

# QUESTION BANK – 2011-12

## Class -XII Subject - ENGLISH

### Section A - READING

#### 1. Read the following passage carefully.

1. Mount Everest has long attracted the curiosity of mystics, scientists and thrill seekers, who have for centuries risked their lives to reach the top of its treacherous peak. Their sometimes-deadly adventures have been documented at length in magazines, movies and books around the world. But little has been written about how the fabled Himalayas threaten the lives of thousands of villagers who live in the valleys below.
2. Earthquakes rattle through the region as the collision between tectonic plates beneath the continents of Asia and India continue to push the towering Himalayas even higher. Villagers in the foothills also fall prey to frequent avalanches, floods and landslides unleashed by melting glaciers and monsoon rains.
3. Due to global warming glacier-related disasters are on the rise. The risks increase during the summer months, when warm temperatures and monsoon rains shrink the enormous sheets of ice. And as the warm, wet weather of the Himalayan summer sets in, scientists warn that chances of disaster grow every day.
4. Glacial melting already has begun to wreak havoc, scientists suspect. Last August in Nepal, during the hottest year on record, landslides and flashfloods left more than 350 dead and 10,000 families homeless. Since 1954 more than 7,000 people have died in 11 major floods in Bangladesh. And this year's monsoon rains have spread water-borne diseases, fever, influenza and stomach ailments throughout Bangladesh, India and Nepal.
5. One reason for these catastrophes, scientists said, is that Himalayan glaciers- formed by more than 2 million years of snowfall-are receding faster than ever before. As the glaciers continue to shrink, landslides, ice avalanches and floods will increase, scientist warn.
6. 'Catastrophic natural processes triggered by these glacial changes are responsible for considerable death and destruction throughout the mountains, , said Jagdish Bahadur, who wrote a scientific report on the topic. Ice avalanches, which occur when glaciers melt on steep slopes and slide down sparsely vegetated valleys, and landslides, cascading boulders and debris unleashed when melting glaciers dislodge them, have caused hundreds of deaths in the year alone.
7. But some of the most devastating effects of glacier meltdown occur when glacial lakes overflow. These lakes, which are formed throughout the mountain range by melting glaciers, threaten to flood entire valleys, putting tens of thousands of people's lives at risk. For decades glacier ice and debris have acted like natural dams to contain the growing lakes. But when melting glaciers feed the lakes faster than water can drain, a violent torrent of liquid and debris often escapes as pressure in the burgeoning lake causes it to literally push past the glacier ice or debris that holds it back. Due to rapid glacial melting, these 'glacial lake outburst floods'- once a rarity- have become a frequent occurrence.
8. The chances of a glacial lake outburst increases in the summer, when glaciers melt, and rainwater from the monsoon season adds pressure to the swelling lakes, according to Paul Mayewski, director of the Climate Change Research Center at the University of New Hampshire. Scientists also say that global warming has accelerated the formation of glacial lakes. The Bulletin of Water and Energy Commission (WEC) has labelled many of these lakes as 'dangerous'.

9. 'We're constantly worried by forecasts about these lakes rupturing,' Pemba Sherpa, a resident of Monjo village, which is located close to the high-risk Imja glacier lake, told the World Wildlife Fund. But a lack of funding coupled with the difficulty and dangers associated with accessing the glaciers have made it nearly impossible to even monitor them.
10. There is a need to monitor high altitude glaciated regions to understand the natural processes and the magnitude of natural hazards for mitigation measures,' Bahadur stated. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is trying to establish a monitoring system that will warn endangered villagers when a glacial outburst or landslide is imminent. The program also would monitor potentially high-risk lakes, which can be drained to reduce the risk of a disaster.
11. If global warming is the culprit for glacier recession, then the huge masses of ice of the Himalayas will one day melt away altogether. 'Glaciers in the Himalayas are receding faster than in any other part of the world and, if the present rate continues, the likelihood of them disappearing by the year 2035 is very high,' stated a recent report by the International Commission for Snow and Ice (ICSI). Though the disappearance of the glaciers would bring an end to the deadly floods and landslides that plague the region, another disaster would follow.
12. Without glacier melt water, many lakes and rivers that serve as lifelines for millions of people could dry up. And about 10 percent of the world's population-500 million people-would be at risk of losing their water supply.

1.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions as briefly as possible. 8

- a) Why are the Himalayas prone to earthquakes? 1
- b) In what ways does the warm and wet weather of the Himalayan summer prove to be devastating? 2
- c) What threat do melting glaciers pose to people living in the Himalayan region? 1
- d) What is the role being played by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to reduce the risk of the disasters caused by glaciers? 1
- e) What is causing the Himalayan glaciers to melt? 1
- f) What will happen when the Himalayan glaciers have melted? 2

1.2 Pick out the words/phrases from the passage which mean the same as: 4

- a) Cause a lot of destruction (Para 4)
- b) Disaster; devastation (para 5)
- c) Set off; caused (Para 6)
- d) To crack or break (Para 9)

## **2. Read the following passage carefully.**

1. The World Cup is considered the apex of soccer competition. Held once every four years, it brings together some of the world's best footballers, all of whom attempt to do their respective nations proud by winning the coveted trophy.
2. The 1994 world Cup, held in the United States of America, was no different from its predecessors.

Traditional favourites, like Brazil and Italy produced moments of sheer poetry on the pitch while newcomers like Nigeria and Saudi Arabia put up gallant performances. However, the event will be remembered with a tinge of sadness. The otherwise spectacular competition was marred by the murder of Colombian defender, Andres Escobar.

3. The Colombian team had entered the World Cup in a blaze of glory. Undefeated in the qualifying rounds, they had even trounced the 1986 champions, Argentina, with a five-goal win. Soccer is known to evoke high passions amongst fans, but in Colombia, where soccer is said to be 'bigger than religion,' expectations soared to fever pitch.
4. The team was captained by Carlos Valderrama, a two-time winner of the South America Player of the Year Award. With brilliant attackers, Freddy Fincon and Faustino Asprilla, Colombia seemed indomitable and were even touted to be the next champions.
5. However, undone by over-confidence, the Colombians lost their opening match to Romania. After witnessing such a dismal performance, the press and fans began to wonder if the accolades heaped upon Colombia had been premature.
6. Currently, the Colombian nation has the dubious reputation of having the highest rate of violence in the world for a country not at war. Home to the Medellin and Cali cartels, it is notorious for being the drug capital of the world. Drug lords are responsible for tainting Colombia's soccer league as players and officials are often bribed.
7. Those who defy the drug cartels are ruthlessly dealt with. In 1983, Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla was slain, months after alleging that several football clubs were run by drug traffickers. In 1989, referee Alvaro Oriega was killed after a match. He had disallowed a goal by Deportivo Independiente and sent off one of its players. Apparently, the team's defeat caused the drug lords to lose huge sums of money.
8. Following their loss, the Colombian squad began to receive death threats. Coach Francisco Maturana was coerced into removing player, Gabriel Jaime Gomez, whose family had been similarly threatened.
9. Demoralized and now petrified, Colombia performed badly in their match against the Americans.

It was in the thirty-fourth minute of the match that Andres Escobar made a dreadful mistake. He slid on his right foot to cut off an attack by American, John Harkes. Unfortunately, he inadvertently directed the ball past goalkeeper Oscar Cordoba, into his own net. America's second goal, via Ernie Stewart, sealed Colombia's fate. Colombia managed a last minute goal but it was too late, after two defeats, they were eliminated from the competition.

10. In a letter to a Colombian newspaper, Escobar tried to placate fans. He reasoned, 'Life does not end here.' It was a double irony that he was brutally shot barely forty-eight hours after returning to his beloved hometown of Medellin. The drug mafia, who had lost millions of dollars in bets, are believed to be responsible. The 'murder was tragic for it was excessive punishment for a mistake that could have been committed by the best of players.
11. Andres Escobar, who had represented Colombia in fifty-eight games and two World Cups, was considered one of their first central defenders. A humble and friendly man, he was called 'the gentleman of Colombian soccer' and admired by many. Thousands of fans including Colombian President respect to their slain hero. Sickened by the instance violence plaguing their country, they chanted protests against the drug lords as they escorted the body to its final place of rest.

2.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage answer the following questions as briefly as possible.

- a) Why is the World Cup considered the pinnacle of soccer competition?
- b) What does the writer imply when he says that Brazilians and Italians produced 'sheer try' on the pitch? 1
- c) Give an example from the passage to suggest that Colombians are ardent fans of soccer?
- d) Why is the Columbian team described as entering the tournament in 'a blaze of glory'?
- e) In what way have the drug cartels 'tainted' Columbian soccer?
- f) Andres Escobar made a dreadful mistake. What was it?
- g) Why was Andres Escobar's death considered a 'double irony'?

2.2 Pick out the words/phrases from the passage which mean the same as:

- a) Unconquerable; determined (Para 4)
- b) Out of control; unchecked (para 6)
- c) Pacify; calm down (Para 10)
- d) Refuse to respect or to obey (Para 7)

### 3. Read the following passage carefully.

1. During the latter part of the eighth century AD a fierce, bold race of pirates periodically left their homelands to raid the coasts of Europe. Easily recognizable with their tall, muscular figures, blue eyes and flaxen or red hair, they hailed from Scandinavia, or present day Norway, Denmark and Sweden. They were called the Norsemen and those who participated in the raids were known as the Vikings.
2. At home, the Vikings were mainly farmers or stockmen. Hence, their expeditions were timed to coincide with the lull periods. These were during spring, after the seeds were sown, and in autumn, after the crops were harvested.
3. Their large oak ships were rowed by forty to sixty oarsmen. They were adorned with colourful sails and burnished shields. The arched bows, carved into shapes of dragons, earned the vessels the label, 'dragon ships'.
4. The Vikings would stake unsuspecting villages at dawn. Christian monasteries were popular targets as they possessed many treasures and were defenseless. Armed with swords and battleaxes the Vikings killed those who came in their way and departed with as much loot as possible. Young men and women who were spared served the Vikings as slaves. Later, many released after the advent of Christianity.
5. Between 740 and 1050 AD the Vikings grew in strength. At the pinnacle of their supremacy, they colonized Iceland, Northern France and large parts of Britain and Ireland. They had also attacked the Lapps. Finns, Russians, North Africans and parts of the Roman Empire. In time, the Vikings developed trade with the Europeans in place of piracy.
6. Till today, their legacy is evident in Britain and Ireland. For instance, many countries have names ending with 'by', like Derby, Rugby and Kirby. In Danish, 'by' means home or village. In turn, most of the Norse

became Christians by 1000 AD, mostly through Irish influence. Christianity also thrived because the Norwegian king, Olaf Trygvason was so devout that he threatened those who refused conversion with military action.

7. The success of the Vikings can be attributed to their culture, which placed great emphasis on courage and might. Norsemen were trained in self-defense and encouraged to partake in sports like swimming, rowing and riding. Hence, the Vikings became tough and highly adaptable warriors. Young Norsemen were eager to participate in these expeditions as they promised fortune, glory and even noble rank. However, they had to prove their worth since only the elite would be selected.
8. Religion was also a motivating factor. Much of the Viking mythology was inspired by warrior gods, who battled for noble causes. Valhalla, their heaven, was not an eternal abode for all good souls. Only those who had died an honourable death in battle could gain entry. Believing that heroic action was the highest possible good, the Vikings were willing to take up challenges and risks, which undoubtedly led them to a great many discoveries. Their superior navigational skills also distinguished them as intrepid travellers.
9. Much of the Vikings' history has been gleaned from their legendary tales, called 'sagas', which comes from the Norse verb meaning 'say' or 'tell'. Sagas began as a form of entertainment during feasts and related the Vikings' mythical past, discoveries, feuds and eventual conversion to Christianity.
10. The European clergy disapproved of their fables, considering them sacrilegious. However, the Vikings were determined to preserve their heritage. Their culture endured because of their distance from Europe. Moreover, their Christian leaders did not object to their storytelling.
11. It was customary for Viking warriors to be buried in long-ships with valuables, clothes and chariots, which were believed to be useful in "the afterlife. The ships, excavated in Scandinavia and former colonies, emerged in good condition. They had been embedded in clay or ice, which preserved them over centuries. The treasures remained intact as they were made of durable materials like gold, silver and stone. These graves have illuminated us about their past glory.

3.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage answer the following questions as briefly as possible.

