

# CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

[HH—938]

## General Paper

Time allowed, 1 1/2 hours

*Candidates are to attempt both sections of the paper.*

### SECTION I

*Answer the following question.*

1. In the following statements, marked (a) to (y), one of the alternatives marked by the numeral (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) is correct. Pick out the correct alternative in each. Show it in your answer book by writing the appropriate letter (a), (b), (c), etc., with the correct numeral opposite; no other writing is required.
- Give your answers in a column in the alphabetical order shown below. No credit will be given for answers which lack either letter or numeral. Marks will be deducted for answers out of their proper alphabetical order.
- (a) A geisha is (i) a fan, (ii) a flowing robe, (iii) a hot-water spring, (iv) a Japanese dancing-girl.
  - (b) Fellaheen are Egyptian (i) beggars, (ii) boatmen, (iii) peasants, (iv) priests.
  - (c) George VI became King of England in (i) 1934, (ii) 1935, (iii) 1936, (iv) 1937.
  - (d) "Chequers" is a residence of (i) the Archbishop of Canterbury, (ii) the Chief of the Imperial General Staff, (iii) the Prime Minister, (iv) the Chancellor of the Exchequer.
  - (e) The largest religious community in India is (i) Buddhist, (ii) Christian, (iii) Hindu, (iv) Mohammedan.
  - (f) The average weekly output of British coal mines is about (i) 1,000,000 tons, (ii) 2,000,000 tons, (iii) 4,000,000 tons, (iv) 8,000,000 tons.
  - (g) Water is composed of oxygen and (i) argon, (ii) carbon, (iii) hydrogen, (iv) nitrogen.
  - (h) A millibar is (i) a garden pest, (ii) a thousand years, (iii) a measure of atmospheric pressure, (iv) a unit of length.
  - (i) Tetanus is (i) brain-fever, (ii) consumption, (iii) lock-jaw, (iv) lumbago.

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- (j) The atomic theory was greatly developed by (i) Charles Darwin, (ii) John Dalton, (iii) Michael Faraday, (iv) Louis Pasteur.
- (k) The lightest common metal is (i) aluminium, (ii) copper, (iii) tin, (iv) zinc.
- (l) A parabola is (i) a figure of speech, (ii) a kind of curve, (iii) a primitive weapon, (iv) a story with a moral.
- (m) Acetylene is produced when water is added to (i) calcium carbide, (ii) calcium carbonate, (iii) calcium oxide, (iv) calcium sulphate.
- (n) The population of New Zealand is approximately (i) 2,000,000, (ii) 4,000,000, (iii) 6,000,000, (iv) 8,000,000.
- (o) British Columbia is in (i) Australia, (ii) Canada, (iii) South Africa, (iv) South America.
- (p) The language ordinarily spoken in Brazil is (i) French, (ii) Italian, (iii) Portuguese, (iv) Spanish.
- (q) Doomsday Book was compiled in the reign of (i) Edward I, (ii) James I, (iii) John, (iv) William I.
- (r) A simile is (i) a desert wind, (ii) a figure of speech, (iii) a kind of ape, (iv) an imitation.
- (s) "Three Men in a Boat" was written by (i) W. W. Jacobs, (ii) Jerome K. Jerome, (iii) Edward Lear, (iv) Jules Verne.
- (t) "Theirs is the Glory" was a film about (i) Arnhem, (ii) the Battle of Britain, (iii) D-day (iv) the defence of Stalingrad.
- (u) Chopin was (i) an Austrian, (ii) a Frenchman, (iii) a Pole, (iv) a Spaniard.
- (v) Beethoven composed (i) 5, (ii) 7, (iii) 9, (iv) 11 symphonies.
- (w) Tokay is a kind of (i) rose, (ii) scent, (iii) tea, (iv) wine.
- (x) First class men sprinters can run 100 yards in about (i) 8, (ii) 10, (iii) 12, (iv) 14 seconds.
- (y) A dossier is (i) a collection of documents, (ii) a knapsack, (iii) a lodging house, (iv) a water-diviner.

## SECTION 2

*Answer any two of the following questions, all of which carry equal marks. Attention should be paid to the clearness and orderly arrangement of your answers.*

2. In what ways do you consider that a young man is likely to (i) gain, and (ii) lose from a twelve-month period of full-time National Service?
3. Give the main reasons for the low level of production in the British zone of Germany at the present time.
4. By what methods and for what reasons has the British government tried to limit the consumption of (i) coal and (ii) tobacco since the beginning of 1947?
5. Account for the increase of smuggling into Great Britain during the last two years.
6. Describe the qualities which help to make a poster advertisement effective.

