

9. Write a short essay on any English writer in prose or poetry, or specially upon any one of his works; or on any one of the phrases in Question 7.

Part of a Paper on English Grammar and Composition.—For Class E and Junior Civil Service.

[NOTE.—The Supervisor will be so good as to read through and then slowly dictate the following words and sentences, afterwards reading the whole of them again to afford opportunity for correction.]

Parliament, ominous, unwieldy, amateur, satirical, trophy, porcelain, thievish, fascinating, circuitous, dyspeptic, caricature, acquittal, philanthropist. Such limited accommodation was prejudicial to convalescence. His colleague's breach of etiquette precipitated the catastrophe. The Committee were entertained in a gorgeously-decorated pavilion. He prophesies disasters, but his prophecies are never fulfilled. The Lieutenant-Colonel accompanied us on a bicycle. Their pathetic description of the negroes' miseries excited commiseration.

English.—Paper No. 1: Composition and Précis.—For Senior Civil Service. Time allowed: 3 hours.

[All the Questions are to be attempted.]

1. Write an essay on one of the following subjects: (a) Shakspeare's Prose; (b) London Life as depicted by Shakspeare; (c) The Language of Lamb's Essays; (d) Lamb's Character-drawing.

2. Rewrite the following passages, adding notes: (a.) Another sort of men, and especially lords and gentlemen, by whom the pressures of the Government were not much felt, who enjoyed their own plentiful fortunes, with little or insensible detriment, looking no farther than their present safety and prosperity, and the yet undisturbed peace of the nation, whilst other kingdoms were embroiled in calamities, and Germany sadly wasted by a sharp war, did nothing but applaud the happiness of England, and called those ungrateful factious spirits who complained of the breach of laws and liberties; that the kingdom abounded with wealth, plenty, and all kinds of elegancies, more than ever; that it was for the honour of a people that the monarch should live splendidly and not be curbed at all in his prerogative, which would bring him into greater esteem with other princes, and more enable him to prevail in treaties; that what they suffered by monopolies was insensible and not grievous, if compared with other States; that the Duke of Tuscany sat heavier upon his people in that very kind; that the French King had made himself an absolute lord, and quite depressed the power of Parliaments, which had been there as great as in any kingdom, and yet that France flourished and the gentry lived well; that the Austrian princes, especially in Spain, laid heavy burdens upon their subjects. Thus did many of the English gentry, by way of comparison, in ordinary discourse, plead for their own servitude.—(MAY.) (b.) We have known many fine geniuses with that imperfection that they cannot do anything useful, not so much as write one clean sentence. 'Tis worse, and tragic, that no man is fit for society who has fine traits. At a distance he is admired, but bring him hand to hand, he is a cripple. One protects himself by solitude, and one by courtesy, and one by an acid, worldly manner—each concealing how he can the thinness of his skin and his incapacity for strict association. But there is no remedy that can reach the heart of the disease but either habits of self-reliance that should go in practice to making the man independent of the human race, or else a religion of love.—(EMERSON.)

3. Make an abstract of the accompanying correspondence*, giving the important points of each letter briefly, distinctly, and so as to catch the eye readily. The abstract should contain the date of each letter, the names of the persons by whom and to whom it is written, and its subject, in as few words as possible.

4. Draw up a *précis* (i.e., a brief and clear statement in narrative form, not letter by letter) of the same correspondence.

English.—Paper No. 2: Literature and Grammar.—For Senior Civil Service. Time allowed: 3 hours.

[All the Questions are to be attempted.]

1. Contrast the First and Second Parts of "Henry IV." Comment upon the following passages in these plays, and refer each passage to its context: (a.) Let not us that are squires of the night's body be called thieves of the day's beauty. (b.) Falstaff frets like a gummed velvet. (c.) And then I stole all courtesy from heaven. (d.) As that ungentle gull, the cuckoo's bird, useth the sparrow. (e.) You hunt counter. (f.) This Vice's dagger become a squire. (g.) You thin man in a censer.

2. Compare the female characters in "Henry V." with those in "Henry IV." Comment upon the following passages in "Henry V.," referring each passage to its context: (a.) The sad-eyed justice, with his surly hum. (b.) The guilt of France—O guilt indeed! (c.) His nose was as sharp as a pen, and 'a babbled of green fields. (d.) That is the very plain-song of it. (e.) Like a mighty whiffler 'fore the king.

3. Show how the Queen Anne literature reflects the social and political life of the period. What different aspects of this literature are presented by the works of Swift, Addison, and Pope? Name and briefly describe the chief works of these writers.

4. Give some account of the following authors and their works: James Thompson, Richard Bentley, John Gay, Bernard de Mandeville, John Arbuthnot, Richard Steele.

5. Write a short life of Charles Lamb, illustrating by references to the Essays of Elia. Compare Addison and Lamb as essayists.

6. Sketch the contents of one of the following Essays of Elia: (a.) Imperfect Sympathies. (b.) On the Artificial Comedy of the Last Century. (c.) The Genteel Style in Writing.

7. Point out leading grammatical differences between the language of Shakspeare and modern English, adding illustrations from "Henry IV." and "Henry V."

* Parliamentary Paper, A.-11, 1887.