- a) What set the Vikings apart from the other races? 1
- b) When did the Vikings undertake their expeditions? Why? 2
- c) Why did the Vikings attack the villages at dawn? 1
- d) Why did the Vikings attack Christian monasteries? 1
- e) Why did the Vikings free the slaves they had captured? 1
- f) How did religion inspire the Vikings to attain greater heights? 2

3.2 Pick out the words/phrases from the passage which mean the same as: 4

- a) Decorated (Para 3)
- b) Fearless and brave (Para 8)
- c) Blasphemous; disrespectful towards religion (Para 10)
- d) To make metal smooth and shiny by rubbing (Para 3)

#### 4. Read the following passage carefully.

1. Traces of mercury found in Egyptian tombs dating from 1500 BC bear witness that mercury has been known to man since ancient times. Mercury has a silver gray appearance and is the only metal which exists in liquid form at ordinary temperature. A dense element mercury is thirteen and a half times heavier than water.
2. These attributes fascinated medieval alchemists and earned it the nickname 'quicksilver' or live, fluid silver. It is represented by the chemical symbol Hg, derived from the Greek word hydor, meaning 'water' and argyros, meaning 'silver'.
3. Early physicians used it in medicines and antiseptics but in contemporary society, mercury is utilized in various scientific instruments. Its great range between melting and boiling points makes it an important component in changes in thermometers. Responsive to pressure, it is used in barometers to measure weather. Since it expands when heated, it is used in thermostats and power switches.
4. Mercury has also gained a foothold in a number of industries. It serves as a fungus and mould deterrent in the laundry, home decorating, building and agricultural industries. In paper factories, it inhibits the growth of slime. Metallurgical industries employ mercury to form alloy because it mixes readily with other powdered metals. Gold is extracted from its ore through amalgamation. In this process, mercury forms an alloy or amalgam with gold. When heated, the mercury dissolves, leaving the gold residue.
5. While it has become indispensable to scientific and technological progress, mercury has also been a cause of concern. Mercury is a toxic or 'heavy' metal. Besides its liquid or quicksilver state, it also comes in inorganic and organic forms. Inorganic compounds include mercuric chloride and mercuric sulphate, and are used in industrial processes. Organic compounds like phenyl and dimethyl mercury, are the most lethal of them all.
6. Our bodies utilize certain metals as iron to aid metabolism, but others, like mercury and lead, serve no function whatsoever and are even detrimental to our health. The threat of poisoning is even more unnerving since mercury can be absorbed through our skins and mucous membranes, which line the various cavities in our anatomy.
7. The unrestrained use of mercury by ruthless corporations, bent on profits, and governments, eager for industrial expansion has led to dire repercussions. In the nineteenth century hat makers used a mercury compound to treat beaver fur for hats. The noxious fumes inhaled resulted in hallucinations, lack of concentration and extreme mood swings. So chronic were their symptoms that the phrase 'as mad as a hatter' became commonplace. Hatters are no longer subject to such conditions but industrial pollution remains rampant.
8. One of the worst cases of mercury poisoning occurred in 1953 in the Minamata region of the Japanese island of Kyushu. Mercury was used to manufacture a plastic called polyvinyl chloride and toxic wastes were indiscriminately discharged into the rivers. These were inorganic compounds but underwent chemical reactions en route the coasts to transform into deadly organic substances. This caused the fish to be unfit for consumption.
9. Cats, whose diets consisted solely of fish, were the first to show peculiar symptoms. With glazed eyes, they staggered about convulsed before falling into comas and dying. Within a year, the symptoms were manifested in the human population. Victims suffered seizures, impaired hearing and speech and lost muscular coordination. 43 lives were claimed and 68 people were critically handicapped.

4.1 on the basis of your reading of the passage answer the following questions as briefly as possible.

- a) How do scientists conclude Mercury has been known to man since early times?

- b) Why has Mercury been called quicksilver?
- c) Why is mercury used in the manufacture of thermometers?
- d) Why mercury can be detrimental to human health. Give reasons.
- e) What role did mercury play in getting hatters termed as 'mad'?
- f) Why were fish at Minamata unfit for human and animal consumption?
- g) What proof did scientist have to support the theory that pregnant mothers passed on the fish food toxicity to their babies?

4.2 Pick out the words / phrases from the passage which mean the opposite of:

- a) Contemporary
- b) Encourage: accelerates
- c) contained: under check
- d) lasting for a long time

**5. Read the following passage carefully:**

of the fruit and manipulates it to a suitable position for cracking.

4. The researchers managed to identify the macaw's diet by inspecting fallen fruits and seeds. These remains had scoop-shaped marks from the macaw's hooked bills. Seeds form the staple of the macaw's diet, although they occasionally consume the pulp of certain fruits. Undiscriminating in their selection of seeds and naturally curious, they sample everything the forest has to offer.

5. Each morning, the clay cliffs at Peru's Tambopata River are besieged with a riot of colours.

With such an abundant supply of food at their disposal, it is indeed peculiar that the macaws eat the clay! The clay probably fortifies them with salts and minerals. deficient in their largely vegetarian diet. Some of the seeds that the macaws devour contain toxic compounds and the clay, acting as a detoxifying agent, counters any ill-effects.

6. Macaws constantly communicate with one another and unite to ward off any predators. When an eagle attempts to attack flocks feasting at the cliffs, ten adult macaws immediately circle the eagle from above. The eagle is rendered helpless as it can only attack by swooping downwards. The macaws then assault it with their piercing shrieks till it leaves.

7. Hunting and intense development projects, causing deforestation and pollution have seen the Latin American macaws dwindle in numbers. Some, like the Brazilian Spix, are on the brink of extinction. While the Peruvian macaws have been protected by the remote and impenetrable jungles, they are not completely invulnerable to certain pressures.

8. The macaws have low reproduction rates due to shortage of ideal nests in the cavities of trees. Of the few macaws born, even fewer survive into adulthood. This is because macaw parents feed older nestling first, causing the younger siblings to die from undernourishment.

9. Scientists solved the housing problem by building artificial nests using a durable plastic called PVC. The

exterior of these pipes was burnt and scrubbed with a steel brush to simulate the texture of the tree trunks. In addition, they boosted the macaw population by tending to the weaker nestlings, who were returned to the wild upon reaching maturity.

10. The Wildlife Conservation Society also developed a tourist industry, whereby the native Machiguenga Indians run bungalows and guide tourists to the wild macaws. This industry has caused the macaws to appreciate in value and has earned the natives much needed income. This programme not only gives the natives an incentive to preserve the macaws but also promotes ecological consciousness.
11. The Peruvian government has curtailed poaching by outlawing the export of its tropical birds in 1973. It has also established reserves like the Manu National Park. This wildlife haven extends over 3.7 million acres and is a sanctuary to a plethora of animals and plants. Indeed, with such allies championing its cause, the macaws will undoubtedly thrive.

5.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage answer the following questions as briefly as possible.

- a) What methods do the scientists employ to locate the macaws? 1
- b) The writer describes tracking macaws as an 'exacting task'. What does he mean by the term?!
- c) Despite the availability of food, why do the macaws eat clay? 2
- d) Macaws have proved that 'unity is strength'. How have they done this? 1
- e) Why are the numbers of macaws dwindling? 1
- f) What efforts are being undertaken to prevent macaws becoming extinct?

5.2 Pick out the words from the passage which mean the same as

- a) fascinated (para 2)
- b) unable to . . . and act on the difference between good and bad (para 4)
- c) reduced or limited (para 11)
- d) a way of hiding or disguising (para 2)

## 6. Read the following passage carefully:

1. The story of our ancestors on their long road to human civilization begins in East Africa, at a gorge called Olduvai, where scientists stumbled across the fossilized remains of animals that provide an invaluable link with the past. What is more, quantities of strangely-shaped stones were found nearby, which could have been crude tools for cutting and slicing meat. Then came other significant discoveries - the 'fossilized remains of skulls, not altogether human, but with features markedly similar to those of humans. Such finds, together with the strangely-shaped likely evidence of creatures which were developing a primitive intelligence, and not just on jaws and teeth to get their food.

2. Even so, discoveries such as these are painfully few. This is not surprising when we consider how

rare it is to find a few bones of anything that perished countless years ago. When a creature died on open plains of Africa, the scent of its decay sooner or later attracted other animals of all kinds. They devoured the soft tissue and crushed the bones in their jaws. Hardly any trace of its existence would be left. A very few carcasses, however, sank into the muddy shores of lakes or rivers they lay hidden from other animals.



Then the gradual process of fossilization began. Ever so slowly, bone and tissue turned into stone.

3. Fossil finds alone will not tell the whole story, however, Scientists have to take into account what the world was like when our earliest ancestors began to appear. Two million years ago, the gorge at Olduvai would have held a great lake, and around its shores animals would have swarmed in abundance. But their world was slowly changing as the planet underwent major alterations of climate. A drastic cooling of the earth's surface meant that the rich forests of Africa began to die off and the almost endless canopy of trees broke up into scattered areas, each isolated from the other. So, too, the lush plants and vegetation began to dwindle; the forests no longer provided an ever ready supply of food for the creatures that roamed them, as bare, open grassland took over the landscape. Now, in their struggle, to survive, they had to keep moving to where food could be found. It was about that time, so scientists believe, that our ancestors emerged. They faced the same problems as their fellow creatures; they, too, had to learn how to search out food in the wide plains of Africa and acquire essential skills of survival.
4. But these ancestors of ours did not acquire these skills overnight, nor did they enter these open plains like people rushing to stake a claim in empty territory; they were competing for a place in an environment already significantly populated with other animals, experts by now in exploiting the food resources of the open plains. Our ancestors shared the same habitat with creatures that would snap at their feet, trying to steal their meal as they were eating it, or would pace menacingly around nearby. It was physically impossible to master them; our ancestors simply had to stay out of their reach.
5. Besides, life on the African plain was very much at the mercy of the different weather seasons. The dry season meant lean times, and many animals had to be content with tough, low-quality vegetation, which was the only food around in any quantity. But our ancestors did not go on depending on this poor quality food. They began looking for new opportunities to get at tastier foods.
6. What they discovered was that the African plains contained plants that hid their juicier parts underground. In the dry season, when other edible plants above ground grew scarce, the roots and bulbs of these special plants provided rich and healthy eating - but all of it below the surface, available only to animals that could claw it out. Lacking the specialized claws and teeth needed to get at these prized foods, our ancestors learnt how to fashion a stick or stone to dig out the succulent roots of plants.
7. By now our ancestors were clearly acquiring an even more valuable skill, that of knowledge - not just in knowing their own habitat in close detail. They came to recognize the habits of other creatures, and to turn them to their advantages. Circling vultures promised the remains of some animal killed not far away, a meal for the taking if they got there soon enough. They knew that adult antelopes, while impossible to catch, sometimes left their young in grass and went off to browse. Our hungry ancestors could pluck the infant like ready fruit, if they knew where to look.
8. In time they probably came to rely a great deal on communicating knowledge such as this to one another. This communication undoubtedly gave them the edge over many of their four-footed rivals in prizing out the secret scraps of energy-giving food that dotted the landscape. They could make something of a living that way, if they relied on each other and carefully avoided known dangers. Our early ancestors managed to survive, but only barely. A hard road lay ahead on their progress towards dominion over the Earth.

6.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage answer the following question as briefly as possible.

- a) Why did it take a long time to discover evidence of our ancestors? 1
- b) What is the discovery that led the scientists to believe that the primitive man was not an unintelligent creature? 1
- c) What are fossils? Why do scientists study fossils? 2

- d) How did dwindling forests affect the life of our ancestors? 1
- e) What threat did the wild animals pose for our ancestors? 1
- f) Why was it not possible for our ancestors to master the animals around them? 1
- g) How did knowledge of their habitat help our ancestors? 1

6.2 Pick out the words/phrases from the passage which mean the same as: 4

- a) discovered something by chance (para 1)
- b) got control of (para 3)
- c) in a situation where someone or something has complete power over you (para 5)
- d) a threatening quality (para 4)

**7. Read the following passage carefully.**

1. When a brave mountaineer is assailing the Everest he is as great a hero as a cosmonaut rocketing towards Mars in his space capsule, and thousands of men and women in different countries back his progress with their good wishes and share the thrills and anxieties of his hazardous journey to the roof of the world, while scores of anxious scientists wish him success in the hope of obtaining valuable information on atmospheric conditions in the upper regions of the earth. Mountaineering is indeed a source of pleasure and a mine of useful knowledge which is indeed a source of pleasure and amine of useful knowledge which is constantly enriching the scientific vocabulary of geologists, mineralogists and glaciologists of the world
2. Mountaineering is a perennial source of joy to those who have eyes that can appreciate the beauties of nature. Nowhere does nature reveal her charm in greater abundance than as green and flowering mountain tops with transparent streams of water flowing down their slopes or on snow-clad hills where sunlight weaves its magic colours into their virginal whiteness. To lovers of mountains the sound of waterfalls is like the joyful clapping of merry primitive dancers and the howling of night winds contains a musical pleasantness which surpasses the highly sustained rhapsodies of man-made organs. Lakes in high altitudes, holding within their cup-like mountainous enclosures the watery wealth of surrounding glaciers, treeless plateaus covered with rare varieties of grass, plants and flowers and yawning chasms into whose dark, unfathomable interior nature's countless species of animals and plants carry on their fight for existence, are attractions so powerful and irresistible that no man or woman who is a member of a mountaineering party or club can turn a deaf ear to their call. These widely scattered, ever alluring treasures of nature are the climber's greatest inducement to wander with a hungry heart in search of beauty, adventure and fame along the dangerous slopes of sky-embracing heights.
3. Mountaineering is an awfully risky venture in the case of those ambitious souls who are dreaming of conquering such majestic peaks as Annapurna, Dhaulagiri and Everest, and who wish to be ranked among the world's greatest climbers, Sir Edmund P. Hillary and Tenzing Norgay. Dozens of adventurers belonging to different nations with their hearts burning with a passion to conquer the highest peak in the world perished in the immortal snows of the Himalayas, after painfully inching their way to heights which were in close proximity to the summit Expedition after expedition turned back exhausted, frostbitten, and utterly disappointed when the mighty Himalayas hurled icy winds, snowstorms and blizzards at those who wanted to conquer Everest thus barring their way to this pinnacle of glory. The bones of many men of unrealized ambition lie buried in the glacial wilderness which is the home of the highest peak in the world. Such awful setbacks, however, did not dampen the enthusiasm of succeeding generations of mountaineers; the failure of early expeditions did not deter Colonel Hunt and his brave companions from

trying to plant on the summit the flag of the victory of human defiance of nature's death-dealing agents in high altitudes.

