

**ENGLISH WORK BOOK**  
**FLAMINGO (TEXTBOOK)**  
**VISTAS (SUPPLEMENTARY READER)**  
**Class - XII**



**State Council of Educational Research and Training**  
**Govt. of Tripura**

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**ENGLISH WORK BOOK  
FLAMINGO (TEXTBOOK)  
VISTAS (SUPPLEMENTARY READER)  
Class - XII**

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রতন লাল নাথ

মন্ত্রী

শিক্ষা দপ্তর

ত্রিপুরা সরকার



শিক্ষার প্রকৃত বিকাশের জন্য, শিক্ষাকে যুগোপযোগী করে তোলার জন্য প্রয়োজন শিক্ষাসংক্রান্ত নিরন্তর গবেষণা। প্রয়োজন শিক্ষা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে সময়ের সঙ্গে সঙ্গে প্রশিক্ষিত করা এবং প্রয়োজনীয় শিখন সামগ্রী, পাঠ্যক্রম ও পাঠ্যপুস্তকের বিকাশ সাধন করা। এস সি ই আর টি ত্রিপুরা রাজ্যের শিক্ষার বিকাশে এসব কাজ সূনামের সঙ্গে করে আসছে। শিক্ষার্থীর মানসিক, বৌদ্ধিক ও সামাজিক বিকাশের জন্য এস সি ই আর টি পাঠ্যক্রমকে আরো বিজ্ঞানসম্মত, নান্দনিক এবং কার্যকর করবার কাজ করে চলেছে। করা হচ্ছে সুনির্দিষ্ট পরিকল্পনার অধীনে।

এই পরিকল্পনার আওতায় পাঠ্যক্রম ও পাঠ্যপুস্তকের পাশাপাশি শিশুদের শিখন সক্ষমতা বৃদ্ধির জন্য তৈরি করা হয়েছে ওয়ার্ক বুক বা অনুশীলন পুস্তক। প্রসঙ্গত উল্লেখ্য, ছাত্র-ছাত্রীদের সমস্যার সমাধানকে সহজতর করার লক্ষ্যে এবং তাদের শিখনকে আরো সহজ ও সাবলীল করার জন্য রাজ্য সরকার একটি উদ্যোগ গ্রহণ করেছে, যার নাম 'প্রয়াস'। এই প্রকল্পের অধীনে এস সি ই আর টি এবং জেলা শিক্ষা আধিকারিকরা বিশিষ্ট শিক্ষকদের সহায়তা গ্রহণের মাধ্যমে প্রথম থেকে দ্বাদশ শ্রেণির ছাত্র-ছাত্রীদের জন্য ওয়ার্ক বুকগুলো সুচারুভাবে তৈরি করেছেন। ষষ্ঠ থেকে অষ্টম শ্রেণি পর্যন্ত বিজ্ঞান, গণিত, ইংরেজি, বাংলা ও সমাজবিদ্যার ওয়ার্ক বুক তৈরি হয়েছে। নবম দশম শ্রেণির জন্য হয়েছে গণিত, বিজ্ঞান, সমাজবিদ্যা, ইংরেজি ও বাংলা। একাদশ দ্বাদশ শ্রেণির ছাত্র-ছাত্রীদের জন্য ইংরেজি, বাংলা, হিসাবশাস্ত্র, পদার্থবিদ্যা, রসায়নবিদ্যা, অর্থনীতি এবং গণিত ইত্যাদি বিষয়ের জন্য তৈরি হয়েছে ওয়ার্ক বুক। এইসব ওয়ার্ক বুকের সাহায্যে ছাত্র-ছাত্রীরা জ্ঞানমূলক বিভিন্ন কার্য সম্পাদন করতে পারবে এবং তাদের চিন্তা প্রক্রিয়ার যে স্বাভাবিক ছন্দ রয়েছে, তাকে ব্যবহার করে বিভিন্ন সমস্যার সমাধান করতে পারবে। বাংলা ও ইংরেজি উভয় ভাষায় লিখিত এইসব অনুশীলন পুস্তক ছাত্র-ছাত্রীদের মধ্যে বিনামূল্যে বিতরণ করা হবে।

এই উদ্যোগে সকল শিক্ষার্থী অতিশয় উপকৃত হবে। আমার বিশ্বাস, আমাদের সকলের সক্রিয় এবং নিরলস অংশগ্রহণের মাধ্যমে ত্রিপুরার শিক্ষাজগতে একটি নতুন দিগন্তের উন্মেষ ঘটবে। ব্যক্তিগত ভাবে আমি চাই যথাযথ জ্ঞানের সঙ্গে সঙ্গে শিক্ষার্থীর সামগ্রিক বিকাশ ঘটুক এবং তার আলো রাজ্যের প্রতিটি কোণে ছড়িয়ে পড়ুক।

(রতন লাল নাথ)

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## **Lost Spring : Stories of Stolen Childhood**

### **Anees Jung**

#### **Central Theme**

“**Lost Spring : Stories of Stolen Childhood**” by Anees Jung is a story which very subtly brings out the pathetic condition of the poverty stricken refugees, forced to migrate from their homeland, compelled to live in a kind of slum and found to eke out means of sustenance from the garbage. In the story, the writer portrays the image of two boys having a close proximity with her. The bitter irony and satire with which she has deftly picturised their world as a bleak one and there is no easy way out. The story raises various questions and issues related to certain malpractices like child-labour and exploitation which is a curse to our society. Mukesh and Saheb, the two protagonists of the story and their oblique worlds have thus very little promises to offer. Childhood, which is one of the best parts of one’s life as it is free from cares and full of enjoyment and fun, is absolutely a distant dream here. Thus, the story presents a childhood that is lost or stolen forever.

#### **Extract Based Questions**

**Read the given passages and answer the questions that follow :**

1. “Saheb left his home long ago. Set amidst the green fields of Dhaka, his home is not even a distant memory. There were many storms that swept away their fields and homes, his mother tells him.” That’s why they left, looking for gold in the big city where he now lives.
  - i) Who is the speaker here ?
  - ii) Who are ‘they’ ?
  - iii) From where did they come ?
  - iv) What do they do now ?
  - v) What has been swept away by storms?
2. “It takes longer to build a school”. I say, embarrassed at having made a promise that was not meant. But promises like mine abound in every corner of his bleak world.”
  - i) Where does the line occur ?
  - ii) Who is referred to as ‘I’ ?
  - iii) Why is the speaker embarrassed ?
  - iv) Find out the word from the passage which means ‘plenty’.
3. My acquaintance with the barefoot ragpickers leads me to Seemapuri, a place on the periphery of Delhi yet miles away from it, metaphorically. Those who live here are squatters who came from Bangladesh back in 1971.
  - i) Who are the acquaintances of the narrator ?
  - ii) Where do they live ?
  - iii) From where did they come and when ?

4. They have lived here for more than thirty years without an identity, without permits but with ration cards that get their names on voter's lists and enable them to buy grain. Food is more important for survival than an identity.
- Who is referred to as 'they' ?
  - For how long they are living in India ?
  - Which document is required to buy grain ?
  - What is important for survival ?
5. Garbage to them is gold. It is their daily bread, a roof over their heads, even if it is a leaking roof. But for a child it is even more.
- Who are referred to as 'them' ?
  - What does garbage mean to them ?
  - What does garbage mean to the child ?
6. "Mukesh insists on being his own master. I will be a motor mechanic", he announces."
- Where does the line occur ?
  - Who is the speaker ?
  - About whom is the speaker speaking ?
  - What is the ambition of Mukesh ?
7. "His dream looms like a mirage amidst the dust of streets that fill his town Firozabad, famous for its bangles. Every other family in Firozabad is engaged in making bangles. It is the Centre of India's glass-blowing industry where families have spent generations working around furnaces, welding glass, making bangles for all the women in the land it seems.
- Whose dreams are being spoken about ?
  - What is his dream ?
  - Why is Firozabad famous ?
8. A frail woman is cooking the evening meal for the whole family. Though eyes filled with smoke she smiles.
- Where does the line occur ?
  - Who is referred to as ' a frail young woman' ?
  - What is she doing ?
9. "In this case the elder is an impoverished bangle maker. Despite long years of hard labour, first as a tailor, then as a bangle maker, he has failed to renovate a house, send his two sons to school."
- Who is the impoverished bangle maker ?
  - What did he do before working as a bangle maker ?



- iii) What could he not do ?
  - iv) How many sons did he have ?
10. "I wonder if she knows the sanctity of the bangles she helps make. It symbolises an Indian woman's suhaag, auspiciousness in marriage. It will dawn on her suddenly one day. when her head is draped with a red veil, her hands dyed red with henna, and red bangles rolled on to her wrists. She will then become a bride."
- i) Who is the speaker ?
  - ii) Who is 'she' in the given line ?
  - iii) What does 'it' mean ?
  - iv) When will she realize the value of wearing bangles ?

### Short Answer Type Questions

1. Whom does the narrator encounter everyday ? What does he do every morning ?
2. Who was Saheb ? What has made him a ragpicker ?
3. What did the narrator ask Saheb ? What reply did he give ?
4. Why did the narrator feel embarrassed ?
5. What forced Saheb's parents to leave Dhaka and migrate to India ?
6. What is the full name of Saheb? What is its meaning ?
7. What irony lies in the name of Saheb ?
8. What is the opinion of the ragpickers about shoes ?
9. What does garbage mean to the ragpickers and their families ?
10. Why does the narrator compare garbage with gold ?
11. Why were the ragpickers barefooted ?
12. Where do the ragpickers live ? When did they migrate to India from Bangladesh ?
13. What profession did Saheb take up later ? Was he happy/satisfied with that ?
14. Who was Mukesh ? What was his ambition ?
15. Where did Mukesh live ?
16. What is illegal for the children ?
17. Why do the younger generation of Firozabad suffer from eye problem ?
18. Why is the city of Firozabad famous ?
19. What story did the narrator narrate about Udipi ?
20. How is Mukesh different from other bangle-makers ?
21. What differentiates Mukesh from Saheb ?

### **Long Answer Type Questions**

1. Describe the life and surroundings of the children living in Seemapuri.
2. Mention the difficulties faced by the bangle-makers of Firozabad.
3. Compare and contrast the characters of Saheb and Mukesh.
4. Who/what do you think is responsible for the condition of the children described in the story?
5. Bring out the irony and satire as expressed in the story by the writer.
6. “Child labour is a curse to our society”– Do you agree with the statement ? Justify your answer.
7. Discuss the theme/themes of the story.
8. Bring out the significance of the title of the story.

## Deep Water - (William Douglas)

### Main Theme of the story :

The writer, William Douglas begins his story about the time when he was three or four years old. His father took him to the sea beach. The writer was clinging to his father. But a strong wave came and knocked the child down. The water swept over him. Since then, the child's heart was filled with the horror of water. However, when he was older, he decided to learn to swim. He joined the swimming pool of a local club. There, too, he had a terrifying experience . A grown- up boy once picked him up and threw him into the deep side of the pool. The writer fought with water as best as he could. He was filled with terror . When all efforts failed, he just relaxed. Now all fear left him. He felt as if he was going to sleep. Then every thing blanked out. Luckily, he was saved from drowning and was brought out of the pool. This terror lasted with the writer for years. It spoiled all his joy of fishing, boating and swimming. The writer happened to visit some famous water spots. Whenever he tried to put his foot into the water, the old fear would at once return . Finally, the writer decided to get an instructor and learn to swim. This instructor was an intelligent and experienced person. He made a good swimmer out of the writer. Some doubts still remained. So he went up the Tieton to Conrad Meadows, and dived into the lake and swam across to the other shore and back. He shouted with joy and conquered his fear of water. Douglas had experienced both the sensation of dying and the terror that fear of it can produce. The will to live somehow grew in intensity. At last Douglas felt liberated. He was free to walk the trails and climb the peaks and to ignore fear.

### Long Answer Type Questions :

Marks - 6

**Q:-**“Nothing is impossible in this world. It is in our will power which turns the impossible to possible” – Justify.

**Q:-** “All we have to fear is fear itself.” Courage and optimism are two things that help that anyone survive the period of stress. Comment on the value of being courageous with reference to the chapter ‘Deep Water’.

### LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS :

MARKS - 6

- 1) Douglas says, “The experience had a deeper meaning for me”. Write its impact on him.
- 2) How did the swimming instructor build a swimmer out of Douglas?
- 3) How did Douglas overcome his fear of water?  
Or,  
What lesson did Douglas learn when he got rid of his fear of water?
- 4) How did Douglas make sure that he conquered the old terror?
- 5) ‘I crossed to oblivion, and the curtain of life fell.’ What was the incident which nearly killed Douglas and developed in him a strong aversion to water?

- 6) What happened at the YMCA swimming pool which instilled fear of water in Douglas' mind?
- 7) The story "Deep Water" has made you realise that with determination and perseverance one can accomplish the impossible .Write a paragraph in about 120-200 words on how a positive attitude and courage will aid you to achieve success in life.
- 8) Desire, determination and diligence lead to success . Explain the value of these qualities in the light of Douglas' experience in "Deep Water".

## Extract Based Questions :

### Passage - 1

“It had happened when I was ten or eleven years old. I had decided to learn to swim. There was a pool at the Y.M.C.A in Yakima that offered exactly the opportunity. The Yakima river was treacherous. Mothers continually warned against it, and kept fresh in mind the details of each drowning in the river. But the Y.M.C.A. pool was safe. It was only two or three feet deep at the shallow end; and while it was nine feet deep at the other, the drop was gradual. I got a pair of water wings and went to the pool. I hated to walk naked into it and show my skinny legs. But I subdued my pride and did it.”

### Questions :

- i) Mention the name of the prose from where the above lines have been taken.
- ii) What does YMCA stand for?
- iii) Name the river mentioned in the passage.
- iv) Did the writer enter the YMCA pool?
- v) Find from the passage words which means the same as : a) Chance b) Thin
- vi) Mother warned the author about the \_\_\_\_\_ river. (Fill in the blank.)
- vii) The pool was safe because it was not very deep. (True/False)
- viii) The author ignored each drowning in the River - Write True or False
- ix) Find a word from the extract that is the opposite to “shallow”?
- x) What happened when the narrator was ten or eleven years old?

### Passage - 2

“My introduction to the YMCA swimming pool revived unpleasant memories and stirred childish fears. But in a little while I gathered confidence. I paddled with my new water wings, watching the other boys and trying to learn by aping them. I did this two or three times on different days and was just beginning to feel at ease in the water when the misadventure happened.”

### Questions :

- 1) Name the chapter from which the above lines have been taken.
- 2) Name the author of the chapter.
- 3) What stirred childish fears in the author?
- 4) What did the author do two or three times?
- 5) When did the misadventure happen?
- 6) Why did the narrator start fearing water?
- 7) How had the narrator overcome the childish fears?
- 8) The waves had knocked the narrator down.(True/False)

10) What revived the narrator's unpleasant memories?

**Passage - 3**

“The next I remember I was lying on my stomach beside the pool, vomiting. The chap that threw me in was saying, “But I was only fooling”, Someone said “The kid nearly died. But all right now. Let's carry him to the locker room”.

Several hours later, I walked home. I was weak and trembling. I shook and cried when I lay on my bed. I could not eat that night. For days, a haunting fear was in my heart. The slightest exertion upset me making me wobbly in the knees and sick to my stomach.”

**Questions :**

1. What had happened to the writer?
2. Why do you think the writer was lying on his stomach?
3. Where was the writer carried to?
4. What made the writer wobbly in his knees?
5. The narrator was \_\_\_ by people present there. (Fill in the gaps)
6. He did not tell anyone about the incident at home. (True/False)
7. From the extract, pick up the antonym of “ease”.

**Passage - 4**

The experience had a deep meaning for me, as only those who have known stark terror and conquered it can appreciate. In death there is peace. There is terror only in the fear of death, as Roosevelt knew when he said, “All we have to fear is fear itself”. Because I had experienced both the sensation of dying and the terror that fear of it can produce, the will to live somehow grew in intensity.”

**Questions :**

1. Name the writer of the passage .
2. What experience is the writer referring to here?
3. What had the writer learnt from the experience?
4. What had Roosevelt said?
5. What had the writer experienced?

**Passage - 5**

I laughed and said, “Well, Mr. Terror, what do you think you can do to me?” It fled and I swam on.

1. Who is ‘I’ here? Who is being addressed to as Mr. Terror?
2. Why has Mr. Terror been addressed so?

3. Why did the narrator laugh?

**II (Short Answer Type Questions)**

**Marks - 2**

1. When did William Douglas choose Y.M.C.A pool and why?

2. Why was Douglas determined to get over his fear of water?

3. What factors led Douglas to decide in favour of the Y.M.C.A pool?

4. Describe the writer's childhood experience when he was three or four years old.

or

Which first incident in Douglas' childhood filled him with the fear of water?

5. How did Douglas's introduction to the Y.M.C.A pool revive his childhood fear of water?

6. Why was the writer at first not much frightened when he was thrown into the pool?

or

What did Douglas' experience as he went down to the bottom of the pool for the first time?

7. Why did Douglas fail to come to the surface of the pool as he hoped to?

8. How did Douglas' experience at the beach in California affect him?

or

How did the near drowning experience at the pool affect Douglas ?

or

9. How did the incident at the Y.M.C.A pool affect Douglas?

10. How did the instructor help Douglas to overcome his fear of water?

11. What qualities turned the diffident Douglas into a good swimmer?

12. Why did Douglas go to Lake Wentworth in New Hampshire?

## The Rattrap - By Selma Lagerlöf

“The Rattrap” is about a man who is a peddler with a pessimistic attitude towards the world. He is a poor man with very low savings. Thus, he resorts to petty thefts and begging to make both ends meet.

He has a thought that the whole world is a rattrap, that the world offers us various types of baits in the form of comforts of life. In this way man falls into the rattrap of the world and that leads to miseries.

One evening he is offered shelter by an old crofter. The next morning he steals the crofter’s hard earned money. While trying to escape, the peddler loses his way in a forest. Later he spots a forge there and takes shelter. The ironmaster mistakes him as an old acquaintance and invites him to his house. The peddler declines the invitation in the fear of getting caught. Later Edla, the ironmaster’s daughter, invites him and he agrees. Later even when his true identity is disclosed, Edla insists on letting him stay and celebrate Christmas with them. The ironmaster & Edla eventually learn that the peddler was a thief, but to their surprise the peddler did not steal anything from their house in their absence. He leaves a note for Edla thanking her for her kindness. He also leaves behind the crofter’s money.

The story gives the message that the essential goodness in a man can be awakened by kindness and compassion. Materialistic things fail to gain inner joy, only love and respect begets true satisfaction.

### (B) Short Answer Type Questions

Marks - 2

(The first few have been done for you)

- 1) Why did the peddler think that the world was a rattrap ?

Ans : The peddler thought that the whole world was a big rattrap, as its sole purpose was to set baits for people. The joys and riches offered by the world were nothing but temporary baits and the one that fell prey to these was captured by the rattrap. This ultimately led to miseries.

- 2) What did the peddler sell ? How did he make those things ?

Ans : The peddler sold small rattraps made of wire. He used to make them all by himself. He procured the material by begging in the stores or at the big farms.

- 3) Why did the peddler resort to thievery and beggings ?

Ans : The peddler made small rattraps and used to sell them. But this little business was not much profitable. So he had to resort to both begging and petty thefts to keep his body and soul together.

- 4) What pleasure did the peddler get from the idea that the world is a rattrap ?

- 5) Why did the crofter welcome the rattrap seller in his cottage in spite of the fact that he was a stranger ?

- 6) Do you think the crofter was a good host ? What idea about the crofter do you form from this story?



- 7) How much money did the crofter make by selling milk ? Why did he show the amount to the peddler ?
- 8) How did the peddler steal the thirty kronors of the crofter ?
- 9) Why did the peddler choose the way through the woods after stealing the crofter's money ? What did he realise then ?
- 10) Who was the owner of Ramsjo iron mill ? Why did the ironmaster visit the mill at night?
- 11) How did the ironmaster react on seeing the stranger lying close to the furnace ? Who did he mistake the stranger as ?
- 12) Why did the peddler not reveal his true identity to the ironmaster ?
- 13) Why did the peddler turn down the invitation of the ironmaster ?
- 14) Why did the peddler accept the invitation of Edla Willmansson ?
- 15) What thought did Edla have about the peddler ?
- 16) What led to the ironmaster's discovery of the peddler's true identity ?
- 17) Why did Edla request her father not to send the peddler away ever after knowing the truth about him ?
- 18) Was Edla happy to see the gift left by the peddler ? Why ?
- 19) What were the contents of the package left by the peddler as Christmas gift for Edla ?
- 20) What did the peddler write in the letter addressed to Edla ?
- 21) Why did the peddler sign himself as Captain Von Stahle ?
- 22) What game did the crofter play with the peddler ? Who is a crofter ? What was the name of the cow ? What is a Kronor ?

**(A) Read the extract given below and answer the questions. (The first one has been done for you)**

- 1) No one can imagine how sad and monotonous life can appear to such a vagabond, who plods along the road, left to his own meditations. But one day this man had fallen into a line of thought, which really seemed to him entertaining. He had naturally been thinking of his rattraps when suddenly he was struck by the idea that the whole world about him --- the whole world with its lands and seas, its cities and villages – was nothing but a big rattrap. It had never existed for any other purpose than to set baits for people.

**Questions**

1. Name the text from which the above extract has been taken.
2. Who is the writer ?
3. How is life to a vagabond ?
4. What is the 'line of thought' that seemed to be entertaining to the vagabond?
5. Why did the vagabond find the whole world a rattrap ?

6. "It had never existed"- What does "it" mean here ?
7. Find words from the passage which mean the same as following --- Boring, Tramp.
8. What does the word 'plod' mean ?

**Ans :**

1. The above extract is taken from the text "The Rattrap."
  2. "The Rattrap" is written by Selma Lagerlof.
  3. Life to a vagabond is very sad and monotonous.
  4. "The line of thought" that seemed to be very entertaining to the vagabond is that the whole world with its lands and seas, cities & villages was nothing but a big rattrap.
  5. The vagabond found the whole world a rattrap as the world existed only to set baits for people.
  6. Here "it" refers to the world.
  7. Boring- Monotonous  
Tramp- Vagabond.
  8. The word 'plod' means to walk with slow and heavy steps.
- 2) "One dark evening as he was trudging along the road he caught sight of a little gray cottage by the roadside, and he knocked on the door to ask shelter for the night. Nor was he refused. Instead of the sour faces which ordinarily met him, the owner, who was an old man, without wife or child, was happy to get someone to talk to in his loneliness."

**Questions :**

- a. Who is referred to as 'he' in these lines ?
  - b. Why did the peddler knock at the door ?
  - c. The peddler was refused shelter- True or False.
  - d. Who was the owner of the little gray cottage ?
  - c. What was the old man's reaction on seeing the peddler ?
  - f. What does the word 'trudging' mean ?
  - g. What does 'sour faces' mean in the extract ?
- (3) "As he walked along with the money in his pocket he felt quite pleased with his smartness. He realised, of course, that at first he dared not continue on the public highway, but must turn off the road, into the woods. During the first hours this caused him no difficulty. Later in the day it became worse, for it was a big and confusing forest which he had gotten into."

**Questions :**

- a. Why did the peddler feel pleased with the money in his pocket ?

- b. How much money was the peddler carrying ?
  - c. “Later in the day it became worse”– What does the peddler mean by this ?
  - d. Why did the peddler not dare to continue on the public highway ?
  - e. How did the forest appear to the peddler ?
- (4) “But just as he laid his head on the ground, he heard a sound, a hard regular thumping. There was no doubt as to what that was. He raised himself. “Those are the hammer strokes from an iron mill,”he thought.

**Questions :**

- a. Who is referred to as ‘he’ here ?
  - b. Why did the man lay his head on the ground ?
  - c. What sound did he hear ?
  - d. How did the peddler feel on hearing the sounds ?
  - e. What does ‘thumping’ mean in the extract ?
- (5) “The next day, both men got up in good season. The crofter was in a hurry to milk his cow, and the other man probably thought he should not stay in bed when the head of the house had gotten up. They left the cottage at the same time. The crofter locked the door and put the key in his pocket. The man with the rattraps said good bye and thank you, and there upon each went his own way”.

**Question :**

- a. Name the lesson and the author.
  - b. Who are the “both men” mentioned here ?
  - c. Why was the crofter in a hurry ?
  - d. What did the other men think ?
  - e. What did the man with the rattraps say while parting with the crofter ?
- (6) The next day was Christmas eve, and when the ironmaster came into the dining room for breakfast he probably thought with satisfaction of his old regimental comrade whom he had run across so unexpectedly. “First of all we must see to it that he gets a little flesh on his bones” he said to his daughter, who was busy at the table. “And then we must see that he gets something else to do than to run around the country selling rattraps.”

**Questions :**

- a. What does “Christmas eve” mean ?
- b. What was the “thought with satisfaction” that came to the ironmaster’s mind ?
- c. Who is the “old regimental comrade” here ?
- d. Who is the daughter of the ironmaster ?

