



# **Cambridge IGCSE™**

---

**SANSKRIT**

**0499/22**

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

---

**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 [ ].

---

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.

मृगस्य वचनानि श्रुत्वा पाण्डुः दुःखेन अचिन्तयत् कथम् मम पुत्राः 1  
 भविष्यन्ति इति । पुरा तु यदा कुन्ती कन्या तदा सृषिः तस्यै कम् अपि 2  
 मन्त्रम् अददात् । तेन मन्त्रेण कः चन देवः तुभ्यम् पुत्रम् दास्यति इति 3  
 सृषिः अवदत् । सूर्यम् चिन्तयित्वा कुन्ती मन्त्रम् अवदत् । सूर्यः ताम् 4  
 आगस्य तस्यै पुत्रम् अददात् । सः पुत्रः कर्णः नाम । सः तु कुन्त्या 5  
 त्यक्तः । स्वम् पञ्च पुत्राः मन्त्रेण जाताः । तेषाम् जनकाः देवाः । ते 6  
 युधिष्ठिरः भीमः अर्जुनः नकुलः सहदेवः च ॥ 7

- (a) When Kuntī was a girl, what was she given and by whom? (lines 2 and 3) [2]
- (b) Translate 'kaḥ cana devaḥ tubhyam putram dāsyati'. (line 3) [4]
- (c) Which god does Kuntī think of in line 4? [1]
- (d) (i) What was the name of Kuntī's son? (line 5) [1]
- (ii) What did she do with him? (lines 5 and 6) [1]
- (e) Translate 'pañca putrāḥ mantreṇa jātāḥ'. (line 6) [3]
- (f) In this story the divine and the human meet. Is this meeting portrayed as positive in your view? Give evidence from the text to support 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.

वासांसि जीर्णानि यथा विहाय नवानि गृह्णाति नरोऽपराणि । 1  
 तथा शरीराणि विहाय जीर्णान्यन्यानि संयाति नवानि देही ॥ 2

यदादित्यगतं तेजो जगद्वासयतेऽखिलम् । 3  
 यच्चन्द्रमसि यच्चाश्वौ तत्तेजो विद्धि मामकम् ॥ 4

सर्वकर्माण्यपि सदा कुर्वाणो मद्वयपाश्रयः । 5  
 मत्प्रसादादवाज्ञोति शाश्वतं पदमव्ययम् ॥ 6

*Chap. 2, verse 22; Chap. 15, verse 12; Chap. 18, verse 56*

(a) (i) What comparison is used in line 1? [2]  
 (ii) What is this comparison used to illustrate? [1]

(b) Translate lines 3 and 4. [6]

(c) (i) Translate the compound 'madvyapāśrayaḥ'. (line 5) [2]  
 (ii) What type of compound is this? [1]

(d) What is your view of Kṛṣṇa's statement in lines 5 and 6? [3]

[Total: 15]

## 3 Sanskrit Epic Civilisation

(a) Give **two** details for each of the following terms:

- (i) *avidyā* [2]
- (ii) *brahman* [2]
- (iii) *avyakta* [2]
- (iv) *rajas* [2]

(b) One aspect of the inner organ of mind or *antahkarana* is *manas*, the lower level of mind that thinks or deliberates. Explain the aspects of:

- (i) *buddhi* [2]
- (ii) *citta* [2]
- (iii) *ahaṅkāra* [2]

(c) Give **two** details for each of the following literary terms:

- (i) *śāstra* [2]
- (ii) *mantra* [2]
- (iii) *pratyaya* [2]
- (iv) *āranyaka* [2]

(d) One of the four aspects of the purpose of human life is liberation. Name in English the other three. [3]

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

EITHER

- (i) Discuss the four stages of life or *āśrama* portrayed in Sanskrit epic literature. Do you think this system could act as a guide for modern society?

OR

- (ii) Which of the Sanskrit texts you have studied would, in your view, be most useful 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 teacher is found for princes.*

राजोवाच । भो भोः पण्डिताः । श्रूयताम् । अस्ति कश्चिदेवंभूतो 1  
 विद्वान्यो मम पुत्राणां नित्यमुन्मार्गगामिनामनधिगतशास्त्राणामिदानीं 2  
 नीतिशास्त्रोपदेशेन पुनर्जन्म कारयितुं समर्थः । यतः । 3  
 काचः काञ्चनसंसर्गाद्वत्ते मारकतीं द्युतिम् । 4  
 तथा सत्मनिधानेन मूर्खो याति प्रवीणताम् ॥ 5  
 उक्तं च । हीयते हि मतिस्तात हीनैः सह समागमात् । 6  
 समैश्च समतामेति विशिष्टैश्च विशिष्टताम् ॥ 7  
 अत्रान्तरे विष्णुशर्मनामा महापण्डितः सकलनीतिशास्त्रतत्त्वज्ञो 8  
 बृहस्पतिरिवाब्रवीत् । देव । महाकुलसंभूता एते राजपुत्राः । तन्मया 9  
 नीतिं ग्राहयितुं शक्यन्ते । 10

(a) Who is speaking in line 1 and what command does he give? [2]

(b) (i) Translate ‘*unmārgagāminām*’. (line 2) [2]

     (ii) What type of compound is this? [1]

(c) Translate ‘*idānīm nītiśāstropadeśena punarjanma kārayitum samarthaḥ*’. (lines 2 and 3) [5]

(d) Explain fully lines 4 and 5, ‘*kācaḥ kāñcanasaṁsargād ... pravīnatām*’, saying how they relate to the story as a whole. [5]

(e) Name a poetic device used in lines 6 and 7, ‘*hīyate ... viśiṣṭatām*’. Quote an example from these lines to support your answer. [2]

(f) How is Viṣṇuśarma described in line 8 according to the two compounds given? [4]

(g) Which Sanskrit word does Viṣṇuśarma use to address the king and what does this word literally mean? (line 9) [2]

(h) How are the princes described in line 9? [2]

[Total: 25]



**BLANK PAGE**

**BLANK PAGE**

---

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced online in the Cambridge Assessment International Education Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download at [www.cambridgeinternational.org](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org) after the live examination series.

Cambridge Assessment International Education is part of Cambridge Assessment. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is a department of the University of Cambridge.