

SECTION A
READING
10 MARKS

1.1. Read the following lines written by Wordsworth and answer the following questions: (5 X 1 = 5 marks)

"What though the radiance which was once so bright
Be now forever taken from my sight,
Though nothing can bring back the hour
Of splendour in the grass, of glory in the flower;
We will grieve not, rather find
Strength in what remains behind;
In the primal sympathy
Which having been must ever be;
In the soothing thoughts that spring
Out of human suffering;
In the faith that looks through death,
In years that bring the philosophic mind."

1. The underlying theme of the lines given above is ----- (b. Loss and grief)
 - a) Joy and happiness
 - b) Loss and grief
 - c) Knowledge and power
 - d) Nature and beauty
 - e) God and the divine
2. The word 'splendour' in the poem has a positive connotation. (a. True)
 - a) True
 - b) False
3. The antonym(s) of the word 'glory' given in the poem above is ----- (c. Condemnation)
 - a) Strength
 - b) Weakness
 - c) Condemnation
 - d) Soothing
 - e) Sympathy
 - f) Suffering

The antonyms of the word 'glory' are weakness, condemnation and suffering. At this stage, we are not expecting all our learners to be choosing the exact opposite of the given word. Choosing any one or two or three (of the three negative denotations) must give you full marks. However, there seem to be some issues in the configuration.

4. Like many theologians, Wordsworth believes that suffering and the thoughts which originate in grief and loss contribute to the growth and philosophical nature of a person.
(a. True)
a) True
b) False
5. The phrases 'splendour in the grass' and 'glory in the flower' refer to the happy times of our lives. (a. True)
a) True
b) False

1.2. Read the summary of the poem Snake by D.H.Lawrence and answer the following question

A snake visited the poet's water trough on a hot afternoon to quench his thirst. The poet who was also at the trough (to fill water) waited for the snake as it had come before the poet. The snake rested his throat upon the stone bottom and sipped the water into his long body. After drinking water, he raised his head and flashed his forked tongue, thought for a moment and then bent down to drink some more water. After drinking water to satisfaction, the snake raised his head dreamily and flickered his forked tongue and licked his lips. It slowly proceeded to curve round and move away from the water trough. Education and social conventions make the poet think that the golden-brown poisonous snake must be killed and that as a brave man, he must undertake the task of killing the snake. However, the poet instinctively likes the snake, treats him like a guest and feels honoured that it had come to drink at his water trough. The poet questions himself and wonders whether his not daring to kill the snake proved that he was a coward and whether his desire to talk to the snake reflected his perversity.

The voice of education inside the poet tells him that it was the fear for the snake that made him refrain from killing it. However, the poet feels that though he was quite afraid of the snake, he did feel honoured that a snake had come to seek his hospitality from the deep recesses of the earth. As the snake put his head into the hole to retreat into the earth, the poet was filled with a protest against the idea of the snake withdrawing into his hole. The poet put down his pitcher, picked up a log and hurled it at the snake. The snake twisted violently and with great alacrity vanished into the hole in the wall. The poet instantly felt sorry for his unrefined and despicable act and cursed the voices of education and civilization that had shaped his thought processes and urged him to kill the snake. The poet felt much like the ancient mariner who had killed the albatross for no reason. He wishes that the snake would come back. He thinks of the snake as a king in exile who has to be crowned again. He also regrets having missed his opportunity of knowing and understanding one of the lords of life. He is guilt-ridden and feels that he has to atone for the meanness of his action (of throwing a log at the snake).

Choose the correct answer from the options given below :

1. Choose the synonym(s) of the word trough (given in para 1) - (d) – I mark

- a) Ocean
- b) Sea
- c) Lake
- d) Basin

2. Choose the antonym(s) for the word coward (given in para 1) – (b and d) - 2 mark

- a) Venom
- b) Brave
- c) Harmless
- d) Valor

The exact antonym of 'coward' is brave. (like some of you have pointed out. However, considering that valor is yet another synonym for bravery and that we didn't want to be too rigid with the marking, we had decided to go for multiple selections (with the intention that a learner who selects either of the two or both should be awarded full marks. However, it seems like it wasn't configured that way. We would have fixed that for the qualifiers.

3. Which among the following is/are false? - (b and c) - 2 marks

- a) The snake crawled out of a small crack in the wall.

The meaning of recesses is 1) a small space created by building part of a wall further back from the rest 2) A hollow space inside something.

"However, the poet feels that though he was quite afraid of the snake, he did feel honoured that a snake had come to seek his hospitality **from the deep recesses of the earth.**"

The highlighted phrase shows indications of the place from where the snake could have come to visit through. There were a few doubts on the terms 'hole' and 'crack' as well. The passage (at multiple places) talks about the dark hollow space from where the snake had come to visit the trough. The inside of a hole or a crack is dark and hollow. Therefore, it does not matter whether it is a crack or a hole.

- b) The snake was earthy black in Colour.
- c) The poet threw a stone at the snake.
- d) The voice of his education prompted the poet to kill the snake.

