torvald about the loan.
12. Dr Rank's reference to society as a sick home symbolises the decaying values of
- (a) bourgeoisie society
 - (b) the upper class of society
 - (c) the nobility
13. Both Nora and Torvald have an affinity for
- (a) management skills
 - (b) money
 - (c) housekeeping
14. Krogstad was a widower with several children.
- (a) True
 - (b) False
 - (c) It is not specified in the play.
15. “Is that my twittering out there?”
- (a) lark
 - (b) skylark
 - (c) squirrel

16. "That's the worst thing about this kind of situation – it makes one so bitter. One has no one to work for; and yet one has to be One has to live; and so one becomes completely egocentric."

- (a) continually sponging for jobs
- (b) always grieving for family
- (c) continually begging for money

Question 6

[16]

Read the extract that follows and choose the most appropriate option for each question or statement that follows.

Nora. I didn't find it dull.

Torvald. But there was precious little result, Nora.

Nora. Oh, you shouldn't tease me about that again. How could I help the cat's going in and tearing everything to pieces?

Helmer. Of course you couldn't, poor little girl. You had the best of intentions to please us all, and that's the main thing. But it is a good thing that our hard times are over.

Nora. Yes, it is really wonderful.

Helmer. This time I needn't sit here and be dull all alone, and you needn't ruin your dear eyes and your pretty little hands---

Nora (*clapping her hands*) No, Torvald, I needn't any longer, need I? It's wonderfully lovely to hear you say so! (*Taking his arm.*) Now I will tell you how I have been thinking we ought to arrange things, Torvald. As soon as Christmas is over--(*A bell rings in the hall.*) There's the bell. (*She tidies the room a little.*) There's someone at the door. What a nuisance!

Helmer. If it is a caller, remember I am not at home.

Maid (*in the doorway*). A lady to see you, ma'am, -- a stranger.

Nora. Ask her to come in.

Maid (*to Helmer*). The doctor came at the same time, sir.

Helmer. Did he go straight into my room?

Maid. Yes, sir.

1. What does Nora refer to in her opening words in this extract?

- (a) The preparations for this Christmas
- (b) The preparations for the last Christmas
- (c) The journey to Italy

2. A major theme of the play is revealed in the explanation that Nora gives to Torvald about there being "little result." That is the theme of

- (a) money playing an important part in the play.
- (b) deception.
- (c) conjugal life.

3. What has happened that has made the couple happy?
 - (a) Torvald is hale and hearty.
 - (b) Torvald has just received a promotion.
 - (c) It is the time of Christmas

4. The word "little" is very often used by Torvald to describe Nora. This is a reference to
 - (a) Nora's intelligence
 - (b) Nora's height
 - (c) The little money that she earns

5. The lady who has just come in is
 - (a) Mrs Linde
 - (b) Krogstad's wife
 - (c) The Nurse

6. How does the lady's entry affect the Helmer household?
 - (a) It makes the Helmers' bond stronger.
 - (b) It disrupts the peace of their home.
 - (c) The Helmers grow richer.

7. The "stranger" is known to
 - (a) Nora and the Nurse
 - (b) Nora and Krogstad
 - (c) Nora and Helmer

8. The fact that the doctor went straight into Torvald's room shows that
 - (a) The doctor is at ease in the doll's house.
 - (b) He is a good friend of the Helmers.
 - (c) Both a. and b.

9. What is the cat supposed to have destroyed?
 - (a) Christmas ornaments
 - (b) macaroons
 - (c) Nora's handwritten notes

10. For how long had Nora slaved on what the cat destroyed?
 - (a) Six months
 - (b) Three weeks
 - (c) Every day, and she was still doing it.

11. Why did Torvald find the period dull?
 - (a) He did so because Nora was shut up every evening till long after midnight.
 - (b) He did so because Nora was away and he was alone.
 - (c) He did so because Nora was busy with the children, getting them ready for Christmas.

