

This question paper contains 8 printed pages.]

Your Roll No.

5911

B.Sc. (Gen.)/B.Sc. (H) A

QUALIFYING ENGLISH A – Paper I

(Text, Composition, Grammar etc.)

**[Meant for students who have passed English Core
in Class XII]**

Time : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 100

*(Write your Roll No. on the top immediately on receipt of this
question paper.)*

Attempt all the questions.

1. Read the following passages and answer the questions that follow :
 - (a) But suppose people come in and they have a million and they want another pile on top of it.

Why, you brim with the milk of human
Kindness and you urge them to accept
every drop of it,

And you lend them the million so then they
have two million and

This gives them the idea that they would be
better off with four.

(Bankers are Just like Anybody Else ; Nash
Except Richer)

(i) What is the milk of human kindness ? 5

(ii) Who offers it and to whom ? 5

(b) He wrought at one great work for gears;

The world passed by with lofty look;

Sometimes his eyes were dashed with tears;

Sometimes his lips with laughter shook,

His wife and child went clothed in rags,

And in a windy garret starved;

He trod his measure on the flags,

And high on heaven his music carved.

(A Ballad of Heaven : John Davidson)

- (i) Who is the 'He' in the poem ? What was it that he was working on ? What was the attitude of the world towards him ? **5**
- (ii) What was the condition of his wife and child ? What did he do for them ? **5**
2. Answer briefly any **three** questions : **15**
- (i) Why did Jackson call his house 'Ultima Thule' ?
- (ii) Mention any five fields where computers play a significant role.
- (iii) What, according to Huxley, should be our attitude to religion ?
- (iv) What are the qualities that make Sherlock Holmes a clever and successful detective ?

3. Write, in about **200** words, on the following :

- (a) What do the apostle and the scientist mean when they say "All flesh is grass" ? Elaborate. **15**

OR

What was Iona's grief ? Who did he try to share it with ? How did he succeed at last ?

4. Write an essay, in about **200** words, on any **one** of the following topics : **15**

- (i) Mushrooming TV channels.
- (ii) Commonwealth Games 2010
- (iii) Bliss of getting old !
- (iv) Railway for the masses.

OR

Answer both questions :

- (i) Write a report about the pollution in the river Yamuna. **8**
- (ii) Write a letter to your friend about your plans for the summer vacations. **7**

5. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :

Greatness is great power, producing great effects. It is not enough that a man has great power in himself, he must show it to all the world, in a way that cannot be hid or gain said. He must fill

up a certain idea in the public mind. I have no other notion of greatness than this two-fold definition, great results springing from great inherent energy. The great invisible objects have relation to that which extends over space. The test of greatness is the page of history. Nothing can be said to be great that has a distinct limit, or that borders on something evidently greater than itself. Besides, what is short-lived and pampered into mere notoriety, is of a gross and vulgar quality in itself. A Lord Mayor is hardly a great man. A city orator or patriot of the day only show, by reaching the height of their wishes, the distance they are at from any true ambition. Popularity is neither fame nor greatness. A King (as such) is not a great man. He has great power, but it is not his own. He merely wields the lever of the State, which a child, an idiot, or a madman can do. It is the office, not the man, we gaze at. Anyone else in the same situation would be just as much an object of abject curiosity. We laugh at the country girl who having seen a King

expressed her disappointment by saying, "Why, he is only a man !" Yet, Knowing this, we run to see a King as if he was something more than a man. To display the greatest powers, unless they are applied to great purposes, makes nothing for the character of greatness. To throw a barley-corn through the eye of a needle, to multiply nine figures by nine in the memory, argues infinite dexterity of body and capacity of mind, but nothing comes of either. There is surprising power at work, but the effects are not proportionate, or such as take hold of the imagination. To impress the idea of power on others, they must be made in some way to feel it. It must be communicated to their understanding in the shape of an increase of knowledge, or it must subdue and overawe them by subjecting their wills.

- (A) (a) What is the real test of greatness ?
- (b) Does greatness exist in one's life-time or does it go beyond ? Explain how.

- (c) Is popularity the yardstick of measuring greatness? If not, why not?
- (d) Is mere display of greatest power enough to constitute greatness?
- (e) What effect should real greatness produce on one's understanding and feeling?

15

OR

- (B) Make a précis of the above passage in about 1/3 length of the original passage and give it a suitable title.

12 + 3

6. (a) Give antonyms for any **five** of the following words :

opaque, foe, kind, minority, efficient, approve, punish

5

- (b) Make sentences with any **five** of the following prepositional phrases :

to make up for, to give up, to keep one's eyes open, to look after, to pass for, to take after.

5

7. (a) Fill in the blanks in the following sentences by using the correct form of the verb given in brackets : 5

(i) I _____ (reach) the station after the train _____ (leave)

(ii) I usually _____ to my father every Sunday. (write)

(iii) He speaks as one who _____. (know)

(iv) If I had worked hard I _____. (pass)

(b) Change the voice in the following sentences : 5

(i) Promises should be kept.

(ii) The printers cannot read your handwriting.

(iii) Who received you at the station.

(iv) I am baffled by figures.

(v) The thief was caught red-handed.
