

**JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY**  
MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2023  
First Year First Semester  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH  
**WRITING IN PRACTICE**

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer *any one* question. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Complete the following passage to make a story.  
'Why?' she asked as he scrabbled at her fingers, trying to break her grip on the door handle. 'Why must I leave and you stay? We built this company together.'

'No, I built it,' he said. 'You were just there.'

'How can you say that? Do you deny the effort and thought I put into this? And what do you understand about the gourmet vegan market anyway?'

'More than you.' He let go and turned away with a snort. 'I'm taking this business global. I won't rely on your fancy friends any more.'

'Just because Mona didn't invite you to that party? It was a girls' night out!'

'What does that even mean? I'm the CEO, you should have invited me. Everybody else there was an associate.'

She shut the door and came back inside, putting her bag down on the shop counter. He frowned and made a protective gesture towards the glowing wood. She raised an eyebrow. 'Do you understand what "work/life balance" is, Vinod? Sometimes we do social stuff that has nothing to do with work.'

'Don't give me that fancy language, Maitreyee. I'm the CEO and next time you're inviting me. Or you're out. All of you are out. I can do this without you.' He glowered at her, daring her to challenge him.

She sighed. 'Okay, whatever. Actually, now that I think about it,' she picked up her bag again and smiled a little too sweetly, 'it might even be fun.'

2. Use any three of these objects to construct a story. You may use them as real objects, symbols, art objects or toys. Crossword, windmill, rose, fountain, biscuit, television.

3. Describe a situation in which these two characters meet and have a conversation.

A: Shalmolee is shy, retiring, twenty three and nearly six foot tall. She has just completed a course of study in commerce and is looking for a job. Her parents are divorced, and she lives with her mother. She was bullied in school for her size and is extremely self conscious, but she also does not know her own strength.

B: Sohail is a figure skater who has had to pause his career because of a lack of sponsors and is now working as a sales exec for an insurance firm. He absolutely hates this but is stuck without money and cannot pursue his dream. His parents live in another city and have been trying to get him married off, which he has dodged so far. He is beginning to feel despair at his lack of success in getting out of his boring life.

4. Here is a partial plot outline. Write a story based on it, and give it a development and climax of your choice.

A family are in a car on the highway heading to the beach when they see an accident by the side of the road. The wife wants to stop but the husband refuses. As they're passing, they hear a woman's

voice calling their son's name, Ravi, so loudly that he answers, 'Here!' Two turns down the road, they look in the mirror and see the backseat is empty.