7.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage answer the following questions as briefly as possible.

- a) Mountaineers are considered as heroes. Why?
- b) In what way does mountaineering become a source of knowledge? 2
- c) What are the beautiful sights that can catch a mountaineer's eye? 1
- d) Why is mountaineering considered risky? 2
- e) Setbacks in mountaineering do not dampen the spirit of many mountaineers. Why? 2

7.2 Find words from the passage which convey similar meaning as the ones given below: 4

- a) one who studies the science relating to the history and development of the earth's crust (para 1)
- b) lasting through the year (para 2)
- c) a blinding storm of wind and snow (para 3)
- d) the highest point (para 3)

### **8. Read the following passage carefully.**

1. Imagine, a gigantic fish, that can, with one swing of its tail, crush a man's bones to pulp, come up to check you out as you dive into the ocean! Such an encounter, especially at close quarters, with one of the rare creatures of the earth like the whale shark can be a rewarding experience for anyone interested in wildlife. Believe it or not, the whale shark is NOT a whale, but is so called because of its astoundingly enormous size. The largest fish in the world and the biggest shark, the whale shark is no ordinary creature. It can grow up to a length of 15.2 meters, yet is termed the 'gentle giant' of the oceans due to its almost docile nature. With distinctive light yellow markings, a shape that can be confused with that of no other creature on earth, and sheer size, the whale shark is spectacular and unmistakable. These gigantic creatures are known to live over a 100 years.

2. The whale shark is one creature that for many years was considered rare and elusive. Only a few fortunate divers had chance encounters with this huge animal and they were enthralled by the experience~ This fish has remained a mystery to fishermen, divers and scientists alike until very recently. Whale sharks are largely vegetarian, harmless to people and indifferent to divers. They are not aggressive and cruise the oceans feeding on concentrations of microscopic plants, small fish and squid. This fish is a filter feeder, which means it sieves large amounts of plankton to eat through its gills as it swims through the water with its mouth wide open.

3., Till a few years back, whale sharks were being killed in large numbers off the shores of Gujarat, where they visit between March and May every year. The presence of this rare and elusive creature should be a matter of great pride and joy for Gujaratis, but a complete lack of knowledge and ignorance about the fish has made this impossible. Local fishermen have traditionally hunted this meek giant for oil to waterproof their boats. Today, far better alternatives are available, but the fish is killed for its meat, which is not locally eaten, but exported to countries such as Korea, Philippines, etc.

4. The whale shark is generally caught with the help of giant hooks which have strong lines attached to them along with big barrels which act as buoys. As the unsuspecting fish comes to the surface to feed, the hooks

are plunged and firmly embedded in its open mouth. The agitated and terrified fish then dives into the depths of the oceans carrying the hook, line and the barrels with it. The line is let out as the fish dives and the boat follows the fish as it swims desperately to try and get the hook out of its mouth. This could go on for hours, till finally exhausted and because of the buoys attached to it, it rises to the surface. It is then lashed to the fishing boats with strong ropes and dragged into the shallow waters at the shore. There, while the fish is still alive, it is cut open and its liver removed. Thereafter its fins, meat, skin and cartilage is removed. Preliminary studies revealed that fishermen were killing hundreds of sharks every season.

5. Today, poaching of this fish is illegal as it is on Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, thus according it the highest protection. Recent studies have revealed that whale sharks migrate hundreds and even thousands of kilometers . A satellite tagged animal travelled 22,400 kilometers in 40 months. It is now believed that they undertake huge migrations, breeding in the Indian ocean and then moving south around Cape Horn into the Atlantic and Caribbean waters.

6. What can be the answer to the loss of livelihood of the fishermen who hunt the whale shark?

Whale sharks are generally not easy to spot because they are deep-sea creatures and only come to the surface to feed. The fisherman, who hunt these whale sharks are expert spotters and can easily spot the whale shark where others may not be able to. This skill can be used effectively in the whale shark tourism industry. Whale shark watching and diving with the whale sharks could be promoted and the fishermen employed for this purpose. This would not only probably prove to be a more lucrative employment option but would also help develop a sense of pride for the whale shark among the fishing community and the general public at large.

7. Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) has launched a campaign to spread awareness about this magnificent fish in an effort to conserve the species. Join hands with WTI to save the whale shark by spreading awareness about this gentle giant, inculcating a sense of pride in this fish and building support for its conservation. If you're a travel and tour operator, you could create eco-tourism packages for whale shark watching. Even if you're not, next time you visit the Gujarat coast, ask around for a fisherman guide who can take you whale shark watching! Express the demand and a new avenue of eco-tourism will open up!

On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the questions as briefly as possible.

- a) What example does the writer give to show the immense strength of the shark? 1
- b) Why do people hunt sharks? 2
- c) The whale shark is brutally murdered. How? 2
- d) What is being done to preserve the species? 1
- e) How can one assist the Wildlife Trust of India? 2

8.2 Pick out the words/phrases from the passage which mean the same as:

- a) amazingly (para 1)
- b) meetings; coming across (para 2)
- c) implanted (para 4)
- d) the tough white flexible tissue attached to the bones of animals (para 4)

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

1. Abraham Lincoln changed the face of the U.S. forever. As the 16th President of the U.S. he came to office at a time when the country was torn in two, socially, economically and politically. The rich southern states with their cotton plantations depended on slavery to push their economy, while the Northern states vehemently opposed it. Civil War broke out, and under Lincoln's presidency, the Northern and Southern states became united under one flag.
2. Abe Lincoln was a towering personality, though unimpressive in looks. He was a man tired in body and spirit, but he stood tall and strong to his Union as the figurehead of the War of liberation: a man of high principles and deep faith. A leader who had declared to the slaves, 'I am but God's humble instrument, but you may rest assured that, as long as I live, no one shall put a shackle to your limbs, and you shall have all the rights which God has given to every other free citizen of this republic.' He spoke these prophetic words barely 12 days before his death.
3. April 14, 1865 - the President was to die that day to pay for his role as champion of human rights.
4. Lincoln's dream of freedom and democracy was not shared by many. One such was young Booth, a 26-year-old Southerner, a stage actor, who hated Lincoln. Although he did not fight in the war, he decided to contribute to the cause by kidnapping the president with a view to bargaining for the exchange of prisoners between North and South. But when his repeated kidnap attempts failed, he decided to kill the President instead.
5. The First Lady, Mary Lincoln, was fond of going to the theatre for entertainment. On that fateful day, she asked the President to book tickets at the Ford Theatre for the evening showing of 'Our American Cousin'.
6. The events leading up to the first shooting of a President of America were a series of security lapses unthinkable in today's world. In the morning, Booth could enter the State Box at the Theater and plan his moves carefully, drilling a hole in the box entry door and jamming shut a connecting door to the dress circle.
7. At exactly 10 p.m., when the play was in full swing, Booth entered the box, shot the President in the head and escaped.
8. Abe Lincoln was carried bleeding profusely to a tailor's house across the street where doctors and family watched over him in an eight-hour deathwatch. The end came at 7:22 a.m.
9. In the city of Washington, bells began to toll. They tolled not just for the President of U.S., but for a great man who had fallen, and for his dreams of freedom, dignity and equality for all men.
  - a. On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make note on it in points only, using headings and sub-headings. Also use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary (minimum 4) Supply a suitable title to it. 5
  - b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. 3

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

1. Tsunami is a Japanese word with the English translation, 'harbor wave.' Represented by two characters, the top character, 'tsu,' means harbor while the bottom character, 'nami,' means 'wave'. In the past, tsunamis were sometimes referred to as 'tidal waves' by the general public and as 'seismic sea waves' by the scientific community. The term 'tidal wave' is a misnomer although a tsunami's impact upon a coastline is dependent upon the tidal level at the time tsunami strikes, tsunamis are unrelated to the tides. Tides result

from the imbalance of extraterrestrial, gravitational influences of the moon, sun, and planets. The term 'seismic S wave' is also misleading. 'Seismic' implies an earthquake-related generation mechanism, but tsunami can also be caused by a nonseismic event, such as a landslide or meteorite impact.

2. Tsunamis are unlike wind-generated waves, which many of us may have observed on a local beach: or at a coastal beach, in that they are characterized as shallow-water waves, with long periods and wavelengths. The wind-generated swell one sees at a California beach, for example, spawned by a storm out in the Pacific and rhythmically rolling in, one wave after another, might have a period of about 10 seconds and a wave length of 150 m. A tsunami, on the other hand, can have a wavelength in excess of 100 km and period on the order of one hour.
3. As a result of their long wavelengths, tsunamis behave as shallow-water waves. A wave becomes a shallow-water wave when the ratio between the water depth and its wavelength gets very small. Because the rate at which a wave loses its energy is inversely related to its wavelength, tsunamis not only propagate at high speeds, they can also travel great transoceanic distances with limited energy losses.
4. As a tsunami leaves the deep water of the open ocean and travels into the shallower water near the coast, it transforms. The tsunami's energy flux, which is dependent on both its wave speed and wave height, remains nearly constant. Consequently, as the tsunami's speed diminishes as it travels into shallower water, its height grows. Because of this shoaling effect, a tsunami, imperceptible at sea, may grow to be several meters or more in height near the coast. When it finally reaches the coast, a tsunami may appear as a rapidly rising or falling tide, a series of breaking waves, or even a bore.
5. As a tsunami approaches the shore, it begins to slow and grow in height. Just like other water waves, tsunamis begin to lose energy as they rush on shore—part of the wave energy is reflected offshore while the shoreward-propagating wave energy is dissipated through bottom friction and turbulence. Despite these losses, tsunamis still reach the coast with tremendous amounts of energy. Tsunamis have great erosional potential, stripping beaches of sand that may have taken years to accumulate and undermining trees and other coastal vegetation. Capable of inundating, or flooding, hundreds of meters inland past the typical high-water level, the fast-moving water associated with the inundating tsunami can crush homes and other coastal structures. Tsunamis may reach a maximum vertical height onshore above sea level often called a runup height, of 10, 20, and even 30 meters.

a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it in points only, using headings and sub-headings. Also recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary (minimum 4) Supply a suitable title to the passage. 5

b) Write an abstract of the above passage in about 80 words. 3

### 11. Read the following passage carefully.

1. Psychoanalysis is based on the observation that individuals are often unaware of many of the factors that determine their emotions and behaviour. These unconscious factors may create unhappiness, sometimes in the form of recognizable symptoms and at other times as troubling personality traits, difficulties in work or in love relationships, or disturbances in mood and self-esteem. Because these forces are unconscious, the advice of friends and family, the reading of self-help books, or even the most determined efforts of will, often fail to provide relief.
2. Psychoanalytic treatment demonstrates how these unconscious factors affect current relationships and patterns of behaviour, traces them back to their historical origins, shows how they have changed and developed over time, and helps the individual to deal better with the realities of adult life.
3. During the course of psychoanalysis the patient becomes aware of the underlying sources of his or her difficulties not simply intellectually, but emotionally - by re-experiencing them with the analyst. Typically,

the patient comes four or five times a week, lies on a couch, and attempts to say everything that comes to mind. As the patient speaks, hints of the unconscious sources of current difficulties gradually begin to appear - in certain repetitive patterns of behaviour, in the subjects which the patient finds hard to talk about, in the ways the patient relates to the analyst.

