

**SET-1****Series SRQP2/2**Q.P. Code **1/2/1**

Roll No.

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Candidates must write the Q.P. Code on the title page of the answer-book.

- Please check that this question paper contains **19** printed pages.
- Please check that this question paper contains **13** questions.
- Q.P. Code given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- **Please write down the serial number of the question in the answer-book before attempting it.**
- 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the students will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.

**ENGLISH (Core)***Time allowed : 3 hours**Maximum Marks : 80****General Instructions :****Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :*

- This question paper has **13** questions. **All** questions are **compulsory**.*
- This question paper contains **three** sections — Section A : **Reading Skills**, Section B : **Creative Writing Skills** and Section C : **Literature**.*
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SECTION A

Reading Skills

(22 marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully :

12

- (1) As a young adult, life can be stressful and overwhelming at times. Juggling among school, work, social life, and other responsibilities, it can be easy to feel alone and disconnected from the world around us. Dogs are the ultimate companions for anyone looking to alleviate stress and loneliness. We'll explore many reasons why dogs make the best companions for young adults.
- (2) Unconditional love : Dogs are known for their loyalty and love for their owners, no matter what. They don't judge us, criticize us, or hold grudges against us. No matter how flawed or imperfect we may be, our dogs will always love us unconditionally. This kind of unwavering support and affection can be incredibly comforting for young adults struggling to find their place in the world.
- (3) Social connection : Dogs are great ice-breakers and conversation starters. Whether you're walking them in the park, taking them to the dog beach, or simply hanging out at home, dogs have a way of bringing people together. For young adults who may feel isolated or disconnected from their peers, having a dog by their side can be a great way to connect with others and form new friendships.
- (4) Increase physical activity : Dogs require regular exercise in order to stay healthy and happy. This means that young adults who own dogs are more likely to engage in physical activity themselves. Whether its going for a run, playing frisbee, or simply taking a leisurely stroll, getting out with your dog can be a great way to boost your mood and energy levels.



- (5) Emotional support : Dogs are also great emotional support animals for those struggling with mental health issues such as anxiety and depression. Their presence alone can provide a sense of calm and comfort, and their ability to sense their owner's emotions can be incredibly comforting. For young adults dealing with mental health challenges, having a dog as a companion can be a life-changing experience.
- (6) Improve responsibility and self-care : Owning a dog also comes with a great deal of responsibility and self-care. Dogs require regular feeding, grooming, exercise, and attention, which can be a great way for young adults to develop a sense of responsibility and self-discipline. Additionally, having a dog as a companion can encourage young adults to take better care of themselves, such as making sure they get enough sleep, eat healthy, and engage in regular exercise.
- (7) For all these reasons and more, dogs make fantastic companions for young adults. Whether you're looking for emotional support, social connection, increased physical activity , or simply someone to love and be loved by, a dog can provide all these things and more. So the next time you're feeling stressed or overwhelmed, consider finding a furry friend to take on the world with you.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

- (i) What is the significance of owning a dog for a young adult who is striving for acceptance in society ?
- (A) It means increased physical activity.
- (B) It builds a sense of responsibility.
- (C) It helps young adults get more sleep.
- (D) It is a source of unconditional love.

1



- (ii) A dog can encourage its owner to lead a healthier life by _____.
Complete the above sentence appropriately, in about 40 words, with a characteristic or description. 2
- (iii) Share evidence from the text, in approximately 40 words, to support the view that dogs provide a sense of calm and comfort to those struggling with mental health issues. 2
- (iv) Explain in about 40 words the statement that ‘dogs are great ice-breakers’. 2
- (v) Which of the following activities help(s) young adults, owning a dog, build their sense of responsibility and self-discipline ? 1
- (A) walking the dog daily
 - (B) feeding it regularly
 - (C) engaging the services of a dog trainer
 - (D) Both (A) and (B)
- (vi) What does this article aim to do ? 1
- (A) Explain the benefits of owning a dog.
 - (B) Provide advice on how to get a dog.
 - (C) Discuss how to take proper care of a dog.
 - (D) Describe the experiences of dog owners.
- (vii) Select the option that is similar in meaning to the phrase ‘take on the world’. 1
- (A) travel the world
 - (B) accept a responsibility
 - (C) to be pessimistic
 - (D) have a global outlook



- (viii) What does the underlined part in the sentence “consider finding a furry friend to take on the world with you” refer to ? 1
- (ix) What is the tone of the article ? 1
- (A) critical but supportive
- (B) indifferent and bored
- (C) positive and informative
- (D) humorous and casual

2. Read the following passage carefully : 10

- (1) A recent survey conducted by an independent research firm sought to measure levels of happiness among youth aged 16 – 24 years in seven countries. The findings revealed some intriguing insights into what makes today’s youth happiest, as well as which factors influence their overall well-being. In India, an overwhelming majority of the youth reported feeling satisfied with their lives, with 87% rating of their overall happiness as ‘high’ or ‘very high.’ Financial security was identified as the primary source of happiness for 66%, followed by family support (89%), having a purpose in life (50%), and work or studies (40%). Unfortunately, 65% reported feeling stress related to academic performance or workload, while 25% reported feeling lonely. These figures point to a need for increased mental health support among India’s youth.



- (2) These surveys also revealed that family support is an important source of contentment for young people across countries. In Europe, 59% of respondents said that their families were a major source of happiness; in France this figure was 67%, and 63% in Germany. In North America, 64% rated family as an important factor for well-being in Canada, while 61% did so in the United States. Similarly, 89% of survey respondents in India named family support as a major contributor to their overall contentment level.
- (3) It is clear that stress has a significant impact on the happiness of today's youth. The findings suggest that young people need better resources to manage their mental health and well-being. This may include access to counselling services, mindfulness activities and support groups to help them cope with challenging circumstances. It is also important to provide financial support so as to reduce some of the economic pressures.
- (4) In India, 65% of youth surveyed reported feeling anxious about their academic performance or workload, while 25% felt lonely. These figures are especially significant given how important family support is for young people's overall contentment.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

- (i) What are the two findings that the survey mentioned in paragraph 1 reveals ? Answer in about 40 words. 2
- (ii) Explain in about 40 words the statement "It is also important to provide financial support so as to reduce some of the economic pressures." 2



- (iii) Elaborate giving data, the statement “Stress has a significant impact on the happiness of today’s youth.” 1
- (iv) Which of the following factors, with reference to the given passage, does **not** play a substantial role in the well-being of Indian youth ? 1
- (A) Family support and strong ties
- (B) Social connection and technology
- (C) Books and literature
- (D) Economic stability
- (v) State whether *True* or *False*, with reference to the given passage :
- It is not necessary to provide financial support to the youth as only academic performance plays an upper hand in deciding the stress level. 1
- (vi) What are the top choices which are of maximum value to today’s youth ? 1
- I. Collectivism
- II. Social media
- III. Individualistic society
- IV. Family ties
- Options :
- (A) I and II
- (B) II and III
- (C) I and IV
- (D) II and IV



- (vii) The mental health of today's youth can be managed by resources like _____ and _____. 1
- (viii) Write the following sources that provide happiness to today's youth in descending order : 1
- (a) purposefulness
 - (b) financial status
 - (c) family support
 - (d) stress

SECTION B

Creative Writing Skills

(18 marks)

3. Attempt any **one** of the two, (a) or (b), in about 50 words. 4

(a) You are the President of the Cultural Club of Marigold Public School, Vir Nagar. As part of the Annual Community Service Week, you are planning to put up a cultural performance in 'Ahista', a senior citizens home. Draft a notice for the school notice board inviting participation by the students. Invent necessary details.

OR

(b) As Chief Librarian of Little Wood Library, Birpur, draft a notice informing members about the change in winter timings, effective from 1st April, 2024. Also inform the members about the newly introduced electronic international journal support service with a remote accessing facility. Invent necessary details.



4. Attempt any **one** of the two, (a) or (b), in about 50 words.

4

- (a) You are the Secretary of the Civil Medical Doctors Association, Sheesh Nagar. On the occasion of World Health Day, you are arranging a workshop on Drug Free Pain Management and Reversal. Draft a formal letter of invitation to be sent to all the members to attend the workshop. Request them to be punctual. Invent relevant details.

OR

- (b) You are Shri E.A.S. Prasad, a well known local cricketer. You have been invited as a chief guest for an inter-school cricket championship in K.P.S School, Mahabagh. Create an appropriate formal letter of acceptance.

5. Attempt any **one** of the two, (a) or (b), in 120 – 150 words.

5

- (a) You are Priti/Pramod Vats, a resident of 317, Rajdhani Enclave, Rajbagh. You saw the given advertisement in the newspaper and wished to apply for the same. Write a letter to the Personnel Manager along with your bio-data, expressing your interest in the advertised post.

HARRISON & SIMPSON Ltd.
want
college graduates
for
marketing a new cosmetic range
'I Wish'
Whom do we need
Graduates, comfortable in English and Hindi,
good interpersonal skills.
Contact : Director Personnel – 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
9877763240

OR



- (b) You have been making documentaries on how rivers, the lifelines of our nation, are under serious threat due to river pollution. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily, examining the reasons for this pollution and suggesting ways of tackling the issue. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this letter. You are Srishti/Suraj, a concerned student.

Reasons

- pollution
- industrial waste
- agricultural runoff
- human sewage

Solutions

- strict laws
- monitoring committees
- waste handling process
- educate the masses

6. Attempt any **one** of the two, (a) or (b), in 120 – 150 words.

5

- (a) With rapid digitalization, students have started depending on digital devices for entertainment. This has impacted their lives, both positively and negatively. Write an article with the help of the given cues and your own ideas, highlighting the advantages and disadvantages of using digital devices. You are Rohini/Rohit.



Digital Devices and Children

Enhance skills

- academics
- psychomotor
- visual intelligence
- research

Ill effects of long use

- physical inactivity
- poor interpersonal skills
- addictive disorders
- aggressive behaviour
- lack of concentration

Solutions

- adult supervision
- strict timings
- spread awareness of addiction

OR

- (b) The student counselling department in your school put up the following poster regarding an event in the community centre.

Be - Do - Live

WELL.

6th, 7th, 8th February

10 am – 6:30 pm

A Wellness Workshop

- sharing common concerns
- reducing stress
- motivation strategies
- joy of living

Theatre in Action

As Rita/Rahul, student editor, write a report on the above workshop for the school magazine.



SECTION C

Literature

(40 marks)

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any **one** of the given two, (a) or (b) : 6
- (a) 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.
(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)
- (i) Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract ? 1
- (A) The maturity of adulthood
(B) The glory of femininity
(C) Victim of male domination
(D) The superficial beauty
- (ii) State whether the following statement is *True* or *False*, with reference to the extract. 1
- Aunt Jennifer is nervous and traumatized because of the constraints of her marriage.
- (iii) Complete the following sentence appropriately : 1
- The fingers fluttering through her wool symbolize _____.
- (iv) The use of the words "massive weight" creates a powerful image of _____. 1



- (v) Based on the rhyme scheme in lines 3 and 4, which word would rhyme with 'band' and 'hand' ? 1
- (A) stand
(B) wind
(C) bent
(D) tent
- (vi) The heavy wedding ring is a source of : 1
- (A) joy.
(B) freedom.
(C) dignity.
(D) burden.

OR

- (b) 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-darkened ways
Made for our searching :

(A Thing of Beauty)

- (i) Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract ? 1
- (A) The beautiful things in nature
(B) Things that cause unhappiness
(C) The immortality of human beings
(D) The early morning fragrance of flowers
- (ii) State whether the given statement is *True* or *False*, with reference to the extract. 1
- The paths we follow are often not worthy of our noble nature.