- e. "...he gets a little flesh on his bones"– What does this line mean ?
- f. What was the second thing that the ironmaster wanted to do for his guest ?
- g. What does "regimental comrade" mean ?
- 7. As soon as they got up from the table he went around to each one present and said thank you and good night, but when he came to the young girl she gave him to understand that it was her father's intention that the suit which he wore was to be a Christmas present ---- he did not have to return it; and if he wanted to spend next Christmas Eve in a place where he could rest in peace, and be sure that no evil would befall him, he would be welcomed back again."

**Questions :**

- a) Why were "they" giving presents to each other ?
- b) What Christmas gift did the girl's father give to the guest ?
- c) What did the girl try to convey to the guest ?
- d) The guest would be welcomed for the next Christmas again – True or False.
- e) What does the word "befall" mean ?
- 8. "Honoured and noble Miss," Since you have been so nice to me all day long, as if I was a captain, I want to be nice to you, in return, as if I was a real captain– for I do not want you to be embarrassed at this Christmas season by a thief, but you can give back the money to the old man on the roadside, who has the money pouch hanging on the window frame as a bait for poor wanderers.

"The rattrap is Christmas present from a rat who would have been caught in this world's rattrap if he had not been raised to captain, because in that way he got power to clear himself..."

**Questions :**

- a) Who is the "Miss" here ?
- b) Why did the peddler not want the noble Miss to be embarrassed ?
- c) Whose money did the Peddler want to give back ?
- d) What is the "bait for poor wanderers" here ?
- e) What made the rattrap seller realise his mistakes ? Or How did he get the power to clear himself ?
- f) Who had raised the position of a rattrap seller to that of a captain ?

**Long answer type questions :**

- 1) What are the instances in the story that show that the character of the ironmaster is different from that of his daughter in many ways ?

Or,

Compare and contrast the character of the ironmaster with that of his daughter .

- 2) What affect did the Crofter and Edla had on the rattrap seller ?
- 3) Why did the peddler decline the ironmaster's invitation to spend the Christmas Eve with them ?
- 4) What made the Crofter repose his trust and confidence in the peddler ? What did the peddler do in return and what were the consequences?
- 5) What made the peddler accept Edla's invitation to stay at their place ?
- 6) What were the peddler's realisations after robbing the Crofter ? What did he do to adapt to the new situation ?
- 7) "The peddler believed that the whole world is a rattrap." What led to his falling into the trap of the same ?
- 8) "Basic human goodness can be brought out by understanding & love." Comment with reference to " The Rattrap".
- 9) Pick out instances from the text that show unexpected reactions from the characters to others' behaviour.
- 10) Do you think that most of the characters in "The Rattrap" are victims of loneliness ? Comment with instances from the chapter.

## INDIGO – Louis Fischer

### 1. Read the following extracts and answer the following questions :

1x4=4

When I first visited Gandhi in 1942 at his ashram in Sevagram, in central India, he said, “ I will tell you how it happened that I decided to urge the departure of the British. It was in 1917.”

He had gone to the December 1916 annual convention of the Indian Nation Congress Party in Lucknow. There were 2301 delegates and many visitors. During the proceedings, Gandhi recounted, “a peasant came up to me looking like any other peasant in India, poor and emaciated, and said, “I am Rajkumar Shukla , I am from Champaran and I want you to come to my district”.

#### Questions :

- i) Who is ‘I’ referred to here in the first line of the extract ?  
or  
Who visited Gandhiji at Sevagram and when ?
  - ii) Where did the speaker visit Gandhiji ?
  - iii) Who was ‘he’ ? Where had he gone ?
  - iv) Why did the peasants come up to Gandhiji ?
  - v) What was the name of peasant who came up to Gandhiji and from where did he come ?
  - vi) How many delegates and visitors were there in the annual convention ?
  - vii) How were peasants described in India ?
  - viii) Where did the annual convention of the Indian National Congress take place and when ?
  - ix) Find out a word from the extract which means — ‘abnormally thin and weak.’
  - x) Find out a word from the extract which means ‘the act of leaving a place’.
  - xi) The number of people attending the proceedings shows their earnest desire for some solution to their problem.-- Write True or False .
2. “Several days later, Gandhiji received a written communication from the magistrate informing him that the Lieutenant Governor of the province had ordered the case to be dropped. Civil disobedience had triumphed ,the first time in modern India.

Gandhiji and the lawyers now proceeded to conduct a far-flung inquiry into the grievances of the farmers. Depositions by about ten thousand peasants were written down, and notes made on other evidence. Documents were collected .The whole area throbbed with the activity of the investigators and the vehement protests of the landlords.”

#### Questions :

- (i) From where did Gandhiji receive a written communication?

- (ii) Where has the extract been taken from ? Who is the writer ?
  - (iii) For what did Gandhi and the lawyers proceed ?
  - (iv) What activity was witnessed in the whole area ?
  - (v) Civil obedience had triumphed, the first time in modern India - Write true or false.
  - (vi) \_\_\_\_\_ by about ten thousands farmer were written down. (Fill in the gap)
  - (vii) Find out a word from the extract which means ‘resonated’.
  - (viii) Find out a word from the extract which means ‘forceful’ .
3. “The news of Gandhi’s advent and of the nature of his mission spread quickly through Muzaffarpur and to Champaran. Sharecroppers from Champaran began arriving on foot and by conveyance to see their Champion. Muzaffarpur lawyers called on Gandhi to brief him; they frequently represented peasant groups in court, they told him about their cases and reported the size of their fee. Gandhi chided the lawyers for collecting big fee from sharecroppers. He said, “where the peasants are so crushed and fear-stricken , law courts are useless. The real relief for them is to be free from fear.”

**Questions :**

- i) What was the news that spread quickly through Muzaffarpur and to Champaran?
  - ii) Who were called sharecroppers ?
  - iii) Who started arriving on foot ? Why and from where ?
  - iv) Why did the Muzaffarpur’s lawyers call on Gandhiji ?
  - v) Who is the ‘Champion’ referred to here ?
  - vi) Why did Gandhiji chide the Muzaffarpur lawyers ?
  - vii) What according to Gandhiji, was the real relief for the sharecroppers ?
  - viii) The peasants are so crushed and fear- stricken, so law courts are useful’. - Write true or false
  - ix) Gandhiji’s reaction to the situation proves that - lawyers were collecting\_\_\_\_\_.
  - x) The nature of \_\_\_\_\_ mission spread quickly. Fill up the blank with appropriate noun.
  - xi) Find out a word from the extract which means ‘visitation’.
  - xii) Find out a word from the extract which means ‘blamed’ .
4. Health conditions were miserable. Gandhi got a doctor to volunteer his services for six months. Three medicines were available - castor oil , quinine and sulphur ointment .Anybody who showed a coated tongue was given a dose of castor oil; anybody with malaria fever recived quinine plus castor oil; anybody with skin eruptions received ointment plus castor oil’.

During his long stay in Champaran, Gandhi kept a long distance watch on the ashram. He sent regular instructions by mail and asked for financial accounts. Once he wrote to the residents that it was time to fill in the old latrine trenches and dig new ones otherwise the old ones would begin to smell bad.

**Questions :**

- i) How did Gandhiji keep watch on the ashram ?  
OR  
How did Gandhiji control the ashram being in Champaran ?
  - ii) Why did he once write to the residents of the ashram to fill the latrine trenches and dig new ones ?
  - iii) Who got a doctor and why ?
  - iv) Which medicines were available ?
  - v) Which medicine was given to one having a coated tongue ?
  - vi) Find out a word from the extract which means 'discharge'.
  - vii) Find out a word from the extract which means 'a record of money spent and received'.
  - viii) Health conditions were relievable - Write true or false.
  - ix) Gandhiji stayed in \_\_\_\_\_ for a long time. - Fill up the blank with appropriate word.
  - x) What medicine was given to one for malaria ?
5. Gandhi never contented himself with large political or economic solutions. He saw the cultural and social backwardness in the Champaran villages and wanted to do something about it immediately. He appealed for teachers. Mahadev Desai and Narhari Parikh, two young men who had just joined Gandhi as disciples, and their wives, volunteered for the work. Several more came from Bombay, Poona and other distant parts of the land . Devadas, Gandhi's youngest son , arrived from the ashram and so did Mrs Gandhi. Primary schools were opened in six villages. Kasturbai taught the ashram rules on personal cleanliness and community sanitation.

**Questions :**

- i) Where has the extract been taken from and who is the author ?
- ii) What never satisfied Gandhiji ?
- iii) Why did Gandhiji appeal for teachers ?
- iv) Who was Devadas ?
- v) Who was Kasturbai ? What did she teach ?
- vi) Whose wives had volunteered for the work ?
- vii) Gandhi was of the opinion that there were many incomplete works in Champaran villages.- Write true or false .
- viii) Find out a word from the extract which means 'complacent'.
- ix) Gandhiji seeing the backwardness of the Champaran villages wanted to do something \_\_\_\_\_ . (Fill up the blank)
- x) Who were Mahadev Desai and Narhari Parikh ?



6. “The official inquiry assembled a crushing mountain of evidence against the big planters, and when they saw this they agreed, in principle, to make refunds to the peasants. ‘But how much must we pay?’ they asked Gandhi.

They thought he would demand repayment in full of the money which they had illegally and deceitfully extorted from the sharecroppers. He asked only 50 percent. “There he seemed adamant,” writes Reverend J.Z Hodge, a British missionary in Champaran who observed the entire episode at close range.” Thinking probably that he would not give way, the representative of the planters offered to refund to the extent 25 percent, and to his amazement Mr. Gandhi took him at his word, thus breaking the deadlock.”

**Questions :**

- i) What did the officials agree to ?
- ii) What did the official inquiry reveal ?
- iii) Whom do you think as ‘they’, in the given passage ? What did ‘they’ think ?
- iv) Who was J.Z Hodge ?
- v) How did the planters extort the sharecroppers ?
- vi) Which word in the extract means ‘pulverizing’ ?
- vii) How much of the money did Gandhiji demand that had been illegally extorted ?
- viii) Why did Gandhi take Reverend J.Z Hodge at his word ?
- ix) Gandhiji observed the entire episode at close range. -- Write true or false.
- x) How much did the planters offer to refund ?
- xi) Find out a word from the extract which means ‘a feeling of great surprise.’.
- xii) \_\_\_\_\_ seemed adamant. Fill up the blank with appropriate noun.

7. “Presently , the landlords learned that Germany had developed synthetic indigo. They there-upon, obtained agreements from the sharecroppers to pay them compensation for being released from the 15 percent arrangement. The sharecroppers’ arrangement was irksome to the peasants, and many signed willingly. Those who resisted, engaged lawyers; the landlords hired thugs. Meanwhile, the information about synthetic indigo reached the illiterate peasants who had signed, and they wanted their money back.”

**Questions :**

- i) Who came to learn that Germany had developed synthetic indigo ?
- ii) What was the information that the illiterate peasants got ?
- iii) What happened when the information reached the peasants ?
- iv) Find out a word from the extract which means ‘refrain from.’
- v) Which word in the extract means ‘tedious’ ?

- vi) The landlords were hesitant to accept the arrangement. – Write true or false.
- vii) Why did the landlords obtain the agreements from the sharecroppers ?
- viii) The peasants wanted \_\_\_\_\_. (Fill in the blank)
- ix) Where was synthetic indigo developed ?
- x) Which word in the extract means ‘criminals’ ?

**\* Short answer type Questions :**

**Marks - 2**

**\* Answer the following questions within 30-40 words :**

1. Why is Rajkumar Shukla described as being ‘resolute’ ?  
or  
How did Rajkumar Shukla establish that he was resolute ?
2. Why do you think the servants thought Gandhi to be another peasant ?  
or  
How was Gandhi treated at Rajendra Prasad’s house ?
3. Why did Gandhi agree to a settlement of 25% refund to the farmers ?  
or  
Why did Gandhi agree to the planter’s offer of a 25% refund to the farmers ?
4. Why did Rajkumar Shukla want to take Gandhiji to Champaran ?
5. Why do you think Gandhi considered the Champaran episode to be a turning -point in his life?
6. How was Gandhiji able to influence the lawyers ?
7. How do you know that ordinary people too contributed to the freedom movement ?
8. Why did Gandhiji decide to go to Muzaffarpur ? Where did he stay there ?
9. How did Gandhiji begin his mission in Champaran ?
10. Why did Gandhiji oppose when his friend Andrews offered to stay in Champaran and help the peasants ?  
or  
Why was Gandhiji opposed to C. F Andrews helping him in Champaran ?  
or  
Why did Gandhiji object to CF. Andrews’ stay in Champaran ?
11. How did Gandhiji help the peasants of Champaran ?
12. Though the sharecroppers of Champaran received only one - fourth of the compensation , how can the Champaran struggle still be termed a huge success and victory ?

13. Why did Gandhiji chide the lawyers ?  
What conclusion did he come to ?  
or  
How did Gandhiji criticise the lawyers?
14. Why did Gandhi feel that taking the Champaran case to the court was useless ?
15. What made the Lieutenant -Governor drop the case against Gandhiji ?
16. What were the terms of the indigo contract between the British landlords and the Indian farmers ?  
or  
What did the peasants pay the British landlords as rent ?
17. What did Gandhi do about the social and cultural upliftment of the Champaran villages ?
18. Why did the landlords not resist the idea of refunding the peasants' money ?
19. How did Gandhiji react to the commissioner's advice and where did he go ?
20. How did the Champaran peasants react when they heard that a Mahatma had come to help them ?
21. Why did Gandhiji tell the court that he was involved in a 'conflict' of duties' ?

**\* Long Answer type Question :**

**Marks - 6**

**\* Answer the following questions within 120-150 words :**

1. Why did Rajkumar Shukla invite Gandhiji to Champaran ?  
How did Gandhiji solve the problem of Indigo farmers ?
2. Give an account of Gandhiji's efforts to secure justice for the poor indigo sharecroppers of Champaran ?  
or  
Describe the difficulties faced by Gandhiji in Champaran.
3. Why do you think Gandhiji considered the Champaran episode to be a turning-point in his life ?  
or  
"The Champaran episode was a turning-point in Gandhiji's Life' - Explain .  
or  
How did a visit to Champaran become a turning- point in Gandhiji's life ? How does this show Gandhiji's love and concern for the common people of india ?  
or  
How did Gandhiji use Satyagraha and non-violence at Champaran to achieve his goal ?
4. How did the Civil Disobedience triumph at Motihari ?

or

“Civil disobedience had triumphed the first time in modern India.” How ? Explain with reference to the lesson ‘Indigo’.

or

When and why did the author say that the civil disobedience had triumphed for the first time in modern India ?

or

Reproduce in your own words the incident related to Motihari .

5. Freedom from fear is more important than legal justice for the poor. Do you think that the poor of India are free from fear after Independence ?
6. “His was not a loyalty to abstractions. It was a loyalty to living ,human beings .” -Illustrate in the light of Gandhiji’s character .

or

Gandhiji was a great leader. What according to you are the qualities a leader must possess ?

## Going places

**A. R. Barton**

**About the Text :** Sophie, who is a teenage girl, has big dreams and comes from a poor family background. Her friend Jansie tells that dreams come true if one has money or experience. Sophie's family does not believe her made-up fantasy stories as they are far from reality. Sophie is attracted to Danny Casey, a famous soccer player. She tells her brother Geoff that she met Casey and that the latter had asked her for a meeting. She keeps building up the story to the extent that she starts believing it. On the day of the unreal 'meeting' she waits for Danny to come but he never does. She goes back home and is sad and disappointed. But she still believes that someday Casey will come to meet her.

### **A. Extract based questions :**

**Marks - 1**

- a) 'Well I'll be a manager then- yes, of course- to begin with . Till I've got enough . But anyway, I knew just how it's all going to look.'
1. Name the prose and the author.
  2. Who is referred as 'I' in the above extract ?
  3. Who is the listener?
  4. Which place does the speaker want to be a manager of ?
  5. What is the word in the extract which is the synonym of 'sufficient' ?

### **Answer :**

1. The name of the chapter is 'Going Places' by A.R.Barton.
  2. Here 'I' is the main protagonist named Sophie.
  3. The listener is Sophie's friend, Jansie .
  4. The speaker wants to be a manager at some boutique .
  5. Enough.
- b) "Huh – If you ever come into money... If you ever come into money you'll buy us a blessed decent house to live in, thank you very much."
1. Who is the speaker ?
  2. Who is referred to as 'you'?
  3. What led the speaker to say these words?
  4. Which word in the extract is the synonym of 'purchase' ?
- c) Sophie watched her back stooped over the sink and wondered at the incongruity of the delicate bow which fastened her apron strings. The delicate – seeming bow and the crooked back. The evening had already blacked in the windows and the small room was steamy from the above and cluttered with the heavy breathing man in his vest at the table and the dirty washing piled up in the corner.

Sophie felt a tightening in her throat. She went to look for her brother Geoff.

1. What shows that Sophie belonged to a poor family?
  2. What is the 'incongruity' that Sophie watches?
  3. What is meant by the word 'crooked'?
  4. Who is the 'heavy breathing man in his vest'?
  5. How did Sophie feel in her throat?
  6. Who is Geoff?
  7. What was the condition of the small room?
- d) He wore new, shining black leathers and she a yellow dress with a kind of cape that flew out behind. There was the sound of applause as the world rose to greet them.
1. Who is referred to as 'he' in the above extract?
  2. Who wore a yellow dress?
  3. How are 'he' and 'she' related to each other?
  4. Where were they going?
  5. What is meant by 'cape'?
  6. What is the synonym of 'dull' in the extract?
- e) He was kneeling on the floor in the next room tinkering with a part of his motorcycle over some newspaper spread on the carpet. He was three years out of school, an apprentice mechanic, travelling to his work each day to the far side of the city. He was almost grown up now, and she suspected areas of his life, about which she knew nothing... and she was jealous of his silence.
1. Who does 'he' refer to in the given passage?
  2. What is the profession of the person mentioned in the extract?
  3. Why is Sophie jealous?
  4. Why does Sophie like him more than any other person?
  5. What is the meaning of the word 'apprentice'?
- f) Perhaps there were also people, exotic, interesting people of whom he never spoke – it was possible though he was quiet and didn't make new friends easily. She longed to know them. She wished she could be admitted more deeply into her brother's affections and some day he might take her with him."
1. Who does 'he' refer to in the given passage?
  2. What type of person was he?
  3. Who does 'she' refer to in the given passage?
  4. "She longed to know them"- Who are 'them'?
  5. What is the meaning of the word 'affection' here?

- g) “Well – he has green eyes, Gentle eyes.  
And he’s not so tall as you’d think-  
She wondered if she should say about his teeth, but decided against it.”
1. Who is ‘she’ referred to here?
  2. Who has green eyes?
  3. Where did she meet the person?
  4. Was the meeting a real one?
  5. To whom did she express the above lines?
- h) “It was just a little thing really. I asked him for an autograph, but we hadn’t any paper or pen so it was no good”
1. Who is the speaker?
  2. Who is the listener?
  3. What is the ‘little thing’ mentioned here?
  4. From whom did she ask for an autograph?
  5. Why did the speaker fail to take the autograph?
  6. What is the meaning of the word “autograph”?
- i) Sophie glared at the ground , Damn that Geoff, this was a Geoff thing not a Jansie thing. It was meant to be something special just between them. Something secret. It wasn’t a Jansie kind of thing at all. Tell gawky Jansie something like that and the whole neighbourhood would get to know it’
1. Who is Geoff ?
  2. Who is Jansie ?
  3. What wasn’t a Jansie thing ?
  4. What is the meaning of the word ‘gawky’ ?
  5. Why did Soplje not want Jansie to know about her secret ?
- j) After dark she walked by the canal, along a sheltered path lighted only by the glare of the lamps from the wharf across the water and the unceasing drone of the city was muffled and distant. It was a place she had often played in when she was a child. There was a wooden bench beneath a solitary elm where lovers sometimes came. She sat down to wait , It was the perfect place , she had always thought so, for a meeting of this kind , For those who wished not to be observed , she knew he would approve.
1. Who is ‘she’ here?
  2. What did she do after dark?
  3. When did she visit the place earlier?

4. It was the perfect place' - What was the place perfect for ?
5. Where did she sit down?
6. Who is 'he' in the last line of this passage?
7. What are the meanings of the words in the passage – 'unceasing' 'glare' 'muffled'?

**Short answer type questions :**

**Marks - 2**

1. What does Sophie dream of doing after graduating from school? Why is it considered as a dream and not a plan?

**Ans :-** Sophie wants to own a boutique after finishing her school. She also dreams of being a manager of some reputed boutique right after passing from school. She has dreams of being an actor or a fashion designer as well.

She is aware that she does not have the money to have a boutique. Her dreams are unrealistic at this point as she has no definite plan to achieve them.

2. How is Geoff different from her sister Sophie?
3. Where was it likely that the two girls would find work after school?
4. Who is Mary Quaint ? Who is Danny Casey?
5. Why was Sophie jealous of Geoff ?
6. How did Sophie's father react when Geoff told him about her meeting with Danny Casey?
7. Does Geoff believe what Sophie says about her meeting with Danny Casey?
8. What did Sophie imagine about her meeting with Danny Casey?
9. Why did Sophie feel a tightening of her throat after entering home?
10. Why did Jansie discourage Sophie from having unrealistic dreams?
11. How would you describe the character and temperament of Sophie's father?
12. What socio- economic background did Sophie belong to ? What are the indicators of her family's financial status?
13. Did Geoff keep his promise to Sophie?  
How do you know?
14. 'Damn that Geoff , this was not a Jansie thing' – Why did Sophie say so?
15. Why was the visit of Sophie's father and his family to watch, 'United', considered as their 'Weekly prilgrimage'?
16. What were Sophie's views about going on a bike ride with Geoff one day?
17. Which was the only occasion when Sophie got to see Danny Casey in person?
18. What thoughts came to Sophie's mind as she sat by the canal?
19. Why does Jansie say "Soaf, you really should be sensible"?
20. Why do you think, Geoff tells Sophie the following ?



i. 'Casey must have strings of girls'.

ii. 'As if he'd ever show up'?

21. How are Jansie and Sophie different from each other?

22. Why was Sophie jealous of her brother Geoff's silence?

**Long answer type : (the first one is a sample answer)**

**Marks - 6**

1. Every teenager has a hero/ heroine to admire. Therefore many times they become role model for them. So what is wrong if Sophie fantasises about Danny Casey and dreams of fancy careers in life?

Ans:- Hero worship is a general trait during teenage. They identify a person, follow them and thus select a role model. They also dream of leading a life full of pleasure. The same is in the case of Sophie. It is no wrong of her to dream about a better economic condition or having a celebrated soccer player as her special friend.

However, it needs to be understood that day dreaming leads nowhere . Every dream needs to be followed by a plan of actions. Sophie dreams of owning a boutique but she does not have the money required . She is not even aware that job of a manager won't give her enough savings. She also has no definite action plans to become an actress or a fashion designer. Sophie, moreover, has never met Dany Casey but cooks up fancy stories and tells everybody otherwise. She even waits for him near the canal that finally leads to disappointment .

Thus, Sophie having ambitions is quite okay but the absence of an action plan to achieve her dreams is unfortunate. She lives in a world made of unrealistic dreams.

2. Compare and contrast the characters of the two friends Sophie and Jansie.

3. Do you think people having the socio economic background in which Sophie lived should not dream big? Give reasons for your answer.

4. "Sophie has her own dreams and disappointments but they are all her creations – creations of her mind" – Discuss.

OR,

Write a character analysis of Sophie after reading the story 'Going Places.'

5. Describe the bond between Geoff and Sophie and also the differences in their temperaments and thought processes?

6. Who was Danny Casey?

How was he adored by Sophie's family, specially by Sophie and her father?

7. What estimate of Geoff's character do you get from the story?

8. "Unrealistic dreams often lead to a great deal of unhappiness – Justify the statement on the basis of the story 'Going Places'.

9. Why did Sophie like her brother Geoff more than any other person?

From her perspective , what did he symbolize?

10. Justify the title of the story 'Going Places'.

**Poetry**  
**My Mother at Sixty – Six**  
**By Kamala Das**

**About the text** - The poem revolves around the beautiful relationship between the poet and her mother. The theme of advancing age of the mother of the poet and the fear of separation predominates the poem.

The poet while going to the Cochin airport with her mother, looks carefully at her mother's wheatish face, and realises that her mother is in her advancing old age. The fear of losing the mother strikes her. The visage of the sleeping mother resembles to that of a corpse.

Feeling hurt and sad, the poet shifts her attention outside the car to change her mood. The scene outside the window is full of budding life and energy. The fast sprinting green trees alongside the cheerfully playing kids represent life youth, and vitality. This makes the poet insecure of losing her aging mother.

When they finally reach the airport, the poet glances at her mother who looked pale and weak like the winter's moon. As a child, the poet could not live without her mother and it is the same ever now. Now the loss would be permanent if the mother dies.

But with a hope of seeing her mother again, the poet takes leave from her mother with the words "see you soon, Amma."