12. A major theme that is evident in the extract is
- (a) human nature.
 - (b) festivity and celebration.
 - (c) position of women in society.
13. Why has the “lady” come visiting?
- (a) She has come to wish the Helmers Merry Christmas.
 - (b) She has come hoping for employment.
 - (c) She has come with the intention of revealing a secret to Torvald.
14. After how long is Nora seeing this lady visitor?
- (a) Eight years
 - (b) Three, four years
 - (c) Nine, ten years
15. The lady enters wearing a since she arrived
- (a) travelling dress, by steamer that morning.
 - (b) a muddy cloak, on a coach that morning.
 - (c) a flouncy dress, by train that morning.
16. Nora stops her chatter to apologise for forgetting that her visitor
- (a) was cold for her hands were freezing.
 - (b) was in need for the hem of her cloak was frayed.
 - (c) had been widowed for Nora had read it in the papers.

DEATH OF A SALESMAN: *Arthur Miller*

Question 7

[16]

Choose the most appropriate option from among those given for each question or statement.

1. The conversation between Willy and Linda when Willy returns home early in the beginning of the play runs along the lines of
- (a) Willy wants Swiss cheese but Linda offers him American cheese, so he gets impatient and snaps at her that he cannot work in New York because he is “vital in New England”; Linda is unperturbed because she is happy that both her sons are in the house, shaving and going out together.
 - (b) Willy stopped a little above Yonkers for coffee but was so worked up about Biff not having found himself at the age of thirty-four that he could not drive ahead. Though he finds it annoying that Linda serves him Swiss cheese instead of American, he has no intention of leaving because he is “vital in New England”.
 - (c) Willy says he stopped a little above Yonkers for coffee and dismisses the suggestion he should work in New York since he feels he is “vital in New England”. While Linda is happy that both her sons are in the house, shaving and going out together, Willy is unhappy at Biff not having found himself at the age of thirty-four; by the end, Willy shows his impatience by snapping at Linda for serving American cheese instead of Swiss.

2. Happy Loman

- (a) is slender, exudes success and considers himself a poet too exalted to lower his ideals.
- (b) seems successful but hates having to lower his ideals; he is lonely although he has known many women.
- (c) has seduced many women and considers himself a strapping but lonely poet who hates lowering his ideals.

3. Willy refers to Linda as his

- (a) pillar and support.
- (b) foundation and support.
- (c) foundation and pillar.

4. Biff detests the idea of spending

- (a) fifty-two weeks of the year for the sake of an annual vacation.
- (b) fifty weeks of the year for the sake of the outdoors, with his shirt off.
- (c) fifty weeks of the year for the sake of a two-week vacation.

5. Happy hates that he has to take orders at office although he can

- (a) outbox, outrun, and outlift anybody in the store.
- (b) outsell, outmanage, outmanoeuvre anybody in the store.
- (c) outbox, outrun, outsell anybody in the store.

6. While talking to Happy, Biff considers borrowing money from

- (a) Howard Wagner to buy a ranch.
- (b) Bill Oliver to open a sporting goods store.
- (c) Bill Oliver to buy a ranch.

7. Willy thinks of the time he had told his young sons that he had met

- (a) the Mayor of Providence in the hotel lobby.
- (b) Uncle Charley at the poker table.
- (c) the policeman in New England.

8. Biff wonders if Bill Oliver still thought he had stolen a pen ten years ago.

- (a) The underlined words are correct – no change required.
- (b) The underlined words are incorrect and should be replaced by *timber*
- (c) The underlined words are incorrect and should be replaced by *a carton of basketballs*

9. The letter informing Willy of Ben's death in Africa reached thirty days ago.

- (a) The underlined word is correct – no change required
- (b) The underlined word is incorrect and should be replaced by *forty*
- (c) The underlined word is incorrect and should be replaced by *fourteen*