- (iii) Complete the following sentence appropriately : 1
We wreath for ourselves a flowery band every morrow
because _____.
- (iv) The use of the word 'dearth' creates a powerful image
of _____. 1
- (v) Based on the rhyme scheme in lines 4 and 5, which of the
following word will rhyme with 'days' and 'ways' ? 1
(A) craze
(B) pays
(C) haste
(D) waste
- (vi) The lack of punctuation at the end of line 3 in the extract is to : 1
(A) create a sense of continuity and flow that connects it with
the fourth line.
(B) encourage the reader to understand grammar.
(C) forewarn the reader of gloomy days ahead.
(D) keep us connected to this earth.

8. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any **one** of the
given two, (a) or (b) : 4

(a) "If I am able, are you ?" Sadao asked.

"No," Hana said, "But if you can do it alone..."

Sadao hesitated again. "The strange thing is," he said, "that if the
man were whole I could turn him over to the police without difficulty.

I care nothing for him. He is my enemy. All Americans are my enemy.

And he is only a common fellow. You see how foolish his face is. But
since he is wounded..."

(The Enemy)



- (i) Complete the sentence appropriately. 1
The dilemma faced by the couple was _____.
- (ii) What does Hana ask Dr. Sadao to do alone ? 1
(A) Treat the wounded soldier
(B) Give him shelter in the outhouse
(C) Throw him back into the sea
(D) Hand him over to the authorities
- (iii) Explain the expression : “if the man were whole”. 1
- (iv) Dr. Sadao says, “All Americans are my enemy.” What character trait of Dr. Sadao does it reflect ? 1

OR

- (b) Derry : I'd not come to steal anything.
Mr. Lamb : No, no. The young lads steal....scrump the apples.
You're not so young.
Derry : I just....wanted to come in. Into the garden.
Mr. Lamb : So you did. Here we are, then.
Derry : You don't know who I am.
Mr. Lamb : A boy. Thirteen or so.
Derry : Fourteen. [*Pause*] But I've got to go now. Good-bye.
Mr. Lamb : Nothing to be afraid of. Just a garden. Just me.
Derry : But I'm not....*I'm* not afraid. [*Pause*] People are afraid
of *me*.

(On the Face Of It)

- (i) Why does Mr. Lamb feel that Derry has not come to steal ? 1
- (ii) Cite instances from the extract which show that Mr. Lamb is trying to put Derry at ease. 1



- (iii) Choose the correct statement : 1
- (A) Derry entered the garden as he was fascinated by the bees.
- (B) Derry came to meet Mr. Lamb.
- (C) They were well acquainted with each other.
- (D) Derry entered as he wanted to see the garden.
- (iv) People are afraid of Derry because _____ . 1

9. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any **one** of the given two, (a) or (b) : 6

(a) “Children grow up in them, becoming partners in survival. And survival in Seemapuri means rag-picking. Through the years, it has acquired the proportions of a fine art. 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.”

(Lost Spring)

- (i) Complete the sentence appropriately.
Children become partners in survival suggests that _____ . 1
- (ii) Rag-picking has acquired the proportion of a fine art means : 1
- (A) artistic bend of mind is required.
- (B) it has proportionately displaced art.
- (C) it has become a highly skilful activity.
- (D) it has discovered pieces of art.



- (iii) State whether the given statement is *True* or *False* with reference to the extract. 1
The children and their parents have left Dhaka to live in Seemapuri.
- (iv) Why does the author say ‘survival in Seemapuri means rag-picking’ ? 1
- (v) What does the phrase “for a child it is even more” reveal about the children’s dreams ? 1
- (vi) Which of the following headlines suggests the central idea of the extract ? 1
- (A) Seemapuri, A Pot of Gold
(B) Rag-picking – Different Perspectives
(C) Art in Delhi and in Seemapuri
(D) Saheb-e-Alam in Seemapuri

OR

- (b) This settlement was adopted unanimously by the commission. Gandhi explained that the amount of the refund was less important than the fact that the landlords had been obliged to surrender part of the money and, with it, part of their prestige. Therefore, as far as the peasants were concerned, the planters had behaved as lords above the law. Now the peasant saw that he had rights and defenders. He learned courage.

(Indigo)

- (i) What was Gandhi’s purpose in agreeing to the settlement, even at a lesser amount ? 1
- (ii) Complete the sentence with one word : 1
The commission agreed by common consent, or in other words, they agreed to the settlement _____.
- (iii) Explain the impact on the landlords as a result of the settlement. 1



- (iv) Based on the content provided in the extract, select the most likely option about the behaviour of the landlords. 1
- (A) The landlords were sorry for their behaviour.
- (B) The landlords were obstinate and refused Gandhi's suggestion.
- (C) The landlords had to refund the money.
- (D) The landlords and the planters became partners in the Indigo plantation.
- (v) What did the peasants realize from the Champaran incident ? 1
- (vi) Complete the sentence appropriately. 1
- The phrase 'lords above the law' suggests that _____.

10. Answer any **five** of the following six questions in 40 – 50 words each : 5×2=10

- (i) What was the 'thunderclap' the narrator received as M. Hamel began the lesson ? (The Last Lesson)
- (ii) Explain the sentence "an army of barefoot boys who appear like the morning birds and disappear at noon." (Lost Spring)
- (iii) The lesson 'The Rattrap' is both entertaining and philosophical. Do you agree with the statement ? Give reasons. (The Rattrap)
- (iv) Bring out the contrast between Jansie and Sophie in the story 'Going Places'. (Going Places)
- (v) How was there a great deal of national integration in the make-up department ? (Poets and Pancakes)
- (vi) Did Umberto Eco like to be identified as a novelist ? Give reasons in support of your answer. (The Interview)



11. Answer any **two** of the following three questions in 40 – 50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- (i) Do you think the prediction made by the state astrologer “was indisputably disproved” ? Give reasons in support of your answer.
(The Tiger King)
- (ii) “Then I lost my spirit.” What are the incidents that led Zitkala-Sa to feel this way ?
(Memories of Childhood)
- (iii) Tishani Doshi considered the programme ‘Students on Ice’ a success. Do you agree with her ? Why/Why not ?
(Journey to the End of the Earth)

12. Answer any **one** of the following two questions in 120 – 150 words : 5

- (a) Franz in “The Last Lesson” realizes the importance of going to school while Saheb in “Lost Spring” yearns to go to school. Write a paragraph exploring the different perspectives of these two young boys on learning and education.

OR

- (b) Write a comparative analysis for your study group focusing on how the poems “Keeping Quiet” and “My Mother at Sixty-six” illuminate the different facets of human introspection and the significance of quiet reflection in understanding oneself.

13. Answer any **one** of the following two questions in 120 – 150 words : 5

- (a) Justify the statement, ‘It may take a long time for oppression to be resisted but the seeds of rebellion are sowed early in life.’
(Memories of Childhood)

OR

- (b) The story “The Tiger King” is a satire on the conceit of those in power. How does the author employ the literary device of dramatic irony in the story ?
(The Tiger King)

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SECTION A
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(22 marks)

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Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

- (i) What is the significance of owning a dog for a young adult who is striving for acceptance in society ? 1
- (A) It means increased physical activity.
- (B) It builds a sense of responsibility.
- (C) It helps young adults get more sleep.
- (D) It is a source of unconditional love.
- (ii) A dog can encourage its owner to lead a healthier life by _____.
- Complete the above sentence appropriately, in about 40 words, with a characteristic or description. 2
- (iii) Share evidence from the text, in approximately 40 words, to support the view that dogs provide a sense of calm and comfort to those struggling with mental health issues. 2
- (iv) Explain in about 40 words the statement that ‘dogs are great ice-breakers’. 2
- (v) Which of the following activities help(s) young adults, owning a dog, build their sense of responsibility and self-discipline ? 1
- (A) walking the dog daily
- (B) feeding it regularly
- (C) engaging the services of a dog trainer
- (D) Both (A) and (B)



- (vi) What does this article aim to do ? 1
- (A) Explain the benefits of owning a dog.
 - (B) Provide advice on how to get a dog.
 - (C) Discuss how to take proper care of a dog.
 - (D) Describe the experiences of dog owners.
- (vii) Select the option that is similar in meaning to the phrase ‘take on the world’. 1
- (A) travel the world
 - (B) accept a responsibility
 - (C) to be pessimistic
 - (D) have a global outlook
- (viii) What does the underlined part in the sentence “consider finding a furry friend to take on the world with you” refer to ? 1
- (ix) What is the tone of the article ? 1
- (A) critical but supportive
 - (B) indifferent and bored
 - (C) positive and informative
 - (D) humorous and casual



2. Read the following passage carefully :

- (1) Without specialised equipment, humans would be lost in these deep-sea habitats, so how do fish make it seem so easy ? Much of this is due to a biological phenomenon known as electroreception — the ability to perceive and act upon electrical stimuli as part of the overall senses. This ability is only found in aquatic and amphibious species because water is an efficient conductor of electricity.
- (2) One fascinating use of electroreception has been observed between the weakly electric fish. When two such electric fish meet in the ocean using the same frequency, each fish will then shift the frequency of its discharge so that they are transmitting on different frequencies. Doing so prevents their electroreception faculties from becoming jammed.
- (3) Electroreception can also play an important role in animal defences. Rays are one such example. Young ray embryos develop inside egg cases that are attached to the sea bed. The embryos keep their tails in constant motion to pump water and allow them to breathe through the egg's casing. If the embryo's electroreceptors detect the presence of a predatory fish in the vicinity, however, the embryo stops moving (and in doing so, ceases transmitting electric currents) until the predator has moved on.
- (4) Many people fear swimming in the ocean because of sharks. Sharks hunt with extraordinary precision. They initially lock on to their prey through a keen sense of smell. As the shark reaches in proximity of its prey, it tunes into electrical signals that ensure a precise strike on its target; this sense is so strong that the shark even attacks blind by letting its eyes recede for protection. In areas where shark attacks on



humans are likely to occur, scientists are exploring ways to create artificial electroreceptors. These would disorient the sharks and repel them from swimming beaches.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

- (i) Infer the advantage that aquatic or amphibious species have over human beings. Answer in about 40 words. 2
- (ii) A possible use for electroreception that will benefit humans is to : 1
- (A) use water as it is an efficient conductor of electricity.
- (B) act on electrical stimuli.
- (C) change electrical frequency to prevent it from being jammed.
- (D) jam electrical frequencies.
- (iii) Explain in about 40 words the use of electroreception between the weakly electric fish. 2
- (iv) Identify a young ray embryo from the following : 1
- (A) It fears electric signals.
- (B) It keeps its tail in constant motion.
- (C) It stations itself on land.
- (D) It disorients sharks.
- (v) Complete the sentence appropriately. 1
- A shark hunts with accuracy because _____.
- (vi) Why does a shark recede its eyes when it attacks ? 1



- (vii) In areas where shark attacks on humans are likely to occur, scientists : 1
- (A) suggest putting barriers.
 - (B) are exploring ways to create artificial electroreceptors.
 - (C) suggest blinding them.
 - (D) are exploring ways to warn swimmers.
- (viii) State *True* or *False*. 1
- The title – ‘Understanding Electroreception and its Uses is Significant for Human Beings’ is appropriate for this passage.

SECTION B
Creative Writing Skills **(18 marks)**

3. Attempt any **one** of the two, (a) or (b), in about 50 words. 4
- (a) You are Akhil/Amala, the Secretary of the History Club of Margaret Public School, Utsavnagar. The club has decided to conduct an educational tour to the local historical sites for students of class XI. Draft a notice informing the students of the proposed tour. Invent all necessary details.

