

## SECTION A: SHORT STORY (25 MARKS)

**Direction:** You must attempt Question 1 COMPULSORILY. Under Question 2, you can CHOOSE a OR b.

**Question 1** Answer ALL the questions with reference to the short stories *Lamb to the Slaughter* by Roald Dahl and *The Elephant* by Slawomir Mrozek.

a) For each question, there are four responses: A, B, C and D. Choose the corresponding alphabet of your response and CIRCLE it. DO NOT circle more than ONE response. If there are more than one choice circled, NO score will be awarded. [5]

- i. What was the main purpose of the director's insistence on rushing the rubber elephant's fabrication?
  - A The director anticipated being promoted.
  - B There would be an inspection of the zoo.
  - C The director was expecting a bonus.
  - D There was no elephant in the zoo.
- ii. The zoological garden management should not have tolerated flaws because it was
  - A visited by school children.
  - B located in the main town.
  - C a home to many animals.
  - D a recreational place.
- iii. The abnormal animals in the zoo symbolize the
  - A foolishness of the soulless official.
  - B defective government policies.
  - C selfish nature of the director.
  - D poor status of the country.
- iv. While examining the dead body of Patrick, Noonan discovered a small patch of congealed blood on his head. The underlined word is closest in meaning to
  - A foul-smelling.
  - B concealed.
  - C solidified.
  - D dark-red.

v. When Patrick returned home that Thursday evening, he displayed all of the following behavior **EXCEPT**

- A picking up a fight with Mary.
- B ignoring Mary's questions.
- C drinking more than usual.
- D speaking rudely at Mary.

b) **Answer the following questions in the space provided.**

i. How does the theme of deception emerge in the stories, 'The Elephant' and 'Lamb to the Slaughter'? [5]

ii. Whom should we hold responsible for the elephant fiasco – the director or the soulless official? Justify your choice by giving **TWO** reasons.

[5]

**Question 2** Choose ANY ONE question and answer it in the space provided.

a) Mary Maloney is a stereotype woman who is deeply focused on her role of a wife. [10] What do you suppose she would have done after Patrick's sudden announcement that he was leaving her and their unborn child if she was a woman of the present time?



**b)** How should have the plan of elephant fabrication been carried out for it to have been a success? Elaborate **TWO** ways.

[10]



## SECTION B: ESSAY (25 MARKS)

**Direction:** You must attempt Question 1 COMPULSORILY. Under Question 2, you can CHOOSE a OR b.

### Indistractable

**A** We all experience it. We attempt to start something, but we find ourselves unable to finish in time because we end up becoming distracted by something else. You sit down to read the book you want to read but end up scrolling through your social media feed instead. You begin cleaning out the store but find yourself reminiscing on past times when you find old pictures and toys you haven't seen in years. So, what is the cause of all these distractions? Many believe that our distractions are worse than ever since the introduction of technology, but before cell phones, people found other ways to distract themselves through doodling or daydreaming. Our minds are masters of distraction and are made for distractions.

**B** When it comes to distraction, you must first understand our internal and external triggers. For instance, external triggers will come in the form of outside forces that work to distract us like our cell phones or our friends. However, internal triggers are those found inside of us that prevent us from being productive like anxiety and depression. It is crucial to find out what sparks our tediousness or anxiety to overcome our internal triggers of distractions. External triggers can be just as difficult to overcome as it becomes increasingly difficult to get work done in an age of constant connectivity.

**C** Luckily, there are ways you can overcome both the triggers. Why do you think you reach for your phone? Why do you choose to play that game or scroll through social media? Well, the reason is surprisingly simple. The apps on our phones are designed to be engaging, they are meant to be **enticing** so you are tempted to immerse yourself inside a different world. According to interactive computing expert Lan Bogst, apps use a remarkably effective system that uses rewards and challenges to keep the user engaged. So why not think about your everyday tasks as an app on your phone? Make it fun! Give yourself a challenge by setting a time limit or reward yourself after completing a task. You'll find yourself becoming distracted less and less if you incorporate the strategies used by apps into your daily life.

**D** Another technique to calm your anxiety, as suggested by psychologist Jonathan Bricker, is to use visualization to visualize yourself sitting by a stream. Listen to the calming trickles of the water and envision your distractions floating away on the leaves down the stream. This can help you regain your focus and tackle the task at hand. Finally, you will need to overcome those internal triggers like boredom and anxiety by believing in yourself. If you think that you can't keep off your phone, then chances are you won't be able to overcome the temptations. You'll probably never accomplish anything if you constantly tell yourself that you are just lazy and incapable of doing anything. The words are powerful and the way you speak to yourself is key to becoming indistractable.

