

**SCHEME OF EXAMINATION**

<b>One Paper</b>	<b>3 HOURS</b>	<b>Marks: 100</b>
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**Section – A**

- Q.1&2. Two unseen passages to test reading comprehension. With MCQ and short answer questions. **12 marks+10 marks**
- Q.3. Another unseen passage for note-making and abstraction. **08 marks**

**Section – B**

- Q.4. One Short Composition of not more than 50 words e.g. advertisements, notices, designing or drafting posters, invitations and their replies. **04 marks**
- Q.5. Writing a letter based on verbal input. Letter types include Business or Official letters (for making enquiries, complaints, asking for or giving information, placing orders and sending replies); Letters to the editor (giving suggestions on the issue); Application for job. **06 marks**
- Q.6&7. Composition based on a visual or verbal input (about 150-200 words) **10 marks each**

**Section – C**

- Q.8. One Extract (With Internal Choice) from 'Flamingo' – Poetry Section followed by three to four questions to test local and global comprehension of set text. **04 marks**
- Q.9. Four out of six Short-Answer Type Question based on Prose from 'Flamingo' and Vistas to test local and global comprehension of the text. **12 marks**
- Q.10. One out of two Long-Answer Type Questions based on Prose from 'Flamingo' and Vistas to test global comprehension and extrapolation beyond the set text. (Expected word limit 100-125 words) **6marks**
- Q.11. One value based Question from 'Flamingo' or 'Vistas'. **6marks**
- Q.12 & 13. Long answer type question based on theme, plot, incidents, understanding, appreciation, analysis and interpretation of the character sketch from the novels. **06 marks each**

## **Assignment No.1**

### **Section – A**

Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. Most of the people who appear most often and most gloriously in the history books are great conquerors and generals and soldiers, whereas the people who really helped civilization forward are often never mentioned at all. We do not know who first set a broken leg, or launched a seaworthy boat, or calculated the length of the year, or manure a field; but we know all about the killers and destroyers. People think a great deal of them, so much so that on all the highest pillars in the great cities of the world you will find the figure of a conqueror or a general or a soldier. And I think most people believe that the greatest countries are those that have beaten in battle the greatest number of other countries and ruled over them as conquerors. It is just possible they are, but they are not the most civilized. Animals fight; so do savages; hence to be good at fighting is to be good in the way in which an animal or a savage is good, but it is not to be civilized. Even being good at getting other people to fight for you and telling them how to do it most efficiently — this, after all, is what conquerors and generals have done — is not being civilized. People fight to settle quarrels. Fighting means killing, and civilized people ought to be able to find some way of settling their disputes other than by seeing which side can kill off the greater number of the other side, and then saying that side which has killed most has won. And not only has won, but because it has won, has been in the right. For that is what going to war means; it means saying that might is right.
2. That is what the story of mankind has on the whole been like. Even our own age has fought the two greatest wars in history, in which millions of people were killed or mutilated. And while today it is true that people do not fight and kill each other in the streets — while, that is to say, we have got to the stage of keeping the rules and behaving properly to each other in daily life — nations and countries have not learnt to do this yet, and still behave like savages.
3. But we must not expect too much. After all, the race of men has only just started. From the point of view of evolution, human beings are very young children indeed, babies, in fact, a few months old. Scientists reckon that there has been life of some sort on the earth in the form of jelly-fish and that kind of creature for about twelve hundred million years; but there have been men for only one million years, and there have been civilized men for about eight thousand years at the outside. These figures are difficult to grasp; so let us scale them down. Suppose we reckon the whole past of living creatures on the earth as one hundred years; then the whole past of man works out at about one month, and during that month there have been civilizations for between seven and eight hours. So you see there has been little time to learn in, but there will be oceans of time in which to learn better. Taking man's civilized past at about seven or eight hours, we may estimate his future, that is to say, the whole period between now and when the sun grows too cold to maintain life any longer on the earth, at about one hundred thousand years. Thus mankind is only at the beginning of its civilized life, and as I say, we must not expect too much. The past of man has been on the whole a pretty

bestly business, a business of fighting and bullying and gorging and grabbing and hurting. We must not expect even civilized people not to have done these things. All we can ask is that they will sometimes have done something else.

1. Answer the following questions as briefly as possible:

- (i) What example does the author give of people who really helped civilization forward?
- (ii) In what way have 'great' soldiers been compared to animals?
- (iii) Why does the writer not feel surprised that men still fight like savages?
- (iv) How does the writer compare the past history of man with the future?
- (v) What does the writer say about the past of mankind?