OR

- (b) You are Roshni/Rahul, Secretary of ABC Colony Welfare Association, Naveenbagh. Write a notice for the society notice board informing residents that there will be no water supply in your colony on 24th and 25th April, 2024 due to maintenance work. Invent necessary details.



4. Attempt any **one** of the two, (a) or (b), in about 50 words. 4

(a) You are Suresh/Surbhi Gupta, the Principal of Goodwill Public School, Akash Nagar. Your school is organizing an Inter-School Economics Seminar on Critical Analysis of the Financial Budget, 2023 – 2024. Send a formal letter of invitation to the Finance Secretary of your State to be the Chief Guest. Invent necessary details.

OR

(b) You are the PA to the Chairman, State Book Trust. The Chairman has been invited to inaugurate the annual book fair to be held at Olympic Maidan from 5th March, 2024 to 12th March, 2024. Write an appropriate formal letter of acceptance on his behalf.

5. Attempt any **one** of the two, (a) or (b), in 120 – 150 words. 5

(a) Divya/Diwakar Awasthi of 24/7, Hill View Apartments, Shrigram has come across an advertisement in Indian News and decides to apply for the post of Sales Executive. Write a letter applying for the post to the Personnel Manager.

Amarish Ayurveda Pvt. Ltd.

Requires Sales Executives

– Qualification: Graduate in any subject

– Skills: Good communication skills

Basic computer skills

– Willing to travel

– Knowledge of ayurvedic products

Please send your resumé within ten days to the Personnel Manager.

personnelmanageramarish@gmail.com

Amarish House 35, Shanti Nagar, Shrigram

OR



- (b) Your school organized a week-long campaign to create awareness of the plight of senior citizens in old age homes and ways of volunteering to bring smiles to their faces. This effort by the students was greatly appreciated. You decide to write a letter to the editor of a local daily to create awareness amongst people all over the city. You are Deepika/Deepak, Raja Vas School, Tri Bagh. You may combine your ideas with the cues given below.

**Help the Senior Citizens
Make Them Smile**

- panel discussion on 'How to help the elderly'
- visit to old age homes
- distribution of hampers
- cultural programmes
- pledge to volunteer one hour a week

6. Attempt any **one** of the two, (a) or (b), in 120 – 150 words.

5

- (a) The newspapers today have more of full page advertisements than news items or editorials. Write an article to be published in a national daily on how these advertisements take away the purpose of a newspaper and mislead the reader. Suggest how journalism can become more responsible. You are Madhu/Mahesh. You may use the given cues along with your own ideas.

Impact of advertisements :

- advertisements should not overwhelm the reader and distract from the purpose of news information
- gradual decline in newspaper readership
- newspapers lose credibility and appeal
- merely as a promotional medium

Suggestions :

- reinforce idea that newspapers and other print media are gateways to information
- focus more on news — rather than commercial visibility
- focus on in-depth coverage
- direct advertisements to a designated section of the paper

OR



- (b) The Literary Society of your school organized a library week. As student editor of the school magazine, draft a report on the week-long activities. You are Rani/Rahul. You may use the following cues along with your ideas to write the report. Invent necessary details.

- exhibition-cum-discount sale of books by leading publishers
- meet the author session
- creative writing – creating a graphic story and book cover making workshops
- inter-school literary quiz
- short story writing competition

SECTION C

Literature

(40 marks)

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any **one** of the given two, (a) or (b) :

6

- (a) I saw my mother,
beside me,
doze, open mouthed, her face
ashen like that
of a corpse and realized with
pain
that she was as old as she
looked but soon
put that thought away, and
looked out at Young
Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling
out of their homes.

(My Mother at Sixty-six)

- (i) The phrase ‘ashen like that of a corpse’ gives the impression that the mother is
- (A) frustrated (B) depressed
(C) dead (D) weak

1



- (ii) State whether the following statement is *True* or *False*, with reference to the extract. 1
“The mother was suffering from some fatal disease.”
- (iii) Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract ? 1
(A) Life is short and one must enjoy it
(B) Ageing and Mortality
(C) Sleeping and Playing
(D) Art of Parenting
- (iv) Pick the option in which the word ‘spilling’ is used in the same sense as in the extract. 1
(A) Rahul was responsible for spilling the beans by telling everyone the secret.
(B) He opened the bag, spilling all its contents on the table.
(C) Try to keep that crowd from spilling onto the main street.
(D) The cat spilled all the milk.
- (v) The phrases ‘Young Trees sprinting’ and ‘merry children spilling’ represent : 1
(A) Youth
(B) Old age
(C) Disease
(D) Travel
- (vi) Complete the sentence appropriately. 1
‘She was as old as she looked.’
The repetition of the word ‘as’ suggests that _____.

OR

- (b) What I want should not be confused with total inactivity.
Life is what it is about;
I want no truck with death.
If we were not so single-minded about keeping our lives moving, and for once could do nothing, perhaps a huge silence might interrupt this sadness of never understanding ourselves and of threatening ourselves with death.

(Keeping Quiet)



- (i) Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract ? 1
- (A) Silence alleviates sadness of our life.
- (B) Life and death are part of our existence.
- (C) We must keep our lives moving.
- (D) Life is stressful and monotonous.
- (ii) State whether the following statement is *True* or *False*, with reference to the extract. 1
- The poet feels that quiet productivity in place of all activities is desirable.
- (iii) The sadness being referred to (line 9) is due to : 1
- (A) failure to understand ourselves.
- (B) failure to understand others.
- (C) loss of peers in life.
- (D) inability to achieve what we desire.
- (iv) The poem has been written from the point of view of a/an : 1
- (A) environmentalist.
- (B) feminist.
- (C) social activist.
- (D) linguist.
- (v) Based on the rhyme scheme, which of the following does **not** rhyme with line 1 ? 1
- (A) cruised
- (B) complaint
- (C) mused
- (D) bruised
- (vi) Complete the sentence appropriately.
- In 'Life is what it is about', the poet is talking about _____ . 1



8. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any **one** of the given two, (a) or (b) :

4

(a) To make sure, I walked over to a newsboy and glanced at the stack of papers at his feet. It was *The World*; and *The World* hasn't been published for years. The lead story said something about President Cleveland. I've found that front page since, in the Public Library files, and it was printed June 11, 1894.

I turned toward the ticket window knowing that here — on the third level at Grand Central — I could buy tickets that would take Louisa and me anywhere in the United States we wanted to go.

(The Third Level)

(i) Why does the narrator resort to wishful day-dreaming and want to travel back in time ?

1

(ii) The year 1894 holds so much importance because _____.

1

(iii) *The World*, the news about President Cleveland — what do they hint at ?

1

(A) The narrator used to like reading the newspaper.

(B) The narrator fantasises about past events.

(C) The narrator wants to escape to a world that was unaffected by the two World Wars.

(D) The narrator tends to forget things.

(iv) Give one reason why the writing style of the extract can be called autobiographical.

1

OR



(b) But at this moment the door opened and she looked out, a dark-blue woollen haori over her kimono. ... He had met Hana in America, but he had waited to fall in love with her until he was sure she was Japanese. His father would never have received her unless she had been pure in her race.

(The Enemy)

- (i) Complete the sentence appropriately. 1
Hana was attired in _____.
- (ii) With reference to the above, how will you describe Dr. Sadao as a son ? 1
(A) indifferent
(B) obedient
(C) defiant
(D) practical
- (iii) What is 'this moment' all about ? 1
It is a moment of :
(A) emotional turmoil.
(B) tranquility.
(C) agitation.
(D) conflict.
- (iv) From the extract, what can you infer about Dr. Sadao and Hana's relationship ? 1



9. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any **one** of the given two, (a) or (b) :

6

(a) For a moment I thought of running away and spending the day out of doors. It was so warm, so bright! The birds were chirping at the edge of the woods; and in the open field back of the sawmill the Prussian soldiers were drilling. It was all much more tempting than the rule for participles, but I had the strength to resist, and hurried off to school.

(The Last Lesson)

- (i) List two sensory details present in the extract. 1
- (ii) Why is the narrator tempted to spend the day out of doors ? 1
- (iii) Complete the sentence appropriately. 1
I hurried off to school resisting _____.
- (iv) Why does the narrator want to bunk school ? 1
(A) He doesn't like the teachers.
(B) He doesn't like his classmates.
(C) He wasn't prepared for the test on participles.
(D) He had forgotten to complete his homework.
- (v) Which trait of the protagonist is revealed in the sentence 'I had the strength to resist' ? 1
(A) sincerity (B) determination
(C) bravery (D) kindness
- (vi) Which of the following headlines best suggests the central idea of the extract ? 1
(A) The Drilling of Prussian Soldiers
(B) The Rule of Participles
(C) Strength to Resist
(D) Out of Doors

OR



(b) My introduction to the Y.M.C.A. 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.

(Deep Water)

- (i) Identify the phrase from the given extract that bears evidence to the fact that the narrator's association with 'childish fears' was not a recent one. 1
- (ii) How does the writer try to learn it ? Mention any two ways. 1
- (iii) What did the Y.M.C.A. pool bring back to Douglas ? 1
- (A) Unpleasant memories
(B) Memory of a boat
(C) Meeting a bruiser of a boy
(D) Memory of his visit to the Yakima River
- (iv) The two emotions of Douglas mentioned in the given extract are _____ and _____. 1
- (v) Why did Douglas ape the other boys ? 1
- (vi) The writing style of the extract is autobiographical because _____ . 1

10. Answer any **five** of the following six questions in 40 – 50 words each : $5 \times 2 = 10$

- (i) Why is Mukesh's dream compared to a mirage ? (Lost Spring)
- (ii) Why did Gandhi say : "Freedom from fear is more important than legal justice for the poor" ? (Indigo)
- (iii) Stephen Spender's visit to the Gemini Studios was viewed as an unexplained mystery by the Gemini family. How did Asokamitran solve this mystery years later ? (Poets and Pancakes)



- (iv) What do you understand by “interstices” ? How does Umberto Eco utilize his interstices ? (The Interview)
- (v) Explain how “The tigers in the panel Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.” (Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers)
- (vi) ‘Resignation was no sudden thing.’ What is the implication of this remark in the context of Sophie’s character ? (Going Places)

11. Answer any **two** of the following three questions in 40 – 50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- (i) What were the two ‘amazing’ things of the royal infant ? (The Tiger King)
- (ii) What are Geoff Green’s reasons for including high school students in the ‘Students on Ice’ expedition ? (Journey to the End of the Earth)
- (iii) Why does Derry not like being with people ? (On The Face Of It)

12. Answer any **one** of the following two questions in 120 – 150 words : 5

- (a) If you were the poet of “A Thing of Beauty”, how would you interpret the need for quiet introspection as mentioned in “Keeping Quiet” ?

OR

- (b) Umberto Eco (The Interview) has a talk with Danny Casey from the story “Going Places”. Danny, being a football prodigy, feels his popularity may affect his game as he can’t devote much time to it. What advice will Umberto Eco give Danny about time management ? Write a paragraph on the interaction between the two and the advice given by Umberto Eco.



13. Answer any **one** of the following two questions in 120 – 150 words :

5

- (a) Physically impaired people have to suffer pain and a sense of alienation due to the behaviour of the people around them. It's ironical that people who should be treated with empathy are either avoided or pitied. Discuss.

(On The Face Of It)

OR

- (b) In the two stories of Bama and Zitkala-Sa in the lesson of “Memories of Childhood” there are certain similarities of strength in the face of social challenges. Write a diary entry sharing your observations.



