

# AMRITA VIDYALAYAM

## ANNUAL EXAMINATION 2017 - '18

Class : VIII

Marks : 80

Time : 2½ hrs

### ENGLISH

#### **General Instructions :**

This paper consists of three sections -

Section A - Reading	-	20 marks
Section B - Writing and Grammar	-	30 marks
Section C - Literature	-	30 marks

1. Attempt all questions.
2. Do not write anything on the question paper.
3. All the answers must be correctly numbered as in the question paper and written in the answer sheet provided to you.
4. Attempt all questions in each section before going on to the next section.
5. Read each question carefully and follow the instructions.
6. Strictly adhere to the word limit prescribed.

### SECTION A - READING

#### 1. Read the following passage carefully.

Bhakti-Yoga is a real, genuine search after the Lord, a search beginning, continuing, and ending in Love. One single moment of the madness of extreme love to God brings us eternal freedom.

“Bhakti,” says Nârada in his explanation of the Bhakti-aphorisms, “is intense love to God.”- “When a man gets it, he loves all, hates none; he becomes satisfied for ever.” “This love cannot be reduced to any earthly benefit,” because so long as worldly desires last, that kind of love does not come.

“Bhakti is greater than Karma, greater than Yoga, because these are intended for an object in view, while Bhakti is its own fruition, its own means, and its own end.”

Bhakti has been the one constant theme of our sages. Apart from the special writers on Bhakti, such as Shandilya or Narada, the great commentators on the *Vyasa-Sutras*, evidently advocates of Knowledge (Jnana), have also something very suggestive to say about Love.

Even when the commentator is anxious to explain many, if not all, of the texts so as to make them import a sort of dry knowledge, the *Sutras*, in the chapter on worship especially, do not lend themselves to be easily manipulated in that fashion.

There is not really so much difference between Knowledge (Jnana) and Love (Bhakti) as people sometimes imagine. We shall see as we go on, that in the end they converge and meet at the same point.

So also is it with Raja-Yoga, which, when pursued as a means to attain liberation, and not (as unfortunately it frequently becomes in the hands of charlatans and mystery-mongers) as an instrument to hoodwink the unwary, leads us also to the same goal.

#### 1.1. Answer the following.

- a) What are the advantages of Bhakti over Jnana and Karma?

- b) What is your understanding of Bhakti?  
 c) Is love of God and Bhakti the same? Explain.  
 d) Can Raja Yoga become harmful? How?
- 2. Read the poem and answer the questions that follow.**

**A GREEN CONFIELD**

The earth was green, the sky was blue;  
 I saw and heard one sunny morn  
 A skylark hang between the two,  
 A singing speck above the corn.  
     A stage below in gay accord,  
     White butterflies danced on wing,  
     And still the singing skylark soared,  
     And silent sank and soared to sing.  
 The cornfield stretched a tender green  
 To right and left beside my walks;  
 I knew he had a nest unseen  
 Somewhere among the million stalks.  
     And as I paused to hear his song  
     While swift the sunny moments slid,  
     Perhaps his mate sat listening long,  
     And listened longer than I did.

**2.1. Choose the correct options.**

**5**

- a) The skylark sang when \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (i) it rained (ii) the sun shone  
 (iii) the earth was green and the sky without clouds (iv) there were clouds.
- b) The skylark while singing looked like \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (i) a star (ii) an insect (iii) an eagle (iv) a small dot
- c) The skylark rose upwards and upwards \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (i) while flying (ii) while singing (iii) as it sang (iv) as it flew
- d) The nest of the skylark was \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (i) in the fields below (ii) among the numberless stems of corn  
 (iii) beside other nests (iv) among trees
- e) The words 'paused' means \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (i) stopped (ii) stood erect (iii) flew across (iv) went straight.

**2.2. Write words from the poem, which mean the same as the following.**

**7**

- a) hang      b) accord      c) soared      d) morn      e) slid      f) speck      g) mate

**SECTION B - WRITING AND GRAMMAR**

- 3.** You are Jatin. Your colony is witnessing an acute shortage of water supply during peak summer time. Write a letter to the editor telling him about the problems faced by the residents. **8**
- 4.** You are one of the regular visitors to public places such as the government libraries and public parks. You are disappointed to see the unkempt surroundings. Write a letter to the Deputy Commissioner of Municipal Corporation requesting him to look into the matter in about 200-250 words. **12**
- 5. Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions.** **2**
- a) My bag is similar \_\_\_\_\_ yours \_\_\_\_\_ many ways.  
 b) Nothing is impossible \_\_\_\_\_ those who try hard enough.

- 6. Fill in the blanks with suitable modals.** **2**
- a) Aarti stated that she \_\_\_\_\_ read at the age of three.
- b) You \_\_\_\_\_ take a sweater in case it gets cold.
- 7. Fill in the blanks using appropriate conjunctions.** **2**
- a) \_\_\_\_\_ he is wrong \_\_\_\_\_ I am wrong.
- b) \_\_\_\_\_ Shyam is poor \_\_\_\_\_ he is honest.
- 8. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each of these lines. Write the correct answers against the correct blank number.** **4**

	incorrect	correct
Once upon time, there lived	_____	_____
a frog in a forest. He sang out the night.	_____	_____
He thought he the best musician of	_____	_____
the area. One day nightingale	_____	_____
came to that forest. She sang melodious songs.		

### SECTION C - LITERATURE

- 9. Answer the following questions.**
- a) Who made it possible for Cindy to try on the glass slipper and how did he do it? **1**
- b) Who is viewing the landscape described and from where? How do you know? **1**
- c) How was it ascertained that the Martian was in the bathtub? **1**
- d) Why does the cloud laugh? What does it sound like? **1**
- e) What did Sir Simon offer to Hubert after the thieves were caught? Did Hubert accept? What did he really do and why? **2**
- f) How did we know that Virender Sehwag is an extremely hardworking and motivated cricketer? **2**
- g) Describe the historical significance of weaving in your own words. Why is it 'subject to constant hostile threats'? **2**
- h) When does the poet see the baboons? What are they doing? **2**
- i) Explain how Hubert convinced Sir Simon and his family that his story was true. **8**
- j) What message does the poem 'Winter' convey? Explain. **10**