**E** In all, why do we find ourselves blaming technology for our distractions? In reality, our minds are made for distractions, whether we want to escape an uncomfortable situation or escape the everyday stresses we encounter. As a whole, humans are meant to be uncomfortable. Being uncomfortable is what makes us learn about ourselves and grow as a person. No one became successful from staying comfortable their entire life, just take a look at our ancestors. If people centuries ago were comfortable with the way they were living, they never would have worked so hard to achieve the advancements we have today. Behind every success is a person who left their comfort zone. However, as we have turned to technology for comfort, we have failed to learn proper coping mechanisms and we begin to dwell on the negativity and painful experiences of our lives. This, in turn, opens us up to distraction.

*Adapted from the book 'Indistractable' written by Nir Eyal, summarized by Lea Schullery*

**Question 1 Answer ALL the questions.**

**a) For each question, there are four responses: A, B, C and D. Choose the corresponding alphabet of your response and CIRCLE it. DO NOT circle more than ONE response. If there are more than one choice circled, NO score will be awarded.**

i. Prior to advancement in technologies, people became distracted by

- A getting into the world of imagination.
- B looking through old pictures.
- C listening to trickles of water.
- D reminiscing their memories.

ii. In paragraph A, the writer intends to convey that distraction

- A is aggravated by technology.
- B has no benefits for our mind.
- C has long existed in our lives.
- D can lead us to daydream.

iii. The word 'enticing' in paragraph B is synonymous to

- A captivating.
- B interesting.
- C distracting
- D activating.

iv. Which figure of speech is employed in the given line?

*"...is to use visualization to visualize yourself sitting by a stream."*

- A personification
- B euphemism
- C alliteration
- D metaphor

[5]

v. The writer refers to our ancestors in paragraph E to illustrate the point that they

- A were less distracted than us due to lack of technologies.
- B had toiled hard, paving way for today's advancements.
- C had lived contented lives and had never worked hard.
- D were very successful people since they worked hard.

**b) Answer the following questions in the space provided.**

i. The paragraphs in the text are numbered A till E. Choose the most suitable headings for each from the list of headings below. There are more headings than paragraphs, so you will not use them all. [5]

Sl no	List of heading	Paragraph Number
1	Imagination and Self-Belief are Key to Maintaining Focus	
2	Drawbacks of Being Distracted	
3	Source of Distractions	
4	Distractions are Inescapable and Essential If You Can Handle Them	
5	Forms of Distractions	
6	Use of Incentives and Sanctions to Help Us Stay Focused	

ii. In addition to the author's advice, give any **TWO** practical suggestions for preventing distractions caused by external triggers.


**Question 2** Choose ANY ONE question and answer it in the space provided.

a) It is easy for all of us to experience distractions in our lives and sadly these distractions can cause some major issues. Elaborate on **FOUR** major issues that can be caused by distractions. [10]



**b)** Examine and explain any **TWO** views of the writer on distraction as evidenced in the essay. **[10]**






### SECTION C: POETRY (25 MARKS)

**Direction: You must attempt Question 1 COMPULSORILY. Under Question 2, you can CHOOSE a OR b.**

#### **Mementos** by W. D. SNODGRASS

Sorting out letters and piles of my old  
Cancelled checks, old clippings, and yellow note cards  
That meant something once, I happened to find  
Your picture. *That picture*. I stopped there cold,  
Like a man raking piles of dead leaves in his yard  
Who has turned up a severed hand.

Still, that first second, I was glad: you stand  
Just as you stood—shy, delicate, slender,  
In that long gown of green lace netting and daisies  
That you wore to our first dance. The sight of you stunned  
Us all. Well, our needs were different, then,  
And our ideals came easy.

Then through the war and those two long years  
Overseas, the Japanese dead in their shack  
Among dishes, dolls, and lost shoes; I carried  
This glimpse of you, there, to choke down my fears,  
Prove it had been, that it might come back.  
That was before we got married.

Before we drained out one another's force  
With lies, self-denial, unspoken regret  
And the sick eyes that blame; before the divorce  
And the treachery. Say it: before we met. Still,  
I put back your picture. Someday, in due course,  
I will find that it's still there.

#### **Question 1 Answer ALL the questions.**

a) For each question, there are four responses: A, B, C and D. Choose the corresponding alphabet of your response and CIRCLE it. DO NOT circle more than ONE response. If there are more than one choice circled, NO score will be awarded. [5]

i. The title of the poem is drawn from the \_\_\_\_\_ in the poem.

A wife's picture  
B Japanese war  
C dead leaves  
D old letters

ii. In line 10 the word, 'stunned' suggests that the girl was

- motionless.
- terrifying.
- awkward.
- gorgeous.

iii. What is the main idea in third stanza?