Series S4PQR/4

SET-1

Q.P. Code **1/4/1**

Roll No.

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Candidates must write the Q.P. Code on the title page of the answer-book.

- Please check that this question paper contains **15** printed pages.
- Please check that this question paper contains **13** questions.
- Q.P. Code number given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- **Please write down the Serial Number of the question in the answer-book before attempting it.**
- 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the candidates will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.



ENGLISH (Core)



Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 80



General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

- (i) *This Question Paper has **13** questions. **All** questions are compulsory.*
- (ii) *This question paper contains **THREE** Sections – Section – A : **READING SKILLS**, Section – B : **CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS** and Section – C : **LITERATURE**.*
- (iii) *Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.*
- (iv) *Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.*
- (v) *Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*

SECTION – A

(READING SKILLS)

(22 Marks)

1. Read the passage given below : **12 M**

- (1) What do we typically do when we find our children doing something we don't approve of ? We become reactive parents. Often, we pepper our reactions with lectures. When it doesn't work and predictably so; we end up screaming and dole out a punishment. And our children react with anger, resentment or 'can't-be-bothered' attitude.
- (2) Buddhist Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh put it beautifully when he described how each child has both negative seeds- of anger, despair, hatred, fear and violence- and wholesome seeds- of love, happiness, compassion and forgiveness. According to him, what will blossom depends on the seeds we nurture.



(3) A parenting and educational approach that's gaining a large following internationally, called the Nurtured Heart Approach (NHA) by Howard Glasser, is very much in keeping with this Zen approach. The three main aspects of this approach are :

- Refuse to energize negativity.
- Relentlessly energize their positives.
- Reset : Do not react negatively and stay calm when the child does something wrong.

Parents following this approach commit to not saying or doing anything that may fuel negativity in the child. But the parent has to make sure she/he does this very calmly, without any anger or resentment.

(4) While on a mission to cut the negative, the parent looks for every opportunity to energize the positive in the child. This is done through persistently appreciating the goodness in the child in the smallest of ways : You were really generous about sharing your pizza with your sister; I appreciate the hard work you have put in your project; It takes courage to stand up to a bully. If you observe, the appreciation is not about saying “excellent”, “amazing” or “good”, which is really an empty praise and does not speak much to the child. Qualifying a praise, on the other hand, gives the child direction and she/he begins to understand what qualities, values and strengths are appreciated. These are also necessary ingredients of life skills and success.

(5) This approach is not merely about noticing when the child is being good, it is about recognizing the child's worth at every step. It's about aligning his energy in believing that he has great qualities, which are being identified and validated by the parents at every step. He realizes that there is no point choosing negativity, as there are no pay-offs in it. So, start building your child's inner wealth – there is nothing to lose.



Answer the following questions, based on the given passage :

- (i) Complete the following sentence with an appropriate word :
“ – we end up screaming and dole out punishment.”
In the above sentence, the author criticizes the _____ approach of the parents. **1**
- (ii) Explain in about 40 words, when and how do parents become reactive. **2**
- (iii) In the line ‘what will bloom will depend on the seeds we nurture’ – what seeds does the author refer to ? **1**
(A) Seasonal seeds (B) Societal news
(C) Parental attitude (D) Values and emotions
- (iv) Explain in about 40 words why does NHA focus on reforming parents to reform children. **2**
- (v) Share evidence from the text, in about 40 words, to support the view that parents appreciate the goodness of the child at every opportunity. **2**
- (vi) In paragraph 5, in what way does ‘This approach’ differ from the earlier approach ? **1**
- (vii) Select the option that can be classified as qualifying a praise as explained in the passage : **1**
(A) You can be more helpful.
(B) You demonstrated patience while teaching your junior.
(C) Use your skill to be an excellent sportsman.
(D) You have to be amazing in your work.
- (viii) The phrase ‘to cut the negative’ in para 4 most nearly means : **1**
(A) to reduce wasteful expenditure
(B) to stop criticizing
(C) to eliminate challenges
(D) to humiliate someone
- (ix) Read the five headlines (a) – (e) given below : **1**
(a) New Age Parenting
(b) Children – A Rebellious Generation
(c) Channelizing Energy
(d) Teacher – A Nation Builder
(e) Skill Development – Careers Ahead



Identify the option that displays the headline/s that Does/Do not correspond with the occurrences in the text

- (A) (a) and (e)
- (B) (c) and (e)
- (C) (b) only
- (D) (a) and (c)

2. Read the passage given below :

10 M

- (1) We're all familiar with the usual reasons workers cite for wanting to stay away even after lockdowns have long ended: flexible schedules, not having to commute, and of course, increased productivity. However, productivity isn't the only reason people want to stay away from the office. We recently surveyed 1,000 remote workers to find out what's really keeping them tied to their work-from-home lives.
- (2) The findings include : 72% want to be able to take a nap or exercise during the day. Nearly three out of four remote workers surveyed stated that the ability to take a nap or workout during the workday was one of the reasons they wanted to stay home. Though these activities may very well increase worker productivity, there's no doubt that a nap on the kitchen couch would be frowned upon in the office.
- (3) 73% want to be able to watch TV while they work. Three out of four respondents again say that being able to entertain themselves with TV, podcasts, music, or other media is one of the reasons they want to keep their work-from-home lifestyle.
- (4) 62% cite concerns about their appearance. Well over half of respondents stated that they are concerned about their co-workers seeing them in-person again after such a long time apart. Whether it's weight loss or gain, not having the right clothes, or another concern about appearance, most would rather not have to worry about the way they look to their co-workers outside a Zoom call.



- (5) When asked to choose the reason that most affects their desire to keep working from home, predictable answers like caring for children and lack of a commute were still the most common number one reasons. 14% of respondents stated that working remotely was so important to them, that they would not go back to work in-person even if their employers required it.

Answer the following questions, based on the given passage :

- (i) '..... these activities will increase productivity'. By 'productivity.' the author refers to 1
- (A) products produced
- (B) efficiency of the employee
- (C) time spent by the employee
- (D) number of activities
- (ii) What change in the work place would bring those people back to office who want amusement ? 1
- (A) giving long breaks
- (B) free coffee and tea
- (C) building entertainment lounge
- (D) spacious conference hall
- (iii) As per the survey, why do health conscious people prefer to work from home ? 1
- (iv) Complete the following sentence appropriately : 1
- The passage ends on a note that some people are resolved to _____.
- (v) Explain one inference that can be drawn from para 1 about the reason for people's preference to work from home. 1
- (vi) State whether the statement given below is True or False : 1
- The survey reveals that people deeply miss socializing in the work from home style.
- (vii) Explain in your own words how appearance is one of the factors for people's preference for work from home. 2
- (viii) As per the survey, what top priorities of people prevent them from going to office ? 2



SECTION – B

(CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS)

(18 Marks)

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

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

(a) P.S. Public School, Aram Nagar has opened a gym for the benefit of students. As Sports Captain, draft a notice informing students about the facilities available in the gym, timings and other details. **4**

OR

(b) The RWA of Ganga Society, Pushp Nagar has planned to start free yoga classes for its residents. You are Sharmila Tiwari, the President of RWA. Draft a notice informing residents about the proposal, timing, venue and other details. **4**

4. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two in about **50** words :

(a) You are Mr. Srikanth Sharma. You have recently built a new house in the hills of Uttarakhand. Draft a letter inviting your brother and his family to spend a few days with you in your new home. Include relevant details. **4**

OR

(b) You are Mr. Shyam Sundar, Professor of Psychology. You are invited by S.K.M. College, Mahboob Nagar to be the keynote speaker at its Annual Conclave on 'Student Health – The Emotional impact of Social Media'. Draft a reply letter expressing your inability to accept the invitation and also cite a reason for refusal. **4**

5. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two, in **120-150** words :

(a) You are Sujata/Suresh, a qualified fashion designer. You came across the given advertisement in a newspaper and wish to apply for the position advertised. Write a letter of application along with bio-data for the same.

We are Hiring !	
Apparel Designer	
Required Qualification :	Graduation in fashion design.
Experience :	Minimum 2 years in relevant field.
Skills :	Creativity, computer designing of apparels, aptitude for sewing, business sense, in-depth knowledge of fabric drafting.
Apply to the Director, Estella House of Fashion 26, M.G. Road, Kanthapuram.	

5



OR

- (b) You are Jyoti/Jagan of Park Avenue, Karampur. You feel sad to notice that people litter the roads with utter disregard for sanitation and cleanliness. As a responsible citizen, write a letter to the editor of a national daily highlighting the need for educational institutions to instill civic responsibility among school children.

You may use the following cues along with your own ideas to compose this letter.

- cleanliness drive
- spreading awareness campaigns
- eco club activities in schools
- volunteer for cleanup
- workshops, seminars

5

6. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two questions, in **120-150** words :

- (a) With the advancement of science and technology, basic communication has adversely impacted the social skills of today's youth. You are Girish / Girija of class XII. Write an article for your school magazine highlighting the adverse effects of technology and the ways to enhance social skills among the younger generation to prevent social awkwardness.

You may use the following cues along with your own ideas to draft the article.

Impact

- decrease in face to face communication
- lack of engagement
- inability to converse and poor inter-personal skills

Suggestions

- improve conversational and communication skills
- personal interaction, develop collaborative skills
- outdoor sports and activities

5



OR

- (b) The members of your school Drama Club, recently put up a street play at the Central Park of your city. The theme of the play was Education – An Equal Opportunity. As President of Drama Club, write a report on the event to be published in your school newsletter. Use the following cues along with your own ideas to compose the report :

- date, venue, time
- no. of participants
- performance followed by interactive session with spectators
- star actors
- response
- people’s feedback/response

5

SECTION – C

LITERATURE

(40 Marks)

(TEXT BOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT)

7. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow :

- (a) The little old house was out with a little new shed 6 × 1 = 6

in front at the edge of the road where the traffic sped.

A road side stand that too pathetically pled

It would not be fair to say for a dole of bread.

But for some of the money, the cash, whose flow supports

The flower of cities from sinking and withering faint. (*A Roadside Stand*)

- (i) Which of the following expressions has the same literary device as used in

“A roadside stand that too pathetically pled.”

(A) All the world’s a stage.

(B) I wandered lonely, as a cloud.

(C) The brutal wind bullied the tree.

(D) And life is too much like a pathless wood.



- (ii) Select the option that aptly conveys the poet's point of view with reference to the above extract :
- The roadside stand is put up with the purpose to
- (A) display fruits (B) to stop the traffic
(C) to do business (D) to interact with city people
- (iii) What do you infer about the people, who put up the roadside stand from the phrase 'would not be fair to say for a dole of bread' ?
- (iv) Complete the following sentence with reference to the extract.
The word 'pathetically' reflects the _____ condition of the roadside stand.
- (v) State whether the following statement is True or False :
By 'Flower of Cities', the poet refers to the garden in cities.
- (vi) Based on the rhyme scheme, evident in lines 1-4, which word would rhyme with line 2 ?

— — —
part fled seen

OR

- (b) Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool **6 × 1 = 6**
Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.
The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band
sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand
when Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie
still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by,
The Tigers in the panel that she made
will go on prancing, proud and unafraid. (*Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*)
- (i) 'Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.' Through the above expression the poet indicates :
- (A) Aunt Jennifer is happily married.
(B) Aunt Jennifer loves the tigers in the panel.
(C) Aunt Jennifer's unhappy married life.
(D) Aunt Jennifer's rich and luxurious life.
- (ii) Select the option that has the same literary device as used in 'Still ringed with ordeals'.
- (A) Leopards cannot hide in the jungle as they are spotted.
(B) Sun smiled happily on us.
(C) Her lovely voice was music to his ears.
(D) Life is like a box of chocolates.



