



**WEST BENGAL STATE UNIVERSITY**  
B.A. Honours/Programme 1st Semester Examination, 2022-23

**ENHGEC01T/ENGGCOR01T-ENGLISH (GE1/DSC1)**

Time Allotted: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 50

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.  
Candidates should answer in their own words and adhere to the word limit as practicable.*

1. Answer any **three** of the following questions in about 450-500 words each: 15×3 = 45
- (a) Critically appreciate Eunice de Souza's poem, "Marriages are Made".
- OR**
- (b) Examine the significance of the title of 'Shakespeare's Sister' by Virginia Woolf.
- (c) Discuss the meaning of the phrase 'dream deferred' in Langston Hughes' poem, 'Harlem'. Why does the poet put this phrase as a question?
- OR**
- (d) Comment on the title of the poem 'Still I Rise'.
- (e) How does Owen demolish the myth surrounding nationalism and patriotism in his poem, 'Dulce et decorum est'?
- OR**
- (f) The theme of violence in 'The Ghosts of Mrs. Gandhi' is quite evident. Discuss.
- (g) What in your opinion is the purpose of 'toys' in the essay, 'Toys' by Roland Barthes? Write a brief analysis of the essay.
- OR**
- (h) Comment on the portrayal of nostalgia of immigrants in London for their former life at home in Imtiaz Dharker's 'At the Lahore Karhai'.
2. Answer any **one** of the following questions within 250 words: 5×1= 5
- (a) Comment briefly on Judith's life in London as has been imagined by Virginia Woolf in 'Shakespeare's Sister'.
- (b) Explain the image of 'black ocean, leaping and wide' from the poem 'Still I Rise' by Maya Angelou.
- (c) What introduction does the author give about himself in his essay, 'The Ghosts of Mrs. Gandhi'?
- (d) "These  
are ways of remembering."  
Explain with reference to the context.



## WEST BENGAL STATE UNIVERSITY

B.A. Programme (Only for Male Candidates) & B.Com. Programme 1st Semester Examination, 2022-23

### ENGLCOR01T-ENGLISH (LCC1)

Time Allotted: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 50

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.*

*Candidates should answer in their own words and adhere to the word limit as practicable.*

**Attempt all questions**

2×25 = 50

1. The phrase "clear stream of reason" from "Where the Mind is without Fear" suggests  
 (A) reason is a glass of clear water (B) reason offers clarity like a clear stream  
 (C) reason livestreams (D) reason is clear as crystal
2. By whom is the mind led forward?  
 (A) thee (B) the poet himself (C) freedom (D) heaven
3. The characteristic feature of the spoken word is that it should, according to Tagore  
 (A) come out from the depth of truth (B) be ever widening in thought and action  
 (C) dream of a heaven of freedom (D) consist of narrow domestic walls
4. What is the opposite of the word *perfection*?  
 (A) unperfection (B) ilperfection (C) nonperfection (D) imperfection
5. The most striking difference between Baroda and Bombay was  
 (A) in Baroda there were no trees  
 (B) in Bombay there were no trees except in one's dreams  
 (C) in Baroda trees were sacred  
 (D) in Bombay the shadows of the trees were long
6. The synonym of *surrounding* is  
 (A) far away (B) amidst (C) neighbouring (D) inside
7. The creatures that left the tree, on it being cut down, were  
 (A) monkeys and langurs (B) birds and animals  
 (C) snakes and lizards (D) birds and insects
8. Identify the adjective form of *structure*  
 (A) structuring (B) structural (C) structuration (D) structurally
9. The children in the poem, 'Sita' had gathered together  
 (A) to play (B) to swim (C) to listen to stories (D) to read
10. The expression "lucid lake" means  
 (A) dal lake (B) lovely lake (C) placid lake (D) clear lake
11. The synonym of *sorrow* is  
 (A) unhappiness (B) sorry (C) joy (D) enjoy