- The speaker fought the war and was fearful throughout.
- The speaker realized his love for his wife during the war.
- The speaker looked at his wife's photo to cope up during the war.
- The speaker remembered the destruction caused by two years of war.

iv. The given text is an example of a \_\_\_\_\_ poetry.

- concrete
- confessional
- conventional
- conversational

v. Which one of the following words denotes the life of the couple when they were young?

- quarrelsome
- complex
- carefree
- wild

**b) Answer the following questions in the space provided.**

i. Insert the correct tone or mood given below corresponding to the events that caused it. [5]

horror	bitter	hopeful	happy	shock
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Stanza	Events in the poem	Tone or mood	
1	The speaker discovers his ex-wife's picture among the old documents.		
2	The speaker remembers his initial days with his young wife.		
3	The speaker remembers the war he fought overseas, for two years.		
4	The speaker remembers the breakdown of their marriage.		
5	The speaker keeps the picture to find it someday		

ii. The speaker does not throw the picture away but puts it back to look at it again some other time. Would you do the same thing if you were the speaker? Justify with a valid reason.

[5]

**Question 2** Choose ANY ONE question and answer it in the space provided.

a) Identify **TWO** problems that you observed in the relationship between the speaker and his wife. Explain in reference to the Bhutanese context how such problems in a marital relationship can be curbed? [10]



**b)** Test your knowledge on literary features used in the text. Instructions are given after each. [10]

i) Observe the picture given below; identify and write the line/s that is suggested by it and explain the figure of speech given in it.



ii) Observe the picture given below; identify and write the line/s that is suggested by it and explain the imagery used in it.



iii) Observe the picture given below; identify and write the line/s that is suggested by it and explain the figure of speech used in it.






### SECTION D: PLAY (25 MARKS)

**Direction:** You must attempt Question 1 COMPULSORILY. Under Question 2, you can CHOOSE a OR b.

**Question 1** Answer ALL the questions.

a) For each question, there are four responses: A, B, C and D. Choose the corresponding alphabet of your response and CIRCLE it. DO NOT circle more than ONE response. If there are more than one choice circled, NO score will be awarded. [5]

- As the play opens, both Antonio and Portia are presented in \_\_\_\_\_ frame of mind.
  - an agitated
  - an enchanted
  - an ambiguous
  - a melancholic
- The given line, “*I am a tainted wether of the flock, Meetest for death*”, in contemporary English could be written as
  - I am a diseased ram in the flock, fit to die.
  - I am an unhealthy ram in the flock, afraid to die.
  - I am a weathered sheep in the flock, ready to die.
  - I am a strong sheep amongst the flock, sad to die.
- Omar enjoys his life come what may. He tells us to lighten up and enjoy the ride as we grow old.*

Which of the following quotes from the play highlights Omar’s attitude?

- Young in limbs, in judgement old.
- With mirth and laughter let old wrinkles come.
- I never knew so young a body with so old a head.
- Tell me where is fancy bred, Or in the heart or in the head?

iv. *In Act III, Portia asks Lorenzo and Jessica to watch over her house because she along with Nerissa will retreat to a monastery, while their husbands are in Venice for Antonio's trial.*

The unfolding scenario shows the use of

- A verbal irony.
- B cosmic irony.
- C dramatic irony.
- D situational irony.

v. Which one of the following character traits best defines Portia in the trial scene?

- A astute
- B obedient
- C responsible
- D independent

**a) Answer the following questions in the space provided.**

i. Explain the given extract and relate it to women in Elizabethan society.  
*“And yet a maiden had no tongue but thought”*

ii. Imagine that you are Shylock. Express your dissatisfaction on the court's judgement in the form of a soliloquy using approximately 60 words. [5]

**Question 2** Choose ANY ONE question and answer it in the space provided.

a) How is the Shakespearean proverb, “*All is well, that ends well*”, applicable to Antonio? Elucidate with **TWO** reasons. [10]




b) Read the actions performed by different characters and fill up the relevant attribute against each action by selecting it from the given table. Next, justify how the character's action represent the attribute. The first row has been filled up as an example. [10]

Attributes					
Intelligent	Reckless	Arrogant	Stubborn	Witty	Fickle

Action	Attribute	Justifications:
<i>Portia finds a flaw in the bond which she uses against Shylock</i>	<i>observant</i>	<i>Portia finds a flaw in the bond, which she uses to outwit the Jewish moneylender Shylock and saves Antonio's life.</i>
<i>Launcelot remarks on Lorenzo's conversion of Jessica to Christianity.</i>		





