



SE - 034

I Semester Common to All Courses Examination, January/February 2026
(SEP 2024 – 25)
ADDITIONAL ENGLISH – I

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 80

Instructions : 1) Answer *all* the questions.
2) Write question number *correctly*.

SECTION – A

I. Answer any five of the following questions in one sentence or two. (5×2=10)

- 1) Who accepts stammering as natural in the poem *Stammer* ?
- 2) What gives strength to the poet from the poem *Still I Rise* ?
- 3) Why do the friends dream of becoming rich from the story *Lottery* ?
- 4) How does Arun react to the woman's kindness in *The Woman on Platform 8* ?
- 5) Where does the narrator encounter the man eater in the story *The Ramapuram Tiger* ?
- 6) Why does the girl work at the restaurant on her birthday in *Birthday Girl* ?
- 7) Name one thing the narrator understands about people from the story *Jamaican Fragment*.

II. Answer any four of the following questions in about a page each. (4×5=20)

- 1) Give a brief note on why stammering is not treated as disability in the poem *Stammer*.
- 2) Describe how the poem shows pride and inner strength in the poem *Still I Rise*.
- 3) State the main events that lead to the lottery in the story *Lottery*.
- 4) Talk about one comforting action by the woman at the platform from the story *The Woman on Platform 8*.
- 5) Point out the setting that makes the tiger story tense from the story *The Ramapuram Tiger*.
- 6) Mention how the narrator changes after the event in the fragment in the story *Jamaican Fragment*.

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(3×10=30)

III. Answer any three of the following questions.

- 1) Write an essay on the view of speech in the poem *Stammer*.
- 2) Explain how the poem asks readers to be brave in the poem *Still I Rise*.
- 3) Describe how greed affects lives in the story *Lottery*.
- 4) Discuss how short meetings can leave lasting memories in the story *The Woman on Platform 8*.
- 5) Describe Kenneth Anderson's courage and calmness during the tiger hunt in *The Ramapuram Tiger*.

SECTION – B

IV. Identify the figures of speech in the following sentences : (5×1=5)

- 1) The leaves danced joyfully in the cool breeze.
- 2) His words cut deeper than a knife.
- 3) The snow was a white blanket over the hills.
- 4) The waves kissed the shore and retreated softly.
- 5) The stars were diamonds scattered across the night sky.

V. Identify the error and correct the following sentences : (5×1=5)

- 1) She have been waiting for you since morning.
- 2) The team play very well yesterday.
- 3) I am living here since five years.
- 4) He didn't wrote the exam properly.
- 5) The books is lying on the table.

VI. Read the passage and answer the questions. (5×1=5)

“The Legend of Ekalavya” (from the Mahabharata)

In the ancient epic ‘Mahabharata’, there lived a young tribal boy named Ekalavya, the son of a hunter. From a very young age, Ekalavya dreamt of becoming the greatest archer in the world. He had heard stories about Dronacharya, the royal teacher who trained the Kauravas and the Pandavas – princes of Hastinapura – in the art of warfare. Drona was known far and wide for his skill, discipline and strictness. Ekalavya decided that he would learn archery only from him.



One day, Ekalavya walked a long distance through forests and rivers to reach Drona's training ground. With deep respect, he bowed and said, "Guru Dronacharya, please accept me as your disciple and teach me the art of archery." Drona looked at the boy and saw that he was not of royal birth. In those days, students from royal or warrior families alone were allowed to study in royal gurukulas. Drona sadly told him, "I cannot accept you as my student. Go back to your home."

Ekalavya felt crushed but did not argue. He returned to the forest and decided that if he could not learn directly from Drona, he would still learn in spirit. He built a statue of Dronacharya out of clay and placed it under a tree. Every day, he bowed to it as his teacher and began to practice archery by himself. With determination and devotion, he practiced tirelessly – shooting arrows at targets, aiming at distant fruits, and learning from every mistake. Over time, his skill grew so sharp that he could hit a target just by hearing the sound.

One day, while Drona and the royal princes were passing through the forest, they noticed a dog sitting silently with arrows neatly placed around its mouth, stopping it from barking but not hurting it. Arjuna, Drona's favorite student, was astonished. "Who could have done this?" he asked. They followed the trail and found Ekalavya practicing. Drona was amazed at his skill and asked, "Who is your teacher?"

Ekalavya bowed and said, "You, Guru Drona. You are my teacher." Drona was taken aback. He realized this young boy had surpassed even Arjuna in skill, though he had never officially trained him. Drona had promised Arjuna that no one would ever be a greater archer than him. Bound by this promise, Drona asked Ekalavya for 'guru dakshina' – a gift given by a student to his teacher.

Ekalavya bowed deeply and said, "I am ready to give you whatever you ask." Drona replied, "Then give me your right thumb." Without hesitation, Ekalavya drew his knife, cut off his thumb, and placed it at Drona's feet. His devotion shocked everyone. Though he could never shoot the same way again, his dedication made him immortal in history.

Ekalavya's story reminds us that true learning requires faith, humility, and perseverance. His devotion to his guru and his self-discipline make him one of the noblest characters in Indian mythology.



**Questions :**

- 1) Who was Ekalavya, and what did he want to learn ?
- 2) Why did Dronacharya refuse to teach Ekalavya ?
- 3) How did Ekalavya train himself without a real teacher ?
- 4) What did Dronacharya ask for as “guru dakshina” and what did Ekalavya do ?
- 5) What moral lesson do we learn from Ekalavya’s story ?

VII. Punctuate the following sentences correctly blanks :**(5x1=5)**

- 1) The minister said people of our country must work together for peace and progress.
- 2) the child asked mother can I go out to play with my friends now.
- 3) The shopkeeper said please come again we will give you a better discount next time.
- 4) the captain shouted team get ready the match starts in ten minutes.
- 5) The traveler said oh what a beautiful sunset this is.

