

## Department of English

M.A. ENGLISH ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, FEBRUARY 2014

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Max. Time: 2 hours

Max. Marks: 100

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do **not** reveal your identity in any manner in any part of the answer book.
2. Enter your **Hall Ticket Number** on **the question paper, the OMR sheet and the first page of the answer book**, in the box provided.
3. This paper comprises **two** sections in all.

**Section A** is of an **objective** type and must be answered in the **OMR** sheet.

0.33 of a mark will be deducted for every **wrong** answer in respect of **all objective** type questions (**Section A**). **No marks** will be deducted for questions **not attempted**

**Section B** has **TWO** questions.

**Question 1** requires you to write an **essay**. It must be answered in the **answer book** provided.

**Question 2** comprises a **passage for critical analysis**. It must be answered in the **answer book** provided..

4. Write your answers **only** in the space provided in the answer book. **No** additional paper or answer book will be given.
5. This question paper contains **11** pages in all. Ensure that all the pages have been printed before you start answering.
6. At the end of the examination **return the OMR sheet and the answer book** to the invigilator. You may take away the question paper.

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[Turn to Page 2 for Section A]

Hall Ticket Number

M.A. ENTRANCE EXAMINATION – FEBRUARY, 2014

**SECTION : A****[Total Marks: 50]**There are **50** questions to answer.The questions carry **ONE MARK** each

0.33 of a mark will be deducted for each wrong answer.

Answer in the OMR sheet, using a pen or sketch pen.

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**Choose the right answer from the options given under each item.**

1. Whom does T.S. Eliot refer to as “il miglior fabbro” at the beginning of *The Waste Land*?
  - (A) Wallace Stevens
  - (B) Walt Whitman
  - (C) Ezra Pound
  - (D) Robert Frost
2. The poem  
“The apparition of these faces in the crowd;  
Petals on a wet, black bough.”  
Is an example of
  - (A) Surrealist Poetry
  - (B) Imagist Poetry
  - (C) Symbolic Poetry
  - (D) Vorticist Poetry
3. “I came upon some interesting passages from Hurdis – his *Village Curate* - which greatly delighted me.” What is *Village Curate* likely to be?
  - (A) A rural priest
  - (B) Title of a book
  - (C) Hurdis’ job
  - (D) None of the above
4. Helen of Troy was married to
  - (A) Paris
  - (B) Agamemnon
  - (C) Menelaus
  - (D) Oedipus

5. "Zephyr" refers to  
(A) The east wind  
(B) The south wind  
(C) The west wind  
(D) The north wind
6. Giving undue favours to one's own kith and kin is  
(A) Nepotism  
(B) Favouritism  
(C) Worldliness  
(D) Corruption
7. One who does not care for the arts or literature is called a  
(A) Barbarian  
(B) Philistine  
(C) Primitive  
(D) Illiterate
8. The train from New Delhi is late by 2 hours.  
What is the question to which this would be the most appropriate answer?  
(A) Is the train from New Delhi late?  
(B) How late is the train from New Delhi?  
(C) When will the train from New Delhi arrive?  
(D) Where will the late train arrive from?

**Answer questions 9 to 15 by filling in the blanks with the most appropriate option.**

9. Sam hasn't won this election, -----?  
(A) has he?  
(B) hasn't he?  
(C) was he?  
(D) can he?
10. Lucky: unlucky; fast: slow; timid: brave; decent: indecent; beautiful: -----?  
(A) Unbeautiful  
(B) Unbecoming  
(C) Ugly  
(D) Pretty
11. "Have you seen Soumya of late?" "No, I'm afraid I have not ----- her for nearly a week."  
(A) Saw  
(B) Met  
(C) Meet  
(D) Seen
12. ----- you run, you will not catch up with your sister who left some time ago.  
(A) If not  
(B) If  
(C) Until  
(D) Unless

13. It was quite ----- of you to have ----- the letter wrongly delivered to you.  
(A) thinking, returned  
(B) thoughtful, returning  
(C) thoughtful, returned  
(D) thinking, return
14. Bring ----- axe; I shall cut down ----- tree. Supply the missing articles  
(A) my, that  
(B) that, this  
(C) the, a  
(D) an, the
15. When a letter begins with "Dear Sir/Madam" we call it a/an ----- letter.  
(A) formal  
(B) official  
(C) informal  
(D) unofficial
16. "I haven't brought the receipt. I shall give it to you tomorrow". Choose the most appropriate option if you were to rewrite the sentence beginning with: "Would you mind..."  
(A) Would you mind bringing the receipt tomorrow?  
(B) Would you mind it giving you the receipt tomorrow?  
(C) Would you mind if given the receipt to you tomorrow?  
(D) Would you mind if I give you the receipt tomorrow?
17. Which word would be most appropriate in place of the underlined one so that the meaning of the sentence remains the **same**:  
The accident occurred because the driver changed lanes without warning.  
(A) Switched  
(B) Shortchanged  
(C) Deranged  
(D) Swiped
18. Which word would be most appropriate in place of the underlined one so that the meaning of the sentence remains the **same**:  
With widespread corruption the government's reputation had diminished considerably.  
(A) Indecent  
(B) Rampant  
(C) Pernicious  
(D) Persistent
19. The word 'affectation' implies the following:  
(A) Expression of emotion  
(B) Absence of feeling  
(C) Artificial manner  
(D) An act of deception