12. Identify the noun form of *dark*  
 (A) darkened (B) darkly (C) darkness (D) darker
13. People visited Dr. Raman  
 (A) every 3 weeks  
 (B) whenever they wanted  
 (C) only when the patient was in his last legs  
 (D) once a year
14. When Dr. Raman saw Gopal ill in his bed he needed  
 (A) Glucose and Brandy every hour (B) someone to tell him soothing lies  
 (C) to cry for his friend (D) another doctor
15. The antonym of *fatigue* is  
 (A) energy (B) tiredness (C) excess (D) shy
16. What is the adjective form of *opinion*?  
 (A) opine (B) opium (C) opinion (D) opinionated
17. The author of "Thakur's Well" is  
 (A) Mahadevi Varma (B) Munshi Premchand  
 (C) Rabindranath Tagore (D) Agyeya
18. What is a pitcher?  
 (A) a glass (B) a large jug, usually earthen  
 (C) a well (D) none of these
19. Why did Gangi not allow Jokhu to drink the stinking water  
 (A) because she was fastidious  
 (B) because that would aggravate Jokhu's illness  
 (C) because the water belonged to her  
 (D) because the water belonged to the Thakur's well
20. What is the opposite of *drowned*?  
 (A) survived (B) dead (C) foul smelling (D) floated
21. The adjective form of *decency* is  
 (A) decent (B) indecent (C) descend (D) decently
22. In the story, 'The Photograph', the summer season was described as  
 (A) hot and perspiring (B) a season of sunflowers and warm wind  
 (C) stormy and dusty (D) cold and wet
23. Identify the adjective form of *moment*  
 (A) momentum (B) momentarily (C) movement (D) momentary
24. One word for 'not very strong' is  
 (A) terrifying (B) proud (C) weak (D) courageous
25. A lemon-coloured butterfly  
 (A) was sad  
 (B) stared at the author  
 (C) flew away when the author tried to grab it  
 (D) spread its wings to reveal its true colours.



**WEST BENGAL STATE UNIVERSITY**  
B.A. Honours/Programme 1st Semester Examination, 2021-22

**ENHGEC01T/ENGGCOR01T-ENGLISH (GE1/DSC1)**

**INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIETY**

Time Allotted: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 50

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.  
Candidates should answer in their own words and adhere to the word limit as practicable.*

1. Answer any **three** of the following questions within 500 words each: 15×3 = 45
- (a) What is the main theme of the poem “Marriages Are Made” by Eunice D’Souza? Comment with reference to the tone used by the poet.
  - (b) Discuss Langston Hughes’ poem “Harlem” as a protest against racial oppression.
  - (c) Comment on the theme of empowerment, equality, oppression and defiance in Maya Angelou’s poem “Still I Rise”.
  - (d) Consider “Dulce et Decorum est” as an anti-war poem.
  - (e) Why does Roland Barthes criticize modern French toys? Explain.
2. Answer any **one** of the following questions within 250 words: 5×1= 5
- (a) What, according to Owen, is the ‘old lie’? Why does he think so?
  - (b) Locate and annotate:  
“Leaving behind nights of terror and fear  
I rise”
  - (c) Comment on the images of sagging and exploding in “Harlem”.
  - (d) What impact does the last line of the poem “Marriages Are Made” create on the readers?
  - (e) Explain the social implications of Barthes distinction between plastic and wooden toys.

**N.B. :** *Students have to complete submission of their Answer Scripts through E-mail / Whatsapp to their own respective colleges on the same day / date of examination within 1 hour after end of exam. University / College authorities will not be held responsible for wrong submission (at in proper address). Students are strongly advised not to submit multiple copies of the same answer script.*

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**WEST BENGAL STATE UNIVERSITY**  
B.A./B.Com. Programme 1st Semester Examination, 2021-22

**ENGLCOR01T-ENGLISH (LCC1)**

Time Allotted: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 50

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.  
Candidates should answer in their own words and adhere to the word limit as practicable.*

