

Bachelor Degree Programme

B. D. P.

Term End Examination — December 2014 & June 2015

Elective Course

ENGLISH

(Eighth Paper : Essay and unseen)

Time : Four Hours

Full Marks : 100

(Weightage of Marks : 70%)

**Special credit will be given for accuracy and relevance
in the answer. Marks will be deducted for incorrect
spelling, untidy work and illegible handwriting.**

**The weightage for each question has been
indicated in the margin.**

1. Write an essay on any *one* of the following topics : 40 × 1 = 40
 - a) Metaphysical poetry
 - b) A book you have just finished reading
 - c) Nature in English Poetry
 - d) The Writer's Social Obligation
 - e) Absurd Drama
 - f) The Short Story.
2. Write the substance of the following passage and add a critical note on its theme and prose style : 20 + 10 = 30

Kapil Dev Ramlal Nikhanj (born 6th January, 1959), better known as Kapil Dev, is a former

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Indian cricketer. He captained the Indian cricket team which won the 1983 Cricket World Cup. Named by Wisden as the *Indian Cricketer of the Century* in 2002, Kapil Dev was one of the greatest all-rounders of all time. He was also India's national cricket coach for 10 months between October 1999 and August 2000. Kapil Dev made an impressive debut for Haryana in November, 1975 against Punjab with a 6 wicket haul, restricting Punjab to just 63 runs and helping Haryana to victory. Kapil finished the season with 12 wickets in 3 matches. In the 1976-77 season opener against Jammu & Kashmir, he had a match haul of 8/36 to win the match for his team. While his contributions for the rest of the season was ordinary, Haryana qualified for the pre-quarter finals. Kapil Dev achieved his then best innings haul of 7/20 in just 9 overs in the second innings to skittle Bengal for 58 runs in under 19 overs. Although Haryana lost to Bombay in the quarter finals, his form made the nation sit up and take notice. Kapil began his 1977-78 season claiming 8/38 in the first innings against Services. With 3 wickets in the second innings, he took his maiden 10 wicket haul in first-class cricket, a feat he would later achieve twice in Test cricket. With

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23 wickets in 4 matches, he was selected for the Irani Trophy, Duleep Trophy and Wills Trophy matches. For the 1978-79 season, Haryana had a repeat encounter with Bengal in the pre-quarterfinal match after a lacklustre bowling season from Kapil Dev (12 wickets from 4 matches). Kapil Dev however scored 2 half-centuries in the group stage matches. In the pre-quarter final match, he rose to the occasion by taking a 5 wicket haul in the first innings. Poor batting by Haryana in the second innings meant Bengal could avenge their loss from 2 seasons back by scoring the required 161 runs for the loss of just 4 wickets. Kapil Dev stood out in the Irani Trophy match scoring 62 runs coming in at number 8. He also took 5 catches in the game where Karnataka was defeated by the Rest of India XI. Kapil Dev arrived in the national spotlight with a trademark standout performance in the finals of the Duleep Trophy taking a first innings haul of 7/65 in 24 overs. Kapil was included in the North Zone squad for Deodhar Trophy and Wills Trophy for the first time. He played his first Test match in the season against Pakistan. In the 1979-80 season, Kapil showed his batting talent with a maiden century against Delhi when he scored his career best 193. In the

pre-quarter final match, where he captained Haryana for the first time against Uttar Pradesh, he took a five wicket haul in the second innings to advance to quarter finals where they lost to Karnataka. With Kapil cementing his place in the Indian National squad, his appearances in domestic matches dwindled. Kapil was a right-arm pace bowler noted for his graceful action and potent outswinger, and was India's main strike bowler for most of his career. He also developed a fine inswinging yorker during the 1980s, which he used very effectively against tail-enders. As a batsman, he was a natural striker of the ball who could hook and drive effectively. A naturally aggressive player, he often helped India in difficult situations by taking the attack to the opposition. Nicknamed *The Haryana Hurricane*, he represented the Haryana cricket team in domestic cricket. He retired in 1994, holding the world record for the most number of wickets taken in Test cricket, a record subsequently broken by Courtney Walsh in 2000. At the time, he was also India's highest wicket taker in both major forms of cricket — Tests and ODIs. He is the only player in the history of cricket to have taken more than 400 wickets (434 wickets) and scored more than 5,000 runs in Tests, making

him one of the greatest all-rounders to have played the game. On 8th March, 2010, Kapil Dev was inducted into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame.

3. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below it :

The Stolen Generations (also known as Stolen children) were the children of Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent who were removed from their families by the Australian Federal and State Government agencies and church missions, under acts of their respective parliaments. The removals occurred in the period between approximately 1909 and 1969, although in some places children were still being taken until the 1970s. Documentary evidence, such as newspaper articles and reports to parliamentary committees, suggest a range of rationales. Motivations evident include child protection, beliefs that given their catastrophic population decline after white contact that Aboriginal people would die out, and a fear of miscegenation by full-blooded Aboriginal people.

One view suggests that the motivation and purpose of the laws providing for the removal of Aboriginal children from their parents was child protection, with government policy makers and

officials responding to an observed need to provide protection for neglected, abused or abandoned mixed-descent children. An example of the abandonment of mixed race children in the 1920s is given in a report by Walter Baldwin Spencer that many mixed-descent children born during construction of The Ghan railway were abandoned at early ages with no one to provide for them. This incident and others spurred the need for state action to provide for and protect such children.

Other 19th and early 20th Century contemporaneous documents indicate that the policy of removing Aboriginal children from their parents related to different beliefs : that given the catastrophic population decline of Aboriginal people after white contact that they would die out, that the full-blood tribal Aboriginal population would be unable to sustain itself, and was doomed to inevitable extinction. This supposed that the civilisation of northern Europeans was superior to that of Aborigines, based on comparative technological advancement. Some adherents to these beliefs considered any proliferation of mixed-descent children (labelled half-castes, 'crossbreeds', quadroons and octoroons) to be a threat to the

nature and stability of the prevailing civilisation, or to a perceived racial or civilisational “heritage”. For example, in the 1930s, the Northern Territory Protector of Natives, Dr. Cecil Cook, perceived the continuing rise in numbers of “half-caste” children as a problem. His proposed solution was : Generally by the fifth and invariably by the sixth generation, all native characteristics of the Australian Aborigine are eradicated. The problem of our half-castes will quickly be eliminated by the complete disappearance of the black race, and the swift submergence of their progeny in the white. Similarly, the Chief Protector of Aborigines in Western Australia, A. O. Neville, wrote in an article of *The West Australian* in 1930.

“Eliminate in future the full-blood and the white and one common blend will remain. Eliminate the full blood and permit the white admixture and eventually the race will become white.”

Questions : 6 × 5 = 30

- a) What is meant by the ‘Stolen Generations’ ?
- b) What are the evident and positive reasons regarding the removal of Aboriginal children ?

- c) Suggest a suitable title for the text. Give reasons for your answer.
- d) What is “child protection” ? What, according to the narrator, are the true reasons behind the removal of Aboriginal children from their parents ?
- e) What are the views of Dr. Cecil Cook and A. O. Neville on mixed-blood children ?