II. Find from the passage words which convey the same meaning as the following:

- (i) power (para 1)
- (ii) rightly (para 2)
- (iii) understand (para 3)

Q2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below:

1. So often these days we hear and speak of the 'the conquest of nature', 'the taming of a river', 'the war against insects' and so on. Often these phrases are used without consciously attaching any value to them, but they have underlying them an attitude of hostility towards Nature and Nature's creatures, a viewpoint which seems to assume nature as an enemy that needs to be vanquished. Alternatively, Nature is seen merely as a 'resource' to be 'exploited' — take the maximum out of it, regardless of what this does to natural processes and to other creatures which depend on these processes. It is this attitude which sees fellow humans too as a resource to be exploited or other human communities as enemies to be conquered.
2. There is a growing lack of sensitivity and respect for our fellow creatures. This attitude is being drilled into a child by social forces which can only be countered by environmental education. Yet, sadly, in most cases this is not done. What is done is talk about the food web and the energy cycles and ecological balance and how removal of any element disrupts the whole system, and how this can affect human beings too. What this approach lacks is the essential interaction with Nature and with other humans. Indeed, in many environmental activities the opposite takes place. A classic example of this is making of a herbarium, or even worse, an insect collection, as common in both formal and non-formal education in India. A child is often encouraged to pluck leaves and flowers and run after butterflies with a net and is part of a large group of children similarly marauding a patch of nature. Such a child is not likely to develop any strong feeling of respect for nature or for the individual 'specimens' pressed in the plant file or trapped in a jar. It is even worse when the activity is also competitive, i.e. who collects the maximum. A lot of knowledge may be gained, but it is gained in a value system which emphasises exploitation and conquest, not sensitivity and respect. Learning under a tree (Santivana), rather than in a classroom, as is indeed the Indian tradition, is far more effective and

- long lasting.
3. The alternative is to take up activities where eco-balances, ecological diversity, animal behaviour, human plurality and other such concepts and systems are introduced with the stress on their intrinsic worth. Materials, processes, living beings do not exist only for human use, but more importantly they are worthwhile in themselves.
  4. A frog is as much in love with its life as the human child is with its; the feeling of the frog must be respected. The final thrust of environmental education seems to be embodied in the vital question: 'Am I doing something which disrespects or violates some other creature's right to live and live freely? If I am, what can I do to minimise the damage I am causing?'
  5. Once again, the Indian tradition of *ahimsa* comes out as infinitely more relevant than much of what we learn in modern education.
    - (i) On the basis of your reading of the passage make notes on it, using recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Use a format you consider suitable. Supply a suitable title.
    - (ii) Make a summary of the passage in about 80 words.

### **Section – B**

- Q3. You are Sumita / Rajan running a telephone booth in the Central Market, Bhopal. Give a suitable advertisement for a telephone operator in 'Situations Vacant' column of 'Bhopal Times', offering attractive remuneration.

OR

You have lost your pet dog. Draft a suitable advertisement in about 50 words to be published in the 'Lost and Found' column of a newspaper.

- Q4. You are Misha / Armaan of Bhartiya Vidya Mandir Sr. Secondary School, Gwalior. Your school has recently organised a Blood Donation Camp on the occasion of its silver jubilee celebrations. Write a report as an editor for your school magazine on this widely acclaimed activity.

OR

You were a member of the team which represented your school in the Bournvita Quiz Contest and won the team trophy. You have been asked to read out a report about the event in the school assembly. Write the report in not more than 100 words.

- Q5. You are Kishan Pratap of M.S. Nagar, Jaipur. Write a letter to the S.H.O., Central Market, Jaipur, complaining about bad law and order situation in your area.

OR

You are K.B. Panikkar of Trivandrum. Write a letter to the Director, Doordarshan, New Delhi, suggesting some improvements in T.V. programmes.

- Q6. With the onset of the monsoons, the mosquitoes have also arrived. As Radha Saxena, write an article for the school magazine about the mosquito menace and

the popular ways in which people protect themselves against it. Your article should not exceed 200 words.

OR

You are Rajan / Rani. Communal harmony is the need of the hour. Write an article on this to be published in your school magazine to tell the students how they can play a major role in bringing harmony and peace.

### **Section – C**

#### **Chapter – 1: THE LAST LESSON**

##### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (30 to 40 words each)**

- (i) What had been put up on the bulletin board?
- (ii) Who did M. Hamel blame for the neglect of learning on the part of boys like Franz?
- (iii) Franz thinks, “Will they make them sing in German, even the pigeons?” What does this tell us about the attitude of the Frenchmen?
- (iv) “What a thunder clap these words were to me!” Which were the words that shocked and surprised little Franz?
- (v) How was the scene in the school in the morning of the last lesson different from that on other days?
- (vi) Why had the villagers come to school on the day of the last lesson?
- (vii) Why was M. Hamel kind to Franz even though he was late for school?
- (viii) How the teacher was dressed that day and why did it surprise Franz?
- (ix) What announcement did M. Hamel make and what was the impact of the same Franz?

##### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (125 to 150 words each)**

1. ‘My children, this is the last lesson I shall give you’. What was the impact of M. Hamel’s words on the assembled class and why?
2. ‘It seemed almost as if the poor man wanted to give us all he knew before going away, and to put it all into our heads in one stroke. ‘Explain why Franz experienced these feelings.
3. At the end of the last lesson M. Hamel wrote, Vive La France on the Board in bold letters. Why do you think he wrote that and how did he expect the people of Alsace – Lorraine to keep their identity intact?
4. Describe the effect on life at school, produced by the passing of Alsace and Lorraine into Prussian hands.
5. What changes did the narrator find in the school when the order from Berlin came?

