



Reg. No. :

FY 1001

Name :

**FIRST YEAR HIGHER SECONDARY EQUIVALENCY
EXAMINATION, JULY 2025**

**Part – I
ENGLISH
Maximum : 80 Scores**

Time : 2½ Hours
Cool-off Time : 15 Minutes

General Instructions to Candidates :

- *There is a 'Cool off time' of 15 minutes in addition to the writing time.*
- *Use the 'cool off time' to get familiar with questions and to plan your answers.*
- *Read the questions carefully before answering.*
- *Read the instructions carefully.*

Score

Questions 1-8. Each question carries one score. Attempt all questions.

(8×1=8)

Read the following passage from the lesson "The Story of My Life" and answer the questions that follow :

It is with a kind of fear that I begin to write the history of my life. I have, as it were a superstitious hesitation in lifting the veil that clings about my childhood like a golden mist. The task of writing an autobiography is a difficult one.

1. The passage is taken from the autobiography of

(1)

(Margaret Atwood, Helen Keller, Kamala Das)



Score

2. 'My childhood like a golden mist'. The figure of speech employed in the line is (1)
(Metaphor, Hyperbole, Simile)
3. According to the author what is a difficult task ? (1)
(to write the history, the task of writing an autobiography, write a poem)
4. Pick out the word from the passage that means "to believe in magic or chance , or to have an irrational belief or practice". (1)
(hesitation, golden mist, superstition)

Read the lines of the poem carefully and answer the questions that follow :

She squats, bare feet
Splayed out, not
Graceful; skirt tucked around ankles.

Her face is lined and cracked.
She looks old,
Older than anything.

She's probably thirty.
Her hands also are lined and cracked
And awkward.



- Score**
5. These lines are taken from the poem (1)
(A Poor Woman Learns to write, My Cherry Tree, Refugee Mother and Child)
6. What is the age of the woman, mentioned in the poem ? (1)
(40, 30, 20)
7. Pick out the phrase from the poem that means "to spread out or widen, or to be spread out wide apart". (1)
(tucked around, bare feet, splayed out)
8. The woman in the poem looks old. Why ? (1)
(she is angry, she is jealous, she is working hard)

Questions 9-12. Answer any three of the following questions. Each question carries 2 scores. (3×2=6)

9. Supply suitable question tag :
- a) It was a nice film, _____ ? (doesn't it, wasn't it, were it) (1)
- b) Swarag loves games, _____ ? (doesn't he, don't he, do we) (1)
10. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs given in brackets :
- a) Sudheesh usually _____ (play) Tennis in the morning. (plays, are playing, will play) (1)
- b) The family (go) for movies every Sunday. (goes, go, are going) (1)



Score

11. Supply suitable prepositions :

a) They opened the door _____ the woodshed _____ the utmost precaution. (2)

(by, to, of, with)

12. Read the following lines of the poem and identify the ending words :

'I planted that and nurtured it from seed

I watched and pruned it as often was the need.'

(2)

Questions 13-19. Answer any five of the following questions. Each carries 4 scores. (5×4=20)

13. Justify the ending of the play "The Boor".

(4)

14. Describe the condition of the Refugee Camp in the poem "Refugee Mother and The Child".

(4)

15. Washington was hurt and shocked to hear that his future project was taken off. Emily, his wife understood the disappointment of her husband. She sends an email to the crew and the engineers calling them to restart the project. Draft the email.

(4)

16. The grandmother was an invisible, but strong presence in the family. What would have been the feelings of the grandson when he lost her? Attempt a diary-entry that he could have made.

(4)



Score

17. Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct word from the brackets :

(throughout, except, without, despite)

a) I like all vegetables _____ beans. (1)

b) We played outside for a while _____ the hot weather. (1)

c) Basketball is popular _____ India. (1)

d) You cannot bake a cake _____ flour. (1)

18. Kushwant's family decides to publish an obituary in the newspaper to announce the death of the grandmother. Prepare the obituary.

Hints : title, photograph/picture, name , age, message, place, date (4)

19. What is the difference in the attitude of the mother and the son towards the snake in the poem 'The Boy and the Snake' ? (4)

Questions 20-25. Answer any five of the following questions. Each carries 6 scores. (5×6=30)

20. Compare and contrast the characters of Mrs. Popov and Smirnov in the play "The Boor". (6)

21. Imagine that one of your friends has the habit of stealing things. How will you correct him ? Write a letter advising him to stop this habit. (6)

22. Attempt a critical review of the story 'The Beggar'. (6)



Score

23. Write a critical appreciation of the poem 'My Cherry Tree' with special reference to its theme, rhyme scheme, figure of speech and satire. (6)
24. The inhabitants of Gali Ram Nathan realise that they did not pay due respect to Mehmood, the kitemaker, when he was alive. They wish to organise a condolence meeting as a tribute to Mehmood. Prepare a notice for the meeting. (6)
25. The life of Helen Keller changed a lot after the arrival of her teacher, Anne Sullivan. The teacher's inspiration helped Helen reach great heights. Prepare a speech on the role of a teacher as a motivator and a mentor. (6)

Questions 26-28. Answer any two of the following questions. Each question carries 8 scores. (2×8=16)

26. Nowadays, the young generation casts away old people, resulting in a mushrooming of old-age homes. Do you think our youth lack love and compassion for the old? Visit an old-age home in your locality and hold an interview with an inmate. Prepare a report of your visit. (8)
27. "Everyone has a strong desire to be successful. But if one lacks dreams, determination, will power and perseverance to overcome hurdles, one may not scale the ladder of success. It is hard work combined with an unflinching desire to be an achiever that leads one to greater realm of glory." How far this quotation is true as per the chapters you studied. Prepare an essay about this in the light of the chapters 'The Story of My Life', 'The Story of Brooklyn Bridge', and 'A Poor woman Learns to Write'. (8)



Score

(8)

28. Read the following poem and attempt a critical appreciation.

The Shepherd

How sweet is the Shepherd's sweet lot
From the morn to the evening he strays ;
He shall follow his sheep all the day,
And his tongue shall be filled with praise.

For he hears the lamb's innocent call,
And he hears the ewe's tender reply'
He is watchful while they are in peace,
For they know when their Shepherd is nigh.

-William Blake

Summary Hints : The poem paints an idyllic portrait of a Shepherd's life — celebrating simplicity — nature's beauty — spiritual connections — Shepherd's harmonious existence — calls of lambs — trust between shepherd and flock.

Structure of Critical Appreciation : introduction — summary of the poem — poetic devices — conclusion — your opinion about the poem.