**Very Short Answer Type Questions**

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow - (The first one has been done for you) -

1. "Driving from my parents home to cochin last Friday morning, I saw my mother, beside me doze, open mouthed, her face ashen like that of a corpse and realised with pain that she was as old as she looked."

**Questions :**

- a) What is the name of the poem and the poet ?
- b) Where was the poet driving to ? Who was sitting beside her ?
- c) What has the mother's face been compared to ?
- d) "Realised with pain"- What did the poet realise ?
- e) Find words from the passage which mean :  
i) sleep lightly ii) Dead body iii) felt.

**Answers :**

- a) The above extract is from the poem " My Mother at Sixty-Six" composed by Kamala Das.
- b) The poet was driving from her parents' home to the Cochin airport. Her mother was sitting

beside her.

- c) The pale and wheatish face of the mother has been compared to a corpse.
- d) The poet realised with pain that her mother had aged already and that she might lose her anytime.
- e) (i) Doze (ii) Corpse (iii) Realized

2. “.....but soon

Put that thought away, and

looked out at young

Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling out of their homes.”

**Questions :**

- a) “.....but soon put that thought away” - What ‘thought’ is the poet referring to ?
- b) What did she do then ?
- c) What did she notice in the world outside the car’s window ?
- d) Find words from the passage which mean.  
(i) running fast (ii) happy (iii) moving out

3. ....but after the airport’s

security check, standing a few yards away,

I looked again at her, wan, pale

as a late winter’s moon and felt that old familiar ache, my childhood’s fear.....”

**Questions :**

- a) What did the poet do after the security check ?
- b) Why did the poet compare her mother’s face to a late winter’s moon ?
- c) “Old familiar ache”, “my childhood’s fear” - What do these phrases mean ?
- d) Find words from the passage which mean.  
(i) Exhaustion (ii) Pain

4. “.....but all I said was, see you soon,

Amma, all I did was smile and smile and smile.....”

**Questions :**

- a) What were the parting words of the poet ?
- b) What did the poet do then ?
- c) Why did the poet smile at last ?
- d) Give another word for “Amma”.

**Short Ans. Type Questions :****Marks - 2**

(The first two have been solved for you)

- 1) Who wrote the poem “My Mother at Sixty Six” ? What is the pen-name of the poet ? Which day is mentioned in the poem ?

Ans : The poem “ My Mother at Sixty Six” is written by Kamala Das. Her pen name is Madhavikutty. The day is Friday as mentioned in the poem.

- 2) What is the reason of the pain that the poet feels while sitting in the car with the mother ?

Ans : The poet notices that her mother has aged and is now weak and pale. Her sleeping face appears similar to that of a corpse. Thus, the poet is troubled to think that her old mother might depart anytime.

- 3) What is meant by young trees “sprinting” ?

- 4) What is the significance of the image of the children “Spilling out of their homes” ?

- 5) How does Kamala Das try to put away the thoughts of her ageing mother ?

- 6) What was the childhood fear that troubled the poet ? Why does the poet feel the same fear when going to the airport ?

- 7) What do the parting words of the poet and her smile suggest in the poem “My mother at Sixty Six”?

- 8) Why has the mother been compared to the “Late winter’s moon”?

- 9) Where was the narrator driving to ? Who was sitting beside her ?

- 10) What makes the poet compare her mother’s face to that of a corpse ?

- 11) Why did the narrator say “See you soon, Amma” ?

- 12) What did Kamala Das notice about her mother while travelling to Cochin ?

**Long Answer Type Questions :****Marks - 6**

- 1) The theme of ageing as a natural process is predominant in the poem “My Mother at Sixty Six” - Comment.

- 2) Comment on the appropriateness of the title of the poem “My Mother at Sixty-Six.”

- 3) What message is being conveyed by the poem “My Mother at Sixty Six” ?

- 4) Describe the importance of the images of young trees “sprinting” and “merry” children spilling out of their homes in the poem “My mother at Sixty Six”.

- 5) Describe the parting of the mother and daughter at the airport. Why does the poet use the word ‘smile’ repeatedly ?

## **Keeping Quiet**

### **– Pablo Neruda**

**About the text :** - When the world is moving faster and everyone is preoccupied with work, there is rarely any time left for self-analysis. Pablo Neruda wants the world to pause and introspect itself. He believes that silence and self-introspection are the only tools that can help human beings to find out where the world is heading to. Human beings should learn how to make and keep peace among themselves. Keeping quiet can help human beings realize the impact of their mindless aggressiveness. A moment of silence can revive the essence of peace, humanity and brotherhood. In this anti-war poem, the poet brings in the theme of empathy and universal brotherhood, that can only be nurtured through the presence of conscious thoughts and feelings.

#### **Extract based Questions :**

1. “Now we will count to twelve  
and we will all keep still.  
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.”
  - i. Where do these lines occur?
  - ii. How long does the poet want us to keep quiet?
  - iii. Why does the poet want us to keep still?
  - iv. Why does the poet suggest not to ‘move our arms so much’ ?
  - v. Write the poetic devices used in this extract.
2. “It would be an exotic moment  
without rush, without engines,  
we would all be together  
in a sudden strangeness.”
  - i. Where have these lines been taken from?
  - ii. Which moment would be exotic, according to the poet?
  - iii. What does the poet mean by ‘sudden strangeness’?
  - iv. When would we all be together?
3. “Fishermen in the cold sea  
would not harm whales

and the man gathering salt  
would look at his hurt hands.”

- i. When would the fishermen cease harming the whales?
- ii. Why does the salt gatherer’s hands hurt ?
- iii. What do these activities mentioned in these lines signify?
- iv. How can the quiet moments initiate non- violence?

4. “Those who prepare green wars,  
wars with gas, wars with fire,  
victory with no survivors ,  
would put on clean clothes  
and walk about with their brothers  
in the shade, doing nothing.

- i. What are the types of war mentioned in the extract ?
- ii. Who would put on clean clothes ?
- iii. What does the phrase ‘victory with no survivors’ mean?
- iv. What does the poet mean by “clean clothes”?
- v. What would the warmongers do?

5. “What I want should not be  
confused with total inactivity.  
Life is what it is about;  
I want no truck with death.

- i. What does the poet want?
- ii. What is meant by ‘total inactivity’?
- iii. What is the difference between ‘keeping quiet’ and ‘total inactivity’?
- iv. What does the poet mean by the line, “Life is what it is about”?

6. “Perhaps the Earth can teach us  
as when everything seems dead  
and later proves to be alive.  
Now I’ll count up to twelve  
and you keep quiet and I will go.

- i. What can the Earth teach us?

- ii. When does everything seem dead?
- iii. When does it prove to be alive again?
- iv. Whom do the pronouns 'I' and 'you' refer to in these lines?
- v. Why does the poet specifically mention the number twelve here?

**Short Answer Type Questions : (The first one has been done for you)**

1. What does the number 'twelve' represent in the poem 'Keeping Quiet'?

Ans. The poet asks mankind to count upto twelve as it will calm down the mind and induce introspection. Here, the number, 'twelve' represents the number of hours in a day and the number of months in a year. It also represents the twelve zodiac signs in astrology.

2. Why does the poet ask mankind not to speak in any language?
3. Describe the exotic moment that would be sudden and strange.
4. What are green wars?
5. What is the significance of 'doing nothing' in the shade, as mentioned in the poem 'Keeping Quiet' by Pablo Neruda?
6. What are human beings so singleminded about ?
7. What does the poet mean by "this sadness of never understanding ourselves and of threatening ourselves with death"?
8. What can we learn from the Earth ?
9. Why does the poet say, "I want no truck with death"?
10. What is the central idea of the poem?

**Long Answer Type Questions**

1. Bring out the significance of the title of the poem 'Keeping Quiet.'

**Value points :** Keeping quiet signifies quiet introspection – moment of silence and soul- searching – devoid of rush and noise - a perfect moment to brood over the aggressiveness and destruction – calls for peace and tranquility.

2. Discuss the theme of the poem 'Keeping Quiet'.

**Value points :** An anti- war poem – advocates silence and pause – a moment to introspect – moment of silence would question the obsession with chasing goals and causing destruction – a moment of universal brotherhood – teaching the lesson of togetherness and silent productiveness.

3. Do you think 'Keeping Quiet' is an anti- war poem ? Justify your answer.

**Value points :** Anti- war poems advocate peace and harmony – the poet urges mankind to pause and reflect on the ruthless destructions – he prefers life and rejects affinity with death – warmongers would cherish brotherhood – nurture a clean conscience – in depth understanding of human predicament .

## A Thing of Beauty – John Keats

### Textual Extract Based Questions :

Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow :

Mark - 1

1. “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 .”

### Questions :

- i) Where has the extract been taken from ? Who is the poet ?
  - ii) Where has the poem ‘A Thing of Beauty’ been taken from ?
  - iii) Whose loveliness will keep on increasing ?
  - iv) What is effect of increase in its loveliness ?
  - v) Why does a beautiful thing “never pass into nothingness” ?
  - vi) What is a bower ?
  - vii) What does the poet mean by ‘a bower quiet for us’ ?
  - viii) Identify the phrase which says that ‘it’ is immortal ?
  - ix) The quietness of true beauty is full of sweet \_\_\_\_\_. (Fill in the blank)
  - x) Loveliness of a beautiful thing never increases : Write True or False .
  - xi) What sort of dreams come from a thing of beauty ?
  - xii) Why do we need sweet dreams, health and quiet breathing in our lives ?
  - xiii) Mention any two sources of joy which a thing of beauty provides to us.
  - xiv) What kind of joy do we get from a quiet bower ?
2. “Therefore , on every morrow are we wreathing  
A flowery band to bind us to the earth,  
Spite of despondence , of the inhuman dearth  
Of noble natures, of the gloomy days,  
Of all the unhealthy and o’er-darkend ways  
Made for our searching ,yes in spite of all.  
Some shape of beauty moves away the pall



From our dark spirits .”

**Questions :**

- i) Name the poem and poet from where the above extract has been taken .
- ii) Why do we wreath a garland of flowers every morning ?  
or  
Why do we need a “Flowery band”?
- iii) What are the things that cause pain and suffering ?  
or  
What evil things do we possess and suffer from ?  
or  
Which are the circumstances that contribute towards making humans unhappy and disillusioned with life ?
- iv) Which phrase in the above extract means “a mental state when we cannot see anything good about life.”
- v) What are the flowery bands that bind us to Earth ?
- vi) What message do the lines convey ?
- vii) What removes ‘the pall from our dark spirits’ ?
- viii) What does the poet mean by ‘o’er -darkened ways’ ?
- ix) There is a dearth of gloomy days on earth --Write True or False .
- x) There is a \_\_\_\_\_ of noble natures on Earth, (Fill up the blank)
- xi) Which poetic device is used in the line “Of noble natures , of the gloomy days” ?
- xii) Find out a word from the extract which means ‘malice’ .

3. “Such the sun, the moon  
Trees old , and young , sprouting a shady boon  
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”.

**Questions :**

- i) What does the poet say about the sun and the moon ?
- ii) What are the objects that dispel the darkness from our spirit and cheer us up ?

- iii) Which objects provide respite in the hot season ?
  - iv) Describe the role of daffodils and clear rills .
  - v) What is meant by the word 'brake' ?
  - vi) Why are our spirits referred to as 'dark' ?
  - vii) What do the trees do ?
  - viii) How has the mid-forest brake become rich ?
  - ix) \_\_\_\_\_ grow on the forest surface. (Fill in the blank)
  - x) The poet described the daffodils as being green in colour-Write True or False .
  - xi) Name the figure of speech in 'cooling covert' .
  - xii) Find out a word from the passage which means 'small streams' .
4. "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;

**Questions :**

- i) Name the poem and the poet .
- ii) Which two things of beauty are mentioned in these lines ?
- iii) The great deeds of the past are referred to as 'grand dooms'. Write True or False.
- iv) Why are the 'Lovely tales' called an endless fountain?
- v) Where is the fountain situated ?
- vi) Who are the 'mighty dead' referred to here ?
- vii) What is the endless fountain of immortal drink ?
- viii) What does the word 'brink' mean ?
- ix) Why is 'grandeur' associated with the 'mighty dead' ?
- x) Name the poetic devices used in the last two lines .
- xi) The tales of great deads are like a \_\_\_\_\_. (Fill in the blank)

**\* Short Answer type Questions :**

**Marks - 2**

**\* Answer the following questions within 30-40 words :**

1. How is a thing of beauty a joy forever ?  
 or

Do we experience things of beauty only for a short moment or do they make a lasting impression on us?

2. Mention any two things which cause pain and suffering.

3. What image does the poet use to describe the beautiful bounty of the Earth ?

4. What makes human beings love life in spite of troubles and sufferings ?

5. Which objects of nature does Keats mention as the source of joy in his poem, "A Thing of Beauty"?

or

Mention any four things of beauty that add joy to our life.

or

List the things of beauty as mentioned in the poem.

6. According to Keats, what removes the pall of despondance over our dark spirits ? How is it removed ?

7. What does the poet mean by, "An endless fountain of immortal drink /Pouring unto us from heaven's brink" ?

or

What rich bounty has the heaven given us ?

8. What is the endless fountain and what are its effects ?

9. In hot seasons, how do men and beasts get comfort ?

10. What does a thing of beauty do for us ?

or

How do we get joy from life which is otherwise full of sorrows ?

or

Life is full of sorrows. What brings joy in it ?

or

How do beautiful things helps us to live a happy life ?

11. Why does a thing of beauty never pass into nothingness ?

or

How does Keats define a thing of beauty ?

12. How can 'mighty dead' be things of beauty ? Why is grandeur associated with the mighty dead ?

13. How does the poet Keats show his unhappiness with his fellow human beings ?
14. How does a thing of beauty provide shelter and comfort?
15. What is the message of the poem, ' A Thing of Beauty' ?
16. Why does a thing of beauty never pass into 'nothingness'?

**\* Long Answer type questions :**

**Marks - 6**

**\* Answer the following questions within 120-150 words**

1. Write in your own words the substance of the poem , 'A Thing of Beauty' .
2. "Nature seems as an endless fountain of immortal drink". - What message does Keats want to convey ?
3. "A thing of beauty is a joy forever". Explain.

## **Aunt Jennifer's Tigers** **Adrienne Rich**

### **Extract based questions :**

Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow:

- 1) "Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen,  
Bright topaz denizens of a world of green.  
They do not fear the men beneath the trees  
They pace in sleek chivalric certainty" .

### **Questions :**

- i) Name the poem from where the extract has been taken. Who is the poet ?
  - ii) Why are the tigers called Aunt Jennifer's tigers?
  - iii) What do Aunt Jennifer's tigers do?
  - iv) Why are they described as "denizens of a world of green"?
  - v) Why are they not afraid of men?
  - vi) How are they different from Aunt Jennifer?
  - vii) Find out a word from the above extract which means 'to move about or jump'.
  - viii) What does the word 'chivalric' mean?
  - ix) Who are 'bright topaz denizens'?
  - x) Aunt Jennifer's tigers were made on a ————. (Fill in the blank)
  - xi) The tigers are under the tree. Write True or False.
  - xii) Where do you find the tigers?
  - xiii) What does the phrase "a world of green" mean?
  - xiv) Find out a word from the above passage which means "elegant or glossy".
  - xv) Are the tigers of Aunt Jennifer real ? Give reasons.
- 2) "Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool  
Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.

The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band

Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand

**Questions :**

- i) Why are Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool?
  - ii) Who finds it difficult to pull the ivory needle?
  - iii) What is Aunt Jennifer's mood?
  - iv) Why is Uncle's wedding band described as being heavy?  
or,  
What is suggested by the image of the massive weight of Uncle's wedding band ?  
or,  
Why is it heavy?
  - v) Which poetic device is used in the line,  
"Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool"?
  - vi) Why is it so difficult for her to pull the ivory needle?
  - vii) What is Uncle's wedding band?
  - viii) What is the ring a symbol of ?
  - ix) What image of the aunt comes out from this description?
  - x) What is Aunt Jennifer doing with her wool?
  - xi) Aunt Jennifer uses an ——— needle for her work. (Fill in the Blank)
  - xii) Aunt Jennifer's fingers flutter as she holds the wool. Write True or False.
- 3) "When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie  
still ringed with or dead she was mastered by.  
The tigers in the panel that she made.  
Will go on prancing , proud and unafraid"

**Questions :**

- i) Why are Aunt Jennifer's hands terrified ? Who terrified her?
- ii) What will happen to Aunt Jennifer's tigers after her death?

- iii) How do the tigers symbolize her inner longing?
- iv) What does the word 'prancing' mean?
- v) The lines talk of the time when Aunt Jennifer will be dead – Write True or False.
- vi) The tigers in the panel continued to — even after she had died. (Fill in the blank)
- vii) Why did she make the tigers?
- viii) How are the tigers different from Aunt Jennifer ?
- ix) Why has Aunt Jennifer created the tigers so different from her own character?
- x) Why is she 'ringed with ordeals'?
- xii) Find out a word from the lines which means unpleasant or painful experience.'

**\* Short Answer Type Questions :**

**Marks - 2**

**\* Answer the following questions within 30-40 words.**

- 1) How do the words 'denizens' and 'chivalrie' add to our understanding of Aunt Jennifer's tigers?
- 2) What lies heavily on Aunt Jennifer's hand ? How is it associated with her husband?
- 3) What picture of male chauvinism (tyranny ) do we find in the poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers'?
- 4) What will happen when Aunt Jennifer is dead?
- 5) Why has Aunt Jennifer made 'prancing, proud and unafraid' tigers?
- 6) What are the difficulties that Aunt Jennifer faced in her life?
- 7) What kind of married life did Aunt Jennifer lead?
- 8) Interpret the symbols found in this poem.

or,

How do symbols in the poem, 'Aunt Jennifer's tigers' help us understand her plight?

- 9) Describe the tigers created by Aunt Jennifer. How does the poet define Aunt Jennifer's tigers?
- 10) How are Aunt Jennifer and the tigers created by her different from each other in their attitudes?
- 11) Why did Aunt Jennifer choose to embroider tigers on the panel?
- 12) How does Aunt Jennifer express her bitterness and anger against male domination?
- 13) What do the symbols, ' tigers' 'fingers' and 'ring' stand for in the poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers'?
- 14) Why are Aunt Jennifer's hand fluttering through her wool?

15) What is the meaning of the phrase “massive weight of uncle’s wedding band”?

16) Aunt Jennifer’s efforts to get rid of her fear proved to be futile . Comment .

**Long Answer Type Questions :**

**Marks - 6**

**Answer the following questions within 120-150 words :**

- 1) Give in your own words the substance of the poem, ‘Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers’
- 2) Analyse the poem ‘Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers’ as a symbolic poem.
- 3) In a predominantly male dominated society , women have always faced oppression from men-  
What changes can be brought about in society for uplifting the position of women like Aunt Jennifer?

or,

Aunt Jennifer symbolizes women who are exploited and oppressed at the hands of the male dominated World. Comment.

- 4) Why do you think Aunt Jennifer created animals that are so different from her own character ?  
What might the poet be suggesting, through this difference?



## The Tiger King – Kalki

### Central Theme

Kalki's "The Tiger King" is about a foolish, but stubborn king who in the pursuit of merely subverting a prediction made years ago started killing innocent tigers of his kingdom. The story satirically brings out the picture of Indian kings and their kingdom during the colonial period. The story also showcases their (Indian kings) lack of commitment and service mentality towards their kingdom and subjects. In this case, the maharaja of Pratibandapuram, forgetting everything else about governance, selfishly devoted all his time, money and energy to fulfill his foolish vow of killing hundred tigers to remove the cause of his death as predicted by the astrologers earlier. He was so blind in his pursuit that he forgot the fact that if destiny has designed something it can not be overturned. Thus, it is wise to utilize the time in the welfare of mankind without worrying too much about the future. The story also raises several questions that need to be weighed upon and answered.

### Short Answer Type questions :

Mark - 2

1. Who became famous as the 'tiger king' and why?
2. Who is the writer of the story? Where is the story set?
3. What did the chief astrologer predict at the time of the prince's birth?
4. What miracle took place when the tiger king was born?
5. What measures did the tiger king take to prevent his death when he grew up?
6. What is the real name of the 'tiger king'? At what age did he become the king?
7. Why did the tiger king ban tiger hunting in his kingdom?
8. What problems did the king face after killing certain number of tigers?
9. What next step did he take to fulfill his promise?
10. What did the astrologer promise to do if his prediction proved wrong?
11. Why was the tiger king in danger of losing his kingdom?
12. How did the king manage to save his kingdom?
13. Why did the king suddenly decide to get married?
14. What strange conditions did the king give for his marriage?
15. How many tigers did the king kill each time during his visit to his father-in-law?
16. How many tiger skins adorned the walls of the Pratibandapuram palace?
17. How did the Dewan manage to arrange the hundredth tiger for the Maharaja?
18. Did the king really kill the hundredth tiger? Give reasons for your answer.
19. Why did one of the hunters shoot the hundredth tiger?

20. What gift did the king bring for his son in his third birthday?

21. How did the tiger king finally die ?

**Long Answer Type questions**

1. What impression do you get of the 'tiger king' from the story 'The Tiger King' by Kalki?

or

Sketch the character of the 'tiger king' .

2. What prediction was made by the astrologers about the king's death ? Describe the efforts made by the tiger king to subvert the prediction .

or

Which incident made the tiger king resolute to kill hundred tigers ?

3. Do you justify the act of killing innocent tigers for the fear of a mere prediction ? Give your reasons .

4. Narrate the incident of the tiger king's encounter with the British official .

or

Why was the tiger king in fear of losing his kingdom ? How did he finally manage to save it ?

5. What strange conditions were laid down by the tiger king for his marriage and why ?

6. Bring out the irony as revealed by the writer in the story .

7. Justify the title of the story " The Tiger King".

## **Journey to the end of the Earth**

### **Tishani Doshi**

**About the Text** – The text is a travelogue and about the author’s experience of her journey to Antarctica. The story begins with the author on a journey, in a Russian vessel, headed towards Antarctica . The story depicts the author’s 100 hours journey in a car, aeroplane as well as the ship. She is a south Indian travelling from Madras to Antarctica which took her through nine time zones, six checkpoints , three waterbodies and many ecospheres to reach there. The author Tishani Doshi travelled along with an expedition group “Students on Ice”. The aim of this journey was to enrich the young minds with the real scenarios of climatic changes around the world. Antarctica is the coldest, driest and windiest continent in the world and is completely white. The place stores 90% of earth’s total ice volumes with a 24 hour austral summer light and endless silence.

We learn about the existence of a southern supercontinent, Gondwana where India and Antarctica were the part of the some landmass , about six hundred and fifty million years ago. The climate back then was much warmer and with a wide variety of flora and fauna .

Despite the rapid proliferation of human civilization around the globe, Antarctica is still in its purest form. It is a treat to the eyes to witness Antarctica as a glimpse of past , present and future at the same time.

The place also sends forth a threatening alarm that global warming is real and how it impacts our lives . This in turn worries the author if the beauty of Antarctica will be reserved for the years to come and that we should start working to make the planet a healthier place.

#### **Short answer type questions :- (The first few have been done for you).**

- 1) Describe Tishani Doshi’s journey from Madras to the world’s coldest, driest and windiest continent.

**Ans :-** Tihani Doshi started her journey 13.09 degrees north of the Equator in Madras . She crossed nine time zones, six checkpoints , three bodies of water and at least three ecospheres, and travelled over 100 hours in car, aeroplane and ship to reach there.

- 2) What is Antarctica ? What is ‘ Students on Ice’?

**Ans :-** Antarctica is a southern continent of the earth. It is the driest, coldest and windiest continent.

‘Students on Ice’ is an educational expedition to Antarctica . It takes high school students to give them a first hand experience of the terrible impacts of human activities in Antarctica so that the students who are also the future policy makers will work towards saving the planet.

- 3) Why did Geoff Green decide to take high school students to Antarctica ? What is the name of the vessel in which they travelled?

- 4) What was the objective of the “Students on Ice” programme?
- 5) In what ways did Antarctica amaze the writer at the very first glimpse?
- 6) What is Gondwana? How was it formed and how many years ago it existed?
- 7) Comment on the importance of Antarctica in the study of the earth’s history?
- 8) What lessons can we learn from Antarctica ?
- 9) What are Phytoplanktons ? What is their importance for earth’s survival ?
- 10) “Take care of small things and the big things will take care of themselves” – Explain this statement in few words.
- 11) How do geological phenomena help to know about the history of mankind?
- 12) What does rapid human population growth indicate about the future of mankind?
- 13) How is Antarctica a vital element in the debate on climate related changes around the globe?
- 14) What sort of brightness and silence prevailed in Antarctica during summer ?
- 15) What according to you led to the success of the ‘Students on Ice’ programme ?
- 16) What is the ‘ruckus’ that man has created on this earth according to the writer?
- 17) In what ways does Antarctica differ from the Earth?
- 18) Why does Tishani Doshi call her trip of Antarctica an “Journey to the End of Earth”?
- 19) Describe, the ‘walk on the ocean’ as experienced by the writer. in few words.
- 20) Why is the visit to Antarctica “a chilling prospect” for the writer?

