

B.A. (Honours) Examination, 2018
English
Semester-I
Course- H-1 (Core) (Old Syllabus)
(Reading and Writing Practices I)

(For Back Candidates only)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks:40

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin
Answer all questions

1. Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.

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| (i) What is the allegorical meaning of the poem? | 5 |
| (ii) Which is the season of the year described in the poem? | 2 |
| (iii) Where does the poet stop? | 2 |
| (iv) What does the poet say about the owner of the woods? | 5 |
| (v) Critically comment on the form of the poem. | 6 |

Or

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

First, science has obviously multiplied the power of the war-makers. The weapons of the moment can kill more people more secretly and more unpleasantly than those of the past. This progress, as for want of another word I must call it, has been going on for some time; and for some time it has been said, of each new weapon, that it is so destructive or so horrible that it will frighten people into their wits, and force the nations to give up war for lack of cannon fodder. This hope has never been fulfilled, and I know no one who takes refuge in it today. The acts of men and women are not dictated by such simple compulsions; and they themselves do not stand in any simple relation to the

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decisions of the nations which they compose. Grapeshot and TNT and gas have not helped to outlaw war; and I see no sign that the hydrogen bombs or a whiff of bacteria will be more successful in making men wise by compulsion.

Secondly, science at the same time has given the nations quite new occasions, for falling out. I do not mean such simple objectives as someone else's uranium mine, or a Pacific Island which happens to be knee-deep in organic fertilizer. I do not even mean merely another nation's factories and her skilled population. These are all parts of the surplus above our simple needs which they themselves help to create and which gives our civilization its character. And war in our world battens on this surplus. This is the object of the greed of nations, and this also gives them the leisure to train and the means to arm for war. At bottom, we have remained individually too greedy to distribute our surplus, and collectively too stupid to pile it up in any more useful form than the traditional arms. Science can claim to have created the surplus in our societies, and we know from the working day and the working diet how greatly it has increased it in the last two hundred years. Science has created surplus. Now put this year's budget beside the budget of 1750, anywhere in the world, and you will see what we are doing with it.

- (i) What characteristics of writing do you find in the passage? 6
- (ii) Pick out examples to show how the author has effectively used data to support his argument. 6
- (iii) What is the main argument of the passage? 8

2. (a) What is the role of language in a literary text?

Or

(b) Write a note on the relationship among the author, text and the reader. 10

3. Critically comment on **any one** of the following: 10

- a) Satire b) Comedy
 - c) Imagination d) Lyric
 - e) Rhyme f) Text
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