4. The analyst helps elucidate these for the patient, who refines, corrects, rejects, and adds further thoughts and feelings. During the period that analysis takes place, the patient wrestles with these insights, going over them again and again with the analyst and experiencing them in daily life, in fantasies, and in dreams. Patient and analyst join in efforts not only to modify crippling life patterns and remove incapacitating symptoms, but also to expand the freedom to work and to love. Eventually the patient's life - his or her behaviour, relationships, sense of self-changes in deep and abiding ways.
5. Although psychoanalysis began as a tool for ameliorating emotional suffering, it is not only a therapy. It is, in addition, a method for learning about the mind, and also a theory, a way of understanding the processes of normal everyday mental functioning and the stages of normal development from infancy to old age. Furthermore, since psychoanalysis seeks to explain how the human mind works, it contributes an insight into whatever the human mind produces. In doing so, it has had a profound influence on many aspects of twentieth century culture.
6. Through its examination of the complex relationship between body and mind, psychoanalysis furthers our understanding of the role of emotions in health as well as in medical illness.
7. In addition, psychoanalytic knowledge is the basis of all other dynamic approaches to therapy. Whatever the modifications, the insights of psychoanalysis form the underpinnings of much of the psychotherapy employed in general psychiatric practice, in child psychiatry, and in most other individual, family, and group therapies.
8. Sigmund Freud was the first psychoanalyst. Many of his insights into the human mind, which seemed so revolutionary at the turn of the century, are now widely accepted by most schools of psychological thought. Although others before and during his time had begun to recognize the role of unconscious mental activity, Freud was the pre-eminent pioneer in understanding its importance. Through his extensive work with patients and normal human beings he showed that factors which influence thought and action exist outside of awareness, that unconscious conflict plays a part in determining both normal and abnormal behaviour, and that the past shapes the present. Although his ideas met with antagonism and resistance, Freud showed us that, while the dark and blind forces in human nature sometimes seem overwhelming, psychological understanding, by enlarging the realm of reason and responsibility, can make a substantial difference to troubled individuals and even to civilization as a whole.
9. Because analysis is a highly individualized treatment, people who wish to know if they would benefit from it should seek consultation with an experienced psychoanalyst. Still, some generalizations can be made. The person best able to undergo psychoanalysis is someone who, no matter how incapacitated at the time, is basically, or potentially, a sturdy individual. This person may have already achieved important satisfactions - with friends, in marriage, in work, or through special interests and hobbies - but is nonetheless significantly impaired by long-standing symptoms: depression or anxiety, sexual incapacities, or physical symptoms without any demonstrable underlying physical cause. One person may be plagued by private rituals or compulsions or repetitive thoughts of which no one else is aware. Another may live a constricted life of isolation and loneliness, incapable of feeling close to anyone. A victim of childhood abuse might suffer from an inability to trust others. Some people come to analysis because of repeated failures in work or in love, brought about not by chance but by self-destructive patterns of behaviour. Others need analysis because the way they are - their character - substantially limits their choices and their pleasures. And still others seek analysis definitively to resolve psychological problems that were only temporarily or partially resolved by other approaches.

11.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage answer the following questions as briefly as possible.

- a) Why is psychoanalysis an important science? 1
- b) How does it improve the life of a common man? 2
- c) How does a psychoanalyst help a person deal with his problems? 1
- d) How does the analyst help the patient? 1
- e) Why did Freud's ideas meet with antagonism? 1
- f) What kind of people generally need psychoanalysis? Give two examples. 2

11.2 Pick out the words/phrases from the passage which mean the same as: 4

- a) feelings and thoughts that you do not know about, and that influence the way you behave (para 1)
- b) explains or makes clear (para 4)
- c) reducing the impact of (para 5)
- d) a field of activity or interest (para 8)

**12 Read the following passage carefully:**

1. I stopped to let the car cool off and to study the map. I had expected to be near my objective by now, but everything still seemed alien to me. I was only five when my father had taken me abroad, and that was eighteen years ago. When my mother had died after a tragic accident, he did not quickly recover from the shock and loneliness. Everything around him was full of her presence, continually reopening the wound. So he decided to emigrate. In the new country he became absorbed in making a new life for the two of us, so that he gradually ceased to grieve. He did not marry again and I was brought up without a woman's care; but I lacked for nothing, for he was both father and mother to me. He always meant to go back one day, but not to stay. His roots and mine had become too firmly embedded in the new land. But he wanted to see the old folk again and to visit my mother's grave. He became mortally ill a few months before we had planned to go and when he knew that he was dying, he made me promise to go on my own.
2. I hired a car the day after landing and bought a comprehensive book of maps, which I found most helpful on the cross-country journey, but which I did not think I should need on the last stage. It was not that I actually remembered anything at all. But my father had described over and over again what we should see at every milestone, after leaving the nearest town, so that I was positive I should recognize it as familiar territory. Well, I had been wrong, for I was now lost.
3. I looked at the map and then at the speedometer. I had come 10 miles since leaving the town and at this point, according to my father, I should be looking at farms and cottages in a valley, with the spire of the church of our village showing in the far distance. I could see no valley, no farms, no cottages and no church spire, only a lake. I decided that I must have taken a wrong turning and had frequent glances at the map. I landed up at the same corner. The curious thing was that the lake was not marked on the map. I felt as if I had stumbled into a nightmare country, as you sometimes do in dreams. And, as in a nightmare, there was nobody in sight to help me. Fortunately for me, as I was wondering what to do next, there appeared on the horizon a man on horseback, riding in my direction. I waited till he came near, then I asked him the way to our old village. He said there was now no village. I thought he must have misunderstood me, so I



repeated its name. This time he pointed to the lake. The village no longer existed because it had been submerged, and all the valley too. The lake was not a natural one but a man-made reservoir.

12.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions as briefly as possible.

- a) Why did the author's father emigrate? 1
- b) Why did the author not feel the absence of his mother after her death? 1
- c) Why did the author's father want to go back to his old village? 1
- d) Why had the author come back to the land of his birth? 2
- e) What made the author think that he would not need a map for the last part of his journey?
- f) Why could the author not locate his old village? 2

12.2 Pick out the words/phrases from the passage which mean the same as: 4

- a) frightening or unpleasant dream (paragraph 3)
- b) an instrument in a-vehicle that shows the speed of the vehicle (paragraph 3)
- c) to go under the surface of water (paragraph 3)
- d) to fall or almost fall (para 3)

**13. Read the passage given below and then answer the questions which follow.**

1. More and more as I near the end of my career as a heart surgeon, my thoughts have turned to the consideration of why people should suffer. Suffering seems so cruelly prevalent in the world today. My gloomy thoughts probably stem from an accident I had a few years ago. One minute I was crossing the street with my wife after a lovely meal together, and the next minute a car had hit me and knocked me into my wife. She was thrown into the other lane and struck by a car coming from the opposite direction.
2. During the next few days in the hospital I experienced not only agony but also fear and anger. I could not understand why my wife and I had to suffer. I had eleven broken ribs and a perforated lung. My wife had a badly fractured shoulder. Over and over I asked myself, why should this happen to us? I had work to do after all; there were patients waiting for me to operate upon them. My wife had a young baby who needed her care.
3. My father, had he still been alive, would have said, 'My son, it's God's will. That's the way God tests you. Suffering ennobles you - makes you a better person.'
4. But as a doctor, I see nothing noble in a patient's thrashing around in a sweat-soaked bed, mind clouded in agony. Nor can I see any nobility in the crying of a lonely child in a ward at night.
5. As a doctor, I have always found the suffering of children particularly heart breaking-especially because of their total trust in doctors and nurses. They believe you are going to help them. If you can't they accept their fate. They go through mutilating surgery, and afterwards they don't complain.
6. One morning I witnessed what I call the Grand Prix of Cape Town's Red Cross Children' Hospital. It

opened my eyes to the fact that I was missing something in all my thinking about suffering - something basic that was full of solace for me.

7. What happened there that morning was that a nurse had left a breakfast trolley unattended. And very soon the trolley was commandeered by an intrepid crew of two - a driver and a mechanic. The mechanic provided motor power by galloping along behind the trolley with his head down while the driver seated on the lower deck, held on with one hand and steered by scrapping his foot on the floor. The choice of roles was easy. because the mechanic was totally blind and the driver had only one arm.
8. They put on quite a show that day. Judging by the laughter and the shouts of encouragement from the rest of the patients, it was much better entertainment than anything anyone puts on at the Indianapolis 500 car race. There was a grand finale of scattered plates and silverware before the nurse and ward sister caught up with them and scolded them and put them back to bed.
9. Let me tell you about these two. The mechanic was all of seven years old. One night when his mother and father were drunk, his mother threw a lantern at his father, missed and the lantern broke over the child's head and shoulders. He suffered severe third degree burns on the upper part of his body and lost both his eyes. At the time of the Grand Prix, he was a walking horror with a disfigured face and a long flap of skin hanging from the side of his neck to his body. As the wound healed around his neck, his lower jaw became gripped in a mass of fibrous tissue. The only way this little boy could open his mouth was to raise his head. When I stopped by to see him after the race, he said, 'You know, we won'. And he was laughing.
10. The driver of the trolley I knew better. A few years earlier I had successfully closed a hole in his heart. He had returned to the hospital because he had a malignant tumour of the bone. A few days before the race, his shoulder and arm were amputated. There was little hope of his recovering. After the Grand Prix he proudly informed me that the race was a success. The only problem was that the trolley's wheels were not properly oiled, but he was a good driver and he had full confidence in his mechanic.
11. Suddenly I realized that these two children had given me a profound lesson in getting on with the business of living. Because the business of living is joy in the real sense of the word, not just something for pleasure, amusement, recreation. The business of living is the celebration of being alive.

13.1 On the basis of your reading the passage answer the questions given below:

- a) What was Dr. Bernard's reaction to the suffering caused by the accident? 1
- b) What is the attitude of children towards doctors and nurses? 1
- c) What incident does Dr. Bernard refer to as the Grand Prix of Capetown's Children's Hospital? 1
- d) What made the boys decide on the roles? 1
- e) Of the two boys who was more seriously ill? Why? 1
- f) What lesson did Dr. Bernard learn from the boys? 1
- g) Do you think the incident of the trolley race happened before or after Dr. Bernard's accident?

Give a reason for your answer. 2

13.2 Find words or phrases from the passage that mean the opposite of: 4

a) rare (para 1)

b) ecstasy (para 2)

c) reject (para 5)

d) deep, intense (para 11)

**14. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.**

1. The other day we heard someone smilingly refer to poets as dreamers. Now it is accurate to refer to poets as dreamers but it is not discerning to infer as this person did, that the dreams of poets are just as practical as people who build bridges or look into microscopes are just as close to reality and truth. Where they differ from the logician and the scientist are that they are abreast of their time. We must not be superficial that we fail to discern the practicableness of dreams. Dreams are the sunrise streamers heralding a new day of scientific progress, another forward surge. Every forward step man takes in any field of life is first taken along the dreamy paths of imagination. Robert Fulton did not discover his steamboat with full steam up, straining at a hawser at some Hudson River dock; first he dreamed the steamboat and then scientific wisdom converted a picture in the mind into a reality of steel and wood.
2. The automobile was not dug out of the ground like a nugget of gold; first men dreamed the automobile and afterwards, the practical minded engineers caught up with what had been created by winging fantasy. He who looks deep I. - and with a seeing eye into the poetry of yesterday finds there all the cold scientific magic of today and much we shall not enjoy until some tomorrow. If the poet does not dream so clearly that blue-print of this vision can immediately be drawn and the practical conversions immediately effected. he must not for that reason be smiled upon as merely the mental host for a sort of harmless madness. For the poet, like the engineer, is a specialist. His being tuned to the life of tomorrow cannot be tuned simultaneously to the life of today. To the scientist, he says, 'Here, I give you a flash of the future'. The wise scientist thanks him and takes that flash of the future and makes it over into a fibre of today.

a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary. 5

b) Write a summary of the above passage in 80 words, also suggest a suitable title. 3

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

1. Two of the most dangerous storms which afflict America are hurricanes and tornadoes. They are very much feared by anyone who may live in the path of their destruction and cause millions of dollars Worth of damage to life and property every year.
2. Hurricanes which usually develop between July and October are similar to cyclones and originate over the waters in the Caribbean Sea. They move upwards hitting the mainland of America somewhere in the Gulf of Mexico or the Atlantic Ocean. Once they hit land they carry tremendous power with driving rain and wind. These winds can attain speeds of over 75 mph. And cover an area of over 500 miles in diameter. At the center of the storm there is an 'eye' with relatively fair weather and warm, dry air aloft. The diameter of the eye is usually about 32 kilometers. When the eye passes the relief is only temporary but soon the wind and rain will suddenly reappear from the opposite direction. Every year homes are destroyed by their fury and often lives are lost. Most people who live near the coast are forced to evacuate their homes and to move to safer areas until the storm passes. Floods caused

along the coasts by both the heavy rain and a storm tide that is considerably above normal water level. The high winds, coastal and torrential rains associated with a hurricane cause enormous flooding damage.