**Long Answer type questions :-**

**(Marks - 6)**

- 1) What is the significance of the title “Journey to the End of the Earth”?
- 2) “The World’s geological history is trapped in Antarctica”- Comment.
- 3) Why is Antarctica the place to go to understand the Earth’s present past , and future?
- 4) “Take care of small things and the big one will take care of themselves” Explain the relevance of this statement in context of the text. “The journey to the End of the Earth.”  
or  
What are phytoplanktons? Comment on their importance in the earth’s ecosystem.
- 5) Describe the “Students on Ice” expedition. How far has it achieved its goals?
- 6) The author says “it was nothing short of a revelation : everything does indeed connect.”- Explain.

- 7) Describe the journey to the Antarctica by the author.
- 8) What is the best and rare experience that occurred to the author just short of the Antarctic circle of 65.55 degrees South?
- 9) “A lot can happen in a million years ,but what a difference a day makes.” – Explain.
- 10) Explain the intentions and vision of Geoff Green to include high school students in the journey to Antarctica.
- 11) What is the impact of human civilization on the earth’s environment ?
- 12) Comment the southern super continent of Gondwana in context of the text “Journey to the End of the Earth.”

## **The Enemy** **– Pearl. S. Buck**

### **Central Theme -**

“The Enemy written by Pearl. S. Buck depicts the mental conflict of a person caught between his responsibility as a loyal citizen and his duty as a human being. Dr. Sadao, a brilliant Japanese Surgeon, is the protagonist of the story. At the time of World War, he one day accidentally finds a mortally wounded American soldier on the beach, requiring medical attention immediately. But at that time of crisis the Americans were the biggest rivals of the Japanese, and sheltering and treating the enemy was considered to be an unpardonable crime and betrayal with the nation. This thought divided the mind of Dr. Sadao with a sense of dilemma. But ultimately, he decided to respond to the call of humanity and went forward to give the enemy soldier shelter and required treatment despite facing a lot of opposition and non-cooperation from his domestic servants. Thus, through this story the writer brings out the fact that humanity comes first whatever the situation may be and that it always triumphs.

### **Short Answer Type Questions :**

1. Who was Dr. Sadao ? Where was his house ?
2. What was Dr. Sadao’s father’s chief concern about him ?
3. Why was Dr. Sadao not sent to the battlefield ?
4. Where did Dr. Sadao first meet Hana ? What was his initial reaction ?
5. In what condition did Dr. Sadao find the American soldier at the seashore ?
6. What dilemma did Dr. Sadao face when he saw the wounded American soldier ?
7. Why did Dr. Sadao’s servants leave him ?
8. Why did Dr. Sadao seek Hana’s help to treat the soldier ?
9. Why didn’t Sadao want to know anything about the white man ?
10. Why did Hana wash the wounded soldier herself ?
11. Who was General Takima ?
12. Who was Yumi ? How was Hana different from Yumi ?
13. What did Dr. Sadao do to help the American soldier escape ?
14. How did Dr. Sadao ensure that he himself remained safe and secure ?
15. Why did the messenger come to Dr. Sadao ? What did Hana think about it ?
16. Why was Dr. Sadao not arrested on the charge of sheltering an enemy ?

17. What efforts did Dr. Sadao and Hana make to save the American soldier ?
18. What forced Dr. Sadao to be impatient with his patient ?
19. Why was the General apologetic when Sadao told him that the prisoner had escaped ?
20. Why does Dr. Sadao mutter the word, ‘ My friend’ while treating the American prisoner of war ?

### **Long Answer Type Question**

1. What impression do you get about Dr. Sadao from your understanding of the story. “The Enemy” ?  
Or  
Sketch the character of Dr. Sadao.
2. What efforts did Dr. Sadao and his wife make to save the life of the injured American soldier ?
3. Why did Dr. Sadao help the American soldier to escape and how did he do it?
4. Sketch the character of General Takima as you find in the story.
5. Discuss the theme of racism as brought out by the writer in the story, “The Enemy”.
6. How did Dr. Sadao resolve the dilemma / conflict of his mind torn between the duty of a doctor and the duty of a patriotic man ?
7. Why was Dr. Sadao sent to America? Give an account of his experiences there.
8. Why is the ‘Fog’ symbolic in the story ?
9. Why did Yumi, the servant, refuse to help Dr. Sadao in washing the wounded soldier ? What impression do you get about Yumi from your reading of the story ?
10. “Humanity stands above all other values”. Do you agree with the statement ? How far does it get reflected in the story ?
11. Bring out the significance of the title of the story, “ The Enemy” by Pearl.S. Buck.

### **Sample Answers**

#### **Short Answer Type Questions**

1. Dr. Sadao, the protagonist of Pearl. S. Buck’s story “The Enemy” was a famous Japanese surgeon and scientist. His house was located beside a narrow beach on the Japanese coast. It was surrounded by pine trees.
2. Dr. Sadao’s father was a very practical man. His prime concern about Dr. Sadao was his education. So, he sent Sadao to America to learn surgery and medicine at the age of twenty-two.

### **Long Answer Type Questions**

1. Dr. Sadao, the protagonist of Pearl.S. Buck's story "The Enemy" was a famous Japanese surgeon and scientist. The story revolves around the sense of human values that drives a Japanese doctor to shelter and treat an enemy soldier during wartime. In the story, we find Dr. Sadao as a dutiful and obedient son. He was highly influenced by his father. He went abroad to study medicine to fulfill his father's dream. He was also very traditional as he did not marry Hana without his father's approval. He was a dedicated surgeon. He was first a doctor before anything else. His sense of duty and true conscience compelled him to save even the life of an enemy (American) soldier during the crisis despite facing strong opposition from his domestic servants. But, nothing could stop him from doing his duty. Sadao was not only a perfect doctor and human being, he was also a caring father and loving husband who was always concerned about the safety of his family. Thus, in Dr. Sadao, we find a true human being.



## **On The Face Of It** – Susan Hill

**Main theme of the text :-** The play titled “On the Face of it” by Susan Hill consists of two scenes. It depicts the fear of the handicapped of being isolated and discarded from the main-stream society. Both Mr. Lamb and Derek, suffer from physical disability. But their attitude to life is totally different. Mr, Lamb , in spite of having a tin- leg, keeps his doors and windows open and welcomes everyone. Derek, a young boy , who has one side of his face burnt , is angry and is hated by every one. The play highlights the fact that the sense of rejection and alienation is more painful than physical impairment .

Derry, a teenager, sneaks into a garden, but he finds someone already present there. The owner of the garden, Mr. Lamb, is pleased to see Derry and welcomes him. However, Derry is a little hesitant to strike up a conversation as he is used to being humiliated by people due to his burnt face. It is then revealed that Mr. Lamb has a tin-leg but he has a positive approach to life. He tells Derry to be positive and that he should never be apologetic or ashamed about his appearance.

### **Short answer type questions :**

**Marks 2/3**

1. Why does Mr Lamb leave his gate always open ?  
Or,  
Why does Mr Lamb leave the gate of his house always open ?
2. How does Mr Lamb keep himself busy when it is a bit cool ?
3. “It ate my face up. It ate me up”. – Who said these words ? Why ?
4. What kind of garden does Mr Lamb have ? Why does he like it ?
5. How does Mr Lamb react when Derry enters his garden ?
6. How does Mr Lamb try to remove the baseless fears of Derry ?
7. Why did Mr Lamb help Derry ?
8. Why does Derry’s mother not want him to go back to visit Mr Lamb?
9. Who are Mr Lamb and Derry ?
10. What consolation did people give Derry when they saw his acid burnt face ?
11. How do people react to Derry’s face ?
12. Why does Derry tell Mr Lamb that he is afraid of seeing himself in the mirror in the play “On the Face of it”.
13. What qualities of Mr Lamb attracted Derry towards him ?
14. What does Derry’s mother think about Mr Lamb?
15. What does Mr Lamb want to say by the example of bees?

16. How does Derry deal with the fact that he is often subjected to either pity or curiosity ?
17. Mr Lamb tells Derry that the idea of the beauty and the beast is relative. What does he mean?
18. Elucidate the remark made by Mr Lamb, “Handsome is as handsome does”.
19. Why does Mr Lamb make the remark that the world has got a whole face? What does he mean?
20. Why are there no curtains at the windows at Mr. Lamb’s house ?

**Long Answer Type Questions :**

**Marks - 6**

1. Justify the title of the play “On the Face of it”.
2. What message does the play give to the society ? Elucidate with suitable examples.
3. How does Mr Lamb try to remove the baseless fears of Derry ?
4. Compare and contrast the characters of Mr Lamb and Derry as revealed in the story “On The Face of It”.
5. Why do handicapped people suffer from inferiority complex ? How can we remove the obstacle ?
6. Why did Derry feel the urgency to come back to Mr Lamb ?
7. Briefly narrate the transformation of Derry from a pessimist to an optimist.

OR

How is Mr Lamb responsible behind the transformation?

8. What kind of a boy is Derry ? Do you support his activities ?
9. Sketch the character of Mr Lamb as you find him in the play “On the Face of it”.
10. Was Derry properly behaved ? If not, Why did such things happen ? What is your opinion ?
11. Derry sneaked into Mr Lamb’s garden and it became a turning point in his life. Explain.
12. “Things that matter. Things nobody else has ever said Things I want to think about”. What are the ‘things’ that Derry is referring to ? How did Derry’s chance meeting with Mr Lamb prove meaningful for him ?
13. Derry and Mr Lamb both are victims of physical impairment, but much more painful for them is the feeling of loneliness. Explain.
14. The Lesson “On the Face of it” is an apt depiction of the loneliness and sense of Alienation experienced by people on account of a disability. Explain.
15. Optimism in one’s attitude helps deal with all the challenges in life. Prove the statement by referring to the character of Mr Lamb from the lesson, ‘On the Face of it’.

## **Memories of Childhood**

### **By – Zitkala-Sa and Bama**

**Central Message :** “Memories of Childhood” consists of two autobiographical accounts by Zitkala-Sa and Bama, writers from the marginalized communities of the society. The authors narrate their childhood experiences that center round their relationship with mainstream cultures ; the accounts show how the little bravehearts fight against discrimination and indignation faced by them at a very tender age. With the help of inherent guts and the power of education, they made their mark in their respective communities and beyond.

In ‘The Cutting of My Long Hair,’ Zitkala-Sa makes her voice heard against the marginalization of her culture ; the Native American culture which defines her identity, has been belittled by the dominant culture that forces her to adopt the ways which are alien and undignified to her. She fights with her last ounce of courage and energy, and this very act of resistance by a mere child gives the readers hope and inculcates love for self-dignity.

In ‘We Too Are Human Beings’, a school girl belonging to the dalit community of a South Indian village comes face to face with the evil practice of ‘untouchability’. She chooses education as her weapon to fight against the humiliation and dehumanization faced by her community. She proves her worth with the help of hard work and perseverance.

#### **Short Answer Type Questions : (The first one has been done for you)**

1) What is the theme of ‘Memories of Childhood’ ?

Ans : ‘Memories of Childhood’ highlights the importance of standing one’s ground while facing oppression and discrimination. It shows the importance of self-worth and dignity that define one’s identity.

2) Why was Zitkala-Sa in tears on the first day in the land of apples ?

3) How does Zitkala-Sa describe her first day in the land of apples ?

4) Who wore shingled and short hair, according to Zitkala-Sa’s cultural belief ?

5) How did Zitkala-Sa try to avoid the shingling of her long hair ?

6) What does Zitkala-Sa remember about her first day in the land of apples?

7) “But this eating by formula was not the hardest trial in that first day”.- What does Zitkala-Sa mean by “eating by formula” ? What was the hardest trial ?

8) What does Zitkala-Sa mean when she says that she was “one of many little animals driven by a herder” ?

9) Why did it take Bama half an hour to an hour to reach home ?

10) Why did Bama find it amusing to see an elderly member of her community carrying a packet in a particular manner ?

11) Mention some of the oddities or novelties noticed by Bama in her way back from school.

- 12) Who was Annan ? Which words of Annan made a deep impression on Bama ?
- 13) What is common between Zitkala-Sa and Bama ?
- 14) Why did many people become Bama's friends ?

### Long Answer Type Questions

- 1) What are the similarities in the lives of Bama and Zitkala-Sa though they belong to different cultures ?

**Value Points :** Different cultures- marginalized communities - racism and casteism - forceful annihilation of cultural beliefs - dehumanization - both fought back and made their voices heard.

- 2) What activities did Bama witness on her way back from school ?

**Value Points :** Different sights and activities caught the child's imagination and attention - novelties and oddities - fun games, shops, bazars, performing monkey and snake charmer's snake, lemur, cyclist - sweets and snacks sellers - seasonal fruits – the scene at the lord's house – her first tryst with untouchability.

- 3) How did Zitkala-Sa and Bama respond to the oppression and discrimination experienced by them in their respective situations ?

**Value Points :** Zitkala-Sa ---a native American girl sent to a Christian school - weaned off her culture - severed roots - strict regimentation and imposition of alien culture - resisted against the forceful shingling of hair - Bama- Dalit community - untouchable - infuriated at the discriminatory treatment meted out to her community members- fought back with the help of education- made a place of her own.

- 4) How did the scene at the landlord's house change Bama's life ?

**Value Points :** Bama on the way back home - witnessed the harvest being threshed - some people driving the cattle - treading the corn -saw an elder from her own community - carrying a packet of vadais by a string - so that the contents of the packet remained untouched by him - the vadais were for the land lord from the uppercaste - Annan told her to study well - she proved her self-worth through education.

- 5) Why did Zitkala-Sa want to save her hair ? Did she succeed ?

**Value Points :** Native American cultural belief - shingled and short hairs are for cowards and mourners - Zitkala-Sa was desperate to save her hair - in a bid to fight for her identity and culture she resisted vehemently -but in vain - she was dragged out from her hide-out - tied fast in a chair - hair cut off with scissors - she lost her spirit - put up a good fight - signifies love for one's identity and self-worth.

## Reading Skills

### Comprehension Test – 1

#### 1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

- a) South India is known for its music and for its arts and rich literature. Madras or Chennai can be called its cultural capital and soul. The city is built low in pleasant contrast to the tall structures of Mumbai and Kolkata. It has vast open spaces and ample greenery. The majestic spacious Mount Road looks like a river, wide and deep. A stroll on the Marina beach in the evening with the sea glistening in your face is refreshing. The breeze soothes the body, it refreshes the mind, sharpens the tongue and brightens the intellect.
- b) One can never feel dull in Chennai. The intellectual and cultural life of the city is something of a marvel. Every street corner of Chennai has a literary forum, a debating society and music, dance and dramatic club. The intelligent arguments, the sparkling wit and dashing irony enliven both the political and the literary meetings. There is a young men's association which attracts brilliant speakers and equally brilliant listeners to its meetings. It is a treat to watch the speakers use their oratorical weapons.
- c) Music concerts and dance performances draw packed houses. There is hardly any cultural family in Chennai that does not learn and patronize music and dance in its pristine purity. Rukmani Devi Arundale's 'Kalakshetra' is a renowned international centre. It has turned out hundreds of celebrated maestros and dancers who have brought name and glory to our country. Carnatic music has a peculiar charm of its own. Thousands of people flock to the temple 'maidans' to get drunk with the mellifluous melodies of their favourite singers. They sit out all night in the gruelling heat, swaying to the rhythm of 'Nanda Swaram' and rollicking with the measured beats of 'mridangan'. M.S. Subbu Lakshmi is considered to be the nightingale of the South.
- d) The Gods might descend from heaven to see a South Indian damsel dancing. There are several varieties of South Indian dance- Bharatnatyam, Mohiniattam, Kuchipudi, Kathakali, etc. Age can not wither nor can custom stale its variety. Bharatnatyam is the most graceful and enchanting dance form, whereas Kathakali is the most masculine and virile. South Indian dances combine voluptuousness with purity.
- e) South Indian dress, particularly of the males, is puritanically simple. There you cannot distinguish a judge from an 'ardali' by their dress. South Indian ladies too, look charming and graceful in their colourful Kanjeevaram and Mysore silk sarees.
- f) South Indian cuisine, particularly 'dosa', 'idli' and 'vada' are so delicious that now we can enjoy them almost everywhere in India as well as in some foreign countries. The Madras 'idli' which was a favourite of Gandhiji, is served with 'sambhar' and coconut 'chutney'.

**I) On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer any five of the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option :**

- i) Which is the cultural capital of South India ?  
(a) Nellore (b) Chennai (c) Bengaluru (iv) Cochin
- ii) What is South India mainly known for ?  
(a) Food (b) Scenic Beauty (c) Music, art and literature (d) lakes
- iii) Who is considered to be the nightingale of the South ?  
(a) Rukmani Devi (b) Sobha Modgal (c) M.S. Subbulakshmi (d) Lata Mangeshkar.
- iv) Which dance form is masculine ?  
(a) Kuchipudi (b) Kathakali (c) Mohoniaattam (d) Bharatnatyam.
- v) The dressing style of the males of South India-  
(a) fosters a sense of equality (b) fosters simplicity  
(c) highlights discrimination in society (d) both a & b

**II) Answer the following questions briefly :**

- a) What makes Carnatic music charming ?
  - b) What is Kalakshetra renowned for ?
  - c) Name the sea beach mentioned in the pasasge.
  - d) Which South Indian dance form is the most graceful ?
  - e) Which South Indian food was a favourite of Gandhiji ?
- III) Pick out words / phrases from the passage which are similar in meaning to the following :
- a) very tasty (para 'f')
  - b) full (para 'c')

**2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :**

- (a) The effects of plastic bags on the environment are really quite devastating. The needless deaths from plastic bags are increasing every year. While there are many objections to the banning of plastic bags based solely on their convenience, the damage to the environment needs to be assessed too.
- (b) The environmental balance of the waterways is being thrown off by the rate of plastic bags finding their way into the mouths and intestinal tracts of sea mammals. As one species begins to die off at an abnormal rate, every other living organism in the waterways is impacted.
- (c) The indefinite period of time that it takes for the average plastic bag to break down can be literally hundreds of years. Throughout the world plastic bags are responsible for the suffocation and deaths of woodland animals as well as for inhibiting soil nutrients. The land litter that is made up of plastic bags has the potential to kill over and over again. It has been estimated

that one bag has the potential to unintentionally kill one animal every three months due to unintentional digestion or inhalation.

- (d) While it's a noble thought to place the plastic bags in the recycling bin every week, studies have proven that there are very few recycling plants that actually recycle them. Most municipalities either burn them or send them off to the landfill after sorting. This is because it can be expensive to recycle this type of plastic. It doesn't melt down easily and is often not fit to be reused in its original form.
- (e) There are always alternatives to plastic bags and the search for more alternatives continues. Paper bags are a possible option, but they also take their toll on the environment. The felling of trees to increase the production of paper products will also have a negative environmental effect.
- (f) Reusable plastic bags are being introduced to regions that want to outlaw plastic bags altogether. These are stronger and more durable and can be used for three to five trips to the store. Of course, the reusable cloth bag is fast becoming a favourite among environmental supporters. While so far no bag is without its issues, these are the bags that are currently recommended for use to help protect environmental concerns.
  - (i) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use abbreviations wherever necessary.
  - (ii) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words.



## COMPREHENSION TEST – 2

### 1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow .

Other animals go about the world as nature made them. Why then, did man start to adorn himself by hanging things round his neck, arms, waist and legs or putting things on his head ? We can imagine many reasons. If an exceptionally strong or brave man succeeded in killing an exceptionally large bear, might he not get the idea of boring a hole through one of its teeth with a sharp flint and tying the tooth round his neck in order to remind himself of his great achievement and to show his friends what a great man he was ? Gradually it might become the custom in that tribe for all strong and brave hunters to wear a bear's tooth, and it might be regarded as a disgrace not to wear one and a sign that one was weak or very young.

People who wore ornaments would soon learn to arrange them in different ways according to their size and colour in order to make them more decorative and impressive. A necklace found in Italy with the skeleton of a young man of the Stone Age was quite elaborate. It consisted of stag's teeth arranged at intervals with, between them, two upper rows made up of the vertebrae of a fish and one row of shells. Another reason why men might tie feathers, horns, skins and all kinds of other things to themselves would be in order to make themselves look fierce and more terrifying to animals or to the men of other tribes. Objects that came from a distance and were therefore scarce – such as sea shells ---- to people living far inland – would come in time to have a special value, and might be worn only by chiefs and their families in order to show that they were particularly important people.

Primitive tribes living today often associate themselves with some particular animal or bird, such as an eagle or lion, or with a particular place, such as a mountain or river. Man may have started doing this kind of thing very early in history. Then, every member of a group or family may have worn something such as feathers, claws or even a stone or wooden object of a certain shape or colour, to represent the animal or mountain or whatever it might be that they believed themselves to be connected with. So, as we have seen, clothing may have started as an ornament or to distinguish one tribe from another or to show rank or because certain things were believed to have magic qualities. However, in some places a time came when men and women began to wear clothes for other reasons. During the Ice Ages, when the polar ice spread over far more areas of the world than it does today, some of the districts in which human beings were living became very cold and bleak indeed. Man must have learnt that he would be more comfortable and more likely to survive, if he covered his body with the skins of animals. At first perhaps, he would simply tie a skin round his waist or over his shoulders but as time passed he learnt how to treat skins in order to make them softer and more supple and how to join them together in order to make better garments.

Flint tools have been found buried deep under the earth floors of caves in which prehistoric men sheltered when the weather became colder. Some of the tools were probably used to scrape the inner sides of skins to make them soft. Stone Age people may also have softened skins in the same way that Eskimo women do today, by chewing them. The teeth of Eskimo women are often worn down to stumps by the constant chewing of seal skins. Among the wonderful flint and bone tools and implements that later cave men made, have been found some beautiful bone needles, some not much



bigger than those we use today. Although the people who made them had only flint tools to work with, some of the needles are finer and more beautifully shaped than those of Roman times.

**A. On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given choices.**

- a) If an extremely strong or brave man succeeded in killing an exceptionally large bear, he might wear its tooth round his neck in order to \_\_\_\_\_.  
i) threaten other animals  
ii) remind himself of his great achievement and to show his friends what a great man he was.  
iii) to ward off the enemies from other tribes.  
iv) to make himself attractive to another large bear of extreme ferocity.
- b) People who wore ornaments would soon learn to arrange them in different ways according to \_\_\_\_\_.  
i) their length and breadth in order to make them more attractive.  
ii) their shapes and textures in order to make them more user-friendly.  
iii) their weights in order to make them unique.  
iv) their size and colour in order to make them more decorative and impressive.
- c) Clothing may have started as an ornament or to distinguish one tribe from another or to show rank or because \_\_\_\_\_.  
i) clothes were believed to be skin-friendly.  
ii) certain things were believed to have magic qualities.  
iii) certain things were believed to have healing qualities.  
iv) certain things were believed to have mundane qualities.
- d) Stone Age people may have softened skins by \_\_\_\_\_.  
i) washing them  
ii) processing them  
iii) rubbing them  
iv) chewing them.

**B. Answer the following questions briefly :**

- a) Why was it regarded as a disgrace if a tribe's man did not wear a bear's tooth after the hunting session?
- b) What was the necklace found in Italy made of?
- c) What do the primitive tribes living today associate themselves with?
- d) How could have clothing started? Cite the reasons.

- e) Why were the teeth of Eskimo women worn down to stumps ?
- C. Find words in the passage which mean the same as :
  - i) to make more beautiful or attractive (para 1)
  - ii) to make something gradually disappear or become thinner by using or rubbing it. (para 4)

## COMPREHENSION TEST – 3

**2. Read the following poem carefully :**

If you can keep your head when all about you  
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,  
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,  
But make allowance for their doubting too;  
If you can wait and not be tired of waiting,  
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,  
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,  
And yet don't look too good nor talk too wise :  
If you can dream - and not make dreams your master;  
If you can think- and not make thoughts your aim;  
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster  
And treat those two imposters just the same;  
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken  
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,  
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,  
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools;  
If you can make one heap of all your winnings  
And risk it in one turn of all pitch - and toss,  
And lose, and start again at your Seginnings  
And never breathe a word about your loss;  
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew  
To serve your turn long after they are gone,  
And so hold one when there is nothing in you  
Except the will which says to them; "Hold on!"  
If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,

Or walk with Kings – nor lose the common touch.  
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,  
If all men count with you, but none too much;  
If you can fill the unforgiving minute  
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,  
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,  
And – which is more – you'll be a man, my son!

