

2011

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION

Time Allotted : 3 Hours

Full Marks : 70

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

GROUP - A

(Comprehension Type Questions)

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

10 × 1 = 10

The Turner kids were not accustomed to snow. The most they ever got in their southern city of Birmingham was an inch or so each winter, and even that was quite infrequent.

What was funny was that even the slightest bit of snow was enough to cancel school and close businesses. No one knew how to drive in the stuff. It was never enough for young Lily Mae Turner, though, because the snow that came was always too sparse to build a snowman or to go sledding.

But one night, in March of 1993, something magical happened.

An unexpected blast of cold air from Canada and moist air from the Caribbean converged on the eastern part of the United States to create the "Storm of the Century".

All the Turner kids knew was that when they woke up Saturday morning, there was 17 inches of unbelievable snow on their front lawn and as far as the eye could see.

The Turner parents were in shock. Most folks in town were ill-prepared for such a storm. They had no shovels to dig their way out and no salt to keep from slipping. They had no idea what to do.

While the adults seemed paralyzed with disbelief, the Turner kids set about having the time of their lives. Lily Mae discovered that a rope tied to a metal trashcan lid made a perfect sled. John Henry figured out that if he put his feet in plastic grocery bags before putting on his rain boots, his feet stayed warm for a longer time. Rachel made snow angels in every part of the yard. Together, all the kids made a huge snowman and dressed it in dad's hat and jacket. (Mr. Turner didn't own a scarf !)

For three straight days, the Turner kids had a splendid time. On Tuesday, the temperature hit 7.0 degrees and life for these southerners went back to normal.

- i) What does 'accustomed' mean ?
- a) used to b) aware of
c) scared of d) interested in.
- ii) Which other title would fit this passage best ?
- a) "1993"
b) "A Cold March"
c) "Magical Snow"
d) "No Scarf for a Snowman".
- iii) How are the children different from the adults in this passage ?
- a) The kids stayed warm, while the adults were very cold
b) The kids knew the storm was coming, while the adults did not
c) The adults still had to go to work, while the kids stayed home
d) The kids went out and had fun while the adults did not know what to do.
- iv) Which is the best antonym for infrequent ?
- a) common b) long
c) rare d) surprising.

- v) Why might the author have described the storm as magical ?
- a) Because Lily Mae believed the snow was magic
 - b) Because it was such an unusual thing to happen, it felt like magic
 - c) Because there was no other explanation for why the storm occurred
 - d) Because the author wanted to cast doubt on whether the storm actually took place.
- vi) What conclusions can be drawn about what the weather is usually like in Birmingham during March ?
- a) It is warm
 - b) It is sunny
 - c) It is windy
 - d) It does not snow.
- vii) What can be said about the Turner kids ideas for playing in the snow without the usual snow gear ?
- a) They were creative
 - b) They were complicated
 - c) They were effective
 - d) They were misguided.

viii) Lily Mae Turner found the snow in Birmingham not enough because

- a) she could go out to play
- b) she could drive in the stuff
- c) she found it difficult to make a snowman
- d) she did not use a shovel to dig the snow.

ix) What was going on outside of Birmingham during this passage ?

- a) The reader does not find out
- b) There was no snow anywhere else
- c) A storm of historic proportions took place
- d) The entire country was dealing with snow.

x) What is the best antonym for splendid ?

- a) great
- b) perfect
- c) happy
- d) terrible.

GROUP – B
(Short Answer Type Questions)

Answer any *three* of the following. $3 \times 5 = 15$

2. Describe the barriers of communication in brief.
3. Discuss the term "grapevine" in brief.
4. Describe Upward Communication.
5. What is Diagonal Communication?
6. Write down the principles of effective communication.

GROUP – C
(Long Answer Type Questions)

Answer any *three* of the following. $3 \times 15 = 45$

7. Your company is considering a proposal to make an in-house canteen for office employees. Your office has around 50 employees. Make a report to give an estimate of the area, manpower and money required to set up and run the canteen.
8. Apex Software Limited, 93, M. M. Road, Kolkata – 700 099, wish to run a four-week training programme for junior executives of its firm located in Eastern India. As Senior Project Manager, you have been asked to prepare a technical proposal for submission to the Managing Director. Write it in the form of a letter.

9. Write a user's manual on any of these : Portable television, Vacuum cleaner, Alarm clock, Digital camera. Your user's manual could focus on the installation and operation of the accessories. Include graphical representation of the objects to make the manual more effective and understandable.
10. The SYMBIOSIS POLYTECHNIC at 46, N. S. C. Bose Road, Kolkata-40, requires a Programme Designer for the institute. Write to the Director, applying for the post. Give your detailed Resume.
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