3. People living in the wake of a storm are given ample warning to protect their homes. Flashlights or candles are prepared in case of electric power failures and plenty of fresh water should be saved as precautions against the pollution of water supplies by flooding. If one should travel inland across the Great Plains and the prairie states of America, one will most likely not encounter a hurricane, but there is another kind of storm in the Midwest which is equally feared. It is called a tornado. Tornadoes are violent low pressured storms with an intense updraft near their center which is capable of lifting quite heavy objects from the ground. A tornado, therefore, is a dark, funnel-shaped cloud containing violently rotating air. It can pick up trees and cars right into the air and even uplift heavier objects such as homes and railway cars. Like a vacuum cleaner across a rug, it sucks up into the air anything which may lie in its path. These storms occur most often during the summer month and are noticeable by their strong wind and lack of rain. The sky turns black as dust is sucked up into the air. Tornadoes travel normally at around 60 kilometers per hour and the winds can reach 800 kilometres per hours in the most violent storms. Tornadoes are most frequent in the United States east of the Rocky Mountains and especially in the central plains area of the Mississippi basin where about 150 occur each year. Tornadoes may also strike the southern states in winter and have even been known to develop in the northeast.

4: Both hurricanes and tornadoes cause millions of dollars worth of damage each year. Today they can be predicted more easily than in the past, but they cannot be stopped or ignored. When they come they must be endured with the hope that one survives their fury and wrath.

- a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it in points only, using headings and sub-headings. Also use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary (minimum 4). Supply a suitable title to the passage. 5
- b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. 3

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

It may seem amazing, but in this age of info-technology, spiritualism and alternative healing are peaking as well. On the one hand man claims to follow to the dictates of nothing but rationality and logic, while on the other he turns faith, a belief in something supernatural. Reiki is one such area, which is viewed sceptically by many, yet the fact remains that more and more people are turning to it.

A Buddhist-Japanese technique of healing , Reiki comes from two Japanese words: 'Rei' meaning universal life force and 'Ki' that denotes energy. Hence simply stated, Reiki means universal life force energy. It involves natural healing through touch at the beginner's level (Reiki I) or visualization and symbols, at the advanced channel of Reiki. Channelisation or attunement refers to the alignment of the 'chakaras' or energy levels within the body, done by a qualified Reiki teacher. From common cold and fever to wound and cancer, relationship problems to mental and emotional blocks and trauma, Reiki deals with all of them effectively.

Says Reiki master, orthopedic surgeon and specialist in arthroscopy, Dr Rashid S. Mehta, 'A man of science, I had taken on Reiki as a research project. It was difficult for me to believe that a guy was going to put his hand on a knee and fix it in two days - just like that. While I had swotted over dead bodies and then live ones, missed out on dates because I was studying, worked hard to learn to use the arthroscope in the knee joint and repair a cartilage. I found this difficult to accept, if not challenging and ridiculous. It was an insult to my profession! So I went for a Reiki class full of scepticism and questions.' And it was then after the sessions that he came to accept Reiki as an optimising factor, a power that brings harmony to the body. He accepts Reiki as something that has an energizing effect. It helped his wife's migraine attack and with other such 'mini miracles' as he calls them.

Some practitioners base the concept on yogic explanations, others on a combination of the scientific concept and 'chakras' or energy centres. According to the yogic theory there is a life force that moves within our physical body, through the chakras, nourishing our organs and cells. The energy field also encircles us in the form of an aura. When this flow is disrupted by the negative thought processes and feelings, the organs begin to malfunction. Reiki flows through the affected areas. It clears and heals the energy pathways by increasing the vibratory level of the energy field in and around the physical body. Thus, replenished by positive energy, life force flows through the natural healthy way once again.

Dr. Mehta explains the concept of having a continuous life force within us. It is this force which keeps one going. It is what we Reiki people call 'universal life force energy' and it is present in everything. Einstein proved long ago that there was no such thing as dead matter and live matter. Everything is energy vibrating at different frequencies. So if you could increase the level of that energy, you could, theoretically make the body last for ever. The chakras are near the endocrine centres. They are the metabolic centres of the body or the vortices of rotating energy forces within the body. They operate at different-frequencies and when they drop because of negative energies, they manifest in the form of diseases in the body. The objective of Reiki is to energize the body so that it is in tune with its surroundings.

a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it in points only, using headings and sub-headings. Also use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary (minimum 4). Supply

a suitable title to the passage. 5

b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. 3

### **17. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.**

'To be able to concentrate for a considerable time is essential to difficult achievement,' wrote Bertrand Russell. Yet, the inability to focus our thoughts is a serious, disconcerting problem, for many of us. William James called it the quality that denoted a genius. Sir Isaac Newton often forgot to eat when trying to solve a problem. The magical faculty is concentration and the irony is the fact that when we are concentrating, we are oblivious to the fact that we are. It is at this level that inhibitions melt away, pleasure in the task overrides our self consciousness. The Buddhists call it 'the loss of self. The Latin root means 'centred'.

Concentration is that fragile ability that disappears during an emotional turbulence. When we concentrate, there is an increase in the frequency or velocity of our brain waves. The pupils dilate, palms begin to sweat and the heart beat becomes more variable, slowing down in moments just prior to concentration speeding up once we actually begin to work. People say to concentrate we must relax, but the truth is that the earlier stages are characterized by a slight level of anxiety. This stage is triggered by the release of noradrenalin, a hormone secreted in much greater quantity at times of other emotional extremes, fear or rage.

There are various factors that affect concentration. An introvert may focus better than a gregarious personality. Moreover, concentration is at its peak between the ages of 12 and 40. The afternoon is a slow time for everyone. We work best in synchronization with our biorhythms from mid-morning to mid-afternoon. Concentration spans are not endless. Ideally we need a five minutes break after thirty minutes .of focused activity. A perfectly silent room with four blank walls may seem ideal, but the reverse is true. Variety and ambience do not contradict each other. For this reason, places of moderate activity are preferred. Noise level of more than 120 decibels is a hindrance and up to 90 has little effect. Some people find it difficult to concentrate after a heavy meal as the digestive processes take over and the level of fat and sugar in the blood stream rises inducing lethargy. Caffeine and nicotine aid concentration ,in those addicted to them. Belief in one's own ability increases concentration. Confidence helps one concentrate. An easy job leads to boredom while a too taxing one breeds anxiety. Balance is the key factor. The inability to concentrate is a classic symptom of depression. Seemingly unrelated factors such as loneliness, nervousness, perfectionism, and worrying can short circuit concentration.

Learned and wise people feel that the strength to concentrate lies within us. This means we can reach our goals, solve problems, read difficult books, if we put aside outside considerations, not by force, but by accepting what is happening in our minds.

a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it in points only, using headings and sub-headings. Also use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary (minimum 4). Supply

a suitable title to the passage. 5

b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. 3

18. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Variety, they say, is the spice of life. How boring if each day were like the other, and how distasteful if we had to eat the same dish every day. We hear the word often, but how often do we think about what biodiversity means to us? Biological diversity is the variety and variability of life on earth. It is manifest in close to thousand varieties of mangoes that thrive in India. It is present in the fourteen different kinds of wood we see (depressingly) inlaid to make a wall painting. And if we extend our minds a little more, we should be able to see that it also means the vibrant colours that characterize Holi and Indian clothes, which come) or used to, till synthetics took over) from a variety of dye-producing plants. And of course, it also means the tiger and the rhino and the elephant, charismatic animals that evoke awe and excitement, and which are used as 'flagship' species or conservation programmes. Finally, it also includes the range of natural and human-influenced ecosystems that we live amidst: forests, lakes and rivers, coasts and seas, grasslands, agricultural fields and pastures, deserts, snow-bound peaks even urban areas with vestiges of vegetation and water bodies.

Perhaps the least obvious aspect of biodiversity is genetic. Variety in what constitutes the basic building blocks of all life is also the base of continuous evolution and we should not forget that we humans are a product of the same process, even if we sometimes in our technological bravado, think we are apart from nature. Diversity in genes also provides the basis for continued survival in the face of new or changing environments. When the number of lions or orangutans or a plant species decreases, these species lose their resilience to environmental changes, or to genetic decay, and eventually succumb. At another level, this fact comes home to us when we realize that vegetables are losing their distinctive tastes, having lost their natural variation and having been doctored to reach the biggest size possible or to attain the glossiest exterior. Their genetic diversity is quelled to serve the function of productivity, yield maximization, and to suit our increasingly one-dimensional view of what 'looks good'.

The word biodiversity is often heard in connection with how it is fast disappearing. The call has been sounded frequently, that if humanity is not careful we are going to lose the fibre of the planet that makes life possible. Some of us might be familiar with the simile about the ship that is losing one nut at a time ..... each step does not seem to be a significant loss in itself, but lose enough of them and the ship is surely going to sink. We are slowly and surely losing the species and genes that keep the earth 'afloat'. In time, if we are not able to halt this decline, this ship will sink. There are already signs of this manifested by a series of global changes in climate, hydrological pattern and other ecological functions that we all survive on, and by the collapse of global fisheries, the desertification often of millions of hectares of once productive land, the loss of soil nutrition and so on. Not all these are caused by biodiversity loss, but such losses are a significant factor in triggering or aggravating these phenomena.

a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it in points only, using headings

and sub-headings. Also use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary. Supply a suitable

title to the passage. 5

b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. 3

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

1. Nuclear weapons were first developed in the United States during the Second World War, to be used against Germany. However, by the time the first bombs were ready for use, the war with Germany had ended and, as a result, the decision was made to use the weapons against Japan instead. Hiroshima and Nagasaki have suffered the consequences of this decision to the present day.

2: The real reasons why bombs were dropped on two heavily populated cities are not altogether clear. A number of people in 1944 and early 1945 argued that the use of nuclear weapons would be unnecessary, since American Intelligence was aware that some of the most powerful and influential people in Japan had already realized that the war was lost, and wanted to negotiate a Japanese surrender. It was also argued that, since Japan has few natural resources, a blockade by the American navy would force it to surrender within a few weeks, and the use of nuclear weapons would thus prove unnecessary. If a demonstration of force was required to end the war, a bomb could be dropped over an unpopulated area like a desert, in front of Japanese observers, or over an area of low population inside Japan, such as a forest. Opting for this course of action might minimize the loss of further lives on all sides, while the power of nuclear weapons would still be adequately demonstrated.

3. All of these arguments were rejected, however, and the general consensus was that the quickest way to end the fighting would be to use nuclear weapons against centres of population inside Japan. In fact, two of the more likely reasons why this decision was reached seem quite shocking to us now.

4. Since the beginning of the Second World War both Germany and Japan had adopted a policy of genocide (i.e. killing as many people as possible, including civilians). Later on, even the US and Britain had used the strategy of fire bombing cities (Dresden and Tokyo, for example) in order to kill, injure and intimidate as many civilians as possible. Certainly, the general public in the West had become used to hearing about the deaths of large numbers of people, so the deaths of another few thousand Japanese, who were the enemy in any case, would not seem particularly unacceptable - a bit of 'justifiable' revenge for the Allies' own losses, perhaps. The second reason is not much easier to comprehend. Some of the leading scientists in the world had collaborated to develop nuclear weapons, and a lot of 'normal, intelligent people' wanted to see nuclear weapons used; they wanted to see just how destructive this new invention could be. It no doubt turned out to be even more 'effective' than they had imagined.

a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it in points only, using headings and sub-headings. Also use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary (minimum 4). Supply a suitable title to the passage. 5

b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. 3

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

1. A 37 years old woman in South Korea, paralyzed 20 years ago, is now walking again. The miracle recovery was made possible after stem cells harvested from umbilical cord blood were introduced into her injured spine, initiating a process of nerve cell regeneration and healing. This is wonderful news especially for immobile spinal injury victims who've lost hope of ever regaining their motor abilities. Further, scientists say cord blood-generated multi potent stem cells can be safely used in treatment of other debilitating diseases like Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and even diabetes. Unlike stem cells taken from donor adult bone marrow, cord blood cells have a lower risk rejection on grounds of genotype mismatch, as they are more flexible. In fact, there is no ethical dilemma in using cord blood stem cells as the blood is drawn from the discarded umbilical cord and placenta, after child birth. Scientists claim that extracting stem cells in this manner poses absolutely no danger either to the life or well being of the infant and the mother.