10. Willy gets angry when he sees Linda mending her stockings because of his guilt at being unable to provide for her.
- (a) The underlined words are correct – no change required.
 - (b) The underlined words are incorrect and should be replaced by *his infidelity in Boston*.
 - (c) The underlined words are incorrect and should be replaced by *speaking angrily to her when he is feeling low*.
11. Willy tells Biff to be careful about girls and not to make any promises because
- (a) girls always believe what one tells them.
 - (b) Biff is very young.
 - (c) Both a. and b.
12. What was the surprise that Willy had brought back for the boys from his trip?
- (a) A boxing glove with Mohd. Ali's signature on it.
 - (b) A punching bag with Gene Tunney's signature on it.
 - (c) A baseball cap with Bill Oliver's signature on it.
13. Ben teaches the boys
- (a) to fight fair.
 - (b) not to fight fair.
 - (c) not to fight at all.
14. At the end of Act 1, Willy tells Linda that Biff looks like a young god named
- (a) Adonis
 - (b) Perseus
 - (c) Hercules
15. Linda: How would I write to you? For you had no address.
- (a) more than four months
 - (b) over three months
 - (c) two months
16. Biff: Stop making excuses for him! He always, always
- (a) wiped the floor with you.
 - (b) dragged you down.
 - (c) treated you with no respect.

Question 8**[16]**

Read the extract that follows and choose the most appropriate option for each question or statement that follows.

Charley has appeared in the doorway. He is a large man, slow of speech, laconic, immovable. In all he says, despite what he says, there is pity, and, now, trepidation.

1. 'Laconic' implies that Charley
 - (a) speaks a lot but slowly.
 - (b) is a man of few words.
 - (c) listens carefully.

2. When Charley appears in the doorway, he is wearing
 - (a) a robe, pyjamas and slippers.
 - (b) a hat, a tie and a short-sleeved shirt.
 - (c) a night suit and a cap.

3. Charley explains his 'trepidation':
 - (a) he heard a sneeze and thought Willy was ill.
 - (b) he heard a noise and thought something untoward had happened.
 - (c) something needed to be done about the walls which were cracking with every sound.

4. Charley was awake at this hour because he
 - (a) heard a noise.
 - (b) suffered from insomnia.
 - (c) had heartburn.

5. Willy gets offended because Charley points out
 - (a) Willy cannot play cards.
 - (b) there is no connection between bones and heartburn.
 - (c) Willy is talking about something he does not know anything of.

6. Willy gets further insulted when
 - (a) Charley offers him a job.
 - (b) Charley offers him a trip to California.
 - (c) Charley criticizes the car.

7. Charley admires
 - (a) that Willy can get his nickel back despite the broken bottle.
 - (b) the ceiling Willy put up in the living room.
 - (c) the stoop Willy built.

8. Charley asks who died when Willy refers to his
- (a) father.
 - (b) brother.
 - (c) mother.
9. Charley is Willy's only friend.
- (a) True.
 - (b) False – Old Wagner was also a friend.
 - (c) False – the Mayor of New England is also a friend.
10. The confusion that Charley feels is because Willy is talking to
- (a) young Linda.
 - (b) Biff.
 - (c) Ben.
11. The card game ends
- (a) angrily.
 - (b) happily.
 - (c) clumsily when Willy knocks the cards off the table.
12. Charley offers to get five aces because
- (a) Willy claimed the build though the ace was Charley's.
 - (b) Willy did not know how to play the game.
 - (c) It was Willy's ace.
13. Willy calls Charley
- (a) disgusting and an ignoramus.
 - (b) piece of work and an ignoramus.
 - (c) disgusting and worthless.
14. Willy wants to a business
- (a) as successful as Charley's.
 - (b) like Uncle Charley's.
 - (c) bigger than Charley's
15. According to Willy, Charley is
- (a) successful but not very successful.
 - (b) liked but not well-liked.
 - (c) a friend but not the only friend.

