

Time: 2.00 Hrs

Max. Marks: 60

N. B. (1) All questions carry equal marks.

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

**Alabaster** - Sarojini Naidu

Like this alabaster box whose art  
Is frail as a cassia-flower, is my heart,  
Carven with delicate dreams and wrought  
With many a subtle and exquisite thought.

Therein I treasure the spice and scent  
Of rich and passionate memories blent  
Like odours of cinnamon, sandal and clove,  
Of song and sorrow and life and love.

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.**

In a hole in the ground there lived a hobbit. Not a nasty, dirty, wet hole, filled with the ends of worms and an oozy smell, nor yet a dry, bare, sandy hole with nothing in it to sit down on or to eat: it was a hobbit-hole, and that means comfort.

It had a perfectly round door like a porthole, painted green, with a shiny yellow brass knob in the exact middle. The door opened on to a tube-shaped hall like a tunnel: a very comfortable tunnel without smoke, with panelled walls, and floors tiled and carpeted, provided with polished chairs, and lots and lots of pegs for hats and coats—the hobbit was fond of visitors.

The tunnel wound on and on, going fairly but not quite straight into the side of the hill—The Hill, as all the people for many miles round called it—and many little round doors opened out of it, first on one side and then on another. No going upstairs for the hobbit: bedrooms, bathrooms, cellars, pantries (lots of these), wardrobes (he had whole rooms devoted to clothes), kitchens, dining-rooms, all were on the same floor, and indeed on the same passage. The best rooms were all on the left-hand side (going in), for these were the only ones to have windows, deep-set round windows looking over his garden, and meadows beyond, sloping down to the river.

- (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:**

The Government is taking seriously the issue of road safety and is committed to reducing the number of people killed in accidents. Forums are being conducted regularly to bring law-makers, law enforcement officers and road users together to discuss ways to tackle the rise in road accidents. Everyone agrees that more needs to be done on road safety in its determination to curb the rate of road accidents in the country. The Government, with the cooperation of relevant agencies, is making serious efforts to instill proper road culture in children, young adults and the public in general.

There are approximately 14 million cars on the road with the figure on the rise and the traffic police have been taking a tough stance on traffic offenders. During the first 10 months of the year, the traffic police issued 143,077 summonses to motorists for traffic light related offences. Statistics reveal that traffic light related offences are on the rise, especially in the urban areas. The traffic police, however, have taken a tough stance against traffic light defaulters by slapping hefty fines and 'awarding' demerit points to the offenders. Typical reasons cited for beating traffic lights include rushing to an urgent appointment or even worse to be completely oblivious of the changing of the lights.

If an accident results from the violation of the traffic regulations, the driver could very well find himself in court charged with dangerous driving. Usual punishments include a fine, a ban on driving for a specified time and may even be a prison sentence. Sometimes, the court may even order to pay out compensation if death occurs as a result of the accident.

One common misconception held by motorists is that when the light turns amber, they should speed up and clear the junction before the light turns red. But in fact, the amber light indicates that the motorist should slow down in order to stop. By following and understanding the guideline, unintentional traffic light beating will almost be improbable, while making the road safer for everyone else.

Sometimes, motorists are flagged down by the police because they could have committed one traffic offence or another. The most common are speeding, using the hand phone without a hands-free kit, using the emergency lane or reckless driving. If flagged down, indicate your intention by using your indicator and pull over to the side and at night switch on your cabin lights. This will allow the police officer to look into your car easily. Also, voluntarily turning on the light will show that you have nothing to hide.

Usually at road blocks, for every 10 plain-clothes police officers, there would be two uniformed police personnel manning the operation. If you are stopped by uniformed police officers while driving, stop the car and wind down your window. If the police officers ask for your documents, request to see their identifications first. You have the right to know the offence you have committed by asking the police officers. Produce your identity card and driver's license and wait to collect your summons.

(i) Formulate a thesis statement for the above text. How easy or difficult was it to do so? 5

Give reasons for your answer.

(ii) List the number of ideas in the text. Are the ideas substantiated by the author? 5

(iii) Is the text coherent? Give reasons for your answer. 5

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