- (iii) Complete the following sentences with reference to the extract.
The Tigers in the panel symbolize _____.
- (iv) State whether the statement given below is True or False :
“Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.”
The above expression suggests that Aunt Jennifer is dying.
- (v) Based on the rhyme scheme, evident in lines 1-2, which word would rhyme with line 1 ?
_____ _____ _____
full sand bye
- (vi) The use of the word ‘fluttering fingers’ in the extract suggest that the fingers of Aunt Jennifer are trembling. This creates an image of _____.

8. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow :

- (a) I did not open my mouth to answer. Then the steps were quickened and the voices became excited. The sounds came nearer and nearer. Women and girls entered the room. I held my breath and watched them open closet doors and peep behind large trunks. Someone threw up the curtains, and the room was filled with sudden light. What caused them to stoop and look under the bed. I do not know. I remember being dragged out, though I resisted by kicking and scratching wildly. In spite of myself, I was carried downstairs and tied fast in a chair.

$4 \times 1 = 4$

(Memories of Childhood)

- (i) Select the appropriate option :
..... sounds came nearer and nearer
- (A) describes the increase in volume.
(B) adds suspense and anxiety to readers.
(C) reflects the thought of the speaker.
(D) is a factual narrative.
- (ii) Complete the following sentence :
‘In spite of myself’ suggests that the speaker was _____.
- (iii) What do you infer from the first line of the extract ?
(A) It was her first day in school.
(B) She did not want to get caught.
(C) She was unprepared for the lesson.
(D) She preferred to be by herself.
- (iv) State whether the statement given below is True or False :
The speaker hoodwinked the people looking for her.



OR

- (b) Human civilisations have been around for a paltry 12,000 years – barely a few seconds on the geological clock. In that short amount of time, we’ve managed to create quite a ruckus, etching our dominance over nature with our villages, towns, cities, mega cities. The rapid increase of human populations has left us battling with other species for limited resources, and the unmitigated burning of fossil fuels has now created a blanket of carbon dioxide around the world, which is slowly but surely increasing the average global temperature. $4 \times 1 = 4$
(Journey to the End of the Earth)
- (i) According to the view expressed by the author in the above extract, increase in global temperature is due to
(A) mega cities (B) human people
(C) burning of fossil fuels (D) limited resources
- (ii) Complete the following sentence with reference to the extract :
Humans are criticised by the author for _____.
- (iii) According to the author, the relation between human population and resources is _____.
- (iv) ‘In that short amount of time, we’ve managed to create a ruckus’. By ‘ruckus’ the author refers to _____.
(A) movement (B) misunderstanding
(C) breach (D) commotion

9. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow :

- (a) I heard M. Hamel say to me, “I won’t scold you, little Franz : you must feel bad enough, see how it is ! Everyday we have said to ourselves. Bah! I’ve plenty of time I’ll learn it tomorrow. And now you see where we’ve come out. Ah, that’s the great trouble with Alsace; she puts off learning till tomorrow. Now those fellows out there will have the right to say to you. ‘How is it; you pretend to be Frenchmen, and yet you can neither speak nor write your own language ?’ But, you are not the worst, poor little Franz. We’ve all a great deal to reproach ourselves with”. $6 \times 1 = 6$

(The Last Lesson)

- (i) ‘And now you see where we’ve come out.’
The tone of M. Hamel in the above line is that of :
(A) kindness (B) happiness
(C) regret (D) enthusiasm



- (ii) 'We've all a great deal to reproach ourselves with.'
Select the option, which conveys the meaning of 'reproach' as reflected in the above line.
- (A) The player received a reprimand for breach of rules.
(B) The students approached the management with a demand for new canteen.
(C) The clerk received a letter of appreciation for his innovative ideas.
(D) She could not find a way to broach the subject with her boss.
- (iii) State whether the following statement is true or false with reference to the extract.
M. Hamel endorses the belief that there is plenty of time to learn their language.
- (iv) Complete the sentence appropriately.
'You must feel bad enough.' Through these words M. Hamel urges the people _____.
- (v) Identify the line from the text that reinforces the theme of patriotism in the story.
- (vi) She puts off learning till tomorrow. The phrase 'puts off' suggests _____.

OR

- (b) 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 representatives of the planters offered to refund to the extent of 25 percent, and to his amazement Mr. Gandhi took him at his words thus breaking the deadlock."

6 × 1 = 6

(Indigo)

- (i) Choose the correct option
'Then he seemed adamant,' reflects Gandhi's trait of being
- (A) arrogant (B) uncompromising
(C) argumentative (D) courageous
- (ii) _____ deceitfully extorted from the sharecroppers.
The status of sharecroppers as inferred from the above line is
- (A) law abiding citizens (B) followers of Gandhi
(C) victims of exploitation (D) contract labourers



- (iii) Complete the following sentence :
Gandhi surprised them by _____.
- (iv) The inference that can be drawn from the line “Mr. Gandhi took him at his word” is _____.
- (v) ‘Deadlock’ in the last line means _____.
- (vi) What do we infer about the attitude of planters towards sharecroppers ?

10. Answer **ANY FIVE** of the following six questions in **40-50** words each :

5 × 2 = 10

- (i) When I sense a flash of it in Mukesh, I am cheered. How is Mukesh’s attitude of life different from that of his family and friends ?
(Lost Spring)
- (ii) “I was frightened, but not yet frightened out of my wits.” Says Douglas. Which qualities of the speaker are highlighted in the above statement ?
(Deep Water)
- (iii) ‘See you soon Amma.’ How are these words contrary to the speaker’s emotions ?
(My Mother at Sixty-six)
- (iv) ‘And such too is the grandeur of the dooms ; we have imagined for the mighty dead.’ Explain the inference you can draw from the phrase ‘mighty dead’.
(A Thing of Beauty)
- (v) What evidence from the text reveals that Rudyard Kipling did not walk the talk ?
(The Interview)
- (vi) ‘Soaf, you really should be sensible !’ What does Jansie’s advice to her friend Sophie reveal about their friendship ?
(Going Places)

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

2 × 2 = 4

- (i) How can you say ‘Students on Ice Programme’ was a step towards the future ?
(Journey to the End of the Earth)
- (ii) Louisa behaves like a perfect wife. Give evidence from The Third Level in support of the above statement.
- (iii) What was the servants’ reaction to Sadao’s decision of treating the American soldier ?
(The Enemy)



12. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions in **120-150** words :
- (a) After reading ‘Aunt Jennifer’s Tiger’ and ‘Going Places’, you realise that Aunt Jennifer and Sophie’s mother have been subdued by their respective husbands.
As a social activist you have to write an article to a newspaper on the need to empower women.
You may begin like this.
Empowerment of women is a very essential social reform. It needs to be accelerated for any nation to progress

5

OR

- (b) ‘A Roadside Stand’ and ‘Lost Spring’ depict two contrasting worlds existing in society.
Justify this statement with reference to the poem ‘A Roadside Stand’ and the text ‘The Lost Spring’.
You may begin.
social satire in the two texts portrays two contrasting worlds that exist in society.

5

13. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in **120-150** words :
- (a) Mr. Lamb : Lord, boy, you’ve got two arms, two legs and eyes and ears
- You could get on better than all the rest. Optimism is the best tool to face challenges in life.
Imagine you are Mr. Lamb. You want to give a motivational speech to a group of differently abled students urging them to be positive in their approach to life. Write the speech on behalf of Mr. Lamb.
You may begin like this.
Hello ! Dear Students ! Believe in yourself. Nothing is impossible
.....

5

OR

- (b) “Tiger population became extinct in the forests of Pratibandapuram.”
Tiger King is a typical example of man’s dominance over nature.
As a member of your school Eco Club, write an article for your school magazine on how man should follow the policy of ‘Live and Let Live’.
You may begin like this.
The noblest principle, man should follow in his life is co-existence.
(The Tiger King)

5





Series QP5RS/5

SET-1

Q.P. Code **1/5/1**

Roll No.

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Candidates must write the Q.P. Code on the title page of the answer-book.

- Please check that this question paper contains **15** printed pages.
- Please check that this question paper contains **13** questions.
- Q.P. Code number given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- **Please write down the Serial Number of the question in the answer-book before attempting it.**
- 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the candidates will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.



**ENGLISH
(Core)**



Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 80

1/5/12

202 A

Page 1

P.T.O.



General Instructions :

Read the instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

- (i) *This question paper comprises 13 questions. All questions are compulsory.*
- (ii) *The question paper contains **THREE** sections –*
Section – A : Reading Skills
Section – B : Creative Writing Skills
Section – C : Literature
- (iii) *Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.*
- (iv) *Separate instructions are given with each question / part, wherever necessary.*
- (v) *Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*

Section – A : Reading Skills

(22 Marks)

1. **Read the text given below :** **12 M**

- (1) Five enterprises received approval and grants for prototype development of sustainable educational toys.
- (2) The government authorities, educational institutions and EdTech start-ups are planning to introduce state-of-the-art, made-in-India educational toys that not only throw light on Indian values and civilisations, but also help in developing children's critical thinking, and decision-making skills.



- (3) “One such enterprise is working on different types of projects that can teach children how electromagnets and magnetic fields work. These projects can resolve a lot of issues in many schools in tier two and three cities that don’t have proper infrastructure. Another is working on an excavation site to teach children about ancient Indian civilizations. It has implanted a few artifacts at the site, which the children will have to find so that they are able to learn how to preserve and label artifacts. Another start up has proposed to create miniaturized labs for schools in tier 2 and 3 cities where children can learn concepts of Physics. “We will ensure that these prototypes are developed within a year and then the production can be scaled up,” says the senior manager of the project talking about the importance of indigenously-built educational toys.
- (4) Playtime is vital for the cognitive development of children and toys are an essential component that helps enhance specific cognitive abilities and skill sets. “Well-designed toys ignite students’ curiosity, increase focus and can be very beneficial in helping them master a skill and enhance understanding. These can be in the form of visuals, auditory aids, kinesthetic, or a mixture of all three.” says HOD, Early Childhood Education.
- (5) Toys offer an engaging avenue to teach mathematical, verbal, problem-solving skills. “Toys that engage students in experiential learning enhance their special awareness and fine motor skills. Those designed for two or more players help students develop better social skills as they learn to negotiate, settle differences, etc, with their peers.”
- (6) Experiential gadgets and toys enable students to learn faster and retain lessons longer. “A child’s interest is piqued when he is taught in a contextual framework as opposed to rote learning. The Indian education system has been witnessing several innovations with the development of toys and gadgets that can be used and felt in person or through VR platforms across subjects, be it Science, Technology, Math or Engineering.