**On the basis of your understanding of the above poem, answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option :**

- A. a) When people all round keep losing their heads, they blame it on \_\_\_\_\_.  
i) the person who can't keep his/her head  
ii) the person who can keep his/her head  
iii) the doubtful situations  
iv) the hateful situations.
- b) If one can dream, dreams should not be his/her \_\_\_\_\_.  
i) God  
ii) guide  
iii) follower  
iv) master
- c) Truths can be twisted by knaves to \_\_\_\_\_.  
i) make a trap for fools  
ii) make a trap for the wise men  
iii) make a trap for the liars  
iv) make trap for the honest men.
- d) One can walk with the King, but he/she shouldn't lose touch with \_\_\_\_\_.  
i) the uncommon people  
ii) the rich people  
iii) the common people

iv) the virtuous people

B. Answer the following questions briefly :

a) What should a person do when everyone doubts him / her ?

b) Name the two imposters mentioned in the poem.

c) How can one talk to crowds and kings ?

d) How should one begin anew after the loss ?

e) How should one utilize his time, according to the poet ?

C. Pick out words from the poem that mean the same as the following :

a) a person who deceives others by pretending to be someone else. (lines 9-12)

b) bend one's body or head forwards and downwards. (lines 13-16)

c) behaviour showing high moral standards (lines (25 - 32)

## COMPREHENSION TEST – 4

### Question

**Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :**

All of Earth's oceans share one thing in common: plastic pollution. Discarded plastic bags, cups, and bottles make their way into the sea. Today, it seems that no part of the ocean is safe from plastic trash. In recent years, oceanographers have searched in vain for a pristine marine environment. They have found plastic everywhere they have looked. "It is a common global problem, we can't point to a single habitat or location with no plastic."

Plastic harms wildlife and introduces dangerous chemicals into marine ecosystems – communities of organisms interacting with their surroundings. Once plastic enters the environment, it lasts a long time. Scientists are working to prevent plastic pollution from entering the sea.

When people litter, or when trash is not properly disposed of, things like plastic bags, bottles, straws, foam beverage cups get carried to the sea by winds and waterways. About 80 percent of ocean plastic originates on land. The rest comes from marine industries, such as shipping and fishing. In 2015, engineer Jenna Jambeck at the University of Georgia and other researchers calculated that at least 8 million tons of plastic trash is swept into the ocean from coasts every year. That's the equivalent of a full garbage truck of plastic being dumped into the sea every minute. If current trends in plastic production and disposal continue, that figure will double by 2025. A report published by the World Economic Forum last year predicts that by 2050, ocean plastic will outweigh all the fish in the sea.

In today's world, plastic is everywhere. It's found in shoes, clothing, household items, electronics, and more. There are different types of plastics, but one thing they all have in common that they are made of polymers – large molecules made up of repeating units. Their chemical structure gives them a lot of advantages: they are cheap and easy to manufacture, lightweight, water-resistant, durable and can be moulded into nearly any shape.

Unfortunately, some of the properties that make plastics great for consumer goods also make them a problem pollutant. Plastic's durability comes in part from the fact that unlike paper or wood, it doesn't biodegrade, or break down naturally. Instead, it just fragments, or breaks into tiny pieces over time. These tiny pieces, known as micro plastic, can potentially stick around for hundreds or perhaps even thousands of years.

Another problem with plastics is the other chemicals they contain, like dyes and flame retardants. When plastic isn't disposed of properly, these additives end up in the environment. Plastic also tends to absorb harmful chemicals from its surroundings. "It's like a sponge for persistent organic pollutants". These long lasting, toxic substances include pesticides and Industrial chemicals. If plastic absorbs the chemicals, and marine organisms eat the plastic, they may be exposed to higher concentrations of these contaminants.

One of the biggest impacts of plastic pollution is its effect on sea life. Seals, sea turtles, and even whales can become entangled in plastic netting. They can starve to death if the plastic restricts

their ability to move or eat. Or the plastic can cut into the animals' skin, causing wound that develop severe infections.

Sea turtles eat plastic bags and soda-can rings, which resemble jellyfish, their favourite food. Seabirds eat bottle caps or chunks of foam cups. Plastic pieces may make an animal feel full, so it does not eat enough real food to get the nutrients it needs. Plastic can also block an animal's digestive system making it unable to eat.

Plastic and its associated pollutants can even make it into our own food supply . Scientists recently examined fish and shell-fish bought at markets in California and Indonesia. They found plastic in the guts of more than a quarter of samples purchased at both locations . In organisms that people eat whole, such as sardines and oysters, that means we are eating plastic too. In larger fish, chemicals from plastic may seep into their muscles and other tissues that people consume.

One way to keep the ocean cleaner and healthier is through cleanup efforts. A lot of plastic waste caught in ocean currents eventually washes up on beaches. Removing it can prevent it from blowing out to sea again. Beach clean-up is ocean clean-up.

Cleanup efforts cannot reach every corner of the ocean or track every bit of micro plastic . That means it is critical to cut down on the amount of plastic that reaches the sea in the first place. Scientists are working toward new materials that are safer for the environment . For example, Jambeck and her colleagues are currently testing a new polymer that breaks down more easily in seawater.

"Individual actions make a big difference," says Jambeck. Disposing of plastic properly for recycling or trash collection is a key step. "And simple things like reusable water bottles , mugs and bags really cut down on waste", she says, Skipping straws or using paper ones helps too. Ocean pollution can seem overwhelming, but it's something everyone can help address . This is a problem we can really do something about.

**Q. On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer each of the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option.**

1. Percentage of ocean plastic that originates from land is:  
(a) 20% (b)50% (c)80% (d) 25%
2. In which year did Jenna Jambeck and other researchers calculate that at least 8 million tons of plastic trash is swept into ocean every year?  
(a) 2018. (b)2015 (c)2005 (d) 2010
3. Plastic is not biodegradable because it is made up of  
(a) low atomic particles (b) tiny particles  
(c) strong big particles (d) large molecule polymers
4. Sea turtles eat :  
(a) plastic bottles (b) plastic bags and soda-can rings  
(c) bottle caps (d) chunks of foam cups .

5. Scientists bought fish and shell- fish for examination at markets in :

- a) China and Russia                      (b) Pakistan and Afghanistan
- c) California and Indonesia        (d) Australia and Brazil.

6. Jamback says

- (a) Public actions create difference
- (b) Individual actions cannot make a big difference
- (c) Individual actions cannot make a big difference
- (d) Only government actions make a big difference.

Q.1. Answer the following questions briefly.

i) Which articles made of plastic generally cause pollution in the sea?

ii) How does plastic in oceans harm marine ecosystems?

iii) How is micro plastic formed?

iv) Why is plastic compared to a sponge?

v) Pick out the words/ phrases from the passage which are similar in meaning to the following:

(i) unspoiled (para 1)

(ii) long lasting (para 5)



## COMPREHENSION – 5

### 2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

Despite all the research every one of us catches a cold and most of us catch it frequently. Our failure to control one of the commonest of all ailments sometime seems ridiculous. Medical science regularly practices transplant surgery and has rid whole countries of such killing diseases as Typhus and the Plague. But the problem of common cold is unusually difficult and much has yet to be done to solve it . It is known that a cold is caused by one of a number of viral infections that affect the lining of the nose and other passages leading to the lungs but the confusing variety of viruses makes study and remedy very difficult. It was shown in 1960 that many typical colds in adults are caused by one or the other of a family of viruses known as rhinoviruses , yet there still remain many colds for which no virus has yet been isolated.

There is also the difficulty that because they are so much smaller than the bacteria which cause many other infections, viruses cannot be seen with ordinary microscopes. Nor can they be cultivated easily in the bacteriologist's laboratory, since they only grow within the living cells of animals or plants. An important recent step forward, however, is the development of the technique of tissue culture, in which bits of animal tissue are enabled to go on living and to multiply independently of the body. This has greatly aided virus research and has led to the discovery of a large number of viruses. Their existence had previously been not only unknown but even unsuspected.

The fact that we can catch a cold repeatedly creates another difficulty. Usually, a virus strikes only once and leaves the victim immune to further attacks. Still, we do not gain immunity from colds. Why? It may possibly be due to the fact that while other viruses get into the bloodstream where anti-bodies can oppose them, the viruses causing cold attack cells only on the surface. Or it may be that immunity from one of the many different viruses does not guarantee protection from all the others. It seems , therefore, that we are likely to have to suffer colds for some time yet.

- a. On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary – minimum four) and a format you consider suitable . Also supply an appropriate title to it.
- b. Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words .

## COMPREHENSION TEST – 6

### Reading Skills

**Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :**

1. The new National Education policy 2020 released on Wednesday, 29 July, seeks to introduce and implement a sea of changes across all levels of education in India , including the essential understanding of education in the country. It also seeks to implement changes in the way the facilitators of such education — schools, colleges and teachers — are trained and how they approach education. Among othe things, the NEP has renamed the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) as the Ministry of Education, a sign of country’s changing focus on education.
2. The policy is based on the pillars of “access, equity, equality, affordability, accountability” and will transform India into a ‘Vibrant Knowledge hub,’ tweeted Prime Minister Narendra Modi soon after it was unveiled. The NEP 2020 is the first new education policy to be introduced in India in the 21st century, the last having been implemented in 1986, 34 years ago. The NEP, thus, replaces the National Policy on Education, 1986, which was modified once in 1992. Before that, the first education policy was passed in 1968.
3. A new education policy was one of the B.J.P’s poll promises in the 2014 Lok Sabha Election. Efforts for a new education policy have been underway since 2015, and in May 2016, the committee for Evolution of the NEP submitted its report, based on which the then MHRD prepared some inputs for the Draft NEP 2016.
4. Eventually, in June 2017, the committee for the Draft NEP was constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. Kasturirangan , former chief of the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), which submitted the Draft NEP-2019, to Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal on 31 May 2019, after he took charge of the ministry. The Draft had reportedly earlier been submitted in December 2018, as well . According to the government, the NEP 2020 has been formulated after having considered nearly over 2 lakh suggestions from 2.5 lakh gram panchayats, 6,600 blocks , 6000 ULBs and 676 districts . The policy document says that “it aims at producing engaged , productive , and contributing citizens for building an equitable, inclusive and plural society.”
5. Among other things, the NEP 2020 suggests a slew of reforms to school education, with a focus on flexibility of subjects and eliminating silos between streams of learning . Another goal of the NEP is to achieve 100 percent of Gross Enrolment Ratio in pre- school to secondary level by 2030 . First off, the NEP changes the existing 10+2 structure of school education to a 5+3+3+4, covering children between the ages of 3-18 . The NEP aims to reduce the curriculum content to its core essentials focusing on key concepts and ideas in order that children are able to practice more critical thinking and among other things , more analysis – based learning.
6. The NEP states, that there will be no hard separation among curricular, extra-curricular, or ‘co-curricular’ areas , among ‘arts’ ‘humanities’ and ‘sciences’ between ‘vocational’ or academic streams. During grades 6-8, students will be required to take a course which will provide hands –on experience of a number of important vocational crafts as well. In fact, children will also be given increased flexibility in the choices of subjects they wish to study, especially in the Secondary Level.

7. Speaking to Livemint, K. Kasturirangan, who is behind the drafting of the NEP, said ‘transforming and creating a dynamic education system is fundamental for the progress of any country – India is no different’ and that the idea is to open our minds to excellence.’ The NEP has naturally been hailed by leaders from the reigning party. Union Minister Piyush Goyal said that it would ensure ‘ a bright future for leaders of tomorrow’ and ‘ nurture each child’s unique talent,’ while Smriti Irani, a former HRD minister herself called it ‘ a transformative restructuring of education in India.’
8. Former Andhra Pradesh Chief minister Telugue Desam Party leader N. Chandrababu Naidu hailed the focus on learning in the mother tongue by the NEP. Congress leader Shashi Tharoor also welcomed the policy, but questioned the government for introducing it in the Parliament first. In a series of Tweets, he also stated that the challenge would be ‘to ensue aspiration is matched by implementation.’ Meanwhile, Najma Akter , the Vice Chancellor of Jamia Millia Islamia, said that the NEP would transform India into a “global knowledge superpower.”
9. The emphasis on primary education in regional languages and the introduction of Sanskrit, following the three – language formula, will turn out to be a great boon to the people of the country especially in the rural areas, Prof, VK Tewari , Director, IIT Kharagpur told India Today. Principal Director of Symbiosis Vidya Yeravedekar told the Indian Express that ‘the new NEP Is very forward and student centric’ but added that ‘ what is critical now is training teachers and changing their mindset to adapt to the new challenges.’

**A. On the basis of your understanding of the above passage , answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate options :** **1x5=5**

- a) The NEP -2020 is the first new Education policy to be released on
  - i. May 2016
  - ii. June 2017
  - iii. July 2020
  - iv. None of the above.
- b. The New Education Policy will transform India into a ‘ Vibrant knowledge hub’ . It was tweeted by-
  - i. Dr. Kasturirangan
  - ii. Prime Minister Norendra Modi
  - iii. Dr. Ramesh Pokhrial
  - iv. Shahi Tharoor.
- c. Learners are to be given flexibility in the choices of subjects in their studies especially in the
  - i. Primary Level
  - ii. High School Level
  - iii. Secondary Level
  - iv. University Level.

- D. According to Prof. V. K. Tewari the three language formula will turn out to be a great boon to the people of the country especially in the rural areas based on
- i. Pre- Primary Education
  - ii. Primary Education
  - iii. Secondary Education
  - iv. Higher secondary Education
- e. Najma Akter, the Vice Chancellor of Jamia Millia Islamia commented that the NEP as a
- i. Transformative restructuring of Education.
  - ii. Global knowledge superpower.
  - iii. Transforming and creating a dynamic education system.
  - iv. Student – centric education.

**B . Answer the following the questions briefly :**

**1x7=7**

- a. When was the first Education policy passed?
- b. Who is Dr. Kasturirangan?
- c. Write the basic aims of the NEP.
- d. Whose suggestions have been taken to formulate the policy?
- e. What did the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu comment on the NEP?
- F. Find out a word from the para-3 which means ‘blueprint.’
- g. Find out a word from the para- 6 which means ‘professional.’

## COMPREHENSION TEST – 7

### READING SKILLS

**Read the Poem carefully that given below:-**

**Marks - 12**

“HOME THEY BROUGHT HER WARRIOR DEAD.”

Home they brought her warrior dead  
She nor swooned not uttered a cry  
All her maidens , watching said,  
She must weep or she will die.  
Then they praised him , soft and low  
Call'd him worthy to be loved,  
Truest friend and noblest foe,  
Yet she neither spoke nor moved  
Stole a maiden from her place.  
Lightly to the warrior slept  
Took the face cloth from the face,  
Yet she neither moved nor wept.  
Rose a nurse of ninety years  
Set his child upon her knee,  
Like summer tempests came her tears  
Sweet my child ! I live for thee.

- 1) Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate options: 1x6=6
- 1.1) Who is the warrior here?  
a) Father (b) Husband (c) Brother (d) Friend
- 1.2. What did her friends expect her to do?  
a) cry and fall down unconscious .  
b) Swoon and fall down unconscious  
c) Cry and shout  
d) Weep and cry.
- 1.3) How did they try to make her cry  
a) Praised him

- b) criticized him
  - c) spoke angrily
  - d) spoke rudely.
- 1.4) How did the maiden try to make her cry?
- a) Removed the shroud from her face
  - b) Removed the shroud from the body
  - c) Removed the flowers from his face.
  - d) Removed the gardans from the body.
- 1.5) When did she start crying ?
- i) When she saw his face
  - ii) When she saw his wounded body
  - iii) When they praised him.
  - iv) When she saw her child.
- 1.6) Which word is the poem convey the same meanings as ‘ fainted’?
- a) uttered
  - b) watching
  - c) swooned
  - d) slept.

## COMPREHENSION TEST – 8

Read the passage and answer the questions given below :

8

Effective speaking depends on effective listening . It takes energy to concentrate on hearing and to concentrate on understanding what has been heard. Incompetent listeners fail in a number of ways. First, they may drift. Their attention drifts from what the speaker is saying. Second, they may counter. They find counter arguments to whatever a speaker may be saying. Third, they compete. Then , they filter. They exclude from their understanding those parts of the message which do not readily fit with their own frame of reference. Finally, they react. They let personal feelings about a speaker or subject override the significance of the message, which is being sent.

What can a listener do to be more effective ? The first key to effective listening is the art of concentration. If a listener positively wishes to concentrate on receiving a message, his chances of success are high.

It may need determination. Some speakers are difficult to follow, either because of voice problems or because of the form in which they send a message. There is then a particular need for the determination of a listener to concentrate on what is being said . Concentration is helped by alertness. Mental alertness is helped by physical alertness. It is not simply physical fitness, but also positioning of the body, the limbs and the head. Some people also find it helpful to their concentration if they hold the head slightly to one side. One useful way of achieving this is intensive note-taking, by trying to capture the critical headings and sub- headings the speaker is referring to.

Note-taking has been recommended as an aid to the listener. It also helps the speaker. It gives him confidence when he sees that listeners are sufficiently interested to take notes; the patterns of eye contact when the note taker looks up can be very positive; and the speaker's timing is aided — he can see when a note-taker is writing hard and can then make effective use of pauses.

Posture is important too. Consider the impact made by a less competent listener who pushes his chair backwards and slouches . An upright posture helps a listener to concentrate . At the same time it is seen by the speaker to be a positive feature amongst his listeners . Effective listening skills have an impact on both the listener and the speaker.

### Questions

2.a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary .

Provide an appropriate title to it.

4

2.b) Write a summary of the above passage in 80-100 words .

4

## COMPREHENSION TEST – 9

**Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follows :**

- 1) Drugs are substances made from plants or chemicals that have effects on the mind or body. People who abuse drugs seek the physical or mental effects caused by drugs rather than relief from some illness. People abuse drugs for various reasons. Some do it to change their feelings. They may feel lonely or depressed , or they may believe that drugs can magically solve their problems . Some abuse drugs for excitement and pleasure to relieve boredom, or to keep up with their friends. Others believe that drugs expand intelligence or understanding.
- 2) Any attempt to solve one’s problems through drug abuse always leads to even greater problems. Drug abusers become dependent upon the drugs they use and suffer terribly when these drugs are not available . There are two types of dependency. First is the strong physical need for a drug. When the addict is deprived of a drug he or she experiences agonizing withdrawal symptoms, including severe pain, convulsions , and vomiting . The addict often develops a tolerance for a drug; this means increasing amounts must be taken to satisfy his physical need and to avoid withdrawal symptoms.
- 3) The other type of dependency is habituation , or psychological dependency. The abuser of a drug begins to think that he needs it badly, and he tries every means to get the drug he has been addicted to. Mostly addicts buy the drugs they need through illegal sources. Illegal drugs can be extremely expensive, and abusers sometimes turn to crime to get enough money to pay for them. Drugs acquired illegally may be adulterated and can cause sickness when taken. An addict has to spend most of his money on drugs , having little left for food. As a result , he can become ill through malnutrition and other diseases . Those who inject drugs with hypodermic (injected beneath the skin) needles expose themselves to all sorts of infections.
- 4) The drugs usually abused can be placed in four groups; depressants, stimulants, hallucinogens, and cannabis. Depressants slow the activity of the nervous system. They are medically tested to relieve pain, bring on sleep , curb nervousness, or relieve anxiety. They include opiates (obtained from opium), sleeping pills and tranquillizers. These drugs can be addictive. Stimulants speed up the nervous system. They include cocaine and the amphetamins (synthetic drugs used as stimulants). Hallucinogens cause hallucinations. They distort the the sight and hearing. Some drugs abusers call this effect ‘mind expansion’ . Cannabis in small doses may act as mild depressant, or in large doses as a mild hallucinogen. It includes marijuana and hashish . The most widely abused drugs are alcohol, nicotine, and marijuana.
- 5) Despite laws, addicts and other abusers continue to get drugs from illegal sources . Their willingness to pay high prices for the drugs they are addicted to has created an organized illegal supply system that has established itself all over the world. Perhaps, the best way to solve the problem of drug abuse is through early education.



- 6) Vigorous campaigns should be started to educate children and especially young people about the ruinous effects of drugs abuse. The fact should be brought home to them that drug abuse is neither glamorous nor an answer to life's problems. It is unhealthy ; it is dangerous ; it can lead to crime and prison; and it may even kill.

**Questions :**

- a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations where necessary (minimum-4 ) Also suggest a suitable title.
- b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words.

## COMPREHENSION TEST – 10

### Read the passage given below :

James Doohan, Scotty from the original ‘ Star Trek’ series , died in 2005. Before his death he left instructions in his will that he wished to be buried in space. It took a long time, but Doohan’s ashes made it to space in 2012.

The first space burial took place 20 years before Doohan’s and it involved the ashes of another person involved in the ‘Star Trek’ , series creator Gene Roddenberry. Since then, space burials have become big business. And believe it or not, with traditional funeral expenses going through the roof, the costs of space burials have actually become competitive. A company that specializes in space burials, Celestrix, offers a price list to potential customers. The launch of a single gram of a loved one’s ashes into the earths’ orbit starts at around \$5,000. A launch of the same amount of ashes into deep space costs \$12,500. The third option, of having one’s ashes scattered on the moon can cost \$9,950.

The popularity of space burials is now changing funeral habits in the United States. More and more people are choosing cremation instead of burial so that their relatives have the option of sending their ashes into space. Since 1999, according to Cremation Association, in Canada and the United States the rate of cremations has almost doubled.

Companies like Celestrix take payment from the departed family, receive the ashes and even provide the container to carry the remains. The container in this case is a special one as it must be secure enough to get past thermal, vibration and vacuum tests, before it can be launched so as not to explode while orbiting in space.

The space urn then is taken to ride out to space. It needs a vessel in which it can escape Earth’s gravity. Thus it has to be launched into space with the help of rockets, satellites, scientific equipment, climate instrumentation and other payloads.

As there is yet no dedicated spacecraft to run exclusive burial services, the remains have to be found in waiting till a suitable opportunity can be found in a craft which can find room to accommodate the urn. Some companies have begun to specialize in this operation. Ceveit is one company that offers customers ‘ a dignified memorial space flight.’ The company takes the ‘ remains’ up to join communication satellites , spy satellites and thousands of other satellites that circle the earth.

As a step further , there are companies that are looking at other options. One of them is planning to start a service to send a keepsake , such as a DNA sample, a wedding ring, a photograph, to the moon. Once the keepsake reaches its destination, the client will get a photograph on the social media or any other network of one’s choice, to cherish forever afterwards.

- a) **On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it. Headings, subheadings and abbreviations can be used. An appropriate title should be provided .**
- b) **Write a summary in about 80 words.**

## **Writings Skills**

### **Notices**

**Introduction** – A notice is a short but very important piece of written composition consisting of announcement or information about upcoming events, programmes and occasions related to an organisation or institution. It is formal and direct in style.

#### **Points to remember while drafting a notice**

1. Name of the Institute/ Organisation at the top and centre.
2. The word ‘Notice’ to be written just below the name of the Institute.
3. Date of issue on the left .
4. Heading / Subject of the notice if necessary.
5. If required, Reference No. should be given in the notice.
6. Content –To whom it is addressed, purpose event /occasion type, date, time, venue etc. should be clearly stated.
7. Signature /Designation of the issuing authority.
8. In case of language, it should be written in the third person.
9. The notice should be enclosed /put in a box.

#### **Sample of Notice Writing**

1. You are Mohini/Sumit. As the Cultural Convenor of your school, draft a notice informing all the students about the forthcoming Golden Jubilee of the institute.

#### **XYZ SCHOOL**

#### **Notice**

Dated : 2nd May, 2021

Ref. No:

#### **Golden Jubilee Celebrations**

This is to inform all the students that our school has decided to organise and celebrate its Golden Jubilee in a grand and befitting manner. To make the occasion a memorable one, we have decided to organise several cultural programmes for three days starting from 20th May to 22 May, 2021.

Therefore, candidates who are interested to participate in various cultural items like –solo and group songs, dance, drama, skit performances etc are instructed to submit their names to the respective class teachers or the Cultural Convenor within 5th May, 2021.

For any further details contact the undersigned.

Mohini Dasgupta

Cultural Convenor

XYZ School , Agartala.

Tripura.

## Topics

1. As the Secretary of the Science Club of your school, draft a notice on the forthcoming Science Exhibition for all the students. You are Sujoy/Sumitra.
2. As the Secretary of the N.S.S unit of your school, draft a notice informing all the students of Class XII about a Voluntary Blood Donation Camp to be organized in your school. You are Raka/Mitra.
3. As the Principal of your school, draft a notice for the students of your school, informing them about the forthcoming Educational Tour. You are Abhijit/Payel.
4. As the Cultural Secretary of your school, draft a notice informing all the students about the forthcoming Inter – School drama/quiz/ debate competition. You are Mahuya/Mainak.
5. As the Eco-Club Convenor of your school, draft a notice informing all the students about the ‘Vanamahotsava’ (Tree Plantation) programme on the coming World Environment Day. You are Akash/Nilima.
6. As the Cultural Secretary of the school, draft a notice informing the students about the celebration of Rabindra/Najrul Jayanti in the school. You are Dipti/Bikash.
7. You are Nitin/ Mahek. As the Secretary of the local club, draft a notice for the residents of the locality informing them about a ‘Free Health Camp’ to be organized in the coming week.
8. You are Dhiman /Bina. As the P.I. of your school, draft a notice for the students of higher classes about the upcoming Inter-School Football Meet.
9. As the P.I. of your school, draft a notice about the Annual Sports Meet being organized in the school premises. You are Ajoy / Anamita.
10. As the Examination Convenor of the school, draft a notice for the students of Class X & XII, informing them to attend a meeting on the coming Friday about the New Scheme of Examination. You are Dilip / Namita.
11. As the Secretary of the local club, draft a notice for the members informing them about a Swaach Bharat Abhijan / Safai Abhiyan (Cleanliness & Sweeping programme) to be organized in the locality. You are Nilotpal / Rekha.
12. As the N. S. S. Programme Officer, draft a notice informing all the students of Class XII of your school about the upcoming N.S.S. Special Camp. You are Rajat / Sikha.
13. As the Secretary of the Literature Club of your school, draft a notice for the students informing them about the Inter-School Essay Competition being organized by the School Education Department. You are Sajal / Supriya.
14. As the H.M. of your school, draft a notice for the students, informing them about the Pre & Post-Matric scholarship. You are Ranjan / Papiya.
15. As the Editor of your school magazine, draft a notice for the students, informing them to write and submit article sketches for the School Magazine within 15th October. You are Ruhi / Param.

