

36 SAMPLE QUESTION PAPERS

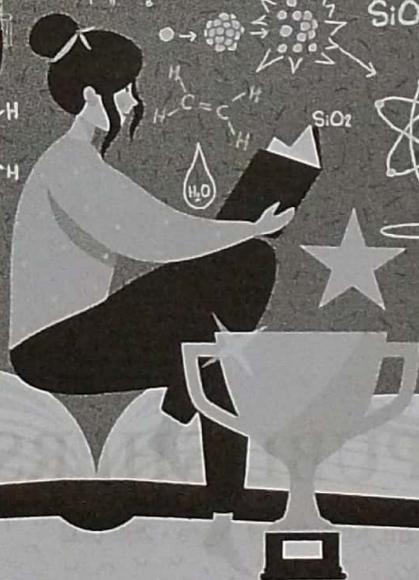
CBSE CLASS XII

SCIENCE STREAM (PCB)

English Core, Physical Education,
Computer Science, Physics,
Chemistry, Biology

ATDB.uno

**2024
EXAMINATION**



BY
PANEL OF AUTHORS

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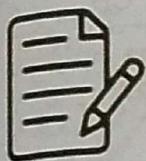
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PREFACE

In accordance with the latest syllabus prescribed by the
Central Board of Secondary Education, New Delhi.

**Based on the [F.1001/CBSE-Acad/Curriculum/2023]
Issued by the Board.**

We at Oswal-Gurukul believe that preparation in the right direction is the key to avoid stress, and perform well in one's board exams. Therefore, in order to excel in exams we have compiled CBSE 36 Sample Question Papers for the Examination for class XII. To provide best matter to students, Subject-matter experts and the best teachers from across the country have collaborated to bring together this book.

This book comprises detailed solved Sample Questions or Papers by CBSE of each subject and sample papers of English (Core), Physical Education, Computer Science, Physics, Chemistry and Biology according to the new SQP explained in detail for better understanding of the concepts. We have made every attempt to cover as much ground as possible from the entire syllabus and to keep the language of the book lucid and crisp for easy grasping.

We sincerely hope that this book will prove to be a tool for effective time-management, as well as enable smart-study practices.

—The Publisher



कन्द्रीय माध्यामिक शिक्षा बोर्ड

(शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत्त संगठन)

CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

(An Autonomous Organisation under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)



F.1001/CBSE-Acad/Curriculum/2023

March 31, 2023
Cir No: Acad-39/2023

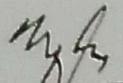
All Heads of Institutions affiliated to CBSE

Subject: Secondary and Senior School Curriculum and Sample Question Papers for the session 2023-24

1. CBSE annually provides the curriculum for classes IX to XII containing academic content, syllabus for examinations with learning outcomes, pedagogical practices, and assessment guidelines.
2. It is important that schools ensure curriculum transactions as per the directions given in the initial pages of the Curriculum document. The subjects should be taught as per the curriculum given by suitably incorporating strategies such as Art-Integrated Education, Experiential Learning, Pedagogical Plans, etc. wherever possible.
3. As CBSE has adopted National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage – 2022, schools offering foundational or preparatory education are advised to adhere to the recommendations regarding curriculum, pedagogy, assessment, and other areas described in detail in the NCFFS-2022 and guidelines of the Board issued from time to time.
4. Sample Question Papers with detailed designs of the Question Paper are also available on CBSE's website to reflect the impact of changes made in the curriculum. SQPs also provide students with an idea of the exam pattern and the type of questions that may be asked in the actual examination in order to ensure transparency and reduce stress. Students will also get a clear understanding of the weightage of different topics and the marking scheme to be followed by going through these Sample Question Papers.

Schools are requested to share the Curriculum and Sample Question Papers available on www.cbseacademic.nic.in at the given links, with all students and teachers –

- Secondary & Senior Secondary School Curriculum –
https://cbseacademic.nic.in/curriculum_2024.html
- Sample Question Papers – Secondary –
https://cbseacademic.nic.in/SQP_CLASSX_2023-24.html
- Sample Question Papers – Senior Secondary –
https://cbseacademic.nic.in/SQP_CLASSXII_2023-24.html


Dr. Joseph Emmanuel
Director (Academics)



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'Shiksha Sadan', 17, Rouse Avenue, Institutional Area, New Delhi - 110002



फ़ोन/Telephone: 011-23212603, 23233227 वेबसाइट/Website: <http://www.cbseacademic.nic.in> ई-मेल/e-mail: mailto:directoracad.cbse@nic.in



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Scan the QR code to get the answers of the Unsolved Papers

English Core

Blueprint of the Sample Question Paper

S. No.	Chapter Name	Marks
	Section A : Reading Skills	22
1	Discursive Passage	12
2	Case Based Factual Passage	10
	Section B : Creative Writing Skills	18
3.A	Notice	4
	OR	
3.B	Notice	4
4.A	Formal Invitation	4
	OR	
4.B	Informal Invitation	4
5.A	Formal Letter (Application for a job with bio data or Resume)	5
	OR	
5.B	Formal Letter (Editorial)	5
6.A	Article Writing	5
	OR	
6.B	Report Writing	5
	Section C : Literature	40
	Reference to Context	
7.A	A Thing of Beauty (Flamingo : Poetry)	1*6
	OR	
7.B	My Mother at Sixty-Six (Flamingo : Poetry)	1*6
8.A	Journey to the end of the Earth (Vistas)	1*4
	OR	
8.B	The Tiger King (Vistas)	1*4
9.A	The Last Lesson (Flamingo : Prose)	1*4
	OR	
9.B	Last Spring (Flamingo : Prose)	1*6
	Answer any five of the following in 40-50 words each.	5*2 = 10

10. (i)	Indigo (Flamingo : Prose)	2
(ii)	Deep Water (Flamingo : Prose)	2
(iii)	The Rattrap (Flamingo : Prose)	2
(iv)	Aunt Jennifer's Tigers (Flamingo : Poetry)	2
(v)	The Interview (Flamingo : Prose)	2
(vi)	Poets and Pancakes (Flamingo: Prose)	2
	Answer any two of the following in about 40-50 words each.	2*2 = 4
11. (i)	Memories of Childhood (Vistas)	2
(ii)	On the Face of It (Vistas)	2
(iii)	The Enemy (Vistas)	2
	Answer any one of the following in about 120-150 words each.	1*5 = 5
12.A(i)	Keeping Quiet + A Roadside Stand (Flamingo : Poem)	5
	OR	
12.B	Lost Spring, Going Places + Aunt Jennifer's Tigers (Flamingo : Prose + Poem)	5
	Answer any one of the following in about 120-150 words each.	1*5 = 5
13.A(i)	The Third Level (Vistas)	5
	OR	
13.B	Memories of Childhood (Vistas)	5

ATDB.uno



Sample Question Paper

1

English Core [Code (301)]

Time allowed : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 80

General Instructions :

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, WRITING and LITERATURE.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

Section-A

Reading Skills (22 marks)

Reading Comprehension Through Unseen Passages

1. Read the following text. [12m]

Arthur lay in his cabin, still trying to piece together the events of the last few hours. He had watched his home planet of Earth be demolished to make way for a hyperspace bypass, been saved by his friend Ford, and then whisked away on a ship that was powered by an "infinite improbability drive." It was all too much for him.

Just then, Ford stuck his head around the door. 5
"Hey, Earthman," he said, "come and have a look at this."

Arthur stumbled after him down a corridor and into the ship's control room. He gazed in amazement at the banks of controls and flashing lights. In the center of the room was a large console covered in buttons and switches, and in the middle of the console was a small, white mouse.

"What's that?" asked Arthur. 10

"That's the ship's computer," said Ford.

Arthur stared at the mouse. "That's a computer?" he said.

"Yup," said Ford. "Five-dimensional, biologically-based, super intelligent, and in the form of a white lab mouse. Pretty neat, huh?"

"I don't know," said Arthur. "I don't think I really understand anything anymore. Why is a mouse the ship's computer?" 15

"It's a long story," said Ford. "But the short version is that the mice built the Earth as a giant computer to figure out the Ultimate Question of Life, the Universe, and Everything. Then they ran out of money and had to destroy it to make way for a hyperspace bypass. So now they're using the Heart of Gold to finish the calculation." 20

Arthur was about to say something, but at that moment the ship's intercom crackled to life.

"Good evening, Heart of Gold," said a smooth, computerized voice. "This is Eddie, your shipboard computer. I'm feeling a bit depressed today. Would you like me to sing you a song?"

"Oh, not again," groaned Ford.

"Eddie, would you mind shutting up?" said Arthur. 25

Arthur sighed and leaned back against the console, trying to make sense of everything. But as he closed his eyes, he heard a voice inside his head.

"Hello?" it said.

Arthur jumped, startled. "Who's there?" he said.

"Marvin?" said Arthur. "Who's Marvin?"

"The Paranoid Android," said the voice.

Arthur looked around, but he didn't see anyone. "Where are you?" he said.

"I'm down here," said the voice.

Arthur looked down and saw a small, metal figure shuffling across the floor. It was about three feet tall, with a round head and a body that looked like it had been cobbled together from spare parts. Its eyes were a dull red, and its voice was a monotone.

"I've been waiting for someone to talk to me for over two million years," said Marvin.

Adapted- An excerpt from "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" by Douglas Adams/444 words

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

i. Select the option that classifies Arthur's confusion about drastic events such as the destruction of his home planet and the introduction of new technologies, correctly. [1]

- A. Routine and boredom
- B. Adventure and excitement
- C. Loss and change
- D. Calm and relaxation

Ans. B. Adventure and excitement

ii. What is the significance of the white lab mouse in the control room of the Heart of Gold spaceship? [1]

- A. It is the captain of the ship
- B. It serves as the ship's computer
- C. It is a pet of the crew
- D. It is used for scientific experiments

Ans. B. It serves as the ship's computer

iii. Share evidence from the text, in about 40 words to support the view that the writer's writing style is descriptive and humorous. [2]

Ans. **Descriptive:** "In the centre of the room was a large console covered in buttons and switches, and in the middle of the console was a small, white mouse."

This description provides a clear of the setting and the unconventional form of the ship's computer.

Humorous: "Oh, not again," groaned Ford.

This line is humorous because it suggests that the ship's computer Eddie, frequently offers to sing songs and annoy the crew. Ford's reaction of groaning that he is a common occurrence and that he's tired of it. The humour comes from the fact that a computer is attempting to sing a song, which is an unexpected and absurd situation.

iv. Complete the sentence appropriately with a characteristic or its description.

Based on the information given in the excerpt, one can infer that the mice who built the Earth are _____ [1]

Ans. highly intelligent/technologically advanced [they built the Earth as a giant computer]

v. Select the option that is similar in meaning to Ford's expression, "Pretty neat, huh?" [1]

- A. Easy, isn't it?
- B. Could be worse, no?
- C. Impressive, yes?
- D. Too difficult for you?

Ans. C. Impressive, yes?

vi. Explain, in about 40 words, why the name "The Paranoid Android" is considered ironic. [2]

Ans. The name "The Paranoid Android" is ironic because it is unexpected for a robot to exhibit human-like emotions such as paranoia. Robots are often thought of as logical and unemotional, whereas the name "paranoid" implies irrational fear and anxiety.

vii. In the line, "...a body that looked like it had been cobbled together from spare parts...", what comparison does the word "cobbled" refer to? [1]

Ans. The comparison is with cobblers, who take scraps of leather and stitch them together to create a shoe, in the same way in which the body of Marvin was put together or 'cobbled', using spare parts. [The word "cobbled" here, implies a sense of roughness and unevenness, as if the body has been put together in a haphazard manner. It also suggests that body is assembled together, rather than being a cohesive whole.]

viii. How does the following, impact the reader, even though they know Marvin is just an android? [2]

"I've been waiting for someone to talk to me for over two million years," said Marvin.

Answer in about 40 words.

Ans. The statement by Marvin, despite being an android, humanizes the character by evoking a sense of loneliness and isolation that is relatable to the reader.

It also emphasizes the theme of alienation and lack of communication between beings in the vastness of space. This creates a sense of sympathy towards Marvin and also raises questions about the meaning and value of existence, regardless of whether one is organic or synthetic.

ix. Read the five headlines (a) – (e), given below: [1]

- (a) HUMANITY'S JOURNEY WITNESSED BY A DEPRESSED ROBOT
- (b) HITCHHIKING THROUGH SPACE: A COMICAL TAKE ON THE END OF THE WORLD
- (c) NEW STUDY FINDS ALIENS LIVING AMONG US
- (d) GROUNDBREAKING TECHNOLOGY WILL SOON ENABLE TIME TRAVEL
- (e) INTERGALACTIC TRAVEL VIA NEW INFINITE IMPROBABILITY DRIVE

Identify the option that displays the headline/s that DOES/DO NOT correspond with occurrences in the passage.

- A. Only (a)
- B. (b), (c) and (d)
- C. Only (e)
- D. (a) and (e)

Ans. D. (a) and (e)

2. Read the following text. [10 m]

1. In recent years, there has been a surge in both group and solo travel among young adults in India. A survey conducted among young adults aged 18-25 aimed to explore the reasons behind their travel preferences and recorded the percentage variation for 10 common points that influence travel choices.
2. Among those who prefer solo travel, the most common reason cited was the desire for independence and freedom (58%), followed closely by the opportunity for introspection and self-discovery (52%). Additionally, solo travellers appreciated the ability to customize their itinerary to their preferences (44%) and the chance to meet new people on their own terms (36%).
3. On the other hand, those who prefer group travel often cited the desire for socializing and making new friends (61%) as their primary reason. Group travel also provided a sense of security and safety in unfamiliar places (52%) and allowed for shared experiences and memories with others (48%). Additionally, group travellers enjoyed the convenience of having pre-planned itineraries and organized transportation (38%).
4. Interestingly, both groups had similar levels of interest in exploring new cultures and trying new experiences (40% for solo travellers, 36% for group travellers). Similarly, both groups valued the opportunity to relax and escape from the stresses of everyday life (36% for solo travellers, 32% for group travellers).
5. However, there were also some notable differences between the two groups. For example, solo travellers placed a higher priority on budget-friendly travel options (38%) compared to group travellers (24%). Conversely, group travellers were more likely to prioritize luxury and comfort during their travels (28%) compared to solo travellers (12%).
6. Overall, the survey results suggest that both group and solo travel have their own unique advantages and appeal to different individuals, based on their preferences and priorities.

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

i. Infer two possible ways that the survey, mentioned in paragraph (1) could be beneficial. [2]

Answer in about 40 words.

- Ans.**
1. Help travel companies to tailor their services to meet the preferences and expectations of young adult travellers, leading to increased customer satisfaction and loyalty.
 2. Provide insights for the development of new travel packages and itineraries that cater to the specific needs and interests of young adult travellers.

ii. Which travel choice point of the survey would influence tour operators to incorporate group dinners, social events, and shared accommodations in their itinerary? [1]

- A. Freedom to customise itinerary
- B. Luxury and comfort
- C. Security and safety
- D. Desire for making new friends

Ans. D. Desire for making new friends

- iii. What do the top choices in the survey, for traveling solo and in a group suggest about young adults? [1]
Ans. The top choices in the survey, for travelling solo and in group suggest that young adult travellers value independence and freedom when travelling alone, and when travelling in a group, they value socializing and making new friends.
- iv. Identify the solo traveller from the following three travellers:
(a) Reshma- I don't want to keep hunting for rickshaws or taxis. A pre-booked vehicle is perfect. [1]
(b) Nawaz-I'm happy sharing a room in a hostel. I don't need hotel accommodation.
(c) Deepak-I'm not worried about my well-being , even while exploring remote areas.
Ans. (b) Nawaz
[solo traveller-budget friendly; (a) group traveller-organised transport; (c) group traveller high focus on safety and security]
- v. Which of the following is an example of an opportunity for self-discovery, as mentioned in paragraph 2? [1]
A. Trying new cuisine
B. Hiring a tour guide
C. Purchasing local artifacts
D. Advance booking travel tickets
Ans. A. Trying new cuisine
- vi. How might the differences in budget priorities between solo and group travellers impact the types of accommodations and activities offered by the travel industry in India? [2]
Ans. 1. To cater to budget-conscious solo travellers, the industry may need to provide more affordable accommodation options such as hostels and budget hotels.
2. For group travellers, the industry may need to focus on offering more luxury accommodations and experiences that cater to their desire for comfort and convenience.
- vii. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The similarities in the percentage of both solo and group travellers who are interested in exploring new cultures and trying new experiences may be due to _____. [1]
Ans. a shared desire for adventure
- viii. State TRUE or FALSE. [1]
The title, "Wanderlust: The Solo Travel Trend Among Young Adults in India", is appropriate for this passage.
Ans. FALSE.

Section-B

Creative Writing Skills (18 marks)

Note : All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

3. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 50 words. [4]
A. Bali High Public School has recently created *CureGreen*, a dedicated area for local medicinal herbs and shrubs, adjacent to the flower garden, on campus. As Rachel Tiwari, Captain of the Eco-Club, draft a notice for the school notice board, informing students of classes XI-XII, about a guided walk through *CureGreen*, post assembly, on Friday, 10 July. Invite care-giver applications, for *CureGreen*.

Ans.

Bali High Public School
NOTICE

17 July 20XX

Walk Through CureGreen

Student of classes XI and XII are hereby informed that they will be taken for a guided walk through *CureGreen*, a recently created garden for medicinal herbs and shrubs adjacent to the flower garden on campus, on Friday, 10 July post assembly. Those interested in taking care of *CureGreen* should give applications to their class teachers. For any other query contact the undersigned.

Rachel Tiwari
Captain
Eco Club

B. You are the Secretary of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme , Jastinapur, Sector D-3 Society. Write a notice for the Society notice board, informing residents about the change of personnel, Head Security, Gate 2 and share necessary details. Also, include the news of installation of the much awaited security camera, on the Eastern periphery of the Society.

Ans.

Jastinapur, Sector D-3 Society
NOTICE

07 July 20XX

Change of Personnel, Head Security

This is to inform the residents that the personnel for security at Gate 2 has been changed. Mr. Sameer Verma, from Secura Security Services, trained in handling security issues has joined as new personnel. Also, the much-awaited installation of a new camera system on Eastern periphery of society is complete. For any further information, contact the undersigned.

Anil Kumar
Secretary
Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

4. Attempt ANY ONE of two , in about 50 words. [4]

A. You are the Student Head, Cultural Affairs, at M.K. Sr. Sec. School. Your school is organising a 2-day Yoga camp over the weekend, for parents of the school students. Create an invitation, inviting the school parents for this Yoga camp. Share information about the camp organisers and include other necessary details.

Ans.

The Management, Staff & Students
of
M. K. Sr. Sec. School

Cordially invite you to the
TWO DAY YOGA CAMP
On 21 July 2023 at 7 A.M.

in the
School Auditorium
Shri Pramod Kumar
Secretary, Ministry of HRD
has kindly consented to be the chief guest.

Instructions

1. The card admits two people only.
2. Please be seated by 6:30 A.M.
3. Use of mobile phones and camera is prohibited.

RSVP
Shivam Bansal
9810XXXXXX

OR

B. Smt. Leelavati Khatri, your grandmother, has received an invitation from her childhood friend, residing at a distance in the same city. The invite is for the blessing ceremony and celebratory dinner, marking the birth of her granddaughter. Your grandmother wishes to attend the event but would need to be accompanied by a family member to assist her with her wheelchair. Create an appropriate reply, accepting this invitation, on behalf of your grandmother.

14 36 Sample Question Papers (CBSE - Class 10)

Ans.

27 Sardar Patel Marg

Civil Lines

Delhi

15 July 20XX

Dear Kusum,

Smt. Leelavati Khatri, my grandmother, thanks you for your invitation. She is delighted to join you in this joyous occasion of a blessing ceremony and celebratory dinner to mark the birth of your granddaughter on 28 July at your residence. However, due to her mobility constraints, she would need to be accompanied by a family member to help with her wheelchair. So, I will be there with her. Looking forward to rejoicing in your happiness.

RSVP,

Chinmayi Khatri

5. Attempt ANY ONE of two , in about 120-150 words. [5]

- A. You are Damanjit Singh, a fresh graduate of film-making (BFA), from JITI, Chandigarh. You saw the given advertisement in the newspaper and wish to apply for the position advertised. Write a letter to Mili Johar Arts, along with your bio-data, expressing your interest in the advertised post.



Mili Johar ARTS
ASSISTANT DIRECTORS
Wanted

For Feature Film
 Opportunity for aspiring Assistant Directors

WHO DO WE NEED?
 Freshers, Experienced, both welcome

REQUIRED-Degree/Diploma in Film Making

Skills : Camera handling, functional knowledge of Marathi, exceptional communication skills and ability to multi-task

Please send your resume to The Johar Mouse, Offices 05-06,
 (latest by 23 July 2023) Dyali Hill, Mumbai

Ans. D 27 Vayu Vihar

New Delhi

18 July 20XX

The Manager

The Mili Johar Arts

Dyali Hill

Mumbai

Subject: Application for the post of Assistant Director

Sir,

With reference to your advertisement in The Times of India dated 17 July 2023, I wish to apply for the post of Assistant Director at your organisation. I have the required skill set that you are looking for with excellent oral and written communication skills. As for my qualification, I have attached a detailed biodata along with this application.

If given a chance, I would prove to be a valuable asset to your company. Hoping for your favourable response.

Yours truly,

Daman Jit Singh

Encl. 1. Merit Certificates

2. Resume/ Biodata

Biodata

Name – Daman Jit Singh

Father’s Name – Gurcharan Singh

Sex – Male

Date of Birth – 8 September 2000

Nationality – Indian

Marital Status – Single

Address – 304, Ashok Lane

Sector 14

Chandigarh

Contact No – 981XXXXXXX

Educational Qualification:

	Name of Examination	Year of Passing	Name of Board	Pass Percentage
1.	AISSE	2018	CBSE	75
2.	AISSCE	2020	CBSE	73
3.	BFA	2023	JITI, Chandigarh	78

Languages known: Hindi, English, Punjabi, Kannada

Skills and Strengths: Computer literate, artistic talent and creativity, good soft skills and communication skills, good knowledge of handling camera.

References

- (i) Sh. V. Anand, H.O.D. BFA, JITI, Chandigarh.
- (ii) Sh. R.K. Sareen, Creative Advisor, JITI, Chandigarh.

Date – 18 July 2023

OR

B. Despite being an essential component of road safety infrastructure, many people do not respect zebra crossings and fail to follow traffic rules, which results in hazardous situations on the roads. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily, sharing your concern, and examining the reasons for such behaviour. Provide suggestions for spreading awareness of rules and etiquettes involved, and ways to ensure adherence. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this letter. You are Soma Baruah, a concerned city resident.

- For awareness –
 - general public/educational institutions
 - how? – in person/social media
- Dire consequences – self and others
- Adherence –
 - fines & penalties
 - revoking driving licenses
 - strengthening traffic police force – monitoring resources and technology

Ans. 104 Mahindra Apartments

F Block VIKASPURI

New Delhi

18 July 20XX

The Editor

The Hindustan Times

101 Kasturba Building

Connaught Place

New Delhi 110001

Subject: Concerns Regarding Disrespect for Traffic Rules and Roads Safety

Sir,

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I want to express my deep concern about the growing disregard for traffic rules among individuals. It is disheartening to witness the increasing number of road accidents, endangering the lives of innocent people.

There are many factors behind such behaviour. Lack of proper traffic education and awareness, lack of enforcement of laws related to road safety are the reasons for such hazardous situation.

To spread awareness about traffic rules and promote adherence to them, here are a few suggestions that can help us achieve this:

1. **Strengthen Traffic Education:** Incorporating comprehensive traffic education programmes into school curriculum, teaching students about traffic rules, road safety, and responsible driving can help them become responsible.
2. **Public Awareness Campaigns:** Launching public awareness campaigns through various mediums, including television, radio, and social media platforms to highlight the importance of following traffic rules can promote responsible driving habits.
3. **Community Engagement:** Organising community events, road safety workshops and interactive sessions with law enforcement agencies to engage the public can also help.
4. **Enforcement and Penalties:** Imposing significant penalties for violation will serve as a deterrent and encourage individuals to comply with traffic.
5. **Collaboration with Corporations:** Encouraging corporations and business houses to participate in road safety initiatives by organising seminars or workshops for their employees will help in promoting safe driving practices.
6. **Technology Integration:** Utilising technology by implementing smart traffic management system, including speed cameras, red-light cameras, and automated traffic violation detection system to monitor and enforce traffic regulations can bring a change.

By implementing these suggestions, we can create a culture of responsible driving, improve road safety in our community and ensure the well-being of our citizens.

Yours sincerely,

Soma Baruah

6. Attempt ANY ONE of two , in about 120-150 words.

[5]

- A. You are Sohail Hassan of class XII-B. Write an article for your school magazine, sharing the importance of young adults, as volunteers in one's local community, the need to do so and the benefits involved. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this article.

<p>Importance for personal growth + community development</p> <p>Benefits – For self: new skills, experiences, a sense of purpose</p> <p>For community : positive impact</p> <p>What are the ways one could get involved?</p>

Ans. **Empowering Young Adults: The Importance of Volunteering**
By Sohail Hassan

Volunteering in a local community navigates the path of self-discovery for young adults. It helps them explore their interests and develop new skills. By volunteering they create a significant impact on the community. In fact, volunteering helps not only the ones who are in need but also transforms the volunteers.

By volunteering in local community, the young adults can bring a tangible and positive change in the lives of its people. It helps them to address social issues directly and create a lasting impact on the lives of those who are less fortunate. Whether they are working at a local shelter, organising charity shows or participating in environment initiative, all their efforts bring the community together and strengthen social bonds.

Engaging in volunteer work and interaction with individuals of diverse backgrounds gives them a chance to develop compassion and empathy. It makes them aware of people's challenges. This fosters in them cultural understanding, and they become more open-minded. Working with a diverse group, they develop a sense of equality and social harmony. Not only this, but they also get to connect with like-minded people. It provides them with opportunities for collaboration, networking, and personal growth.

So, volunteering in a local community offers a multitude of benefits, from growth and skill development to creating lasting connections and making a difference. Let us all embrace the opportunity to give back, empower others and leave a legacy of compassion and kindness.

OR

B. The R.W.A (Resident Welfare Association), Nandipura -II, launched a volunteer programme for the young adults in and around the neighbourhood, on 18 January 2023. As Sunitha. J, the local correspondent of the neighbourhood newsletter, write a report, covering this event. Support your ideas with outline cues given below, to craft your report.

- which volunteer programme? – purpose of the launch event – It's importance
- activities that took place - who attended?
- any key message delivered
- how were young adults encouraged to join the volunteer programme?
- any resources and information provided to attendances?
- any insight into follow-up activities planned?
- what impact is expected to be achieved in the community?

Ans. **The Launch of Volunteer Programme**
By Sunitha. J, local correspondent

New Delhi, Jan 18, 2023: RWA of Nandipura II launched an exciting Volunteer Program on Jan 18, 2023, aiming to engage young adults in and around the neighbourhood. It had a remarkable turnout displaying the enthusiasm of the youth.

The event commenced with a warm welcome by the RWA President Mrs. Juneja. Then the RWA Executive Committee presented an overview of the programme, outlining its goals, objectives and areas of involvement. After that informative workshops were conducted by experts on topics such as effective communications, team building, and understanding community needs. Various volunteer opportunities like organising local events, cleanliness drives, environmental awareness, initiatives for the underprivileged were discussed. The RWA announced collaboration with several NGOs to provide meaningful volunteer opportunities. Representatives of NGOs were also present there.

Last of all, refreshments were provided creating an informal atmosphere for the attendees to interact and exchange ideas. The secretary of RWA extended a vote of thanks ensuring regular meetings, training sessions, and volunteering opportunities to ensure the success of the programme. He ended his note urging everyone to contribute towards making a positive change and building a stronger and more compassionate community.

Section - C

LITERATURE : TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY

READING TEXT (40 marks)

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. [6]

A. And such too is the grandeur of the dooms
We have imagined for the mighty dead;
All lovely tales that we have heard or read:
An endless fountain of immortal drink,
Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink.
(*A Thing of Beauty*)

- i. Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract? [1]
- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| A. The beauty of nature | C. The immortality of art and literature |
| B. The power of imagination | D. The inevitability of death |

Ans. C. The immortality of art and literature

ii. State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE, with reference to the extract.
By referring to the dead as "mighty", the poet emphasizes their importance and the power they exerted on the people. [1]

Ans. FALSE

iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The "endless fountain of immortal drink" is an apt analogy for the tales of the mighty dead because _____ [1]

Ans. just as a fountain constantly pours forth water, the tales of the mighty dead pour forth endless inspiration and wisdom for the living.

iv. The use of the word "think" in the extract suggests that the immortality that is being poured onto us is on the verge of overflowing. It is create a powerful image of _____ [1]

Ans. abundance

v. Based on the poem rhyme scheme, evident in lines 2-5, of the given extract, which word would rhyme with line 1? [1]

said	think	tombs
------	-------	-------

Ans. tombs [rhymes with dooms, which is the last word of line 1]

- vi. Select the option that is NOT true about the lack of punctuation at the end of line 1 in the extract. [1]
- A. Creates a sense of continuity and flow that connects the line with the second line.
 - B. Encourages the reader to continue reading seamlessly without any pause.
 - C. Creates a sense of anticipation and expectation for the reader.
 - D. Encourages a revisit to the ideas in the preceding lines.

Ans. C. Creates a sense of anticipation and expectation for the reader.

OR

B. ...I looked again at her, wan,
pale
as a late winter's moon and felt that
old
familiar ache, my childhood's fear,
but all I said was, see you soon,
Amma,
all I did was smile and smile and
smile.....
(*My Mother at Sixty-six*)

- i. What is the speaker's emotional state when looking at her mother? [1]
- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| A. Confused and disoriented | C. Empathetic and understanding |
| B. Nostalgic and longing | D. Fearful and apprehensive |

Ans. D. Fearful and apprehensive

ii. What does the use of the word "but" at the beginning of the line, 'but all I said..', suggest? [1]

Ans. It suggests a contrast between the speaker's internal emotional response and her outward behaviour.

iii. Select the word that WILL NOT complete the sentence appropriately.

The description of the mother as "wan, pale / as a late winter's moon" creates a vivid image of _____ [1]

- A. vulnerability B. sensitivity C. frailty D. mortality

Ans. B. sensitivity

iv. State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE. [1]

The poetic device used in the line, 'pale as a winter's moon' is the same as the one used in the line, 'the winter wind wistfully waited at night'. [1]

Ans. FALSE

v. What message do these lines highlight, in the context of familial relationships, and the speaker's sense of anxiety and fear at the prospect of losing her mother? [1]

Ans. The poem highlights the importance of cherishing and appreciating the people we love, while we still can. [1]

vi. Complete the sentence appropriately.

The repetition of the word, 'smile' suggests that _____.

Ans. the speaker is trying to hold back her emotions and remain composed, despite the pain she feels at parting from her mother.

8. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. [4]

A. Climate change is one of the most hotly contested environmental debates of our time. Will the West Antarctic ice sheet melt entirely? Will the Gulf Stream ocean current be disrupted? Will it be the end of the world as we know it? Maybe, Maybe not. Either way, Antarctica is a crucial element in this debate – not just because it's the only place in the world, which has never sustained a human population and therefore remains relatively 'pristine' in this respect; but more importantly, because it holds in its ice-cores half a million years of carbon records trapped in its layers of ice. (Journey to the End of the Earth)

i. How does the absence of a human population in Antarctica make it significant in the climate change debate? [1]

Ans. This makes it an important reference point for understanding the effects of human activities on the environment and the potential impacts of climate change. [The absence of a human population in Antarctica means that the region is relatively pristine and has not been subject to the same levels of human impact as other areas of the world.]

ii. Why is "climate change" described as a "hotly contested" issue in the extract provided? [1]

This is so, because there _____.