Answer the following questions, based on the passage given above :

- (i) By tier 2 and tier 3 cities, the author refers to 1
(A) Metro cities (B) Cities with huge population
(C) Underdeveloped cities (D) Cities with less population
- (ii) Complete the sentence with evidence from the text. 1
The made-in-India educational toys serves dual purpose of _____.
- (iii) The author's point of view that can be inferred from the above passage is that _____. 1
(A) educational toys are the booming business.
(B) educational toys are meant to entertain children.
(C) educational toys will replace teachers.
(D) educational toys will make education more pragmatic.
- (iv) Complete the following sentence appropriately : 1
Educational toys enhance the personality of children by _____.
- (v) Read the five headlines (a) – (e), given below : 1
(a) Sustainable Educational Toys are Developmentally Appropriate.
(b) Sustainable Educational Toys Promote Free play.
(c) Sustainable Educational Toys – Free and Widespread.
(d) Sustainable Educational Toys – Experiential Learning.
(e) Sustainable Educational Toys – Hinder Interaction with people.
Identify the option that displays the headline that DOES/DO NOT correspond with what the passage highlights.
(A) only (e) (B) (a) and (b)
(C) (c) and (e) (D) only (d)
- (vi) What evidences do you gather from the passage to state that educational system is revolutionized by educational toys ? Answer in about 40 words. 2
- (vii) Explain in about 40 words, how education at grassroot level is benefitted by these projects. 2
- (viii) As opposed to learning by heart, experiential toys 1
(A) ignite interest (B) challenge the teachers
(C) replace textbooks (D) confuse learners
- (ix) Playing is usually considered a distraction. Is it justified on the part of the narrator to assert that playing is an important aspect of education ? Write your answer in about 40 words. 2



2. **Read the text given below :**

10 M

- (1) People below the age of 20 and above the age of 50 are more likely to believe fake news. Those relatively new to the use of the internet still do not grasp the concept of fake information over these platforms, reveals a new survey 'Countering Misinformation in India.' This survey has been conducted jointly by Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI).
- (2) At least 40% of the respondents believed in 'misinformation' received over social media if it came with leading backgrounds and evidence, while 34% of them believe the information when it is shared by a trustworthy organization.
- (3) The dominant factor that drives people to forward such information is their belief that it might benefit others and help in their safety. In fact, that was the response of almost 50% of the respondents. This was compounded by the fact that at least 20% of the respondents expressed their lack of trust in conventional media thus their faith in contents shared by common people over social media.
- (4) But even then, newspapers still remain the top source of information for most. At least 53% of the respondents trust what is generally perceived as neutral media and only 29% trust technology and social media platforms.
- (5) However, what was surprising was that almost 45% of the respondents did not even know about the existence of fact-checking organization and most did not even know that journalists had to verify data before they let it out. Only 26% of the respondents believe that it is the responsibility of the media to curb or identify fake news. Many respondents also put the responsibility of identifying such fake news on an individual.
- (6) The survey has found that first time or early users of the Internet platforms are more susceptible to fake news than others. There is a need for building capacities and creating a National Civic Digital Literacy Strategic Plan.



Answer the following questions, based on the given passage :

- (i) Select the option that comes under conventional media : 1
(A) Instagram (B) Newspaper
(C) Facebook (D) E-mail
- (ii) Select the correct option : 1
One factor that prompts people to believe fake news is that
(A) it supports their point of view (B) they are biased
(C) it is from a reliable site (D) it has more 'likes' and 'shares'
- (iii) What according to the passage are the intentions of people who share information ? 1
- (iv) Which reason do you infer from the passage is responsible for journalists spreading misinformation ? 1
- (v) Complete the sentence appropriately : 1
The threat faced by the new entrants in social media is _____.
- (vi) Explain your understanding of the difference between 'misinformation' and 'fake news'. 1
- (vii) As per your inference drawn from para (1), which category of people fall as victims to fake news ? 2
- (viii) What is the blame game that goes on in fixing the onus of identifying fake news ? 2

Section – B : Creative Writing Skills (18 Marks)

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

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the following two, in about 50 words. 4
- (a) Bharat Public School, I.P. Nagar, has recently constructed a Science Park, a dedicated area where specific equipments based on principles of science are setup.
As Rashi Kapoor, President of Science Club, draft a notice for the school notice board, informing students of the same. Mention relevant details.
- OR**
- (b) You are the President, RWA Silver Oak Society. Draft a notice for the society notice board informing residents about the appointment of security guards at Gate Nos. 2, 3 & 4 and an increase of ₹ 1,000 in the annual maintenance charges to meet the expenditure. Mention relevant details.



4. Attempt ANY **ONE** of the following two in about **50** words. 4
- (a) You are a student counsellor of N.J. Public School. You are invited by S.M. International School, Kala Puram, to address Class XII students on Goal Setting & Time Management. Write a formal letter of reply accepting the invitation and confirming your presence at the stated time, include relevant details.
- OR**
- (b) You are Mr. Anmol Gupta. You are planning to celebrate your sister's silver jubilee wedding anniversary. Draft the invitation card to be sent to relatives and friends, sharing all relevant details.

5. Attempt ANY **ONE** of two in **120-150** words. 5
- (a) You are Dinesh / Deepa of M.G. Nagar, Pratap Nagar. You are a pharma graduate. You saw the given advertisement in a newspaper and wish to apply for the position advertised.
Write a letter to Ideal Pharma, along with your bio-data, expressing your interest in the advertised post.

<p>IDEAL PHARMA Requires Sales Representatives</p> <p>Qualification : Graduation in Pharmacy Experience : Min. 3 years in the relevant field Skills : Product Knowledge, Communication Skills, Computer Competency</p> <p>Apply to The Manager, Ideal Pharma, 55, Ajit Arcade, Tenalipuram within a week.</p>
--

- OR**
- (b) To maintain 'work life' balance, there is a surge of people going on short and budgeted vacations. Seizing this opportunity more people are offering the home stay option. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily sharing your views on this trend. You may use the following cues along with your own ideas to compose this letter. You are Ankit/Ankita

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- HOME STAY- Budgeted travel option- Home cooked meals- Opportunity to enjoy local culture, cuisines, life-style- Emerging opportunities for locals.- Opportunity to showcase indigenous communities in villages/small towns. |
|--|



6. Attempt ANY **ONE** of the following **two** questions in **120-150** words.

5

- (a) Television has great educational value. It can be used as a tool for learning, both at home and in classrooms. There is a range of channels, that offer educational content.

You are Gopal / Geeta of Class XII. Write an article for your School magazine describing how television can be used as a tool for education. You may use the following cues along with your own ideas to compose this article :

- easy access to T.V.
- informative, news
- documentaries, panel discussions
- programme on new technologies, science, history,
- National Geographic, astronomy etc.
- exposure to foreign culture, food, architecture, art etc.

OR

- (b) Your school recently organized Y-20 Chaupal under G-20 initiative. The theme chosen for the event was Health and Wellness. Nearly 20 speakers from Classes IX to XII participated and presented their innovative ideas.

You are Neeraj / Nirvita, student editor of your school magazine. Write a report on the event to be published in your school magazine. Use the following cues along with your own ideas to draft the report :

- Wellness – holistic and multidimensional,
- date, venue, time
- physical fitness / yoga
- emotional and intellectual well-being
- revival of alternative medicines etc.
- importance of social interaction



Section – C

Literature, Text Book and Supplementary Reading Text

(40 Marks)

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions on ANY ONE of the given two. 6

(a) Sometimes I feel myself I can hardly bear
The thought of so much childish longing in vain,
The sadness that lurks near the open window there,
That waits all day in almost open prayer.
For the squeal of brakes, the sound of a stopping car,
Of all the thousand selfish cars that pass,
Just one to inquire what a farmer's prices are
And one did stop, but only to plow up grass
In using the yard to back and turn around;
And another to ask the way to where it was bound ;

(A Roadside Stand)

- (i) Select the option that has the same literary device as in 'The sadness that lurks near the open window there'.
- (A) Lucy moved across the room like a warship sailing into battle.
(B) Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.
(C) The water-wraith was shrieking.
(D) The pen is mightier than the sword.
- (ii) They prayed for the stopping of a car. When one car finally stopped, it brought _____ to the people of the roadside stand.
- (A) help (B) happiness
(C) disappointment (D) cash flow
- (iii) Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line, '.....childish longing in vain'.
- (iv) Complete the sentence appropriately.
The emotion of the poet reflected in the above extract is _____.



- (v) The expression 'selfish car' suggests that _____.
- (vi) Based on the rhyme scheme evident in the last two lines of the extract, which word would rhyme with the last line ?

_____ _____ _____
brass reply sound

OR

- (b) ... but soon
put that thought away, and
looked out at Young
Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling
out of their homes, 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, (*My Mother at Sixty-six*)
- (i) Select the correct option.
The impact of 'merry children' on poet's mind _____.
- (A) caused anxiety
(B) created a sense of longing
(C) brought comfort
(D) reminded her of her own childhood
- (ii) The tone of the poet expressed in the above lines is
- (A) sadness and helplessness
(B) excitement and eagerness
(C) appreciation and gratitude
(D) anger and anxiety
- (iii) The words 'wan, pale' indicate the mother's _____.
- (iv) Complete the following sentence appropriately.
The poet looked at her mother again to _____.
- (v) Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line 'felt that old familiar ache'.
- (vi) 'put that thought away'.
What is the intention of poet that can be inferred from the above line ?



8. Read the two extracts given below and answer the questions on ANY ONE.

4

- (a) The reason the programme has been so successful is because it is impossible to go anywhere near the South Pole and not be affected by it. It's easy to be blase about polar ice caps melting while sitting in the comfort zone of our respective latitude and longitude, but when you can visibly see glaciers retreating and ice shelves collapsing, you begin to realise that the threat of global warming is real.

Antarctica, because of her simple eco-system and lack of biodiversity, is the perfect place to study how little changes in the environment can have big repercussions. (*Journey to the End of the Earth*)

- (i) As per the given extract, the reason for the success of the programme is
- (A) the participation of young students.
 - (B) the journey to Antarctica.
 - (C) the exposure to reality.
 - (D) it was impossible to go near south pole.
- (ii) Complete the following sentence.
The warning that can be inferred from the above extract is _____.
- (iii) State whether the statement given is TRUE or FALSE with reference to the extract.
Global warming is a threat to human survival.
- (iv) Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line "It's easy to be blase about polar ice caps melting while sitting in the comfort zone".

OR

- (b) From that day onwards it was celebration time for all the tigers inhabiting Pratibandapuram.

The State banned tiger hunting by anyone except the Maharaja. A proclamation was issued to the effect that if anyone dared to fling so much as a stone at a tiger, all his wealth and property would be confiscated.

The Maharaja vowed he would attend to all other matters only after killing the hundred tigers. Initially the king seemed well set to realise his ambition.
(The Tiger King)



- (i) Select the correct option :
'... he would attend to all other matters only after killing hundred tigers'. This reflects Tiger King's
(A) courage (B) determination
(C) selfishness (D) kindness
- (ii) Complete the sentence appropriately.
From that day onwards it was celebration time for all the tigers. The above statement is ironical in the sense _____.
- (iii) '... if anyone dared to fling so much as a stone at a tiger, all his wealth and property would be confiscated'.
What trait of the king is reflected in the above line ?
- (iv) State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE.
The King's ambition is to save people from the tigers.

9. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions on ANY ONE. 6

(a) "Why do you do this ?" I ask Saheb whom I encounter every morning scrounging for gold in the garbage dumps of my neighbourhood. 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 have nothing else to do," he mutters, looking away.

"Go to school," I say glibly, realizing immediately how hollow the advice must sound.

"There is no school in my neighbourhood. When they build one, I will go."

(Lost Spring)

- (i) Choose the correct option.
The expression 'scrounging for gold' refers to
(A) searching for gold items.
(B) looking for something that can fetch money.
(C) rummaging the garbage.
(D) digging to find food to eat.
- (ii) The influence of nature in Saheb's life was that it _____.
(A) brought prosperity (B) yielded food for them
(C) gave them home (D) brought disaster
- (iii) Complete the sentence with an appropriate word.
Saheb's conversation with the narrator draws _____ of readers towards Saheb.



- (iv) Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line “..... realizing how hollow the advice must sound”.
- (v) The expression ‘when they build one, I will go’ indicates Saheb’s _____ to go to school.
- (vi) State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE.
‘... his home is not even a distant dream’ states that Saheb sees his home often in his dream.