20. No one can hope to get away with such a big crime. "Get away with" means:
- (A) Proceed with
  - (B) Go along with
  - (C) Tolerate
  - (D) Escape punishment

**Answer questions 21 to 25 by filling in the blanks with the most appropriate option.**

21. The Muses, goddesses in Greek mythology, were ----- in number.
- (A) Nine
  - (B) Ten
  - (C) A dozen
  - (D) Three
22. By poetic justice is meant -----.
- (A) the kind of justice one hopes to see done in poetry and allied arts
  - (B) departure from conventional justice effected by poets and artists
  - (C) deserved reward or retribution for a character in art
  - (D) the kind of justice poets are remiss in dispensing in their art
23. In the text of a play, stage directions -----.
- (A) Are usually printed on the margins
  - (B) Are usually printed in roman
  - (C) Are usually printed in italics
  - (D) Are usually appended
24. Which punctuation mark is needed in the gap before the start of the quotation in the sentence below?
- The Prime Minister responded ... "We shall take care of the refugees."
- (A) :
  - (B) ;
  - (C) “
  - (D) ‘
25. The term that describes *Ramayana*, *Gilgamesh* and *Odyssey* is...
- (A) Scripture
  - (B) Satire
  - (C) Epic
  - (D) Novel
26. Which organization in India was created for the purpose of encouraging Indian literature across all languages?
- (A) Lalit Kala Akademi
  - (B) Sahitya Akademi
  - (C) Sangeet Akademi
  - (D) Nritya Akademi

27. Rewrite in the passive voice: "Someone stole my bike"
- (A) Who stole my bike?
  - (B) My bike was stolen by someone.
  - (C) My Bike! Stolen!
  - (D) You stole my bike.
28. "Dost sometimes Counsel take – and sometimes Tea". The figure of speech used here is
- (A) Metonymy
  - (B) Zeugma
  - (C) Metaphor
  - (D) Simile
29. "At least there'll be plenty of jam in Heaven," said Davy, "it says in the Bible that 'God makes preserves and redeems us'. Preserves is just a holy way of saying jam, isn't it?"  
The most appropriate punctuation for the Biblical sentence is:
- (A) God makes preserves, and redeems us
  - (B) God makes, preserves and redeems us
  - (C) God makes, preserves; and redeems us
  - (D) God makes; preserves and redeems us
30. "All great men have disciples and it is usually Judas who writes the biography". This statement by Oscar Wilde indicates that
- (A) Biographies are written to glorify their subject
  - (B) The most faithful follower writes the biography
  - (C) Biographers betray their subject's frailties
  - (D) Biographies are full of lies
31. Which field of literature receives the Booker Prize?
- (A) Poetry
  - (B) Prose
  - (C) Fiction
  - (D) Non-Fiction
32. He is so ----- that he immediately believed my story of ghosts. Fill in the blank with the most appropriate option.
- (A) innocent
  - (B) credulous
  - (C) vociferous
  - (D) credible

33. Mark the most appropriate option of the following:
- (A) None of the students has completed the work.
  - (B) None of the student have completed the homework.
  - (C) None of the student has completed the homework.
  - (D) None of the student has been completing the work.
34. An elegy is a poem of
- (A) Love
  - (B) Mourning
  - (C) Praise
  - (D) Revenge

**Questions 35 to 40 are based on the following passage. Read it carefully.**

Across the world, there are barriers to higher education. In developed countries, they may be economic or geographical. In developing countries like India, the obstacles are not only economic or geographical in nature but also bureaucratic—the biggest obstacle of all is simply a lack of supply. That is why, far from the popular impression of online education being viable only in the developed world, it is actually in countries like India where it can fulfil its potential. Internet penetration is growing at a steady pace in India—and unlike conventional education where physical infrastructure is a huge limiting factor, internet connectivity alone can enable millions of youth to access quality higher education online. And we have concrete proof that Indians are hungry for such opportunities. They form the second-largest group of people, by nationality, accessing two of the largest online education efforts—Coursera and edX. It is not surprising after all that an Indian would be interested in the quality courses these initiatives offer, or access Ivy League lectures online, or download podcasts by professors from the top global universities, all of which are freely available. With the abysmal situation of India's higher education, online education will free our youth to search for knowledge and power elsewhere.

35. The focus of this passage is mainly on -----.
- (A) higher education in India
  - (B) online education for Indian students
  - (C) Coursera and edX
  - (D) poor accessibility of higher education
36. The author of this passage is ----- Indian higher education.
- (A) critical of
  - (B) appreciative of
  - (C) indifferent towards
  - (D) ignorant of
37. Which of the statements below is true, according to the author?
- (A) There are barriers to higher education everywhere in the world.
  - (B) There are barriers to higher education only in India.
  - (C) There are barriers to higher education only among the Indian youth.
  - (D) India offers better opportunities to our youth among the developing nations.

