

**F.Y.B.A. Compulsory English Semester – II**  
**Question Bank**

**A. Answer the following questions in one sentence each.**

1. When was this speech ‘ A Tryst with Destiny ‘ delivered?
2. What according to Pt. Nehru do freedom and power bring?
3. What according to Nehru is the architect of freedom?
4. What, according to Dr. Ambedkar, is a standing denial of democracy?
5. How, according to Dr. Ambedkar, does an Indian vote in an election?
6. What is the difference between the 'Class System' and the ‘Caste System’?
7. Where was the girl going? Who would come for her at the station?
8. Why did she say that the narrator was lucky?
9. **What could the narrator see in his mind’s eye when he looked out of the window?**
10. What did the new passenger have to say about the girl?

**Answer the questions below, choosing from the options given.**

11. The real name of the author Saki is
  - i. Hector Saki
  - ii. Saki Hugh Munro
  - iii. Hector Hugh Munro
  - iv. Victor Hugh Munro
12. In the story, The Wolves of Cernogratz, Conrad is
  - i. A merchant from Gruebel
  - ii. A Cernogratz
  - iii. Sister of Baroness Gruebel
  - iv. Brother of Baroness Gruebel
13. The castle of Cernogratz was
  - i. Formerly a Gruebel castle
  - ii. Sold by the Gruebels
  - iii. A broken down building
  - iv. Bought by the Gruebels
14. Amelie was
  - i. Baroness of the Gruebel family
  - ii. Governess of the Cernogratz castle
  - iii. Sister -in-law of Baroness Gruebel
  - iv. A guest of the Gruebels
15. Fraulein Schmidt was
  - i. A von Cernogratz
  - ii. A young woman in the castle
  - iii. Mother of Conrad
  - iv. Sister of Baroness Gruebel
16. The wolves came from far and wide to the castle
  - i. To bite the dogs of the castle
  - ii. To sing the death-music for the dying governess
  - iii. Because it was very cold in the forest
  - iv. Because they were hungry

17. Amalie von Cernogratz died on  
i. New year's day  
ii. 29 December  
iii. 25 December  
iv. 29 January

18. Who is the woman described in 'An Old Woman'?  
19. Where was the woman begging?  
20. What is woman's reason for begging?  
21. Does the narrator give woman a fifty paise coin? Why?  
22. What does woman's eyes look like?

**Fill in the blanks in the sentences below using verbs in the simple present form.**

23. Most snakes -----(lay) eggs, but the python -----(give) birth to young ones.  
24. People who ----- (work) for long hours in the sun often ----- (get) sun burnt.  
25. Computers ----- (store) large amount of data.  
26. Raghavan ----- (live) in Kochi. He ----- (work) in a bank.  
27. Minister ----- (say) 'Sorry!'

**28. Fill in the blanks in the sentences below using verbs in the present progressive tense.**

29. I ----- (read) a story book, ma'am.  
30. My Uncle, who lives in Varanasi, ----- (visit) Kerala.  
31. I live in Chennai, where the coffee is excellent. But I ----- (spend) a week in Delhi.  
32. The secretary of the Students' Union ----- (speak). He ----- (read out) the annual report of the union.

**Fill in the blanks in the sentences below using verbs in the present perfect tense.**

33. I ----- (eat) my breakfast already.  
34. Yes sir. We ----- (arrange for) a photographer.  
35. I ----- (brush) my teeth.

**Fill in the blanks in the sentences below using verbs in the present perfect progressive tense.**

36. He ----- (write) novels since 1990.  
37. I ----- (learn) different languages since I was in school.  
38. **Fill in the blanks in the sentences below using verbs in the simple past tense.**

39. The child ----- (break) the cup.  
40. Kalidas ----- (be) a great poet.  
41. My brother is a famous artist. He ----- (paint) many beautiful pictures.  
42. **Fill in the blanks in the sentences below using verbs in the simple past tense.**  
43. Snake ----- (crawl) through the grass.  
44. The students ----- (play) football outside.

**Fill in the blanks in the sentences below using verbs in the past perfect tense.**

45. Abu just posted the letter that he ----- (write) two weeks ago.  
46. Before we got to the bridge, the water ----- (risen) above the danger mark.

**Fill in the blanks in the sentences below using verbs in the past perfect progressive tense.**

47. The coach could see that the swimmer ----- (practice).  
48. Yes sir, I worked in Kuwait. I ----- (be) there from 1999 to 2004.

**Fill in the blanks in the sentences below using verbs in the simple future tense.**

49. Let us hope they ----- (learn) English.
50. The doctor is busy now but he ----- (see) you after an hour.

**Fill in the blanks in the sentences below using verbs in the future progressive form.**

51. Don't phone me tomorrow morning because I ----- (write) some important letters.
52. Next Monday, at this time, I ----- (shake) hands with President Ramnath Kovind.

**Fill in the blanks in the sentences below using verbs in the future perfect form.**

53. Navnita ----- (arrive) by the time you reach home.
54. Our examination has begun, and by next Saturday I ----- (write) my last paper.

**Fill in the blanks in the sentences below using verbs in the future perfect progressive form.**

55. At this time tomorrow, the man ----- (sleep) for twelve hours.
56. Asif ----- (teach) for six years at the computer institute by the time his father retires in 2021.

**Fill in the blanks in the sentences below using the appropriate form (singular or plural) of the verb given in brackets. Use the verb in the tenses suggested.**

57. Stephen ----- (clear: present perfect) the table.
58. They ----- (paint: simple present) very well.
59. The luggage ----- (fall: present progressive) of the rack.
60. Both the rice and the curd ----- (be: simple past) fresh and tasty.

