4. Answer any *two* of the following in about **250** words each : **2×7.5=15**

(a) Examine the theme of love and friendship in *The Merchant of Venice*.

(b) Discuss the role of Portia as a female protagonist.

(c) Critically evaluate the ending of the play.

5. Write one of the following Letters : **10**

(a) Write a letter to a company requesting sponsorship for your college annual function.

Or

(b) Write a letter to your bank manager to report a lost ATM card and request a new one.

6. Write a précis of the following passage : **10**

In recent decades, technology has transformed the way humans communicate. With the rise of

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B.A. & Hons. (Subsidiary)/BTM EXAMINATION, 2026

(Sixth Semester)

(Re-appear Only)

ENGLISH

(Compulsory)

Time : 3 *Hours*] [*Maximum Marks :* 80

Before answering the question-paper, candidates must ensure that they have been supplied with correct and complete question-paper. No complaint, in this regard will be entertained after the examination.

Note : All questions are compulsory.

1. Explain the following extract with reference to the context : 10

(a) All that gliters is not gold;
Often have you heard that told.
Many a man his life hath sold
But my outside to behold :
Gilded tombs do worms enfold.

Or

(b) In sooth, I know not why I am so sad;
It wearies me, you say it wearies you;
But how I caught it, found it, or came by it,
What stuff 'tis made of, whereof it is born,
I am to learn;
And such a want-wit sadness makes of me,
That I have much ado to know myself.

2. Answer any *two* of the following : **2×2.5=5**

(a) What is a *Farce* ?

(b) Define the term *Monologue*.

(c) What do you understand by Stage Direction ?

(d) What is the difference between Melodrama and Tragedy ?

3. Answer any *three* of the following in about **30** words each : **3×5=15**

(a) Describe Shylock's attitude toward Christians.

(b) How does Portia trick Shylock in the court scene ?

(c) Why does Antonio agree to the bond ?

(d) Comment on the role of women in the play.

(e) How is Venice portrayed in the play ?

8. Attempt any *one* of the following : **7**

(a) Write a Circular to students informing them about an upcoming seminar on career planning.

Or

(b) Draft an RTI application to a government department seeking information about a delayed public project.

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smartphones, social media platforms, and instant messaging applications, people can now connect with each other across vast distances in real-time. While this has led to several positive changes- such as global connectivity, faster information exchange, and increased convenience-it has also brought significant challenges to human interaction. One of the major impacts of technology is the decline in face-to-face communication. In many households and social settings, individuals are seen engrossed in their phones even when surrounded by friends or family. As a result, non-verbal cues, tone, and emotional nuances-vital aspects of human connection-are often lost. This can lead to misunderstandings and a weakening of interpersonal bonds. Moreover, social media creates a curated reality, where people often present idealized versions of their

lives. This can foster feelings of inadequacy, anxiety, and loneliness, especially among younger users. The constant need for validation through likes and comments may lead to a dependence on digital approval rather than genuine self-esteem. On the positive side, technology enables introverted individuals or those with disabilities to communicate more comfortably. It also allows for the maintenance of long-distance relationships, supports education through virtual collaboration, and provides platforms for social awareness and activism. Despite its benefits, it is important to strike a balance between digital and real-life interactions. Responsible usage of technology, digital detox routines, and mindful communication can help individuals maintain deeper, more meaningful relationships in a tech-driven world. Ultimately, technology is a tool.

Whether it enhances or hinders communication depends largely on how it is used. By cultivating awareness and intentionality in our digital habits, we can harness its potential without losing the human touch in our connections.

7. Write one-word substitutions for any *eight* of the following : **8×1=8**

(a) A person who believes in fate

(b) A book written by an unknown author

(c) A system of government by a king

(d) One who is all-powerful

(e) Science of the mind and behavior

(f) A person who eats human flesh

(g) Something that cannot be defeated

(h) Government by a small group

(i) One who looks at the bright side of things

(j) A person who collects coins.