FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION-2026
FOR RECRUITMENT TO POSTS IN BS-17
UNDER THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

CSS English Literature Paper 2026

Roll Number

TIME ALLOWED: THREE HOURS	**PART-I MCQS MAXIMUM MARKS = 20**
PART-I (MCQS): MAXIMUM 30 MINUTES	**PART-II MCQS MAXIMUM MARKS = 80**

NOTE:

1. First attempt PART-I (MCQs) on separate OMR Answer Sheet which shall be taken back after 30 minutes.
2. Overwriting/cutting of the options/answers will not be given credit.
3. There is no negative marking. All MCQs must be attempted.

ZICOSH

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ENGLISH LITERATURE

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Legalversity

PART-I (MCQs)(COMPULSORY)

Q.1. (i) Select the best option/answer and fill in the appropriate Box ☐ on the **OMR Answer Sheet.**(20x1=20)
(ii) Answers given anywhere else, other than OMR Answer Sheet, will not be considered.

1. **In "Politics and the English Language," Orwell argues that unclear language most dangerously affects which of the following?**
   (A) The aesthetic value of poetry (B) The emotional bond between friends
   (C) The ability of political discourse to conceal or distort reality (D) None of these
2. **In "Self-Reliance," Emerson's emphasis on nonconformity most directly challenges which attitude toward society?**
   (A) That social customs always protect individual freedom
   (B) That moral truth depends entirely on religious authority
   (C) That progress comes only through scientific innovation, not character (D) None of these
3. **Russell, in "The Conquest of Happiness", would most likely criticize which response to personal unhappiness?**
   (A) Examining one's habits and external interests for possible change
   (B) Blaming impersonal forces but still seeking constructive action
   (C) Retreating into excessive self-absorption and constant introspection (D) None of these
4. **In "The Gift of the Magi," the story's irony most powerfully critiques which common assumption about gift-giving?**
   (A) That material wealth is the only measure of generosity
   (B) That surprise gifts are always better than requested ones (C) Both (A) & (B) (D) None of these
5. **In "The Lotus-Eater," the protagonist's choice to live off his savings on Capri can be read as a challenge to which dominant modern value?**
   (A) Rational planning and financial security (B) Artistic creativity and self-expression
   (C) Solitude as a path to spiritual enlightenment (D) None of these
6. **Chesterton's "A Somewhat Improbable Story" uses improbability primarily to question what?**
   (A) The validity of scientific laws (B) The reliability of seemingly "obvious" common-sense explanations
   (C) The importance of moral responsibility (D) None of these
7. **In Wordsworth's "Tintern Abbey," the speaker's changing relationship to nature suggests which development in his inner life?**
   (A) Nature loses all emotional meaning and becomes merely scenic
   (B) Nature becomes threatening as he ages and fears death (C) Both (A) & (B) (D) None of these
8. **In Yeats's "The Second Coming," the chaotic imagery most strongly implies which view of history?**
   (A) History moves steadily toward democratic progress
   (B) History is determined solely by individual moral choices (C) Both (A) & (B) (D) None of these
9. **Philip Larkin's poems such as "The Trees" and "Continuing to Live" treat time and mortality in what characteristic way?**
   (A) With romantic celebration of heroic death (B) With abstract philosophical optimism about eternity
   (C) With skeptical, muted reflection that finds no easy consolation (D) None of these
10. **In *Hamlet*, the prince's delay in avenging his father can best be interpreted as revealing what about his character?**
    (A) A reflective nature torn between moral scruple and the demand for action
    (B) An unthinking obedience to supernatural commands
    (C) Pure cowardice with no ethical conflict (D) None of these
11. ***Waiting for Godot* disrupts conventional expectations of plot primarily to explore which thematic concern?**
    (A) The triumph of romantic love over adversity (B) The reliable justice of political institutions
    (C) The experience of existential waiting and the search for meaning (D) None of these
12. **In *Pygmalion*, Shaw's treatment of Eliza's transformation most directly questions which simplistic idea about social mobility?**
    (A) That education and speech training automatically secure genuine independence
    (B) That gender roles are fixed by biological nature
    (C) That economic systems are irrelevant to class identity (D) None of these

NOTE:

i. **Part-II** is to be attempted on the separate **Answer Book.**

ii. Attempt **ALL** questions from **Part-II.**

iii. All the parts (if any) of each Question must be attempted at one place instead of at different places.

iv. Write **Q.NO** in the **Answer Book** in according with **Q.No** in the **Q.Paper.**

v. **No Page/Space** be left blank between the answers. All the blank pages of **Answer Book** must be crossed.

vi. Extra attempt of any question or any part of the question will not be considered.

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Legalversity

PART-I (MCQs)(COMPULSORY)

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Q. No. 5. "Knowledge acquires a quite different character when in the possession of a newly emancipated representative of the proletariat." Elaborate with reference to Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion*. **(20)**

Q. No. 6. In *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, while Stephen at first accepts the roles that others want him to perform—all related to the demands of hegemonic masculinity, homosociality, and patriarchy—he moves away from these performances only to perform a different narrative: the narrative of the artist-genius. Discuss. **(20)**

Legalversity

Q. No. 7. The category or trope of "nation" in postcolonial studies has conflicted status. Discuss the central debates around theorizing national identity or the nation. How does the status of the nation as a subject of analysis change alongside the development of the field of postcolonial studies? **(20)**

Q. No. 8. Informed by Lawrence's dualistic philosophy, it can be said that in *Sons and Lovers*, characters' quest for 'Two-in-One' finally causes the failure of the romance. Discuss. **(20)**

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