**B. Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each.**

61. What is meant by 'tryst with destiny'?
62. Why can nations no longer live apart?
63. What are the clouds that surround the people of India?
64. Why should communalism be discouraged?
65. What is the confusion caused by equating democracy with the Republic?
66. What does Indian society consist of?
67. Why is there no room for the downtrodden and the outcastes in politics, industry, commerce and education?
68. How does the narrator say that he had a game to play? What was the game?
69. Write in your own words how the narrator describes Mussoorie in October.
70. What did the girl say when she was told that she had an interesting face?
71. How does the narrator describe the way the girl talks?
72. Why did Baroness Gruebel not believe the legend of the castle?
73. Who is Conrad and how is he different from the others?
74. Describe the 'death-music' that governess Amalie spoke of.
75. How do you know that the Baroness did not believe Amalie's story?
76. Why was the Baroness annoyed with the governess when the latter was ill?
77. What was the legend of the castle of Cernogratz.
78. Write the Baroness Gruebel's character sketch in your own words.

79. What was Amelie's story of her life?
80. Why did Amalie ask the Baroness to leave the window open and what did she mean by 'I am not lonely any more'?
81. What do the cracks around in the old woman's eyes indicate?
82. What do the hills and temples symbolize?
83. Who is the shatter proof person? Explain the term 'shatter proof crone'.
84. How does the narrator describe himself?
85. How does the stature of the old woman and that of the narrator change at the end?

### **Questions on "The Solitary Reaper"**

86. Why does the speaker compare the song of the reaper with that of the cuckoo bird and nightingale?
87. Why does the poet advise the passersby to pass quietly in "The Solitary Reaper"?
88. Describe the response of Wordsworth to the sight of the solitary reaper.
89. How does the poet describe nature in "The Solitary Reaper"?
90. How does the reaper's song affect the speaker?
91. Write a short summary of the poem "The Solitary Reaper"?
92. What does William Wordsworth compare the Scottish girl's song to in the poem "The Solitary Reaper"?
93. Why does the speaker of "The Solitary Reaper" ask others to stop or move away quickly?
94. What is the background of the poem "The Solitary Reaper"?
95. In "The Solitary Reaper," why was the valley filled with music?

### **Questions on "Telephone Conversation"**

96. What is the speaker's self-confession and how is it received by the landlady in "Telephone Conversation"?
97. How are the speaker's feeling conveyed to us throughout the poem? How do we know he is stung by the landlady's insensitivity?

98. How is the landlady perceived by the man? Is the man's perception of the lady parallel with her behavior throughout the poem?
99. Consider "Telephone Conversation" by Wole Soyinka as a fine example of dramatic monologue.
100. In *The Swamp Dwellers*, discuss the plight of the swamp dwellers. How does Soyinka convey it artistically?
101. What is the critical overview of the poem "Telephone Conversation" by Wole Soyinka?
102. Discuss the poet's experience with the lady in the poem "Telephone Conversation" by Wole Soyinka.
103. How does one conduct a critical analysis of the play "The Strong Breed," by Wole Soyinka?

**C. Answer the following questions in 150 words each.**

1. Who are the people that Nehru remembers on this occasion?
2. To serve the nation Nehru felt we should 'redeem our pledge'. Elaborate.
3. 'Unity in Diversity' should strengthen the nation. Discuss.
4. How does Dr Ambedkar describe democracy?
5. Why does Dr Ambedkar express doubts about India's democratic system?
6. How does Dr Ambedkar describe the existence of caste system in India?
7. How can education help in destroying the caste system?
8. Is there a climax in 'The Eyes are not Here'? How does the author lead up to it?
9. What are the instances in 'The Eyes are not Here' where it is evident that both the narrator and the girl have lost their sight? How do they mislead each other? Do they succeed?
10. Attempt to report the whole story 'The Eyes are not Here' from the point of view of the girl.
11. Do you think the narrator will attempt to mislead his next girl travelling companion? Does any part of the story 'The Eyes are not Here' suggest why the narrator may want to trick a person into believing he can see?
12. How did the legend about the Cernogratz castle come true at the death of the old governess?
13. What was the role of the old governess in 'The Wolves of Cernogratz'?
14. What characteristics of the old woman are noticed by the narrator?

15. What is the narrator's attitude towards the old woman?
16. What does the narrator mean when he says: 'You want to end the face'?

**D. Write brief dialogues using following situations**

17. The general manager of a company invites two colleagues to lunch. One accepts and the other declines the invitation because of some other engagement.
18. Anita invites her friends, Hari and Rina, to go with her family on a picnic. Rina accepts the invitation but Hari declines it because of urgent work that he has to attend to on that day.
19. Mr Nigam has by mistake been sent a huge bill by the telephone department for calls made on another number. He goes to meet the officials in charge of billing at the Bharat Sanchar Nigam office in his area and make a formal complaint.
20. Maria finds that her sister has forgotten to feed the parrot that she left in her care while out of station. She calls her in the telephone and complains.
21. Prabha is in bed with jaundice. She will not be able to take the final examinations in two subjects. Her aunt visits her to express sympathy and comfort her.
22. Professor Prasad has won ICAR's Scientists of the Year Award. His colleague Dr Susie Sapra congratulates him.
23. On hearing about the death of Steve's mother, Rajesh visits his colleagues to offer his condolences.
24. Madhuri finds her brother, Manu slipping in his studies. She advises him on how he could pull himself up again.
25. Bhatia gives suggestions to his junior colleagues on how to promote a new brand of health drink.
26. Manohar persuades his friends to visit an exhibition of Indian art.
27. Two persons discuss the issue of euthanasia. They agree on some points and disagree on others.
28. Ms Anjali Majumdar is giving a talk on the first topic in your physics textbook. You have a doubt and would like Ms Mujumdar to explain a point she has made before she continues her lecture. You ask for clarification politely.

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