- A. is universal agreement on the causes and implications of climate change
B. is a planned path ahead about how to address climate change
C. are differing views on the causes and implications of climate change
D. are minimal reports of fresh threats to climate change

Ans. C. are differing views on the causes and implications of climate change

iii. The analogy of a time machine is an appropriate analogy for the role of carbon records in the study of climate change because _____ [1]

Ans. just like a time machine would allow us to observe past events, carbon records allow us to observe past climate conditions.

iv. Give one reason why the writing style of the extract can be called factual and informative. [1]

Ans. The writing style of the extract can be called factual and informative because the writer presents information in a straightforward and objective manner.

OR

B. In other words, the Tiger King is dead.

The manner of his death is a matter of extraordinary interest. It can be revealed only at the end of the tale. The most fantastic aspect of his demise was that as soon as he was born, astrologers had foretold that one day the Tiger King would actually have to die.

"The child will grow up to become the warrior of warriors, hero of heroes, champion of champions. But..." they bit their lips and swallowed hard. When compelled to continue, the astrologers came out with it. "This is a secret which should not be revealed at all. And yet we are forced to speak out. The child born under this star will one day have to meet its death."

(The Tiger King)

- i. Complete the sentence appropriately. [1]
The author's purpose in using foreshadowing, is to _____.
- Ans. create a sense of approaching doom
- ii. In the given extract, what emotions were the astrologers feeling when they "bit their lips and swallowed hard"? [1]
A. Humiliation B. Disbelief C. Grief D. Unease
- Ans. D. Unease
- iii. Which trait are the astrologers lauding when they say "warrior of warriors, hero of heroes, champion of champions"? [1]
- Ans. bravery/ heroism / leadership
- iv. How is the line, "the most fantastic aspect of his demise", an example of contrast? [1]
- Ans. This is so because the word "fantastic" is usually associated with something positive or exciting, while the word "demise" suggests something negative or tragic.

9. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. [6]

A. Usually, when school began, there was a great bustle, which could be heard out in the street, the opening and closing of desks, lessons repeated in unison, very loud, with our hands over our ears to understand better, and the teacher's great ruler rapping on the table. But now it was all so still! I had counted on the commotion to get to my desk without being seen; but, of course, that day everything had to be as quiet as Sunday morning. Through the window I saw my classmates, already in their places, and M. Hamel walking up and down with his terrible iron ruler under his arm. I had to open the door and go in before everybody. You can imagine how I blushed and how frightened I was.

(The Last Lesson)

- i. List any two sensory details present in the extract. [1]
- Ans. 1. the sounds of the opening and closing of desks
2. the loud lessons repeated in unison
- ii. Why does the protagonist feel anxious about entering the classroom on this particular day? [1]
A. The classmates have started the lesson C. The classroom is too quiet
B. The teacher is in a bad mood D. The protagonist is running late
- Ans. A. The classmates have started the lesson
- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately. [1]
The phrase "as quiet as Sunday morning" suggests that _____.
- Ans. the school was unusually quiet and still, as if it were a day of rest/holiday/school off, rather than a bustling school day.
- iv. Pick evidence from the extract that helps one infer that this was not the protagonist's first time being late to school. [1]
- Ans. The protagonist seems to have a plan for how to sneak into class without being noticed, suggesting that they may have been in similar situations before.
- v. What does the term 'terrible iron ruler' indicate about M. Hamel? [1]
- Ans. The strictness and severity of M. Hamel's discipline.
- vi. Which of the following headlines best suggests the central idea of the extract? [1]
A. The Fears of a Latecomer C. The Rigidity of the School System
B. The Importance of Punctuality D. The Anxiety of a Young Student
- Ans. B. The Importance of Punctuality

OR

B. Unaware of what his name represents, he roams the streets with his friends, an army of barefoot boys who appear like the morning birds and disappear at noon. Over the months, I have come to recognise each of them.

"Why aren't you wearing chappals?" I ask one.

"My mother did not bring them down from the shelf," he answers simply.

"Even if she did, he will throw them off," adds another who is wearing shoes that do not match.

When I comment on it, he shuffles his feet and says nothing. "I want shoes," says a third boy who has never owned a pair all his life. Travelling across the country I have seen children walking barefoot, in cities, on village roads. It is not lack of money but a tradition to stay barefoot, is one explanation.

(Lost Spring)

i. What is the writer's purpose in allowing the boys to speak for themselves via dialogue, as opposed to only a writer's commentary? [1]

Ans. To give voice to their hopes, dreams, and struggles in a way that is immediate and relatable.

ii. The line, "It is not lack of money but a tradition to stay barefoot" can be best classified as: [1]
A. A fact B. An opinion C. A theme D. A plot point

Ans. B. An opinion

iii. Explain any one possible inference that can be drawn from the line, "an army of barefoot boys who appear like the morning birds and disappear at noon". [1]

Ans. The boys are barefoot, which suggests that they may come from poor or marginalized backgrounds and do not have access to proper footwear.

iv. Identify the line from the text that bears evidence to the fact that the writer's association with the boys is not a recent one. [1]

Ans. The line from the text: "Over the months, I have come to recognize each of them."

v. Based on the context provided in the extract, select the most likely comment that the writer would have made, based on the boy's reaction to the mismatched shoes. [1]

- A. "Why are your shoes mismatched? That's not a good look."
- B. "Don't worry about your shoes, you can wear a matching pair later."
- C. "I like your shoes. What matters is that they protect your feet."
- D. "Have you chosen to mismatch your shoes?"

Ans. C. "I like your shoes. What matters is that they protect your feet." [1]

vi. Complete the sentence with ONE word. The phrase "he answers simply", suggests that the boy's response to the writer's question about why he wasn't wearing chappals was _____.

Ans. straightforward

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions, in about 40-50 words. [5 x 2 = 10]

i. What can be inferred from Rajendra Prasad's recorded upshot of the lawyer consultations, at Motihari? [Reference - The senior lawyer replied, they had come to advise and help him; if he went to jail there would be nobody to advise and they would go home. What about the injustice to the sharecroppers, Gandhi demanded.] (Indigo)

Ans. Rajendra Prasad's recorded upshot of the lawyer consultations, at Motihari highlights that the lawyers were conscious of the potential shame they would bring upon themselves if they deserted the peasants in their time of need.

Gandhi ji's courage and commitment to the cause of the peasants, despite being a stranger motivated them to continue their support and gave them a conviction and purpose to fight for justice and freedom.

ii. Douglas uses sensory details to create a vivid image of the unfortunate experience in the pool. What might be the impact on the reader if the narration were more informative than sensory? (Deep Water)

Ans. Douglas uses sensory details to create a vivid image of the unfortunate experience in the pool. If the narration had been more informative, the impact would have been less emotional because sensory details help the reader to visualise and feel the scene. The reader connects with the experience being described on a deeper level.

Factual details may be informative, the reader might feel detached and less connected to the story.

iii. How does the setting of the remote forest location in 'The Rattrap' contribute to the overall tone and mood of the story?

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Ans. The setting of the remote forest location in 'The Rattrap' contributes to the overall tone and mood of the story as it creates a sense of isolation and desolation, emphasising the loneliness and despair that the peddler experiences.

Harsh winter conditions and barren landscape metaphorically denote hopelessness and wilderness of the human soul, highlighting the struggles and temptations that people face in the journey of their life.

iv. How might the message of the poem, 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers' be different, if the following last four lines were omitted?

*When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie
Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by.
The tigers in the panel that she made
Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.*

Ans. If the last four lines were omitted, the poem would end on a note of oppression and suffering. Without the image of tigers prancing, there would be total loss of hope, with Aunt Jennifer's hands still ringed with the ordeals she was mastered by. Then there would be no hope of liberation.

The poet suggests that art can provide a kind of liberation, even in the face of social and cultural constraints.

v. Umberto Eco, with reference to "The Name of the Rose" says, "I think if I had written The Name of the Rose ten years earlier or ten years later, it wouldn't have been the same." What could he have meant?

(The Interview)

Ans. Umberto Eco suggests that success of his book, "The Name of the Rose" was largely due to timing. He means to say that themes and ideas he explored in his novel resonated strongly with readers in the cultural moment in which it was published, and that this moment was fleeting. Thus, he feels that the reception of a work of art is influenced by historical, social, and political climate of its time.

vi. What does the story of Subbu's success in the film industry reveal about the importance of loyalty, creativity, and versatility in this field?

(Poets and Pancakes)

Ans. Subbu's success in the film industry reveals that loyalty, creativity and versatility are essential qualities for success in this field. How he identified himself completely with his principal and turned his creativity to his (principal's) advantage exhibits his extreme loyalty. He was so versatile and creative that he could come up with numerous alternatives when given a problem to solve. He had the ability to work well with others. Hence, he was tailor-made for the film industry.

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words. [2 x 2 = 4]

i. How can we say that the vadai packet incident reveals that the writer lacked the cognitive and emotional maturity required to understand the implications of untouchability?

Ans. The vadai packet incident reveals that the writer lacked the cognitive and emotional maturity required to understand the implications of untouchability. She was only around eight years old at the time of the incident. She was too young to understand the complexity of such issues. Moreover, she had not, till then, heard people speak openly of untouchability. So, she did not have a complete grasp of the scope of the problem and its social implications.

ii. What does the play 'On the Face of It' suggest about the importance of empathy in overcoming prejudice and stereotypes?

Ans. The play highlights the damaging effects of prejudice and stereotypes on both the victim and the perpetrator. However, empathy and understanding can overcome these barriers. The way the relationship between Derry and Mr Lamb develops, we can see how their initial assumptions are challenged and ultimately broken. This shows the importance of empathy in recognising and overcoming prejudices. It allows individuals to see beyond surface-level differences and connect on a deeper level.

iii. Answer the question in the context of the following lines from 'The Enemy'.

"Stupid Yumi," she muttered fiercely. "Is this anything but a man? And a wounded helpless man!"
In the conviction of her own superiority she bent impulsively and untied the knotted rugs that kept the white man covered.

Explain the superiority Hana is convinced about.

Ans. In the given lines, Hana expresses her frustration with Yumi, who is hesitant to help her with the wounded white man. When she says, "Is this anything but a man.....", she means to convey that they are all humans, regardless of their race or nationality. Their human values make it their moral duty to help the wounded man. She asserts her firm belief in doing what is right even if it goes against societal norms. She demonstrates her moral superiority over Yumi who is more concerned with following the rules of society than with helping a fellow human.

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. [5]

A. Imagine you are Pablo Neruda, the poet of *Keeping Quiet*.
What advice might you offer to Robert Frost, the poet of *A Roadside Stand*, in the context of his conflicted emotions, as displayed in the given lines:

*The requisite lift of spirit has never been found,
Or so the voice of the country seems to complain,
I can't help owning the great relief it would be
To put these people at one stroke out of their pain.*

Pen down your advice, in a letter to Frost.

You may begin this way:

Dear Robert

I recently read your poem, "A Roadside Stand," and...

You may end this way:

I hope this advice is helpful to you. Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to support you.

Warmly,

Pablo Neruda

Ans. Dear Robert,
I recently read your poem, "A Roadside Stand," and was struck by the conflicting emotions that you expressed towards the end. I understand that it can be difficult to make decisions when we are overwhelmed by our emotions.

In my own experience, I have found that taking a moment to sit still and reflect can be very helpful in gaining a deeper understanding of the situation and connecting with our own humanity and that of others. This is the message that I try to convey in my poem, "Keeping Quiet."

I would advise you to take a moment to be still and contemplative before making any decisions about the fate of the people at the roadside stand. By quieting your mind and being present in the moment, you may be able to understand their struggles and pain objectively, and gain a new perspective about your own place in the world too. I also feel that by breaking from your routine and taking a moment of stillness and reflection, you might gain a deeper understanding of the situation and make a more functional decision.

I believe that this moment of reflection could help you to see beyond your conflicting emotions. We are all human, after all, and before connecting with others, and resolving their issues, we must try to connect with our own selves to advice from a place of balance and calm.

I hope this advice is helpful to you. Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to support you.

Warmly,

Pablo Neruda

OR

B. The different portrayals of women in the texts 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers', 'Going Places', 'Lost Spring', and 'My Mother at Sixty-six', offer insights into the experiences of women in society.

You have been asked to address your peers and share-

→ the ways these portrayals highlight the diversity of the female experience.

→ the importance of understanding each individual woman's challenges and experiences.

Compose this draft, with reference to **any three** of these prescribed texts, listed above.

You may begin this way:

Good morning, everyone.

As I analysed the allotted texts...

You may end this way:

To conclude, I'd like to say that ...

Ans. Good morning, everyone.

As I analysed the allotted texts, I noticed that though each portrayal of women was unique, they all offered varied insights into the experiences of women in society. To begin with, Aunt Jennifer was portrayed as a victim of patriarchy, living in a world where women were expected to conform to societal norms and expectations and was unable to attain freedom and strength she desired, due to the limitations imposed upon her by society.

In contrast, Sophie was portrayed as ambitious and determined to break free from societal norms. She refused to be limited by her gender and sought to challenge the restrictions placed upon her. Sophie's mother, on the other hand, from a generation prior, had chosen to conform and sacrifice her individuality to societal expectations.

Similarly in "Lost Spring," the grandmother and daughter-in-law, in Firozabad, were portrayed as resilient in the face of poverty and the societal constraints of their caste. However, unlike Sophie's and Aunt Jennifer's need to find an outlet, they found ways to make the best of their situation, despite the limitations placed upon them.

When we analyse the portrayal of the aged mother, in "My Mother at Sixty-six", she is presented as vulnerable and in need of protection. Sadly, it does make one wonder about the unaddressed vulnerability of Sophie's mother and the grandmother in "Lost Spring". A point worth considering is that Kamala Das' mother's acceptance of her circumstances comes across as a voluntary decision, whereas that of the women in "Lost Spring" is akin to resignation.

These portrayals of women offer valuable insights into the experiences of women in our society—from victimization to the resilience in the face of poverty—and offer us important lessons about strength, vulnerability, and the need for empathy and respect.

To conclude, I'd like to say that as readers, we can learn from their experiences and strive towards a more equitable and just society. These characters, stress that it is important to recognise the complexities of each woman's experiences, and refrain from passing sweeping judgements as women are not a uniform group, but rather unique individuals.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. [5]

A. In the story, 'The Third Level' by Jack Finney, Charley is obsessed with finding the third level.

In an attempt to thrash out whether this obsession is a good quality or a harmful one, Charley's wife expresses her thoughts in a diary entry.

As Louisa, Charley's wife, write this diary entry. Support your response with reference to the story.

You may begin this way:

I have been married to Charley for a few years now and I have always known him to be an intelligent man with an imaginative mind. However, his recent obsession with finding the Third Level has ...

Ans. I have been married to Charley for a few years now and I have always known him to be an intelligent man with an imaginative mind. However, his recent obsession with finding the Third Level has left me quite worried. While he talks about it with excitement, I cannot help but wonder if it is a good quality or a harmful one.

On one hand, Charley's obsession displays his determination and persistence in achieving his goals. It shows that he is willing to go to great lengths to unravel the mysteries of life. His imagination and curiosity are admirable qualities that have always attracted me to him.

However, his obsession has caused him to become detached from reality. He is no longer able to differentiate between what is real and what is not. He spends all his time and money searching for a place that may not even exist. This could be harmful not only to himself but also to our family.

I understand that he feels overwhelmed by the stress and pressures of his present life and Sam indicated that he uses his obsession as a coping mechanism. I think this is harmful as it prevents him from addressing the underlying issues that are causing him stress.

Furthermore, Charley's obsession has caused him to neglect his responsibilities. He has been absent from work and has not been able to contribute financially to our household. His obsession is affecting our relationship, and I am afraid that if he continues on this path, it might lead to irreparable damage.

Finally, all I can say is, I believe that Charley's obsession with finding the Third Level may have started as a harmless curiosity, but it has now become a harmful one. I love him dearly and I hope that he realizes that his obsession is affecting not only himself but also those around him.

OR

- B. A grown up Zitkala-Sa, reflects on the incident about cutting of her long hair and is conflicted that she did not do enough to resist and surrendered easily. She also wonders if she could have tried something else to prevent the incident.

As the grown-up Zitkala-Sa, create a diary entry , expressing these thoughts and conclude by absolving yourself of any blame.

You may begin like this:

I find myself reflecting on an event that happened many years ago...

(Memories of Childhood)

- Ans. I find myself reflecting on an event that happened many years ago, one that has continued to haunt me ever since. It is the incident where my long hair was forcefully cut off at the Carlisle Indian School. As I sit here today, I cannot help but feel conflicted about my actions that day.

On one hand, I am proud that I stood up for myself and refused to submit to their demands at first. I remember the fire in my belly as I declared that I would struggle before giving in.

However, as time passed, my spirit wavered, and eventually, I allowed them to cut my hair.

Looking back now, I cannot help but feel that I gave in too easily, that I did not do enough to resist.

As I ponder over what I could have done differently, I realize that there might have been other options. Perhaps I could have sought help from my fellow students. Maybe I could have tried to escape or find another way out of the situation. But in that moment, I was so overwhelmed and confused that I could not think straight.

I know that I have blamed myself for this incident for far too long. But today, I choose to absolve myself of any blame. As a young girl, I was forced into a strange place. I was not given the chance to make my own choices, to decide what was best for me. I was a victim of a system that sought to strip away my identity and forced me to assimilate.

Today, I choose to forgive myself and honour the brave little girl who stood up for herself that day. I am grateful for her courage and strength, and I will continue to honour her memory by fighting for justice and equality for all.

□□

English Core

Section-A Reading Skills

1. Read the following text.

1. Ghost nets aren't supernatural, but they are legitimately scary. A ghost net is a fishing net that is lost or abandoned in the ocean. They are one particularly appalling part of the global ghost fishing problem, which includes fishing gear abandoned in the water. Any net or line left in the ocean can be a threat to marine life. Just because a net is no longer used by fishers doesn't mean it stops working. These nets continue to trap everything in their path, presenting a major problem for the health of oceans and marine life.
2. Ghost nets entangle sea turtles, dolphins and porpoises, birds, sharks, seals and more, apart from catching fish. The nets keep animals from moving freely, cause injuries and keep mammals and birds from rising to the surface for air. Since hundreds of animals can be caught in a single net, this is monumental. The ghost nets harm coral reefs too—breaking corals, exposing them to disease and even blocking the reefs from needed sunlight.
3. Ghost nets are also a major contributor to the ocean plastics' crisis. Most modern nets are made of nylon or other plastic compounds that last for centuries. According to a 2018 study in *Scientific Reports*, ghost nets make up at least 46 percent of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. Those abandoned fishing lines and nets that do break down never go away; they just become smaller pieces of plastic. Marine animals mistake this microplastic for food and eat it, which can harm internal organs and even cause death from eating and exposing themselves to toxic chemicals.
4. Exorcising ghost nets from our oceans will require commitment, cooperation and innovation. Groups are working to remove ghost nets from the sea and are collaborating with local fisher governments around the world to identify target areas and remove as many nets as possible. In 2017, a single World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF)-led mission in the Baltic Sea hauled up 268 tons of ghost nets, ropes and other material.
5. To stop these nets from becoming ghost nets in the first place, conservation organisations advocate for fishing gear that can be traced to its owner. Some organisations have introduced regulations that require fishing nets to encourage returning or recycling rather than littering. Tools like sonar reflectors that can be attached to ghost nets make them easier to find and working with small-scale fisheries to develop more sustainable fishing practices are other suggestions. It is only by attacking this problem from all sides, together with conservation partners, fishers and supporters, can we banish ghost nets and protect our oceans.

Adapted: <https://www.worldwildlife.org/stories/our-oceans-are-haunted-by-ghost-nets-why-scary-and-what-we-can-do>—24

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

i. Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option:

Ghost nets have been named so because they _____.

- A. cause much harm to the marine life.
 B. are functional though not in use by fishers.
 C. are not owned by anyone.
 D. act as a snare for all animals in oceans.

Ans.

ii. Share evidence from the text, in about 40 words to support the view of the writer that ghost nets are a major threat to marine life.

Ans. The ghost nets abandoned in the ocean are great danger to marine life. Though these nets are no longer in use, they still can entrap fishes and other forms of sea life leading to incidences of sickness and even death. If the issue is not addressed in a war footing, the general health of the marine life will be at risk.

iii. List the two ways being entangled in a ghost net is likely to impact a walrus.

(Clue: Think about the type of animal a walrus is)

Ans. A walrus is a heavy mammal and animal of a large size. Getting entangled in a ghost net can lead to fatal consequences. It will be difficult for the animal to free itself and then they can become easy prey for whales and sharks. An entangled walrus is sure to die if it is not able to free itself before its lungs run out of oxygen.

iv. Select the option that conveys the opposite of 'negligible', from words used in paragraph two.

- A. unimpressive B. monumental C. exposing D. threat

Ans. B. monumental

v. The writer would not agree with the given statements based on paragraph three, EXCEPT:

- A. Most ghost nets take a few years to completely disintegrate.
B. Ghost nets contribute to the Great Pacific Garbage Patch.
C. Most ghost nets provide nutrition to marine animals, upon disintegration.
D. Ghost nets can curtail freedom of marine animals.

Ans. C. Most ghost nets provide nutrition to marine animals, upon disintegration.

vi. Some records share that fishing nets used to be made of common rope using natural fibres, prior to the 1960s. Based on your understanding of paragraph three, list one major advantage that these had over the fishing nets being used in present times.

Ans. The ropes used prior to 1960s were made of natural fibres which were biodegradable. They would disintegrate in course of time and the fibres being sourced from natural materials didn't pose health risk to marine life even if they were ingested.

vii. It is fair to say that commitment and innovation have to go hand-in-hand to rid the oceans of ghost nets. Explain in 40 words.

Ans. It is absolutely right to assert that a lot of commitment and innovation will be required to rid the oceans of the ghost nets. Along with commitment, innovative ideas and use of technology is essential for alleviation of the problem. Modern well researched technology will bring down costs and the time for the operation clean-up.

viii. Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference, with respect to the following:
The writer quotes the example of the WWI land mine in the Baltic sea (Paragraph 4), in order to

Ans. attract attention of governments and other environment conservation organisations, that with right commitment and resources, the problem of ghost nests is indeed solvable. The huge mass of ropes, nets etc., amounting to 268 tons pulled out of the Baltic sea is indeed a pointer to the intensity of the problem. Governments need to acknowledge the gravity of the problem and also commit resources required to arrest further degradation of the oceans by abandoned ghost nets.

ix. Select the most suitable title for the above passage.

- A. The Scary Side of Ghost Nets
B. Ghost Nets – A Result of Human Dominance
C. Ghost Nets – A Menace to Marine Life
D. Ways to Tackle the Problem of Ghost Nets

Ans. C. Ghost Nets – A Menace to Marine Life

2. Read the following text.

1. It is generally accepted that leadership development should be a part of the education system's responsibility for preparing individuals to participate in a democratic and progressive society. Many schools, colleges and universities, across nations, provide their students with leadership courses, curricular programs and co-curricular programs that are designed to develop students' formal knowledge about leadership as well as opportunities and experiences to develop students as leaders and actually practice leadership. Yet, only a handful of studies have sought to understand leader development from the students' point of view, with students describing their own experiences and what they learned from them in their own words.

2. A 2014 descriptive study sought to understand student leadership with research through key events via the following research questions:

Research Question 1: What key events do student leaders in college, report as significantly impacting their development as a leader?

Research Question 2: What lessons do student leaders in college, report learning as a result of the key events they have experienced?

Research Question 3: Are certain key events more likely to be linked to particular lessons?

Approximately 130 students were contacted and the 72 interested, were interviewed. Two members of the research team were present for each 15–45-minute interview. One member served as the primary interviewer while the second ran the audio equipment.

The results for lessons learned (Table 1), were varied, but there were a few that were frequently quoted.

Lessons learned	Responses	Lessons learned	Responses
Identity		Support Systems	
Self-Identity	58	Developing and Using Support Systems	36
Leadership Identity	54	Being a Support System	28
Professionalism	30	Working with Others	
Balancing Roles	19	Communications	59
Individual Competencies		Teamwork	26
Delegation	17	Conflict	21
Decisions Making	15	Diversity	32
Adaptability/Flexibility	38	Inspiring and Motivating others	17
Resilience/Persistence/Hard work	18	Other working with others	30
Taking Initiative	36	Getting the Job Done	
Accountability/Responsibility	29	Task Skills	55
Big Picture	27	Environment	34
Learning to Teach/Learn	18		

3. This study described the rich array of leadership lessons that students are learning through their experiences. It revealed that student leaders are learning foundational leadership skills and competencies that have positively impacted how to do their work, how to work with others and how to be both supported by and support others.

Adapted from https://www.researchgate.net/publication/264696744_Key_Events_in_Student_Leaders'_Lives_and_Lessons_Learned_from_Them

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. Does the following statement agree with the information given in paragraph 1?

The researcher believes that educational institutions have ideal resources to study impact of leadership skills on young adults.

Select from the following:

True: if the statement agrees with the information.

False: if the statement contradicts the information.

Not Given: if there is no information on this.

Ans. False

- ii. Do you think the researchers of the study aimed to change the students' outlook towards the development of leadership skills, directly or indirectly? Support your answer with reference to the text.

Ans. No, the study never aimed at changing the students' outlook towards development of leadership skills. Rather the purpose of the research was to gain a students' perspective on leadership programs being run in the educational institutions, with the objective of understanding to as to how the programs can be bettered or even redesigned if required.

- iii. Select the option that displays the most likely reason for including Research Question 3 in the 2014 study. In order to find out if...

- A. learning opportunities shape students' overall personality.
- B. leadership lessons are the result of the designed learning opportunities.
- C. all learning opportunities cater to a specific lesson.
- D. certain lessons are common in more than one learning opportunity.

Ans. D. certain lessons are common in more than one learning opportunity.

iv. Complete the sentence based on the following statement.

More than 50% of the identified student respondents were keen to participate in the 2014 study.
We can say this because _____.

Ans. We can say this because out of 130 students, 72 had consented to the procedure of the research and allowed themselves to be interviewed by the researchers.

- v. Select the option that displays the key event designed with "Balancing Roles" (Table 1) as the objective.
- A. Students will be able to debate the issue at hand, with different teams.
 - B. Students will be able to manage the responsibilities of a mentor, planner researcher and presenter.
 - C. Students will be able to surmount minor problems and focus on the final goal.
 - D. Students will be able to explain concepts and clarify them for peers.

Ans. B. Students will be able to manage the responsibilities of a mentor, planner researcher and presenter.

vi. The lessons for 'Individual competencies' had a range of responses.

Give one reason why having the least number of responses for 'Decision Making', is a matter that needs attention.

Ans. The ability and willingness to take decisions is one of the paramount attributes of leadership. Any student not being able to exhibit this quality during the leadership courses and curriculum programs need to be monitored intensely. The least number of responses for 'decision making' also leads to the conclusion that the leadership programs being run by the educational institutes, may be lacking or may have given scant attention to this particular content in their courses.

vii. Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option.

The concluding sentence of the text makes a clear case for _____ by listing it as a core competency for student leadership.

- A. collaboration
- B. flexibility
- C. teamwork
- D. observation

Ans. A. collaboration

viii. Based on the reading of the text, state a point to challenge the given statement.

When theoretical knowledge about leadership suffices, it is a waste of funds by educational organisations to organise leadership camps and programmes.

Ans. Leadership is a very complex attribute, and any amount of theoretical knowledge to imbibe it among the students will always be incomplete for its development. It must be noted here that some of the greatest leaders this world has produced, never had any education on how to become a good leader. The best way to educate and develop leadership qualities in students is through practical trainings, the contents of which should be carefully researched before introducing.

Section-B

Creative Writing Skills

Note : All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

3. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 50 words.

- A. You are Josely Mathew, the President of the School Book Club. The club is organising a drive for promoting reuse of study materials and books. Draft a notice in about 50 words, for the school notice board, addressing students of classes X-XII, informing them about this drive and urging them to contribute to the endeavour. Mention how the donated books would benefit a charitable cause.

Ans.

**School Book Club
Notice
Book Donation Drive**

17 September 20XX

This is to inform the students of classes X-XII about donation of used books and study materials for the underprivileged. Your generous endeavour to contribute for the needy would be a great service to the society. Time and venue for the same is given below.

Time: 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Venue: School Auditorium

Thank you,
Josely Mathew
President
School Book Club

Ans

5

OR

- B. As the House Captain of A.B.M. Public School, Telangana, draft a notice in not more than 50 words for the school notice board, informing House members from X-XII about the change in topic and submission dates for Round 1 of 'Discovery', - the upcoming Inter- House Research-based Paper Presentation Competition. Do not forget to issue an apology for the above. You are Kruthika Reddy.

Ans.

**A.B.M. Public School, Telangana
Notice
Change of Topic and Date-Discovery**

18 September 20XX

House Members of Class X-XII, are hereby informed that the topic and dates for:

Round-1 : Inter House research based Paper presentation competition. has been changed. The details for new topics to be collected from the ICDS Science department during school hours latest by 19 September. New date for paper submission is 20 September 20XX. Inconvenience is regretted.

Thank you,
Kruthika Reddy
House Captain

4. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.

- A. Draft an invitation in about 50 words, on behalf of your aunt, Meghna Menon, which she has to share to invite prior work colleagues to the inaugural event of her own investment consultancy firm, in the Acer mall, Kozhikode, Kerala.

Ans

Ans.

MEGHNA MENON
Requests the Benign Presence of all her
Ex- Colleagues
to the Inaugural Event of her
CONSULTANCY FIRM
Do grace the occasion with your presence

Date : 6 Oct. 20XX
Venue : Acer Mall, Kozhikode, Kerala
Time : 11 a.m. onwards
RSVP
983XXXXXXX

OR

- B. You are Dr. Aryan Varma, a scientist at Dr. Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh. You have been formally invited to a public function as the chief guest but due to sudden illness, you are unable to attend the function. Write a formal reply.

Ans.

14th September, 20XX

Dr. Aryan Verma thanks the secretary of Lion's Club for their kind invitation to act as the chief guest at their public function. He regrets the inability to attend the function due to his sudden illness this morning. He wishes the programme a grand success.

Best wishes,
Dr. Aryan Verma

5. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 120-150 words.

A. You are Minu Sen, employed as an Asst. Manager for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in your current company in Hyderabad. You saw the given advertisement in the newspaper and wish to apply for the position advertised.

CREDIT SAGE Pvt. Ltd.



Required-Corporate Social Responsibility Manager (CSR) Head

Job Responsibilities:

- Define strategy for Credit Sage's CSR value of 1% of people's time, 1% of products and 1% of profits to the society.
- Develop various CSR initiatives in the company's adopted village.
- Strategise and initiate various community benefit schemes and liaison with NGO's, Govt. Bodies, etc.

Preferred Skills & Qualifications:

- Bachelor or Master's degree in Sociology/Public Relations.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills (verbal and written).
- Proven experience in CSR project management in the field.
- Proven experience working with non-profit organisations or Corporate CSR.

Send your bio-data withing 10 days to Gagan Vij, HR Head, Credit Sage Pvt. Ltd., Nashik.

For further details please check our website-www.sage.com/careers/csr

Write a letter to Credit Sage Pvt. Ltd. along with your bio-data, expressing your interest in the situation vacant.

Ans. Cap Gemini Software Co. Ltd.

M.G. Road,
Hyderabad
September 19, 20XX
Credit Sage Pvt Ltd.
Nashik

Subject: Application for the post of Corporate Social Responsibility Manager (CSR)

Sir,

This is in reference to your advertisement for the post of Corporate Social Responsibility Manager (CSR) Head, in the Times of India dated September 19, 20XX.

I have been working in my current position as an Assistant Manager for CSR activities for the last four years and I have successfully executed several CSR projects for my company. My experience includes direct handling of rural CSR projects, wherein my company had adopted villages and was involved in creating awareness related to sanitation, hygiene issues for women and general cleanliness of the villages.

Besides this, I had also been involved with liaison activities with both government and government organisations for my company's other CSR activities.

Given my experience in the given field, I believe I am the right candidate for the advertised position. I have enclosed my bio-data for your kind perusal.