2. Cord blood stem cells, then could be the answer to resolving the pesky ethical questions worrying the patients and medical, legal and governing communities worldwide with regard to researching and/or availing of the cutting-edge stem cell technology. The other sources of stem cells blastocysts or pre-embryo and embryos (besides adult marrow) would entail destroying the embryo after extracting the stem cells. Hence the ongoing debate among the pro-choice and pro-life camps over the use of this technology. So far, over a hundred cord blood banks have reportedly yielded encouraging results. India's first cord blood bank- a joint venture with a US firm - is all set to open to the public in Chennai this month; anyone can get their baby's cord blood cryo-frozen for 21 years for a payment of Rs 59000. This way, an individual who needs treatment can access his own cord blood for stem cells, and be assured of a compatible perfect match. With Indian biotech companies like Reliance Life Sciences already investing heavily in stem cell lines and cord blood banking, there is no doubt that this will be the next sunrise biotech area. In fact, with medical termination of pregnancies legal and fertility centres holding stocks of unutilized blastocysts/ embryos that will ultimately be destroyed, India could become the world's largest supplier of life saving therapeutic stem cells.

a. On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it in points only, using headings and sub-headings. Also use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary. Supply a suitable title to the passage. 5

b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. 3

### **21. Read the following passage carefully.**

1. Much before medical science discovered it, Readers Digest came out with the prescription-Laughter is the Best Medicine. Newspapers and magazines which regularly run humour columns are, therefore, doing their bit to keep the readers in good health. Reading light articles, whether they be satirical, comical or just humorous, relieves the tedium of work- a-day world. Some pieces may even tickle one's grey matter.

2. It is said that if you laugh for ten minutes you will be in a better position to put up with pain for two hours. According to US researchers, laughter tones up the system and is a good antidote to stress. Facial laugh muscles instruct the brain to 'feel good' regardless of how you feel.

3. According to a French doctor, laughter deepens breathing, improves blood circulation, speeds up the process of tissue healing and stabilizes many body functions. In short, it acts as a powerful drug with no side effects. Researchers state that laughter stimulates production of beta -endorphins, natural pain killers in the body and improve digestion. Those who laugh are less prone to digestive disorders and ulcers.

4. Some people in France have made it a career. You can hire a 'Jovialist' who cracks jokes and laughs and promises to make you dissolve your worries in helpless laughter.

5. A word of caution. Although laughing is a good exercise for toning up the facial muscles, laughing at others' expense, particularly at their disabilities is in bad taste and is to be avoided. Secondly, laughing with food in the mouth is dangerous as the foodstuff can get into the wind pipe and may choke the digestive system.

6. Eating, anyway, is a serious business not to be trifled with by any jocular diversion. Laughter comes best when it is free of encumbrances, whether it is constricting food or the need to humour the boss.

a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it in points only, using headings and sub-headings. Also use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary (minimum 4). Supply a suitable title to the passage. 5



b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. 3

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

1. Homeopathy has come to be known, over the years, as a form of medical treatment that is without side effects.
2. In the eighteenth century, Dr Samuel Hahnemann, convinced that existing medical practices did more harm than good, began to look for an alternative that would be safe, gentle, and effective. He reasoned that instead of suppressing symptoms as allopathy does, one should seek to stimulate them and so encourage and assist the body's natural healing process.
3. Hahnemann had already discovered that a small dose of quinine in a healthy person produced the symptoms of malaria. A number of systematic experiments followed this discovery. Hahnemann then worked to establish the smallest effective dose as he realized that this was the best way to avoid side effects. In so doing he unexpectedly discovered one of the basic tenets of homeopathy that the more a remedy was diluted, the more effective it became. Thus, by trial and by prescience, Hahnemann finally arrived at his goal-an alternative form of medical treatment that was both effective and safe.
4. One of the principles of homeopathy is that a person's response to a disease varies according to his or her basic temperament. Thus, a homeopathy doctor will take into account the patient's temperament and responses to certain conditions before prescribing any medicine because it is the patient who is being treated and not the disease. Patients with the same ailment may often require different remedies.
5. Rapid results are often achieved in cases of an acute illness but where a patient's vitality is low, the treatment may be long term. In chronic illnesses, sufferers must be patient and give homeopathy time to take effect.
6. Homeopathy does not reject the great discoveries of modern science, only their commercial abuse. In many cases, homeopathy is complementary to the newer methods of modern medical practice.
7. In its present form homeopathy has stood the test of time.
8. Today it is highly developed in many countries and is accepted as a safe and effective form of medical treatment that stands in its own right.

a) Read the passage given above and make notes on it. Use recognizable abbreviations where necessary. 5

b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words.

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

1. Leadership does not exist without followership. A leader has to be accepted by the group, which the former is supposed to lead. To gain acceptability the leader should cause an emotive impact on the group members.
2. The character exhibited by leaders make them dear to their followers. A leader is one who effectively inspires employees to achieve worthwhile things. What character of the leader motivates the followers? It is not pomp and show, nor flattery or sanctioning more incentives. Pomp and show creates a sense of awe and the leader is defied rather than emulated. Flattery is unrealistic, and cannot serve as a long term motivational tool. A leader's style should be one that can be emulated by all irrespective of cadre, class, and calibre. Simplicity in one's day-to-day conduct is the only thing that can be adopted by all. When the

leader is simple, he is counted as one belonging to the group of which he is the leader. That's enough to motivate the people. Motivation is the innate quality that enables an individual or group to contribute unlimitedly with limited means. It is the proud prerogative of enlightened human beings.

3. A leader needs to assume the role of a guide; quintessential to fulfilling the role is knowledge and ability. Technical and administrative knowledge of the guide in balanced quantity and of the right kind are essential. The technical knowledge is too vast to be acquired by a leader. At best he is either 'Jack of all' or 'Master of few'. But he has to master the human relations aspect of administration in all detail. And when the leader is good at this, his guidance is sought and accepted, then he fulfills the role of a guide. The leader is a negotiator within and outside the organization.
  4. The leader shapes people and moulds character. To achieve this the leader should maintain equanimity.
  5. Equanimity is keeping oneself poised and balanced at all times. A leader is simply great, if he can mould his followers with this frame of mind. He does this by his own example.
- a) Read the passage given above and make notes on it. Use recognizable abbreviations where necessary. 5
  - b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. 3

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

1. The third great defect of our civilization is that it does not know what to do with its knowledge. Science has given us powers fit for the gods yet we use them like small children. For example, we do not know how to manage our machines. Machines were made to be man's servants. Yet he has grown so dependent on them that they are in a fair way to become his masters. Already most men spend most of their lives looking after and waiting upon machines. And the machines are very stem masters. They must be kept at the right temperatures. And if they do not get their meals when they expect them, they grow sulky and refuse to work or burst with rage and blow up and spread ruin and destruction all round them. So we have to wait upon them very attentively and do all that we can to keep them in a good temper. Already we find it difficult either to work or play without the machines, and a time may come when they will rule us altogether just as we rule the animals.
2. And this brings me to the point at which I asked, what do we do with all the time which the machines have saved for us and the new energy they have given us? On the whole, it must be admitted, we do very little. For the most part we use our time and energy to make more and better machines which will give us still more time and still more energy, and what are we to do with them? The answer I think is that we should try to become more civilized. For the machines themselves and the power which the machines have given us, are not civilization but aids to civilization. But you will remember that we agreed at the beginning that being civilized meant making and liking beautiful things, thinking freely and living rightly, and maintaining justice equally between man and man. Man has a better chance today to do these things than he ever had before; he has more time, more energy. less to fight against. If he will give his time and energy which his machines have won for him to making more beautiful things, to finding out more and . more about the Universe, to removing the causes of quarrels between nations, to discovering how to prevent poverty, then I think our civilization would undoubtedly be greater, as it would be more lasting than it has ever been.

- a) Read the passage given above and make notes on it. Use recognizable abbreviations where necessary. 5
- b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words.

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

1. Why don't I have a telephone? Not because I pretend to be wise or pose as unusual. There are two chief reasons: because I don't really like the telephone, and because I find I can still work . and play, eat, breathe,

and sleep without it Why don't I like the telephone? Because I think it is .. a pest and a time waster. It may create unnecessary suspense and anxiety, as when you wait for an expected call that doesn't come: or irritating delay. as when you keep ringing a number that is always engaged. As for speaking from a public telephone box, that seems to me really horrible. ,You would not use it unless you were in a hurry, and because you are in a hurry you will find other people waiting before you. When you do get into the box. you are half asphyxiated by state, unventilated air, flavoured with cheap face powder and chain-smoking; and by the time you have begun your conversation your back is chilled by the cold looks of somebody who is fidgeting to take your place.

2. If you have a telephone in your house, you will admit that it tends to ring when you least want it - when you are asleep, or in the middle of a meal or a conversation, or when your are just going out, or when you are in your bath. Are you strong-minded enough to ignore it, to say to yourself, 'Ab well, it will be the same in a hundred year's time'? You are not. You think there may be some important news or message for you. Have you never rushed dripping from the bath, or chewing from the table, or dazed from bed, only to be told that you are a wrong number? You were told the truth. In my opinion all telephone numbers are wrong numbers. If, of course, your telephone rings and you decide not to answer it, then, you will have to listen to an idiotic bell ringing and, ringing in what is supposed to be the privacy of your own home. You might as well buy a bicycle bell and ring it yourself.. .

3. If, like me, one is without a telephone, somebody is sure to say, 'Oh, but don't you find you have to write an awful lot of letters?' The answer to that is 'Yes, but I should have to write an awful lot of letters anyway.' This may bring the remark: 'Ab well, if you don't have a telephone, at least you must have a typewriter.' And the answer to this is 'No'.

4. 'What, no telephone and no typewriter! Do please explain why.' Well, I am a professional man of letters; when I was younger I thought a typewriter would be convenient. I even thought it was necessary, and that editors and publishers would expect anything sent to them to be typewritten. So I bought a typewriter and taught myself to type, and for some years I typed away busily. But I did not enjoy typing. I happen to enjoy the act of writing. I enjoy forming letters or words with a pen, and I could never enjoy tapping the keys of a typewriter. There again, there was a bell - only a little bell that rang at the end of each line - but still, a bell. And the fact is, I am to mechanical-minded, and the typewriter is a machine. I have never been really drawn to machines. I don't like oiling, cleaning, or mending them. I don't enjoy making them work. To control them gives me no sense of power - or not the kind of power that I found interesting. And machines do not like me. When I touch them they tend to break down, get jammed, catch fire, or blow up.

a) Read the passage given above and make notes on it. Use recognizable abbreviations where necessary. 5

b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. 3

## **26. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:**

1. How you can best improve your English depends on where you live and particularly on whether or not you live in an English speaking community. If you hear English spoken every day and mix freely with English speaking people, that is on the whole an advantage. On the other hand, it is often confusing to have the whole language poured over you at once. Ideally, a step-by-step course should accompany or lead up to this experience. It will also help a great deal if you can easily get the sort of English books in which you are interested.

2. To read a lot is essential. It is stupid not to venture outside the examination 'set books' or the textbooks you have chosen for intensive study. Read as many books in English as you can, not as a duty but for pleasure. Do not choose the most difficult books you find with the idea of listing and learning as many new words as possible: choose what is likely to interest you and be sure in advance that it is not too hard. You should not have to be constantly looking up new words in the dictionary, for that deadens interest and checks real learning. Look up a word here and there, but as a general policy try to push ahead, guessing

what words mean from the context. It is extensive and not intensive reading that normally helps you to get interested in extra reading and thereby improve your English. You should enjoy the feeling which extensive reading gives of having some command of the language. As you read you will become more and more familiar with words and sentence patterns you already know, understanding them better and better as you meet them in more and more contexts, some of which may differ only slightly from others.

3. Some people say that we cannot learn to speak a language better with the help of a book. To believe this is to believe that the spoken language and the written language are quite different things. This is not so. There is a very great deal in common between the two. In learning the patterns and vocabulary of the written form, we are learning, to a considerable extent, those of the spoken form too. We are, in fact, learning the language and not merely one form of the language.
- a) Read the passage given above and make notes on it. Use recognizable abbreviations where necessary. 5
  - b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. 3

## **SECTION B (WRITING)**

1. You are the Secretary, Environment Club School of your school. Write a notice for your school notice-board encouraging the members of your school for the inter-school Environment Protection Exhibition to be held in the next week.
2. You are secretary of the Red Cross Society, Faridabad. You plan to organize a Blood Donation Camp at Cambridge School. Draft a suitable poster for this purpose.
3. You have noticed many polythene bags full of litter lying alongside the road early in the morning. These litter bags cause pollution. You have already written to the concerned authorities but no action has been taken so far. Write a letter to the editor of leading newspaper telling him about the nuisance created by plastic packs full of litter. Sign your name as Parul/Prem, B-22, Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi.
4. You are Ankita / Ankur. You came across following advertisement in a national Daily. You consider yourself suitable for the post. Write an application in response to the advertisement along with your detailed resume.

