

Sub.Code : 0041'C'

NEB - GRADE XII

2083 (2026)

Compulsory English

(For regular students whose first two digits of registration number starts from 82)

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable. The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Time: 3 hrs.

Full Marks: 75

Attempt all questions

1. Read the following text and do the tasks that follow.

In a quiet corner of the bustling city, there stood an old, dusty library. While most people hurried past, its **unassuming** exterior hid an incredible secret. The librarian, an elderly woman named Ms. Abernathy, was not an ordinary librarian; she was the guardian of a magical library.

One sunny afternoon, Sarah, an eighth-grader with an **insatiable** love for books, stumbled upon the library. She had always been drawn to stories of magic and adventure, and something about the library's unassuming facade piqued her curiosity. As she stepped inside, a small bell above the door tinkled, announcing her arrival. Ms. Abernathy greeted her with a warm smile, sensing Sarah's keen interest in books.

Sarah soon discovered the true enchantment of the library. Its shelves held volumes that could transport readers to other worlds. She found herself **immersed** in tales of knights and dragons, enchanted forests, and talking animals. These books had a way of making her feel like she was right there, part of the adventure.

As the weeks passed, Sarah spent hours at the library, delving into one captivating story after another. She uncovered a book about a boy who could fly, and as she read, she felt her feet lifting off the ground. She found herself soaring over the city, experiencing the thrill of flight. Another day, she read about a time-traveling watch, and suddenly, she was witnessing historical events unfold before her eyes.

One day, as Sarah was browsing the shelves, she noticed a book titled "The Lost Amulet of Althoria." The cover featured a golden amulet with a shimmering blue gem. Ms. Abernathy explained that this was a unique book—it was unfinished. No one knew how the story ended because no reader had ever returned the book. Sarah decided to take on the challenge. She opened the book and was immediately drawn into a tale of a young adventurer, Alaric, on a **quest** to find the lost amulet. She felt herself journeying through dark forests, crossing treacherous rivers, and facing

(Contd...)

mythical creatures. The more she read, the deeper she became entangled in the story. It was as though she had become Alaric, feeling his determination and bravery.

As the days turned into weeks, Sarah's friends and family grew concerned. She had become so absorbed in the book that she neglected her usual activities. Ms. Abernathy gently reminded her to take breaks, but Sarah was determined to reach the end of the story.

Finally, one evening, as Sarah read the last page, she found herself standing in a clearing, facing an **ornate** door. Through the door, she saw a **dazzling** chamber with the lost amulet resting on a pedestal. With a deep breath, she opened the door and approached the amulet. As she touched it, a burst of blue light enveloped her, and she felt herself returning to the library.

When she opened her eyes, she was back among the dusty bookshelves, holding the book in her hands. Ms. Abernathy congratulated her on completing the unfinished story. Sarah had not only finished the tale but had also experienced an adventure unlike any other.

From that day on, Sarah continued to visit the magical library, understanding that the real magic was not just in the stories but in the way they made her feel and the adventures they allowed her to live.

A) Complete the following sentences using the correct words highlighted in the text. Two of the words are not necessary. [5×1=5]

- a. World leaders are now united in their for peace.
- b. People are impressed by her manner and relaxed style of writing.
- c. As I started to live on my own, I myself in my career.
- d. The stuff written about me helped to establish me as a/anfigure in public.
- e. His desire for money is

B) Choose and copy the correct alternatives. [5×1=5]

- a. Where is the story set?

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| (i) a bustling city | (ii) a dazzling chamber |
| (iii) an enchanted building | (iv) a magical forest |
- b. Who is Ms. Abernathy in the story?

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| (i) a magical creature | (ii) a narrator |
| (iii) a librarian | (iv) a character from a book |
- c. What unique quality do the books in the library have?
 - (i) They can speak to the readers gently.
 - (ii) They can make readers a part of the adventure.
 - (iii) They grant wishes reading their inner motives.
 - (iv) They can predict the reader's fortune.

(Contd...)