Thank you,
Yours faithfully,
Minu Sen

BIO-DATA	
Name	: Minu Sen
Father's Name	: Pratik Sen
Date of Birth	: 19 th September, 1995
Hometown	: Hyderabad
Communication Address	: Phone- 88XXXXXXXX
E-Mail Address	: minusen@gmail.com
Gender	: Female
Educational Qualifications	: (i) M.A. (Public Relations) Delhi University (2016) : (ii) B.A. (Sociology) Hindu College, Delhi University (2014)
Experience	: From February 2018–Cap Gemini Software Co. Ltd., Hyderabad, Assistant Manager (CSR) 1. Handled three projects dealing with sanitation awareness at villages – Asifnagar, Nampally and Himaytnagar. 2. Regular liaison experience with District Magistrate and Block Development Officers 3. In charge of the entire budgeting and accounting of funds for CSR activities. 4. From January 2017 to January 2018 – L&T Software Division Associated with the Marketing Division as intern advertisement section
Salary Expected	: Negotiable
References	: Sushant CEO Occidental Human Resources, Mumbai Ph. No. 731XXXXXXXX Rana Roy HR Head Hall Finance Limited, Mumbai Ph. No. 984XXXXXXXX

OR

B. "There have been increased reporting of cases of domestic violence during the period of nationwide lockdown. This shows a grave scenario that being forced to stay indoors is proving to be harmful for the mental health of many people". Write a letter to the editor of a daily local and create awareness about this issue. You are Ajay/Akriti Pathak of 5A, Misty Heights, Dehradun.

Ans. 5-A, Misty Heights
Dehradun
23 April, 20XX
The Editor
The Times of India
Dehradun

Subject: Keeping good mental health during lockdown

Madam/ Sir,

Through this letter, I would like to draw your attention towards the growing number of cases of domestic violence during the period of nationwide lockdown.

Being forced to stay home with their families is proving to be bothersome for some people. Their behaviour is becoming erratic and restless, resulting in family quarrels. The situation has risen to physical assault in many cases.

For those people who are finding it hard to deal with the current situations, there needs to be some help given. It can be in the form of providing online counselling sessions or airing informative commercials on keeping good mental health on mass medial.

I request you to publish my letter in your in the esteemed columns of your newspaper to create awareness and motivate the government authorities and capable organisations to set up counselling centres and address this issue at the earliest.

Your faithfully,

Ajay/Akriti Patahak

6. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.

A. The construction sector is believed to be quite hazardous and has the maximum number of fatal work injuries because apart from other causes, stakeholders in this sector tend to ignore safety regulations.

As a columnist for an e-magazine, draft an article in about 120-150 words, on the theme of the importance of worker safety in construction zones. Explore possible reasons for the prevailing situation and include suggestions for addressing it. Support your ideas with cues given below.

HEADLINES

- CONSTRUCTION WORKERS: RISK OF ACCIDENT DUE TO FATIGUE
- CONSTRUCTION WORKFORCE HEALTH CHALLENGES IN EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS
- CONSTRUCTION WORKER FATALITY: BURIED UNDER SOIL HEAP
- ARE CONSTRUCTION MANAGERS FROM MARS AND WORKERS FROM VENUS?
- WILL TRAINING PROGRAMMES REVEAL THE SAFETY STANDARDS?

Ans.

Construction Workers Safety in Job

By Riya Sen

The construction sector is posing a challenge for its own workers. Long hours at the site with unregulated work load has exposed the workers to fatigue and leading to accidents. Very little worker's compensation adds to the problem.

The workforce toils through extreme weather with the threat of landslides, especially at the hilly mining sites. Most such sites have stories of bodies piling up under the soil due to both man-made and natural hazards. The fatality rate has been increasing and is largely ignored by the authorities. The managers seem to be blind to the plight of the workers.

The need of the hour is to update the safety standards and regulations to ensure worker safety. Though the question, "will training programs help this?", is yet to be answered, immediate action has to be taken to prevent the rising fatality rates.

OR

B. The construction sector is believed to be quite hazardous and has the maximum number of fatal work injuries. A safety fair was organised by 'Building Safety', an NGO in Mysore, Karnataka with the overarching theme pertaining to the importance of worker safety in construction zones. You were asked to cover this event as the junior correspondent of a local daily. Write a report covering this event in about 120-150 words. Support your ideas with outline cues given below, to craft your newspaper report.

Safety Fairs: Programmes

- Toolbox talks
- Video dedication for the deceased
- Speeches
- Safety games
- Safety demonstrations
- Inaugurating special insurance programme
- Emergency response drill
- Vote of thanks
- Picnic lunch with the bosses

Ans.

Safety first for the construction sector

By Ambika Mohapatra, Junior Correspondent

Mysore, 17 September: Building safely, an NGO has organised a safety fair for workers and managers of construction sites in Mysore, on Saturday. The event was dedicated to safety awareness with speeches from relevant authorities. Safety games brought in a fun element to the fair. The overarching theme 'Worker safety needs to be a priority in worker zones' also saw the inauguration of special insurance programs for the workers. The emergency response drill brought out the loopholes as well as information about the system. The attendees were also hosted to a lunch with the bosses of the construction syndicate. 'Our knowledge of safety regulations and our rights as workers has increased greatly today' said a worker who did not want to be named. The satisfaction among the people seem to be a testimony to the need of such fairs in the future.

**Section - C
LITERATURE : TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY
READING TEXT**

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.

A. I looked again at her, wan
pale
as a late winter's moon and felt that
old
familiar ache, my childhood's fear,
but all I said was, see you soon,
Amma,
all I did was smile and smile and
smile.....

(My Mother at Sixty-Six)

i. What is the speaker's emotional state when looking at her mother?

- A. Confused and disoriented
- B. Nostalgic and longing
- C. Empathetic and understanding
- D. Fearful and apprehensive

Ans. D. Fearful and apprehensive

[The speaker mentions feeling an "old familiar ache" and "childhood's fear" of losing her comes alive when looking at she looks at her mother. This suggests a sense of fear or apprehension that is rooted in the speaker's past experiences with her mother.]

ii. What does the use of the word "but" at the beginning of the line, 'but all I said..', suggest?

Ans. It suggests a contrast between the speaker's internal emotional response and her outward behaviour.

iii. Select the word that WILL NOT complete the sentence appropriately.

The description of the mother as "wan, pale / as a late winter's moon" creates a vivid image of:

- A. vulnerability
- B. sensitivity
- C. frailty
- D. mortality

Ans. B. sensitivity

The word that will not complete the sentence appropriately is sensitivity.

iv. State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE.

The poetic device used in the line, 'pale as a winter's moon' is the same as the one used in the line, 'winter wind wistfully wailed at night'.

Ans. The poetic device used in the line, 'pale as a winter's moon' is not the same as the one used in the line 'the winter wind wistfully wailed at night', hence the answer is FALSE because [the poem's line holds simile/metaphor whereas the other line is an example of alliteration - 'w' sound]

v. What message do these lines highlight, in the context of familial relationships, and the speaker's sense of anxiety and fear at the prospect of losing her mother?

Ans. The poem highlights the importance of cherishing and appreciating the people we love, while we can. [quality time -life is transient and similar]

vi. Complete the sentence appropriately.

The repetition of the word, 'smile' suggests that _____.

Ans. the speaker is trying to hold back her emotions and remain composed, despite the pain she feels at parting from her mother.

OR

B. *And such too is the grandeur of the dooms
We have imagined for the mighty dead;
All lovely tales that we have heard or read:
An endless fountain of immortal drink,
Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink.
(A Thing of Beauty)*

i. Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract?

- A. The beauty of nature
- B. The power of imagination
- C. The immortality of art and literature
- D. The inevitability of death

Ans. C. The immortality of art and literature

[The extract emphasises the idea that the tales of the mighty dead are an "endless fountain of immortal drink" that pour down to us from the heavens, suggesting that these stories and legends are timeless and will never truly die. This theme speaks to the enduring power of art and literature to transcend time and space and to continue to inspire and move people long after their creators have passed away.]

ii. State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE, with reference to the extract.

By referring to the dead as "mighty", the poet emphasizes their importance and the power they exerted on the people.

Ans. FALSE

[The dead are referred to as "mighty" in the poem because they have achieved greatness in their lifetime. They may have contributed to society in a significant way or achieved great things in their respective fields. It is not about the power they exerted on the people. By referring to them as "mighty," the poet emphasizes their importance and the positive impact or influence they have had on the world.]

iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.

The "endless fountain of immortal drink" is an apt analogy for the tales of the mighty dead because _____.

Ans. ...just as a fountain constantly pours forth water, the tales of the mighty dead pour forth endless inspiration and wisdom for the living.

[The term "immortal drink" suggests that the stories are never-ending and that they have the power to sustain us much in the same way that water does.]

iv. The use of the word "brink" in the extract suggests that the immortality that is being poured onto us is on the verge of overflowing. This creates a powerful image of _____.

Ans. abundance

[The use of the word "brink" in the poem suggests that the immortality that is being poured onto us is on the verge of overflowing. This powerful image suggests that the beauty and grandeur of the dooms are so great that they are overflowing from heaven. This image of abundance reinforces the idea that the beauty and grandeur of the dooms are endless and that there is an infinite supply of it.]

v. Based on the poem rhyme scheme, evident in lines 2-5, of the given extract, which word would rhyme with line 1?

- said
- think
- tombs

Ans. tombs [rhymes with dooms, which is the last word of line 1]

vi. Complete the sentence appropriately.

The mention of 'the grandeur of the dooms' suggests _____.

Ans. the great tales of long-gone heroes.

8. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of them.
A. Climate change is one of the most hotly contested environmental debates of our time. Will the West Antarctic ice sheet melt entirely? Will the Gulf Stream ocean current be disrupted? Will it be the end of the world as we know it? Maybe. Maybe not. Either way, Antarctica is a crucial element in this debate — not just because it's the only place in the world, which has never sustained a human population and therefore remains relatively 'pristine' in this respect; but more importantly, because it holds in its ice-cores half-million-year-old carbon records trapped in its layers of ice.
(Journey to the End of the Earth)

i. How does the absence of a human population in Antarctica make it significant in the climate change debate?

Ans. This makes it an important reference point for understanding the effects of human activities on the environment and the potential impacts of climate change.
[The absence of a human population in Antarctica means that the region is relatively pristine and has not been subject to the same levels of human impact as other areas of the world.]

ii. Why is "climate change" described as a "hotly contested" issue in the extract provided?
This is so, because there _____.

- A. is universal agreement on the causes and implications of climate change
- B. is a planned path ahead about how to address climate change
- C. are differing views on the causes and implications of climate change
- D. are minimal reports of fresh threats to climate change

Ans. C. are differing views on the causes and implications of climate change

iii. The analogy of a time machine is an appropriate analogy for the role of carbon records in the study of climate change because:

Ans. just like a time machine would allow us to observe past events, carbon records allow us to observe past climatic conditions.

[Carbon records allow us to study past climates by analysing the air bubbles trapped in ice cores. They provide a glimpse into the Earth's atmospheric conditions at the time the ice was formed and can help scientists understand how the climate has changed over time.]

iv. Give one reason why the 'writing style' of the extract can be called factual and informative.

- Ans.
- 1. Because the writer presents information in a straightforward and objective manner
 - 2. Because the writer applies a third-person point of view and avoids the use of personal opinion or emotional language
 - 3. Because the writer uses a logical structure to present her argument (Starting with the importance of Antarctica as a relatively pristine location, and then moving on to explain the significance of the ice cores and carbon records found there)

OR

B. DERRY: You're ... peculiar. You say peculiar things. You ask questions I don't understand.

MR LAMB: I like to talk. Have company. You don't have to answer questions. You don't have to stop here at all. The gate's open.

DERRY: Yes, but...

MR LAMB: I've a hive of bees behind those trees over there. Some hear bees and they say, bees buzz. But when you listen to bees for a long while, they hum.... and hum means 'sing'. I hear them singing, my bees.

DERRY: But....I like it here. I came in because I liked it when I looked over the wall.

MR LAMB: If you'd seen me, you'd not have come in.

DERRY: No.

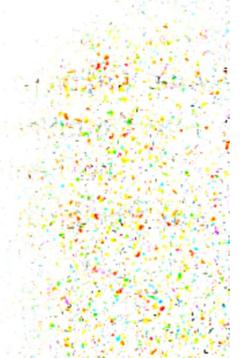
(On the Face of It)

i. List the playwright's purpose of using ellipses (...) in this extract.

Ans. The character pauses, searching for words to put for his thought.

ii. Select the option that best describes Derry and Mr. Lamb in the extract.

- A. Derry: introvert; Mr. Lamb: friendly
- B. Derry: fearful; Mr. Lamb: domineering
- C. Derry: friendly; Mr. Lamb: weird
- D. Derry: open minded; Mr. Lamb: charming



Ans. A. Derry: introvert; Mr. Lamb: friendly

iii. Which of the following best summarises Mr. Lamb's attitude towards the bees?

- A. Beauty is being true to yourself.
- B. There is a kind of beauty in imperfection.
- C. Beauty is the promise of happiness.
- D. The beauty of the world lies in the details.

Ans. D. The beauty of the world lies in the details.

iv. Derry says, "I came in here because I liked it" What was the one significant thing Derry might have liked about the place, as per the extract?

Ans. Must have been attracted by the greenery and the solitude it provided from people.

9. Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.

A. A girl from the countryside, she hadn't gone through all the stages of worldly experience that generally precede a position of importance and sophistication that she had found herself catapulted into. She never quite recovered from the terror she felt that day. That was the end of a brief and brilliant acting career — the legal adviser, who was also a member of the Story Department, had unwittingly brought about that sad end. While every other member of the Department wore a kind of uniform — *khadi* dhoti with a slightly oversized and clumsily tailored white *khadi* shirt — the legal adviser wore pants and a tie and sometimes a coat that looked like a coat of mail. Often, he looked alone and helpless ...
(Poets and Pancakes)

i. Select the option that completes the given sentence appropriately.

'Stages of worldly experience' in the given context would refer to _____.

- A. good education to gain knowledge.
- B. situations that require one to be street smart.
- C. smaller, not so important roles in acting.
- D. training in soft skills.

Ans. B. situations that require one to be street smart.

ii. Select the suitable word from the extract to complete the following analogy:

sealed: closed :: propelled: _____

Ans. catapulted

iii. Select the correct option to fill in the blank.

The harm done to the actress was a/an _____.

- A. well-planned act.
- B. unintentional act.
- C. act of jealousy.
- D. act of male dominance.

Ans. B. unintentional act.

iv. Based on the above extract, choose the statement that is TRUE for the legal adviser.

- A. He disliked the actress from the countryside.
- B. He acted after thinking through things carefully.
- C. He did not gel well with others in the Department.
- D. He was always dressed smartly.

Ans. C. He did not gel well with others in the Department.

v. Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that the writer is sympathetic towards the professional fate of the actor. (Clue: a phrase)

Ans. sad end

vi. Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract.

The writer uses the word 'uniform' to refer to the outfits of the Department members because just like a uniform _____.

Ans. signifies common code, the apparels of the Department members, loose khadi shirt and khadi dhoti, were nearly the same or uniform with each other

OR

B. Unaware of what his name represents, he roams the streets with his friends, an army of barefoot boys who appear like the morning birds and disappear at noon. Over the months, I have come to recognise each of them.

"Why aren't you wearing chappals?" I ask one.

"My mother did not bring them down from the shelf," he answers simply.

When I comment on it, he shuffles his feet and says nothing. "I want shoes," he says. "I have never owned a pair all his life. Travelling across the country I have seen children walking barefoot, in cities, on village roads. It is not lack of money but a tradition to stay barefoot, is one explanation. (Lost Spring)

i. What is the writer's purpose in allowing the boys to speak for themselves via dialogue, as opposed to only a writer's commentary?

Ans. To give voice to their hopes, dreams, and struggles in a way that is immediate and relatable.

ii. The line, "It is not lack of money but a tradition to stay barefoot" can be best classified as:
A. A fact B. An opinion C. A theme D. A plot point

Ans. B. An opinion

iii. Explain any one possible inference that can be drawn from the line, "an army of barefoot boys who appear like the morning birds and disappear at noon".

Ans. The boys come from poor or marginalised backgrounds who do not have the means to buy footwear yet they are lively and energetic like the 'morning birds'. They disappear by noon as they return to their homes.

iv. Identify the line from the text that bears evidence to the fact that the writer's association with the boys is not a recent one.

Ans. The line from the text: "Over the months, I have come to recognize each of them."

v. Based on the context provided in the extract, select the most likely comment that the writer would have made, based on the boy's reaction to the mismatched shoes.

- A. "Why are your shoes mismatched? That's not a good look."
B. "Don't worry about your shoes, you can wear a matching pair later."
C. "I like your shoes. What matters is that they protect your feet."
D. "Have you chosen to mismatch your shoes?"

Ans. C. "I like your shoes. What matters is that they protect your feet."

vi. Complete the sentence with ONE word.

The phrase "he answers simply", suggests that the boy's response to the writer's question about why he wasn't wearing chappals was _____.

Ans. straightforward

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following questions in about 100 words.

i. "You realise the true value of a thing only on losing it." Comment on this statement in the light of the story, The Last Lesson.

Ans. Prussians ban on the French language in the districts of Alsace and Lorraine actually woke the French from their slumber of taking everything in life too easily. Citizens including little Franz realised their horrific loss and the lesson which till the other day had been so boring and difficult to understand had never felt so interesting and simple to Franz as on the last day.

ii. What can be inferred from the statement made by Anees Jung when she writes 'Garbage to them is gold' with reference to the children and elders of Seemapuri?

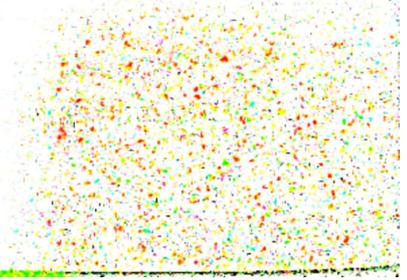
Ans. Without knowing skills of productive work to eke out a living these ragpickers, have nothing to except picking up 'item for recycling that makes a bottom line of there livelihood. It is with this intent that Anees Jung expresses that 'Garbage to them is gold.'

iii. If the Christmas spirit is about selflessness, forgiveness and becoming 'better' versions of ourselves amongst other things, Edla Willmansson is the epitome of this spirit. Justify with two points of evidence from The Rattrap.

Ans. Edla despite knowing the truth about the peddler gave him shelter and treated him with full respect. As remarked by her father that she preached worse than the priest. This proves her most powerfully as the epitome of the Christmas spirit. She even invited the peddler next year for Christmas.

iv. How might the message of the poem, 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers' be different, if the following last four lines were omitted?

When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie
Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by.
The tigers in the panel that she made
Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.



- Ans. 1. If the last four lines were omitted, the poem would have a more sombre tone.
2. Without the image of the tigers continuing to prance, the poem would end on a note of despair, with Aunt Jennifer's hands still ringed with the ordeals she was mastered by.
3. The message of the poem would refer to the oppression and suffering of women, without any hope for liberation.

[By ending the poem on these lines, the author achieves a sense of hope and transcendence. The image of the tigers continuing to prance, proud and unafraid, suggests that there is a way to transcend the oppression and suffering of women, even if it is only through art. The poet suggests that art can provide a kind of liberation, even in the face of social and cultural constraints.]

- v. How would you describe the character and temperament of Sophie's father? *(Going places)*

Ans. Sophie's father is an archetype of the lower-middle class father who has worked hard in uncompromising conditions in order to earn a livelihood for his family. After his day's work, he watched television instead of spending time with his family or sharing family responsibilities with his wife. He expects Sophie to buy them a new house instead of engaging in her expensive dream ambitions if she gets a chance to earn money. His impoverished financial condition does not, however, stop him from watching the football match, or later, going to the pub for celebration. He is shown as a practical, but self-centered and short-tempered person.

- vi. Umberto Eco, with reference to "The Name of the Rose" says, "I think if I had written The Name of the Rose ten years earlier or ten years later, it wouldn't have been the same." What could he have meant?

- Ans. 1. Umberto Eco suggests that the success of his book, "The Name of the Rose," was largely due to timing. He believes that if he had written the book ten years earlier or ten years later, it wouldn't have had the same impact.
2. This could be interpreted as Eco recognising the importance of cultural context and how the reception of a work of art is influenced by the historical, social, and political climate of its time.
3. Eco might be suggesting that the themes and ideas he explored in his novel resonated particularly strongly with readers in the cultural moment in which it was published and that this moment was fleeting. Therefore, if he had written the book earlier or later, it might not have been as relevant or timely, and might not have captured the same level of attention and interest.

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.

- i. Apparent illogicality sometimes turns out to be a futuristic projection? Discuss. *(The Third Level)*

Ans. Human being is known to be the most intelligent among all the creatures that possess an imaginative brain. Sometimes, the human brain can visualise the things which are unbelievable for the rest of the world. All the inventions might have sprouted in some brains of the people in the past and have now taken a deep root and have become a part of our daily life.

But another truth is that all the illogicality can't become reality as projected in the story as a person cannot move from one era to another, in order to escape from the harsh realities of life.

- ii. 'It is better to have tried and failed than never to have tried at all'. How would you relate this observation to the author of the episode 'The Cutting of My Long Hair'? *(Memories of Childhood)*

Ans. This indicates her revolt against the practice. Knowing that she could not prevail against the authorities, she struggles against the injustice. She clearly believed that even if she doesn't succeed in resisting the injustice, she should not have the regret of never having tried.

- iii. Answer the question in the context of the following lines from. *(The Enemy)*

"Stupid Yumi," she muttered fiercely. "Is this anything but a man? And a wounded helpless man!"

In the conviction of her own superiority she bent impulsively and untied the knotted rugs that kept the white man covered.

Explain the superiority Hana is convinced about.

Ans. In the given lines, Hana is expressing her frustration with Yumi, who is hesitant to help her with the wounded white man. In these lines, she is asserting her own intervention and belief in the importance of doing the right thing, even if it goes against traditional values or societal norms in the name of patriotism and loyalty to the nation. This demonstrates her sense of moral superiority over Yumi, who is more concerned with following the strict rules of her society to stick to inhuman loyalty and patriotism towards one's country than with helping a fellow human being.

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words.

- i. Imagine you are Pablo Neruda, the poet of Keeping Quiet. What advice might you offer to Robert Frost, the poet of A Roadside Stand, in the context of his conflicted emotions, as displayed in the given lines:

*The requisite lift of spirit has never been found,
Or so the voice of the country seems to complain,
I can't help owning the great relief it would be
To put these people at one stroke out of their pain.*

Pen down your advice, in a letter to Frost.

You may begin this way:

Dear Robert

I recently read your poem, "A Roadside Stand," and...

You may end this way:

I hope this advice is helpful to you. Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to support you.

Warmly,

Pablo Neruda

Ans. Dear Robert,

I recently read your poem, "A Roadside Stand," and was struck by the conflicting emotions that you expressed towards the end. I understand that it can be difficult to make decisions when we are overwhelmed by our emotions.

In my own experience, I have found that taking a moment of stillness and reflection can be very helpful in gaining a deeper understanding of the situation and connecting with our own humanity and that of others. This is the message that I try to convey in my poem, "Keeping Quiet."

I would advise you to take a moment to be still and contemplative before making any decisions about the fate of the people at the roadside stand. By quieting your mind and being present in the moment, you may be able to understand their struggles and pain more deeply, and gain a new perspective about your own place in the world too. Also, remember that by breaking out of your routine and taking a moment of stillness and reflection, you might gain a deeper understanding of the situation and make a more functional decision.

I believe that this moment of reflection could help you to see beyond your conflicting emotions. We are all human, after all, and before connecting with others, and resolving their issues, we must try to connect with our own selves to advice from a place of balance and calm.

I hope this advice is helpful to you. Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to support you.

Warmly,

Pablo Neruda

OR

- ii. The different portrayals of women in the texts 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers', 'Going Places', 'Lost Spring', and 'My Mother at Sixty-six', offer insights into the experiences of women in society.

You have been asked to address your peers and share-

→ the ways these portrayals highlight the diversity of the female experience.

→ the importance of understanding each individual woman's challenges and experiences.

Compose this draft, with reference to any three of these prescribed texts listed above.

You may begin this way:

Good morning, everyone.

As I analysed the allotted texts...

You may end this way.

To conclude, I'd like to say that ...

Ans. Good morning, everyone.



As I analysed the allotted texts, I noticed that though each portrayal of women was unique, they all offered varied insights into the experiences of women in society. To begin with, Aunt Jennifer was portrayed as a victim of patriarchy, living in a world where women were expected to conform to societal norms and expectations and was unable to attain freedom and strength she desired, due to the limitations imposed upon her by society.

In contrast, Sophie was portrayed as ambitious and determined to break free from societal norms. She refused to be limited by her gender and sought to challenge the restrictions placed upon her. Sophie's mother, on the other hand, from a generation prior, had chosen to conform and sacrifice her individuality to societal expectations.

Similarly in "Lost Spring," the grandmother and daughter-in-law, in Firozabad, were portrayed as resilient in the face of poverty and the societal constraints of their caste. However, unlike Sophie's and Aunt Jennifer's need to find an outlet, they found ways to make the best of their situation, despite the limitations placed upon them.

When we analyse the portrayal of the aged mother, in "My Mother at Sixty-six," she is presented as vulnerable and in need of protection. Sadly, it does make one wonder about the unaddressed vulnerability of Sophie's mother and the grandmother in "Lost Spring". A point worth considering is that Kamala Das' mother's acceptance of her circumstances comes across as a voluntary decision, whereas that of the women in "Lost Spring" is akin to resignation.

These portrayals of women offer valuable insights into the experiences of women in our society from victimization to the resilience in the face of poverty and discrimination - and offer us important lessons about strength, vulnerability, and the need for empathy and respect.

To conclude, I'd like to say that as readers, we can learn from their experiences and strive towards a more equitable and just society. These characters, stress that it is important to recognise the complexities of each woman's experiences, and refrain from passing sweeping judgements as women are not a uniform group, but rather unique individuals.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words.

- i. When Derry grows up into a confident young man, he reflects on the incident of his meeting with Mr Lamb. He wonders how Mr Lamb would have felt if he had seen him today.

As a grown-up Derry, write a diary entry, expressing his thoughts and feelings of gratitude for Mr. Lamb for moulding him into a man of confidence.

Ans. 12 April 2023

Thursday

Today as I walked down the street, I couldn't help but reflect on how much I have changed since I first met Mr Lamb. I remember how timid and unsure of myself I was back then. But now I am a totally changed person.

Today when I feel proud of my progress, I really wonder what Mr. Lamb would think of me now. He was such a kind and supportive person. He saw some potential in me even when I didn't see it in myself.

I think he would have been proud to see the person that I have become, and it all goes to his credit. He had a big role in shaping me into a man of substance. But at the same time, it is really sad that he is not here to see it for himself.

I miss him and his kind words. As I continue my journey, I will always carry with me the lessons I learned from him. I will always be grateful for the time I spent with him and for the person he helped me to become.

Derry

OR

- ii. A grown up Zitkala-Sa, reflects on the incident about cutting of her long hair and is conflicted that she did not do enough to resist and surrendered easily. She also wonders if she could have tried something else to prevent the incident.

As the grown-up Zitkala-Sa, create a diary entry, expressing these thoughts and conclude by absolving yourself of any blame.

You may begin like this:

I find myself reflecting on an event that happened many years ago... (*Memories of Childhood*)

Ans. I find myself reflecting on an event that happened many years ago, one that has continued to haunt me ever since. It is the incident where my long hair was forcefully cut off at the Carlisle Indian School. As I sit here today, I cannot help but feel conflicted about my actions that day.

On one hand, I am proud that I stood up for myself and refused to submit to their demands at first. I still remember the fire in my belly as I declared that I would struggle before giving in.

However, as time passed, my spirit wavered, and eventually, I allowed them to cut my hair. Looking back now, I cannot help but feel that I gave in too easily, that I did not do enough to resist.

As I ponder over what I could have done differently, I realise that there might have been other options too which never came across my mind then. Perhaps I could have sought help from my fellow students. Maybe I could have tried to escape or find another way out of the situation. But in that moment, I was so overwhelmed and confused that I could not think straight.

I know that I have blamed myself for this incident for far too long. But today, I choose to absolve myself of any blame. As a young girl, I forced into a strange place. I was not given the chance to make my own choices, to decide what was best for me. I was a victim of a system that sought to strip away my identity and forced me to assimilate.

Today, I choose to forgive myself and honour the brave little girl who stood up for herself that day. I am grateful for her courage and strength, and I will continue to honour her memory by fighting for justice and equality for all.

□□

ATDB.uno



Sample Paper

3

English Core

Section-A Reading Skills

1. Read the following text.

I always liked McArdle, the crabbed, old, round-backed, red-headed news editor, and I rather hoped that he liked me. Of course, Beaumont was the real boss; but he lived in the rarefied atmosphere of some Olympian height from which he could distinguish nothing smaller than an international crisis or a split in the Cabinet.

Sometimes we saw him passing in lonely majesty to his inner sanctum, with his eyes staring vaguely and his mind hovering over the Balkans or the Persian Gulf. He was above and beyond us. But McArdle was his first lieutenant, and it was he that we knew. The old man nodded as I entered the room, and he pushed his spectacles far up on his bald forehead. 5

"Well, Mr. Malone, from all I hear, you seem to be doing very well," said he in his kindly Scotch accent.

I thanked him. 10

"The colliery explosion was excellent. So was the Southwark fire. You have the true descriptive touch. What did you want to see me about?"

"To ask a favor."

He looked alarmed, and his eyes shunned mine. "Tut, tut! What is it?" 15

"Do you think, Sir, that you could possibly send me on some mission for the paper? I would do my best to put it through and get you some good copies."

"What sort of mission had you in your mind, Mr. Malone?"

"Well, Sir, anything that had adventure and danger in it. I really would do my very best. 20

The more difficult it was, the better it would suit me."

"You seem very anxious to lose your life."

"To justify my life, Sir."

"Dear me, Mr. Malone, this is very—very exalted. I'm afraid the day for this sort of thing is rather past.

The expense of the 'special mission' business hardly justifies the result, and, of course, in any case 25 it would only be an experienced man with a name that would command public confidence who would get such an order. The big blank spaces in the map are all being filled in, and there's no room for romance anywhere. Wait a bit, though!" he added, with a sudden smile upon his face.

"Talking of the blank spaces of the map gives me an idea. What about exposing a fraud—a modern Munchausen—and making him ridiculous? You could show him up as the liar that he is! Eh, man, 30 it would be fine. How does it appeal to you?"

"Anything—anywhere—I care nothing."

McArdle was plunged in thought for some minutes.

"I wonder whether you could get on friendly—or at least on talking terms with the fellow," he said, at last.

(Adapted—The Lost World by Arthur Conan Doyle/441 words)

Answer the following questions based on the passage above.

- i. Select the option which indicates that Beaumont's attention is focused on high level significant events and political matters, making him detached from the daily workings of the newsroom, correctly.

- A. "Passing in lonely majesty to his inner sanctum,"
 B. "He lived in the rarefied atmosphere of some Olympian height"
 C. "He was above and beyond us."
 D. "Could distinguish nothing smaller than an international crisis or a split in the Cabinet."

Ans. D. "Could distinguish nothing smaller than an international crisis or a split in the Cabinet."

- ii. What does McArdle suggest as a potential subject for Mr. Malone's mission?

- A. Reporting on a natural disaster
 B. Investigating a political scandal
 C. Exposing a fraudulent individual
 D. Documenting a historical event

Ans. C. Exposing a fraudulent individual

- iii. Share evidence from the text, in about 40 words to support the view that the writer's writing style is descriptive and capturing.

Ans. The author uses vivid language to paint a picture of the characters and their surroundings, and the dialogue exchanges reveal the author's ability to create distinct voices for the characters. Quoting a particular evidence: "The colliery explosion was excellent. So was the Southwark fire." This phrase indicates that the author's style is descriptive, capturing the vividness of events.

- iv. Complete the sentence appropriately with a characteristic or its description.

Based on the information given in the excerpt, one can infer that Beaumont, the boss in the newsroom, can be described as _____.

