

021**221 (HBE)****2015
ENGLISH****Time : 3 hours]****[Max. Marks : 100****Note :**

- (i) This question paper is divided into four sections – 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D'.
- (ii) All questions are compulsory. Marks are indicated against each question.

SECTION 'A' (Reading)

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

When people want to find information about the weather, they usually go to their radios, TVs, newspapers or the Internet. However, you can also find many weather signs among wildlife, because of their highly developed senses. Drop in the air pressure affects small mammals and insects in many ways. Mice and cockroaches are good weather indicators. People who spend a lot of time outdoors have observed that field mice come out of their holes, squeak and run around before a storm appears. Cockroaches become more active before a storm too.

Birds are especially good weather indicators because they also show the effect of air pressure drop in many ways. Some birds become irritable and quarrelsome. You will sometimes see birds roosting in trees or huddling together on a wire close to a building. This is a good storm signal. Pre-storm low pressure makes the air so thin that birds have difficulty in flying, so they go to roost. Anytime you see seagulls or other sea birds sitting on the ground in large groups, reluctant to fly, it is not a very good day to go sailing. By paying closer attention to some important clues in nature, we can get better knowledge of weather.

- (a) How do people usually get information about the weather ? 2
 - (b) Why are birds considered as good weather indicators ? 2
 - (c) How do the field mice and cockroaches behave before a storm draws near ? 2
 - (d) What do the seabirds sitting on the ground in large groups indicate ? 2
2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

The oldest stone buildings in the world are the pyramids of Egypt. They have stood for nearly 5000 years, and it seems likely that they will continue to stand for thousands of years yet. They are over eighty scattered along the bank of the Nile, some of which are different in shape from the true pyramids. The most famous of these are the "Step pyramid" and the "Bent pyramid".

Some of the pyramids still look fresh as they must have been when they were built thousands of years ago. Most of the damage suffered by the others has been at the hands of men who were looking for treasure or more often, for stone to use in modern buildings. The dry climate of Egypt has helped to preserve the pyramids and their very shape has made them less likely to fall into ruins. These are good reasons why they can still be seen today, but perhaps the most important is that they were planned to last forever.

There must have been months of careful planning before they could begin to build. The first thing they had to do was to choose a suitable place as a pyramid could not be built just anywhere. Certain rules had to be followed strictly and certain problems overcome. The pyramid had to be on the west side of the Nile, the side on which the sun sets. This was for religious

reason. The pyramid had also to stand well above the level of the river to protect it against the regular floods. The pyramid could not be too far from the Nile as the stones to build it needed to be carried in boats down the river to be nearest point. Water transport was much easier than land transport. The builders also had to find rock, which was not likely to crack under the great weight of the pyramid. Finally, the pyramid had to be near the capital or better still near the king's palace so that he could visit it easily and personally check the progress being made on the final resting place for his body.

- (a) Why are the pyramids described as the oldest buildings in the world ? 2
- (b) Who caused the maximum damage to pyramids and why ? 2
- (c) What helped the pyramids to stand for thousands of years ? 2
- (d) Why were the pyramids built along the bank of the Nile ? 2
- (e) What were the rules strictly followed to build pyramids ? 2
- (f) Find words from the passage which mean similar to the following : 2
 - (i) Spread
 - (ii) To protect

SECTION 'B' (Writing)

3. You are Gopal / Gopi of Chandak Road, Pithoragarh. Write a letter to your friend Abdul / Jenny describing the annual function in your school. 8

OR

You are Nidhi / Dhruv living in Nehrunagar, Roorkee. Write a letter to the District Magistrate, Haridwar complaining against the irregular water supply in your locality. You had already written to the offices of Jal Sansthan.

4. Write a paragraph on **any one** of the following in about 60 words. 4
 - (a) Health is Wealth
 - (b) Your Hobby
 - (c) Importance of Newspapers

5. On the basis of hints given below, write a paragraph in about 80 words on "Heavy Rains in Uttarakhand". 8

Hints: Month and dates.....heavy rain.....cloud burst.....over flooding streets, drains, ponds, rivers.....everywhere.....destruction.....landslides,.....roads blocked.....havoc in Kedarnath and other places.....hardships.....help from Govt. and non-government agencies.

