

This question paper contains 11 printed pages.]

Your Roll No.

5273

B.A. (Programme)/I A
(Language Course)

ENGLISH : STREAM C – Paper I
(Basic English)

**(Admissions of 2005/2006 and onwards in respect of
students of Regular Colleges/NCWEB)**

**[Meant for students who have not studied English
beyond Class VIII]**

Time : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 75

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

Note : The maximum marks printed on the question paper are applicable for the students of the regular colleges (Cat. 'A'). These marks will, however, be scaled up proportionately in respect of the students of NCWEB at the time of posting of awards for compilation of result.

Attempt **all** questions.

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow it :

- (1) You might be surprised to hear that I never wanted to be an actress. This isn't one of those success stories where people say, 'Look! She always wanted to do that, and she did !'
- (2) At school, I guess like a lot of kids, I was always interested in the performing arts – theatre, dance. After school, I joined the street theatre group led by the theatre activist Safdar Hashmi, but even while doing that, the main focus wasn't acting as such. It was more that we wanted to highlight particular issues, and get people thinking and talking about them. Of course, I enjoyed the process of acting too, but it was that mixture of wanting to perform, plus wanting to be involved in the kind of social issues that concerned us. I guess I was more idealistic then -- I really thought that doing these plays would change things. Nowadays, I'm still idealistic, but a little more sensible I hope !

(3) I chose Geography for my B.A. degree, because I had a wonderful teacher at school and I loved the subject. Luckily, my parents didn't question my choice of subject – though just about everyone else did ! But at the end of three years studying at Miranda House, Delhi University, I didn't much like Geography any more. I didn't know what to do – apart from knowing that I didn't want to study any more – so I took a year off to think about what to do next.

Nandita Das

(a) Answer the following questions briefly :

- (i) What were Nandita Das's interests at school ? 2
- (ii) What was main purpose in joining Safdar Hashmi's theatre group ? 2

- (iii) Why did Nandita Das take up Geography for her B.A. degree ? 2
- (iv) What did she do after completing B.A. Geography ? 2
- (b) Say whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F) : 4
- (i) Nandita Das wished to become an actress from an early age.
- (ii) Nandita Das was deeply concerned with social issues.
- (iii) Her parents objected to her taking Geography as a subject for B.A.
- (iv) Nandita Das lost interest in Geography after her graduation.
- (c) Fill in the blank in the following sentences ; choosing the words from the passage : 3

In her youth, Nandita Das was more _____ and thought that doing _____ would _____ things.

2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow it :

Close by the building, Moti stopped for a moment. There, by the roadside, stood a shining black perambulator and inside was a tiny baby, sleeping. That was the colonel's grandson. Moti Ram looked worried. There was the child – but where was the 'ayah' ? Gossiping perhaps, as such people will. But ----- that was bad, very bad. And then Moti Ram stood still, completely shocked ! For something moved close by the white baby, something long and thin and evil, something that raised itself like a living rope. It was very close to the child's perambulator.

"*Samp-the snake*" Moti Ram said slowly. "A cobra". As he saw the head of the snake, he knew what would happen. The child will think it is a toy and will try to touch it and the snake will bite the child..... and Moti Ram could do nothing.

Suddenly he remembered a trick that is used by the men who catch snakes. Moti Ram slipped his 'dhoti' from his waist. Carefully, he spread the cloth, and lifted it high. Then he jumped forward, throwing the cloth around the head and the body of the snake. Before the snake could slip out Moti caught the handle of the pram, and began to run, pushing it towards the colonel's house. The colonel was sitting upon a long chair, under the shade of a tall tree. When he saw Moti Ram with pram, he asked Moti about the ayah. Moti Ram stood straight, saluted and told the colonel everything.

(a) Answer the following questions briefly :

- (i) Why did Moti Ram look worried when he saw the baby in the pram ? 2
- (ii) What shocked Moti Ram all the more ? 2
- (iii) What thought disturbed Moti Ram when he saw the snake near the pram ? 2
- (iv) How did he manage to save the baby from the snake ? 2

(b) Say whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F) :

4

(i) A small baby was playing in the perambulator.

(ii) The baby was bitten by the snake.

(iii) Moti Ram used the trick that the snake catchers use.

(iv) He took the pram with the child to the colonel.

(c) Find words from the passage which are opposite in meaning to the following words :

3

big, good, thick

3. (a) Match the words/expressions in column – A with their meanings in column – B.

5

Column – A

Column – B

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| (i) recipe | (a) to eat in a restaurant |
| (ii) banquet | (b) things required for making a dish |
| (iii) eat out | (c) a list of dishes served in a restaurant |
| (iv) ingredients | (d) directions for preparing a dish |
| (v) menu | (e) a meal for many people served on a formal occasion |

- (b) A 'nest' is a home for the birds. What are the homes of the following animals and insects called ?

5

dogs

lions

bees

pigs

horses

- (c) Fill in the blanks in the following sentences choosing the appropriate words from the list given below :

prevention, acceptance, promotion,
achievement, celebration

5

- (i) I felt a great sense of _____
when I finished my work.
- (ii) Sonia has topped in her class. They
are going to have a _____ in
their house next week.
- (iii) Sunil felt very happy when he got a
_____ in his job.

(iv) Crime _____ is one of the aims of the police.

(v) Arun has got a new job. He has already sent his letter of _____.

4. Fill in the blanks in the following :

(a) Sentences with the present perfect or past simple form of the verbs given in brackets : 5

(i) My friend is a writer. He _____ (write) many books.

(ii) I've _____ (lose) my key. I can't find it.

(iii) Sunita's grandmother _____ (die) in 1990.

(iv) Mona travels a lot. She _____ (visit) many countries.

(v) We _____ (not have) a holiday last year.

(b) Turn the following sentences into negative : 5

- (i) I play the piano very well.
- (ii) We work very hard.
- (iii) He has a bath everyday.
- (iv) They know my phone number.
- (v) Rita watches TV very often.

(c) Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with 5

for, since, ago

- (i) The bus is late. we've been waiting _____ 20 minutes.
- (ii) My mother has been in Mumbai _____ Monday.
- (iii) Mohan arrived in Delhi three days _____.
- (iv) Sanjay has been ill _____ a long time. He has been in hospital _____ October.

5. Write a paragraph of about **100** words about an interesting cricket match you saw. The following questions will help you write the paragraph : **10**

- where did you watch the match ?
- when was the match played and where ?
- which teams played the match ? who were the captains of the teams ?
- who won the match ?
- why did you find the match interesting ?

6. You are celebrating your birthday next week. Write a letter to your friend Sarika inviting her to joining you in the birthday celebrations. **5**

- (i) Give the time, date and venue of the function.
- (ii) Make a polite request to her not to bring any present.