

CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
General Certificate of Education Advanced Level

SANSKRIT

9606/3

PAPER 3. **A** Short Essays
and **B** either **(i)** Pāṇinian Grammar
or **(ii)** Higher Level Prose Composition

MAY/ JUNE 2017

Additional materials:
Answer paper

TIME 2½ hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your name, Centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided on the separate answer paper.

Write your answers on the answer paper provided.

If you use more than one sheet of paper, fasten the sheets together.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The maximum number of marks for each question is shown in brackets [] at the end of each question.

This question paper consists of 4 printed pages.

A Write short essays in English on **three** of the following:

- 1 Does the *Mahābhārata* give the impression that humanity is in decline?
- 2 Śaṅkara said that the *Upaniṣads* destroy ignorance. Discuss.
- 3 Why is the *Bhagavad Gītā* one of the most widely read pieces of Sanskrit literature?
- 4 Is the *Rāmāyaṇa* a love story?
- 5 Is Buddha's search for enlightenment still relevant today?
- 6 Would it be helpful for lawyers to study the *Laws of Manu* as part of their training?
- 7 In the Sanskrit literature you have read, how is the way of devotion portrayed?
- 8 Based on your experience of Sanskrit literature so far, would you say it is predominantly moralistic or predominantly philosophical?

[Each essay carries 12 marks]

B**Either (i) Pāṇinian Grammar**

Answer **one** of the **first three** questions and **four** from questions 4 – 10.

Essay questions [10 marks each]:

- 1 Explain in brief the *sañjñā sūtras* in the Pāṇini system, presenting and analysing at least three of these *sūtras* as examples.
- 2 Give an account of the *guru* and *laghu* system of stress, incorporating the three main Pāṇini *sūtras* on this subject.
- 3 The Sanskrit alphabet can be ordered and described in terms of mouth position (*āśya*) and effort (*prayatna*). Explain what this means.

Technical questions [6 marks each]:

- 4 Explain the *sūtras*:
(i) *ādyantau ṭakitau*, (ii) *tasmād ity uttarasya*.
- 5 Give all the stages of *sandhi* change, and the *sūtras* governing the changes, for the following pairs of words:
(i) *tat śaram*, (ii) *rāmau atha*.
- 6 Quote and explain the two *sūtras* that define a *prātipadika*.
- 7 Of what sounds are the following *pratyāhāras* the names?
(i) *śar*, (ii) *yaṇ*, (iii) *jaś*.
- 8 Explain the significance of the *sūtras* '*pratyayaḥ*' and '*paraś ca*'.
- 9 Give the Sanskrit names of three types of compound words and explain their characteristic structure and use, with examples.
- 10 Explain how the forms of the paradigm of '*rāma*' are arranged, quoting at least one *sūtra* that applies in this context.

[Total: 34 marks]

[Turn over

or (ii) Higher Level Prose Composition

Translate into Sanskrit using the *devanāgarī* script and observing the rules of sandhi:

There was a rich brahmin who lived in the Avanti region. He was greedy and was quick to become angry. He never gave any of his wealth to his relatives. Even his own wife, sons and daughters were oppressed by him.

In this way he displeased the gods, who decided to deprive him of his wealth. Thieves came and took it all. Feeling sorrowful, the brahmin thought 'Wealth is the source of all misery. I shall now pursue the higher aims of life.'

The brahmin became a mendicant. He wandered everywhere, unattached, entering towns only for alms. Seeing him old and poor, evil people abused him. Some hit him with his staff, some bound him with ropes, and some ridiculed him. The brahmin, however, only thought 'This is all the result of former actions.'

Mahābhārata (adapted)

The following suggestions may, but need not, be used:

Avanti region	<i>avantideśa</i> (m)	alms	<i>bhikṣā</i> (f)
greedy	<i>lubdha</i> (mfn)	abuses	<i>tiras karoti</i>
mendicant	<i>bhikṣu</i> (m)	ridicules	<i>nindati</i>

[34 marks]