Applications are invited for a physical education instructor in a reputed health club of Mumbai. The applicant must have 3 years of experience, appropriate qualifications, pleasant personality, with excellent communication abilities. Interested candidates may apply to Box No. 2563, Daily News, V.S. Marg, Mumbai within 10 days.

5. You came across the following advertisement in the Times of India. You consider yourself suitable and eligible for the post. Write an application in response to the advertisement.

"Applications are invited for the post of senior teacher in a reputed public school of New Delhi for teaching History to students of classes 11th and 12th. The candidate must have at least 10 years experience of teaching in a reputed school. Fluency in English is essential. Package will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Interested may apply to The Principal AKS International school, 23, 3rd street Indrapuram New Delhi within 10 days with detailed resume".

6. During the recent elections to local bodies in your state you were shocked to see the blatant use of money and muscle power. Write an article on the urgent need of electoral reforms. (Word limit: 200 words)

7. Renu Nakara is a student of St. Mary's Convent School, Dehradun. She reads a report on the miserable conditions of the children engaged as labourers in India. She is moved at the exploitation of children and wants to express her feeling through a speech on 'exploitation of child labour' which is to be delivered in the morning assembly of the school. Write her speech in not more than 200 words.
8. The English Department is organizing its Annual Inter-School Extempore. Write a letter to Mr. Sahil Choudhry, Chief Editor 'Times Daily', inviting him to be one of the judges for the event. You are Rita! Ramesh, President, English Club, Symphony High School, Kolkatta.
9. You are Aman/ Amrita Khanna, Principal, DAV School, N agapur. Use the input given below to write a letter of enquiry to the Chairmian, Delhi Bus Company asking for details regarding availability of buses for school transport. Number of buses - capacity - flexible timings - charges per km /child - security.
10. 'What people read is what people believe.' You are concerned about the ongoing controversy regarding media's role in sensationalizing news, moulding public opinion and moral policing. Write a letter to the editor emphasizing on media responsibility. (200 words)
11. According to you, the newspaper has a very important role in forming public opinion and raising awareness regarding issues of social and public concern. The common man believes that the information provided in the newspaper is authentic and reliable. You are Vijay Nijaya. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily expressing your views on the responsible role of newspapers.
12. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily highlighting the increasing stress in the lives of students in the present competitive world. Give a few suggestions on combating this evil.
13. You are Neena/Neeraj, Secretary of the Home Science Club of Pinnacle Senior School. You had placed an order for a consignment of articles of crockery. On receiving you find that some of them have been damaged and broken in transit. Write a letter to the Sales Manager 'Kitchen Plus Solutions' complaining about receipt of damaged goods. Request them to replace the damaged goods.
14. A serious note needs to be taken of certain incidents in some institutions where first year students were harassed in the name of ragging. Some freshers even committed suicide. Write a letter to the editor of the local daily expressing your views on the issue. Give suggestions on how to curb the menace. You are Ankit/ Anurima
15. You are Vishu / Veena a budding journalist for a local daily. Write an article on 'Play Time - the Vanishing Joy of Childhood' based on the input given below:  
 Playing - makes kids happier, fitter and smarter  
 Unstructured play - not high tech toys designed for academic enrichment  
 Benefits -Important for physical, social and emotional well-being of children; bonding with parents enhanced; spontaneous group play helps to build negotiation skills.
16. Star Academy, a foreign language institute has been set up in your neighborhood. The institute is in collaboration with Inlingua International. Draft a classified mentioning details about the various courses and languages being offered. The Institute also assures placement to diploma holders.
17. Teenagers today are getting hooked on to the latest gadgets. Write an article on 'The advantages of technology versus its adverse effects (200 words). 'You are Sharan/Shalini' Use the input given below:

Gadgets: mobiles, ipods, computers

Greater affluence: easy availability

Impact on health: sedentary lifestyle, obesity, eating habits; Impact on academic performance

Social Impact : absence of social interaction

Improved communication: global vision, easy connectivity, faster information exchange.

18. To commemorate the 150th year of the mutiny of 1857 your school is organizing a special programme. You are Suresh/Sita, head girl of Heritage School. Prepare a speech to be delivered on the occasion using the input given below.

Freedom struggle - sacrifice - maintaining and strengthening democracy - responsibility - challenges new vision - responsibility of nation building

19. A.K. International School is looking for a receptionist for the school. The Administrative officer decides to give an advertisement in the classified columns of the local newspaper giving necessary details. Draft the advertisement in not more than 50 words.

20. Suman has cleared the Pre-Medical Pre-Dental entrance examination. Her family is elated at Suman's achievement and they decide to have a get-together for all her friends. Draft an informal invitation for the get-together.

21. Some colleges conduct entrance test for admission for under-graduate courses like English (Hons.) Do you agree that the entrance test is the right method of selecting students? Present your article in favour or against the argument in about 150-200 words.

22. With the advent of computer games, numerous television channels, and video-games, children of today hardly go to play simple games like hide and seek, four corners, among others. Pen down your feelings on the joyful experience of playing such games in about 150-200 words.

23. The Literary Club of 'Captain School' is staging the play, 'Othello' in the school auditorium. You are Rosy / Rohan, Secretary of the Literary Club. Draft a poster giving details of the staging for display in and around the school premises .

24. Read the following information provided and 'Write a factual description of the place referred to. You are Reena / Rishabh, an executive working for a travel company. Do not use more than 80 words.

**GORGEOUS GOA!**

Population : 1.5 million

Area : 3702 square km

Main languages: Konkani, Marathi, English :

Main attractions ; Palm fringed beaches, dense coconut groves, Portuguese architecture, wildlife sanctuaries

Getting there : By air, road and rail.

25. Meena / Mukesh Patil read the given news item and decides to write a speech to be delivered during the English Day celebrations in her/his school. She /He decides to speak on the importance of learning English especially in today's world where the world has become a global village (150-200 words). The announcement is for the students of group no 7 participating to annual function. You are requested to reach the activity hall on the third floor right away. Teachers please allow.

# GRAMMAR SECTION C

**1. In the passage given below, there is an error in each line. Write the incorrect words the correction against the correct blank number. 2x 1 0**

- i) Our beliefs creates negative and positive loops in our body.
- ii) A negative belief makes negative loops. Suppose you are ask to speak
- iii) to the group of people. If you believe that you are not good at speaking
- iv) you will not be self-confident. As a result, when you stood up to speak,
- v) you will lack the power, you will assume that you are not speaking good.
- vi) That will have bad effect on your speech. You can cut a sorry figure and
- vii) end up as a flop show. And this will confirm on yourself that you are
- viii) not good at speaking in public. The positive belief work is the same way.
- ix) They make positive loops. So belief in yourself
- x) and generating only positive loops within you.

**2. Rearrange the following sentences sequentially to make complete sense 1x5**

- a) After the eggs have been added mix the flour at low speed until the batter is smooth
- b) next beat together butter brown sugar for 3-5 minutes
- c) First sift together flour, baking soda, spices and salt into a bowl.
- d) When the mixture is fluffy add the eggs one at a time.
- e) Finally bake in an oven and cool.

**3. You are Hilal/Heena and have just attended a talk by a doctor on how to tackle the heat during summer. Using the input given below construct a dialogue between the two of you. Make 5 sets of exchanges.**

ex.-  
Mini: Good Morning, Sir  
Doctor: Good morning, Mini

- causes heat stroke
- body unable to cope with excessive heat
- symptoms of heat exhaustion
- fatigue, nausea, cramps, headache, dizziness
- steps to avoid

- stay in shade, drink fluids to replace lost salt and rest.
- difference between heat stroke & heat exhaustion
- when left untreated, heat exhaustion can progress to heat stroke, a more serious condition that can be fatal
- guide to stay protected
- plenty of water, avoid caffeinated drinks.

**4. The following passage has 10 errors. Identify the errors in each line & write them along with the corrections as shown in the example. 5**

	<b>error</b>	<b>correction</b>
My head was bend low from the	bend	bent
impact for delivery, but I could		
see that the ball was deliver		
on line to the target. The batsman lean		
forward to push its away to the off side		
but the ball had move deceptively		
across the face of the bat. Clearly it have defected. Now come to tell-tall ecno		
of the snick. I struggle to stay		
upright on my follow through, anxiously watching the flight in the ball.		

**5. Lana T Phuntsok runs as orphanage in Tavang district of Arunachal Pradesh. Frame 10 questions that you would like to ask him regarding his work based on the items given in the box below. 5**

Inspiration, beginning, atmosphere of the orphanage, funding; inmates, care, visitors, support community, school attached, road ahead.

**6. Rearrange the following sentences to make complete sense. 5**

1. Only the eyes were saved, but the entire body permanently disfigured.
2. She could not speak till she was fine, she could only stammer.
3. The other children made fun of her and mimicked her.
4. At birth, she was fair & pretty.
5. But when she was two years old, she had an attack of small pox

**7. Rearrange the following words/phrases to make complete sense. 5**

1. opacity/of the eye/ cataract/ is the/ in the lens



2. the retinal / the normal lens/ allows / light to reach /
3. it becomes/ we are / to see/ when / clearly/ opaque/ unable
4. cataract surgery / medical advances/ very successful! modern/have made
5. techniques/ excellent vision / new/ is 97%/ can restore/ of all cases

**8. The gardener tells Dev/Devina about planting a sunflower. Use the information given below to construct a dialogue between the two. Make 5 sets of exchange. 5**

fill a small plant pot with compost - press a sunflower seed into it - water the plant daily and keep it in the sun.

**9. Amit/ Amita has to appear for an interview on 10 March for the post of teacher. She wants the directions to the address. Use the information given and construct a dialogue. 5**

Your residence - Vasant Vihar have to take the road on the right-will reach Kaytel placement-come to 'T point and then take a right - I know near Jaypee place-that's right Kaytee placement is right across.

**10. The following passage has 10 errors. Identify the errors in each line and write them along with the corrections as shown in the example. 5**

Summer internship were earlier confirmed with \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ to

only all disciplines are taken up

to reinforce that student learnt

in his regular curriculum. Colleges

now encourages students of arts,

humanities to take up smaller jobs

is fitting environment to motivating

them into learn more about their

subject for study. Sometimes the

experience must turn out

being literate too.

**11. The following passage has 10 errors. Identify the errors in each line and write them along with the corrections. 5**

The police have announce a reward of Rs.

one lakh for information about the

prime suspect in the triple murder case on a

couple and their eight year old child. The

suspect was about 40, and 1 m 54 cm tall.

He walks with a limp. As last seen

he is wearing a dark grey suit

with the red and white striped shirt.

Someone who has information about him

should immediately inform the near police station.

**12. Prepare 5 set of dialogues using the following input Bookseller - ask the customer if he needs help Customer - wants to buy a book ,**

- edition
- tell the edition
- paper back or hard bound
- paper back
- Indian edition or imported
- imported
- cost discount
- discount

**13. Prepare 5 sets of exchanges tiling clues from the following input.**

**Manger:-** any help - fill in forms - yes, passport size, proof of your identity and introduction a person who knows you and is an account holder is our bank anytime between 9 a.m. to 1 p.m . ----- Rs 100 with cheque book facility - most welcome.

**Client:-** open an account - what is the procedure? If photographs are required any other thing -please explain: can I come tomorrow? - minimum amount to deposit - coming tomorrow.

**14. Tina's mother has received a complaint about her poor handwriting. She decides to give her daughter some tips to acquire neat handwriting. Using the information given below construct a dialogue with 5 sets of exchange. One has been done for you.**

Complaint from teacher - poor handwriting - write neatly - be fair and neat - matter of habit sanle time, spacing - equal spaces -leave ample space between words punctuation marks - use carefully, capital and ordinary letters - height of capital letters - taller than tall letter like 'b' 'd' or 'h' - direction - can be straight or on a slant - all letters must follow same direction - avoid cuttings and overwriting.

ex: Mother: Tina, I have received a complaint from your teacher about poor hand-writing.

Tina - 0, Mom! She happened to glance at my rough work. 5

**15. . A nurse tells Shweta/Sushant about dressing a wound. Use the information given below to construct a dialogue between the two. Make 5 sets of exchanges. 5**

dress a wound - quite simple - clean the wound -let the affected part dry - sprinkle good antiseptic powder - take gauze dipped in antiseptic lotion - spread ointment on gauze - stetch the gauze over the wound cover

whole affected part - wrap bandage tightly tie extreme ends with a knot.