OR

- (b) Then the poet spoke. He couldn’t have addressed a more dazed and silent audience – no one knew what he was talking about and his accent defeated any attempt to understand what he was saying. The whole thing lasted about an hour ; then the poet left and we all dispersed in utter bafflement – What are we doing ? What is an English poet doing in a film studio which makes Tamil films for the simplest sort of people ? People whose lives least afforded them the possibility of cultivating a taste for English poetry. The poet looked pretty baffled too, for he must have felt the sheer incongruity of his talk about the thrills and travails of an English poet. His visit remained an unexplained mystery. *(Poets and Pancakes)*

- (i) Choose the correct option :
The reason for the bewilderment of the audience is
 - (A) unknown identity of the visitor.
 - (B) that the speaker had not been introduced to them.
 - (C) the visit of an English poet to a Tamil film studio.
 - (D) that they did not understand English.
- (ii) By ‘thrills and travails’ the author refers to
 - (A) joy and happiness
 - (B) interest and aspiration
 - (C) excitement and pain
 - (D) shocks and surprises
- (iii) Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line, “He could not have addressed a more dazed and silent audience”.
- (iv) The failure of the speaker to connect with the audience with reference to the extract is his _____.
- (v) What information in the extract reveals the fact that the people have no exposure other than to their own circle ?
- (vi) State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE.
The audience were enthralled by the poet’s impressive speech.



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

5 × 2 = 10

- (i) Explain the inference that can be drawn from the line : “Will they make them sing in German, even the pigeons ?” (*The Last Lesson*)
- (ii) “Father laughed, but there was terror in my heart.”
What does the above statement speak of the father ? (*Deep Water*)
- (iii) The tigers in the panel that she made
Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.
What is the tone of the poet reflected in the above lines ?
(*Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers*)
- (iv) What is Pablo Neruda’s complaint against fishermen ?
(*Keeping Quiet*)
- (v) How and why does Keats relate ‘mighty dead’ to the ‘Thing of Beauty’ ?
(*A Thing of Beauty*)
- (vi) ‘Jansie, knowing they were both earmarked for the biscuit factory, became melancholy’.
What inference about Jansie’s character is drawn from the above line ?
(*Going Places*)

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

2 × 2 = 4

- (i) Why was Charlie fascinated with Galesburg ? (*The Third Level*)
- (ii) “I must get rid of this man for your sake”. Said Dr. Sadao.
How will you describe Dr. Sadao as a husband with reference to the above line ?
(*The Enemy*)
- (iii) “The words that Annan spoke to me that day made a deep impression on me’.
What inference do you draw about the bond between Annan and Bama ?
(*Memories of Childhood*)



12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in **120-150** words each : **5**

(a) but will keep

A bower quiet for us. *(A Thing of Beauty)*

Perhaps the Earth can teach us
as when everything seems dead
and later proves to be alive. *(Keeping Quiet)*

Based on ideas from 'Keeping Quiet' and 'A Thing of Beauty', as President of Eco Club of your school. Draft a speech on the importance of preserving nature for the benefit of mankind.

You may begin like this.

Good morning to one and all !

After reading both the poems, I strongly believe

OR

(b) She gave a little cry of joy. She found a small rattrap, ...

(The Rattrap)

Saheb-e-Alam received a pair of discarded shoes with a hole in one of them. In spite of this he was very happy. *(Lost Spring)*

Compare the joy that both Edla and Saheb experience after receiving their respective gifts.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in **120-150** words : **5**

(a) Imagine you are Derry speaking at the funeral of Mr. Lamb highlighting Mr. Lamb's optimism and the change he brought about in your attitude towards life. *(On the Face of it)*

You may begin like this.

Dear friends,

I will be eternally grateful to Mr. Lamb

OR

(b) After having escaped from Japan with the help of Dr. Sadao, Tom (the prisoner of war) writes an article highlighting how Sadao's actions demonstrated the importance of humanity and living in harmony. *(The Enemy)*

You may begin like this :

Humanity is a value that binds us together



**SET-1****Series QS1PR/1**Q.P. Code **1/1/1**

Roll No.

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Candidates must write the Q.P. Code on the title page of the answer-book.

- Please check that this question paper contains **19** printed pages.
- Please check that this question paper contains **13** questions.
- Q.P. Code given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- **Please write down the serial number of the question in the answer-book before attempting it.**
- 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the students will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.

**ENGLISH (Core)***Time allowed : 3 hours**Maximum Marks : 80****General Instructions :****Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :*

- This question paper has **13** questions. **All** questions are **compulsory**.*
- This question paper contains **three** sections — Section A : **Reading Skills**, Section B : **Creative Writing Skills** and Section C : **Literature**.*
- Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.*
- Separate instructions are given with each question / part, wherever necessary.*
- Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*



SECTION A
Reading Skills

(22 marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully :

12

- (1) The term Artificial Intelligence spells a future in which this emerging technology will impact every aspect of human existence. In fact, little do we know, it has already crept into our lives, slowly, but surely. Look around you — education, health care, industry, innovation, robots, robotic surgeries, transportation, home service — it's already there. It will change the lifestyle of everyone from the technology industry to normal people.
- (2) The past fifteen years have seen considerable AI advances in education. You enter school and AI takes your attendance using face recognition. Various applications are in wide use by educators and learners today. AI technologies assist teachers in the classroom. Learning at home is likely to expand significantly, along with learning based on virtual reality applications. Though quality education will always require active engagement by human teachers, AI promises to enhance education at all levels, especially by providing personalization at scale.
- (3) The evolution of new technologies, mobile, and the Internet are changing lifestyles. Artificial intelligence is playing an important role in every sector such as banking, driving, education, e-commerce, electronics, robotics. Systems of artificial intelligence are aiming to stimulate execution and decision-making that is human-like. In targeted applications, substantial increases in the future uses of AI technologies, including more driverless cars, healthcare diagnostics and targeted treatments, and physical assistance for elder care can be expected. AI and robotics will also be applied across the globe in industries struggling such as agriculture, food processing and factories. They will facilitate delivery of online purchases through flying drones, self-driving trucks or robots.



- (4) AI-based applications could improve health outcomes and quality of life for millions of people in the coming years — prime applications include clinical decision support, patient monitoring and coaching, automated devices to assist in surgery or patient care, and management of healthcare systems. Recent successes, such as mining social media to infer possible health risks, machine learning to predict patients at risk, and robotics to support surgery have expanded a sense of possibility for AI in healthcare.
- (5) People’s future relationships with machines will become ever more personalized as AI systems learn to adapt to individual personalities, ambitions and goals. These AI applications will help monitor people’s well-being, alert them to the impending risks, and deliver services when needed or wanted.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

- (i) Select the word that most appropriately defines Artificial Intelligence today. 1
- (A) rewarding
(B) universal
(C) luxurious
(D) temporary
- (ii) What is the connection between ‘face recognition’ in school education and AI ? 1
- (iii) Which one of the following do you infer from para 2 ? 1
- (A) School education will become a virtual engagement.
(B) The teacher will be replaced by AI.
(C) Human teachers will play a passive role in the classroom.
(D) Human teachers are irreplaceable.
- (iv) Share evidence from the text, in about 40 words, about how AI can support the field of education. 2



- (v) The phrase ‘stimulate execution’ in para 3 nearly means : 1
- (A) imitate creations
 - (B) strategise destructions
 - (C) shake inventions
 - (D) motivate implementation
- (vi) With evidence from the text, explain in about 40 words, two ways in which AI will help in the healthcare sector. 2
- (vii) According to the passage, why does the author conclude that people’s relationships with machines will become more personalised ? 2
- (viii) Complete the following statement : 1
- AI will make the commercial supply chain smoother by _____.
- (ix) Read the five headlines given below (I – V) : 1
- I. AI WILL IMPACT EVERY ASPECT OF OUR LIVES
 - II. AI WILL BE A BOON TO THE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS
 - III. SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS WILL BE CONTROLLED BY AI
 - IV. AI IS A MAJOR REASON FOR RISING UNEMPLOYMENT TODAY
 - V. FACTORY OWNERS WILL NOT USE AI FOR FEAR OF ITS UNPREDICTABILITY

Identify the option that displays the headline/s that does/do not correspond with occurrences in the passage.

- (A) only V
- (B) II and III
- (C) IV and V
- (D) III, IV and V



2. Read the following passage carefully :

10

- (1) A recent survey conducted by an independent research firm sought to measure levels of happiness among youth aged 16 – 24 years in seven countries. The findings revealed some intriguing insights into what makes today's youth happiest, as well as which factors influence their overall well-being. In India, an overwhelming majority of the youth reported feeling satisfied with their lives, with 87% rating of their overall happiness as 'high' or 'very high.' Financial security was identified as the primary source of happiness for 66%, followed by family support (89%), having a purpose in life (50%), and work or studies (40%). Unfortunately, 65% reported feeling stress related to academic performance or workload, while 25% reported feeling lonely. These figures point to a need for increased mental health support among India's youth.
- (2) These surveys also revealed that family support is an important source of contentment for young people across countries. In Europe, 59% of respondents said that their families were a major source of happiness; in France this figure was 67%, and 63% in Germany. In North America, 64% rated family as an important factor for well-being in Canada, while 61% did so in the United States. Similarly, 89% of survey respondents in India named family support as a major contributor to their overall contentment level.
- (3) It is clear that stress has a significant impact on the happiness of today's youth. The findings suggest that young people need better resources to manage their mental health and well-being. This may include access to counselling services, mindfulness activities and support groups to help them cope with challenging circumstances. It is also important to provide financial support so as to reduce some of the economic pressures.
- (4) In India, 65% of youth surveyed reported feeling anxious about their academic performance or workload, while 25% felt lonely. These figures are especially significant given how important family support is for young people's overall contentment.



Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

- (i) What are the two findings that the survey mentioned in paragraph 1 reveals ? Answer in about 40 words. 2
- (ii) Explain in about 40 words the statement “It is also important to provide financial support so as to reduce some of the economic pressures.” 2
- (iii) Elaborate giving data, the statement “Stress has a significant impact on the happiness of today’s youth.” 1
- (iv) Which of the following factors, with reference to the given passage, does **not** play a substantial role in the well-being of Indian youth ? 1
- (A) Family support and strong ties
(B) Social connection and technology
(C) Books and literature
(D) Economic stability
- (v) State whether *True* or *False*, with reference to the given passage :
It is not necessary to provide financial support to the youth as only academic performance plays an upper hand in deciding the stress level. 1
- (vi) What are the top choices which are of maximum value to today’s youth ? 1
- I. Collectivism
II. Social media
III. Individualistic society
IV. Family ties
- Options :
(A) I and II (B) II and III
(C) I and IV (D) II and IV
- (vii) The mental health of today’s youth can be managed by resources like _____ and _____. 1
- (viii) Write the following sources that provide happiness to today’s youth in descending order : 1
- (a) purposefulness (b) financial status
(c) family support (d) stress



SECTION B
Creative Writing Skills

(18 marks)

3. Attempt any **one** of the two, (a) or (b), in about 50 words. 4

(a) To encourage students to participate in outdoor activities, your school has planned a 7-day trek to Rohtang Pass for students of classes VIII – X during the summer vacation. Write a notice for the school notice board giving all the necessary information. You are Raghav/Ragini, Secretary Trekking Club, Amar Bahadur School.

OR

(b) The problem of the residents' parking of vehicles, often leading to minor scuffles, has become a source of growing concern. As Secretary of Goodwill Flats Welfare Association, Shripur, write a notice informing the residents about a meeting to discuss the problem and find an acceptable solution. Invent necessary details.