**ATTEMPT ALL QUESTIONS**

2×25= 50

1. The phrase 'narrow domestic walls' from 'Where the Mind is without Fear' suggests  
(A) walls are not thick enough  
(B) boundaries of caste, race and religion that separate mankind  
(C) walls eavesdrop  
(D) walls that crumble easily
2. Outmoded customs and superstitions are compared to  
(A) clear stream of reason  
(B) ever widening thought and action  
(C) dreary desert sand of dead habit  
(D) heaven of freedom
3. The synonym of *fragments* is  
(A) fragrance                      (B) forging                      (C) rags and bones                      (D) bits and pieces
4. The opposite of *truth* is  
(A) God                      (B) Devil                      (C) Imperfection                      (D) Untruth
5. In the poem, 'Felling of the Banyan Tree' the poet's family moved from  
(A) Bombay to Baroda                      (B) Baroda to Bombay  
(C) Bombay to Pune                      (D) Bombay to Goa
6. The banyan tree was  
(A) 200 years old                      (B) 300 years old                      (C) 400 years old                      (D) 700 years old
7. "But the huge banyan tree stood like a \_\_\_\_\_."  
(A) heap                      (B) problem                      (C) friend                      (D) shadow



8. The banyan tree had a circumference of  
(A) 30 feet (B) 50 feet (C) 40 feet (D) 80 feet
9. Granny's picture in the story, 'The Photograph' was found  
(A) in a book of pictures of birds and butterflies  
(B) from amidst the curtains  
(C) below the knitting machine  
(D) in granny's needle and thread box
10. The hand on the wall in the picture was that of  
(A) a soldier (B) the doctor  
(C) grandfather or the sweeper boy (D) a burglar
11. The adjective form of *moment* is  
(A) Momentary (B) Massive (C) Memento (D) Microsoft
12. The verb form of *deterrent* is  
(A) ditch (B) detergent (C) deliberate (D) deter
13. In 'The Doctor's Word' before operating on Gopal, Dr. Raman asked his wife to  
(A) assist him (B) leave the room (C) stand and watch (D) call the neighbours
14. Dr. Raman and Gopal had known each other for  
(A) 60 years (B) 40 years (C) 50 years (D) 37 years
15. Gopal hadn't called on Dr. Raman since  
(A) 3 weeks (B) 3 months (C) 3 days (D) a year
16. Dr. Raman asked Gopal to be fed  
(A) Glucose and Brandy every hour (B) Glucose and Coffee every half an hour  
(C) Glucose and Brandy every 40 minutes (D) Glucose and Tea every morning
17. The synonym of *shirk* is  
(A) avoid (B) shrink (C) abuse (D) shirt
18. The adjective form of *opinion* is  
(A) opinion (B) opinionated (C) opium (D) oppose
19. 'Thakur's Well' was published in....  
(A) 1933 (B) 1932 (C) 1931 (D) 1934





## WEST BENGAL STATE UNIVERSITY

B.A. Honours/Programme 1st Semester Examination, 2020, held in 2021

### ENHGEC01T/ENGGCOR01T-ENGLISH (GE1/DSC1)

#### INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIETY

Time Allotted: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 50

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.  
Candidates should answer in their own words and adhere to the word limit as practicable.*

1. Answer any **three** of the following questions: 15×3 = 45
- The poem “Marriages Are Made” by Eunice De Souza deals with the theme of gender discrimination in Indian society. Discuss.
  - What does ‘a dream deferred’ mean in “Harlem,” a poem by Langston Hughes? Discuss in the context of the poem.
  - Consider “Still I Rise” by Maya Angelou as a poem of protest.
  - Show how Wilfred Owen explores the reality of war in “Dulce et Decorum Est”.
  - What are the main ideas in the essay “Toys” by Roland Barthes?
2. Answer any **one** of the following questions: 5×1= 5
- Write a brief note on the use of the expression ‘Dulce et Decorum Est’ by Wilfred Owen.
  - Comment on any two symbols in the poem “Still I Rise” by Maya Angelou.
  - What is the significance of the bus ride episode in Amitav Ghosh’s “The Ghosts of Mrs Gandhi”?
  - What does Eunice De Souza mean by ‘formalities’ in the poem “Marriages Are Made”? What does she say about the arranged marriages in India?
  - The poem “Harlem” is full of questions. Is it significant that there are no answers to these questions? Justify.