**16. The following passage has 10 errors. Identify the errors in each line & write them along with the corrections. 5**

Television have become as indispensable -----  
part of our daily life. The addiction -----  
has reach such an extent that a -----  
considerable part of our waking hours -----  
at home are spent on viewing our favourite -----  
serials. This has adversely effected our -----  
personal and social life. The television not only entertain people -----  
with a variety of programmes such as -----  
films, serials, songs, dances, etc. -----  
but it is also a medium for inform -----  
and activate masses. Informing people on -----  
the latest inventions and discoveries, television -----  
pave the way for an enlightened country. -----

17. You are the editor of the school magazine. You have been asked to collect information about the reading habits of the students of the middle school. You need to collect data about the types of books that students enjoy, the kind of books they possess & the magazines & the newspaper they read. You would also want to know if they visit book fairs & book shops. Frame a questionnaire of 10 questions to conduct the above. 5

**18. The following passage has 10 errors. Identify the errors in each line & write them along with the corrections 5**

The giraffe is the taller of all living animals -----  
but the scientists are unable to explaining -----  
how they got its long neck. A famous French -----  
zoologist, J.R de Lamarck had the theory -----  
that in one time, the giraffe's neck -----  
was much short than it is now. He -----  
thought the neck grew with its present length -----

because of a animals' habit of reaching -----  
 for the tender leaves in the upper branch of -----  
 trees. But, scientists is general doesn't -----  
 accept de Lanarck's Theory. -----

**19. Prepare a set of 5 dialogues which take place between a landlord and the tenant regarding the repairs of the house which are urgently required. 5**

**20. You are a press reporter for Education Times. You have been asked to interview the student who has topped the CBSE class XII. Prepare a questionnaire (10 questions) asking how he prepared for exams and what are his future plans. 5**

**21. Rearrange the following sentences sequentially to make complete sense. 5**

1. The king was moved not only by the gruesome Massacre in this war but also by the suffering of the people, both Hindus & Buddhists.
2. Ashoka, the son of Bindusara, was the greatest of the maurya rulers.
3. After his accession to the throne, Ashoka fought only one major war, the Kalinga war .
4. The Kalinga caused Ashoka great grief and remorse.
5. Millions of people were killed in this war, many perished and many more millions were taken prisoners.

22. You are host for a T. V. Show where you interview well known personalities from your country & abroad as well. Today you have been asked to interview a student of class X as to how he feels taking his first board. 5

(Fears, preparation, importance, pressure)

**23. The following passage has 10-errors. Identify the' errors in each line and write them along with the corrections. The first one has been done as an example: 5**

Planes are a forest way to carry food	a	the
they are especially useful in carry food	----	----
to people and animals that could not be reach	----	----
otherwise. Suppose there were a flood or a earthquake	----	----
and the people could not be reached with trains	----	----
or trucks when packages of food could be	----	----
dropped to save them of starvation. But air	----	----
transportation is usually the much expensive	----	----

way to carrying food. And

----- ----

so within a country most persisting foods

----- ----

that spoils easily are carried by trucks & trains

----- ----

**24. Rearrange the following sentences sequentially to make complete sense 5**

1. Ten centuries later, the sun, was suggested as the centre of the universe.
2. Man had a better way of looking at the vast expanse of space around him.
3. It was only in the sixth century B.C that the-idea of earth's being a sphere was first suggested.
4. Then came the invention of the wonderful telescope that actually 5aW much more than what the human eye could see or even imagine.
5. As more and more facts were gathered and knowledge grew, out modern idea of the universe gradually developed.

**25. Rearrange the following words/phrases to form meaningful sentences: 5**

1. different ideas/people/ countries/have/ different! to countries in / about! what is good! eat/
2. the North Pole/ enjoy/ incooked/ Eskimos/near/ from whales/ fat/ the
3. prefer/ sheep and goats/ Nomads/ roasted! on the desert/ from / meat
4. from cook! animals / from many/ different! birds / Americans/ meat
5. meat of fish /some/ in India/ eat/ people/ do not/ at all.

## SECTION D LITERATURE

1. Read the following extract and answer the following questions:

"Who hath not seen thee oft amid thy store?

Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find

Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,

The hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind,"

- a) Who is being addressed as 'thee' in the first line? Where is the person sitting? 1
- b) Which are the other poses this person can be found in? 2
- c) What is the figure of speech being used here? 1
- d) What is the effect being created by this description? 1
- e) What is an activity which the person has paused in doing? Why has she paused? 2

2. Read the following extract and answer the following questions:

No doubt they'll soon get well; the shock and strain

Have caused their "stammering, disconnected talk.

Of course they're longing to go out again,'

These boys with old scared faces, learning to walk."

- a) Name the poem and the poet. 1
- b) Who are the 'boys' referred to in the last line? 1
- c) Who or what is responsible for their stammering and disconnected talk? What are they suffering from? 2
- d) Who is the speaker of these lines? 1
- e) Comment on the line 'Of course they're 'longing to go out again'. Do you think the speaker is correct in this opinion? Give reasons for your answer. 2

**3. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: '**

Who hath not seen thee oft amid thy store?

Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find,

Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,

The hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind;

on a half-reaped furrow sound asleep,

Drowsed with the fume of poppies while thy hook,

Spares the next swath and all its twined flowers:

- a) Name the poem and the poet. 1
- b) What does the first sentence actually mean? 1
- c) Who does 'thee' stand for? 1
- d) What is the 'figure of speech' used here? Give a brief description? 2
- e) What does the hook held by the girl do and why has it stopped now? 2

**4. Read the following extract and answer the following questions:**

Is to so easy, then? Goodbye no more than this

Quiet disaster? And is there cause for sorrow

That in the small white murder of one kiss

Are born two ghosts, two Hamlets, two soliloquies

Two worlds apart, tomorrow?

- a) Name the poem and the poet.

- b) Who are the questions addressed to?
- c) What does 'quiet disaster' mean?
- d) Why does the poet allude to Hamlet? Who is he compared to?
- e) Why is 'two' used thrice?
- f) What is a soliloquy?

**5. Read the following extract and answer the questions given below:**

A poem should be motionless in time

As the moon climbs

- i) Identify the contradictions in the above lines. Explain them.
- ii) What does the phrase motionless in time suggest you?
- iii) What are the qualities of a poem that makes it a piece of eternity?

**6. Read the following extracts and answer the questions given below it:**

I know why the caged Bird sings, ah me,

When his wing is bruised and his bosom sore

When he beats his bars would be free;

It is not a carol of joy or glee.

- i) Identify the literary device in the extract.
- ii) What does the phrase bruised and his bosom sore suggest you?
- iii) What are the desires that are explicated in the poem?

**7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow: and they will be proud**

of glorious war that shatter's all their pride"

Men who went out to battle, grim and glad:

Children, with eyes that hate, you, broken and mad.

- a) Name the poem and the poet.
- b) Who does 'they' refer to?
- c) Explain the paradox in the first two lines.
- d) Why are the eyes full of hatred?

e) What impact has the war had on them?

**8. Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow:**

Incredulously the laced fingers loosen,

Slowly, sensation by sensation, from their warm interchange,

And stiffen like frosted flowers in the November garden.

Already division piles emphasis like bullets.

Already the one dark is separate and strange.

- a) Name the poem and the poet.
- b) Who is the poet speaking about in these lines?
- c) What is incredulous about laced fingers loosening?
- d) What does the phrase 'frosted flowers' symbolise?
- e) Explain: 'one dark air is separate and strange'.

**9. Read the following extract and answer the following questions:**

To bend with apples the mossed cottage trees,

and fill all fruit \with ripeness to the core;

To swell the gourd, and plum the hazel shells.

With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,

And still more, later flowers for the bees,

Until they think warm days will never cease,

For summer has o'er - brimmed their clammy cells'

- a) Name the poem and the poet.
- b) Pick out the name of two fruits.
- c) Briefly describe the overall sense of abundance brought out in these lines.
- d) Who does 'they' stand for in line 6?
- e) What is the co-relation between 'later flowers' and the 'bees'?

**10. Read the following extract and answer the following questions:**

I know why the caged bird beats his wing

Till its blood is red on cruel bars;

For he must fly back to fly to his perch and cling

When he fain would be on the bough a -the wing

- a) What does the struggle of the bird refer to?



- b) What is the mood of the bird in these line?
- c) Why does the poet sympathize with the bird?
- d) What is bough swing?

11. Answer the following in 50 words. 8

- 1) What are the features of a good poem as discussed by the poet Archibald Macleish?
- 2) Justify the title of the poem 'Curtain'.
- 3) Why is the song of the caged bird described as a prayer in the poem 'sympathy'? How it is different from a normal bird song?

**12. Answer the following in 50 words. 8**

- a) How does the poet convey the relentless spirit of the bird through his poem Sympathy?
- b) "How has the poet highlighted the caring and industrious nature of the mother in Of Mothers, Among other Things?"
- c) Explain the paradox 'motionless in time' with reference to Ars Poetica.

**13. Answer the following in about 50 words each: 8**

- a) Comment on the title of the poem Of Mothers, Among Other Things'.
- b) 'Ars Poetica' epitomizes what the characteristic features of a good poem are. Comment.
- c) Bring out the birds' feelings of despair and the empathy of the poet as expressed in the poem 'Sympathy'.

**14. Answer the following in 50 words. 8**

- i) Bring out the birds' feeling of despair and the empathy of the poet as expressed in the poem 'Sympathy'?
- ii) Bring out the significance of the title of the poem 'Curtain' in your own words.
- iii) 'Ars Poetica' epitomizes what the characteristics features of a good poem are? Comment.

**15. Answer the following in 80-100 words. 8**

- a) The Monkey's Paw has all the elements of a horror story. Discuss.
- b) Discuss the character of Alexander as depicted in the Play 'The Adventure Story'

**16. Answer the following questions:**

'Who is the Master of the World

Who shall I condemn to death'

- a) Name the play and the author. 1

c) Who speaks these words and to whom? 1

c) Who does 'Master of the World' refer to? 1

d) What is his dilemma? 1

e) Why does he call it 'his last act of mercy'? 1

b) What are the three wishes that the white couple makes? What happens as a result? 5

**17 . Attempt the following questions in 80 to 100 words.**

"I won't! won't! My hands are dear of it. I threw it on the fire. If you keep it, don't blame me whatever happens."

a) Name the play and the author. 1

b) Who says these words and to whom? 1

c) What does 'it' refer to? Why does he throw it into the fire? 2

d) In what way do his words of caution come true? 1

**18. Answer anyone of the following in 80-100 words. 5**

What was Mr. White's attitude towards the monkey's paw? How does it change after he makes his first wish on it?

**19. Compare and contrast the character of Alexander with Ashoka from the point of view of both strengths and weaknesses .•.**

**20. Answer any two of the following in 50 words. 8**

i) What does the writer of the essay 'Hum of Insects' refer to as the 'million fold chorus of life'?

ii) Do you think Mrs. Malik was a practical lady? Give an example from the lesson "A Room 10'X8' "in support of your answer.

iii) 'Perhaps playacting is my destiny, after all'. Who says these words in the chapter 'The Actress' and why does she feel like this.

**21. Answer any two of the following in about 50 words each: 4x2**

a) Mention four important characteristic features of Einstein's model of education.

b) How was the deal between Jacques Roux and Robichon beneficial to both of them?

c) How does Lynd differentiate between mosquitoes, bees and wasps?

**22. Answer any two of the following in about 50 words each: 2x4**

a) Why does Mrs. Malik think that the architect had mocked at her while drawing the sketch?

b) Doronin's final letter to Lisa brought out the 'real' actress within her. Comment.

c) Why does Einstein oppose the idea of specialized training in schools?

23. Answer any two of the following in 50 words. 8

- i) Do you think Mrs. Malik was a practical lady? Give an example from the lesson in support of your answer.
- ii) What was the transformation in Ashoka's mind and heart as a result of the Kalinga war?
- iii) Why does the narrator from the story 'what's your dream' feel that the beggar he had met as child had been very unusual?

**24. Answer anyone of the following in 100-125 words. 7**

- i) Comment on Einstein's view on education briefly.
- ii) While Robichon had duped an audience, Quinquart had duped R'Obincon himself. How was this achieved?

25. Answer anyone of the following in 100-125 words: 7

Do you think 'Grief' is an appropriate title for the story written by Chekhov? Also suggest an alternate appropriate title.

**26. Answer any one of the following in 100-125 words. 7**

- i) Comment on Einstein's view on education briefly.
- ii) Do you think 'Grief' as an appropriate title of the story written by Chekhov? Also suggest an alternate appropriate title.

**27. Answer any one of the following questions in 100 to 125 words. 7**

In 'The Hum of Insects' the reader journeys, through the magic of reminiscence to present day reality. Comment

28. - According to Einstein, what is the aim of school education? Mention two ways of achieving this objective.