

Roll No: _____
Date: __/__/__

St. Claret College

Autonomous, Bengaluru

UG END SEMESTER EXAMINATION-MAY 2025

BSc/BCA- II SEMESTER

GES 224: GENERAL ENGLISH II

6

TIME: 3 hours.

MAX. MARKS: 80

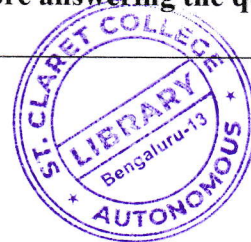
This paper contains THREE printed pages and TWO parts

Instructions:

1. Verify and ensure that the question paper is completely printed.
2. Any discrepancies or questions about the exam paper must be reported to the COE within 1 hour after the examination.
3. Students must check the course title and course code before answering the questions.

PART-A

(Literary Component)



Answer any FIVE questions. Each answer carries TWO marks.

[5 x 2 = 10]

1. How does the author describe North Richmond Street in the story, *Araby*?
2. What does Maya Angelou suggest is the source of a woman's confidence in the poem, *Phenomenal Woman*?
3. What are the acts of love that the mother shows towards her child in the poem, *Refugee Mother and Child*?
4. What does Halku do with the money he saved up to buy a blanket in the story, *A Winter Night*?
5. How do the kids react to the arrival of tar in the story, *Tar Arrives*?
6. How do Lava and Kusa describe the woman they see in the garden in the story, *In My Mother's Garden*?
7. What mistake does the narrator make during the hunt in the story, *The Bear Hunt*?

Answer any FOUR questions. Each answer carries FIVE marks.

[4 x 5 = 20]

8. Explain the significance of the title, *Phenomenal Woman*.
9. Justify Halku's reaction to his destroyed field at the end of the story, *A Winter Night*.
10. How does the author bring the mood of war-stricken Dublin in the story, *Araby*?
11. How does Shakespeare portray the conflict between the soul and the body in the sonnet, *Soul and Body*?
12. Describe the near-death experience of the narrator in the story, *The Bear Hunt*.
13. Comment on Rangappa's kids' fascination with tar from the story, *Tar Arrives*.

Answer any TWO questions. Each answer carries TEN marks.

[2 x 10 = 20]

14. Discuss the significance of the bazaar, Araby, in the story. How does it symbolise the protagonist's desires and disillusionment? What does the bazaar represent about the society in which he lives?
15. Analyze how Tolstoy portrays human nature through the characters' actions during the bear hunt. What does the story reveal about instinct, bravery, and the primal aspects of humanity?
16. Critically analyze the character of Surpanakha in the story, *In My Mother's Garden*. How does Volga's portrayal of her differ from the traditional depiction in *The Ramayana*?

PART-B

(Language Component)

17. Read the passage and answer the following questions.

[5 x 1 = 5]

In an age dominated by digital media and instant information, the value of reading books remains significant. Books offer a depth of knowledge and understanding that is difficult to achieve through shorter digital content. When one reads a book, they engage in a deeper cognitive process. This process involves critical thinking, reflection, and the ability to connect various ideas. Moreover, books improve vocabulary and language skills, providing a rich linguistic experience through diverse genres and styles. Furthermore, reading books allows individuals to explore different cultures and perspectives, fostering empathy and understanding. Fiction, in particular, allows readers to experience lives different from their own, broadening their horizons in ways that non-fiction may not. The immersive nature of reading can also enhance concentration and focus, skills that are essential in both academic and professional settings. Despite the allure of fast-paced digital content, many studies suggest that reading books can lead to improved mental health, reducing stress and promoting relaxation. Engaging with a narrative can serve as a temporary escape, while also stimulating imagination and creativity. In this way, reading books is not only a tool for academic growth but also a means of personal enrichment. In conclusion, the act of reading books nurtures critical thinking, promotes empathy, enhances language skills, and contributes positively to mental wellness. As society continues to evolve, prioritizing the reading of books can provide invaluable benefits that transcend mere information.

- a) What cognitive processes are enhanced by reading books according to the passage?
- b) How do books promote empathy and understanding of different cultures?
- c) What benefits of reading books are mentioned about mental health?
- d) In what ways do books improve language skills?
- e) Why is the immersive nature of reading considered valuable in academic and professional settings?

18. Fill in the blanks.

[5 x 1 = 5]

- a) The scientist made a _____ diction about the experiment's outcome. (pre/ dis)
- b) The act _____ of the volcano was monitored closely. (-tion/ -ivity)
- c) The manager's response was **concise**, but the employee's explanation was _____.
(antonym of "concise")
- d) The committee will _____ on the new policy next week. (synonym of 'determine')
- e) The new policy will come into _____ (force/effect) next month.

19. Convert the following sentences to reported speech.

[5 x 1 = 5]

- a) Lisa said, "I will join you for dinner tonight."

- b) "I can't believe how quickly the time has passed," Mark exclaimed.
- c) "Please finish your homework before going out," the teacher instructed.
- d) "We are planning to travel to Europe next summer," Sarah mentioned.
- e) "Don't forget to bring your umbrella," Mom reminded me.

20. Construct a dialogue for the given situation.

[1 x 5 = 5]

Write a conversation between two friends planning a trip abroad, discussing destinations, budget, accommodation, and activities.

21. Answer all the questions in one or two sentences.

[5 X 1 = 5]

- a) Differentiate between verbal and non-verbal communication.
- b) What is proxemics?
- c) Explain any two types of non-verbal communication.
- d) What is chronemics?
- e) Explain the role of gestures in nonverbal communication.

22. Write a welcome speech for the Cultural Fest, Mayurika happening at your college in not more than 200 words.

[5 x 1 = 5]
