

**TDC Even Semester Exam., 2018**

**ALTERNATIVE ENGLISH**

**( Pass )**

**( 4th Semester )**

**Course No. : ENGL-401**

**( Composition, Short Story and  
Non-Fictional Prose )**

**Full Marks : 50**

**Pass Marks : 17**

**Time : 2 hours**

**The figures in the margin indicate full marks  
for the questions**

**UNIT—I**

**( Marks : 25 )**



1. Give a précis of the following passage and add a suitable title to it :

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When we survey our lives and efforts we soon observe that almost the whole of our actions and desires are bound up with the existence of other human beings. We notice that whole nature resembles that of the social animals. We eat food that others have produced, wear



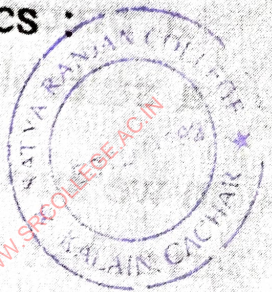
(2)

clothes that others have made, live in houses that others have built. The greater part of our knowledge and beliefs has been passed on to us by other people through the medium of language which others have created. Without language and mental capacities, we would have been poor indeed comparable to higher animals.

We have, therefore, to admit that we owe our principal knowledge over the least to the fact of living in human society. The individual left alone from birth would remain primitive and beast like in his thoughts and feelings to a degree that we can hardly imagine. The individual is what he is and has the significance that he has, not much in virtue of the individuality, but rather as a member of a great human community, which directs his material and spiritual existence from the cradle to grave.

2. Write an essay in about 250 words on any one of the following topics :

- (a) Importance of sports
- (b) Students and politics
- (c) Environmental pollution
- (d) Travelling as a part of education





( Marks : 25 )

Answer any two of the following questions :

10×2=20

- (a) Give a character sketch of Aksyonof as you find in the short story, *God Sees the Truth but Waits*.
- (b) Briefly describe the sacrifices made by Raicharan in *The Child's Return*.
- (c) Why does Haldane say that science attempts to be truthful and impartial?
- (d) What did the Loiseles do to pay their 'frightful debt'?
- (e) Comment on the theme of the short story, *Gift of the Magi*.

Answer any one of the following questions :

- (a) Why does Haldane say that scientist is superior to God?
- (b) How did Raicharan bring up Phailna?
- (c) Draw a brief character sketch of Mathilde.