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**WEST BENGAL STATE UNIVERSITY**  
B.A./B.Com. Programme 1st Semester Examination, 2020, held in 2021

**ENGLCOR01T-ENGLISH (LCC1)**

**NEW AND OLD SYLLABUS**

Time Allotted: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 50

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Candidates should answer in their own words and adhere to the word limit as practicable.*

**NEW SYLLABUS**

**ATTEMPT ALL QUESTIONS**

2×25= 50

1. The poem *Where the mind is without fear* speaks of  
(A) a promised geographical land (B) a heaven of freedom  
(C) a land of rivers and deserts (D) a land of fratricide
2. '.....narrow domestic walls' suggest  
(A) walls that are narrow  
(B) walls have ears  
(C) boundaries of race, caste, religion even nations  
(D) walls for domestic animals
3. The 'clear stream of reason' should  
(A) not give in to the outdated customs and superstitions  
(B) not rush in where angels fear to tread  
(C) not dirty the water  
(D) not try to change the course of the river
4. The 'mind is led forward by'  
(A) my father (B) Tagore himself (C) King George V (D) God
5. The poet anchorite suggested in the poem *Sita* is  
(A) Vyasa (B) Bharata (C) Valmiki (D) Tagore
6. The story of *Sita* is told by  
(A) Toru Dutt to her siblings (B) a mother to her children  
(C) a singer to the audience (D) the birds to the flowers



7. Another word for 'gaze' is  
(A) stare (B) stair (C) steer (D) scare
8. The word 'gigantic' originates from  
(A) gigabyte (B) Lady Gaga (C) giant (D) godzilla
9. *The Felling of the Banyan Tree* is about  
(A) slaughter of a banyan tree (B) uprooting of a culture and relocation  
(C) sacredness of the tree (D) the tenants who are displaced
10. The banyan tree posed a problem because  
(A) cutting it down was an expensive affair  
(B) grandmother was dead against it  
(C) it required fifty men to hack it down  
(D) its roots were deeper than all the lives there put together
11. The most striking difference between Baroda and Bombay was that  
(A) Bombay had no trees  
(B) Baroda was full of neem and banyan trees  
(C) there were no sheoga or oudumber trees in Bombay  
(D) trees only grew in the mind
12. The opposite of 'build' is  
(A) pay (B) bleed (C) demolish (D) paint
13. Aerial roots mean  
(A) tree roots drooping down to earth (B) removal of roots in the area  
(C) antenna of the television (D) rootedness
14. Premchand was the pen name of  
(A) Dhanpat Rai Srivastava (B) Mulk Raj Anand  
(C) Ruskin Bond (D) Dilip Chitre
15. Gangi did not know that boiling the water would  
(A) reduce the water (B) make it safe for drinking  
(C) harm Jokhu (D) anger the Thakur
16. If Gangi tried to get water from the Thakur's well  
(A) she would be blessed by the Brahmin  
(B) she would have to pay money for it  
(C) her hands and legs would be broken for sure  
(D) the other women would take pity on her
17. The stealing of water from the well is compared to the stealing of  
(A) food (B) gold (C) lota (D) amrita



18. We know that Panditji was a crooked man because  
(A) his house was a gamblers' den (B) he adulterated ghee with oil  
(C) he made the women work as bondswomen (D) he regularly performed yoga
19. Dr. Raman and Gopal had known each other for  
(A) twelve years (B) sometime (C) many years (D) forty years
20. On seeing his dying friend, Dr. Raman needed  
(A) a doctor (B) to tell the truth  
(C) someone to tell him soothing lies (D) to speak to Gopal's wife
21. The adjectival form of the infinitive 'to judge' is  
(A) judge (B) judgemental (C) judgement (D) judging
22. A suitable synonym of 'classic' is  
(A) colossal (B) old (C) archetypal (D) fanciful
23. The late summer season in the short story, *The Photograph* has been described  
(A) with sunflowers in the garden and warm wind in the trees  
(B) with grandfather returning home  
(C) with rain and storm  
(D) with love in the air
24. The things not found in the photograph were  
(A) grandfather and his brother  
(B) grandmother and son  
(C) the spring day and the cool breeze blowing  
(D) the flowers and the creepers
25. The opposite of 'noise' is  
(A) rest (B) quest (C) poise (D) silence

