



Cambridge IGCSE™

SANSKRIT

0499/22

Paper 2 Literature and Epic Civilisation

May/June 2025

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.

शान्तनोः अष्टमः पुत्रः भीष्मः नाम । एकदा भीष्मः शान्तनुम्	1
आगच्छत् । त्वम् एव नृपः भविष्यसि इति शान्तनुः भीष्मम् अवदत् ।	2
एकदा तु शान्तनुः नद्याः तीरे अचरत् । वायौ सुगन्धः आसीत् ।	3
सः सुगन्धः सुन्दर्याः कन्यायाः आगच्छत् । यत्र यत्र सा नारी अगच्छत्	4
तत्र तत्र सुगन्धः आसीत् । कन्याम् दृष्ट्वा का त्वम् इति शान्तनुः	5
अपृच्छत् । कन्या अवदत् अहम् सत्यवती नाम । मम जनकः	6
धीवराणाम् नृपः अस्ति इति ॥	7

- (a) Who was Bhīṣma? (line 1) [3]
- (b) What did Śāntanu say to Bhīṣma? (line 2) [2]
- (c) Translate 'ekadā tu śāntanuḥ nadyāḥ tīre acarat'. (line 3) [4]
- (d) Translate 'saḥ sugandhaḥ sundaryāḥ kanyāyāḥ āgacchat'. (line 4) [3]
- (e) Do you think that Śāntanu's behaviour in this passage is inappropriate? Explain 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.

न हि ज्ञानेन सदृशं पवित्रमिह विद्यते ।	1
तत्स्वयं योगसंसिद्धः कालेनात्मनि विन्दति ॥	2
सर्वभूतस्थमात्मानं सर्वभूतानि चात्मनि ।	3
ईक्षते योगयुक्तात्मा सर्वत्र समदर्शनः ॥	4
तेषामेवानुकम्पार्थमहमज्ञानजं तमः ।	5
नाशयाम्यात्मभावस्थो ज्ञानदीपेन भास्वता ॥	6

Chap. 4, verse 38; Chap. 6, verse 29; Chap. 10, verse 11

- (a) Translate lines 1 and 2. [6]
- (b) What does one who is disciplined by *yoga* see? (line 3) [3]
- (c) (i) Translate 'samadarśanaḥ'. (line 4) [1]
- (ii) What type of compound is this? [1]
- (d) How is the darkness born of ignorance destroyed? (line 6) [2]
- (e) In your opinion, do lines 5 and 6 portray Kṛṣṇa favourably? Give reasons for your answer. [2]

[Total: 15]

3 Sanskrit Epic Civilisation

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

(i) *ātman* [2]

(ii) *mokṣa* [2]

(iii) *prakṛti* [2]

(iv) *jñāna* [2]

(b) *Sṛṣṭi* is creation, presided over by *rajas*. Explain what *sthiti* and *pralaya* are, and give the Sanskrit names of the qualities that preside over them. [4]

(c) Earth is the fifth great element with its property smell. Give in English the names of three other great elements along with their corresponding properties in English. [6]

(d) The vital breath of life divides into five functions. One of these is *apāna*, the breath that excretes. Give the Sanskrit name for another of these functions, along with its English explanation. [2]

(e) Give details for each of the following literary terms:

(i) *yogasūtrāṇi* [2]

(ii) *śruti* [2]

(iii) *śikṣā* [1]

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

EITHER

(i) If you were studying Sanskrit literature further, what would you be interested in researching, and why?

OR

(ii) In your opinion, are the divine beings in Sanskrit literature relevant to today's world? [10]

[Total: 35]

4 Pañcatantra

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 jackal finds a lion in a cave.

कस्मिंश्चिद्वनोद्देशे खरनखरो नाम सिंहः प्रतिवसति स्म । स	1
कदाचिदितश्चेतश्च परिभ्रमन् द्युत्क्षामकण्ठो न किञ्चिदपि सत्त्वमासमाद ।	2
ततश्चास्तमनसमये महतीं गिरिगुहामासाद्य प्रविष्टश्चिन्तयामास —	3
नूनमेतस्यां गुहायां रात्रौ केनापि सत्त्वेनागन्तव्यम् । तन्निभृतो भूत्वा	4
तिष्ठामि । एतस्मिन्नन्तरे तत्स्वामी दधिपुच्छो नाम शृगालः समायातः ।	5
स च यावत्पश्यति तावत्सिंहपदपङ्क्तिर्गुहायां प्रविष्टा न च निष्क्रान्ता	6
गता । ततश्चाचिन्तयत् — अहो विनष्टोऽस्मि । नूनमस्यामन्तर्गतेन	7
सिंहेन भाव्यम् । तत्किं करोमि ।	8

- (a) Where did the lion live? (line 1) [1]
- (b) Translate 'kṣutkṣāmakaṇṭhaḥ'. (line 2) [3]
- (c) Translate 'tataś cāstamanasamaye mahatīm giriguhām āsādy praviṣṭaḥ'. (line 3) [6]
- (d) What does the lion think? (line 4) [3]
- (e) (i) Translate 'tatsvāmī'. (line 5) [2]
- (ii) What type of compound is this? [1]
- (f) What does the jackal think when he sees the footprints of the lion? (line 7) [1]
- (g) This story teaches a lesson, or moral. What is the moral at the end of this story, and how do the actions of the lion and the jackal show this moral? [4]
- (h) What typical features of stories from the Pañcatantra are found in this passage? [4]

[Total: 25]

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