4. Attempt any **one** of the two, (a) or (b), in about 50 words. 4

(a) You are the Student Head, Cultural Affairs Club at Newton Public School. The school is holding its annual function on Saturday, April 20th, 2024 at 11 am. The Honourable Education Minister, Dr. Shah has consented to be the Chief Guest. Design an invitation card to be sent to the parents and other invitees. Mention necessary details.

OR

(b) You are a renowned doctor and have been invited by your school alumni as Chief Guest to the Annual Graduation Ceremony of Green School on Sunday, March 24th, 2024. Write a letter to the President of the Alumni Association expressing your inability to attend due to a prior commitment. Also convey your congratulations to the graduating students.



5. Attempt any **one** of the two, (a) or (b), in 120 – 150 words.

5

- (a) You are Amar/Anita, a fresh MBA graduate from Singla Institute of Management, Khushbagh. You saw the given advertisement in a newspaper and wish to apply for the position advertised. Write a letter to India Helptel Company along with your bio-data, expressing your interest in the advertised post.

MANAGEMENT TRAINEES REQUIRED

by

INDIA HELPTEL COMPANY

for its

INDIA-WIDE LOGISTICS Department

Whom Do We Need

- Fresh MBA Graduates
- Specialization in Marketing
- Skills – Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal
- Languages – English and State language

OR

- (b) An increase in the number of vehicles on the road has increased instances of traffic snarls, road rage and accidents. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily showing your concern and examining the reasons for such behaviour. Provide suggestions on how to manage the situation. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose the letter. You are Brinda/Bharat.



REASONS

- Increase in vehicles
- More cars per family
- Budgeted cab services
- People not adhering to traffic rules

SUGGESTIONS

- Improve traffic management during peak hours
- Stricter implementation of laws
- Role of media in creating awareness

6. Attempt any **one** of the two, (a) or (b), in 120 – 150 words.

5

- (a) India is emerging as one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world. Write an article on “India as a popular choice of Foreign Visitors”. You are Leela/Laksh. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose the article.

Importance

- The new influx generates jobs for local people
- Local culture, food and handicrafts promoted
- Medical, religious and ecotourism bring India on the world map

What needs to be done

- Strengthening the efforts of the authorities
- Media’s role in creating awareness
- Information centres to be created for all tourists

OR



- (b) The senior residents of your colony have initiated a Reading Club for the children of a neighbourhood slum. As Ramesh/Ranjita, the local correspondent of the neighbourhood newsletter, write a report covering the project. Support your ideas with the cues given below.

- Senior citizens' initiative
- 2 hour voluntary service on Sunday morning
- Support reading of school texts
- Comprehension quizzing
- Read newspaper – share information – encourage discussion

SECTION C

Literature

(40 marks)

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any **one** of the given two, (a) or (b) :

6

- (a) A thing of beauty is a joy forever

Its loveliness increases, it will never

Pass into nothingness; but will keep

A bower quiet for us, and a sleep

Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing.

(A Thing of Beauty)

- (i) Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract ?

1

(A) Beauty provides security and peace.

(B) Beauty lies in possession of expensive things.

(C) Beauty is synonymous with power and riches.

(D) Beauty lies in our rich heritage and palaces and temples.



- (ii) Complete the following sentence appropriately. 1
A thing of beauty never passes into nothingness because it is _____.
- (iii) 'Quiet bower' means a pleasant, shady, quiet place under trees or in the woods. This creates a sense of _____. 1
- (iv) State whether the given statement is *True* or *False* with reference to the extract. 1
The quality of a thing ensures that its beauty lasts forever.
- (v) Based on the rhyme scheme in lines 3 and 4 of the given extract, which word will rhyme with them ? 1
(A) please
(B) sweep
(C) help
(D) self
- (vi) The use of the word 'health' in the extract suggests that beautiful things will give us a happier and more wholesome life. It creates a powerful image of _____. 1
(A) rejuvenation
(B) attachment
(C) long life
(D) eternity

OR

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

(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)



- (i) Which of the following are symbolised by the ‘tigers’ in the extract above ? 1
- I. masculine world
 - II. feminine world
 - III. world of bold, fearless creatures
 - IV. world of beautiful handicrafts
- (A) I, II and III
(B) II, III and IV
(C) III and IV
(D) I, III and IV
- (ii) State whether the given statement is *True* or *False*. 1
The creator of the tigers was fearless and assertive like the tigers.
- (iii) Complete the following sentence. 1
The use of the word ‘topaz’ suggests that the image of the tiger on the screen is _____.
- (iv) ‘Tigers do not fear the men beneath the tree’ because they are 1
- (A) tamed
 - (B) in a cage
 - (C) fearless
 - (D) kings of the jungle
- (v) Based on the poem’s rhyme scheme evident in lines 1 and 2, which of the following will rhyme ? 1
mean, akin, cream
- (vi) Chivalric certainty refers to which poetic device ? 1
- (A) Alliteration
 - (B) Metaphor
 - (C) Simile
 - (D) Repetition



8. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any **one** of the given two, (a) or (b) :

4

(a) Derry : I....there....I thought this was an empty place. I didn't know there was anybody here....

Mr. Lamb : That's all right. I'm here. What are you afraid of, boy ?
That's all right.

Derry : I thought it was empty....an empty house.

Mr. Lamb : So it is. Since I'm out here in the garden. It is empty. Until I go back inside. In the meantime, I'm out here and likely to stop. A day like this. Beautiful day. Not a day to be indoors.

Derry : [*Panic*] I've got to go.

(On The Face Of It)

(i) Derry was stammering because of : 1

(A) a speech defect.

(B) excitement.

(C) anger.

(D) fear.

(ii) Complete the sentence appropriately. 1

Derry insisted on going back because _____.

(iii) Mr. Lamb was trying to tell Derry that : 1

(A) it was a matter of perception.

(B) Derry could stay with him.

(C) he spent all his days in the garden.

(D) he was fond of company.



- (iv) From the extract, one can infer that Mr. Lamb was a/an : 1
- (A) compassionate man.
 - (B) mysterious character.
 - (C) new neighbour.
 - (D) unreasonable man.

OR

(b) Anyway, here's what happened at Grand Central. One night last summer I worked late at the office. I was in a hurry to get uptown to my apartment so I decided to take the subway from Grand Central because it's faster than the bus.

Now, I don't know why this should have happened to me. I'm just an ordinary guy named Charley, thirty-one years old, and I was wearing a tan gabardine suit and a straw hat with a fancy band; I passed a dozen men who looked just like me. (The Third Level)

- (i) List any two details about how Charley was dressed up. 1
- (ii) Charley decided to use the subway because it was : 1
- (A) quicker.
 - (B) cheaper.
 - (C) more fashionable.
 - (D) safer.
- (iii) Complete the following sentence appropriately. 1
- Landing at the third level was due to Charley's flight of _____.



(iv) Which time frame is represented through the kind of outfit mentioned in the extract ?

1

- (A) pre world war era
- (B) the present times
- (C) the eighteenth century
- (D) in the future

9. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any **one** of the given two, (a) or (b) :

6

(a) They have lived here for more than thirty years without an identity, without permits but with ration cards that get their names on voters' lists and enable them to buy grain. Food is more important for survival than identity. "If at the end of the day we can feed our families and go to bed without an aching stomach, we would rather live here than in the fields that gave us no grain," say a group of women in tattered saris when I asked them why they left their beautiful land of green fields and rivers. Wherever they find food, they pitch their tents. (Lost Spring)

(i) The ragpickers have been living there for _____ decades.

1

- (A) three
- (B) four
- (C) two
- (D) five



- (ii) Why do these people have ration cards ? 1
- (iii) What do you infer about their lifestyle from the phrase 'pitch their tents' ? 1
- (iv) In spite of the hardships, they are not willing to go back to their homeland because _____ . 1
- (v) The women had a/an _____ approach towards life. 1
- (A) idealistic
- (B) passive
- (C) indifferent
- (D) practical
- (vi) What does the term 'go to bed without an aching stomach' indicate ? 1

OR

- (b) Their spontaneous demonstration, in thousands, around the courthouse was the beginning of their liberation from fear of the British.

The officials felt powerless without Gandhi's cooperation. He helped them regulate the crowd. He was polite and friendly. He was giving them concrete proof that their might, hitherto dreaded and unquestioned, could be challenged by Indians.

The government was baffled. The prosecutor requested the judge to postpone the trial. Apparently, the authorities wished to consult their superiors.

(Indigo)



- (i) The result of the demonstration was that _____. 1
- (ii) The participants of the spontaneous demonstration were : 1
- (A) Gandhi's lawyers.
- (B) people of Champaran.
- (C) Indigo landowners.
- (D) Indian soldiers.
- (iii) Gandhi cooperated with the British by : 1
- (A) not going to the court.
- (B) remaining quiet when he was accused.
- (C) helping to manage the mob of people.
- (D) leaving Champaran for Delhi.
- (iv) The statement 'Apparently, the authorities wished to consult their superiors' was indicative of the Britisher's _____. 1
- (v) With reference to the extract, the word 'baffled' most nearly means : 1
- (A) strengthened.
- (B) disgusted.
- (C) frightened.
- (D) confused.
- (vi) Whose 'might' did this demonstration question ? 1



10. Answer any **five** of the following six questions in 40 – 50 words each : $5 \times 2 = 10$

- (i) What inference can you draw about Sophie's relationship with her father from the story 'Going Places' ?
- (ii) We miss a thing when we are in fear of losing it. Substantiate this statement with two examples from 'The Last Lesson', how the people in the story suddenly realised how precious their language was to them.
- (iii) What did the peddler say in his defence when it was clear that he was not the person the ironmaster thought him to be ? (The Rattrap)
- (iv) What does 'The God That Failed' refer to? (Poets and Pancakes)
- (v) What according to Umberto Eco is the belief that most journalists and publishers have ? (The Interview)
- (vi) It is said that the 'Face is a mirror of one's emotions.' Why did the poet 'smile and smile' ? (My Mother at Sixty-six)

11. Answer any **two** of the following three questions in 40 – 50 words each : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- (i) What confusion does the Dewan have when the Tiger King broaches the topic of his marriage ? (The Tiger King)
- (ii) "My Antarctic experience was full of such epiphanies," says Tishani Doshi. Which experience does she consider the best and why ?
(Journey to the End of the Earth)
- (iii) Zitkala-Sa says, "Eating by formula wasn't the hardest trial in that first day." What does she mean by 'Eating by formula' ?
(Memories of Childhood)



12. Answer any **one** of the following two questions in 120 – 150 words :

5

- (a) Imagine you are John Keats, the poet of ‘A Thing of Beauty’. What advice might you offer to Robert Frost, the poet of ‘A Roadside Stand’ in the context of his ‘The sadness that lurks near the open window’ ? Pen down your advice in a letter to Frost on how to deal with sadness. You may begin this way :

Dear Robert,

I have recently read your poem ‘A Roadside Stand’ and

You may end this way :

Despite the fact that our lives are full of sorrow and suffering, the beautiful things around us give us the strength to endure the sadness of life.

Warmly

John Keats

OR

- (b) Create a comprehensive comparison of the themes present in ‘Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers’ and ‘My Mother at Sixty-six’. Specifically discuss the different ways each poem addresses the concept of struggle and resilience.

13. Answer any **one** of the following two questions in 120 – 150 words :

5

- (a) Dr. Sadao is disturbed and in a dilemma since he has decided to help the enemy soldier. Describe his conflict and the challenges faced in the form of a diary entry.

OR

- (b) In the story ‘The Third Level’, reality and fantasy are interwoven. Justify.