Ans. Based on the information given in the excerpt, one can infer that Beaumont, the boss in the newsroom, can be described as detached or aloof from the day-to-day operations of the newsroom.

- v. Select the option that is similar in meaning to the phrase, "He was above and beyond us".

- A. He was distant and detached, both in terms of authority and mindset
 B. He was physically taller.
 C. He excelled at flying.
 D. He surpassed our reputation.

Ans. A. He was distant and detached, both in terms of authority and mindset.

- vi. Explain, in about 40 words, why did Mr. Malone always like McArdle?

Ans. Mr. Malone always liked McArdle because the passage describes McArdle as a crabbed, old, round-backed, red-headed news editor who was kind to Mr. Malone and showed appreciation for his writing abilities.

- vii. In the line, "The colliery explosion was excellent", what does "colliery explosion" refer to?

Ans. In this context, it implies that there was an explosion at a coal mine, highlighting the author's descriptive touch in portraying the event.

- viii. How does the line impact the reader, "I wonder whether you could get on friendly—or at least on talking terms with the fellow," he said, at last. Answer in about 40 words.

Ans. This line impacts the reader by introducing the possibility of a mission involving interaction with an unknown individual. It sparks curiosity and intrigue as the reader wonders who this "fellow" might be and what kind of relationship Mr. Malone would need to establish with them. It creates anticipation and raises questions about the nature of the mission and the challenges Mr. Malone might encounter.

- ix. Read the five Titles (a) -(e), given below:

- (a) "Mr. Malone's Bold Appeal For An Intriguing Venture"
 (b) "The Triumphs of Beaumont: A Tale of Newsroom Success"
 (c) "Lost in the Map: Mr. Malone's Quest for Exploration"
 (d) "The Secret Mission: Unveiling Scientific Facts"
 (e) "McArdle and Mr. Malone - Set For An Ambitious Pursuit."

Identify the option that displays the title/s that DOES/ DO NOT correspond with the themes of the passage:

- A. Only (a) B. (b) (c) and (d) C. Only (e) D. (a) and (e)

Ans. B. (b) (c) and (d)

2. Read the following text.

1. In recent years, there has been a rising concern about the prevalence, awareness, treatment, and control of hypertension among young adults in India. A survey conducted among young adults aged 18-25 aimed to explore the risk factors, complications, and management of hypertension and recorded the percentage variation for 10 common aspects that affect their health.
2. Among those who were diagnosed with hypertension, the most common risk factor cited was family history of hypertension or cardiovascular disease (64%), followed by obesity or overweight (56%). Additionally, hypertensive young adults reported high levels of stress (48%) and low levels of physical activity (42%) as contributing factors to their condition.
3. On the other hand, those who were not diagnosed with hypertension often cited the lack of symptoms (62%) as their primary reason for not getting their blood pressure checked. Other reasons included the lack of awareness (54%) and the lack of access to health care facilities (46%). Additionally, non-hypertensive young adults expressed low levels of concern (36%) about developing hypertension in the future.
4. Interestingly, both groups had similar levels of knowledge (38% for hypertensive young adults, 36% for non-hypertensive young adults) about the complications of hypertension, such as stroke, heart attack, kidney failure, and vision loss. Similarly, both groups valued the importance of lifestyle modification (36% for hypertensive young adults, 34% for non-hypertensive young adults) such as diet, exercise, weight management, and smoking cessation to prevent or control hypertension.
5. However, there were also some notable differences between the two groups. For example, hypertensive young adults placed a higher priority on medication adherence (34%) compared to non-hypertensive young adults (18%). Conversely, non-hypertensive young adults were more likely to prioritize regular blood pressure monitoring (28%) compared to hypertensive young adults (14%).
6. Overall, the survey results suggest that there is a need for more education, screening, and intervention programs to address the increasing burden of hypertension among young adults in India.

Answer the following questions, based on the given passage.

- i. Infer two possible ways that the survey mentioned in the paragraph (i), could be beneficial. Answer in about 40 words.

Ans. The survey mentioned in the paragraph could be beneficial in the following ways:

- (a) **Identifying risk factors:** The survey can help identify the common risk factors associated with hypertension among young adults in India.
- (b) **Informing healthcare policies:** The survey findings can provide valuable insights into the prevalence, awareness, treatment, and control of hypertension among young adults.

- ii. What was the most common risk factor cited by young adults diagnosed with hypertension in the survey?

- A. Lack of awareness
- B. Family history of hypertension or cardiovascular disease
- C. Obesity or overweight
- D. High levels of stress

Ans. B. Family history of hypertension or cardiovascular disease

- iii. What kind of lifestyle modification is advisable to the young adults as per the survey to prevent hypertension?

Ans. Lifestyle modification such as diet, exercise, weight management, and smoking cessation can prevent or control hypertension.

- iv. Identify the hypertensive young adult showing perfect medical adherence from the following three patients:

- A. Roshni - I love to live in the present. A large hamburger is perfect for me this evening.
- B. Naman - I also wish to have large fries for I am already taking medicines regularly to control hypertension.
- C. Deepak - I wish to have simple low salted meals for medicines.

Ans. C. Deepak - I wish to have simple low salted meals for medicines.

- v. What was the primary reason cited by non-hypertensive young adults for not getting their blood pressure checked in the survey?

- A. Lack of symptoms
- B. Lack of awareness
- C. Lack of access to healthcare facilities
- D. High levels of stress

Ans. A. Lack of symptoms

vi. What are some notable differences in priorities between hypertensive and non-hypertensive young adults regarding their approach to managing hypertension?

Ans. One notable difference is that hypertensive young adults prioritize medication adherence, while non-hypertensive young adults prioritize regular blood pressure monitoring as part of their approach to managing hypertension.

vii. Complete the sentence appropriately:
Non-hypertensive young adults expressed low levels of concern about developing hypertension in the future, indicating a need for _____.

Ans. Non-hypertensive young adults expressed low levels of concern about developing hypertension in the future, indicating a need for increased awareness and education regarding the long-term health risks associated with hypertension.

viii. State True or False.
Both hypertensive and non-hypertensive young adults had similar levels of knowledge about the complications of hypertension and the importance of lifestyle modification.

Ans. True

Section-B

Creative Writing Skills

Note : All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

3. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 50 words.
- A. Lotus Valley International School has recently launched EcoArt, a dedicated space for displaying artworks made from recycled materials, near the library, on campus. As Ravi Kumar, Secretary of the Art Club, draft a notice for the school notice board, inviting students of classes IX-X, to participate in an EcoArt workshop during lunch break, on Monday 13 July. Invite volunteer applications for EcoArt.

Ans.

Lotus Valley International School
NOTICE

17 July 20XX

Eco Art Workshop

The Art Club invites students of classes IX-X to join an EcoArt workshop on Monday, 13 July, during lunch break, in the Art Room. Learn how to make artworks from recycled materials with Ms. Anita Singh, a famous eco-artist and our alumni. Register with the undersigned by Friday, 10 July.

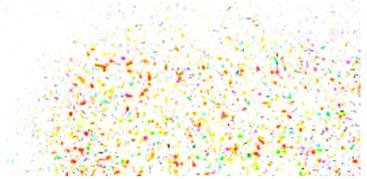
The Art Club also needs volunteers for EcoArt, a new space for displaying eco-artworks near the library.

Contact us now to participate !!!

The Art Club.
Ravi Kumar
Secretary
Art Club

OR

- B. You are the Secretary of the Residents' Welfare Association, Shantinagar, Sector E-4 Society. Draft a notice for the Society notice board, informing residents about the change of timings, Swimming Pool, Block 5 and share necessary details. Also, include the news of renovation of the much awaited gymnasium, on the Western side of the Society.



Ans.

Residents' Welfare Association, Shantinagar, Sector E-4 Society
NOTICE

15 July 20XX

New Timings and Renovation

- Swimming Pool in Block 5: New timings from 17 July will be between 6-10 a.m. and 4-8 p.m. on weekdays, 6-8 p.m. on weekends. Closed hours will be for maintenance and cleaning.
- Gymnasium on Western side: Renovation and upgradation is underway and will continue till 17 July. It will remain closed during this period. Sorry for the inconvenience.

For queries or suggestions, contact the undersigned.
Rajiv Talvar
Secretary
Residents' Welfare Association

4. Attempt ANY ONE of two , in about 50 words.

A. You are the Student Head, Sports Affairs, at D.P. Sr. Sec. School. Your school is organising a 2-day Chess tournament over the weekend, for parents of the school students. Write an invitation, inviting the school parents for this Chess tournament. Share information about the tournament rules and prizes and include other necessary details.

Ans.

Chess Tournament

The Sports Club invites all parents to join a Chess tournament on 15-16 July, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., in the auditorium. Play five rounds of 30 minutes each in four categories based on ratings. Win trophies, certificates, books, and chess sets.

Register yourself by 12 July.
For queries or suggestions, contact the Sports Club.

RSVP
Rajesh Sharma
Student Head
Sports Affairs

OR

B. Shri. Rameshwar Prasad, your grandfather, has received an invitation from his college colleague. The invite is for the golden jubilee celebration and reunion dinner, marking the 50th anniversary of their wedding. Your grandfather wishes to attend the event but would need to be accompanied by a family member to assist him with his medication. Create an appropriate reply, accepting this invitation, on behalf of your grandfather.

Ans.

Dear Shri Amitav Chaturvedi,

My grandfather, Shri, Rameshwar Prasad, is very happy to receive your invitation for the golden jubilee celebration of your 50th anniversary and a reunion dinner of all colleagues. He is excited to relive the old days and catch up with his office mates.

My grandfather is looking forward to attending the event and seeing you after a long time. But he needs a family member to accompany him and assist him with his medication. I, his grandson, will gladly go with him and join you for dinner.

We are eager to meet you and celebrate this milestone with you.

Yours sincerely,
Anand Prasad

5. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 120-150 words.

A. You are Harsimran Sethi, a fresh graduate of online journalism, from AIMT, Delhi. You saw the given advertisement in the newspaper and wish to apply for the position advertised. Write a letter to Aarambh News Agency, along with your bio-data, expressing your interest in the advertised post.

Aarambh News Agency
Journalists Wanted
Opportunity for aspiring journalists
Who do we need?

Freshers and Experienced Both are Welcome
Required: Degree/Diploma in online journalism
Skills: Research, Writing, News Reading
Please send your resume to - New India House 248
Near Lodhi Garden, New-Delhi
(last date of application 23 July 20XX)

Ans. XYZ Apartments, New Delhi,

July 1, 20XX

Aarambh News Agency

456, ABC Street,

New Delhi

Subject: Application for the Advertised Journalism Position

Dear Sir,

I am writing to express my keen interest in the journalism position advertised in your newspaper. As a recent graduate of online journalism from AIMT, Delhi, I have acquired a strong foundation in news reporting, researching, writing, and digital media skills.

During my studies, I developed a passion for storytelling and gained hands-on experience through internships. I am adept at presenting accurate information while adhering to ethical journalism practices. I possess excellent communication skills, both written and verbal, and can work effectively within a team.

I believe that my academic background, enthusiasm for journalism, and dedication to delivering unbiased and informative news make me an ideal candidate for this position. Enclosed is my bio-data for your kind perusal.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to Aarambh News Agency and continue my growth as a journalist.

Yours sincerely,

Harsimran Sethi

Enclosure: Bio-data

Biodata:

About:

Harsimran Sethi

Phone: 91XXXXXXXX

E-mail: harsimran.sethi@email.com

Profile Summary

A skilled online journalism graduate with a passion for effective communication and in-depth research.

Skills:

- Research
- News Reading
- Article Writing

Education Qualifications:

Online Journalism graduate: AIMT Delhi (2022)

Internship Details:

6-month internship at news 360 as a Research Intern.

Reference:

Professor: Gaurav Agarwal (contact: 91XXXXXXXX)

Professor: Nandita Bhattacharya (contact: 91XXXXXXXX)

Declaration:

I hereby declare that the information provided by me is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature

OR

B. Many people do not follow proper waste management practices and litter the streets and public places with garbage. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily, sharing your concern, and exploring the consequences of such behaviour. Provide suggestions for raising awareness of environmental issues and encouraging responsible citizenship. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this letter. You are Priya Singh, a concerned city resident.

- For awareness:
 - General public/ educational institutions
 - How? - in person/ social media
- Dire consequences - self and others
- Adherence:
 - Fines and penalties
 - Monitoring resources and technologies.

Ans. 54 Chittaranjan Park

New Delhi

May 3, 20XX

The Time of India

7 Bahadurshah Zafar Marg

New Delhi 110103

Subject: Urgent Need to Promote Responsible Waste Management for a Cleaner Environment

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the widespread disregard for proper waste management practices in our city. The lack of responsible behaviour shown by many individuals, resulting in littered streets and public places, has drastic consequences for our environment.

Not only does improper waste disposal pose health risks and degrade the aesthetic appeal of our city, but it also contributes to environmental pollution and harm to animals. The need of the hour is to raise awareness about the importance of responsible waste management and encourage responsible citizenship.

To address this issue, community engagement programs, educational campaigns, and stricter enforcement of waste management regulations should be implemented. Encouraging public participation in cleanliness drives, promoting recycling initiatives, and facilitating easy access to waste disposal facilities are crucial steps towards creating a cleaner and sustainable environment.

Together, let us strive for a city where responsible waste management becomes a collective responsibility, ensuring a greener future for generations to come.

Yours sincerely,

Priya Singh

6. Attempt ANY ONE of two , in about 120-150 words.

A. You are Gunjan Goel of class XII-B. Write an article for your school magazine, sharing the importance of reading books for cognitive development, as a library volunteer in community library, the need to do so and the benefits involved. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this article.

- Importance for personal growth + community development
- Benefits - For self: new skills, experiences, a sense of purpose
- For community positive impact
- What are the ways one could get involved?

Ans. The Power of Books: Unlocking Growth and Community Development

By Ganjan Goel (Class XII-B)

In a fast-paced world driven by technology and instant gratification, the importance of reading books often gets neglected. As a library volunteer at our community library, I have witnessed firsthand the transformative power of books and the need for individuals to adopt the habit of reading. Reading books is not just a source of entertainment; it plays a crucial role in personal growth and community development. For individuals, diving into the world of books opens doors to new knowledge, skills, and experiences. It broadens the horizons of awareness, enhances creativity, and encourages critical thinking. Moreover, reading instills a sense of purpose, as it enables self-reflection and personal development.

On a larger scale, a community that promotes reading, promotes a culture of knowledge and empathy. Access to books improves literacy rates, fosters understanding, and fills social gaps. It creates a positive impact by nurturing lifelong learners and promoting intellectual conversations.

To get involved in this enriching journey, there are several ways one can contribute. Joining a community library, volunteering as a reading mentor for children, or organizing book clubs are great avenues to promote reading within the community. Sharing book recommendations, organizing literary events, and donating books are other impactful ways to encourage reading.

Let us recognize the power of books and commit ourselves to reading regularly. By doing so, we unlock a world of endless possibilities, unleash personal growth, and contribute to the development of our community.

OR

- B. The R.W.A (Resident Welfare Association), Indradhunsh Apartments -II, organised a blood donation camp for the residents and nearby communities, on 15 February 2023. As Shushma Agarwal, the local correspondent of the neighbourhood newspaper, write a report, covering this event. Support your ideas with outline cues given below, to craft your report.
- Which volunteer program? - purpose of the launch event - its importance
 - Activities that took place - who attended?
 - Any key message delivered?
 - How were young adults encouraged to join the volunteer program?
 - Any resources and information provided to attendees?
 - Any insights into follow-up activities planned?
 - What impact is expected to be achieved in the community?

Ans. Blood Donation Camp at Indradhunsh Apartments -II: A Remarkable Success!

By Shushma Agarwal, Local correspondent

The Resident Welfare Association (R.W.A) of Indradhunsh Apartments -II organized a blood donation camp on 15th February 2023, with the aim of promoting community service and saving lives. The event witnessed a massive response from residents and nearby communities.

The launch event emphasized the importance of blood donation in emergency situations and highlighted the crucial need for regular donors. Various activities were conducted, including educational sessions on the importance of blood donation, live cases from beneficiaries, and interactive activities to engage attendees.

Key messages centered around fostering a culture of volunteerism and creating a supportive community. To encourage young adults, special initiatives such as volunteer recognition programs and skill-building workshops were announced.

Attendees were provided with resources and information, including guidelines on blood donation eligibility and post-donation care. Further, participants were given access to a volunteer portal with details of upcoming events and opportunities.

Follow-up activities, including blood donation drives at local hospitals and awareness campaigns in educational institutions, were planned to ensure lasting impact.

Overall, this blood donation camp is expected to create a positive impact in the community by promoting a culture of giving, sharing, fostering volunteerism, and saving precious lives.

Shushma Agarwal,
Local Correspondent,
Neighborhood Newsletter

Section – C

LITERATURE : TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY

READING TEXT

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.

A. *A thing of beauty is a joy forever*

Its loveliness increases, it will never

Pass into nothingness; but will keep

A bower quiet for us, and a sleep

Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing

(A thing of beauty)

i. Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract?

A. Eternal beauty of nature

B. The destructive power of beauty

C. Materialistic pursuit of beauty

D. Consequences of Loving Nature

Ans. A. Eternal beauty of nature

ii. State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE, with reference to the extract. By referring to "A thing of beauty is joy forever" the poet suggests that the experience of encountering something beautiful brings lasting joy that persists beyond the immediate moment.

Ans. True

iii. Complete the sentence appropriately. The "beauty never dies" is an apt analogy for "it will never pass into nothingness" because _____.

Ans. a beautiful thing brings happiness that lasts forever.

iv. The use of the word 'a bower' in the extract suggests that a thing of beauty has its loveliness increase eternally and _____.

Ans. it will always make a pleasant place of repose for enjoying a peaceful, healthy and quiet sleep.

v. Based on the poem rhyme scheme, evident in lines 1-4, of the given extract, which word would rhyme with line 1?

wreathing

never

sleep

Ans. never

vi. Which punctuation mark is used to indicate a pause and separate the phrases in the line "Its loveliness increases, it will never"?

A. Comma

B. Period

C. Semicolon

D. Colon

Ans. A. Comma

OR

B. *Driving from my parent's home
to Cochin last Friday morning,
I saw my mother, beside me,*

doze, open mouthed,
her face ashen like that of a corpse and realized
with pain that she was as old as she looked.

(My mother at Sixty-six)

- i. What is the speaker's emotional state when looking at her mother?
A. Confused
B. Nostalgic
C. Affectionate and apprehensive
D. Fearful

Ans. C. Affectionate and apprehensive

- ii. How does the poet vividly portray the physical state of her mother in the first stanza of the poem "My mother at sixty-six"?

Ans. In the first stanza, the poet portrays her mother as fragile and delicate using words, "doze", "open mouthed", "her face ashen like that of a corpse".

- iii. Select the word that WILL NOT complete the sentence appropriately. The description of the mother as "doze, open mouthed," creates a vivid image of _____.

- A. Weakness
B. Responsiveness
C. Aging
D. Mortality

Ans. B. Responsiveness

- iv. State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE.
In the first stanza of the poem "My mother at sixty-six," the poet describes her mother's face as radiant and full of vitality.

Ans. False.
The poet describes her mother's face as "ashen like that of a corpse" indicating exhaustion and aging rather than radiance.

- v. What message do these lines convey in the context of family connections and the speaker's worry and fear for losing her mother?

Ans. The lines evoke strong feelings of concern, emotional attachment, and the frailty of family ties. They express the speaker's fear of losing her mother, emphasizing the value of their relationship as well as the universal experience of dealing with impermanence and mortality.

- vi. Complete the sentence appropriately:

The phrase "she was as old as she looked" suggests _____.

Ans. The poet realized that her mother was in need of love and care.

8. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.

A. Students on Ice, the programme I was working with on the Shokalskiy, aims to do exactly this by taking high school students to the ends of the world and providing them with inspiring educational opportunities which will help them foster a new understanding and respect for our planet. It's been in operation for six years now, headed by Canadian Geoff Green, who got tired of carting celebrities and retired, rich, curiosity-seekers who could only 'give' back in a limited way. With Students on Ice, he offers the future generation of policy-makers a life-changing experience at an age when they're ready to absorb, learn, and most importantly, act. (Journey to the End of the Earth)

- i. What is the purpose of the Students on Ice program and how does it differ from other expeditions in terms of participants and objectives?

Ans. The Students on Ice program aims to provide high school students with inspiring educational opportunities, fostering a new understanding and respect for our planet. It differs from other expeditions by targeting future policy-makers at an age when they are ready to absorb, learn, and take action.

- ii. The founder and head of the Students on Ice program is _____.

- A. Canadian Geoff Green
B. Retired, rich curiosity-seekers
C. High school students
D. Policy-makers

Ans. A. Canadian Geoff Green

- iii. The purpose behind taking high school students to the ends of the world and providing them with inspiring educational opportunities is _____.

Ans. To help them foster a new understanding and respect for our planet.

- iv. Give one reason why the writing style of the extract can be called factual and informative.

Ans. One reason why the writing style of the extract can be called factual and informative is because it presents specific details about the Students on Ice program, such as its objective of taking high school students to

the ends of the world. It also provides information about the program's founder, Geoff Green, and his motivations for starting the program.

OR

B. Right at the start, it is imperative to disclose a matter of vital importance about the Tiger King. Everyone who reads of him will experience the natural desire to meet a man of his indomitable courage face-to-face. But there is no chance of its fulfillment. As Bharata said to Rama about Dasaratha, the Tiger King has reached that final abode of all living creatures. In other words, the Tiger King is dead. *(The Tiger King)*

- i. Complete the sentence appropriately. The author's purpose in using foreshadowing is to _____.
- Ans. The statement "the Tiger King has reached that final abode of all living creatures" foreshadows the fact that the Tiger King is dead. It creates a sense of anticipation and hints at the fate of the Tiger King.
- ii. As per the given extract, What is the fate of the Tiger King?
- A. The Tiger King is alive and well. C. The Tiger King is imprisoned.
B. The Tiger King is missing. D. The Tiger King is dead.
- Ans. B. The Tiger King is dead.
- iii. Which trait, the narrator is lauding when he says "man of his indomitable courage"?
- Ans. The phrase "indomitable courage" implies a sense of unwavering bravery and resilience in the face of adversity or mortal danger.
- iv. How is the reference to "Bharata and Dasaratha" in the given extract, an example of allusion?
- Ans. The reference to Bharata and Dasaratha is an allusion, as it draws context to Hindu mythology and the epic Ramayana to add depth to the text, comparing the Tiger King's fate to that of a revered figure.

9. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.

A. I started for school very late that morning and was in great dread of a scolding, especially because M. Hamel had said that he would question us on participles, and I did not know the first word about them. For a moment I thought of running away and spending the day out of doors. It was so warm, so bright! The birds were chirping at the edge of the woods; and in the open field back of the sawmill the Prussian soldiers were drilling. I was all week more terrified than the rule for participles, but I had the strength to resist, and I hurried off to school. *(The Last Lesson)*

- i. List any two sensory details present in this extract.
- Ans. (a) Visual:
The morning is described as warm and bright.
(b) Auditory:
The birds chirping at the edge of the woods can be heard.
- ii. What was the author's initial thought when he considered the possibility of running away?
- A. To avoid a scolding.
B. To spend the day outdoors.
C. He was afraid of the Prussian soldiers.
D. He was worried about their lack of knowledge on participles.
- Ans. B. He wanted to spend the day outdoors.
- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The phrase "great dread of a scolding" means _____.
- Ans. "great dread of a scolding" means a strong feeling in anticipation of being scolded.
- iv. Pick evidence from the extract that helps one infer that the day talked about in the extract was a beautiful day.
- Ans. Phrases used in the above extract like: "It was so warm, so bright!" and "The birds were chirping" aligns with the idea of a beautiful day.
- v. What does the term 'sawmill' mean?
- Ans. A factory in which logs are sawn into planks or boards by machine.
- vi. Which of the following headlines best suggests the central idea of the extract?
- A. The School Skippers Enjoys
B. Sunshine Beckons, but School Awaits
C. Ignorance is Bliss
D. Prussian Soldiers Join Chirping Birds

Ans. B. Sunshine Beckons, but School Awaits

OR

B. I remember a story a man from Udipi once told me. As a young boy he would go to school past an old temple, where his father was a priest. He would stop briefly at the temple and pray for a pair of shoes. Thirty years later I visited his town and the temple, which was now drowned in an air of desolation. In the backyard, where lived the new priest, there were red and white plastic chairs. A young boy dressed in a grey uniform, wearing socks and shoes, arrived panting and threw his school bag on a folding bed. Looking at the boy, I remembered the prayer another boy had made to the goddess when he had finally got a pair of shoes, "Let me never lose them." The goddess had granted his prayer. Young boys like the son of the priest now wore shoes. But many others like the ragpickers in my neighborhood remain shoeless. (Lost Spring)

i. What is the write's purpose of using the shoes as symbolism?

Ans. The use of shoes as a symbol adds depth and conveys the theme of social inequality and the struggle for a better life.

ii. What does the young boy's prayer for a pair of shoes signify?

- A. The boy's love for the temple
- B. The boy's need for better possessions
- C. The boy's desire for spiritual enlightenment
- D. The boy's hope for good health

Ans. B. The boy's need for better possessions

iii. Explain one inference that can be drawn from the phrase "temple which is now drowned in an air of desolation" used in above paragraph.

Ans. The phrase suggests that the temple has lost its former glory and is now surrounded by emptiness and abandonment.

iv. Identify the line from the text that bears evidence to the fact that the writer's association with the boys is not a recent one.

Ans. The line from the paragraph that bears evidence to the fact that the writer's association with the boys is not a recent one is: "Looking at the boy, I remembered the prayer another boy had made to the goddess when he had finally got a pair of shoes."

v. How does the writer's use of the phrase "Looking at the boy, I remembered the prayer another boy had made to the goddess when he had finally got a pair of shoes" suggest the writer's relationship with the boys?

- A. The writer is a close family member of the boys
- B. The writer is a teacher at the boys' school
- C. The writer has empathy for the boys for a significant period of time
- D. The writer is a researcher studying the boys' experiences

Ans. C. The writer has empathy for the boys for a significant period of time

vi. Complete the following sentence:

The phrase "But many others like the ragpickers in my neighborhood remain shoeless." indicates that author is _____

Ans. ... aware of and concerned about the persistent social inequality and disparity in their neighborhood.

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions, in about 40-50 words.

i. Who approached Gandhi during the Indian National Congress Party convention and asked him to visit a particular district? (Indigo)

Ans. A peasant named Rajkumar Shukla from Champaran approached Gandhiji.

ii. What caused the author's aversion to water in their early years? (Deep Water)

Ans. The author's aversion to water began at a young age after experiencing being knocked down by the waves at the beach with his father.

iii. What was the response of the owner of the gray cottage when the protagonist knocked on the door seeking shelter? (The Rattrap)

Ans. The owner, an old man without a wife or child, was happy to provide shelter and companionship to the protagonist.

iv. What is the central theme of the poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers'? (Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

Ans. The theme of the poem relates with the oppressions and struggles that a woman has to face in the male dominant patriarchal society.

v. What was the initial expectation of the American publisher regarding the sales of Umberto Eco's book?
(The Interview)

Ans. The American publisher expected to sell no more than 3,000 copies of Umberto Eco's book in a country where nobody has seen a cathedral or studied Latin.

vi. What was the primary purpose of the make-up department in the film industry during that time?
(Poets and Pancakes)

Ans. The primary purpose of the make-up department was to transform decent-looking individuals into hideous crimson-hued monsters using pancakes and other locally made potions and lotions, in order to make them look presentable on-screen.

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.

i. How can we argue that the vadai packet incident shows the author lacked the cognitive and emotional maturity needed to comprehend the consequences of untouchability?

Ans. At the time of the incident, the author was only in the third grade and it is not uncommon for children to lack a full understanding of complex social issues like untouchability at that age. The author also shared that she had not, till then, heard people speak openly of untouchability - suggests that she may not have had a complete grasp of the issue's social implications.

ii. What does 'On the Face of It' suggest about the role of compassion in overcoming prejudice and stereotypes?

Ans. The play 'On the Face of It' suggests that empathy plays a crucial role in overcoming prejudice and stereotypes. Through the characters' interactions and personal growth, it highlights the transformative power of understanding and connecting with others, leading to the dissolution of preconceived notions and fostering genuine acceptance.

iii. Dr. Sadao was compelled by his duty as a doctor to help the enemy soldier. What made Hana, his wife, sympathetic to him in the face of open defiance from the domestic staff?
(The Enemy)

Ans. In "The Enemy," Dr. Sadao's sense of duty as a doctor compelled him to help the enemy soldier, which made Hana, his wife, sympathetic towards him despite his open defiance from the domestic staff. Hana recognized and respected her husband's commitment to his profession and human compassion.

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words.

A. What advice would you like to give to the poet 'Pablo Neruda' after studying his poem 'Keeping Quiet'.

Ans. Dear Pablo,

After reading your poem "Keeping Quiet", I would request you to continue spreading your message of unity and introspection. The poem beautifully conveys the importance of silence, self-reflection, and the need for humanity to pause and connect with one another. I would urge you to delve even deeper into these themes, exploring how silence can be a catalyst for personal and collective transformation.

I request you to write more such poems that inspire individuals to embrace stillness, to listen to their inner voices, and to genuinely understand the interconnectedness of all living beings. Additionally, I would suggest you to use your poetic talent to encourage people to take action based on this newfound awareness—urging them to break down barriers, challenge prejudices, and work towards a more peaceful and compassionate world.

Ultimately, my humble request would be to continue using your soothing words to ignite contemplation, empathy, and positive change in the hearts and minds of readers across the globe.

Yours truly

Yashmita Chaudhary

OR

B. You have been assigned the task of summarizing the portrayals of women in the texts 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers', 'Going Places', 'Lost Spring', and 'My Mother at Sixty-six' in your school.

Explain how these portrayals emphasize the diverse experiences of women and why it is crucial to comprehend the unique challenges and experiences faced by each individual woman. Provide examples from at least three of the mentioned texts in your response.

You may begin this way:

Good morning everyone.

While analysing the texts.....

You may end this way:
It is vital to acknowledge.....

Ans. Good Morning everyone,
While analysing the texts 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers', 'Going Places', 'Lost Spring', and 'My Mother at Sixty-six', I found that all of them present varied portrayals of women, shedding light on their experiences in society. These portrayals exemplify the diversity within the female experience. In 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers,' Aunt Jennifer's embroidered tigers symbolise her desire for freedom and empowerment in the face of a repressive marriage. 'Going Places' depicts a young girl's aspirations for independence, challenging traditional gender roles. In 'Lost Spring,' the marginalised lives of child laborers, particularly the girl protagonist, reflect the systemic injustice faced by impoverished girls. These texts underscore the importance of understanding each woman's unique challenges and experiences. By recognizing individual narratives, we can break free from generalizations and stereotypes, fostering empathy and solidarity. It is vital to acknowledge the intersectionality of gender, class, and societal norms, enabling us to advocate for gender equality and social justice.

Thank you,
Have nice day.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words.

A. 'The third level' is an epitome of the fact that 'The modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry and stress.' What are the ways in which we attempt to tackle them? Write a diary entry.

Ans. 25/04/20XX
10:15 p.m.

After having gone through the story 'The Third Level', I feel that it reflects the idea that the modern world is indeed filled with insecurity, fear, war, worry, and stress.

In response to these challenges, people employ various strategies to cope:

Firstly, individuals seek peace in their personal relationships, relying on the support and understanding of loved ones to sail through difficult times.

Secondly, engaging in hobbies, exercise, and entertainment offers a respite from the pressures of the world.

Additionally, individuals may turn to spirituality or mindful practices to find inner peace and cultivate a sense of calmness amid the chaos.

Lastly, social efforts like promoting social justice address the root causes of insecurity and fear.

Collectively, these strategies aim to counteract the negative impacts of modern life and foster well-being and resilience.

OR

B. Bama's encounter portrays her as a victim of the caste system, while Zitkala-Sa's experience illustrates a different form of discrimination. How does Zitkala-Sa's ordeal reflect the type of discrimination she faces, and how do Bama and Zitkala-Sa respond to their individual circumstances?