16. Charley succeeds in achieving the American Dream through working hard and being real.

- (a) True
- (b) False
- (c) Cannot say

NINETEENTH AND TWENTIETH CENTURY VERSE – Ed. Chris Woodhead

Question 9

[16]

Choose the most appropriate option from among those given for each question or statement.

1. *At a Potato Digging* is an illustration of the devastating impact of

- (a) World War 1 on the Irish population.
- (b) The Potato Famine of 1845 in Ireland.
- (c) Industrialisation on the rural population.

2. *At a Potato Digging* refers to two different

- (a) potato-farming villages.
- (b) famines in Scotland.
- (c) potato harvests.

3. In *At a Potato Digging* Seamus Heaney has tried to build a link between

- (a) the past and the present.
- (b) Ireland and Scotland.
- (c) peace and The Troubles.

4. A mechanical digger digs out

- (a) potatoes that are rotten.
- (b) showers of roots and mould.
- (c) potatoes that are ready to be sold.

5. In *At a Potato Digging* the potato gatherers are likened to

- (a) men in the military.
- (b) starved men.
- (c) crows.

6. The actions of the potato gatherers in *At a Potato Digging* that clearly indicate their subservience to the earth are

- (a) heads bow, trunks bend, hands fumble.
- (b) knees bend as eyes close in prayer.
- (c) hands clap in time to hymns.

7. In *At a Potato Digging* potatoes are compared to inflated pebbles using a
- (a) metaphor
 - (b) paradox
 - (c) simile
8. The activity of gathering potatoes in the present-day harvest is compared to
- (a) swimming.
 - (b) fishing.
 - (c) kneeling.
9. Heaney presents the metaphor of “beaks of famine” that “snipped at guts” to symbolise the hunger pains as hurting, stringent and sharp as though a bird were pecking at their guts.
- (a) This statement is correct.
 - (b) The correct statement is -Heaney presents the metaphor of “beaks of famine” that “snipped at guts” to symbolise the movement of a bird as though it was pecking at the potato.
 - (c) The beaks of the birds were sharp.
10. The live skulls belonging to the blight of 1845 are
- (a) potatoes.
 - (b) crows.
 - (c) the starving Irish population.
11. 'Bitch Earth' is so called because
- (a) of its deception towards the plants and making them unhealthy for human consumption.
 - (b) of its uncertainty in providing a healthy harvest every year.
 - (c) of the infestation it caused on the sound potato in the year 1845
12. The labourers in the present day break their timeless fasts with
- (a) onion and chapatti
 - (b) tea and bread
 - (c) bread and butter
13. As with many of Edward Thomas' other work, *Beauty* reflects his
- (a) financial worry.
 - (b) professional frustration and domestic claustrophobia.
 - (c) financial worry, professional frustration and domestic claustrophobia.
14. The patterns created on the river by the “Cross breezes” in *Beauty* create
- (a) a metallic image of torment and agony.
 - (b) a magical illusion of light and shadow.
 - (c) a path for the poet to introspect on his writing.

15. In *Beauty*, the poet adapts the structure of a

- (a) sonnet.
- (b) couplet.
- (c) haiku.

16. The word “happily” in the poem is an implication that

- (a) the poet is happy to be following his dreams.
- (b) the poet has found comfort in the natural beauty that surrounds him.
- (c) the dove has found its mate.

Question 10

[16]

Read the extract that follows and choose the most appropriate option for each question or statement that follows.

Have you built your ship of death, O have you? build your ship of death, for you will need it.

The grim frost is at hand, when the apples will fall thick, almost thundrous, on the hardened earth.

And death is on the air like a smell of ashes! Ah! can't you smell it?

And in the bruised body, the frightened soul finds itself shrinking, wincing from the cold that blows upon it through the orifices.

The Ship of Death by D. H. Lawrence

1. The idea of a ship of death in *The Ship of Death* probably came to Lawrence from the hieroglyphics of a boat in the Great Pyramids at Giza.