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## English. Paper I

Time allowed, 1 hour

*Choose ONE of the following subjects for composition, and number it on your answer form as it is numbered here :—*

1. Describe the most impressive ceremony which you have attended.
2. Discuss the difficulties of reducing the number of road accidents.
3. Consider the importance in wartime of broadcasts to members of H.M. Forces serving overseas.
4. Suppose that while on holiday you are walking with a friend along the cliff-tops. You hear cries for help, and see two girls stranded on a ledge on the cliff-side.  
Describe the incident, and say what happened before the girls were rescued.

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## English. Paper 2

Time allowed, 1  $\frac{1}{4}$  hours

*Read the following passages and then answer the questions given below.*

At one time in my life I worked on a tramp steamer along the Irrawaddy and the Burma coast. Among the tasks which fell to my lot was one which has become very pleasant in my memory, although at the time it caused anxiety and even some humiliation. The owner of the vessel had been staying with an old farming friend who made him the present of a horse. When the visit came to an end, the horse had to be got to its new home. The vessel was the obvious means of transport, and it was my fate to be entrusted with the job of transferring the horse from the farm on board ship.

About horses I knew nothing. I probed my memory for material which might be helpful, but all I could recall was an essay on the horse composed by a school-mate of mine when I was a child. "The horse", it said, "is a square animal, with a leg at each corner. It has a head at one end, and a tail at the other." Clearly this was of no use. I must get other help. So I took the bos'n into my confidence. He joined in with alacrity; he knew little more about horses than I did, but it was his sensible suggestion that, before setting off, we should erect some sort of horse-box on deck and rig up a suitable broad gangway to enable the animal to walk comfortably on board from the quayside.

Having secured our lines of communication, as it were, the bos'n and I set out for the farm, not without misgiving. We were sufficiently aware of our ignorance to decide not to try to ride the beast down to the boat. What we did was to take two halters, one for me and one for the bos'n. The idea was for me to hold on to one side of the steed, the bos'n to the other, and for us to walk with him quietly to the vessel, three abreast, so to speak. We planned to use the least-frequented roads to ensure against any traffic frightening or exciting him.

We duly arrived at the farm, and were introduced to the horse, which had been stabled in anticipation of our call. He appeared to be a nice-looking, well-mannered creature, and as he was led out of the stable, the bos'n and I exchanged confidences, and predicted a pleasant passage back to our vessel.

The gee-gee was handed over to us by one of the farm-hands, and stood looking critically at us. Strange to say, he appeared to take a violent dislike to us, and commenced neighing and prancing, and showing his teeth for no apparent reason. But seamen have to get on with any job entrusted to them, and we were determined not to allow a mere showing of temper to dismay us. So we tried to coax the halters over his head, and, with the assistance of some helpers, at last succeeded, and away we went in perfect formation.

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All went well until we got clear of the farm, when the rascal bolted, dragging the bos'n and me after him. After towing us for a considerable distance along the ground, and nearly pulling our arms off, he stood still near a large tree, turning round and gazing contemptuously at us. That was our opportunity; we both scrambled to our feet and ran to the tree, round which we took several turns of the halters, thus securing him until we regained our breath and thought matters out. We had to leave the neighbourhood of the tree, however, because our charge objected to being secured, running round and round the tree in a frantic manner with the ropes taut. But it was a strong new rope so we were quite easy on that account.

After due consideration, I decided to remain with the horse whilst the bos'n returned to the vessel and brought a couple of deck-hands back with him, together with a kedge anchor and a coil of rope.

By the time the bos'n and his men returned, the animal was fatigued and subdued, so with the aid of the others I mounted him and fastened one end of the coil round his neck, the kedge anchor being attached to the other end, and slung in front of me, ready to be let go at a moment's notice. Off we went again, the other three leading him. He soon resumed his tricks, but I promptly dropped the anchor and brought him up standing, nearly pulling his head off. He repeated this performance half-heartedly later on, but evidently realised its futility, and finally abandoned his game. Like a lamb he walked quietly on board. Seamanship had conquered.

#### QUESTION 1

Write a summary of the above story, which contains about 800 words. Your summary should give the substance of the story clearly and accurately and should not exceed 200 words in length; a longer summary will lose marks.

#### QUESTION 2

Explain clearly and briefly the meaning of each of the phrases underlined as it is used in the story.

#### QUESTION 3

Without making unnecessary changes, correct the faults in each of the following sentences:—

- (a) I consulted a specialist in infernal deceases and he advised a course of infections.
- (b) Rushing into the room the dead corpse of a stranger met our horrified gaze.
- (c) Mr. Jones, the head of the firm, presented cheques to three retiring men each of whom began to work for his father before he was born.
- (d) We have to inform you that, as a result of your recent examination, the condition of your lungs with regard to tuberculosis was satisfactory.