38. What, according to the author, is the popular impression?  
(A) That online education is inaccessible to all.  
(B) That online education is inaccessible to some.  
(C) That online education works only in the developed world.  
(D) That online education works only in the developing world.
39. What is a hugely limiting factor in higher education in India?  
(A) Good teachers  
(B) Physical infrastructure  
(C) Distance between places  
(D) Huge population
40. How does the author describe India's higher education?  
(A) As depressing  
(B) As below-par  
(C) As abysmal  
(D) As unimpressive
41. In the book *The Lord of the Rings* who or what is Bilbo?  
(A) Hobbit  
(B) Dwarf  
(C) Wizard  
(D) Troll
42. Who is the author of the famous lines "if winter comes can spring be far behind?"  
(A) P.B. Shelley  
(B) William Butler Yeats  
(C) Robert Frost  
(D) T.S. Eliot
43. I think they allow their children too much-----  
(A) Liberality  
(B) Latitude  
(C) Lassitude  
(D) Levity

**Read the passage given below and answer questions 44 to 50.**

At the height of the Enlightenment, men influenced by the new political theories of the era launched two of the largest revolutions in history. These two conflicts, on two separate continents, were both initially successful in forming new forms of government. And yet, the two conflicts, though merely a decade apart, had radically different conclusions. How do two wars inspired by more or less the same ideals end up so completely different? Why was the American Revolution largely a success and the French Revolution largely a failure?

Historians have pointed to myriad reasons —far too various to be listed here. However, the most frequently cited are worth mentioning. For one, the American Revolution was far removed from the Old World; that is, since it was on a different continent, other European nations did not attempt to interfere with it. However, in the French Revolution, there were immediate cries for war from neighboring nations. Early on, for instance, the ousted king attempted to flee to neighboring Austria and the army waiting there. The newly formed French Republic also warred with Belgium, and a conflict with Britain loomed. Thus, the French had the burden not only of winning a revolution but also defending it from outside. The Americans simply had to win a revolution.

Secondly, the American Revolution seemed to have a better chance for success from the get-go, due to the fact that Americans already saw themselves as something other than British subjects. Thus, there was already a uniquely American character, so, there was not as loud a cry to preserve the British way of life. In France, several thousands of people still supported the king, largely because the king was seen as an essential part of French life. And when the king was first ousted and then killed, some believed that character itself was corrupted. Remember, the Americans did not oust a king or kill him—they merely separated from him.

Finally, there is a general agreement that the French were not as unified as the Americans, who, for the most part, put aside their political differences until after they had already formed a new nation. The French, despite their Tennis Court Oath, could not do so. Infighting led to inner turmoil, civil war, and eventually the Reign of Terror, in which political dissidents were executed in large numbers. Additionally, the French people themselves were not unified. The nation had so much stratification that it was impossible to unite all of them —the workers, the peasants, the middle - class, the nobles, the clergy – into one cause. And the attempts to do so under a new religion, the Divine Cult of Reason, certainly did not help. The Americans, remember, never attempted to change the society at large; rather, they merely attempted to change the government.

44. Which factor did not play a role in making the difference between the two revolutions?
- (A) Geographical Location
  - (B) Physical strength
  - (C) Unity
  - (D) Difference in ideals
45. Who attempted to change the society at large?
- (A) The Americans
  - (B) The French
  - (C) Both
  - (D) Neither

46. As used in paragraph 2, the word 'myriad' most nearly means
- (A) An unknowable secret
  - (B) An uncountable number
  - (C) An unrealistic ideal
  - (D) An unusually rare occurrence
47. According to the passage, the Reign of Terror happened because of
- (A) Social stratification in America
  - (B) The decision to kill the king in the French Revolution
  - (C) Infighting in the French Revolution
  - (D) Social stratification in France
48. As used in paragraph 4, the word 'stratification' describes
- (A) Social inequality
  - (B) Social cohesion
  - (C) Physical separations
  - (D) Societal interactions
49. The 'Old World' here refers to
- (A) Asia
  - (B) Europe
  - (C) Africa
  - (D) America
50. Which movement propounded the new theories that launched both the revolutions?
- (A) The Renaissance
  - (B) The Enlightenment
  - (C) The Reformation
  - (D) The Cult of Reason

**SECTION – B****I. Write an essay on any one of the topics given below.****(20 Marks)**

1. The life of imagination
2. Professionalism
3. The privatization of universities
4. Reading and watching plays
5. Security and the right to privacy
6. Storytellers
7. Animal rights
8. Essaying essays
9. Our kids our pride
10. Home, Alone

**II. Write a critical analysis of the following poem.****(30 Marks)****When You are Old**

When you are old and grey and full of sleep,  
And nodding by the fire, take down this book,  
And slowly read, and dream of the soft look  
Your eyes had once, and of their shadows deep;

How many loved your moments of glad grace,  
And loved your beauty with love false or true,  
But one man loved the pilgrim soul in you,  
And loved the sorrows of your changing face;

And bending down beside the glowing bars,  
Murmur, a little sadly, how Love fled  
And paced upon the mountains overhead  
And hid his face amid a crowd of stars.

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