### OLD SYLLABUS

#### ATTEMPT ALL QUESTIONS

1×50 = 50

1. *The Cop and the Anthem* is written by....  
(A) Charles Dickens (B) William Wordsworth  
(C) O. Henry (D) William Shakespeare
2. What is Blackwell's Island in *The Cop and the Anthem*?  
(A) A Hospital (B) A Morgue (C) A Prison (D) A Poor House
3. What did Soapy do at the shop?  
(A) He shattered its glass. (B) He stole things from it.  
(C) He tried to guard it. (D) None of these



4. What is the meaning of the word *cop*?  
(A) Policeman (B) Doctor (C) Soldier (D) Shopkeeper
5. What did Soapy hear as he stood near his childhood home?  
(A) A curse (B) The sound of sweet music  
(C) Someone sneezing (D) Some children playing
6. What was Soapy's final penal sentence?  
(A) Bonded labour (B) Freedom with a fine  
(C) Three months' prison sentence (D) None of these
7. What is Soapy's final destination in *The Cop and the Anthem*?  
(A) Blackwell's Island (B) Madison Square  
(C) A restaurant (D) Heaven
8. Which part of speech is *restlessly*?  
(A) Noun (B) Pronoun (C) Verb (D) Adverb
9. What is the meaning of the word *craved*?  
(A) Yearned for (B) Rejoiced (C) Loved (D) Hated
10. What is the noun form of *philanthropy*?  
(A) Philanthropize (B) Philanderer (C) Philately (D) Philanthropist
11. *London* is written by....  
(A) William Wordsworth (B) W.B. Yeats  
(C) William Blake (D) William Black
12. Name the river mentioned in *London*.  
(A) Ganges (B) Volga (C) Rhine (D) Thames
13. What does the expression "mind-forged manacles" mean?  
(A) People are mentally confined (B) People are mentally drained  
(C) People are mentally rejuvenated (D) None of these
14. What, among the following can be described as the dominant theme of *London*?  
(A) Love (B) Adventure (C) Courage (D) Misery
15. How many Stanzas are there in *London*?  
(A) Three (B) Four (C) Five (D) Six
16. The meaning of "chartered" in the context of the poem is  
(A) rented (B) registered and controlled  
(C) allowed (D) none of these



17. What is the meaning of the word "hearse" in *London*?  
(A) A carriage for the dead (B) A carriage for wedding  
(C) Marriage car (D) A police van
18. What is the noun form of *weak*?  
(A) Weakening (B) Week (C) Weekday (D) Weakness
19. What runs down the palace walls in *London*?  
(A) Water (B) Oil (C) Blood (D) None of these
20. What is the adjective form of *ban*?  
(A) Banning (B) Ban (C) Bun (D) Banned
21. The poem, *Death be not Proud* was written by  
(A) John Donne (B) Dan Brown  
(C) Rabindranath Tagore (D) P. B. Shelley
22. According to the poet of *Death be not Proud*, Death shall die when  
(A) we go on a holiday (B) God gets angry  
(C) Satan fights against God (D) one short sleep past, we wake eternally
23. Death is a slave to  
(A) wealth (B) fate, chance, kings and desperate men  
(C) love (D) beautiful women
24. The poet says that some people consider Death to be  
(A) weak and tired (B) weak and proud  
(C) mighty and dreadful (D) happy and excited
25. The antonym of Death is  
(A) sleep (B) life (C) joy (D) woe
26. *Eternally* means  
(A) forever (B) now (C) past (D) timely
27. Geese is the plural of  
(A) grouse (B) goose (C) grass (D) gross
28. The adjective of winter is  
(A) wintry (B) wintered (C) winter (D) wintery
29. The noun form of *proud* is  
(A) kindly (B) pride (C) nervous (D) jealous
30. The antonym of *pleasure* is  
(A) dishonesty (B) rudeness (C) politeness (D) pain