As a journalist who interviewed both Bama & Zitkala-Sa, create a diary entry noting down important points for your next articles to be published in a leading newspaper.

You may begin like this:

After going through the lesson, 'Memories of Childhood', I interviewed both of them.

Ans. After going through the lesson, 'Memories of Childhood', I interviewed both of them. Bama experienced discrimination based on caste and untouchability, while Zitkala-Sa faced racial and cultural prejudice.

Zitkala-Sa's hair, which held great significance to her, as it was tribal honour to have thick braids like a warrior woman was forcibly cut at a European missionary school due to her tribal background.

Both protagonists protested against the injustice they encountered, but they took different paths. Zitkala-Sa's rebellion was met with resistance, while Bama followed her brother's advice and achieved academic success. Zitkala-Sa continued to voice her opposition to racial prejudice through her writing, which criticised dogma and the evils of a marginalised community while Bama pursued a more subtle form of protest through her educational achievements to prove her mettle.

□□



Sample Paper

4

English Core

Section-A Reading Skills

1. Read the following text.

Oh, my god, do you realize how far from Earth we are? Do you really think about it? It's enough to scare the guts from a man. Hold me up. Do something. Give me sedatives or hold my hand or run call mama. A million cold miles up. See all the flickering stars? Look at my hands tremble. Feel my heart whirling like a hot pinwheel!

The captain comes toward me, a stunned expression on his small, tight face. He takes my arm, looking into my eyes. Hello, captain. I'm sick, if that's what you want to know. I've a right to be scared – just look at all that space! Standing here a moment ago, I stared down at Earth so round and cloud-covered and asleep on a mat of stars, and my brain tore loose and screamed, man, man, how'd you get in a mess like this, in a rocket a million miles past the moon, shooting for Mars with a crew of fourteen others! I can hardly stand up, my knees, my hands, my heart, are shaking apart. Hold me up, sir.

What are hysterics like? The captain improngs the inter-deck audio and speaks swiftly, scowling, into it. I hope he's phoning the psychiatrist. I need something. Oh, damnit, damnit!

The psychiatrist descends the ladder in immaculate salt-white uniform and walks toward me in a dream. Hello, doctor. You're the one for me. Please, sir, turn this damned rocket around and fly back to New York. I'll go crazy with all this space and distance!

The psychiatrist and the captain's voices mingle and blend, with here and there an emphasis, a toss of head, a gesture:

"Young Holloway here's on a fear-jag, doctor. Can you help him?"

"I'll try. Good man. Holloway is. Imagine you'll need him and his muscles when we land."

"With the crew as small as it is, every man's worth his weight in uranium. He's got to be cured."

The psychiatrist shakes his head.

"Might have to squirt him full of drugs to keep him quiet the rest of the expedition."

The captain explodes, saying that is impossible. Blood drums in my head. The doctor moves closer, smelling clean, sharp and white.

"Please, understand, captain, this man is definitely psychotic about going home. His talk is almost a reversion to childhood. I can't refuse his demands, and his fear seems too deeply based for reasoning. However, I think I've an idea. Holloway?"

Yes, sir? Help me, doctor. I want to go home.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

i. What is the captain's reaction when the protagonist expresses fear?

- He takes the protagonist's arm and looks into their eyes.
- He scolds the protagonist for being scared.
- He calls for sedatives for the protagonist.
- He runs to call the protagonist's mother.

Ans. A. He takes the protagonist's arm and looks into their eyes.

ii. What does the protagonist request from the captain and the psychiatrist?

- To turn the rocket around and fly back to New York.
- To give them sedatives to calm their fear.
- To send a distress signal to Earth.
- To increase the crew size for support.

Ans. A. To turn the rocket around and fly back to New York.

iii. Describe the writing style of the author in this passage.

Ans. The author's writing style in this passage is characterized by intense emotions, fragmented thoughts, and vivid descriptions of fear and panic. The tone is akin to a description of futuristic odyssey in space. A spicy account of how some weak-kneed astronauts react to the vast loneliness in space.

iv. Fill in the Blanks:

The captain suggests that they might have to _____ the protagonist full of drugs to keep them quiet.

Ans. squirt

v. What does the word "psychotic" mean in the context of the passage?

- A. Suffering from mental illness
- B. Displaying childlike behaviour
- C. Having a fear of space and distance
- D. Being aggressive and violent

Ans. A. Suffering from mental illness

vi. Why does the protagonist feel the need to go back home?

Ans. The protagonist's fear is deeply rooted and goes beyond reasoning. The vastness of space and distance triggers a sense of panic and longing for familiarity and safety. He feels homesick, yearning to come back to Earth. The loneliness in space has unnerved him.

vii. Identify a literary tool used by the author in this text.

Ans. One possible literary tool used by the author is imagery. The author creates vivid visual and sensory images to convey the protagonist's fear and distress. The overall tone borders a hyperbole. For example "Young Halloway here's on a fear-jag, doctor....." or "It's enough to scare the guts from a man."

viii. How would you describe the protagonist's mental state based on the given passage?

Ans. The protagonist's mental state can be described as extremely anxious, panicked, and bordering on a breakdown due to the overwhelming fear and disorientation caused by the vastness of space. The protagonist has panicked and is hell-bent to scuttle the space mission.

ix. What could be an appropriate headline for this text?

- A. Journey into Madness
- B. Lost in Space
- C. Facing Astral Dread
- D. The Captain's Dilemma

Ans. B. Lost in Space

2. Read the following text.

In recent years, there has been a rise in both screen addiction and screen moderation among kids in the US. A survey conducted among kids aged 8-12 aimed to explore the factors that influence their screen usage and recorded the percent of a nation for 10 common aspects that affect screen choices.

Among those who have screen addiction, the most common aspect cited was the desire for entertainment and fun (64%), followed by the opportunity for learning and education (56%). Additionally, screen addicts appreciated the access to a variety of content and games (48%) and the chance to connect with their friends online (40%).

On the other hand, those who practice screen moderation often cited the desire for physical and mental health (63%) as their main factor. Screen moderation also offered a sense of balance and discipline in managing their time and activities (54%) and allowed for more creativity and imagination (46%).

Additionally, screen moderates enjoyed the benefits of spending more time with their family and nature (38%).

Interestingly, both groups had similar levels of interest in social media and online communication (36% for screen addicts, 32% for screen moderates).

Similarly, both groups valued the opportunity to explore new topics and interests (32% for screen addicts, 28% for screen moderates).

However, there were also some notable differences between the two groups. For example, screen addicts placed a higher priority on staying updated and informed about current events (36%) compared to screen moderates (20%). Conversely, screen moderates were more likely to prioritise physical activity and sports during their free time (24%) compared to screen addicts (8%).

Overall, the survey results suggest that both screen addiction and screen moderation have their own unique challenges and benefits and appeal to different kids, based on their needs and goals.

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

i. How can screen moderation benefit children's mental and physical health?

Ans. Screen moderation can benefit children's mental and physical health by promoting a sense of balance and discipline, allowing for more creativity and imagination, and providing opportunities for spending time with family and nature.

- ii. What was the most common factor cited by screen addicts as the reason for their screen usage?
 - A. Desire for physical and mental health
 - B. Opportunity for learning and education
 - C. Access to a variety of entertainment and games
 - D. Chance to connect with friends online

Ans. C. Access to a variety of entertainment and games

- iii. What are some benefits of screen moderation mentioned in the excerpt?

Ans. Some benefits of screen moderation include a sense of balance and discipline in managing time and activities, increased creativity and imagination, and the opportunity to spend more time with family and nature.

- iv. Which of the following scenarios is likely to represent a screen addict kid?

- A. A child who spends most of their free time playing sports and engaging in physical activities.
- B. A child who uses screens primarily for learning and education purposes.
- C. A child who is driven by the desire for entertainment, enjoys a variety of content and games, and values online social connections.

Ans. C. A child who is driven by the desire for entertainment, enjoys a variety of content and games, and values online social connections.

- v. How do screen addicts and screen moderates differ in their priorities?

Ans. Screen addicts prioritise staying updated and informed about current events, while screen moderates prioritise physical activity and sports during their free time.

- vi. What are the common factors that both screen addicts and screen moderates value?

Ans. Both screen addicts and screen moderates value social media and online communication, as well as the opportunity to explore new topics and interests.

- vii. Fill in the blanks: Among screen addicts, _____% cited the desire for entertainment and fun as the most common factor influencing their screen usage.

Ans. 64%

- viii. True or False: Screen moderates are more likely to prioritise physical activity and sports during their free time compared to screen addicts.

Ans. True

Section-B

Creative Writing Skills

Note : All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

- 3. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 50 words.

A. Maple Grove Elementary School has recently created BookNook, a cozy corner for reading and storytelling, next to the library, on campus. As Kevin Lee, President of the Reading Club, draft a notice for the school bulletin board, inviting students of all grades, about a book exchange event at BookNook, during recess, on Monday, 13 September.
Request book donations, for BookNook.

Ans.

Maple Grove Elementary School
NOTICE
Book Exchange Event at BookNook!

All students are invited to a book exchange during recess at BookNook a cozy corner for reading and storytelling, next to the library on Monday, 13 September, 2023.
Please donate books for BookNook.
Kevin Lee
President
Reading Club

D. You are the Treasurer of the Residents' Welfare Association. Draft a notice for the Society notice board, informing residents about the increase of maintenance charges, effective from next month and explain the reasons. Also, include the announcement of the installation of the new solar panels, on the rooftop of the Society.

Ans.

**GREEN VALLEY
NOTICE**

10 August, 20XX

Increase of maintenance charges

We would like to inform you that effective next month, there will be a slight increase in maintenance charges due to rising operational costs and necessary repairs.

Your cooperation and support will be highly appreciated in maintaining the beautiful ambience of our Society.

Additionally, we are excited to announce the installation of new solar panels on the rooftops of our Society.

This eco-friendly initiative will help us reduce electricity costs and contribute to a greener environment.

Apoorv Shrivastav,
Treasurer,
Residents' Welfare Association Green Valley,
Block B-4 Society

4. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 50 words.

A. You are the Student Leader, Community service, at S.K. Primary School. Your school is organizing a 1-day Plantation drive on the occasion of Earth Day, for teachers of the school and their families. Write an invitation, inviting the school teachers and their families for this Plantation drive. Share information about the plantation drive venue and timing and include other necessary details.

Ans.

Join Us for the Earth Day Plantation Drive!

In all eagerness, we solicit the presence of all teachers and their families! S.K. Primary School is organising a 1-day Plantation Drive on Earth Day. Let's come together to plant trees and nurture our planet!

Date: 22 April, 20XX Venue: School Playground Time: 11:00 AM

Bring your gardening gloves and enthusiasm!
Together, we can make a positive impact on the environment.

RSVP
Uday Yadav
Student Leader,
Community Service
S.K. Primary School

OR

B. You are the Student Secretary, Literary events, at T.K. College. Your college is organising a 2-day Poetry workshop over the weekend, for alumni of the college and their friends. Write an invitation, inviting the college alumni and their friends for this Poetry workshop themed on: "Golden Days".

Biodata:

About:

Ravi Kumar

Phone: 91XXXXXXXX

E-mail: ravi.kumar@email.com

Profile Summary

A creative graphic designer with a passion for effective communication through visuals.

Skills:

- Storyboarding
- Designing: Shaps, Colour, Typography
- Adobe Creative Suite

Education Qualifications:

Graphic Design graduate from NIFT Mumbai (2022)

Internship Details:

6-month intership at Digital Brats as a Graphic Design Intern.

Reference:

Professor: Rahul Sharma (contact: 91XXXXXXXX)

Professor: Aparna Goswami (contact: 91XXXXXXXX)

Declaration:

I hereby declare that the information provided by me is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature

OR

- B.** The recent incidents of cyberbullying and online harassment have raised serious concerns about the safety and security of internet users, especially children and teenagers. Many people do not realize the consequences of their actions and words on the online platforms, and often indulge in abusive and hateful behaviour towards others. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily, highlighting the gravity of this problem, and exploring the reasons for such behaviour. Recommend some steps to prevent and combat cyberbullying and online harassment. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this letter. You are Pooja Singh, a concerned parent.

Ans. Bungalow 140:

Sadar Bazar, Agra-282001

The Editor

Amar Ujala

Sikandra Road,

Agra

Subject: Immediate Action Required to Combat the Menace of Cyberbullying and Online Harassment

Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the escalating cases of cyberbullying and online harassment that are posing a significant threat to internet users, particularly children and teenagers. The severe emotional repercussions of these malicious acts, coupled with their potential long-term impact on victims' mental well-being, necessitate urgent measures to ensure the safety and security of individuals online.

The shield of anonymity provided by online platforms often empowers individuals to engage in abusive and hateful conduct. The absence of face-to-face interactions and the ability to hide behind screens dehumanise the victims, leading perpetrators to disregard the consequences of their words and actions. To address this issue effectively, our focus must be on prevention and education. Collaborative efforts involving schools, parents, and communities are essential to impart knowledge about responsible internet usage, empathy, and the significance of treating others with respect. The establishment of stricter regulations and holding individuals accountable for their online behaviour is imperative.

Furthermore, social media platforms should enhance their reporting and monitoring systems to promptly identify and address instances of cyberbullying and harassment. By providing victims with

resources and support networks, we can aid their safe restitution and plug such future incidents from recurring again.

Let us unite as a society and take decisive action to cultivate a secure and inclusive online environment. The well-being of our future generation depends on it.

Yours sincerely,

Priya Singh,

Student & Concerned Citizen

6. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 120-150 words.

A. You are Neha Singh of class XII-D. Write an article for your school magazine, sharing the importance of young adults, as activists in one's social and environmental causes, the ways to do so and the impact involved. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this article.

- Responsibility of young adults towards society
- Power of Youth for creating awareness through education
- Self volunteering for community services
- Lobbying and advocating with policy makers
- Creating a chain of activists for sustaining responsibilities at present and in future.

ns. **The Power of Young Activists: Making a Difference in Our World**

By Neha Singh, Class XII-D

As young adults, we get many opportunities to create a positive impact on society and the environment by becoming activists for causes we deeply care about. Activism enables us to voice our concerns, initiate change, and contribute to building a better world for future generations. Here are a few ways we can actively engage in social and environmental causes:

1. **Education and Awareness:** Stay informed about critical issues through research, documentaries, and reliable sources. Use social media platforms to raise awareness and educate others about the importance of these causes.
2. **Volunteer and Support:** Participate in local community service projects and initiatives. Collaborate with organizations that align with your interests and contribute your time, skills, or resources to make a difference.
3. **Advocacy and Lobbying:** Write letters to policymakers, join advocacy groups, or sign petitions to support legislation and policies that address social and environmental issues.
4. **Sustainable Practices:** Adopt eco-friendly habits in our daily lives, such as conserving energy, reducing waste, and supporting sustainable products and initiatives.

By actively engaging in activism, we not only contribute to causes we believe in but also inspire others to follow suit. Our collective efforts have the potential to bring about meaningful change and shape a brighter future.

Let us embrace our role as young activists and work towards creating a world that we may feel proud to bequeath to the coming generation.

OR

B. The R.W.A (Resident Welfare Association), Shantinagar-I, organised a cleanliness drive for the young adults in and around the neighbourhood, on 25 January 2023. As Rajesh. K, the local correspondent of the neighbourhood newsletter, write a report covering this event. Support your ideas with outline cues given below, to craft your report.

- Show of community sports
- Youth participation for maintaining hygiene
- Enthusiastic turnout of residents
- Fostering a sense a unity and responsibility
- Instilling a sense of pride and ownership
- Preserving cleanliness

Ans. Shantinagar -I R.W.A Organises Successful Cleanliness Drive
Rajesh. K, Local Correspondent

January 25, 2023, Shantinagar-I, New Delhi:
In a remarkable display of community spirit, the Resident Welfare Association (R.W.A) of Shantinagar-I organised a cleanliness drive on January 25, 2023. The event aimed to bring together young adults from the neighbourhood to actively participate in maintaining a clean and hygienic environment. The cleanliness drive witnessed an enthusiastic turnout of residents, demonstrating their commitment to creating a cleaner and healthier neighbourhood. The event began with a brief inauguration ceremony, during which the R.W.A members addressed the participants, emphasizing the importance of cleanliness and waste management. The young adults, armed with gloves, garbage bags, and brooms, enthusiastically embarked on cleaning the streets, parks, and public spaces in and around the neighbourhood. They diligently collected litter, swept the sidewalks, and cleared debris, leaving the area visibly cleaner than before. The event not only fostered a sense of unity and responsibility among the participants but also served as an opportunity to educate them about the significance of maintaining cleanliness in their surroundings. It also highlighted the impact that collective efforts can have in creating a pleasant and hygienic living environment. The Shantinagar -I R.W.A deserves commendation for organizing such an impactful initiative, which not only brought the community together but also instilled a sense of pride and ownership in the neighborhood. This event serves as a reminder that small actions can make a big difference when it comes to preserving the cleanliness and beauty of our surroundings.

Section – C
LITERATURE : TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY
READING TEXT

7. Read the given extract and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two, given.

A. *For simple sheep; and such are daffodils
With the green world they live in; and clear rills
That for themselves a cooling covert make
'Gainst the hot season; the mid forest brake,
Rich with a sprinkling of fair musk-rose blooms;
And such too is the grandeur of the dooms
We have imagined for the mighty dead;*

(A Thing of Beauty)

- i. Which of the following best describes the dooms imagined for the mighty dead?
A. Beauty of grand tales
B. Frightening and foreboding
C. Ordinary and mundane
D. Intense and vibrant

Ans. A. Beauty of grand tales

- ii. State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE, with reference to the extract.
The speaker compares the daffodils to simple sheep.

Ans. True

- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.

The speaker uses _____ to create a musical effect with words like "simple sheep", and "cooling covert".

Ans. alliteration

- iv. Fill in the blanks: The grandeur of the dooms we have imagined for the mighty dead is _____.

Ans. is majestic or awe-inspiring.

- v. What is the one word that rhymes with "rills" and "daffodils" in these lines?

Ans. hills

- vi. Based on the given lines, what message or idea might the poet be trying to convey about the relationship between nature and the grandeur of the dooms imagined for the mighty dead?
 - A. The beauty of nature even in the face of its mortality
 - B. The contrast between life and death
 - C. The sorrow of losing a loved one
 - D. The joy of imagination and creativity

Ans. A. The beauty of nature even in the face of its mortality

OR

B. *Unless, governor, inspector, visitor,
 This map becomes their window and these windows
 That shut upon their lives like catacombs,
 Break O break open till they break the town
 And show the children to green fields, and make their world
 Run azure on gold sands, and let their tongues
 Run naked into books the white and green leaves open
 History theirs whose language is the sun*

(An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum)

- i. What is the tone of the speaker in the expression "Break O break open till they break the town" ?
 - A. Angry and sarcastic
 - B. Sad and resigned
 - C. Hopeful and optimistic
 - D. Passionate and encouraging

Ans. D. Passionate and encouraging

- ii. What does the speaker want to show the children by breaking open the windows?

Ans. The poet wants the children to break the handcuffings of poverty and desultory childhood so that they come out of their dirty surroundings into an area of freedom for passionate and enthusiastic learning.

- iii. What is the rhyme scheme of these lines?
 - A. ABAB CDCD
 - B. ABBA CDDC
 - C. ABA CDCD
 - D. No rhyme scheme

Ans. D. No rhyme scheme

- iv. The speaker uses a metaphor to compare the books to leaves. True or False?

Ans. True

- v. What does the speaker mean by saying that history is theirs whose language is the sun?

Ans. The speaker means that the children have the potential to make their own history, if they are given the opportunity to learn and express themselves. The speaker also suggests that the language of these children will become like the language of the sun which is bright, warm, and powerful unlike the language of the slum, which is dark, cold, and weak.

- vi. Complete the sentence appropriately.
 The speaker uses the word "O" to _____.

Ans. address or invoke or exclaim or emphasize an appeal to the authorities.

- 8. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.

A. The presidents of the New York Central and the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroads will swear on a stack of timetables that there are only two. But I say there are three, because I've been on the third level of the Grand Central Station. Yes, I've taken the obvious step: I talked to a psychiatrist friend of mine, among others. I told him about the third level at Grand Central Station, and he said it was a waking-dream wish fulfillment. He said I was unhappy. That made my wife kind of mad, but he explained that he meant the modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry and all the rest of it, and that I just want to escape. Well, who doesn't? Everybody I know wants to escape, but they don't wander down into any third level at Grand Central Station. (The Third Level - Jack Finney)

- i. What does the narrator mean by saying that he taken the obvious step?

Ans. The narrator means that he has consulted a psychiatrist, as that is what most people would do if they had a strange or unusual experience like his.

- ii. What is the genre of the story that these lines are from?
 - A. Mystery
 - B. Romance
 - C. Science fiction
 - D. Fantasy

Ans. D. Fantasy

iii. The narrator says that everybody he knows wants to _____.

Ans. escape

iv. Why does the narrator want to escape from the modern world?

Ans. The narrator wants to escape from the modern world because it is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry and all the rest of it, which makes him unhappy and stressed.

OR

B. Crown prince Jung Jung Bahadur grew taller and stronger day by day. No other miracle marked his childhood days apart from the event already described. The boy drank the milk of an English cow, was brought up by an English nanny, tutored in English by an Englishman, saw nothing but English films – exactly as the crown princes of all the other Indian states did. When he came of age at twenty, the State, which had been with the Court of Wards until then, came into his hands. But everyone in the kingdom remembered the astrologer’s prediction. Many continued to discuss the matter. Slowly it came to the Maharaja’s ears. *(The Tiger King)*

i. Complete the sentence appropriately:

The event already described in the story was the astrologer’s prediction _____.

Ans. that the prince would be killed by the hundredth tiger.

ii. What was the name of the Indian state that the crown prince ruled over?

- A. Pratibandapuram
- B. Rajkumarapuram

- C. Mahendrapuram
- D. Chandrapuram

Ans. A. Pratibandapuram

iii. Which astrologer’s prediction did everyone in the kingdom remember?

Ans. Everyone in the kingdom remembered the astrologer’s prediction that the prince would be killed by a tiger before he turned thirty.

iv. How did the Maharaja react when he heard about the astrologer’s prediction?

Ans. The Maharaja reacted by becoming obsessed with hunting and killing tigers, hoping to defy his fate and prove the astrologer wrong.

9. Read the given extract and answer the questions for A and B for the two, given.

A. Usually, when school began, there was a great bustle, which could be heard out in the street, the opening and closing of desks, lessons repeated in unison, very loud, with our hands over our ears to understand better, and the teacher’s great ruler rapping on the table. But now it was all so still! I had counted on the commotion to get to my desk without being seen; but, of course, that day everything had to be as quiet as Sunday morning. Through the window I saw my classmates, already in their places, and M. Hamel walking up and down with his terrible iron ruler under his arm. I had to open the door and go in before everybody. You can imagine how I blushed and how frightened I was. *(The Last Lesson)*

i. What emotions did the narrator experience upon entering the classroom?

Ans. Blush and fear.

ii. What was unusual on that particular day when the narrator tried to enter the classroom?

- A. The confused students
- B. The noisy environment

- C. The silence
- D. The scared students

Ans. C. The silence

iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.

The author plan to count on the commotion to get to the desk because _____.

Ans. He was avoiding to be noticed for being late.

iv. What does ‘M. Hamel walking up and down with his iron ruler under his arm’ signify?

Ans. ‘M. Hamel walking up and down with his iron ruler under his arm’ evokes a sense of authority and discipline in the classroom.

v. What does the phrase “lessons repeated in unison” mean?

Ans. The phrase refers to the students reading reciting their lessons together, in perfect unison.

vi. Which of the following headlines best suggests the theme of the extract?

- A. Calm and Focused
- B. An Ambience of Embarrassment

- C. A Deafening Silence
- D. A Conducive Learning Environment.

Ans. C. A Deafening Silence

OR

B. "I sometimes find a rupee, even a ten-rupee note," Saheb says, his eyes lighting up. When you can find a silver coin in a heap of garbage, you don't stop scrounging, for there is hope of finding more. It seems that for children, garbage has a meaning different from what it means to their parents. For the children it is wrapped in wonder, for the elders it is a means of survival. (Lost Spring)

i. What does garbage symbolize for the children who are referred to in this extract?

Ans. Garbage symbolises hope for the children

ii. What do the children occasionally find in the garbage?

- A. Paper bags to be recycled
- B. Plastic bottles to be recycled
- C. Coins
- D. Toys

Ans. C. Coins

iii. How does Saheb's eyes show his excitement when he talks about finding money?

Ans. Saheb's eyes light up when he talks about finding money, showing his excitement and joy.

iv. Identify the literary tools the writer has used to show the different meanings and perspectives of garbage for the children.

Ans. Contrast

v. What response would the author have given after listening to these lines?

- A. He would have praised Saheb for his luck and perseverance
- B. He would have scolded Saheb for wasting his time and energy
- C. He would have sympathized with Saheb for his hardship
- D. He would have ignored Saheb

Ans. C. He would have sympathized with Saheb for his hardship

vi. Complete the sentence question: For the children, garbage wrapped in wonder conveys a plight that poor kids have to _____

Ans. Search garbage for materials which can be sold to earn for their survival

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in about 10-15 lines.

i. How did the Champaran incident change Gandhi's life? (Reference - Indigo)

Ans. The Champaran incident was a milestone in Gandhi's life because it marked his first civil disobedience movement in India. It also gave him a deeper understanding of the plight of the peasants and the need for social reform.

ii. Douglas describes his feelings and thoughts during the drowning incident. How would the reader's response differ if the narration were more factual than emotional? (Deep Water)

Ans. The reader would feel less connected and sympathetic to Douglas if the narration were more factual than emotional. The sensory and emotional details make the reader empathise with Douglas's fear, panic and struggle. Without that emotional connect the reader would connect to the story objectively sans empathy, a detached observation of dangerous situation.

iii. How would the poem, 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers' lose its contrast, if the following first four lines were removed?

*Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen,
 Bright topaz denizens of a world of green.
 They do not fear the men beneath the tree;
 They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.*

Ans. The poem would lose its contrast between the free and fearless tigers and the oppressed and terrified Aunt Jennifer. The tigers represent her wish for a different life. The absence of these lines would weaken the exploration of gender dynamics in the poem.

iv. Umberto Eco, about "The Name of the Rose" says, "It's a book about books." What does this imply about his theme? (The Interview)

Ans. This implies that he wanted to explore the power and influence of books, especially in the medieval context. He also wanted to show the intertextuality and complexity of literature.

v. How does the use of irony and surprise in 'The Rattrap' enhance the theme? *(Poets and Pancakes)*
Ans. The use of irony and surprise in 'The Rattrap' shows that people can change for the better, even when they least expect it during adversities.

vi. What does the story of the make-up department in the film studio show about the challenges, skills, and humour involved in this field?
Ans. The story of the make-up department shows that they had to deal with difficult actors, demanding directors, and limited resources. They also had to be creative, innovative, and witty to cope with their work to make leading artists look ugly and horrible in order to look presentable in the movie.

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.

i. Oppression may not be challenged quickly, but the roots of resistance are planted in childhood. Do you think that children can always sense any kind of unfairness, especially after reading the stories of Zitkala-Sa and Bama, who faced different kinds of oppression in their childhood?

Ans. I agree that injustice in any form cannot escape being noticed even by children, especially after reading Memories of Childhood by Zitkala-Sa and Bama. Both the stories show how the authors, as young girls, experienced and either resisted or got aware of the oppression in different ways. Zitkala-Sa faced the cultural and racial discrimination of the white domineering missionaries who tried to erase her identity and dignity as a Native American. Bama witnessed the caste-based humiliation of the Dalits by the upper-caste Hindus who treated them as untouchables. Both the stories reveal how the seeds of rebellion against irrational discrimination and humiliation are sowed early in life, as the girls refused to accept or tolerate the injustice imposed on them and their communities.

ii. Antarctica holds the secrets of the earth's geological past. How can we benefit from exploring this region, especially after reading Tishani Doshi's account of her trip to the end of the earth?

Ans. The study of Antarctica is useful to us because it can reveal the secrets of the past and the future of our planet. Antarctica contains fossils, rocks, ice cores, and other clues that can help us understand how life evolved, how climate changed, and how continents drifted over millions of years. It can also help us predict the effects of global warming, sea level rise, and biodiversity loss on our environment and civilization. Antarctica is a living laboratory that can teach us about our history and our destiny.

iii. We have learned from "On The Face Of It" that the physical discomfort or difficulty caused by a disability is usually not as bad as the feeling of being left out or rejected by the person with disabilities is. How does the person who is suffering from such a condition of bitterness and resentment want others to behave towards them?

Ans. Any sane and sensible person will understand that a person with disabilities expects the kind of behaviour that is respectful, empathetic, and normal from others. The person does not want to be pitied, ignored, or mocked for their physical impairment. The person wants to be treated as an equal, a friend, and a human being. The person wants to have meaningful interactions and relationships with others, without being judged or made fun of or isolated for their disability.

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words.

A. Imagine yourself in place of Kamala Das - the poet of "My Mother at Sixty-six". Write a letter to your mother pouring your heart out and assuring her that you would always love her and be grateful to her. You may begin this way:

Dear Maa,
I could still feel a lot of pain and guilt.....

Ans. Dear Maa,
I could still feel a lot of pain and guilt for leaving you that day. I am torn between my duty and my love. But I wish to reassure you, my mother, that I will come back soon.
I would always be there for you.
I love you more than anything.
I would not be able to explain to you in words how much you mean to me. I can still recall every joy and sorrow we faced together, the bond we had that nothing could break.
I pray for your health and happiness, and hope that you would not feel lonely ever.
I hope you will understand and forgive me for leaving you like this.

Warmly,
Your Kamala

B. Zitkala-Sa, as an adult, thinks back to the time when her long hair was cut off and feels that she should have fought harder and not given up so easily. She also wonders if there was any other way to avoid the incident. What do you think as a reader? Analyse Zitkala's response and reflections and address your peers.

You may begin this way:
*Good morning everyone,
As I analysed the allotted texts...*
You may end this way:
I hope she moves on with hope.....

Ans. Good morning, everyone.
As I analysed the allotted texts, it still frightens me to recall the day when Zitkala's long hairs were cut at the missionary school. It is one of the most painful and humiliating experiences of anyone's life. I feel like they were trying to erase her identity and dignity as a Native American. I feel sorry for what she might have been through.
I still wonder why she did not resist more. Why did she let them drag her to the barber's chair? Why did she not scream louder or bite harder? Why did she not run away or hide somewhere? Was there anything else she could have done to save herself?
But then I realised that she was just a child, and they were adults. They had the power and the authority, and she had none. They had the numbers and the overbearing and domineering authority and she was alone. They had the intention of snipping away her braids which was integral to her cultural pride, and the plan to execute and she was unaware.
I cannot blame her for what they did to her. It was not her fault. It was their fault. They were the ones who were cruel and ignorant. They were the ones who violated her rights and her culture. They were the ones who should be ashamed and sorry.
To conclude, I'd like to say that as a reader, it gives me peace to know that she is still a proud and strong Native American woman. I know that she survived and thrived despite the oppression and discrimination. I hope she moves on with hope and courage and be an iconic inspiration for her community.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 12-10 words.

A. In "The Enemy", Dr. Sadao was compelled by his ethical duty as a doctor to help the enemy soldier. Hana, his wife, was sympathetic to him in the face of open defiance from the domestic staff. As Hana, Sadao's wife, write this diary entry explaining the necessity of your support to Dr Sadao.

You may begin this way:
As a wife of Dr. Sadao, today, I find myself reflecting on the immense necessity of my support to Dr. Sadao in his decision....

Ans. As a wife of Dr. Sadao, today, I found myself reflecting on the immense necessity of my support to Dr. Sadao in his decision to help an enemy soldier survive from his fatal wounds. While our domestic staff was filled with open defiance and disapproval, I firmly believed that it was our duty as human beings and as healers to extend compassion and aid to those in need, regardless of their nationality or affiliation.

