



# **Cambridge IGCSE™**

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**SANSKRIT**

**0499/21**

Paper 2 Literature and Epic Civilisation

**May/June 2024**

**1 hour 30 minutes**



You must answer on the answer booklet/paper.

You will need: Answer booklet/paper

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**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Answer **all** questions.
- If you have been given an answer booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet.
- Use a black or dark blue pen.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number on all the work you hand in.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen or correction fluid.
- At the end of the examination, fasten all your work together. Do **not** use staples, paper clips or glue.

**INFORMATION**

- The total mark for this paper is 90.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].

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This document has **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

## 1 Mahābhārata (adapted text)

Read the following Sanskrit passage. Do **not** write out a translation. Answer **all** the questions. Your answers should be in English, with Sanskrit names in transliteration.

एकदा कपोतः तम् आगच्छत् । हे प्राज्ञ नृप गृध्रः माम् खादिष्यति 1  
 इति कपोतः अवदत् । शिविः प्रत्यवदत् अहम् त्वाम् रक्षिष्यामि इति । 2  
 गृध्रः तु नृपस्य वचनम् श्रुत्वा अवदत् हे नृप यस्मात् त्वम् कपोतम् 3  
 मह्यम् न ददासि तस्मात् तव मांसम् देहि इति । शिविः स्वदेहात् 4  
 मांसम् छित्वा तत् गृध्राय अददात् । गृध्रः तु संतुष्टः न आसीत् । 5  
 नृपेण स्वदेहात् मांसम् पुनः छिन्नम् । अन्ते गृध्रः संतुष्टः अभवत् । 6  
 एवम् कपोतः रक्षितः । गृध्रः अवदत् त्वम् श्रेष्ठः नृपः लोके इति ॥ 7

- (a) Translate 'ekadā kapotah tam āgacchat.' (line 1) [3]
- (b) How is the king described in line 1? [1]
- (c) Translate 'śibih pratyavadat aham tvām rakṣiṣyāmi iti.' (line 2) [4]
- (d) What is the king asked to give as substitute food in line 4? [1]
- (e) How does the vulture feel after the king's first gift of food? (line 5) [1]
- (f) How does the vulture describe the king in line 7? [2]
- (g) In your view, does this story have any useful lessons for modern royalty? Refer to the text in your answer. [3]

[Total: 15]

## 2 Mahābhārata – Bhagavad Gītā

Read the following Sanskrit verses. Do **not** write out a translation. Answer **all** the questions. Your answers should be in English, with Sanskrit names in transliteration.

योगस्थः कुरु कर्माणि सङ्गं त्यक्ता धनञ्जय । 1

सिद्ध्यसिद्ध्योः समो भूत्वा समत्वं योग उच्यते ॥ 2

वीतरागभयक्रोधा मन्मया मामुपाश्रिताः । 3

बहवो ज्ञानतपसा पूता मद्भावमागताः ॥ 4

सर्वभूतानि कौन्तेय प्रकृतिं यान्ति मामिकाम् । 5

कल्पद्वये पुनस्तानि कल्पादौ विसृजाम्यहम् ॥ 6

*Chap. 2, verse 48; Chap. 4, verse 10; Chap. 9, verse 7*

- (a) Translate lines 1 and 2. [6]
- (b) Which three things does Kṛṣṇa say his devotees are free from? (line 3) [3]
- (c) By what does Kṛṣṇa say his devotees have been purified? (line 4) [2]
- (d) Where according to line 5 do all beings go? [1]
- (e) What is your view of Kṛṣṇa's statement in lines 5 and 6? [3]

[Total: 15]

## 3 Sanskrit Epic Civilisation

(a) Briefly explain each of the following concepts:

- (i) *samsara* [2]
- (ii) *puruṣa* [2]
- (iii) *māyā* [2]
- (iv) *tamas* [2]

(b) State briefly what each of the following time periods are:

- (i) *mahāyuga* [1]
- (ii) *manvantara* [1]
- (iii) *kalpa* [1]

(c) Water, *jala*, is one of the great elements. Name two others, giving the Sanskrit terms and their English translations. [4]

(d) Briefly explain each of the following Sanskrit literary terms:

- (i) *vyākaraṇa* [2]
- (ii) *dhātu* [2]
- (iii) *smṛti* [2]
- (iv) *sūtra* [2]

(e) Sarasvatī is the power of wisdom. Name in English the powers represented by:

- (i) *lakṣmī* [1]
- (ii) *pārvatī* [1]

(f) Write a short essay of about 100 words, in English, on one of these two topics:

EITHER

- (i) Discuss the different types of *yajña* (sacrifice), and discuss the relevance of these types to today's world.

OR

- (ii) What main forms of *tapas* (self discipline or asceticism) are spoken of in Sanskrit texts? Would it be appropriate to perform *tapas* in modern times?

[10]

[Total: 35]

## 4 Hitopadeśa

Read the following Sanskrit passage. Do **not** write out a translation. Answer **all** the questions. Your answers should be in English, with Sanskrit names in transliteration.

*A brahmin makes a mistake.*

अथासौ नकुलो ब्राह्मणमायान्तमवलोक्य रक्तविलिप्तमुखपादः सत्वरम् 1  
 उपागम्य तस्य चरणयोर्लुलोठ । ततोऽसौ ब्राह्मणस्तं तथाविधं दृष्ट्वा 2  
 मम पुत्रोऽनेन भक्षित इत्यवधार्य व्यापादितवान् । अनन्तरं यावद् 3  
 असावुपसृत्य पश्यति ब्राह्मणस्तावद्वालकः सुस्थः सर्पश्च व्यापादितस्ति- 4  
 ष्टति । ततस्तमुपकारकमेव नकुलं निरूप्य विभावितकृत्यः संतप्त- 5  
 चेताः स परं विषादमगमत् । अतोऽहं ब्रवीमि । 6  
 योऽर्थतत्त्वमविज्ञाय क्रोधस्यैव वशं गतः । 7  
 स तथा तप्यते मूढो ब्राह्मणो नकुलाद्यथा ॥ 8

- (a) What does the mongoose see in line 1? [1]
- (b) How is that mongoose described according to the compound in line 1? [2]
- (c) Translate 'satvaram upagamya tasya caraṇayor luloṭha'. (lines 1 and 2) [4]
- (d) What does the brahmin mistakenly conclude in line 3? [2]
- (e) Translate 'bālakaḥ susthaḥ sarpaś ca vyāpāditas tiṣṭhati'. (lines 4 and 5) [4]
- (f) In line 5 the mongoose is described as 'upakāram eva'. What does this mean? [2]
- (g) (i) Translate 'santaptacetāḥ'. (lines 5 and 6) [2]  
 (ii) Name the type of compound. [1]
- (h) (i) What is the moral given in lines 7 and 8 and how does it relate to the story? [4]  
 (ii) Would this lesson be useful for either a prince, or a wider audience, in your view? [3]

[Total: 25]



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