## ARTICLE – WRITING

An article is a non-fictional write-up aimed to be published in newspapers, magazines and journals. It strikes up a conversation with the readers and aims to bring some change to the world. Topics related to current issues or of any personal interest can be the subjects of articles. Articles provide information with clarity and precision ; an article can be well- organized if it follows the following format:

**Title or heading :** Choose a striking title that can illustrate the basic theme of the article.

**By line :** Use the names mentioned in the questions. If there is no name mentioned, then write ABC/XYZ instead.

**Introduction :** Give the relevant perspective to the topic. Facts and statistics can be used according to relevance.

**Development of Topic :** Discuss the topic with detailed precision. Varied aspects of the topic like merits / demerits, causes / reasons, effects / results should be brought into focus.

**Summing – up :** Personal opinions and views of the writer along with suggestions and solutions should be included in the summation.

**Conclusion :** The ending should be hopeful . It can call for action and should leave a note of hope or caution for the target readers.

### Solved Question

“ Educate a man, you educate one person, educate a woman, you educate a complete family.”  
Write an article in 150- 200 words on the topic, “ Importance of Women’s Education.” You are Arun/ Arunima Debbarma

#### **Ans. Importace of Women’s Education**

– by Arunima Debbarma

Education plays a crucial role in developing a nation. Lower rate of women literacy is a major set-back for the socio-economic growth of the nation. Women’s education can increase a country’s productivity and can build stronger communities. In the Indian society where women are seen as liabilities, education can be a vital weapon in eliminating gender inequality and discrimination.

Indian democracy has provided the basic right to schooling to each and every citizen; various policies and schemes have been launched to bring the girl child to school. An educated women can resist the social evils like child marriages, domestic violence or any sort of discrimination and oppression. An educated woman is an asset to nation because of her ability to become a part of the political system and to contribute as the pro-active member of society. Working hand in hand with the male counterparts brings intellectual and emotional balance to the workforce and it leads to successful realization of goals.

An educated woman is a powerhouse in herself; she can stay healthy, build a business, empower her community and uplift her country . So, one’s gender should never determine whether one would get an education; education is a must for women.

## Exercise

1. Write an article in 150-200 words on “ The Increasing Crime Rate in Society and Ways to Curb it.” You are Abhi/ Abha Das.
2. Write an article on the good and bad sides of online learning in 150-200 words. You are Anay/ Anaya Roy.
3. A society without gender discrimination is a stepping stone for a better world. Write an article in 150-200 words on “ Gender Discrimination in Our Society and Ways to Overcome It”. You are Nisha/ Nishant Reang.
4. Tripura carries an untapped potential for future prospects in tourism. Write an article on how to promote tourism in Tripura. You are Kanika/ Kannak Barman.
5. Global warming poses a real threat to the human race and life in general. Write an article on the impact of global warming in 150-200 words. You are Sumit/Sumita Debbarma.
6. Write an article on ‘ Vocational Training as a part of the School Curriculum’ and suggest ways to make it successful. You are Anisha/Anish Bhowmik.
7. You are what you eat. Write an article on the health hazards caused by fast foods and the need for healthy diet. You are Soumak/ Soumya Dhar.
8. Media has the power to control and manipulate young minds. Write an article on the ‘Role of Media in Society.’ You are Amit/ Amita Singha.
9. Drug abuse is a self-destructive indulgence that can ruin one’s physical and psychological well-being. Write an article in 150-200 words on ‘Drug Abuse among Youths’. You are Kian / Kiara Chowdhury.
10. Write an article on ‘India’s contribution to Space Programme.’ You are Anjan / Anjana Goswami.
11. Reservation system in India provides representation to historically disadvantaged groups in the fields of education, employment and politics . Write an article on the ‘ Reservation System in India’ in 150-200 words. You are Rishu/ Risha Debbarma.
12. Value-based education aims to prepare the the students to face the world with right attitude and integrity. Write an article on “ Value Education as an Integral part of Curriculum”. You are Purav/ Purvi Singh.
13. Write an article in 150-200 words on the destructions caused by natural calamities and the ways to prevent them . You are Suvro/ Suvra Das.
14. Write an article on the status of women in modern India. You are Karan / Kiran Murasing.
15. Poor mental health condition is making way for depression and anxiety in today’s world. Write an article on the importance of mental health awareness in 150-200 words . You are Priya/ Priyam Jamatia.

# ADVERTISEMENTS

An advertisement is a type of public announcement, made generally through newspaper, asking for or offering services or buying and selling property goods etc or giving information about missing persons or pets etc. Advertisements are published through a popular medium to target a large number of people.

## **There are two types of advertisement :**

1. Classified
2. Commercial

Classified ads are used by general masses to promote or use services.

Commercial or Display Ads are published in the newspaper, magazines or on Television by leading organizations or establishments etc. for the promotion and publicity of their products services or events.

## **Types of Classified Advertisements**

1. Situation Wanted/Vacant
2. Sale /Purchase
3. To - Let
4. Missing (Persons and Pets)
5. Lost and Found
6. Travel and Tours
7. Matrimonial Alliance
8. Obituary
9. Appeal
10. Educational

## **Main features of Classified Advertisements**

1. They are categorized into columns according to different classes.
2. They are written in short but catchy words or phrases; no full sentences required .
3. Language is simple, factual and formal.
4. All relevant details are provided.
5. Contact name and address is provided.
6. Written in a box to draw attention.

## Let us look at a few examples

### 1. Situations (Vacant /Wanted)

You are the Principal of ABC High school, Delhi. You are in need of Post Graduate Teachers (PGTs) for your school for the subjects Maths and English. Draft a suitable advertisement .

#### Answer

#### SITUATION VACANT

Wanted PGTs in Maths and English for ABC High school, Delhi. Candidates must have fluency over English . Interview on 16/08/20xx . Interested candidates may apply with relevant certificates and CV on or before 12/04/20xx at ABC @ gmail.com. Salary negotiable.

### 2. Sale (Flat)

Bipin Mohan, of Gopalpur, Rajkot, wishes to sell his Flat as he is moving to Goa. Draft a suitable advertisement for publication in the “For Sale” section of the newspaper.

#### Answer.

#### PROPERTY FOR SALE

3BHK, Ground floor attached bathroom, car parking, well maintained lawn, 24 hours power and water facilities, Prime location, Price non-negotiable. For Further enquiries / details contact Bipin Mahan 9856XXXXXX.

### 3. Appeal

Write an appeal in not more than 50 words addressed to Indians requesting donations for Harika Madan, a 9 years old girl suffering from cancer who has to undergo a bone marrow transplant. Write on behalf of a charitable society, named “We Care”.

#### APPEAL

**Ans :** It is earnestly appealed to the kind people of India that Harika Madan, a 9-year old girl, is suffering from blood cancer and has to undergo a bone marrow transplant . Her family cannot afford the money amounting to five lakhs. Some donors have contributed but the amount still is quite insufficient. Please help by sending a part of your hard earned money immediately at the following address.

#### Chief Manager

“We Care’

Delhi

Contact – 9854610

#### Exercise

1. Principal, Sundream Global School, Kolkata, requires a receptionist for her school. Draft a suitable advertisement in about 50 words to be published in the classified column of a newspaper with all necessary details.



2. You are Chandan / Chandni , General Manager at Life Industries , Mangalore. You need an Accountant for your company. Draft an advertisement for the classified column.
3. Delhi Public School, Agra, requires a Cricket Coach. Draft a suitable advertisement in not more than 50 words for the ‘Situation Vacant’ column, stating all requirements, age, qualification, experience etc. You are the Sports Secretary of the school.
4. You are Ranjan / Ranjana. Draft a classified advertisement in not more than 50 words for the purchase of a second-hand car giving all the necessary details of your requirement.
5. You possess an area of land in the heart of the city. You want to dispose of this property since you have decided to shift abroad. Write an advertisement in a national daily, giving all the necessary details. You are Jagadish of Agartala, Tripura.
6. You plan to sell your motor cycle. Draft a suitable advertisement in not more than 50 words to be published in the classified column of a national daily. Mention details of the motorcycle. You are Samir Roy, Udaipur, Tripura.
7. You want to purchase a second hand air-conditioner in good running condition. You are M. Chakma of Jirania, Tripura. Draft an advertisement in not more than 50 words under the classified column.
8. You would like to let out a portion of your independent house for office use. Write an advertisement in not more than 50 words for the classified columns of the local newspaper giving all necessary details.
9. You are Prakriti/ Pahikrit from Delhi. You want to open a Kindergarten School. You are in search of an accommodation on rent suitable for this purpose. Write an advertisement giving all your requirements to be published in the ‘To Let’ column of a local newspaper .
10. Your grandmother is missing since 28th February 20xxx . She had gone to the local temple at Rampurhat. Her complexion is fair and she wore a pale grey saree. Draft an advertisement for the classified column of ‘Hindustan Times’ in not more than 50 words.
11. You are Chitara/ Chitra, Harinagar, Delhi. Your pet dog, Hunter is missing . Write an advertisement for the ‘Missing Pets’ column of a newspaper .
12. Write an advertisement in not more than 50 words for the ‘Lost and Found’ column of the local daily, stating the loss of your wallet containing a DD for Rs 30,000 and important cards, while travelling by bus from Gautamnagar to Harinagar, Tripura. You are Ratan/ Rina.
13. You have lost a library book issued in your name while returning home by an auto. Write an advertisement for the ‘Lost and Found’ column of a local daily, giving particulars of the book.
14. You are Mipura/Mipur. You have found some important documents in a file cover in a local train from Dharmanagar to Agartala . Write a suitable advertisement for the ‘Lost and found’ column of a national daily in about 50 words. Specify details needed to return them to the rightful owner.
15. Pilgrim Tour and Travels , conducts bus tours to Udaipur Matabari, Neermahal and Unakoti, in Tripura. Draft a suitable advertisement to be inserted in the classified columns of local daily

for trips starting from Agartala, giving all necessary details in not more than 50 words.

16. Write an advertisement for the matrimonial column of a national daily for a suitable match for a good looking, Bengali, girl, 30-year old, Doctor in a government hospital in Delhi. Give the contact no. As – 9845xxxxx and other details.
17. You are Peter James of Goa . Write an obituary to be inserted in a local paper for your father who died recently. Add an affectionate message to him from you all your family mentioning why he meant so much to you.
18. You are the Director of a Computer Coaching Academy. Write an advertisement for publication in the newspaper for admission to various courses in your academy.
19. As the founder of Career Models Institute , a leading name in coaching for IIT-JEE and CBSE-PMT in your state, write a classified advertisement for publication in a newspaper for the benefit of students aspiring for admission in prestigious engineering and medical colleges.
20. You are the Manager of an NGO, ‘The Art of Humanity.’ You have recently started making masks, to be sold at a nominal cost to buyers , keeping in view the covid – 19 situation. Draft a suitable advertisement looking for skilled people to stitch masks at a nominal monthly pay.
21. Write an advertisement for the “Educational” column of a newspaper for an institute offering TET, STGT, STPGT courses for the aspiring candidates for appearing in upcoming exams.
22. You plan to sell some furniture of your house as you have been transferred at your job. Draft a suitable advertisement in not more than 50 words to be inserted in the classified columns of a local daily giving all necessary details of the furniture. You are Sushant/ Susmita of Kolkata.
23. Write an advertisement to appeal for suitable kidney donors to save the life of a young boy whose kidneys are damaged beyond repair. You are Abhi/Abhisha of Agartala.
25. You are S. Sharma of Manali. You want a Maths and History tutor for your son who studies in Std-V. Write an advertisement to be published in the classified column of a local newspaper .
26. Several coastal regions of Kanyakumari have been lashed by floods . Prepare an appeal seeking help in cash or kind to provide relief to the helpless persons. This appeal is being issued by “Jeevan Doar.”

## REPORT – WRITING

**Introduction** - A report is a description of an event or an investigation of any problem or issue that has already taken place.

**Reports are generally of two kinds –**

- i. Report for a newspaper
- ii. Report for a magazine

**Key points to remember while drafting a Report**

- i. The report should be brief and specific.
- ii. The report should be written in third person.
- iii. Passive voice and indirect speech should be used.
- iv. The report should be written in simple language.
- v. Date and place of the event/ incident should be mentioned.
- vi. If the report is about any issue or problem, the possible remedies should be stated at the end as feedback.
- vii. Heading.
- viii. Name of the person reporting.
- ix. In case of newspaper reporting, journalistic idioms (language and expressions ) should be used.
- x. The report should not be judgemental.

### Sample of a Report

1. You are Arun/Sujata. Write a newsreport on a road accident that took place on the Agartala-Bishalgarh Road killing seven people. (Within 150-200 words).

**Reported by Arun Saha**

Agartala, March 31: - Yesterday a fatal accident occurred at Sekerkote on the Agartala – Bishalgarh road just after the sunset. Seven people including two women were killed in that tragic incident involving a truck and a cruiser. The ill-fated cruiser was badly affected as the truck collided head – on with it, killing five passengers on the spot. The injured were immediately taken to the G.B. Hospital where two died on the way. Five more passengers are reported to be seriously injured with one in the ICU. The local residents have complained that the place is an accident – prone zone, but the Traffic Department takes no action to reduce the problem. As per the eye witness, the police have registered a case against the truck driver, but he is on the run.

### Practice Topics

1. You are Nilash/ Aparna of ABC School. On Teacher’s Day your school has organized a grand

- celebration to honour the teachers of your school. Write a report on the celebration to be published in the school magazine.
2. You are Akash/ Anita of XYZ school. On the third day of N.S.S Special Camp you have organized a Voluntary Blood Donation Camp at the school premises. Write a report on this for your school magazine.
  3. Your school ABC, Agartala, has celebrated “World Environment Day” on 5th June, 2021, in a memorable way. Write a report on this for your school magazine. You are Paban/Dipika.
  4. As the correspondent of a local English daily, write a news report on the Agartala Book Fair. You are Alak/ Priti.
  5. You are Ashim Roy of Class-XII of APS School. Write a report on a Mock- Drill programme on Disaster Management that took place in the school.
  6. As the correspondent of Tripura Times, write a news report on the Devastating Fire that broke out at the Nagarjala stand. You are Sagar Dey/Purnima Jamatia.
  7. As a student of Class XII of ATC School, write a report for your school magazine on the ‘Swachha Bharat Abhiyan’ you have conducted as a part of N.S.S Camp in the locality. You are Diptanu/Parinita.
  8. As a staff reporter of North East Colors newspaper, write a report on the rise of Covid- 19 cases in Tripura and its impact on the Health Care system. You are Subhajit Paul.
  9. “Travelling is a part of Education.” Write a report for your school magazine about the recently conducted Educational Tour to Agartala State Museum and how it increased your knowledge. You are Sagarika of Class-XII.
  10. As the correspondent of an English daily, write a news report about the opening of “Maitree Setu” in Sabroom, South Tripura, and its impact on the economy of the state. You are Rahul/ Priya.
  11. As the staff reporter of a local English daily, write a report on the celebration of Republic Day/ Independence Day parade held at the Assam Rifles ground. You are Nabin/Sarita.
  12. You are Arnab/ Rekha of ABC School. Recently, there was a small chemical explosion in your science lab due to the carelessness of some students of Class XI. Write a report on this for your school magazine.
  13. You are Gagan/ Nila of Class XII. The Annual Sports Day of your school was conducted last week. Write a report on the event for your school magazine.
  14. You are Sunil/ Sunanda. As a correspondent of the Times of India, write a news report about the introduction of Tezas Express from Sealdah to New Delhi.
  15. You have recently attended a workshop on Creative Writing conducted by the SCERT, Tripura. Write a report in about 150-200 words about your experience for your school magazine. You are Dipjoy / Niharika.

## **SPEECH**

1. You are Abhik/ Abhiksha of Class XII. Your teacher has asked you to deliver a speech on the topic “Youngsters can perform a significant role in curbing corruption in the society,” in the morning assembly. Write a speech in not more than 150- 200 words.

Good morning, respected Headmaster/ Headmistress/ Principal sir, honourable teachers and my younger brothers and sisters , and my fellow friends. Now I, Abhik/ Abhiksha of Class XII am going to represent my brief discussion on “Role of youngsters in curbing corruption” in the society .

Corruption is one of the worst habits/evils in our society, which is a matter of great concern for the society and the country. There are people who are ready to compete for those important position of jobs with greater chances of corruption and those who don't have the chance, accept to minimise the corruption and keep complaining about it.

Education is the key to eradicate corruption. Young people must say no to donations and private tuitions . We must promote a system of selection for jobs based on merit rather than based on bribes. Higher Education is the key to end corruption in our nation. It is ultimately a matter of building national character. National character is nothing but the collective awareness combined with bravery. The youth should not allow themselves to become money making machines.

From today, we must take an oath to remove corruption from each level of the society.

Thank you.

### **EXERCISE FOR PRACTICE**

1. You are Nitin/ Nikita, A Head Boy or Head Girl of Class XII of H.V. Derozio school. The Headmaster of your school has asked you to deliver a speech on the topic, “Plastic pollution in India. On World Environmental Day in the morning assembly. Write a speech in not more than 150-200 words .
2. Every year there are floods or droughts in the country. Victims suffer a lot. The government does a lot to help people, but it is not enough, society also must do its bit. Write a speech in 150-200 words to be delivered in the morning assembly describing how the students can also help by collecting clothes, money and medicines from their neighbourhoods. You are Arun/ Aruna.
3. ‘Save the Earth’ an environment awareness magazine has launched ‘Clean Your City, campaign. As an active participant, write a speech in 150-200 words to be delivered in the morning assembly urging the students to participate in the campaign. You are Sagar/Sarika.
4. Your school is celebrating the ‘ Road Safety Week’. You are Amit/ Amita, a Head Boy or Head Girl of Class XII of your school. You have been asked by your class teacher to deliver a speech in the morning assembly stressing the importance of ‘Road Safety’. Write a speech in 150-200 words.
5. Your school N.S.S. programme officer has planned to lead a “Obey the Traffic Rules” programme.

The Programme Officer asked you to deliver a speech on why we should obey the traffic rules in the morning assembly stressing the importance of obeying the traffic rules. Write a speech in 150-200 words . You are Ashis/ Ashta. a student of Class XII of your school.

6. As per last census , the literacy rate in India was around 74% . In our day to day life, we find people who cannot even read or write. Looking at the gravity of the situation you decide to deliver a speech ‘in your school morning assembly on the topic, ‘Each one , Teach One’ . Write your speech in 150-200 words . You are Vinit/ Vinita , a student of Class XII. of your school.
7. You are Ali/ Alia, Head Boy/ Head Girl of Class XII of your school. You are deeply disturbed by the rising cases of aggressive behavior of students in your school. You decide to, deliver speech during the morning assembly about it. Write a speech in 150-200 words.
8. You are Ayush/ Arushi, a student of Class XII of your school. As the Head Boy / Head Girl of your class write a speech in 150-200 words on “Benefits of Early Rising” to be delivered by you in the morning assembly of your school.
9. Water is very precious thing or asset. A drop of water can bring back one’s life, Scientists guess if 3rd World War happens, it will cause due to water crisis. So save water safe life. Your class teacher asked you to deliver a speech on the topic, “Save Water Save Life” in the morning assembly about it. Write a speech on it in about 150-200 words . You are Sayan/ Sayanika, a student of Class XII of your school.
10. The Prime Minister’s campaign , ‘Swachh Bharat’ has become popular throughout India. Inspired by this , you, the Principal of a reputed school decided to address the students on the “The Value of Cleanliness” . Write a speech on it in 150-200 words . You are Alakesh/ Alakanada, the Principal of the school.
11. After the rainy season is over, mosquitoes start breeding. They cause malaria, dengue , chikungunya etc. These diseases can sometimes prove to be fatal. As Principal of your school you have decided to deliver a speech on protection from mosquitoes. Represent a speech on it in the morning assembly in 150-200 words .
12. Power shortage has become a norm even in the cities. One way to face this situation is by preventing the wastage of power . You are the Principal of your school. Prepare a speech in 150-200 words on the importance of power in our daily life and how to save power at school and at home.
13. Mobile phone of today is no longer a mere means of communication having educative value in modern life. But its misuse can prove to be fatal. Write a speech in 150-200 words to be delivered in the morning assembly advising the students to be careful in the use of this otherwise very useful gadget. Suppose you are the Head Master of your school.
14. Regular practice of Yoga can help in maintaining good health and even in the prevention of many ailments. You are the Physical Instructor of your school. Write a speech in 150-200 words to be delivered in the morning assembly on the usefulness of Yoga.

15. To donate blood is to donate life. Your Head Teacher has asked you to deliver a speech on the topic “The Importance of Donation Blood to Save Life,” in the morning school assembly. You are Nihar/ Nihani, a student of Class XII. Write a speech on it in 150-200 words.
16. You are Raj/Rajni, as student of Class XII of your school. Your teacher has asked you to deliver a speech on the topic, “Books are Our Best Friends” in the school morning assembly. Prepare a speech on it in 150-200 words.
17. Your school is observing the Teacher’s Day. Your school Head Teacher asked you to deliver a speech in the school morning assembly on the topic, “The Role of the Teacher in Society. Write your speech on it in 150-200 words. You are Soheli/Shahela, a student of Class XII of your school.
18. You are Karan/ Kalyani, a student of Class XII. Your Headmaster has asked you to deliver a speech on the topic, “Maintaining the Pre- cautionary measures to save ourselves from COVID-19 Pandemic Situation.” Write a speech on it in 150-200 words.



## DEBATE

1. A number of your classmates (especially those from science and commerce stream) bunk their classes in order to attend coaching centers. Using the hints given below, write a debate on “Tuition at Coaching centers is not Essential.”
  - \* School teachers better equipped
  - \* Infrastructure much better at schools
  - \* Philanthropic approach
  - \* Coaching centers – money minting machines
  - \* No infrastructure
  - \* Competition – oriented education
  - \* Schools should reorient their teaching process.

Tuition at Coaching centers is not essential

Good morning, honourable judges, dear teachers, friends and worthy opponents.

Here, I, Nishkant, stand before the house to speak for the motion given by the house is “Tuition at Coaching centers is necessary or not.” Respected speaker, whenever, we look at around us, see numerous coaching centers have mushroomed in almost every town of the country. Students, especially from science and commerce streams, flock to these centers for their so called specialized coaching. They bunk the classes in their own institutions but go madly to seek admission in these coaching centers, and for which their parents have to pay very heavy fees. One fails to understand what these students seek from these ill- equipped one- room centers while their own institutions with all the well trained staff and with all required infrastructure fail to provide. I think the saying- “Distance leads charm to the view” – fairly applies in this case. These so- called coaching centers spend heavily on their misleading ads by which the innocent students as well as their parents get duped. In their anxiety to have the best possible coaching for their children, parents get fleeced by these unscrupulous people who engage very ordinary and low – paid instructors to run their class. They fail to realize that if their child fails to learn from the regular 5-6 hours of teaching in his own institution, what good a one hour class will do to him at the coaching institute. It is the duty of the schools to save their students from this exploitation through the reorientation of their teaching process. Besides effective teaching, they should arrange for competitive tests in order to inculcate a spirit of confidence and achievement in their students.

Thank you.

2. “Academic excellence is the only requirement for a successful career.” Write a debate either ‘for’ or ‘against’ the motion in 150-200 words. You are Ram/ Ragini.
3. “No Detention Policy for classes 6 to 8 is academically very unsound.” Write a debate in 150-200 words either or against the motion. You are Dhruba/ Deepa.
4. “Rainwater harvesting is the only solution to water crisis in the present times.” Write a debate



either for or against the motion in 150-200 words. You are Alok/ Alka.

5. "Aggression and sledging are an essential part of sports." Write a debate in 150-200 words either for or against the motion. You are Shivam/ Shivani.
6. "The government has banned the use of animals in Scientific laboratories for the purpose of dissection". Write a debate either for or against this decision in 150-200 words. You are Rimon/ Rima.
7. "Boarding schools are better than day schools for all round education of a child." Write a debate either for or against the motion in 150-200 words . You are Akash/ Akashi.
8. Write a debate either for or against the motion, "Safety of women working in night shifts in callcentre cente is inadequate" in 150-200 words. You are Ratan/Ratna .
9. "Capital punishment has no place in a civilized society". Write a debate either for or against the motion in 150-200 words. You are Sagar/Smita.

