'समानो मन्त्रः समितिः समानी'

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL

B.A. Honours/Programme 2nd Semester [Special] Examination, 2023

AECC2-ENGLISH (MIL)

ENGLISH COMMUNICATION

Time Allotted: 2 Hours | Full Marks: 35

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

GROUP-A

1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow: 2×5 = 10

There was a time when all house-work was done by the women or girls of the household. Few husbands ever dreamt of washing up, preparing breakfast or tending the baby. Such duties were no concern of theirs. And normal school boys assumed that if help was needed in the home, his sisters would be called to give it. The whole family supported the view that the male child could not or should not clean, mend wash, cook or make beds.

Things are very different today. Doctors or barristers find nothing shameful in putting on an apron to help in kitchen or nursery and even boast of being good at washing of clothes and personal linen.

The school boy is now often expected to help his mother. One reason for change is the shortage of domestic servants. Girls could once be found to do hard work in middle and upper class homes, for every moderate wages. Such girls nowadays work in factories. They earn more money than most householders can afford to pay. Thus, the wife now does the household work herself with aid of labour-saving machines; and she expects some help from her husband.

(a) Who usually did all household work in the past?

(b) Mention household chores that women used to do in their house.

(c) What was the conception of the work related to the male child in the past?

(d) What changes in gender-specific work have taken place now?

(e) Mention the reasons that brought this change today.

GROUP-B

2. Answer any ***one*** of the following questions: 10×1 = 10

(a) Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper mentioning your concern on the effects of air pollution.

(b) Write a letter to your distant cousin stating your aim in life.

(c) Write an essay on 'The Pleasure of Reading'.

(d) Write an essay on 'Your Favourite Hero'.

GROUP-C

3. Answer any ***three*** of the following questions: 5×3 = 15

(a) Write a resume applying for a job of a librarian in a reputed institution.

(b) Write a dialogue between two friends on their preparation for the upcoming examinations.

(c) You are the secretary of the Music Club of your college. Write a notice inviting names of the students who want to participate in an inter-departmental singing competition organised by your club.

(d) As a student editor of your college magazine, draft a notice for your college notice board inviting articles from the students.

(e) Frame ten questions to take an interview of a famous writer.

(f) Frame ten questions to take an interview of a film celebrity.

(g) Write a dialogue between you and a street vendor about rising prices.

(h) Write a CV applying for the post of a police constable.

(i) Attempt a summary of the following paragraph:

Democracy must have common sense from the common man; and common sense may be found in the man who cannot read and write, just as it may be lacking in the man who can read and write in all the tongues of men and angels. But this does not mean that man is likely to be wise because he cannot read or write. The probability is that he will be all the wiser if he has the opportunity of enlarging his knowledge and developing the muscles of his mind. All democratic systems, therefore, lay emphasis on education, with as wide an extension as possible over all classes of society, and with opportunities of advancement for those who show capacity above the average. Education cannot, of itself alone, make a good man or a wise man; but it is a reasonable assumption that the spread of knowledge and the discipline of the intelligence will improve the capacity of the average citizen for his fractional share in self-government.

(j) Attempt a summary of the following stanzas:

When I have fears that I may cease to be
Before my pen has glean'd my teeming brain,
Before high piled books, in charactery
Hold like rich garners the full-ripen'd grain;

When I behold, upon the night's starr'd face,
Huge cloudy symbols of a high romance.
And think that I may never live to trace
Their shadows, with the magic hand of chance;
And when I feel, fair creature of an hour!
That I shall never look upon thee more,
Never have relish in the faery power
Of unreflecting love!— then on the shore
Of the wide world I stand alone; and think
Till Love and Fame to nothingness do sink.

——×——