

M.A. (Sem-II)

July-2023

English - Linguistic and Stylistic Analysis of Texts -II

Time: 2.30

Total Marks: 75

Q.1. Read the following poem and attempt the questions (1 and 2) given below:

Invitation - Aurobindo Ghose

With wind and the weather beating round me
Up to the hill and the moorland I go.
Who will come with me? Who will climb with me?
Wade through the brook and tramp through the snow?

Not in the petty circle of cities
Cramped by your doors and your walls I dwell;
Over me God is blue in the welkin
Against me the wind and the storm rebel.

I sport with solitude here in my regions,
Of misadventure have me a friend.
Who would live largely? Who would live freely?
Here to the wind-swept uplands ascend.

I am the lord of tempest and mountain,
I am the Spirit of freedom and pride.
Stark must he be and a kinsman to danger
Who shares my kingdom and walks at my side

- a. Transcribe the first four lines of the poem by providing phonetic symbols. 05
- b. Give three term labels to any 5 predominating consonants in the poem. 05
- c. Give three term labels to any 5 predominating vowels and diphthongs in the poem. 05

Q.2 Attempt a stylistic analysis of the above text with special reference to the linguistic choice made by the poet. 15

Q. 3 Read the following passage and answer the questions given below in 4-5 lines each.

I was a below average student. Both in schools and colleges, rarely my teachers knew me by name. I don't think I was a dunce; just that I didn't have an academic bent of mind. Since failures were more a habit than an exception, a below par performance never disturbed me. Neither were my teachers proud of me nor did I make my parents feel proud of me. Of course, my parents being noble-hearted, never gave up on me. They never put me down in the presence of others. In fact, to shield me, they always projected a positive image of me to the world. In 1984, while pursuing my graduation in Mathematics, I had failed in one of the subjects in

my fourth semester. I already had three arrears. For the first time, hearing about my failure, I saw tears in my father's eyes. This was my first experience of seeing my father cry. I couldn't handle his crying. To withdraw myself I escaped to the terrace of my apartment. I suffered a fear like I have never known before. I was trembling. I never wanted my parents to ever cry again because of my failures. But, I was scared. "Was it too late to begin in life," I doubted. I was already over 18, just about 50% marks in my four semesters, 4 arrears to clear and 3 regular paper to face in my fifth semester, no talent, no special abilities, never won a prize in my life, not a single certificate I truly wanted to make it very big in life, if not for my sake, just to make up for all that I had put my parents through. My thoughts were haunting me, "Rajan, you don't have any taste of success. You just don't know what it is to succeed." With tears flooding, I cried, "Can I still make it big in life or have I missed the bus?"

My neighbour, Vijayaraghavan, who learnt about the sobbing of my soul, casually said, "Rajan, the harder you press the spring the faster it will bounce back. So what if your life has been pressed by failures for 18 years. Decide to bounce back and bounce back big in life. Even God will not stop you." Bounce back I did! I bounced back big to clear all the 7 papers in first class and ever since I smile at my failures.

After all what is resilience the number: To get up one more time when you have fallen. I do not remember of times when life has pushed me down, but every time I have bounced back big, for, I can hear the message lingering from within me even louder, "The harder you press the spring the faster it will bounce back. Bounce back and bounce back big." Ever since, I have given enough opportunities for my parents to cry cry they do, glad they have a son in me.

- (a) Who is the narrator? Do you think he/she is different from the author? Substantiate your response with linguistic evidences from the passage. 7
- (b) Comment on the setting of the text. 4
- (c) What insight do you get into the character of speaker in the passage? 4

Q.4 Read the following paragraphs from student writing and answer the questions given below:

After a long day out in the scorching sun at Nizamuddin railway station, having checked out every bit of garbage disposed off trains, a group of ragpickers gathered for a chat in a rain-swept shelter. This was no regular gathering for them. It was a Mother's Day gathering. Most children had never heard the word but grew emotional once they got to know what the day signified. Gifts for their mothers ranged from promises of not running away, to earning enough to assure their mothers of some comfort some day.

When it came to actual celebrations for the day, a group of boys at the centre run by Chetna, an NGO, near the station, surrounded Manjula Rai. Some even pulled her hair and the rowdy ones calmed down after a stern glance from her. For many boys and girls, this 47-year old social worker is a face recognized as a help at hand. For quite a few of them, Manjula is the 'mother' who influences them.

When they settled down to talk, the children at Chetna, related their aspirations with thoughtful intent. Vikas Kumar, who felt shy to pronounce the word Mother's Day, said he was determined to secure some day, quality life for his mother, who was a domestic worker. His promise to his mother on Mother's Day was to take out his mother from a rented house and to give her a home with a better life, some day.

Vikas left school when he was just 9, but is now a motivator for other boys to break free of ragpicking and study through the Open School System. Today, Vikas, who is a Class VII student, is the pride of the Centre and Manjula has been a part of his journey all through. She has been convincing the parents of these children to understand their evolution from being a child labourer to a teenager who can acquire skills for a better life.

Aslam for instance, who giggled as the boys tried to pronounce Mother's Day, knew the words 'Mom' and 'Dad' having watched T.V. serials and Hindi films. According to him: "I keep running away from home and fight with my Mom. But on Mother's Day, when I go back, I will not fight and stay with her." The traumatic life stories related by these children become a self-explanation for their aggressive behaviour and their suppressed feelings.

(i) Formulate a thesis statement for the above text. How easy or difficult was it to do so?

Give reasons for your answer. 05

(ii) List the number of ideas in the text. Are the ideas substantiated by the author? 05

(iii) Is the text coherent? Give reasons for your answer. 05

Q.5. Write short notes on ANY TWO of the following: 15

a. Repetition and Parallelism

b. Point of View

c. Epic Simile

d. Narrator