Or,

'Dowry system is a curse in our society .' Write a debate either for or against the motion in 150-200 words. You are Sohail/ Sangeta.

11. Write a debate either in favour or against the motion in 150-200 words , " Old–age homes are ideal institutions for any society". You are Anil/ Anju.
12. "TV is essential for mass education." You are Ronak / Ruchita of ABC School of ABC colony . Your school is hosting a debate competition on it. Write a debate either for or against the motion in 150-200 words.
13. "Our large population is not a cause of poverty but an asset a resource." Write a debate either for or against the motion in 150-200 words. You are Vivek/ Vishaka.
14. You are Monoj / Manju. Your school has arranged a debate contest on the topic , "Justice delayed is justice denied," Write a debate as a competitor of the contest in 150-200 words either for as against the motion.
15. The Eco- Club of your school is going to organize a debate on , "Globalization and its effects. You are Sarita/ Sanju. Write a debate in 150-200 words either for or against the motion.
16. "Online class through internet is better than Offline class." You are Sujoy/Sujata. Write a debate either for or against the motion in 150-200 words.
17. "A career counselor is the best person to guide you in the choice of a career." Write a debate in 150-200 words either for or against the motion. You are Ramesh/ Sweety.
18. "The policy of reservation of seats for admission in the professional courses is good for the deprived sections of society." Write a debate in 150-200 words either for or against the motion. You are Shymal / Susmita.
19. "Brain drain is not a bane for a developing country like India." Write a debate in 150-200 words either for or against the motion. You are Ritesh/ Ritika.
20. You are Mukul / Mahina a Head Boy/Head Girl of ABC Colony School. Your school has organized a debate on " Social Media and its effects" and you will be participating from your school . Prepare a debate either for or against the motion in 150-200 words.

# Invitations and Replies

## Introduction

An invitation is a highly formal request to go or come somewhere, or to do something, which are sent individually to people . Invitations can be sent out for parties or functions (Social, religions, educational etc.)

They are usually printed in an ornamental style, most often on glossy papers.

There are two types of invitations :

- i. Formal invitations
  - ii. Informal invitations
1. Formal invitations

Formal invitation may be in the form of a card or letter.

Guidelines for formal invitations

1. One starts with the designation/ name and address of the host/ sponsor/ organizer .
2. Formal words (cordially, occasion , residence) are used.
3. The occasion, name of the invitee, date, time, venue , etc are written in proper sequence.
4. They are written in the third person i.e. he, she , they or it instead of I, you, we.
5. Important names are written in capitals.
6. The whole letter consists of one single sentence.
7. The name of the addressee is not included.
8. If a VIP is invited then the name should appear prominently.
9. Name of the chief organizer with 'RSVP' is written a card on the left hand corner of the card.

## Guidelines of formal replies.

1. They involve a standard /form.
2. Usually very short and to the point.
3. First there is acknowledgement of the invitation.
4. Acceptance or regret is communicated.
5. In case of not attending, a reason has to be provided .

## Examples

### Formal invitations card

Mrs. and Mr. Malhotra request the pleasure of your company on the occasion of the marriage of their only son

Rahul with Maya

(D/O Mrs . and Mr. Ravi modi , Rajkot)

on Wednesday , 28th January, 2021 at 7 pm at

Hotel Lakeview , sector-9 Gandhinagar

RSVP

Manas Malhota

2/31, Garden Housing Complex

Gandhinagar, 157000

Phone- 98564110

With best compliments From

relatives and friends

### **Accepting the invitation**

---

Mr. Sujoy Bose

---

has much pleasure in accepting the kind invitations of

---

Mrs. and Mr. Malhotra to the marriage of their son Rahul on 28th January 2021, at 7 pm

---

### **Declining the invitation**

---

Mr. Sujoy Bose sincerely thanks Mrs, and Mr. Malhotra

---

for their kind invitation to the wedding of their son Rahul on 28th January 2021, at 7pm but regrets his inability to attend because of a prior engagement . He wishes the bridegroom and bride a blissful and prosperous conjugal life.

---

### **Formal Invitation Letter**

---

You are Pijush / Payel, head boy/ head girl of ABC, High school, Agartala, Your school wishes to honour an old student of your school, the famous gymnast Dipa Karmakar for her achievements by inviting her to the school Annual Day as the Chief Guest. Write a formal invite.

---

ABC High school

Agartala

8th August 2021

MS. Dipa Karmakar

Agartala

Subject- Invitation as the Chief Guest for the School's Annual Day.

Respected Madam,

We shall be honoured if you could spare some time from your busy schedule to be the Chief Guest at our school's Annual Day to be held on 28th August 2021, 12 noon onwards in the school premises.

Kindly confirm your acceptance by 20th August and oblige.

Yours respectfully,

---

Payel Sarkar

---

Head Girl

Ph- 986512540

## 2. Informal invitations

They are sent for personal functions or occasions to relatives or close friends. They are written in the form of personal letters. The style is informal and may include personal feelings or emotions.

Example:-

2/31, Garden Housing complex.

Gandhinagar- 179450

28th December 20xx

My dear Sonu,

You will be delighted to learn that our son Rahul is going to get married on 28th January, 20xx. Our would be daughter-in-law, Maya is a Doctor. So your bhabhi and I are looking forward to have you at the wedding , with family.

Yours affectionately,

Keshav.

### Accepting the Invitation

---

3/21 Pratiksha Apartment

---

Uttarakhand

---

3rd January 20xx

---

Dear Keshab and Bhabi

---

I am really overjoyed to hear the good news. Thanks a lot for the invitation to Rahul's wedding. Ah! Children grow up so fast ! Time flies!

---

Anyway , I will surely join the festivities , with my family. See you soon

---

Yours affectionately

---

Sonu.

---

---

### Declining the invitation

---

---

3/21 Pratiksha Apartment

---



Secretary of the club.

9. You are Pooja Desai. Your cousin Piyush from Delhi is staying in a paying guest accommodation . Invite him to join Diwali Celebrations with you at your residence.
10. You have received an invitation to be the judge of a musical competition at ABC school . Send a formal reply in not more than 50 words, confirming your acceptance. You are Dipankar/ Dipika.
11. Sanjit / Sampha has come out successful in the Class XII examinations. He/She has decided to organize a party for his/her friends. Draft an informal invitation in about 50 words giving details of venue, time, and date.
12. Your school is planning to organize a talk on the ‘Importance of Afforestation . You plan to invite the office superintendent of the Forest Department as the Keynote Speaker. As the cultural secretary of ABC school, draft a formal invitation for the same, giving all necessary details.
13. As Secretary of Literacy Club of ST. ELC’s School, Lajpatnagar, draft a formal invitation card for the inauguration of the club in your school.
14. You are Dilisha/ Dilip living at Maharaja Colony, Bhopal . You have decided to host a dinner party to congratulate your parents on their 25th wedding anniversary. Draft a formal invitation card in not more than 50 words to all family members to attend the grand dinner at home.
15. You are Prakriti Roy and have received an invitation card from Mr. Seth, Principal of ABC School, Dehradun to attend the school’s Annual function. Draft a formal reply of acceptance.

## **POSTERS (For both- XI-XII)**

A Poster is a very useful means to create awareness about current social problems or needs and issues or to even extend invitations and write notices. Essentially, it's a brief communication with a powerful visual and a powerful message. A poster is always prepared with a particular target audience in mind. It very clearly mentions the theme or the topic, the scheduled of an event and the occasion for it. The Poster should be clear in communicating the intended message in an easily readable manner. It has to be captivating, attractive and persuasive so as to influence a large number of people.

**A Poster can be used for publishing and highlighting the following :**

1. Cultural Show/Exhibitions/Seminars/Workshop/Fare etc.
2. Educational institutions and students activities.
3. Promoting sales of a product or service.
4. Influence public opinion.
5. Advancing a social cause and so on.

### **TYPES OF POSTERS**

There are two types of posters.

#### **A. FOR AWARENESS OF A SOCIAL PROBLEM :**

1. Details associated with the theme.
2. Solution to the problem.
3. Effect of the problem.
4. Any additional useful information.

#### **B. FOR AN EVENT :**

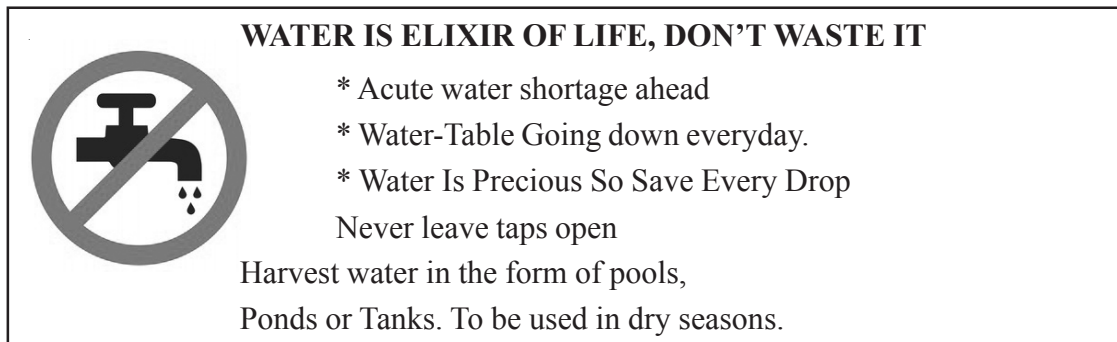
1. Name of the event.
2. Date/Time/Venue.
3. Any other relevant information.
4. Purpose.
5. Entry tickets/Passes.
6. Highlight of the event.

### **FORMAT OF A POSTER :**

Water is a precious and each one of us must stop its wastage to avoid its scarcity in the near future. Prepare a poster requesting people of your locality to adopt – means to save water. Preventing its wastage, etc. You are Subhra/Sunita of Ananda nagar, Agartala, Tripura (W).

Or,

Public taps are generally leaking. A lot of water is wasted. Design a poster to make people aware of the need for saving water. You are Puja/Puranjan of Subhash nagar, Agartala Tripura(W).



#### **Points to be kept in mind before designing a Poster**

- \* A Poster is designed to be put up at a public place. So it should be designed in such a way that it catches the attention of the passers by.
- \* A poster should have bigger / bold / capital letters because it is read by the public from a distance.
- \* A poster should not have any extra or irrelevant matter.
- \* A poster can be made more catchy using phrases, slogans and attractive language.

#### **FOR PRACTICES**

1. Draft an attractive poster for “SAVE TREES SAVE EARTH” CAMPAIGN – You are Rama / Roma of Agartala.
2. Design a poster against the ill-effects of Plastics on the Environment. Suggest alternative solutions as well.
3. You are the Sports Instructor at Subhash Nagar H/S School. You are arranging the Annual Sports Day of the school. Design an attractive poster to inform the parents of the students about it.
4. You are the Principal of an English Medium Primary School. Design a catchy Poster to instill discipline in the children which can be put up in the classrooms.
5. You are the Director of Disaster Management authority. You want to make the people aware about the Earthquakes. Draft a poster for the same.
6. You are the Marketing Manager of Starbucks Coffee Products company. To promote the sales of Starbucks Coffee, you have to design a poster detailing the vast variety of Starbucks Coffee Available in restaurants all over India. Design a suitable poster.
7. You are disturbed after visiting a school for the blind. In order to mobilise your friends and the school mates, you are planning to campaign for Eye Donation. Prepare a poster highlighting the need for eye donation.



8. You are a fitness trainer in a health club. Design a Poster in not more than 50 words, to emphasize the importance of exercise in maintaining mental and physical fitness. You are Prem/Priya.
9. Prepare a poster advising people not to take Alcoholic Drinks, illustrating the dangers of consuming alcohol. Include details. You are Rajan/Rajani.
10. Write a poster on prevention of Covid-19.
11. You are the Secretary, Social Service League of your school. Design a poster to be displayed in your locality and in a local hospital premises inspiring people to make a pledge to donate eyes and other organs of their bodies.

Or,

Your institution, Golden Care Hospital, Agartala has decided to organise an Organ Donation Camp to generate awareness about the cause. Draft a poster, giving all the necessary details.

12. You are Sujan/Sukanya from the Modern English Medium School, Agartala. You read an article about the proposed garbage Segregation Programme in the neighbourhood which is set to begin from next week. You decide to make a poster telling the people about the programme and the value of garbage segregation. Draft the poster to be put up in your locality.
13. Design a poster on “Beti Bachhao, Beti Padao”– You are Prem/Preeti.
14. Draft a poster on clean city campaign.
15. Your school is organising a rally against the exploitation of children working in the cracker factories. – Construct a poster on the same.
16. You are Anil, a social activist. Design a poster to observe “Wild Life Protection Week” in your city.
17. You are Rahul/Susmita, planning to open a Yoga Club in your area. Design a poster highlighting the importance of Yoga giving the necessary information about the club in about 50 words.
18. Your company is launching a new range of shoes for children next month. Draft an attractive poster which can be displayed on all the market areas of your town to promote its sale.  
– Do not forget to mention the speciality of these shoes. (50 words)
19. You are Surya / Roshni, a social worker much concerned about the increase in the number of road accidents. Draft a poster to create an awareness on how careless and untrained driving can cost life and property.
20. Your school is organising a cultural evening to collect funds for slum children. The Human Resource Development Minister has consented to be the Chief Guest. Draft a poster to be displayed in different areas in your locality – You are the Cultural Secretary of your school.
21. Design a poster to launch a Cleanliness Drive campaign in the surrounding your school.
22. Draft a poster in 50 words on Global Warming – You are Bimal/Bimla.
23. Draft a poster in about 50 words on Consumer Rights.

24. Draft a poster on “No Crackers on Diwali”.
25. Every year Tripura Tourism organises an Art and Craft Fair at Hapania Agartala. – Design a poster in about 50 words. Include other necessary details.
26. Prepare a poster in about 50 words on “Kindness to Animals” to be displayed at public places appealing to people to show kindness to animals.
27. Design a poster for a “Science Exhibition”, you are going to organise in your school.
28. Design a poster on “Say no to Drugs / Smoking.”
29. Recently glaciers have caused havoc in some parts of Uttarakhanda. You are Shimala/Shimul, member of Social Service Organization “SEVA” Agartala. Draft a poster requesting people to help the rain and flood affected families physically and economically.
30. Design a poster on “Blood Donation” camp to be organized in your school campus hall. You are Sajib / Sanchita.

## LETTER - WRITING

### Letter to the Editor

1. Write a letter to the Editor, Tripura Times, expressing your views on —
  - a) Deteriorating standard of living in the capital cities.
  - b) Scarcity of drinking water in your locality.
  - c) The rising problem of eve-teasing.
  - d) The price - hike of essential commodities.
  - e) Cruelty to animals.
  - f) The problem of felling of trees for the beautification of the city.
  - g) The problem of traffic jam in the city.
  - h) Environmental pollution (air, noise, plastic pollution).
  - i) The merits and demerits of online education.
  - j) The importance of Yoga in maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

### Business Letter/Official Letters

- 1) You are the Head Librarian of ABC School, Udaipur. Write a letter to Vikash Publishing House, Melarmath, Agartala, placing an order for 100 textbooks of Physics for Class XII.
2. Write a letter to the Customer Service Manager of XYZ Electronics, Agartala, complaining about a defect in the computers recently purchased from the store. You are Reshav/Rashmita.
3. You wish to enrol for a Spoken English Learning Course from ABC Institute, Agartala. Write a letter to the Coordinator of the institute requesting him/her to provide the course details. You are Sayantika/Sagar.
4. You are the Librarian of XYZ Public School. You had placed an order for textbooks with D.S. publishers. As the books did not arrive on time, you have decided to cancel the order. Write a letter to the Manager, D.S. Publishers, Agartala, cancelling the order.

**MODEL QUESTION – I**  
**Class - XII, Sub : English**  
**Section - A (Reading Skills) Marks - 20**

**1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :**

**12**

“Amomon means ‘fragrant spice plant’ in Arabic and Hebraic and in Italian, canella means ‘little tube’. These are a few of the many terms given to the popular spice known as cinnamon. Dating back as far as 2800 B.C., Chinese writings describe cinnamon as an important part of the culture, so much so that over the years this spice was traded right up there with silver. Now-a-days we find it in sweetened cereals, baked goods and also sprinkled on various foods such as yogurt. Yet, many do not consider its wealth of healing capabilities including its potential as a weight loss remedy.

Cinnamon is derived from the inner bark of the cinnamon tree grown and harvested mostly in Sri Lanka but also found in Brazil, Indonesia, Vietnam, China and Burma. After a cinnamon tree grows for about six to eight years, it is cut down leaving a stump to allow it to grow again making it a very sustainable practice. It is then stripped from the bark, dried and packaged as sticks for export. Several studies have been published regarding the weight loss properties of cinnamon which include its unique ability to be used for Type - 2 diabetes which is a disease often resulting from obesity. When eaten, the spice seems to slow down glucose absorption within the intestines while stimulating insulin production. This normalizes blood glucose levels which in turn can indirectly decrease weight gain.

“The result of a study demonstrate that intake of 1, 2, or 6 g of cinnamon per day reduces serum glucose, triglyceride, LDL cholesterol and total cholesterol in people with Type - 2 diabetes and suggest that the inclusion of cinnamon in the diet of people with Type - 2 diabetes will reduce risk factors associated with diabetes and cardiovascular diseases.”

A study from the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, called ‘Effect of ground cinnamon on after meal blood glucose level in normal –weight and obese adults’ found that cinnamon may be effective in moderating post - meal glucose level in normal - weight and obese adults.

Columbia University Nutritionist Tara Ostrowe comments to Reader’s Digest on the benefits of this spice: “Cinnamon really is the new skinny food... Scientists already credit cinnamon with helping lower blood sugar concentration and improving insulin sensitivity. When less sugar is stored as fat, this translates into more help for your body when it comes to weight loss.”

Talk to your doctor about adding cinnamon daily in your healthy diet and exercise program. Add it to your tea, oatmeal, fruit, toast or anything else you can think of as a small amount will go a long way and potentially assist in your weight loss mission.

**A. Answer the following questions by choosing the correct options given below :**

**1x5**

- a) Cinnamon is called \_\_\_\_\_in Hebraic .(little tube/canella /Amomon/a fragrant spice plant).
- b) In ‘Yet many do not consider its wealth of healing capacity—’ The writer refers to the word ‘wealth’ to —(the payment of silver/the cost of cinnamon/ health of people /the healing power of cinnamon).

- c) The growth and harvesting of cinnamon is more seen in ———. (Brazil/ Indonesia /Srilanka/ India)
- d) The name of the Columbia University Nutritionist is ———. (Tara ostraous /Tara Ostrowe/ Tara Ostrewe)
- e. ——— normalizes blood glucose levels in our body. (Amomon /cinnamon /insulin).

**B. Answer the following very short answer type questions:**

**1x7**

- a. What is cinnamon derived from?
- b. How is cinnamon used today?
- c. In what way does cinnamon help people suffering from Type - 2 diabetes?
- d. How is cinnamon helpful in weight loss?
- e. Which countries of the world produce cinnamon?
- f. Pick out the phrase from the passage (para-1) which shows that cinnamon was much in demand in China.

**Comprehension**

**Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:**

The human mind is the most versatile organ in the body. It is a storehouse of extensive information, experiences, images and emotions. In fact, it not only stores, but also analyses and selects the materials. It is constantly working and has a tremendous power of creation. It is always at our command, provided we treat it like a helper and do not allow it to become the master.

The human brain carries unlimited sources of energy and strength, which can be utilised in constructive as well as destructive ways. See how some among us become so creative and productive. Such people have stimulated their brain cells in the positive direction. They have oriented their minds towards one goal and trained them to dip into the deep, hidden sources of energy present in each one of us.

Our day-to-day problems and worries keep our minds entangled and exhausted. The increasing involvement with so many routine activities leads to mental exhaustion. Some of these, of course, can not be avoided. We have to follow a pursuit for earning a livelihood. We have to pay money for everything we purchase in the market. Similarly, we have to look after our family. But there are a number of mental activities that can be avoided to save energy, for instance, idle gossip, the criticism of others, quarrelling over trifles and digging pits for others to fall into.

What happens when we are angry? We feel completely mentally exhausted. We even lose control over our mental faculties and do certain acts just to repent later. We frequently pick up fights with others and spoil relations with them. Our brain cells remain constantly overexcited. So, we consume more energy even when we are actually doing nothing. The brain cells find themselves incapable of doing higher order tasks.

One must remember that a relatively or completely relaxed mind can provide better coordinated and effective output. You may have seen some people who are usually relaxed. Others have

mastered the simple psychological, behavioural and physical techniques to become relaxed. Millions of people around the world have learnt these techniques and there is no reason why you cannot do the same and get the benefits.

a. **On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it using heading and sub-headings . Use recognizable abbreviations where necessary (minimum-4) Also suggest a suitable title.** 4

b. **Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words :** 4

**Section - B (Writing Skills) [30-Marks]**

3. (a) The Science club of ABC School is going to organize a 'Tree plantation Drive' on the World Environment Day around your school and in the neighbourhood . Write a notice in not more than 50 words inviting students to volunteer for the event . Give all the relevant details. You are Purba/Paras, Secretary of the Club. 4

OR,

(b) You have a Three bed - room, ground floor flat in a posh (best) locality . You want to sell it off as you are going abroad. Write an advertisement in not more than 50 words to be published in the classified columns of a local daily, giving all the necessary details. Your contact number is 9436XXXXXX. 4

4(a) You carried a hit-and-run accident victim to a local hospital . You were shocked to see that in its casualty ward the conditions are deplorable or chaotic. The patient was attended to after a lot of precious time was lost. You are Deepak /Deepa, A -114 Roop Nagar, Delhi. Write a letter of complaint in 120-150 words to the Chief Medical Officer of the hospital. 6

OR,

(b) You are Kamal /Kamini of 10, Civil Lines Extension, Chanakyapuri, Agra. The main road leading to your locality has many potholes causing frequent accidents at night , especially during the rainy season. Write a letter to the Editor, The Times of India, drawing attention of the Municipal Commissioner to this problem of the residents. 6

5(a) Teachers are regarded as nation builders . They are responsible for developing the character of students and transforming them into responsible citizens. Write an article in 150-200 words in the topic "Role of the Teacher in society . You are Gaurav/Gouri. 10

OR,

(b) Due to heavy rainfall the river near your town started overflowing its banks. As a result your town was flooded. It led to a great loss of life and property. Many NGOs came forward to help the people with food, shelter and medicines. Write a report in 150-200 words for the Local newspaper on the tragedy and rescue efforts. You are Ragahav/Ritika. 10

6. (a) "No detention policy for classes 6th to 8th is academically very unsound". Write a debate in 150-200 words either for or against the motion. 10

OR,

- (b) As per last census, the literacy rate in India was around 74% . In our day to day life we find people who cannot even, read or write. Looking at the gravity of the situation, you decide to deliver a speech in your school morning assembly on the topic, ‘Each One Teach One.’”

Write your speech in 150-200 words, You are Rohit/Rohita. 10

**Section – C (Literature) [30 –marks]**

- 7. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow. [4+4=8]**

- (a) A few years later when I came to know the waters of the Cascades, I wanted to get into them. And whenever I did - whether I was wading the Tieton or Bumping River or bathing in warm Lake of the Goat Rocks — the terror that had seized me in the pool would come back . It would take possession of me completely. My legs would become paralysed. Icy horror would grab my heart.

**Questions**

- i) What did the narrator want to do? 1
- ii) What would come back while wading through the waters of any place in the mind of the narrator? 1
- iii) Why was the narrator deprived of the joy of canoeing, boating and swimming? 1
- iv) Which word in the extract means ‘plod’? 1
- (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.”

**Questions :**

- i) What are Aunt’s tigers doing ? 1
- ii) How do they look ? 1
- iii) How can you say they are fearless ? 1
- iv) Are Aunt Jennifer’s tigers real ? Give a reason for your answer. 1

- 8. Answer any five of the following questions in 30-40 words each : 2x5=10**

- a) How does Douglas get rescued when he is thrown in to the pool?
- b) What is the kind of pain and ache that the poet feels ?
- c) How will ‘keeping quiet’ protect our environment ?
- d) What is the significance of the title , ‘Journey to the End of the Earth’?
- f) Why is Saheb not happy working at the tea stall?
- g) What qualities of Mr. Lamb attracted Derry to him?

**9. Answer the following questions in 120-150 words each :**

- a) How did the court scene at Motihari change the course of India's struggle for freedom? 6  
OR,
- b) Write about the life of the rag pickers of Seemapuri as revealed in the story "Lost Spring". 6

**10. Answer the following questions in 120-150 words each :**

- a) What impression do you form about Dr. Sadao as a man and as a surgeon on your reading the chapter "The Enemy"? 6  
OR,
- b) Describe the efforts made by the Tiger King to achieve his target of killing a hundred tigers.