Dr. Sadao's expertise and knowledge had given him the power to save lives, and it is this power that we endeavoured to utilise for the greater good of mankind. The soldier, though an enemy, was helpless and in desperate need of medical attention. Turning or handing him away as a prisoner would not only have been an abandonment of moral values but also a betrayal of the very essence of our profession.

As his wife, I stood by Dr. Sadao, providing him unwavering support that he needed to navigate this challenging, controversial and dangerous situation. Together, we rose above the judgments and prejudices of others, upholding our principles and demonstrated the true essence of humanity.

Hana

OR

B. As Geoff Green of 'Journey to the End of the Earth', write a diary entry explaining reasons for including high school students in the Students on Ice expedition.

You may begin this way:
Today, I want to reflect on the reasons behind my decision to include high school students in the Students on Ice expedition.....

Ans. Date: 06/03/20XX

Time: 9:50 p.m.

Today, I want to reflect on the reasons behind my decision to include high school students in the Students on Ice expedition. It is a choice that has met with curiosity and skepticism, but I firmly believe it to be an essential component of our mission.

First and foremost, involving high school students allows us to ignite their passion for the environment and instill a deep sense of stewardship within them. By exposing them to the beauty and fragility of our planet's polar regions, we hope to inspire the next generation of probable environmental leaders.

Furthermore, these young minds bring fresh perspectives and boundless enthusiasm to our expedition. Their energy and curiosity push the boundaries of knowledge and ignite meaningful discussions amongst the entire group of experts. It is a remarkable opportunity for them to learn from scientists, explorers, and also from each other.

Lastly, including high school students will create a lasting impact on their lives. It will open their eyes to the interconnectedness of our world and empower them to take action in their own communities.

Incorporating high school students into the Students on Ice expedition is an investment in our shared future. It is an opportunity to shape young minds, foster environmental consciousness, and create a generation of change-makers.

Geoff Green



ATDB.uno



Sample Paper

5

English Core

Section-A Reading Skills

I. Read the following text.

1. We sit in the last row, bumped about but free of stares. The bus rolls out of the dull crossroads of the city, and we are soon in open countryside, with fields of sunflowers as far as the eye can see, their heads all facing us. Where there is no water, the land reverts to desert. While still on level ground we see in the distance the tall range of Mount Bogda, abrupt like a shining prism laid horizontally on the desert surface. It is over 5,000 metres high, and the peaks are under permanent snow, in powerful contrast to the flat desert all around. Heaven Lake lies part of the way up this range, about 2,000 metres above sea-level, at the foot of one of the higher snow-peaks.
2. As the bus climbs, the sky, brilliant before, grows overcast. I have brought nothing warm to wear: it is all down at the hotel in Urumqi. Rain begins to fall. The man behind me is eating overpoweringly smelly goat's cheese. The bus window leaks inhospitably but reveals a beautiful view. We have passed quickly from desert through arable land to pasture, and the ground is now green with grass, the slopes dark with pine. A few cattle drink at a clear stream flowing past moss-covered stones; it is a Constable landscape. The stream changes into a white torrent, and as we climb higher I wish more and more that I had brought with me something warmer than the pair of shorts that have served me so well in the desert. The stream (which, we are told rises in Heaven Lake) disappears, and we continue our slow ascent. At last, about noon, we reach Heaven Lake, and look for a place to stay at the foot, which is the resort area. We get a room in a small cottage, and am happy to note that there are thick quilts on the beds.
3. Standing outside the cottage we survey our surroundings. Heaven Lake is long, sardine-shaped and fed by snowmelt from a stream at its head. The lake is an intense blue, surrounded by green mountain walls, dotted with distant sheep. At the head of the lake, beyond the delta of the inflowing stream, is a massive snow-capped peak which dominates the vista; it is part of a series of peaks that culminate, a little out of view, in Mount Bogda itself.
4. For those who live in the resort, there is a small mess-hall by the shore. We eat here sometimes, and sometimes buy food from the vendors outside, who sell kabab and naan until the last buses leave. The kababs, cooked on skewers over charcoal braziers, are particularly good; highly spiced and well-done. Horse's milk is available too from the local Kazakh herdsmen, but I decline this. I am so affected by the cold that Mr. Cao, the relaxed young man who runs the mess, lends me a spare pair of trousers, several sizes too large but more than comfortable. Once I am warm again, I feel a pre-dinner spurt of energy - dinner will be long in coming - and I ask him whether the lake is good for swimming in.
5. "Swimming?" Mr. Cao says. "You aren't thinking of swimming, are you?"
6. "I thought I might," I confess. "What's the water like?"
7. He doesn't answer me immediately, turning instead to examine some receipts with exaggerated interest. Mr. Cao, with great off-handedness, addresses the air. "People are often drowned here," he says. After a pause, he continues. "When was the last one?" This question is directed at the cook, who is preparing a tray of mantou (squat white steamed bread rolls), and who now appears, wiping his doughy hand across his forehead. "Was it the Beijing athlete?" asks Mr. Cao.

Answer the questions, based on the passage above.

i. One benefit of sitting in the last row of the bus was that:

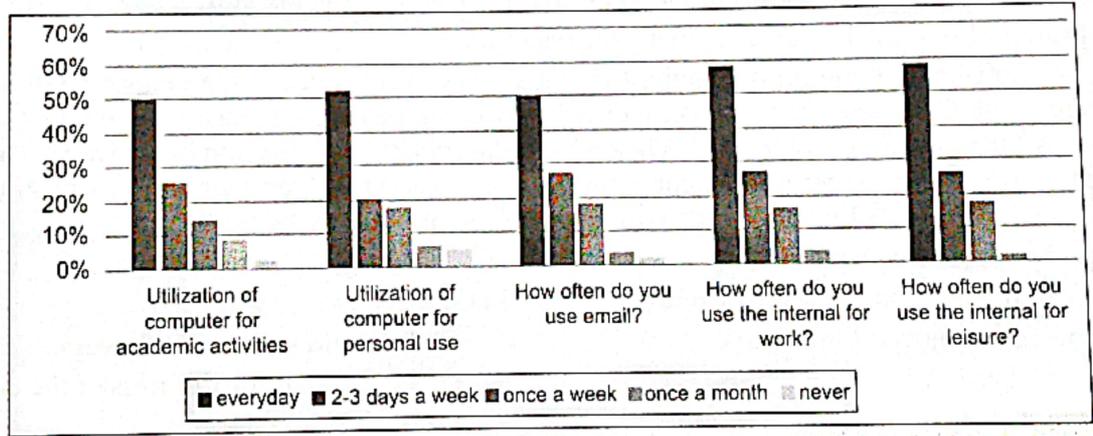
- A. the narrator enjoyed the bumps.
- B. no one stared at him.
- C. he could see the sunflowers.
- D. he avoided the dullness of the city.

Ans. B. no one stared at him.

- ii. The narrator was travelling to:
 A. Mount Bogda
 B. a 2000-metre-high snow peak
 C. Heaven Lake
 D. Urumqi
- Ans. C. Heaven Lake
- iii. Which two things in the bus made the narrator feel uncomfortable?
 Ans. As the author climbed higher, the weather turned inhospitable. It started raining, making the weather extremely cold. He had not brought anything warm to wear. To add to his discomfort, the bus window was also leaking. He desperately wished that he had brought something warmer to wear.
- iv. Select the option that best describes Mount Bogda.
 A. a horizontal desert surface
 B. a shining prism
 C. a Constable landscape
 D. the overcast sky
- Ans. B. a shining prism
- v. Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option.
 On reaching the destination the narrator felt relieved because _____.
 A. he had got away from the desert.
 B. a difficult journey had come to an end.
 C. he could watch the snow peak.
 D. there were thick quilts on the bed.
- Ans. D. there were thick quilts on the bed.
- vi. The writer would not agree with the given statements based on paragraph 2, EXCEPT:
 A. They have passed quickly from arable land to pastures through desert
 B. The stream changed into a white torrent as they climbed higher
 C. The stream disappeared, as they continued their slow descent
 D. About midnight, they arrived at Heaven Lake
- Ans. B. The stream changed into a white torrent as they climbed higher
- vii. Explain why the statement "The bus window leaks inhospitably but reveals a beautiful view," is ironic?
 Ans. The leaking window was uncomfortable to him because through it came in bitter cold but at the same time it provided solace to his soul revealing the beautiful view. So, the statement is ironic.
- viii. It was several sizes too large, but more than comfortable. How can the statement best be described?
 A. Ironic
 B. Popular
 C. Comic
 D. Prejudiced
- Ans. A. Ironic
- ix. Explain who asks, "When was the last one?" and what does he want to ask? What could be the intent of asking it?
 Ans. Mr. Cao asks the cook, "when was the last one?" He wants to ask when was the last time when a person drowned in the lake. The intent was to dissuade the narrator from swimming as even a Beijing athlete had drowned in the lake.

2. Read the following text.

1. The present generation is well updated in the use of internet and computers. The rapid development in computer technology and increase in accessibility of the internet for academic purposes has changed the face of education for everyone associated with it. Let's look at the data arising out of a recent survey that was done to ascertain the time spent on utilization of the computer and internet:



- At present, many schools and universities have been implementing internet-based learning, as it supplements the conventional teaching methods. The internet provides a wide variety of references and information to academics as well as scientific researchers. Students often turn to it to do their academic assignments and projects.
- However, research on the Net is very different from traditional library research, and the differences can cause problems. The Net is a tremendous resource, but it must be used carefully and critically.



- According to a 2018 Academic Student e-book Experience Survey, conducted by LJ's research department and sponsored by EBSCO, when reading for pleasure, almost 74% of respondents said they preferred print books for leisure whereas, 45 % of respondents chose e-books rather than the printed versions, for research or assignments.
- When asked what e-book features make them a favourite for research, the respondents were clear. Having page numbers to use in citations, topped the list (75%); followed by the ability to resize text to fit a device's screen (67%); the ability to bookmark pages, highlight text, or take notes for later reference (60%); downloading the entire e-book (57%); and allowing content to be transferred between devices (43%) were the varied responses.

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

i. According to the passage, one of the reasons for the recent transformation of education is that _____
 Ans. the easy availability of internet has been a catalyst for transformation in education. It provides a diverse pool of information and knowledge. The internet has broken all geographical barriers, helping students learn at their own pace from experts worldwide.

ii. Pick the option that lists statements that are NOT TRUE according to the passage.

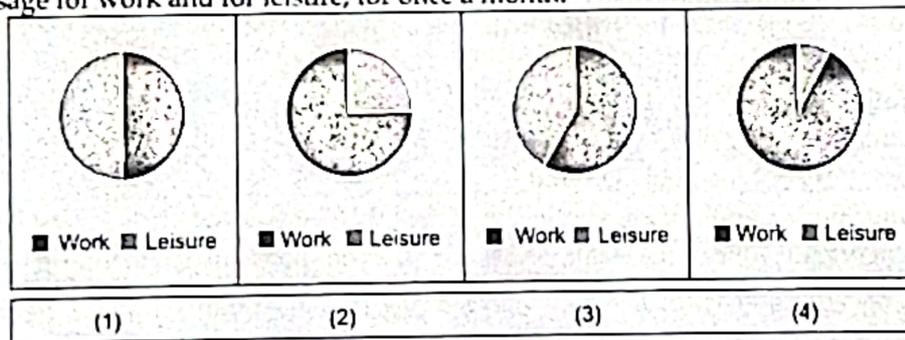
- Internet-based education can only complement familiar methods of education.
 - Net-based learning will replace face-to-face education.
 - The resources that the net provides are a danger to the education system.
 - The current times has seen a rise in the convenience of using the internet for academic purposes.
- A. 1 and 2 B. 3 and 4 C. 2 and 3 D. 1 and 4

Ans. C. 2 and 3

iii. Replace the word 'tremendous', as used in paragraph 3, with another word of similar meaning.

Ans. 'incredible'

iv. Based on the graphical chart in the passage, choose the option that correctly states the depiction of internet usage for work and for leisure, for once a month.



- A. Option (1) B. Option (2) C. Option (3) D. Option (4)

Ans. C. Option (3)

v. Based on the given graphical representation of data in the passage, choose the option that lists the statements that are TRUE with respect to the usage of email.

- The everyday usage of email is more than the everyday usage of computer for personal use.
- About 18% people use email once a week.
- There are a smaller number of email users using it 2-3 times a week than the ones using it once a month.

4. Less than 5% of people never use the email. D. 3 and 4
 A. 1 and 3 B. 2 and 4 C. 1 and 2
- Ans. B. 2 and 4
- vi. Based on the given graphical chart, pick the option that lists the area of zero response from respondents,
 A. Never using the internet for work and leisure
 B. Daily use of the computer for academic activities
 C. Writing and receiving emails once a week
 D. Using the internet for personal tasks once a month
- Ans. A. Never using the internet for work and leisure
- vii. In the cartoon, the student's reaction reveals that he is indignant.
 Select from the following:
 True - if the statement agrees with the information.
 False - if the statement contradicts the information.
 Not Given - if there is no information on this.
- Ans. True
- viii. Which of the following statements is NOT substantiated by information in paragraph 4?
 A. About three-quarters of the respondents preferred print books for recreational reading.
 B. A little less than a 50% of the respondents voted for e-books for research or assignments.
 C. More than 50% respondents stated enjoying both versions of books for leisure reading.
 D. The survey was intended for understanding the e-book experience among students.
- Ans. C. More than 50% respondents stated enjoying both versions of books for leisure reading.

Section-B

Creative Writing Skills

3. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below, in about 50 words.
- A. You are Keshav/Karuna, Secretary, Health Club, Vidyapeeth Public School, Bengaluru. Draft a notice in about 50 words to be put up on your school notice board, asking all the club members and the other students to join a walk on World Diabetes Day to create an awakening among people about diabetes.

Ans.

Vidyapeeth Public School
NOTICE

08 July 20XX

Diabetes Awareness Walk

Our school is organising Diabetes Awareness Walk to create awareness about diabetes. All the students and club members are invited to join us for walk on World Diabetes Day.

Event Details:
 Date: 15 July
 Time: 7 a.m.
 Starting point: School Assembly Ground
 Destination: Sports Complex, Dwarka

For efficient organization of the event, please confirm your participation to your class teacher in time. Refreshment will be provided by the school. For any further query, please contact the undersigned.

Keshav/Karuna
 Secretary
 Health Club

OR

- B. Your school has planned an excursion to Lonavala near Mumbai during the autumn holidays. Draft a notice in about 50 words for your school notice board, giving detailed information and inviting the names of those who are desirous to join. Sign as Naresh/Namita, Head boy/Head Girl, D.V. English School, Thane, Mumbai.

D.V. English School

NOTICE

08 July 20XX

Excursion to Lonavala

An excursion to Lonavala near Mumbai has been planned for students of classes IXth to XIIth during autumn holidays this year. It will be a five-day trip. The cost of stay in hotel, meals and sightseeing is ₹8,000 per student. Those interested in going should give their names to the sports teacher before 15 July 2023 and deposit their money at the school office before the end of the month. For any further queries, please contact the undersigned.

Namita/Namita

Head Girl

4. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below in about 50 words.

A. You are Anu Verma, Secretary of the Worldwide Publisher's Association. Write an invitation to Mr. Aravindan Choudhary, requesting him to inaugurate the World Book Fair on December 26, 20XX, at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

Ans.

Worldwide Publisher's Association takes immense pleasure in inviting Mr. Aravindhian Choudhary to inaugurate the World Book Fair on December 26, 20XX at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. Awaiting a favourable response from your end.

RSVP

Anu Verma

Secretary

Worldwide Publisher's Association.

OR

B. You are Ritu Sharma of 29A, Nirman Vihar, New Delhi and you have received an Invitation from your friend Jaimy Jackson to attend the Christmas Party on December 24, 20XX, at 5-45, Green Park. Write a reply accepting the invitation.

Ans.

29/A Nirman Vihar
New Delhi

15 December 20XX

Dear Jaimy Jackson

Thank you for inviting me to attend your Christmas party on December 24, 20XX, at 5-45, Green Park. I am absolutely delighted to accept your kind invitation. Eagerly looking forward to rejoicing with you in the auspicious celebration of Christmas.

Wishing you a wonderful holiday.

With warm wishes,

Ritu Sharma

5. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below in about 120-150 words.

A. You are Shilpa/Sameer living in Hyderabad. You have just completed your graduation and are looking for a job. While browsing through the Hindustan Times of 6th October 20XX, you come across the following advertisement. Choose a post for which you think you are suitable and send your application in response to this advertisement.

Processing unit in Golagoan requires the following staff:

1. Food Technologist : 2 yrs Degree/Diploma in food technology having 1-2 years Lab Experience.
2. Accountant : B.Com with minimum experience of 4-5 years in a Manufacturing concern and conversant with sales tax laws
3. Receptionist : Female candidate fluent in English with good communication skills and proficiency in computer with 2-3 years' experience.

Ans. 27 Vayu Vihar
Hyderabad
8 Oct., 20XX
The Manager
Food Processing Unit
Golagoan

Subject: Application for the post of Receptionist

Sir/Madam,

With reference to your advertisement in the Hindustan Times dated 6 October 20XX, I come to know that you are looking for a receptionist. I wish to offer myself as a suitable candidate for the aforesaid post. I have the required skill needed for it. My communication skills are excellent. As for my qualification, I have attached detailed biodata along with this application.

If given a chance, I assure you that I will give my best.

Hoping for your favourable response.

Yours truly,

Shilpa/Sameer

Encl. 1 Merit Certificates

2 Resume/ Biodata

Biodata

Name – Shilpa

Father’s Name – Deepak Kumar

Sex – Female

Date of Birth – 8 September 2002

Nationality – Indian

Marital Status – Single

Address – D 27 Vayu Vihar, Hyderabad

Contact No – 981034678

Educational Qualification:

	Name of Examination	Year of Passing	Name of Board	Pass Percentage
1.	AISSE	2018	CBSE	75
2.	AISSCE	2020	CBSE	73
3.	BFA	2022	BA	78

Languages known – Hindi, English

Skills and Strengths – Computer literate, fluent in English, good soft skills and communication skills, good in dealing with people.

References

(i) Sh. V. Anand, H.O.D. English Department, Anurag University, Hyderabad

(ii) Sh. R.K. Sareen, Advisor, University of Hyderabad

Shilpa

OR

B. You are really concerned about the ways in which the advertisements in the media are targeting children for their own ends. As Nila/ Nilay, write a letter to the editor of a national daily protesting strongly against this hard-core marketing. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this letter.

- Influences buying decisions
- Eating disorders
- Materialistic feelings
- Dangerous stunts

Vikaspuri, New Delhi

15 July 20XX

The Editor

The Hindustan Times

B – 34 Connaught Place

New Delhi 110001

Subject: Strong protest against the hard-core marketing targeted children

Sir,

Through the columns of your esteemed daily, I want to express my deep concern regarding the distressing and manipulative marketing practices targeted at children.

Children are vulnerable and easily get influenced by these techniques employed in advertising campaigns. Advertisers target children with the aim of promoting their products and making profits.

These techniques create desires and cravings in children, promote materialism and encourage excessive craving for non-essential goods. These advertisements exploit them emotionally, making them feel low if they can't have the latest products endorsed by celebrities. These strategies undermine parental authority and children's cognitive development. They can't distinguish between genuine needs and unnecessary desires.

Focus should be on using responsible advertisements which prioritise well-being of children. There should be comprehensive guidelines for advertising content ensuring that these are aligned with ethical standards.

It is the moral obligation of all parents to protect children from this menace and create an environment that promotes their holistic well-being.

Yours sincerely,

Nila

6. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below in about 120-150 words.

A. Your School Commerce Association organised a seminar for class XII students of the schools of your zone on the topic, 'Rising prices create a crisis'. As coordinator of the programme, write a report in 120-150 words for your school magazine. You are Piyush/Priya of APC School Agra.

Ans.

THE RISING PRICES – A LOOMING CRISIS

By Priya/Piyush

15 June, 20XX, APC School, Agra: A seminar on the topic "The Rising Prices Create a Crisis" was organized by Commerce Association of the Vidyalaya for students of class XII on 8 July 20XX in the school auditorium. The speaker was the renowned economist Mr. Jai Kishore Bansal.

In the inaugural speech, the principal gave a warm welcome speech apprising the students of the achievements of the guest. Then Mr. Bansal addressed the students and talked about the causes, consequences, and potential solutions to this crisis of rising prices.

He explained that surge in prices can be attributed to many factors like inflation, imbalance in supply and demand, and fluctuation in energy costs, transportation etc.

He elaborated on the consequences, due to unabated price rise which were challenging, leading to poverty, inequality, and reduced standard of living.

He coaxed the students to come up with ideas that could provide solutions, thus making it an interactive and lively session. Students also willingly participated and suggested that enhancing productivity, consumer education, and price regulation could be some of the solutions to the issue of rising prices.

Mr. Bansal was impressed by the sharp responses of the students. He concluded his talk by saying that it is crucial that we remain informed and engaged and advocate for responsible economic policies that take care of all members of society.

The seminar ended with a vote of thanks advocated by Mr. Jha, Head of the Department of Commerce.

OR

B. We often read news on how patients from abroad come to hospitals in India and get themselves treated at a fraction of expenses they will have incurred elsewhere.

As a columnist for a health magazine, draft an article in about 120-150 words, describing the importance of medical tourism for India. You are Piyush/Priya.

Ans.

INDIA: A GLOBAL HEALTHCARE DESTINATION

By Priya/Piyush

India is a leading destination for medical tourism. With its advanced infrastructure, worldclass medical facilities and skilled doctors, it has become a preferred choice for patients seeking quality treatment at affordable cost.

Medical tourism is important, and it offers benefits to both patients as well as the healthcare centres. The reason why patients choose India for their treatment is the cost effectiveness of the treatment. It is 60 to 80 % cheaper here without making any compromise on quality. Patients get excellent medical care and advanced treatment which is at par with global standards.

Renowned for its pool of highly skilled doctors, India has gained international recognition because of its doctors' expertise. To add to this, India offers treatments and procedures across various disciplines like cardiology, orthopaedics, oncology, cosmetic surgery etc.

Above all in India medical tourists benefit because patients waiting time is minimal due to wide network of health professionals. This allows patients to receive timely treatment and facilitates a faster recovery process.

With further advancement in healthcare technology and the government support, India is poised to further enhance its position as a global hub for medical tourism.

Section – C LITERATURE : TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.

A. *When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie
Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by.
The tigers in the panel that she made
Will go on prancing round and round the floor.*

(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

- i. What is the tone of the poet in the above lines?
- A. Aggressive
 - B. Hopeful
 - C. Resigned
 - D. Sarcastic

Ans. B. Hopeful

ii. Fill the blank with an appropriate word/phrase, with reference to the extract.
These lines show the _____ by married women

Ans. Oppression endured (Any other relevant)

- iii. Which one of these phrases uses the poetic device used in "her terrified hands?"
- A. admiring bog
 - B. walking stick
 - C. concerned eyes
 - D. counting heads

Ans. C. concerned eyes

- iv. Aunt Jennifer created tigers to show:
- A. Her strength and ability of not giving up in the face of difficulties
 - B. Her fears and doubts
 - C. Her courage
 - D. None

Ans. A. Her strength and ability of not giving up in the face of difficulties

v. 'Strutting' can replace which word in the extract?

Ans. prancing

vi. Identify the phrase from the extract, that suggests the following:

Aunt Jennifer is subdued by patriarchal society.

Ans. 'Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by.'

OR

B. *A thing of beauty is a joy forever
Its loveliness increases, it will never
Pass into nothingness, but will keep
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep
Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing.
Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing
A flowery band to bind us to the earth.*

(A Thing of Beauty)

i. What do we need on this earth to make our life less gloomy?

Ans. Beautiful things

ii. Choose the option that lists the correct answers for the following:

1. What can a thing of beauty provide us?
 2. How does time affect a thing of beauty?
- A. i. Constant worry. ii. Its loveliness decreases.
B. i. Unending pain. ii. It loses its charm.
C. i. Everlasting joy. ii. Its loveliness increases
D. iv. Temporary happiness. ii. It fades gradually

Ans. C. i. Everlasting joy ii. Its loveliness increases

iii. What sort of place is a bower?

Ans. A pleasant place in the shade of trees

iv. Which poetic device has been used in the line:

"A flowery band to bind us to the earth."

- A. Metaphor C. Personification
B. Alliteration D. Simile

Ans. B. Alliteration

v. Identify the phrase/line which says that it is non-verbal.

Ans. 'it will never pass into nothingness'.

vi. Why do we need a flowery band?

- A. To look beautiful
B. To pass into nothingness
C. To tie ourselves to the mighty dead
D. To continue our lives happily despite the sadness that surrounds us.

Ans. D. To continue our lives happily despite the sadness that surrounds us.

8. Read the given extracts and answer the question for ANY ONE of two extracts given.

A. He said I was unhappy. That made my wife kind of mad, but he explained that he meant the modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry and all the rest of it, and that I just want to escape. Well, who doesn't? Everybody I know wants to escape, but they don't wander down into any third level at Grand Central Station. But that's the reason, he said, and my friends all agreed. Everything points to it, they claimed. My stamp collecting, for example that's a 'temporary refuge from reality'.

i. Complete the sentence:

Charley was unhappy with _____

Ans. life

ii. Select the option that signifies the condition of people of the 'modern world' mentioned in the extract.

1. Unsure 3. Offensive 5. Afraid
2. Lazy 4. Anxious
A. 1 and 3 B. 2 and 5 C. 2, 3 and 4 D. 1, 4 and 5

Ans. D. 1, 4 and 5

iii. Identify and write a phrase from the passage which means the same as 'imagination'

Ans. 'temporary refuge from reality'

iv. 'Everybody I know wants to escape'. This line does not suggest _____

- A. a calculated response to emotional survival
B. the habitual distractions offering solace

- C. contribution to a pleasant work environment
- D. that escaping is the equivalent to "flight"

Ans. C. contribution to a pleasant work environment

OR

B. You are well," Sadao agreed. He lowered his voice. "You are so well that I think if I put my boat on the shore tonight, with food and extra clothing in it, you might be able to row to that little island not far from the coast. It is so near the coast that it has not been worth fortifying. Nobody lives on it because in storm it is submerged. But this is not the season of storm. You could live there until you saw a Korean fishing boat pass by. They pass quite near the island because the water is many fathoms deep there." The young man stared at him, slowly comprehending. "Do I have to?" he asked. "I think so," Sadao said gently. "You understand - it is not hidden that you are here."

i. The tone of the speaker in the expression "Do I have to?" is

- (i) fear (ii) compassion (iii) doubt (iv) irritation
- A. Options (i) and (ii) C. Options (i) and (iii)
- B. Options (ii) and (iv) D. All of these

Ans. C. Options (i) and (iii)

ii. "It is so near the coast that it has not been worth fortifying". This line indicates that the place is

- A. ideal for accommodation C. surrounded by a fort
- B. left uncared for D. preserved

Ans. B. the place is left uncared for

iii. The young man stared at him, slowly comprehending _____
What did he comprehend?

Ans. that Sadao wants him to escape / to save him

iv. Complete the sentence appropriately, with reference to the extract.

Dr. Sadao was not only a skilled surgeon but also a man with _____

Ans. humane values

9. Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.

A. Then he opened a grammar and read us our lesson. I was amazed to see how well I understood it. All he said seemed so easy, so easy I think, too, that I had never listened so carefully, and that he had never explained everything with so much patience. I seemed almost as if the poor man wanted to give us all he knew before going away, and to put it all into our heads at one stroke.

i. What did M. Hamel intend to do?

- A. Wanted to feed everything into their mind
- B. Wanted to make them feel the importance of mother tongue
- C. Wanted to teach them everything he could
- D. All the above

Ans. D. All the above

ii. The teacher was going away as _____.

Ans. French was not taught anymore.

iii. Why do you think the narrator understood the lesson so well?

- A. Because the lesson was very easy.
- B. Because it was the last lesson.
- C. Because the narrator listened silently.
- D. Because the teacher explained patiently and the narrator listened carefully.

Ans. D. Because the teacher explained patiently and the narrator listened carefully.

iv. Identify and write an antonym of 'haste' from the passage

Ans. Patience

v. Find the odd one out from the following.

- A. The lesson was very easy. C. Franz was surprised.
- B. The teacher didn't explain the lesson. D. The teacher delivered the last lesson.

Ans. B. The teacher didn't explain the lesson.

vi. How did the teacher deliver his last lesson?

feel awkward with people clamouring to get acquainted with them. Though art, it can lead to loss of freedom to move in public as a non-entity.

vi. According to Pablo Neruda "a huge silence" can interrupt two things. What are they? (Keeping quiet)
 Ans. According to Pablo Neruda, a huge silence can prevent human beings from becoming megalomaniacs rushing into committing destructive activities, causing danger to themselves and the world, and creating unhappiness.

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40-50 words each.

i. What is the author's indirect comment on subjecting innocent animals to the willfulness of human beings? (The Tiger King)

Ans. Kalki indirectly comments on subjecting innocent animals to unwarranted cruelty due to the thoughtlessness of human beings through the character of Maharaja, who takes upon himself the mission of killing hundred tigers on the basis of an astrologer's prediction that he will die because of the hundredth tiger.

ii. "In spite of myself, I was carried downstairs and tied fast in a chair." Why do you think the author uses the expression "In spite of myself..." here? (Memories of Childhood)

Ans. Zitkala-Sa refused to give in to the forceful cutting of her long hair. She tried to hide. And when she was caught, she resisted by kicking and scratching. In spite of all her efforts, she was forcefully dragged out of the room, tied fast in a chair and her hair was cut.

iii. 'Take care of small things and the big things will take care of themselves'. What is the relevance of this statement in the context of the Antarctic environment?

Ans. The statement refers to the importance of single celled plants called phytoplankton which are found in Antarctic Ocean. They sustain the entire food chain. The depletion in the ozone layer could be very harmful and affect the activities of these plants leading to endangering the rest of the food chain. In turn this might upset the Global carbon cycle too.

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words.

A. The text 'Indigo' expresses the value of freedom and Indians' fight for freedom. How would you define freedom? Taking references from the chapter, compose a draft to address your peers and share your views in the morning assembly of your school.

You may begin this way.
Good morning, everyone...

I stand here to speak about a fundamental concept which is the core of our existence: FREEDOM.

Ans. Good morning, everyone.
Today I am here to speak about a concept that lies at the core of our existence – FREEDOM. The lesson 'Indigo' shows the value of freedom.

Freedom can be defined as the power or right to act, speak or think without any restriction. The lesson Indigo brings to light the struggle for freedom endured by indigo farmers during colonial era. Farmers were exploited and denied their basic rights. It also portrays their indomitable spirit to fight for freedom.

In fact, freedom extends beyond political boundaries. It affects various aspects of our life – intellectual, social and emotional and dignified livelihood. It empowers us to express our opinion, pursue our dreams and live a life of dignity.

However, with freedom comes responsibility. We must use our freedom to uplift and support one another creating an inclusive and harmonious environment.

The lesson reminds us that freedom is not easily won. It requires courage and perseverance. Let us all strive to uphold and protect the cherished freedom in our lives and lives of others.

Thank you.

OR

B. Most of us do not raise our voice against injustice in our society and tend to remain mute spectators. Anees Jung in her story Lost Spring highlights the miserable life of street children and bangle makers of Firozabad.

As Anees Jung makes an appeal to the people to wake up and act against the injustice.

You may begin:

Dear citizens

I write to you today.....

Ans. Dear citizens,

I write to you today as Anees Jung, inspired by the story of Lost Spring. This tale sheds light on the heart-breaking realities faced by children and bangle makers in our society. It urges us to break our silence and awaken our conscience and help the downtrodden.

There are countless children who are deprived of cosy and well-fed childhood, education, and basic rights. They are trapped in a vicious circle of poverty and deprivation. They are not able to break the shackles because of iron grip of unfortunate circumstances.

Hence, we all need to raise our voice on the issue and support organisations working to improve their lives. Volunteer your time, skills, and resources to uplift these unfortunate urchins.

