

Module – 3

Section – A (Reading)

A. Read the given passage:

Born in 1775 in Steventon, Rectory, Hampshire, Jane Austen belonged to an upper middle class family and enjoyed all comforts. She and her sister Cassandra had their first lessons from their mother. Schooling in Oxford, South Hampton and at Abbey School. Jane at the age of nine and Cassandra at the age of 11 were back home. Both enjoyed reading poetry and great works of Shakespeare. At the age of 12, Jane Austen looked better than a tomboy. Initially she started writing short humorous stories. Her first full length novel titled ‘Elinor and Marianne’ started in her late teens. At the age of 22, she wrote ‘First Impressions’ and later ‘Pride and Prejudice’. Jane Austen has portrayed in her novel things like niceties of decorum, petty jealousies, vanity and affection. She has dealt with the superficialities of life. ‘Pride and Prejudice’ is the most interesting novel and the most popular because of its interesting plot, a rich comedy, supreme theme, the sparkling life of characters, a freshness of the scenery. A year or two later, she completed ‘Susan’ which was retitled ‘Northanger Abbey’. Family circumstances made her leave Steventon and go to Bath. But the memories of her widowed Sister, her friends and relatives, the family rectory and the countryside haunted her and she could not be happy at Bath. Like Casandra, Jane also had a love affair with a doctor but it ended in a tragedy. After her father’s death in 1805, she got support of her brother Edward and began a comfortable life with a renewed interest. At the age of 41 she died and her two novels ‘Persuasion’ and ‘Northanger Abbey’ were published after her death.

A.1. Based on reading of the passage, choose the correct option to answer the questions that follow:

- (i) How do you know that Jane was born with the spark for literary writing?
- (a) she wrote short humorous stories.
 - (b) she used to read poetry and great works of Shakespeare at an early age.
 - (c) ‘Pride and Prejudice’ is the most interesting novel.
- (ii) Why could Jane not be happy at Bath?
- (a) she missed everything about her life at the countryside.
 - (b) two of her books were published after her death.
 - (c) after her father’s death, her brother was supporting her.

A.2. Complete the following:

- (i) After Austen’s father died, her brother Edward _____.
- (ii) Jane had to face two tragedies when she was at Bath. Those were
(a) _____ (b) _____

A.3. Find the words from the passage which mean the same as:

- (i) superb _____
- (ii) shallowness of things _____

A.4. Find the antonyms of

- (i) comedy _____ (ii) staleness _____

Section – B (Writing)

B.1. Write in about 250 words either For or Against the motion on any two of the following topics :-

- (i) Mobiles should be allowed in schools.
- (ii) Western culture is having a negative impact on Indians.
- (iii) Robo-men / maids can not replace man/maid servants.
- (iv) Junk food is after all not all junk.
- (v) Technology – a boon.

Section – C (Grammar)

C.1. Fill in the blanks with the words given in the brackets:

- (i) Neither this suit nor those shirts _____ to me. (belong/ belongs)
- (ii) You as well as I _____ responsible for our losses. (are/ am)
- (iii) A black and white dog _____ fallen into the pit outside. (has/ have)
- (iv) Either you or Gaurav _____ responsible for this mistake. (is/ are)
- (v) Every boy and every girl _____ present in the class. (was/ were)

Section – D (Literature)

The Dance Lesson

D.1. “A young girl losing all hope”.

- (i) Whom does ‘a young girl’ refer to?
- (ii) Why was she losing hope?

D.2. “Would she master the triple pirouette?”

- (i) What is a “Pirouette”?
- (ii) Why did she need to master it?

D.3. What is the poem about?

D.4. Explain: ‘The world collapsed when she fell.’

English is Fun- 1

Match the columns to learn about the different forms of poetry.

A	B
(i) haiku	(a) a funny verse
(ii) lyric	(b) a poem to mourn the death of someone
(iii) elegy	(c) a story poem
(iv) limerick	(d) a poem of 14 lines
(v) ballad	(e) a tree-lined Japanese poem
(vi) blank verse	(f) a poem that has a lofty theme
(vii) epic	(g) a short poem
(viii) sonnet	(h) a poem with no definite rhyme scheme

Proverb Time

- P.6.** A chain is no stronger than its weakest link. – The strength of a group depends on each individual member.
- P.7.** A fault confessed is half redressed. – Confession is the beginning of forgiveness.