- (a) The statement is correct – no change required.
- (b) The statement is incorrect and should be written as: The idea of a ship of death probably came to Lawrence from the bronze ship in the Etruscan tombs in Italy.
- (c) The statement is incorrect and should be written as: D H Lawrence got the idea from a book he was reading while convalescing in the Bavarian Alps.

2. The image of falling apples while the grim frost is waiting to appear is significant to the theme of the *The Ship of Death*.

- (a) The statement is correct - no change required.
- (b) The statement is incorrect and should be written as: The image of the dew and fragrance of death is significant to the theme of the poem.
- (c) The statement is incorrect and should be written as: The image of the ash-covered bronze ship is significant to the theme of the poem.

3. The idea of suicide is expressed but rejected in *The Ship of Death*.
- (a) The statement is correct - no change required.
 - (b) The statement is incorrect and should be written as: The idea of suicide is expressed and embraced.
 - (c) The statement is incorrect and should be written as: The idea of suicide is not even mentioned for 'bodkin' means a needle, not death.
4. *The Ship of Death* consists of 15 sections that chronicle the short and delightful journey of life and gentle death.
- (a) The statement is correct - no change required.
 - (b) The statement is incorrect and should be written as: *The Ship of Death* consists of 10 sections that chronicle aging, death and rebirth.
 - (c) The statement is incorrect and should be written as: *The Ship of Death* consists of 8 sections that chronicle the life cycle of an apple as compared to the life cycle of man.
5. "it is autumn and the falling fruit "describes the
- (a) growing up and maturing of a child
 - (b) painful and long process of aging and dying
 - (c) apples rotting in autumn
6. The poet is urging people to
- (a) build a ship
 - (b) build a ship so that we can travel far and wide
 - (c) build a metaphorical ship, that is, prepare for their own death.
7. The season that is compared to old age is
- (a) winter
 - (b) autumn
 - (c) grim summer
8. The frightened soul ends its journey as a frail soul in a new house.
- (a) The statement is incorrect and should be written as: The frightened soul ends its journey in a ship into oblivion.
 - (b) The statement is incorrect and should be written as: The frightened soul ends its journey as a flushed rose in a garden.
 - (c) The statement is correct: no change required.
9. The Ship of Death has been compared to a little boat.
- (a) The statement is incorrect and should be written as: The Ship of Death has been compared to a little ark.
 - (b) The statement is incorrect and should be written as: The Ship of Death has been compared to an apple.
 - (c) The statement is correct: no change required.

10. The little ship should carry all accoutrements ready for the departing soul.
- (a) The statement is incorrect and should be written as: The little ship should carry animals and humans before they depart for their journey to oblivion.
 - (b) The statement is incorrect and should be written as: The little ship should carry all the apples that fell during autumn season.
 - (c) The statement is correct: no change required.
11. The Ship of Death is
- (a) a fragile ship of death.
 - (b) a fragile ship of courage.
 - (c) a ship of regeneration.
12. Already our bodies are fallen, bruised, badly bruised, already
through the exit of the cruel bruise.
- (a) the pulp is oozing
 - (b) our souls are oozing
 - (c) our pained bodies are escaping
13. The soul cowers naked in the dark rain over the flood, Cowering in the last branches of the tree of our life. Personification is of
- (a) the soul
 - (b) the flood as death of a living being
 - (c) the tree of our life
14. As the Ship of Death sets sail, there is
- (a) a port, yet nowhere to go by the dim starlight.
 - (b) no port, but a destination in the direction of the faint sunrise.
 - (c) no port, nowhere to go and only deepening darkness.
15. After an unknown period of time,
- (a) the pallor fumes but it is only an illusion.
 - (b) the pallor fumes, which at first makes the poet wonder if it is an illusion.
 - (c) the pallor fumes, which is an allusion to mythology.
16. The darkness changes to
- (a) ashy grey, then yellow, and finally rose.
 - (b) midnight blue, yellow and orange.
 - (c) nothing – the ship is on a journey to oblivion.