In conclusion, I implore everyone to take a stand for the downtrodden. Let us break free from the chain of indifference. Together we can bring light to the lives of those deprived of basic rights.

Yours sincerely,

Anees Jung

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words.

A. Imagine Tom reaches home safely. He has fully recovered, and the war has now come to an end. He owes his life to Sadao and Hana and is forever indebted to them. Years later, he pens down his thoughts recounting the tribulations and the experience of being granted a new life by a Japanese couple. As Tom, write down the diary entry in about 120-150 words. (The Enemy)

Ans. 20 May, 20XX

Sunday

It has been years since the war ended. As I sit here, I feel overwhelming sense of gratitude for the couple who saved my life – Sadao and Hana.

I vividly remember the time when I had sustained wounds in war, there was no hope left for me. But fate helped, leading me to the doorstep of Sadao and Hana.

Sadao, a skilled Japanese surgeon, and Hana, his wife took me in despite the risks they faced harboring an enemy soldier. Through countless surgeries, painful rehabilitation, and support, Sadao led me to the path of recovery. Hana, his wife fully supported him. I owe them my life.

Years have passed since those days of tribulation but I am very grateful that I personally witnessed the healing power of humanity. By writing this diary entry, I want to honor their memory and wish that humanity may always win!

With gratitude and renewed sense of faith in humanity,

Tom

OR

B. The lesson On the Face of It, is primarily concerned with the issues of human connection and alienation. It also teaches us how human attitude and behaviour can change a person's life. Derry's perspective of life undergoes a sea change after meeting Mr Lamb. He reflects how his chance meeting with Mr Lamb has blessed his life.

As Derry, pen down your thoughts and write a diary.

Ans. Dear diary,

Today, I find myself reflecting on the incredible impact that Mr. Lamb had on my life. I feel deep gratitude and admiration towards him. When I first met him, I was skeptical. But something about his warm smile and gentle demeanor compelled me to engage in conversation. As the conversation unfolded, I found immense kindness and wisdom in him. He could see beyond the surface and connect with others on a profound level.

I found the power of empathy and understanding in his conversations. He treated me as an equal who deserved all the love, respect, and happiness. He not only changed my perspective of life but also opened my heart to possibilities of genuine human connection.

Now I am way above the world of judgement and isolation. I feel fulfilled and will strive to be a beacon of light for others as he has been for me.

Derry

□□



Sample Paper

English Core

Section-A Reading Skills

I. Read the following text.

"How about if I sleep a little bit longer and forget all this nonsense", he thought, but that was something he was unable to do because he was used to sleeping on his right, and in his present state couldn't get into that position. However hard he threw himself onto his right, he always rolled back to where he was. He must have tried it a hundred times, shut his eyes so that he wouldn't have to look at the floundering legs, and only stopped when he began to feel a mild, dull pain there that he had never felt before. "Oh, God", he thought, "what a strenuous career it is that I've chosen! Traveling day in and day out. Doing business like this takes much more effort than doing your own business at home, and on top of that there's the curse of traveling, worries about making train connections, bad and irregular food, contact with different people all the time so that you can never get to know anyone or become friendly with them. It can all go to Hell!" He felt a slight itch up on his belly; pushed himself slowly up on his back towards the headboard so that he could lift his head better; found where the itch was, and saw that it was covered with lots of little white spots which he didn't know what to make of; and when he tried to feel the place with one of his legs he drew it quickly back because as soon as he touched it he was overcome by a cold shudder.

He slid back into his former position. "Getting up early all the time", he thought, "it makes you stupid. You've got to get enough sleep. Other traveling salesmen live a life of luxury. For instance, whenever I go back to the guest house during the morning to copy out the contract, these gentlemen are always still sitting there eating their breakfasts. I ought to just try that with my boss; I'd get kicked out on the spot. But who knows, maybe that would be the best thing for me. If I didn't have my parents to think about I'd have given in my notice a long time ago, I'd have gone up to the boss and told him just what I think, tell him everything I would, let him know just what I feel. He'd fall right off his desk! And it's a funny sort of business to be sitting up there at your desk, talking down to your subordinates from up there, especially when you have to go right up close because the boss is hard of hearing. Well, there's still some hope; once I've got the money together to pay off my parents' debt to him - another five or six years I suppose - that's definitely what I'll do. That's when I'll make the big change. First of all though, I've got to get up, my train leaves at five."

Adapted-An excerpt from "The Metamorphosis" by Franz Kafka 494 words.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. Select an option which describes the narrator's condition best from the phrase "what a strenuous career it is that I've chosen"
 - A. Lethargy
 - B. Dilemma
 - C. Career Consciousness
 - D. Job dissatisfaction

Ans. D. Job dissatisfaction

- ii. What is the significance of words like: "floundering legs", "slight itch up on his belly" used in the above extract with respect to the narrator?
 - A. Narrator is lazy
 - B. Narrator is flexible
 - C. Narrator is facing some physical ailment
 - D. Narrator does not want to leave for the office

Ans. C. Narrator is facing some physical ailment

- iii. Share evidence from the text, in about 40 words to support the view that the writer's writing style is introspective and stream-of-consciousness narrative.

- s. The evidence that supports the writing style being introspective and stream-of-consciousness includes the passage's focus on the character's thoughts, the direct portrayal of the character's inner monologue, and the fluid transition between different ideas and observations without clear delineation.

v. Complete the sentence appropriately with a characteristic or its description.

Based on the information given in the excerpt, one can infer that the narrator is getting late struggling

is. To get out of its bed.

v. Select the option which is synonymous with the word "floundering"

- A. Infirmary B. Struggling C. Energetic D. Calm

is. B. Struggling

ii. Explain, in about 40 words, why the author thinks that his job is strenuous.

is. The author believes his job is strenuous due to the constant traveling, the effort required to conduct business away from home, the challenges of making train connections, irregular food, and the inability to form meaningful relationships.

ii. In a line "...touched it he was overcome by a cold shudder" what does the phrase "cold shudder" mean?

is. Cold shudder is a shaking movement you make because you are cold or have a feeling of fear or horror.

ii. How does the character's perception of his job describe his aspirations for change?

is. The character's perception of his job as strenuous fuels his desire for a different career and influences his attitude towards work, leading him to contemplate making a drastic change and expressing frustration with his current circumstances.

ix. Read the five headlines (a) -(e), given below and identify the option that displays the headline/s that corresponds best with occurrences in the passage.

- A. Journey of frustration C. A yearning for change
B. Salesman's struggle with sleep D. An adventure of a salesman

is. C. A yearning for change

2. Read the following text.

1. Food insecurity remains a pressing social issue, affecting millions of people worldwide. Let's examine compelling statistics and data that underscore the urgency of sustainable solutions to combat hunger and malnutrition.

2. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), approximately 690 million people, or 8.9% of the global population, suffered from chronic hunger in 2021. This figure represents a stark reminder of the persistent challenges faced by vulnerable communities in accessing sufficient, nutritious food.

3. The World Food Programme (WFP) estimated that the number of people facing acute food insecurity will increase by 20% in 2020, with approximately 155 million people falling into crisis-level hunger. This alarming rise underscores the need for immediate action to address the underlying causes of food insecurity.

4. A key aspect of tackling food insecurity is ensuring sustainable agricultural practices. According to the FAO, sustainable agriculture can increase food production by 58% globally, offering the potential to feed the growing population while preserving the environment. Embracing techniques such as agroecology, precision farming, and climate-smart agriculture can enhance yields, promote biodiversity, and mitigate the impacts of climate change on agricultural systems.

5. In addition, supporting small-scale farmers is crucial in addressing food insecurity. Smallholder farmers, who represent the majority of farmers in developing countries, play a vital role in food production. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) reports that investments in smallholder agriculture can yield up to four times the return in reducing poverty compared to other sectors. Empowering smallholder farmers through access to credit, training, and technology can enhance their productivity, income, and resilience to food insecurity.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

i. Infer possible ways that the survey, mentioned in the above extract, could be beneficial for an ordinary citizen. Answer in about 40 words.

is. The survey mentioned in the extract can be beneficial for an ordinary citizen by raising awareness about the magnitude of food insecurity, fostering empathy, and encouraging individuals to contribute to local initiatives or support organizations that combat hunger and promote sustainable agriculture. The survey can also provide insights into the importance of reducing food waste, inspiring individuals to adopt mindful consumption habits, minimize personal food waste, and actively participate in initiatives that redistribute surplus food to those in need, thereby fostering a sense of social responsibility.

- ii. Which of the following statements about sustainable agriculture is the extract?
 - A. Sustainable agriculture can increase food production by 20% globally.
 - B. Sustainable agriculture has no impact on preserving the environment.
 - C. Smallholder farmers play a minor role in food production.
 - D. Investments in smallholder agriculture can yield significant returns in reducing poverty.
- Ans. D. Investments in smallholder agriculture can yield significant returns in reducing poverty.
- iii. What are some key strategies highlighted in the extract for addressing food insecurity and promoting sustainable solutions?
 - Ans. The key strategies highlighted in the extract include ensuring sustainable agricultural practices, embracing techniques such as agroecology, precision farming and climate-smart agriculture and in addition to this supporting small-scale farmers who can yield up to four times the return will promote to sustainable solutions to provide resilience and address food insecurity in a holistic way.
- iv. Identify which farmer can be identified as a smallholder farmer?
 - Hari primarily focuses on cash crops for commercial purposes.
 - Raghu cultivates a variety of crops and relies on traditional farming practices.
- Ans. Raghu is a smallholder farmer.
- v. Which of the following global issues does the provided extract primarily focus on addressing?
 - A. Climate change mitigation
 - B. Water scarcity
 - C. Food insecurity
 - D. Education inequality
- Ans. C. Food insecurity
- vi. What can we infer from this data published by the Food and Agriculture Organization: ...approximately 690 million people, or 8.9% of the global population, suffered from chronic hunger in 2021.
 - Ans. This fact indicates that a significant proportion of vulnerable communities face chronic hunger. This underscores ongoing challenges related to food security, poverty, and inequalities. Addressing this issue remains crucial for sustainable development, as hunger has severe health, social, and economic implication, requiring continued efforts to ensure equitable access to nourishing food.
- vii. Complete the sentence appropriately: Sustainable agriculture is crucial because it promotes _____.
 - Ans. Sustainable agriculture is crucial because it promotes long-term environmental rewards, enhances food security, preserves biodiversity, and mitigates the impacts of climate change.
- viii. State TRUE or FALSE
 - Based on the given extract, sustainable agriculture can contribute to reducing poverty and improving livelihoods for smallholder farmers.
- Ans. TRUE

Section-B

Creative Writing Skills

Note : All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

- 3. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below, in about 50 words.
 - A. The students of the Global Academy have recently created a dedicated area: Craft Space for local art and crafts adjacent to the library of the school. As the President of the Art Club, you are tasked with drafting a notice for the school notice board inviting students in classes IX-XII to submit their ideas for how you can further promote cultural exchange and diversity on campus.

Ans.

Global Academy
NOTICE

25 July 20XX

Welcome to Craft Space

As part of commitment to cultural exchange and diversity, we have recently created a dedicated area: Craft Space for local art and crafts adjacent to the library of our school. We are inviting students from classes IX-XII to submit their ideas for how we can further promote cultural exchange and diversity on campus in our dedicated Craft Space. Please contact the undersigned regarding this.

Shubham Gill
President,
Art Club

OR

- B. The students of the Liberty International Campus have recently created a dedicated online discussion forum: Social Justice Club (socialjusticeclub.in) for local activism and advocacy. As the President of the Social Justice Club, you are tasked with drafting a notice for the school notice board inviting students to submit their application for forum moderator who can run campaigns to promote social justice and equality.

Liberty International Campus
NOTICE

August 01, 20XX

Social Justice Club

As part of our commitment to social justice and equality, we have recently created a dedicated online discussion forum: *Social Justice Club* accessible @socialjusticeclub.in for local activism and advocacy. We are inviting students to submit their application to be the forum moderators who can run campaigns to promote social justice and equality on this forum. For any query, contact the undersigned.

Rashi
President,
Social Justice Club

4. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below in about 50 words.
- A. You are the Student Head, Cultural Affairs, at Xavier Sr. Sec. School. Your school is organising a 2day-seminar: Screen 'Free Kids, Healthy Kids', to create awareness about increasing phone screen addiction among kids and their potential dangers. Create an invitation, inviting the school parents for this seminar. Share information about the camp organizers and include other necessary details.

Ans.

'Screen Free Kids, Healthy Kids'
Seminar to create awareness about
increasing phone screen addiction among kids

Date: 21 May 20XX
Time: 07:00 p.m.
Venue: School Auditorium, Xavier Sr. Sec. School
Address: 123 Main Street, Kolkata

Special Guest: Dr. Jane Miller, Renowned Child Psychologist

We invite you to join us for an informative seminar, "Screen Free Kids, Healthy Kids," organised by Xavier Sr. Sec. School. This seminar aims to create awareness about the increasing phone screen addiction among kids and the potential dangers associated with it. Gain valuable insights from our special guest, Dr. Jane Miller, and contribute to building a healthier digital lifestyle for our children. Join us for an engaging discussion on this critical topic. Your presence and participation will be highly appreciated!

We look forward to welcoming you to the seminar.

Xavier Sr. Sec. School

OR

- B. Mr. Ravi Sharma, your grandfather, has received an invitation from his childhood friend residing in the same city. The invite is for the housewarming ceremony and celebratory dinner marking the purchase of his friend's new home. Your grandfather wishes to attend the event but would need to be accompanied by a family member to assist him with his walker. Write an informal reply accepting this invitation on behalf of your grandfather.

243 BMK, Kalkaji,
New Delhi
19 June 2023

Dear Uncle,

Thank you so much for the kind invitation to your housewarming ceremony and celebratory dinner. It warms my heart to know that you have purchased a new home, and I am truly delighted for you. I am pleased to inform you that my grandfather, Mr. Ravi Sharma, would be honoured to attend the event. However, due to his mobility constraints, he would require assistance with his walk. Therefore, I will accompany him to ensure his comfort and safety throughout the evening. We are eagerly looking forward to joining you in celebrating this joyous occasion. It will be a wonderful opportunity for my grandfather to reconnect with his childhood friend and reminisce about old memories.

Your lovingly,
Raghav Sharma

5. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below in about 120-150 words.
- A. You are Rhea Patel, a fresh graduate of sound engineering, from the National Institute of Sound Engineering, New Delhi. You saw the given advertisement in the newspaper and wish to apply for the post advertised. Write a letter to Serenade Audio, along with your bio-data, expressing your interest in the advertised post.

Serenade Audio
Audio Engineers Wanted
Opportunity for aspiring Audio Engineers
Who Do We Need?
Freshers, Experienced Professionals
Requirement: Degree/Diploma in Sound Engineering
Skills: Adobe audition, high quality audio production and exceptional communication

Please send your resume to - Serenade Office - 11 Maharani
Bagh, New Delhi, Latest by xx-July-2023

Ans. 123 Main Street
New Delhi, 110001
19 July, 20XX
Serenade Audio
456 CR Park,
New Delhi, 110002

Subject: Application for the post of Audio Engineer

Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my keen interest for the post of audio engineer advertised in the newspaper by Serenade Audio. As a recent graduate of sound engineering from the National Institute of Sound Engineering, New Delhi, I believe that my skills, knowledge, and passion for sound engineering make me an ideal candidate for this role.

Upon seeing the advertisement, I was immediately drawn to the opportunity to work with a reputable audio company like Serenade Audio. The description of the position aligns perfectly with my educational background and professional aspirations. I am confident that my qualifications and dedication would make a positive contribution to your esteemed organization.

Enclosed with this letter, you will find my bio-data, providing a detailed profile of my professional achievements. Here is a summary of my qualifications and experience that I believe are relevant to the advertised position:

- **Educational Qualifications:** Bachelor's degree in Sound Engineering from the National Institute of Sound. Knowledge of audio production, acoustics, recording techniques, and sound design.
- **Internship Experience:** Completed a six-month internship at a renowned recording studio, where I gained hands-on experience in recording, editing, mixing, and mastering audio.
- **Technical Skills:** Pro Tools, Adobe Audition, Audacity, Cubase and mixing consoles. I also have a strong understanding of signal flow, microphone techniques, and studio setup.
- **References:** I am happy to provide references upon request from my professors and industry professionals who can vouch for my technical skills, work ethic, and dedication to sound engineering.

I am excited about the opportunity to contribute my skills and enthusiasm to Serenade Audio. I look forward to the opportunity of being part of Serenade Audio's talented team. Please find my enclosed bio-data for further details.

Thanking you,
Yours sincerely,
Rhea Patel

Biodata:
About:
Rhea Patel
Phone: 91XXXXXXXX
E-mail: rhea.patel@email.com

Profile Summary:
An innovative sound engineer with a passion for sound editing and music production.

- Skills:**
- Audio production
 - Acoustics
 - Recording Techniques, and
 - Sound design

Education Qualifications:
Sound Engineering from National Institute of Sound, New Delhi (20XX)

Internship Details:
Six-month internship at GenX Studios as assistant sound engineer.

Reference:
Professor: Nitin Singh (contact: 91XXXXXXXX)
Professor: Satish Singh (contact: 91XXXXXXXX)

Declaration:
I hereby declare that the information provided by me is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.
Signature

OR

B. Despite being indispensable, many people do not respect traffic signals and fail to follow traffic rules, which results in hazardous situations on the roads. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily, sharing your concern and examining the reasons for such behavior. Provide suggestions for spreading awareness of rules and etiquettes involved and ways to ensure adherence. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this letter. You are Rohit Kumar, a concerned city resident.

- Lack of respect for traffic signals
- Risk to public safety
- Inadequate enforcement of traffic rules
- Need for awareness campaigns
- Imposition of penalties and fines
- Revoking driving licenses, etc.

Ans. The Editor,
Gyan Jyoti,
12, Sanjay Place,
Meerut

Subject: Concerns Regarding Disregard for Traffic Signals and Road Safety
Sir/Madam

I am writing to express my worry regarding the prevalent lack of respect for traffic signals and the failure to comply with traffic rules, which is leading to hazardous situations on our roads. This disregard for traffic signals poses a significant risk to public safety and must be addressed urgently. One of the main reasons for this behavior is the lack of awareness regarding the significance of traffic signals.

Many individuals are unaware of the purpose and importance of traffic signals in regulating traffic flow and ensuring the safety of all road users. Additionally, ignorance and carelessness towards following traffic rules contribute to road rages too.

Also, the inadequate enforcement of existing laws related to road safety further deteriorates the situation. The consequences of this disregard for traffic signals and road safety are far-reaching. It leads to an increased risk of accidents, injuries, and fatalities on our roads. It disrupts the smooth flow of traffic, causing congestion and delays.

To address this issue effectively, it is crucial to launch comprehensive awareness campaigns that educate the public about traffic rules and etiquettes. These campaigns should be conducted through various channels, including public spaces, educational institutions, and media platforms. Informative pamphlets, posters, and videos highlighting the consequences of not following traffic signals can be distributed widely to increase awareness and understanding.

Further, strict enforcement of traffic rules is essential to ensure adherence. Penalties and fines should be imposed on individuals who violate traffic rules and do not respect traffic signals. In severe cases, driving licenses should be revoked to discourage reckless behavior. To facilitate effective enforcement, it is crucial to strengthen our traffic police force, providing them with the necessary resources and technology to monitor and enforce traffic rules.

Thanking you,
Yours truly,
Rohit Kumar

6. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below in about 120-150 words.

A. You are Ayesha Khan of class XII-A. Write an article for your school magazine, sharing the importance of teenagers as volunteers in one's local community, the need to do so, and the benefits involved. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this article.

- Which volunteer programme?
 - Purpose of the launch event
 - It's importance
 - Activities that took place
 - Who attended?
- Any key messages delivered?
 - How were teenagers encouraged to join the volunteer programme?
 - Any resources and information provided to attendees?
 - Any insight into follow-up activities planned?
 - What impact is expected to be achieved in the community?

Ans.

Empowering Teenagers
By Ayesha Khan XII-A

Our school recently launched the "Youth for Change" volunteer program, aiming to emphasize the importance of young adults actively participating in their local community. The grand launch event brought together community leaders, educators, and enthusiastic students. Key messages of selflessness, empathy, and responsibility were delivered, encouraging attendees to join the cause.

Engaging activities, such as workshops and success stories, motivated students to embrace volunteerism. Resource booths provided information on opportunities and guidance for involvement. Follow-up activities, including training sessions and community outreach, were announced to ensure ongoing support for volunteers.

Through this program, we expect to foster a culture of empathy and social responsibility. Education, environmental sustainability, and support for the underprivileged are areas where we anticipate positive impacts. Together, let's become catalysts for change in our local community. This program has inspired multitudes to join the "Youth for Change" volunteer program and make a difference.

OR

B. As Sunitha J, the local correspondent of the "Neighbourhood Connect" newsletter, wrote a report covering the launch of the community mentoring initiative for teenagers in and around the Udyog Vihaar neighbourhood, organised by the R.W.A (Resident Welfare Association) on January 18, 2023. Use the provided outline cues to craft your report.

- Launching community mentoring for teenagers
- Participation of community leaders
- Providing guidance and support to teenagers
- Personal growth, skill development
- Nurturing the potential of young adults.

Ans. **Udyog Vihaar R.W.A Launches Community Mentoring Initiative for Teenagers**
By Sunitha J, Correspondent for "Neighbourhood Connect" Reporting

3rd May, 20XX, Udyog Vihaar, Delhi:

The Resident Welfare Association (R.W.A) of Udyog Vihaar launched a community mentoring initiative for teenagers on January 18, 2023. The program aims to provide guidance and support to teenagers, fostering personal and professional development.

The launch event witnessed the presence of community leaders, R.W.A members, and enthusiastic teenagers from the neighborhood. Speakers emphasized the significance of mentorship and highlighted the benefits it brings, such as personal growth, skill development, and increased self-confidence.

R.W.A President Mr. Sharma expressed his commitment to nurturing the potential of young adults and empowering them to achieve their goals. The community mentoring initiative is expected to have a profound impact on the personal and professional growth of the youth in Udyog Vihaar.

This program marks a new chapter in the neighborhood's efforts to uplift and support its teenagers. As the community comes together to mentor and inspire, a brighter future awaits Udyog Vihaar.

Section – C

LITERATURE : TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.

A. *The little old house was out with a little new shed
In front at the edge of the road where the traffic sped,
A roadside stand that too pathetically pled,
It would not be fair to say for a dole of bread,
But for some of the money, the cash, whose flow supports
The flowers of cities from sinking and withering faint.*

i. Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract?

- A. Prosperity
- B. Fun living in countryside
- C. Struggles of poverty
- D. Tourism for all

Ans. C. Struggles of poverty

ii. State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE, with reference to the extract.

"The little old house had a thriving business at the roadside stand."

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Ans. False

iii. Complete the sentence appropriately:

The little old house and the roadside stand depict a scene of _____.

Ans. Economic struggle and disparity.

iv. The use of the phrase 'flowers of the cities' creates a powerful imagery of _____

Ans. The use of the phrase 'flowers of the cities' creates a powerful imagery of the vibrant and delicate aspects of urban life, due to continuous flow of money and resources to thrive and prevent decay.

v. Based on the poem rhyme scheme, evident in lines 1-4, of the given extract, which word would rhyme with it among the following given choices?

- Ahead
- Sprint
- Cohort

Ans. Ahead

vi. In the given extract, which punctuation mark is used to indicate a contrasting element or a shift in thought?

A. Commas

B. Periods

C. Dashes

D. Parentheses

Ans. A. Commas

OR

*B. Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen,
 Bright topaz denizens of a world of green.
 They do not fear the men beneath the tree;
 They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.
 Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool
 Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.*

(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

i. What sense is being conveyed by the description of Aunt Jennifer's fluttering fingers and difficulty in pulling ivory needle:

- A. Aunt Jennifer herself may feel trapped in her own life
- B. Aunt Jennifer is a professional tailor
- C. Aunt Jennifer is a sewing enthusiast
- D. Aunt Jennifer doesn't like to sew

Ans. A. Aunt Jennifer herself may feel trapped in her own life

ii. What does the use of the word "fluttering" in Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool suggest?

Ans. Delicate and rapid movement.

iii. Select the interpretation that completely matches with the lines "Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen"

- A. There is a jungle beneath Aunt's house where tigers jumps.
- B. The pattern shows tigers who are moving and jumping around all over the fabric.
- C. Aunt Jennifer is domesticating a few tigers in her backyard.
- D. Aunt Jennifer is watching her favorite movie in which tigers are jumping.

Ans. B. The pattern shows tigers who are moving and jumping around all over the fabric.

iv. State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE.

Aunt Jennifer's tigers are depicted as fearless and unafraid of the men.

Ans. True

v. What message do these lines highlight, in the context of condition women?

Ans. The lines highlight the subjugation of women, the influence of gender roles, and the liberating aspects of imagination and escapism.

vi. Complete the sentence appropriately:

Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen, bright topaz denizens of a world of green, symbolising _____.

Ans. Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen, bright topaz denizens of a world of green, symbolising masculine strength and resilience against any social constraints.

8. Read the given extracts and answer the question for ANY ONE of two extracts given.

A. Antarctica, because of her simple ecosystem and lack of biodiversity, is the perfect place to study how little changes in the environment can have big repercussions. Take the microscopic phytoplankton – those grasses of the sea that nourish and sustain the entire Southern Ocean’s food chain. These single-celled plants use the sun’s energy to assimilate carbon and synthesize organic compounds in that wondrous and most important of processes called photosynthesis. Scientists warn that a further depletion in the ozone layer will affect the activities of phytoplankton, which in turn will affect the lives of all the marine animals and birds of the region, and the global carbon cycle.

(Journey to the End of the Earth)

- i. How does a further depletion in the ozone layer potentially impact the marine animals, birds, and global carbon cycle in Antarctica?
- ns. A depletion in the ozone layer can affect the activities of phytoplankton, which serve as the primary food source for marine animals and birds in Antarctica. This disruption in phytoplankton can have consequences on the entire marine ecosystem and the global carbon cycle.
- ii. Why is Antarctica described as a perfect place to study the environmental impact on ecosystems?
This is because _____
 - A. It is a perfect place to study potential consequences of little change on the entire ecosystem.
 - B. Due to its limited ecological significance.
 - C. Because of its high population density.
 - D. Not considered suitable for ecological research.
- ns. A. It is a perfect place to study potential consequences of little change on the entire ecosystem.
- iii. Phytoplankton, through the process of photosynthesis, are crucial for _____.
- ns. Phytoplankton, through the process of photosynthesis, are crucial for sustaining the entire Southern Ocean’s food chain and maintaining the balance of the marine ecosystem.
- iv. Give one reason why the writing style of the extract can be called informative.
- ns. The writing style of the extract can be called informative because it presents factual information about Antarctica, phytoplankton, and their environment in a clear and straightforward manner.

B. But he had to be extremely careful with that last tiger. What had the late chief astrologer said? “Even after killing ninety-nine tigers the Maharaja should beware of the hundredth...” True enough. The tiger was a savage beast after all. One had to be wary of it. But where was that hundredth tiger to be found? It seemed easier to find tiger’s milk than a live tiger. Thus the Maharaja was sunk in gloom. But soon came the happy news which dispelled that gloom. In his own state sheep began to disappear frequently from a hillside village.

- i. Complete the sentence appropriately.
The villagers suspected that the reason behind the missing sheep was _____?”
- ns. the presence of a tiger in the hillside village.
- ii. How many tigers did the Maharaja have to kill, according to the late chief astrologer’s advice?
 - A. 99 tigers
 - B. 100 tigers
 - C. 101 tigers
 - D. The advice did not specify a specific number of tigers.
- ns. B. 100 tigers
- iii. Which trait of tigers made the Maharaja and others cautious and wary?
 - ns. The ferocious nature of tigers.
- iv. How is the line, “It seemed easier to find tiger’s milk than a live tiger,” an example of contrast?
 - ns. The line is an example of contrast as it juxtaposes the difficulty of finding a live tiger with the comparative ease of finding something as rare and elusive as tiger’s milk.

9. Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.

A. My last French lesson! Why, I hardly knew how to write! I should never learn any more! I must stop there, then! Oh, how sorry I was for not learning my lessons, for seeking birds’ eggs, or going sliding on the Saar! My books, that had seemed such a nuisance a while ago, so heavy to carry, my grammar, and my history of the saints, were old friends now that I couldn’t give up. And M. Hamel,

too; the idea that he was going away, that I should never see him again, made me forget all about the ruler and how cranky he was. (The Last Lesson)

- i. List any two things that the narrator regrets not doing in the given extract.

Ans. Learning the lessons

Considering books a nuisance.

- ii. Why does the protagonist feel a sense of nostalgia and regret in the given extract?

- A. Because their books were heavy to carry.
- B. Because they didn't know how to write in French.
- C. Because M. Hamel was going away and they would never see him again.
- D. Because they were unable to slide on the Saar.

Ans. C. Because M. Hamel was going away and they would never see him again.

- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately:

The protagonist's books, which were once a nuisance, became _____.

Ans. old friends.

- iv. Pick evidence from the extract that helps one infer that the protagonist regrets his past choices.

Ans. The line "Oh, how sorry I was for not learning my lessons, for seeking birds' eggs, or going sliding on the Saar!" suggests that the protagonist regrets his past choices and activities.

- v. Who does the term "M. Hamel" refer to in the given extract?

Ans. The term "M. Hamel" indicates the name of the protagonist's French teacher.

- vi. Which of the following headlines best suggests the central idea of the extract?

- A. Rediscovering the Pleasure of Education
- B. The Weight of Learning and its Rewards
- C. Fond Farewell to a Beloved Mentor
- D. Reflections on Farewell

Ans. D. Reflections on Farewell

OR

B. "Why not organise ourselves into a cooperative?" I ask a group of young men who have fallen in the vicious circle of middlemen who oppress their fathers and forefathers. "Even if we get organised we are the ones who will be hauled up by the police, beaten and dragged to jail for doing something illegal," they say. There is no leader among them, no one who could help them see things differently. Their fathers are as tired as they are. They talk endlessly in a spiral that moves from poverty to apathy to greed and to injustice. (Lost spirit)

- i. What is the writer's emotion behind writing the above lines?

Ans. Based on the given lines, the writer's emotion appears to be a mix of concern, frustration, and empathy. The writer is likely trying to address a group of young men who are trapped in an endless cycle of exploitation by middlemen.

- ii. According to the young men, why are they hesitant to organize into a cooperative?

- A. Lack of trust in the system
- B. Fear of legal repercussions
- C. Possibility of violence from the police
- D. All of these

Ans. D. All of the above

- iii. Explain any one possible consequence of the lack of leadership among the group of young men, mentioned in the extract.

Ans. One possible consequence of the lack of leadership among the group of young men is their inability to even think of alternative perspectives and solutions.

- iv. Identify the line from the text that bears evidence to the fact that the young men's fathers are exhausted by their circumstances.

Ans. "Their fathers are as tired as they are."

- v. According to the extract, what is the primary concern expressed by the young men regarding organising into a cooperative?

- A. Lack of trust in the system
- B. Fear of legal repercussions
- C. Absence of a strong leader
- D. Exhaustion and resignation of their fathers

Ans. B. Fear of legal repercussions

Complete the sentence with ONE word:

The young men are trapped in a vicious circle of _____ middlemen

Answer ANY FIVE of the following in about 40-50 words each.

1. 'Poets and the Pancakes' is the perfect example of the saying 'the other side always looks green'. While the world of glamor might appear to be full of joy and happiness, however, people working there have their own struggles. Which struggle is described through the phrase "the fiery misery" in the story?

(Poets and Pancakes)

2. The makeup room is illuminated by numerous incandescent bulbs which produce intense fiery heat. Artists had to face exorbitant heat as they had to sit there for makeup and feel extremely hot and uncomfortable in perspiration. They were helpless and could hardly do anything in this regard.

3. Every writer has a noteworthy style of writing. What can you infer about the Umberto Eco's penmanship?

4. Umberto Eco's style of writing can be considered as an academic writing style. It is personal, informal, and playful, and his research stories are filled with all the trials and errors, so that even his research work is said to have the uniqueness of creative writing and reading, and which makes it not only informative but also gripping and interesting.