- d. How does Sarah feel when she touches the lost amulet?
 (i) disappointed (ii) afraid
 (iii) awakened (iv) enchanted
- e. What kind of character is Sarah in the story?
 (i) brave and proud (ii) determined and courageous
 (iii) imaginative and obsessed (iv) obedient and tactful

C) Answer the following questions. [5×1=5]

- a. Why did Sarah go to the library in the beginning?
 b. What happened when Sarah reads the book about a boy who can fly?
 c. What was special about the book "The Lost Amulet of Althoria"?
 d. What was Alaric searching for in the tale?
 e. Was Sarah more determined to read books at the end? Give a reason.
2. Write short answers to the following questions in about 75 words each. [5×2=10]
 a. How would you react if you were in the young man's situation at the end of the story? (*Neighbours*)
 b. How was Gouvernail different from Mrs. Baroda's expectation?
 (*A Respectable Woman*)

OR

- Do you think Rakesh was a devoted son? Explain. (*A Devoted Son*)
 c. What does the poet say about God's greatness?
 (*Every Morning I Wake*)
 d. Where was the author when he was late for lunch? (*On Libraries*)

OR

- What is the goal of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights?
 (*Human Rights and the Age of Inequality*)
 e. Do you think that August Strindberg portrays despair in a very powerful and realistic way? Give a reason. (*Facing Death*)
3. Write long answers to the following questions in about 150 words each. [2×5=10]
 a. What was the reaction of the community to the old man with enormous wings and what does it show about humanity and compassion?
 (*A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings*)

OR

- What are Nock's ideas about marriage in society? Do you agree or disagree with him? Why? (*Marriage as a Social Institution*)
 b. Explain the following lines of the poem, 'A Day' with reference to the context
 The hills untied their bonnets,
 The bobolinks begun.
 Then I said softly to myself,
 That must have been the sun!

(Contd...)

4. Study the following table and interpret the information given in the table in about 150 words. Make comparison where necessary. [7]

Monthly Sales Data for XYZ Company (in thousands of dollars)

| Month | Product A | Product B | Product C | Total Sales |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| January | 50 | 40 | 30 | 120 |
| February | 60 | 35 | 25 | 120 |
| March | 70 | 45 | 35 | 150 |
| April | 65 | 50 | 40 | 155 |
| May | 75 | 55 | 45 | 175 |
| June | 80 | 60 | 50 | 190 |

5. It is often said, 'Save nature to save the future'. Write a letter to the editor of a national newspaper about the effects of environmental pollution in about 180 words. [8]
6. Walking is not just a physical activity. It has many benefits. Write an essay on walking as a physical activity and its role in building physical, mental and social behavior of an individual in about 300 words. [10]
7. Do as instructed in the brackets and rewrite the sentences. [10×1=10]
- Health care in Nepal is not as expensive as it is in the US.
(Identify the adjective in the sentence.)
 - My car needs(repair/repairing/to repair/repared) right now.
(Choose the correct form of the verb to complete the sentence.)
 - This is the house. We spent our childhood in the house.
(Join the sentences using appropriate relative pronoun.)
 - Sumsher along with his friends(know/knows/have known/knowing) me well.
(Choose and write the correct form of the verb that completes the sentence.)
 - Don't stare.....me. I have no mistake.
(Use appropriate preposition in the blank space.)
 - You (may/must/would/could) not tell anyone about this. It's too confidential. (Choose the correct modal verb to complete the sentence.)
 - The customer.....the machine before he complained about the error.
(Write the correct form of the verb 'purchase' to complete the sentence.)
 - We are close friends. We have not seen each other's houses.
(Join the sentences with 'despite'.)
 - Yangma said, "You are my source of inspiration in life."
(Change the sentence into indirect speech.)
 - Loku was presenting his project for the first time.
(Change the sentence into passive voice.)

(Contd...)

8. Choose and copy the correct alternatives. [5×1=5]
- a. It's a beautiful present for me. What is the word class of the underlined word ?
(i) noun (ii) adjective (iii) adverb (iv) verb
- b. Which of the following words comes before the word 'choice' in the dictionary?
(i) choose (ii) chrome (iii) chide (iv) chord
- c. The babysitter the girl while her parents were not at home.
Which of the following phrasal verbs correctly completes the sentence?
(i) looked after (ii) looked at
(iii) looked over (iv) looked up
- d. Which of the following words takes the prefix 'il-'?
(i) balance (ii) fertile (iii) legal (iv) mobile
- e. Which of the following words has same initial sound as in the word 'chaos'?
(i) chance (ii) chemical (iii) circus (iv) cinema