SECTION 'C' (Grammar)

6. Fill in the blanks with correct form of non-finites given in the brackets : $\frac{1}{2} \times 4 = 2$
 - (a) He got his shoes _____ (repair) yesterday evening.
 - (b) _____ (walk) is a very good physical exercise.
 - (c) That small boy is sitting in a _____ (break) chair.
 - (d) I am tired of _____ (write) English.
7. Combine the following pairs of sentences using sentence connectors given in the brackets : 2
 - (a) He was unwell. He did not go to school. (because)
 - (b) This is the village. I was born here. (where)
8. Join the following pairs of sentences as directed : 2
 - (a) Suresh will get the first position in the class. I know it. (Begin with "I know _____")
 - (b) The earth revolves round the sun. The teacher said. (Begin with "The teacher _____")

9. Fill in the blanks with correct form of verbs given in the brackets : 1×3=3
 Shivam had already _____ (do) his home work. He _____ (be) ready to go to school.
 But his brother _____ (ask) him to wait for Sohan.
10. Complete the following sentences using modals : 2
 (a) He is so weak that he _____ not lift his chair.
 (b) Students who are weak in studies, _____ work very hard.
11. (A) Rearrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences : 2
 (a) west/the/sets/sun/in/the
 (b) is/your/what/name
- (B) Transform the following sentences into passive voice : 2
 (a) Mr. Sharma teaches us English.
 (b) He praised me.

SECTION 'D' (Text Book)
(Prose)

12. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow :
 Writing in a diary is a really strange experience for someone like me. Not only because I've never written anything before, but also because it seems to me that later on neither I nor anyone else will be interested in the musings of a thirteen-year-old school girl. Oh well, it doesn't matter. I feel like writing, and I have an even greater need to get all kinds of things off my chest.
- 'Paper has more patience than people.' I thought of this saying on one of those days when I was feeling a little depressed and was sitting at home with my chin in my hands, bored and listless, wondering whether to stay in or go out.
- (a) What makes writing in a diary a strange experience for the writer ? 1
 (b) Why does the writer want to keep a diary ? 1
 (c) When did the writer think of the saying 'Paper has more patience than people' ? What does this saying mean ? 2
 (d) Which word in the passage means 'low in spirit' ? 1
13. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :
 She was eight years old and very curious about things. Her favorite pastime was standing in the front doorway of her house, watching what was happening in the street outside. There were no playmates of her own age on her street, and this was about all she had to do.
- But for Valli, standing at the front door was every bit as enjoyable as any of the elaborate games other children played. Watching the street gave her many new unusual experiences.
- The most fascinating thing of all was the bus that travelled between her village and the nearest town. It passed through her street each hour, once going to the town and once coming back.
- (a) What was Valli's favourite pastime? 1
 (b) Why did Valli not play with children on her street ? Why did she feel standing at the front door enjoyable ? 2
 (c) What was the most fascinating thing for Valli ? 1
 (d) Which word in the passage means 'rare' ? 1
14. Answer the following question in about 80 words. 6
 Give a character sketch of Anne Frank.

OR

What things does Mij do which tell you that he is an intelligent, friendly and fun-loving animal ?

15. Answer the following question in about 30 to 40 words : 4
 Why did Lomov come to Chubukov's house ? How did the later react to his visit ?

OR

Why did Lomov quarrel with Natalya ?

(Poetry)

16. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow :

The true Chameleon is small,

A lizard sort of thing;

He hasn't any ears at all,

And not a single wing.

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|---|
| (a) | How can we identify a Chameleon ? | 2 |
| (b) | What is the title of the poem ? | 1 |
| (c) | Give the name of the poet. | 1 |

OR

Belinda lived in a little white house,

With a little black kitten and a little grey mouse,

And a little yellow dog and a little red wagon,

And a realio, trulio, little pet dragon.

- | | | |
|-----|---|---|
| (a) | Where did Belinda live ? | 1 |
| (b) | Who are the characters in this stanza ? | 2 |
| (c) | Name the poem and the poet. | 1 |

17. Answer **any two** of the following questions in about 30-40 words each : 2×3=6
- | | | |
|-----|---|--|
| (a) | How does Robert Frost present nature in the poem 'Dust of Snow' ? | |
| (b) | What is the main subject of conversation between the young man and the young woman in the poem 'For Anne Gregory' ? | |
| (c) | What does the poem tell you about 'Amanda' ? | |

(Supplementary Reader)

18. Answer the following question in about 100 words. 8
 Why does Mrs. Pumphrey think the dog's recovery as a triumph of surgery ?

OR

Why was the twentieth century called the 'Era of the Book' ? Who tried to invade the earth in the twenty-first century ?

19. Answer the following question in about 30-40 words : 4
 How did the lady manage to deceive Horace Danby into believing that she was the lady of the house ?

OR

Why is the lawyer sent to New Mullion ? What does he first think about the place ?

20. Answer the following question in about 20-30 words : 3
 Who is the real culprit in the story 'A Question of Trust' ?

OR

Why is Mme Loisel always unhappy ?