5. What is the message in the poem, 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers', conveyed by the following lines?

"When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie

Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by.

The tigers in the panel that she made

Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid"

6. The lines express Aunt Jennifer's suppressed plight and anger against patriarchal society, Aunt Jennifer chooses to embroider tigers on the panel. The nature of tigers symbolizes strength and fearlessness which are nothing but her aspirations buried under her meek nature because of which she has suffered endlessly till her death relieved her from this ordeal.

7. How does Selma Lagerlof use the metaphor of the rattrap to represent human life and its struggles?

8. The metaphor of the rattrap signifies that the world can easily trap people by setting baits for them. Whenever someone is tempted by the luxuries, he ends up being caught in a dangerous trap of dishonest dealings and then followed by the fear of being caught. The story stresses on the fact that most human beings are prone to fall into the trap of material benefit.

9. How does Douglas convey to the reader the sensation of terror that he felt while he was on the verge of drowning?

10. Douglas recounts a harrowing experience of almost drowning while learning to swim at the Y.M.C.A. pool. He intended to make a big jump as soon as his feet touched the bottom of the pool, rise to the surface, but the pool appeared to be 90 feet deep instead of the actual 9 feet. He began searching for rope, a ladder, and water wings. But all he could see was only the yellowish water all around him. He was dying of suffocation. He tried to yell, but nothing came out of his mouth. His eyes and nose emerged from the water, but his mouth did not. Douglas flailed at the water's surface. His legs stiffened, and became paralyzed. His lungs and legs were both throbbing with pain. He began to feel dizzy. He couldn't move his legs or arms. He shook with fear. He wished he could call for assistance, but he was unable to do so.

11. 'Indigo' is the perfect example of leadership shown by Mahatma Gandhi to secure justice for the oppressed. What leadership qualities have you learned from him? (Indigo)

12. A good leader is a truthful, honest, ethical person who possesses an indomitable spirit of service and sacrifice. They do not consider solely in terms of class, caste, or any other discriminatory criteria. They are committed to working for the welfare of others.

Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40-50 words each.

13. The two narratives presented in "Memories of Childhood" are based on two dissimilar cultures. What is the overarching theme that connects the two of them?

14. The two stories presented in the "Memories of Childhood" are based on two different societies far apart. Two successful writers who grew up in underprivileged communities reflect on harrowing experience of childhood. They consider how they interacted with the majority and their mainstream culture. Zitkala recalled a horrific account when she was made to feel disgusting in her own eyes by being stripped of the blanket that covered her shoulders just because she was a woman who belonged to Native American culture and even her beautiful thick braid was gnawed off by scissors. Bama draws attention to the

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humiliations endured by the untouchables, who were considered inferior and never accorded any respect or dignity. The discrimination endured by people due to differences in man-made social strata is the overarching theme that connects the two of them.

- ii. What were the ways in which Mr. Lamb tried to overcome his loneliness?
Ans. Mr. Lamb depended on numerous things to deal with his loneliness. Among these are: some of his crab apples, weeds, spiders ascending silken ladders, and tall sunflowers. Additionally, he enjoys conversation and companionship. He keeps bees in a hive. He overhears their singing. He reads while relaxing in the sunshine. Both the bright and the dark appeal to him. Through open windows, he hears the wind since they either shut things in or shut things out, there are no curtains at the windows. These are the methods Mr. Lamb employs to combat his loneliness.
- iii. What made Hana, Dr. Sadao's wife, sympathetic to him in the face of open defiance from the domestic staff?
Ans. In the case of Hana, the obligation was mainly altruistic in addition to the appreciation of his husband's sense of duty and professional ethics. For this she does everything with grace and dignity from handling the unrest among her domestic workers to being compelled to perform all household chores herself. Despite the fact that it wasn't her job, she washed and fed the soldier. The soldier quickly recovered thanks to her care. The anecdote also makes it clear that she respected her husband and took care of the American soldier out of a feeling of obligation. It shows that Hana was loving, thoughtful, and sensitive.

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words.

- A. Imagine you are Pablo Neruda, the poet of *Keeping Quiet*. What advice might you offer to Kamla Das, the poet of *MY MOTHER AT SIXTY-SIX*, in the context of the emotions displayed in the given lines.
"I looked again at her, wan, pale as a late winter's moon and felt that old familiar ache, my childhood's fear, but all I said was, see you soon, Amma, all I did was smile and smile and smile"

You may begin this way:

Dear Kamla

In your poignant verses I sensed ...

Ans. Dear Kamla,

In your poignant verses, I sensed the weight of emotions that engulfed you as you gazed upon your mother. Your words reflect the familiar ache of childhood fears resurfacing, making it difficult to express the depth of what lies within your heart.

In moments like these, poetry becomes our refuge, allowing us to pour our souls and emotions into our verses. Do embrace the power of language to encapsulate those unspoken sentiments, for through poetry, we can paint the most profound emotions with words that dance like music.

Be gentle with yourself, dear Kamla, and let the verses guide you through the labyrinth of emotions. Your ability to capture soft and subtle human experiences through poetry is a gift to the world. Embrace the pain, the nostalgia, and the love, for they are the palette from which your artistry flourishes.

With heartfelt admiration,

Pablo Neruda

OR

- B. The *Roadside Stand* by Robert Frost offers insights into a significant wealth gap between the rich and the poor.

You have been asked to address your peers and share-

- Plight of poor people.
- Request for thought for the helplessly low individuals who work tirelessly yet their lives have indicated no advancement.

Compose this draft, with reference to the prescribed text.

You may begin like this:

My dear colleagues,

Today, I stand before you to shed light on the plight of the disadvantaged.....

You may end like this.

Let us make an earnest endeavour....

Ans. My dear colleagues,
Today, I stand before you to shed light on the plight of the disadvantaged, inspired by Robert Frost's "The Roadside Stand." In this thoughtful poem, we are reminded of the significant wealth gap that exists between the rich and the poor.
Frost's words resonate with the harsh reality faced by many who struggle day in and day out to make ends meet. Although they are the invisible pillars of our society, yet their plight and their voices often go unheard.

As we immerse ourselves in our own pursuits, let us not forget those who lack the privileges that we take for granted. Let us extend a helping hand to those in need and be compassionate towards their struggles. Together, we can work towards a world where everyone has equal opportunities for growth and prosperity.

Let Frost's poignant portrayal of the roadside stand be a constant reminder of the disparities that exist and the urgent need for empathy and support. Let us make an earnest endeavour to bridge this gap of disparity and make this world a happy place for all.

Thank you for giving a patient hearing.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words.

A. Nothing can stop you from facing sorrows or joys written in your destiny. In order to prove the prophecies of the fortune teller wrong, the king of Pratibandapuram mindlessly killed numerous tigers but ultimately, the king is killed by an inanimate tiger made of wood. Hence, the prophecy turns out to be true, despite the king's efforts to prove it wrong.

As a noble working in King's court you have witnessed this irony first hand. Write a diary entry as a satire about the nature of the rich and powerful kings of the olden times.

You may begin this way:

Oh, the irony! Today, I have witnessed a spectacle that perfectly encapsulates the nature of the rich and powerful kings of these times.....

Date: 17/04/20XX

Time: 9:45 p.m.

Ans. Oh, the irony! Today, I have witnessed a spectacle that perfectly shows the nature of the rich and powerful kings of these times.

Today, the Tiger King's reign of irony and cruelty to tigers finally came to an end.

In a desperate attempt to defy a prophecy, he mindlessly slaughtered countless tigers. Yet, fate's cruel humour prevailed. The mighty king was felled not by a living tiger, but by a wooden toy. As he played with his son, a jagged splinter pierced his hand, leading to his demise after the onset of an infection that flared into a suppurating sore all over his right arm.

Oh, the folly of the rich and powerful! They seek dominion over all, amassing wealth and wielding their power. But in their arrogance, they become puppets to fate, mocked by their own illusions of control. The Tiger King's lavish palaces and grand displays crumbled beneath the weight of a simple splinter.

Let this be a lesson, a cautionary tale of the fragility of power. No matter how formidable they may appear, the rich and powerful are mere mortals, subject to the whims of destiny. And nothing can stop you from facing joys and sorrows written in your destiny.

OR

B. "The Enemy" deals with the conflict between human feelings and the animosity created by nations at war.

Imagine you are Dr. Sadao. Write a diary entry describing your today's learning as how compassion can make us better human beings even in the times of grimmest hostility.

You can start like:

Today, I have witnessed the transformative power of love and compassion...

Ans. Date: 28/04/20XX

Times: 11:05 p.m.

Today, I have witnessed the transformative power of love and compassion. Amid the chaos of World War II, an injured American soldier crossed my path, challenging my prejudices and misplaced sense of patriotism. Despite the risks, I chose to prioritize humanity over enmity and national pride, tending to his wounds and providing shelter.

As my actions infringed societal expectations of loyalty to my country, I faced opposition and abandonment. Yet, in those crucial moments, a profound realisation took hold of me. I recognised that our shared humanity transcends national boundaries and differences.

Love and compassion became my guiding principles, dispelling the shackles of prejudice. I chose to save a life rather than perpetuate hatred by handing over the poor young American to the authorities.

Today, I stand reaffirmed in the belief that love can bridge national boundaries and foster understanding that we are one human race on the Earth. Through acts of kindness, we can reshape our world and embrace our shared humanity for the common good.

With renewed purpose,

Dr. Sadao

ATDB.uno



Sample Paper

7

English Core [Unsolved]



Section-A Reading Skills

I. Read the following text.

When we read, we take journeys – into a new world, back in time. We re-meet old selves, uncover new places and horizons. Books are often as much about our pasts as about the stories of the books themselves. They’re also about the relationships they remind us of, the people we loan them to, the readers who came before us.

There are a lot of old children’s books on my shelves; some old family heirlooms, some bought in used bookstores. Each tells a story. There’s a late 19th century illustrated paperback of the *Gingerbread Man*; the cover is sewn together with thread, the edges are tattered, and a child’s signature is scrawled across the first page. The pictures bear riveting poppy reds and mustard yellows. On the bookshelf beside it is a 1960s copy of *Now We Are Six*, a collection of nursery rhymes from A.A. Milne that used to belong to my cousins. Beside that sits a pop-up version of *The Little Prince*; newer, but already laced with memories. I read it aloud to my little brother one Christmas eve as we drove home in a snowstorm, navigating perilous roads. The book kept us awake, aware, and cheerful.

It’s amazing how the old hardback novels on the shelf blend so beautifully together: their covers were often moss green, navy, cinnamon brown – the letters gilded in rich metallic. The older typography was often simple and scholarly, traditional serif fonts with delicate ornaments. The Victorian books have greater title flourishes, more feminine scripts. But if you stare at the spines side by side on a shelf, they all blend in lovely harmony. There’s a stately grace to them.

Books today have a different character: rather than complementing each other, they often seem to be at war with each other, a clashing and clamouring of colours, fonts, and styles. There’s often a great creativity and artistry to their covers, but they can also seem as riotous and mentally-assaulting as a bunch of TV commercials. Their diversity – one of the beauties of the print book – can also be their greatest aesthetic turn-off.

Yet e-books are in an entirely separate world: they all have covers, certainly, but they’re glimpsed rarely by the reader, as the book automatically saves its place and opens to the last page you left. The fonts are particular to the tablet and its owner, not the book; one can even customize according to one’s taste. Even the font size will change according to our preferences. E-books aren’t things you buy second-hand. Each is a new digital edition, particular to you, stripped of history. All of these things make the reading experience easier – but do they make it memorable and endearing?

Source: <http://humanepursuits.com/the-beauty-of-books/>

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option. Reading a book is a journey as.....
 - A. we see new places through books
 - B. our minds get burdened
 - C. reading is costly
 - D. reading about a place is cheaper than travel
- ii. Based on your understanding of the passage, select the option that lists the correct sequence of thoughts as expressed by the author.
 - 1. E- Books do not connect to heart.
 - 2. The old hard back novels blend together.
 - 3. Books are about our pasts.
 - 4. The book keeps us awake, aware, and cheerful.

A. 4, 2, 1, & 3 B. 1, 3, 2 & 4 C. 3, 2, 4, & 1 D. 3, 4, 2, & 11

- iii. Which two ways make reading of old hardback novels...
- iv. Complete the following sentence with an appropriate inference. The message of the passage is -
- v. Which of the following words from para 4 is closest in meaning to the word 'screaming'?
 A. Complementing B. Clashing C. Aesthetic D. Clamouring
- vi. Though the author is fond of reading, he is very critical of the books of today. Why is it so? Answer in about 40 words.
- vii. What makes the author critical of TV commercials?
- viii. What characterizes the harmony of old hardback novels on a shelf and how do they differ from today's books and e-books in terms of aesthetics and personalisation?
- ix. Fill in the blank with appropriate word.

The author is feeling _____ in the second paragraph.

Ans. Reading old hard cover books has its own beauty and charm. No digital medium can take its place.

2. Read the following text.

1. Virat Kohli's innings against Pakistan raised the question: Was this someone out of form playing a good innings or one in form playing a patchy one? The important thing is that it doesn't matter. And this is where T20 is crucially different from the other formats. There are three aspects of T20 that merit discussion here: the philosophy, usually unstated, that drives the game, the actual playing of it, and team selection. To begin with the philosophy, T20 is not a shorter version of the 50-over game, and the aim is not (necessarily) to play attractively or score centuries. Averages don't count, strike rates do. All judgments are made purely on the basis of figures in the scorecard.

147 (19.5)		IND won by 5 wickets (2 balls)		148/5 (19.4)	
Pakistan		India			
Batting	R	B	4s	6s	S/R
R. Sharma (c)	12	18	0	1	66.67
c Iftikhar Ahmed b Mohammad Nawaz					
KL Rahul	0	1	0	0	0.00
b Nasseem Shah					
V. Kohli	35	34	3	1	102.94
c Iftikhar Ahmed b Mohammad Nawaz					
R. Jadeja	35	29	2	2	120.69
b Mohammad Nawaz					
S. Yadav	18	18	1	0	100.00
b Nasseem Shah					
H. Pandya	33	17	4	1	194.12
not out					
D. Karthik (w)	1	1	0	0	100.00
not out					
Extras	14 (W 9, LB 5)				
Total runs	148 (5 wkts, 19.4 ov)				

2. The long format places emphasis on style and character, on the how and why rather than merely the what. T20 has no such pretensions. Ugly and effective is far more useful than attractive and useless batting or bowling. An inside edge that narrowly misses the stumps and trickles away for four is more valuable than a classic cover drive that fetches just a single. T20 is cricket without the airs.

 147 (19.5)	IND won by 5 wickets (2 balls left)	148/5 (19.4)	
SUMMARY SCORECARD SONNETARY NEWS			
Player of the Match Hardik Pandya (IND) 3/25 (4) & 33* (17)			
 Pakistan · 147 (19.5)			
Mohammad Rizwan 43 (42)		Bhuvneshwar Kumar 4/26 (4)	
Iftikhar Ahmed 28 (22)		Hardik Pandya 3/25 (4)	
Shahnawaz Dahani 16 (6)		Arshdeep Singh 2/33 (3.5)	
 India · 148/5 (19.4)			
Ravindra Jadeja 35 (29)		Mohammad Nawaz 3/33 (3.4)	
Virat Kohli 35 (34)		Naseem Shah 2/27 (4)	
Hardik Pandya 33* (17)		Shadab Khan 0/19 (4)	

- Kohli might have been dropped in the first over, and inner-edged dangerously a few times. His strike rate was unimpressive (35 off 4 balls), and before it was too late, India seemed to be recovering from the first-ball dismissal of K.L. Rahul. Subhan and Ishan Sharma added 50 — in T20 terms that is a lot, especially when chasing 147. Short, quick partnerships can turn a match. Hardik Pandya showed this when making an unbeaten 33 in 17 (nearly twice as fast as Kohli's innings). The concept of rotating strike, a cliché in the game, does not apply to T20. Rotating strike means scoring a single, meaning three or five more runs that could have been scored off that delivery were not.
- Bowlers, although they have only 24 legal deliveries at their disposal, can still plan and alternate between short-term and long-term strategy, but batsmen need to be single-minded, repeating to themselves, "Four or six, four or six." In the team as a whole, everyone is a designated hitter. Some carry the license to throw their bats at everything regardless of the state of the game. If there are eight in a team who can be expected to score significantly, and half that number might fail, the remainder striking consistently is still good enough to win a match. The four who 'fail' keep changing, and it is up to the team management to ensure that they are not discouraged from hitting the next time around.
- In the Pakistan match, thanks to two genuine all-rounders, Hardik and Ravindra Jadeja, India could afford an off-day for a bowler or even play an extra batsman (Rishabh Pant, the obvious choice). The all-rounder in T20 is nothing like the all-rounder in red ball cricket who can hold down a place either on his batting or his bowling alone. Here the all-rounder is someone who can bowl between two and four overs and is capable of scoring 25 runs in 15 balls.
- And so to team selection. In his book, *The Tyranny of Merit*, the American philosopher Michael Sandel says, "Meritocratic hubris reflects the tendency of winners to inhale too deeply of their success. It is the smug conviction of those who land on top that they deserve their fate, and that those at the bottom deserve theirs too." Change the winners to 'seniors', and you have the situation in Indian cricket selection for long.

7. For years, selection operated on the principle of divine right. Some players were given a divine right to be selected regardless of form, fitness or age. The selectors played into this for political reasons. In recent years, however, divine right has been jettisoned by the selectors who are now paid a salary and expected to behave as professionally as the players. Yet vestiges still remain. Form and performance ought to be the keys to T20 selection — although sometimes a performance has to be judged on intent too. The format demands a here-and-now approach both as a strategy to score runs or take wickets as well as while selecting teams. If the top batsmen are not delivering, move them around to see where they fit or drop them. Nothing is permanent — neither the selection, nor the dropping.

8. It is becoming increasingly clear that T20 is a young man's game. The mixture of arrogance and fearlessness that wins matches belongs to youth. The much-experienced are more aware of the pitfalls. Theories of the game keep changing from season to season, even match to match. The coach has to adapt and rejig constantly. T20, however, is focused only on winning. How you play the game, another sporting cliché, doesn't matter.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. What do you think are the key features of T20 format? Explain in about 40 words.
- ii. Which one of the following players had the highest strike rate in the recent India-Pakistan Asia Cup match?

A. R. Jadeja	C. H. Pandya
B. V. Kohli	D. S. Yadav
- iii. What is the meaning of the statement: 'T20 is cricket without the airs'?
 - A. T20 is played in an airy stadium.
 - B. T20 players lose their cricketing skills when they sit in Air conditioned rooms.
 - C. T20 is affected & complex form of cricket.
 - D. T20 is simple & natural cricket.
- iv. Why was H. Pandya awarded the Player of the Match trophy in the match discussed in the above passage?
 - A. As he scored the most runs for the Indian team.
 - B. As he took the most wickets for the Indian team.
 - C. Due to his strike rate.
 - D. Due to his all-round performance.
- v. In India's final batting score what was the percentage contributed by the extras?

A. approximately fifteen percent	C. approximately nine percent
B. approximately fourteen percent	D. approximately seven percent
- vi. What is meant by the principle of divine right and where is it used? Explain in 40 words.
- vii. Complete the sentence appropriately:
India could afford an off day for a bowler or even play an extra batsman in the Pakistan match because _____.
- viii. State TRUE or FALSE:
T20 is a young man's game because the youth are aware of the pitfalls.

Section-B

Creative Writing Skills

Note : All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

3. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below, in about 50 words.
 - A. You are Ankit/Ankita, the Secretary of the Book Club of ABL Public School, Dehradun. On the World Book Day, your school has decided to organize a Book Fair. You want to call a meeting of the office bearers of the club to discuss the arrangements for the fair. Draft a notice for the school notice board in not more than 50 words, informing the office bearers about the meeting.

OR

- B. You are Akshit/Akshita, the Secretary of the Dramatic Club of St. Mary's Public School, Meerut. Your school is planning to stage the play, "Macbeth" on the Children's Day. Draft a notice for the school notice board in not more than 50 words, inviting names of the students who are interested to act in the play.
4. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below in about 50 words.
- A. You are Mrs. Chandrakanta, the Coordinator of DPS Haridwar. Your school is holding an Alumni Meet next month. Draft a formal invitation in not more than 50 words to be sent to the alumni of the school inviting them to the meet. Give all the necessary details.

OR

- B. You are Akriti/Akshar, a celebrated short story writer from NGR Colony, New Delhi. You have been invited by the Literary Club of Model School, Faridabad to deliver a lecture on 'Literature and Life'. Write a formal reply in not more than 50 words, accepting this invitation. Address it to the Principal.
5. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below in about 120-150 words.
- A. Lack of job opportunities in the rural areas is forcing people to migrate to cities. Every big city thus has several slums in it. Life in these slums is miserable. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily focusing on how the living conditions in these slums can be improved. You are Ravi/Ravita of 35, Second Phase, Mayur Vihar, New Delhi. Use the given cues with your own ideas to compose this letter.

Migration- Lack of educational facilities and awareness in villages, no employment resources in rural areas, superstitions etc. Improvement Measures: free accommodation, education, skilled employment, awareness rallies, govt. schemes etc.

OR

- B. You are Archit/Archita residing at 35, Nehru Colony, Delhi. You have just completed your studies and are looking for a job. While browsing through 'The Hindustan Times' of 15th December 2022, you come across the following advertisement. Choose a post for which you think you are eligible and apply.

An upcoming food processing unit in Gurugram requires the following staff:

1. Food Technologist: 2 years degree/diploma in Food Technology having 1-2 years of lab experience.
 2. Accountant: B. Com. with minimum experience of 4-5 years in a manufacturing concern and conversant with GST rules.
 3. Receptionist: Young graduate, fluent in English with good communication skills and proficiency in computers.
- Please send your application with detailed biodata within seven days to the Manager, Fancy Foods, Sector -12, Gurugram.

Write a letter to Fancy Foods along with your biodata, expressing your interest in the situation vacant.

6. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below in about 120-150 words.
- A. It is increasingly felt that the youth of the country should be actively involved in social service activities. Their involvement will give them a first-hand knowledge of the actual problems, the people are facing and inspire them to play a more active role in nation building. Write an article in 120-150 words on "Youth and Social Service". You are Surbhi/Suyash.

You can also use the cues given below.

Seven Principles of Social Work: Selfless service, social justice, dignity and worth of the person, importance of human relationships, integrity and competence.

B. Recently a Demolition Drive was carried out in Dehradun by the Municipal Corporation removing the unauthorised construction and encroachment from the city roads. The authorities had to face a lot of anger and resentment from local people. As the staff reporter of 'The Times of India', write a report in about 120-150 words covering this incident. You are Anant/ Ankita. Support your ideas with outline cues given below, to craft your Newspaper report.

Need of the hour – smart cities, unauthorised parking illegal construction, encroachment by vendors, fine, penalty, imprisonment. 2. Reasons of resentment- no prior notice, no checking of documents, no time given for vacating, atrocity to slum dwellers :

Section – C

LITERATURE : TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY

READING TEXT

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.

A. *For once on the face of the Earth
let's not speak in any language,
let's stop for one second,
and not move our arms so much.*

(Keeping Quiet)

i. The poet uses the word let's to

- A. initiate a conversation with the readers
- B. invite readers as part of the poem's larger call to humanity
- C. welcome readers to the world of poetry
- D. address the readers as ignorant beings

ii. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words:

The poet asks the readers not to speak in any language as language sometimes creates _____ and _____ people.

iii. What is the tone of the poet in the extract?

- A. Playful and humorous
- B. Angry and furious
- C. Calm and serene
- D. Sarcastic and pessimistic

iv. Complete the following sentence by a suitable word:

By asking the mankind to be silent for a moment the poet is advocating _____.

v. Which poetic device out of those given below has been used in the expression 'not move our arms so much'?

- A. Transferred epithet
- B. Simile
- C. Personification
- D. Pun

vi. Answer in one word: Here the word 'arms' refers to human arms and _____.

OR

B. *Of all the thousand selfish cars that pass,
Just one to inquire what a farmer's prices are
And one did stop, but only to plow up grass
In using the yard to back and turn around:*

And another to ask the way to where it was bound
And another to ask could they sell it a gallon of gas
They couldn't (this crossly) ; they had none, didn't it see?

- i. What was the common cause of distress for the rural people?
 - A. The paucity of adequate concern and compassion for rural people.
 - B. Their illiteracy that marred the beautiful landscape.
 - C. The competitive attitude of all the roadside people.
 - D. The compassion shown by the city dwellers.
- ii. Answer in one word.
The condition of the owner of the roadside stand is _____
- iii. Which of the following option displays the same poetic device as used in the expression 'selfish cars' ?
 - A. Life is like a box of chocolates.
 - B. He is a shining star.
 - C. The sun smiled down on us.
 - D. The farmer was walking along the tired path.
- iv. Fill in the blanks with suitable words, with reference to the context:
Some of the cars stop at the roadside stand to ask for _____ which is not available there.
- v. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below.
 - 1. The passers-by are selfish and self centered.
 - 2. They are indifferent towards the needs of rural people.
 - A. (1) is true but (2) is false.
 - B. (2) is true but (1) is false
 - C. (1) is the reason for (2).
 - D. Both (1) and (2) are false.
- vi. Complete the following sentence with a appropriate word. The tone of the poet in these lines is _____.

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8. Read the given extracts and answer the question for ANY ONE of two extracts given.
- A. The man moaned with pain in his stupor but he did not awaken. "The best thing that we could do would be to put him back to in the sea," Sadao said, answering himself. Now that the bleeding was stopped for the moment he stood up and dusted the sand from his hands.
- "Yes, undoubtedly that would be best," Hana said steadily. But she continued to stare down at the motionless man.
- "If we sheltered a white man in our house we should be arrested and if we turned him over as a prisoner, he would certainly die," Sadao said.
- "The kindest thing would be to put him back into the sea," Hana said. But neither of them moved. They were staring with curious repulsion upon the inert figure.
- i. Why did Dr. Sadao say that, "The best thing that we could do would be to put him back in the sea" ?
 - ii. The dilemma expressed by Hana was because _____.
 - iii. The analogy of the hesitation showed by Hana is a dilemma because _____.
 - iv. Give one reason why the extract can be called an anecdote on conflicting emotions.

OR

- B. DERRY: What do you do all day?
MR. LAMB: Sit in the sun. Read books. Ah, you thought it was an empty house, but inside, it's full. Books and other things. Full.
DERRY: but there aren't any curtains at the windows.
MR LAMB: I'm not fond of curtains. Shutting things out, shutting things in. I like the light and the darkness, and the windows open, to hear the wind.

DERRY: Yes I like that. When it's raining, I like to hear it on the roof.

MR. LAMB: So you're not lost, are you? Not altogether? You do hear things. You listen.

DERRY: They talk about me. Downstairs, when I'm not there.

i. Complete the following sentence with an appropriate word.

Mr. Lamb's behavior helped Derry find true _____ of life.

ii. According to Mr. Lamb, what does the idea of being 'lost' signify?

- A. He who does not hear what other people say is lost.
- B. He who does not appreciate other people is lost.
- C. He who is closed off to nature and its wonders is lost.
- D. He who stays alone is lost.

iii. How does the encounter between Mr. Lamb and Derry in "On the Face of It" impact their perspective on life and loneliness?

iv. In "On the Face of It," how does the physical appearance of Mr. Lamb contrast with his personality, and what realisation does Derry come to as he interacts with him?

9. Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.

A. Mukesh's eyes beam as he volunteers to take me home, which he proudly says is being rebuilt. We walk down stinking lanes choked with garbage, past homes that remain hovels with crumbling walls, wobbly doors, no windows, crowded with families of humans and animals coexisting in a primeval state. He stops at the door of one such house, bangs a wobbly iron door with his foot, and pushes it open.

i. Why does Mukesh volunteer to take the narrator home?
ii. Which of the following sentences uses the word 'beam' in the same sense as used in the extract?

- A. I lifted the heavy wood beam.
- B. He turns the beam around the yard.
- C. He turned the beam of light on me.
- D. The bride's eyes beam with new hopes.

iii. Mukesh stops at _____. (Complete the sentence with suitable words.)

iv. Identify the line from the text that bears evidence (through gestures) of the fact Mukesh still hasn't lost confidence to progress in life.

v. Based on the context provided in the extract, state what the narrator would have said seeing Mukesh's optimism.

- A. "How come your eyes are beaming with such a poverty-ridden existence?"
- B. "When will you try to become a plane pilot?"
- C. "Shall I help you with some money to help you?"
- D. "I am proud to see that you haven't lost hope in your life."

vi. Which word from the following is the antonym of 'balanced'?

- A. Primeval
- B. Wobbly
- C. Hovels
- D. Stinking

OR

B. He had a genuine love for anyone he came across and his house was a permanent residence of near and far relations and acquaintances. It seemed against Subbu's nature to be even conscious that he was feeding and supporting so many of them. Such a charitable and improvident man, and yet he had enemies! Was it because he seemed so close and intimate with the Boss? Or was it his general demeanour that resembled a sycophant? In any case, there was this man in the make-up department who would wish the direst things for Subbu.

- i. Subbu is described as a many-sided genius. List 2 of his special abilities.
- ii. Who has been referred to as 'a charitable and improvident man' in the above extract?
 - A. The lawyer
 - B. Robert Clive
 - C. Kothamangalam Subbu
 - D. Asokamitran
- iii. The line, "Such a charitable and improvident man, and yet he had enemies can best be classified as:
 - A. A fact
 - B. An opinion
 - C. A contradiction
 - D. A genuflection
- iv. Identify the line from the text that bears evidence to the closeness to the boss as an act of being a 'cringing and servile follower of his boss?
- v. Based on the context provided in the extract, select the most likely comment that the writer would have made, based on how Subbu's fame in the Gemini Studios?
 - A. "Subbu should leave Gemini Studios for his domineering attitude."
 - B. "It would be easy to find a more efficient manager like Subbu."
 - C. "It would be too difficult to find someone like Subbu, who has genuine love for anyone who comes across."
 - D. "It needs a sycophant to be so close to the Boss."

vi. 'This man in the make-up department' refers to _____.

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following in about 40-50 words each.

- i. What was tempting Franz to keep away from school that morning?
- ii. Having looked at her mother, why does Kamala Das look at the young trees and merry children?
(My Mother at Sixty Six)
- iii. Why did the peddler accept the invitation extended to him by Edla?
(A Thing Of Beauty)
- iv. How do we get joy from life which is otherwise full of sorrows?
(Keeping Quiet)
- v. What are the different kinds of wars mentioned in the poem? What is Auden's attitude towards these wars?
(Keeping Quiet)
- vi. Sophie is caught between the world she lives in and the world she wants to live in. Elucidate.

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40-50 words each.

- i. And then, an unforeseen hurdle brought his mission to a standstill. What was the unforeseen hurdle? How was it resolved?
(The Tiger King)
- ii. Why is Antarctica a crucial element in all debates on climate change?
- iii. Why did Zitkala -Sa not want her hair to be cut short?

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words.

A. In the lesson Dep Water Douglas is gripped with fear of water, but his trainer helps him step out to get rid of fear. Write a letter to your friend narrating how you got rid of fear and how you feel now. You may begin this way:
Dear James,
I want to share with you an incredible journey of mine that has transformed my life.....

OR

B. Gandhiji said, "Freedom from fear is more important than legal justice for the poor." Prepare a draft of speech to be delivered in morning assembly on the topic "Freedom from Fear - an Essential Condition for Justice". You may begin this way:
Good morning, everyone.
As I stand here to discuss a profound statement.....
You may end this way.
In conclusion, by giving them freedom, ...

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13. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words.

A. Charley realised that he was on the third level and had traveled into the past. He was very confused how it had happened but at the same time he felt some rays of hope to get this confusion resolved. As Charley, write a diary entry.

OR

B. Bama faced discrimination that is practiced in the society. But she did not realise it at first. Her heart is full of revolt for these nasty people who exploit others based on caste and religion. As Bama writes a diary entry.



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