SECTION B
LISTENING

10 marks

2.1 Listen to the audio sample and state whether the given statements are True or False.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/15Z8EauSTiASBAsEzKjIVTU8ESS-hdpBW/view?usp=sharing>

Which among the following statements are false. – 2 marks

- a) You cannot let the fear of failure/comparison/judgement stop you from doing what makes you great. (T)
- b) Trust your voice, ideas and honesty. (T)
- c) You can have a voice without the risk of criticism. (F)
- d) You should do what makes you great and not happy. (T)
- e) Without struggle, success means nothing. (T)
- f) Be willing to fail and fail in the place you do not want to fail. (F)

2.2. Listen to the audio sample and state whether the given statements are True or False.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1S0Vz8_8_tmKPAOQravFsGVjO0zsXflva/view?usp=sharing

- a. Blue is a denotation of a girl. (False) (1 marks)
- b. A pen is a connotation of a writer/poet. (False)
Pen (in the audio sample) has been used as a connotation for a writer or a poet. The answer was configured wrong. (1 marks)
- c. Colour is a connotation of gender. (True) (1 marks)

In the audio sample played, Sania talks to her unborn baby. Pick the wrong statement(s) after listening to the audio. (f) (g) (h) (k) (l) (5 X 1= 5 marks)

- a) You are free to pick your calling.
- b) The world is a beautiful place but a noisy one too.
- c) You are free to follow your dreams.
- d) Marry if it feels right.
- e) You are free to nourish your dreams.

f) You need to repay your parents by fulfilling their dreams

g) The world may ask a girl to hold up her tears.

h) The world may ask a boy not to play in the sun.

i) The world might ask a boy to run before he crawls.

-The statement is true and not false. The error occurred while configuring the answers.

j) You don't have to be a cricketer or a tennis player.

k) You should be bound by your parents.

l) You are not free to pick your gender.

- This is an ambiguous question (open to interpretation) – both true and false should be right. The answer was configured wrong.

SECTION C

GRAMMAR AND USAGE

15 marks

The short and sweet story of 'The Cherry Tree' by Ruskin Bond revolves around a young boy called Rakesh, 1) ---- lives with 2) ---- grandfather 3) ---- the outskirts of Mussoorie. He 4) ---- a cherry seed one day, then forgets all about it, only to see that months 5) ----, the seed is well on its way to becoming 6) ---- cherry tree, albeit very slowly. Rakesh tenderly takes care of the little plant, trying to protect 7) ---- from various obstacles, documenting 8) ---- growth over the years. It grows to become a 9) ---- sight and Rakesh is amazed to see how such a creation came forth from a tiny little seed, leading to his question "10) ---- *this what it feels to be God?*"

Why should your child read this story by Ruskin Bond?

It can inculcate a love for 11) ---- in your child, as the story describes the various seasons, the changes the tree goes through, and other elements of nature that will keep him interested. The story will also teach your child the importance of doing something by 12) ----, giving importance to 13) ---- over shortcuts. It will help him value his work all the 14) ----, realizing that the 15) ---- is special when he takes the required effort.

3.1. Fill in the blanks with the right option (15 X 1 = 15 marks)

1. a) whom b) what c) who d) which (who)
2. a) her b) his c) their d) our (his)
3. a) of b) for c) on d) across (on)
4. a) plants b) was planting c) plant d) is planting (plants)
5. a) before b) later c) forward d) across (later)

6. a) an b) the c) a d) into (a)
7. a) his b) her c) them d) it (it)
8. a) it's b) its (its)
9. a) giant b) majestic c) mammoth d) large (majestic)
10. a) are b) is c) has d) have (Is)
11. a) vegetables b) fruits c) nature d) god (nature)
12. a) himself b) others (himself)
13. a) drudgery b) duty c) hardwork d) burden (hardwork)
-The word hard work needs space or a hyphen in between.
14. a) more b) less (more)
15. a) awards b) accolades c) results d) laurels (results)

SECTION D

SOUNDS, WORDS AND SENTENCES

15 marks

4.1 State whether the statements are true or false (15 x 1 = 15 marks)

1. Vowels and consonants are speech (oral) sounds. (True)
2. Alphabets are symbols that represent the writing system. (True)
3. Native speakers of English aspirate the voiceless stops (p,t,k) at the word-initial position. (True)
4. The vibration in the vocal cord is responsible for the voicing of consonant sounds. (True)
5. The word 'rhyme' has a consonant cluster. (False)
6. Sounds produced by closing both the lips are called bilabial sounds. (True)
7. 'Bat' is a monosyllabic word. (True)
8. The four skills of language learning are LSRW (Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing). (True)
9. 'Bedroom' is an example of conversion. (False)- Bedroom is a compound word.
10. Some nouns can also be used as verbs. (True)
11. The sound 'w' in the word 'water' is a semi-vowel. (True)
12. The final sound in the word 'cats' is /z/. (False)- The word 'cat' is ending with the sound /t/, so the plural marker sound is /s/.
13. 'Top-down' and 'bottom-up' are two approaches to listening. (True)
14. The word 'WATER' is written in uppercase letters. (True)
15. There are 20 consonant sounds in English. (False)- There are 24 consonant sounds in English.