

2026
(Regular)
English (Minor)
Paper Code : EN-MN-2114
Paper Name : Language & Literature

Time : 2½ hours

Full Marks : 60

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

1. Answer the following questions : 1×7=7
- a) What is the subtitle of the poem, *Lucy Gray* ?
 - b) Who painted the portrait of the Duchess in *My Last Duchess* ?
 - c) What amount does the old woman ask from the tourist to take him to the horseshoe shrine ?
 - d) What season of the year does Shakespeare compare himself to in *Sonnet 73* ?
 - e) Who is the author of *On His Blindness* ?
 - f) What type of a poem is *To a Skylark* ?
 - g) How many stanzas are there in the poem *Ode to Autumn*?
2. Answer the following questions : 2×4=8
- a) What does the poet mean by 'Death's second self' in *Sonnet 73*?
 - b) Why is autumn called the 'season of mists and mellow fruitfulness' ?
 - c) How does the repetition of the word 'break' contribute to the overall theme and mood of the poem, *Break, Break, Break* ?
 - d) What does the phrase 'the huts of history's shame' mean in the poem, *Still I Rise* ?

Contd.

3. Answer **any three** of the following questions : 5×3=15

- a) Define antithesis and hyperbole with proper illustrations.
- b) You are Akshay/Akriti, the Secretary of Literary Society of your college. The Society is holding an inter-college debate competition on the topic, '*NEP 2020 will Transform India into a Knowledge Society by Ensuring Equitable and Inclusive Education for All*'. Write a formal invitation to the Director of Higher Education of Assam to act as the Speaker of the competition. The competition is to be held on August 23, 2026 at 11.00 a.m.
- c) Amplify **any one** of the following :
 - i) United we stand, divided we fall.
 - ii) Honesty is the best policy.
- d) Write a critical appreciation of the following poem :

I watched a lonely snow flake
As it floated to the ground
It shivered on its journey
But never made a sound
It lay there till the springtime
But was never ever found.
- e) Write an article on 'Impact of Internet'.
- f) Imagine that you are the General Secretary of your college. Prepare a Speech to be delivered in the assembly hall on "Blood Donation" in 150-200 words.

4. Answer **any three** of the following questions: 10×3=30

- a) Show how Toru Dutt blends nature, emotion and storytelling in the poem, *Sita*.
- b) Write an essay on **any one** of the following topics :
 - i) Artificial Intelligence and the future of mankind.

- ii) Terrorism and modern society
 - iii) Sustainable Development
 - iv) Wildlife Conservation
- c) Discuss William Wordsworth's portrayal of Lucy as child of nature.
 - d) Describe John Keats personification of Autumn in the poem, *Ode to Autumn*.
 - e) Write a note on Browning's use of dramatic monologue in *My Last Duchess*.
 - f) Describe the old woman as a symbol of poverty and survival in India.