## **Model Question Paper – 2**

**Time: 3 Hours**

### **General Instructions :- Full marks-80**

1. This question paper is divided into three sections  
Section A : Reading Skills [20 marks]  
Section B : Writing Skills [30 marks]  
Section C : Literature Textbooks and Supplementary Reading Texts
2. All the sections are compulsory .
3. Separate instructions are given with each section and questions, wherever necessary.  
Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
4. Don't exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

### **Sections – A (Reading Skills ) 20 Marks**

**4. Read the passage and on the basis of your understanding of the passage answer the questions given below:-**

1. India has never subscribed to the doctrine of militarism and war in her history. Here, war was never treated as an ideal. It was only tolerated as unavoidable and inevitable, and all attempts were made to check it and bring it under control. In spite of the frequency of wars in Ancient India, in spite of highly developed military organization, techniques of war and imperialism, and in spite of the open justification of war as national policy, the heart of India loved pacifism as an ideal capable of realization. India's symbolic role was that of a peacemaker and it sincerely pinned its faith on the principle of 'Live and Let Live'. At least philosophically, India's intelligence supported the cause of peace. All the great seers of the yore visualized the unity of life, permeating all beings, animate or inanimate, which ruled out killing and suicidal wars.
2. This doctrine of Philosophical pacifism practiced by ancient Aryans is, no doubt, a question of controversial nature. Certainly, the great Indian teachers and savants stuck to this doctrine tenaciously and in their personal life they translated it into practice and preached it to masses and even to princes of military classes.
3. Another culture of those times, the existence of which has been proved by the excavations of Mohan-Jo- Daro, also enunciated the doctrine of pacifism and friendship to all. Strangely enough, the Indus Valley civilization has revealed no fortification and very few weapons .
4. Ahimsa or the doctrine of Non-violence in thought, speech and action assumed a gigantic importance in the Buddhist and Jain period. By a constant practice of this virtue, man becomes unassailable by even wild beasts, who forgot their ferocity the moment they entered the circumstance of his magnetic influence . The monks and nuns of these churches were apostles of peace, who reached every nook and corner of the world and delivered the message of love to the war-weary humanity. The greatest votary was the royal monk Ashoka, who in reality was

responsible for transforming Ahimsa as an act of personal virtue, to Ahimsa as an act of national virtue.

5. Many a historian recounting the causes of downfall of the Mauryas, hold the practice policy of Ashoka which had eschewed the aggressive militarism of his predecessors, responsible for an early decay of the military strength of the state and its consequent disintegration, leading to the rise of Sungas, Kanvas and Andhras. But, in reality the fault lies with the weak successors of Ashoka, who could not wield the weapon of non-violence with skill and efficiency which required the strength of a spiritual giant like Ashoka. They failed due to their subjective weakness: Pacifism itself was no cause of their failure.
6. Besides the foregoing philosophical and religious school of thought, even many political authorities gave their unflinching support to the cause of pacifisms. They recognized the right of rivals to exist, not mainly as enemies, but as collaborators in the building of a civilization. Thus, for centuries, in the Pre-Mauryan India, scores of small independent republics existed and flourished without coming in clash with one another.
7. Kautilya, the much maligned militarist and the so called Machiavelli of India, thinks that the object of diplomacy is to avoid war.
8. The Mahabharata observes in this connection: "A wise man should be contented with what can be obtained by the expedients of conciliation, gift and dissension." It denounces the warring world of men by comparing it to a dog kennel. "First there comes the wagging of tails, then turning of one round to other, then the showing of teeth, then the roaring and then comes the commencement of the fights. It is the same with man; there is no difference what so ever." Yajnavalkya adds; "War is the last expedient to be used when all others have failed." Likewise, Sri Krishna whose Bhagwad Gita has been styled by some as a song of battle, should not be considered out and out a militarist. When all the three expedients were exhausted, then alone the fourth was resorted to.
9. All possible avenues of peace such as negotiation, conciliation through conference, meditation and so on, were explored by before the war was resorted to. This proves that the heart of ancient India was sound and it longed for peace, although war also was not treated as an anathema, which was to be avoided as far as possible. [Extract from 'Culture India' – Pacifism has been the ideal ' by Sri Indra]

## Questions

### 1.1. Answer each of the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option :

1. The heart of India loved
  - a) A highly developed military organization
  - b) Techniques of wars and imperialism
  - c) Loans
  - d) Pacifism.



It is just as important to know what subjects to avoid and what subjects to select for a good conversation. If you don't want to be set down as a wet blanket or a bore, be careful to avoid certain unpleasant subjects. Avoid talking about yourself, unless you are asked to do so. People are interested in their own problems, not in yours. Sickness or death bores everybody. The only one who willingly listens to such talk is the Doctor, but he gets paid for it.

To be a good conversationalist you must know not only what to say, but how also to say it. Be mentally quick and witty. But don't hurt others with your wit. Finally try to avoid mannerism in your conversation. Don't bite your lips or click your tongue, or roll your eyes or use your hand excessively as you speak.

Don't be like that Frenchman who said, "How can I talk if you hold my hand?"

### Questions

1. Make notes on the basis of your reading the contents given above using suitable title and sub titles. Use abbreviations wherever necessary. 4
2. Write a summary of the given passage in (80 -100) words. 4

### Sections - B ( Writing Skills – 30 marks)

3. Design a commercial poster in not more than 50 words for a shop advertising discount sale on electrical and electronic products. 4

OR,

Suppose your school is going to organize a blood donation camp. Write a notice asking students for participation.

4. Write a letter to the Editor of 'The Times of India' expressing your views about the excessive use of mobile phones by students ( word limit 120- 150 words ) You are Ankit/ Ankita. 6

OR,

You are Mallika / Mayank, a student of class XII. Modern School, Shimla. You are eager to enter the National Film Academy, Shimla, after your Board results. Write a letter to the Director of the Film, Academy, seeking information regarding admission procedure, eligibility, criteria, fee structure, placement opportunities, etc.

5. A recent survey showed that there are still many communities in India which do not welcome the birth of girl child. Can a country which does not give equal right to all its citizens ever dream of becoming great? Write a speech in 150- 200 words, giving your views on the above subject and the steps we should take to solve this problem. You are Rahul/Rojina, a resident of AMC/Agartala. 10

OR,

As Mukul / Mahima of Puran Rajbari H.S. School, write a speech to be delivered in School Assembly, highlighting the importance of Yoga with meditation in 150-200 words

6. Write a report on 'Seven Days Special Camp' organized by N.S.S. unit of your school in 150-

200 words. You are Sweety / Sanjib.

10

OR,

Susmita Das , a student of Class XII, feels highly disturbed when she reads about a bride – burning case in the city of Agartala where she lives . Write an article for Susmita on the ‘Evil of Dowry system’ (150-200 words).

### Section – C ( Literature)

**7. a. Read the given extract carefully and answer the questions that follow: 1x4=4**

“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.”

- i. What are Aunt’s tigers doing?
- ii. How do they look?
- iii. How can you say they are fearless?
- iv. Are Aunt Jennifer’s tigers real ? Give reasons.

**b. Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow : 1x4=4**

My acquaintance with the barefoot ragpickers leads me to Seemapuri, a place on the periphery of Delhi, yet miles away from it, metaphorically. Those who live here are squatlers who came from Bangladesh back in 1971. Saheb’s family is among them. Seemapuri was then a wilderness. It still is, but it is no longer empty. In structures of mud, with roofs of tin and tarpaulin, devoid of sewage, drainage or running water, live 10,000 ragpickers. They have lived here for more than thirty years without an identity, without permits but with ration cards that get their names on voters’ list and enable them to buy grain.

- i. From which chapter have these lines been taken?
- ii. Where did the author’s acquaintance with the rag pickers lead her?
- iii. Where did the rag pickers come from?
- iv. How many ragpickers lived in Seemapuri?

**8. Answer any five of the following questions in 30-40 words each : 2x5=10**

- a. What is the pain and ache that the poet feels in “ My Mother at Sixty-Six?
- b. What will counting upto twelve word keeping still help us achieve?
- c. What explanations does the author give for the children not wearing footwear?
- d. How did Sadao’s marriage with Hana come to take place ?
- e. How can you say that Mr. Lamb lives a lonely life?

f. What did the chief astrologer predict about the death of the little prince ?

g. What was Douglas' fear ? How did Douglas overcome his fear of water ?

**9. Answer the following questions in 120- 150 words - Who was Rakumar Shukla?**

How did he take Gandhiji to Champarn and why ?

6

OR,

How did Douglas make sure that he conquered the old terror ?

**10. Answer the following questions in 120-150 words**

Why did Sadao go to America ? Narrate his experience there.

6

OR,

Why is Antarctica the place to go to, to understand the earth's present, past and future ?

## Model Question – 3

**Time 3 hours.**

**Full marks - 80**

### **Section - A (Reading Skill) 20 Marks**

**Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :**

Too many parents these days can't say no. As a result, they find themselves raising 'children' who respond greedily to the advertisements aimed right at them. Even getting what they want doesn't satisfy some kids; they only want more. Now, a growing number of psychologists, educators and parents think it's time to stop the madness and start teaching kids about what is really important: values like hard work, contentment, honesty and compassion. The struggle to set limits has never been tougher – and the stakes have never been higher. One recent study of adults who were overindulged as children, paints a discouraging picture of their future: when given too much too soon, they grow up to be adults who have difficulty coping with life's disappointments. They also have distorted sense of entitlement that gets in the way of success in the work place and in relationships.

Psychologists say that parents who overindulge their kids, set them up to be more vulnerable to future anxiety and depression. Today's parents themselves raised on values of thrift and self-sacrifice, grew up in a culture where 'no' was a household word. Today's kids want much more, partly because there is so much more to want. The oldest members of this generation were born in the late 1980s, just as PCs and video games were making their assault on the family room. They think of MP3 players and flat screen TV as essential utilities, and they have developed strategies to get them. One survey of teenagers found that when they crave for something new, most expect to ask nine or times before their parents give in. By every measure, parents are shelling out record amounts. In the heat of this buying blitz, even parents who desperately need to say no find themselves reaching for their credit cards.

Today's parents aren't equipped to deal with the problem. Many of them, raised in the 1960s and 70s, swore they would act differently from their parents and have closer relationships with their own children. Many even wear the same designer clothes as their kids and listen to the same music. And they work more hours; at the end of a long week, it's tempting to buy peace with 'yes' and not mar precious family time with conflict. Anxiety about the future is another factor. How do well intentioned parents say no to all the sports gear and arts and language lessons they believe will help their kids thrive in an increasingly competitive world? Experts agree: too much love won't spoil a child. Too few limits will.

What parents need to find, is a balance between the advantages of an affluent society and the critical life lessons that come from waiting, saving and working hard to achieve goals. That search for balance has to start early. Children need limits on their behavior because they feel better and more secure when they live within a secured structure.

Older children learn self-control by watching how others, especially parents act. Learning how to overcome challenges is essential to becoming a successful adult. Few parents ask kids to do chores. They think their kids are already overburdened by social and academic pressures. Every individual can be of service to others, and life has meaning beyond one's own immediate happiness. That means parents eager to teach values have to take a long, hard look at their own.

**A. Choose the most appropriate option :**

**Marks - 6**

- a) What do the psychologists, educators and parents want to teach the children?
- i) To teach them about treachery.
  - ii) To teach them about indiscipline.
  - iii) To teach them about the values of life like hard work, contentment, honesty and compassion.
  - iv) None of these
- b) What is essential to become a successful adult?
- i) Learn not to overcome challenges
  - ii) Learn how to overcome challenges
  - iii) Nothing is essential
  - iv) None of these
- c) Why do children need limits on their behaviour when they live within a secured structure?
- i) They feel more secure and better
  - ii) They feel insecure
  - iii) They feel bored.
  - iv) None of these.
- d) What is the drawback of giving children too much too soon?
- i) They fail to cope with life's disappointments when they grow up
  - ii) They do not study seriously.
  - iii) They become quarrelsome when they grow up.
  - iv) None of these
- e) Older children learn self- control by watching how others, especially.... act.
- i) Siblings
  - ii) Parents
  - iii) Teachers
  - iv) Strangers
- f. Experts agree that
- i) Both love and limits will spoil a child
  - ii) Too much love won't spoil a child. Too few limits will
  - iii) No limits should be set for children
  - iv) Love alone will spoil a child



**B. Answer the following questions briefly :**

**1x6=6**

- a. What values do parents and teachers want the children to learn?
- b. What are the results of giving the children “too much too soon”?
- c. Why do today’s children want more?
- d. What is the balance which the parents need to have in today’s world?

**Find words in the passage similar in meaning as :**

- a) a feeling of satisfaction (para-1)
- b) valuable (para-3)

**Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :**

Getting enough sleep is as important as taking time out to relax. A good night’s sleep is essential for preserving the health of your brain and gives you the best chance to meet the coming day with a razor sharp mind. An average person needs about six to eight hour sleep a night – although it is also true that you need slightly less than this, as you grow older – another advantage of aging. Stress and sleep deprivation often feed on each other, since stress tends to make it harder for you to fall asleep at night and sleep deprivation in itself causes stress.

Eventually, too little sleep can dramatically interfere with the performance of your memory- something you obviously want to prevent. If you are not getting enough sleep, try going to bed 30 to 60 minutes earlier than your normal bed-time for days. Lie down on the bed and try to relax by dissociating yourself from your daily routine work. This is normally enough to catch up any sleep deprivation.

If, however, you suffer from insomnia you should seek the advice of your doctor. The chances are it is already affecting your ability to remember and recall information- and if you are struggling to improve your memory scores, this could be at the root of your problem. Prolonged periods of insufficient sleep can deplete your immune system, make you more accident prone and even cause depression- this can also reinforce a more negative outlook on life, which can contribute to your stress burden. The good news is that your memory and mood should automatically improve once you improve your sleep patterns.

Tackle your sleep issues, and everything else should fall into place. Because stress management is so essential to maximize your brain power, if you are not in the habit of setting aside time to relax, make it a priority to do so. Even a minute or two of deep breathing can start to work wonders. Often the best ideas and memories can come to you when you are in a state of relaxation as it is during these moments that your brain stores, processes and plays with the information it has received.

Meditation has long been part of religious and spiritual life, specially in Asia. Today, more and more people are adopting it in Western countries also, for its value in developing peace of mind and lowering stress. There is some evidence that regular mediation can have real sleep gain and health benefits, particularly in terms of protecting your brain against aging.

- a) On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and

subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary – minimum four) and a format you consider suitable . Also supply an appropriate title to it. 4

- b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 100 words. 4

### **Section B (Writing Skills) marks - 30**

3. You are Nidhi/ Aamar, Secretary, Golden Valley Enterprise LTD, Melarmath, Agartala. Your chairman has asked you to draft an advertisement for a local daily under the classified column for the vacant posts of one accountant and two office assistants . Draft an advertisement. 4

OR,

Your parents have completed 25 years of a happy married life. Send an informal invitation to your maternal uncle residing in Cochin, to join you in the Silver Jubilee Celebration at your house. 4

4. Write a letter to the Editor ‘The Indian Times’ highlighting your ideas on the importance of education of women leading to a better status for them. You are Karan/ Karuna. 6

OR,

You are the manager of a reputed firm . A consignment sent by you to one of your regular customers was found to be of poor quality. You have received a letter of complaint from the customer . Write a letter of apology, explaining the causes and your plans for replacement.

5. Mid-day Meal scheme in the schools introduced by the government has attracted millions of children from deprived sections of the society to get nutritious food leading to good health. The scheme may have some drawbacks too. Write an article in 150-200 words on all aspects of the scheme. You are Tarun/ Taruna. 10

OR,

You are a special correspondent of a local newspaper . You have been asked to cover an accident involving a petrol tanker on a national highway passing through your city. Write an report in 150-200 words. 10

6. Regular practice of yoga can help in maintaining good health and even in the prevention of many ailments. Write a speech in 150-200 words to be delivered in the morning assembly on the usefulness of yoga. 10

OR,

“The internet cannot replace a classroom teacher.” Write a debate within 150-200 words either for or for the motion. 10

### **Section - C (Literature) Marks - 30**

- 7. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow :** 1x8= 8

A. ... but soon

put that thought away, and looked out at young.

Trees sprinting, the merry children – spilling out of their homes,...

- i. Name the poem and the poet
  - ii. What did the poetess see outside the window?
  - iii. Why are the young trees described as sprinting?
  - iv. Find out the word from the passage which means 'runout'
- a) Merry (b) Spilling (c) Sprinting (d) None of the above.

B. "It was nothing like that, Geoff – it was me spoke first. When I saw who it was, I said, "Excuse me, but aren't you Danny Casey?" And he looked sort of surprised. And he said, "Yes, that's right, And I knew it must be won because he had the accent, you know, like when they interviewed him on the television .

So, I asked him for an autograph for little Derek, but neither of us had any paper or pen.

- i. Name the prose piece and the author of the above extract.
- ii. Who was Danny Casey?
- iii. Who was little Derek?
- iv. What does the word "accent" mean in the extract?

**Answer**

**8. Any five of the following questions.**

**2x5=10**

- i. Why was the crofter so talkative and friendly with the peddler?
- ii. What do the parting words of Kamala Das and her smile signify?
- iii. What was the Akademik Shokalskiy?  
Where was it headed and why?
- iv. "Damn that Geoff, this was a Geoff things not a Jansie thing", Why did Sophie say so?
- v. What impact did Annan's advice have on Bama?
- vi. List the things that cause suffering and pain?
- vii. Why did Darry Casey fail to give his autograph to Sophie?

**9. Answer the following question in about 120-150 words.**

**6**

Justify the significance of the title of the poem " My mother at Sixty Six."

or,

"The Rattrap" shows that basic human goodness can be brought out by understanding and love – Discuss. 6

**10. What is the significance of the title " Journey to the End of the Earth"?**

**6**

Or,

Both Derry and Lamb are victims of physical impairment, but much more painful for them is the feeling of loneliness commend. 6

**Model Question – 4**  
**Class - XII**

**Section – A [Reading unseen passages and Note - Making]**

1. Read the following passage carefully.

The process of ageing starts with conception in the mother's womb. When we are young, we don't recognize that there will come a time when our limbs will grow weak, our eyesight less keen and our body unable to function as smoothly as before. The state, the society and the family owe a responsibility towards senior citizens.

Unfortunately, of late, we have not been able to recognize the concept of respecting, caring and helping older generations in a systematic way as some of the countries have done. This is not to suggest that our culture and history does not recognize this phase of life. There have been many practices of caring and helping the elderly in our system. But, with the dismantling of the joint family system, the problem has assumed a newer and more complicated shape. Although we have started recognizing the needs of the young, when it comes to the old, we have blissfully chosen to ignore them and have left them to fend for themselves.

Of all the senior citizens of the world, one out of ten is an Indian. The population of old people in India is the 4th highest in the world. By official estimates, there are over 77 million old people in the country now. There are some schemes by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. There are also provisions of financial assistance for different welfare schemes.

There are old-age homes and residential units for lower income groups in some districts where there is a part-time Medical Officer to attend to the inmates. Then there are day-care centers and mobile medicare services besides other NGOs ( Non- Government Organizations) .

Not only are there insufficient old-age homes in the country, but they are also ill-equipped to cater to the elderly. This should be the responsibility of the state since they need close and regular monitoring. The social welfare departments in the government have very little to boast about when it comes to caring for the older generations.

Government officials are apathetic to the welfare of the old people and are unimaginative . However, once the need for helping senior citizens is recognized by not only by the society at large but also by the government and certain concessions are sanctioned for them, there may be some headway in this direction.

Society, too, has an important role to play. It must do so by respecting the aged and placing their interests before anyone else's . In the West, if an old person is climbing down the stairs, he or she is helped. It is this kind of mindset that is the need of the hour. Offering seats to the old, helping them to cross the roads, assisting them to carry their bags, fetching them water etc, are some features which increase the acceptability of the older people

**A. On the basis of your understanding of the passage answer the following questions with the help of the given options :**

**1x4=4**

a) The society as a whole owes \_\_\_\_\_ towards senior citizens.



whether they be satirical, comic or just humorous, relieves the tedium of the work. Some pieces may even tickle one's grey matter.

2. It is said that if you laugh for ten minutes you will be in better position to put up with pain for two hours. According to US researchers, laughter is a good antidote to stress that tones up the system. Facial laugh muscles instruct brain to 'feel good' regardless of how you feel.
  3. According to a French doctor, laughter deepens breathing, improves blood circulation, speeds up the process of tissue healing and stabilises many body functions. In short, it acts as a powerful drug with no side effects. Researchers state that laughter stimulates production of beta-endorphins, natural painkillers in the body and improves digestion. Those who laugh are less prone to digestive disorders and ulcers.
  4. Some people in France have made it a career . You can hire a ' jovialist' who cracks jokes and laughs and promises to make you dissolve your worries in helpless laughter.
  5. A word of caution. Although laughing is good exercise for toning up the facial muscles, laughing at others' expense, particularly at their disabilities, is in bad taste and is to be avoided. Secondly, laughing with food in the mouth is dangerous as the foodstuff can get into the wind-pipe and may choke the digestive system.
  6. Eating, anyway, is a serious business not to be trifled with by any jocular diversion. Laughter comes best when it is free of encumbrances , whether it is constricting food or the need to humour the boss.
- a) On the basis of the reading of the above passage, make notes on it, using headings and sub headings. Use recognizable abbreviations. An appropriate title should be provided. 4
- b) Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words. 4

### **Section- B [Writing Skills]**

3. You are Praneet, the Librarian of the Green Valley School . Draft a notice in 50 words asking the students and staff members to return all the library books before the closing of the academic session 2021. 4

OR,

You are Aruna of Ramnagar, Agartala. You want a Science teacher for your daughter who is a student of Class x student. Draft a suitable advertisement in not more than 50 words stating the requirements .

4. Crimes against women are on the rise. Women are stalked, stared at and even molested. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the editor of a national daily giving your views on the problem. 6

OR,

You purchased a T.V. set from Orient Electronics, Agartala. Within a few days, it stopped functioning properly. Write a letter of complaint in 120- 150 words to the Manager asking for an immediate replacement . You are Amrita Reang, Kurti Chowmuni, Dharmanagar.

5. Your school is organizing a blood donation camp. You are Abhilash/ Abhilasha, the Head boy/

Head girl of your school. You have been asked by your class teacher to give a speech in the morning assembly stressing the importance of blood donation. Write your speech in 150 -200 words. 10

OR,

You visited a Job Fair organized at Agartala recently. You were impressed to see that nearly 55 companies from various sectors such as information technology, electronics, telecommunication, etc, offered jobs to the final year students of colleges. As a reporter of 'Northeast Colors' Agartala, prepare a report in 150-200 words. You are Priya/ Priyam Debbarma.

6. Children become tensed before the board exams and it adversely affects their mental health. Good counseling is required to help them overcome the exam phobia and performance pressure. Write an article in 125-150 words on the 'Importance of Counselling Before Board Exams. You are Kia/ Kian. 10

OR,

Tripura is a hilly state endowed with natural beauty. Its palaces, monuments, water bodies and hill range provide a feast for the eyes. Write an article on how to promote tourism in Tripura. You are Rupam/ Rupa Reang.

### Section- C [Literature]

7. Read the lines given below and answer the questions that follow:

"Perhaps the Earth can teach us  
as when everything seems dead  
and later proves to be alive  
Now I'll count up to twelve  
and you keep quiet and I will go"

- Name the poet and the poem.
- What can the Earth teach us?
- When does everything seem dead?
- When does it prove to be alive again?

OR,

"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."

- Name the poem and the poet of the above lines?
- What does ' it' refer to here?

- c) What do you understand by “pass into nothingness”?
- d) What do you understand by a ‘bower’?
- e) What kind of sleep does it provide?

**8. Answer any four of the following in 30-40 words each :**

- a) What does Saheb look for in the garbage?
- b) When did Douglas decide to learn swimming? OR  
Why did Douglas prefer the YMCA pool for learning swimming?
- c) Why did the Lieutenant- Governor drop the case against Gandhiji?
- d) How does a thing of beauty become a joy forever?
- e) Why was the king in danger of losing his kingdom?
- f) What did Zitkala-Sa feel when her long hair was cut?
- g) Why does the poet specifically mention the number twelve here?

**9. Answer the following question in 120-150 words:**

Describe the difficulties the bangle makers of Firozabad have to face in their lives.

Or,

Why did the king wish to kill one hundred tigers? How far was he able to fulfill his wish?

OR,

Bring out the commonality of themes between the two accounts that you read in the lesson “Memories of Childhood”.

**Answer the following question in 120-150 words :**

10. Discuss the central idea of the poem “My Mother at Sixty - Six.”

OR,

How does Mr. Lamb try to remove the baseless fears of Derry?

**Answer the following question in 120-150 words :**

12. How did Gandhiji try to improve the living conditions of the peasants in Champaran?

OR,

Describe Keats’ attitude to beauty and joy as you find in the poem “A Thing of Beauty.”