31. The antonym of *expensive* is  
(A) costly (B) cheap (C) stolen (D) bought
32. The noun form of *strong* is  
(A) strongly (B) strength (C) strung (D) strongness
33. Another word for *wrathfully* is  
(A) happily (B) cheerfully (C) angrily (D) doubtfully
34. The verb form of *picture* is  
(A) painting (B) picturise (C) pretty (D) imperfect
35. *To a Daughter Leaving Home* was written by  
(A) Maya Angelou (B) Judith Butler (C) Alice Walker (D) Linda Pastan
36. The age of the daughter when she was taught to ride was  
(A) nine (B) nineteen (C) eight (D) eighteen
37. The child grew smaller, more breakable because  
(A) the child managed to swim  
(B) the distance between the parent and the child was ever increasing  
(C) the child was lost  
(D) the bicycle was fragile
38. The child was screaming with laughter because  
(A) she had finally learnt to ride the bicycle  
(B) she was being tickled by her mother  
(C) she could ride the bicycle without parental assistance  
(D) both (A) and (C)
39. The hair of the girl was flapping like  
(A) a handkerchief (B) the wings of the bird  
(C) a dusting cloth (D) an aeroplane's wings
40. The flapping of the little girl's hair looked as though  
(A) she had just straightened her hair (B) she was waving goodbye  
(C) she had won the race (D) she had a veil on her head
41. In *Death penalty as a sign of the times?* Desai considers Memon's hanging a troubling sign because  
(A) people took pleasure in the hanging (B) death penalty was still a practice  
(C) death penalty is the only option (D) both (A) and (B)



42. Machismo is  
(A) cowardice (B) generosity  
(C) ego (D) aggressive male pride
43. According to Desai, Terrorism markets  
(A) freedom (B) patriotism (C) fear (D) anti nationalism
44. Another word for deterrent is  
(A) detergent (B) obstacle (C) determine (D) define
45. In the story, The Monkey's Paw, Mr. White and his son were playing  
(A) chess (B) scrabble (C) table tennis (D) patience
46. The name of Mr. White's friend was  
(A) Mr. Williams (B) Sergeant-Major Morris  
(C) Mr. Johnson (D) Mr. Selkirk
47. The magic spell on the monkey's paw was put by  
(A) God (B) a magician (C) an Indian fakir (D) a money lender
48. How many wishes could the monkey's paw fulfil?  
(A) Three wishes each for three persons (B) Two wishes  
(C) One wish for one person (D) Three wishes in all
49. The first wish of the White family was  
(A) to go on a long vacation (B) to get a new house  
(C) to get two hundred pounds (D) to get another paw
50. Herbert died  
(A) in a road accident (B) by being caught in the machinery  
(C) by falling off the roof of his office (D) by committing suicide

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WEST BENGAL STATE UNIVERSITY  
B.A. Honours/Programme 1st Semester Examination, 2018



ENHGEC01T/ENGGCOR01T-ENGLISH (GE1/DSC1)

THE INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIETY

Time Allotted: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 50

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.  
Candidates should answer in their own words as far as practicable.*

SECTION-I

Answer any *three* of the following questions in about 400 words each:

10×3 = 30

1. What information does Virginia Woolf acquire from the history books regarding the condition of women? Why does she turn to history books to find about women writers in *Shakespeare's Sister*?
2. Eunice De Souza's poem *Marriages are Made in Heaven* is a blend of satire and pathos. — Elucidate.
3. Describe the images used by Langston Hughes in his poem *Harlem*.
4. Comment on the theme of hope, oppression and defiance with reference to Maya Angelou's *Still I Rise*.
5. Discuss Wilfred Owen's *Dulce et Decorum Est* as an anti-war poem.
6. What eye-witness record does the author give of the riots in 1984? Answer with reference to *The Ghosts of Mrs. Gandhi*.
7. What are the reasons for which Barthes has criticized toys in his essay *Toys*?
8. Comment on the significance of the Sunday in Imtiaz Dharkar's poem *At The Lahore Karhai*.



SECTION-II



Answer any *four* of the following questions in about 200 words each:

5×4

9. Explain with reference to the context: "Now my belief is that this poet who never wrote a word and was buried at the crossroads still lives".
  
10. Locate and annotate:  
"Leaving behind nights of terror  
and fear  
I rise."
  
11. Explain the significance of the line "Men marched asleep".
  
12. Describe the New Delhi neighbourhood of Defence Colony as portrayed by Amitav Ghosh in *The Ghosts of Mrs. Gandhi*.
  
13. "All the toys one commonly sees are essentially a microcosm of the adult world....." —Explain.
  
14. Explain with reference to the context:  
"These  
are ways of remembering".

—x—