##### **Value Based Question**

Write a speech in about 100 words for a National Magazine on the “need for revival of patriotic spirit amongst the youth in India”

### **Poem – 1: MY MOTHER AT SIXTY-SIX**

Read the lines given below and answer the questions that follow:

(i) .....and  
looked but soon  
Put that thought away, and  
Looked out at young  
Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling out of their homes, .....

(i) What did the poet realise? How did she feel?

(ii) What did she do then?

(iii) What did she notice in the world outside?

(ii) .... And felt that old  
familiar ache, my childhood's fear,  
but all I said was, see you soon Amma,  
all I did was smile and smile and smile....

1. What was the childhood fear that now troubled the poet?

2. What do the poet's parting words suggest?

3. Why did the poet smile and smile?

(iii) ....but soon  
Put that thought away, and  
Looked out at young  
Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling out of their homes

(i) Who looked out at young trees?

(ii) Which thought did she put away?

(iii) What do young sprinting trees signify?

### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (30 to 40 words each)**

(i) What were Kamala Das' fears as a child? Why do they surface when she is going to the airport?

(ii) Why has Kamala Das compared her mother to a 'late winter's moon'?

(iii) Why are the young trees described as sprinting?

(iv) What is the significance of the parting words of the poet and her smile, in 'My Mother at Sixty-six'?

Or

What do the parting words of the poet, Kamala Das, to her mother signify?

(v) Why has the poet brought in the image of the merry children spilling out of their homes?

(vi) What are the thoughts of the poet as she is driving from her parents' home to the airport?

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## **Assignment No.2**

### **Section – A**

Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. If we look back at India's long history, we find that our forefathers made wonderful progress whenever they looked out on the world with clear and fearless eyes and kept the windows of their minds open to give and receive. And, in later periods, when they grew narrow in outlook and shrank from outside influences, India suffered a setback, politically and culturally. What a magnificent inheritance we have, though we have, abused it often enough. India has been and is a vital nation, in spite of all the misery and suffering that she has experienced. That vitality in the realms of constructive and creative effort spread too many parts of the Asian World and elsewhere and brought splendid conquests in its train. Those conquests were not so much of the sword, but of the mind and heart which bring healing and which endure when the men of the sword and their work are forgotten. But that very vitality if not rightly and creatively directed, may turn inward and destroy and degrade.
2. Even during the brief span of our lives, we have seen these two forces at play in India and the world at large — the forces of constructive and creative effort and the forces of destruction. Which will triumph in the end? And on which side do we stand? That is a vital question for each one of us, and more especially for those from whom the leaders of the nation will be drawn, and on whom the burden of tomorrow will fall. We dare not sit on the fence and refuse to face the issue. We dare not allow our minds to be befuddled by passion and hatred when clear thought and effective action are necessary.
3. What kind of India are we looking for, and what kind of world? Are hatred and violence and fear and communalism and narrow provincialism to mould our future? Surely not, if there has been any truth in us and in our professions. Here in this city of Allahabad, dear to me not only because of my close association with it but also because of its part in India's history, my boyhood and youth were spent in dreaming dreams and seeing visions of India's future. Was there any real substance in those dreams or were they merely the fancies of a fevered brain? Some small part of those dreams has , come true but not in the manner I had imagined, and so much still remains. Instead of , a feeling of triumph at achievement, there is an emptiness and distress at the sorrow that surrounds us and we have to wipe the tears from a million eyes.
4. A vast responsibility, therefore, rests on our educational institutions and those who guide their destinies. They have to keep their lights burning and must not stray from the right path even when passion convulses the multitude and blinds many amongst those whose duty it is to set an example to others. We are not going to reach our goal through crookedness or flirting with evil in the hope that it may lead to good. The right end can never be fully achieved through wrong means.
5. Let us be clear about our national objective. We aim at a strong, free and democratic India where every citizen has an equal place and full opportunity of growth and service, where present-day inequalities in wealth and status have

ceased to be, where our vital impulses are directed to creative and co-operative endeavour. In such an India communalism, separatism, isolation, untouchability, bigotry, and exploitation of man by man have no place, and while religion is free, it is not allowed to interfere with the political and economic aspects of a nation's life. If that is so, then all this business of Hindu and Muslim and Christian and Sikh must cease in so far as our political life is concerned and we must build a united but composite nation where both individual and national freedom are secure.

6. We have passed through grievous trials. We have survived them but at a terrible cost and the legacy they have left in our tortured minds and stunted souls will pursue us for a long time. Our trials are not over. Let us prepare ourselves for them in the spirit of free and disciplined men and women, stout of heart and purpose, who will not stray from the right path and forget our ideals and objectives. We have to start this work of healing and we have to build and create. The wounded body and spirit of India call upon all of us to dedicate ourselves to this great task. May we be worthy of the task and of India!

(Jawahar Lal Nehru)

- I. Answer the following questions as briefly as possible:
- (i) How, according to Nehru, can India's vitality prove destructive?
  - (ii) How does Nehru describe India's national objective?
  - (iii) What is the special responsibility of our educational institutions?
  - (iv) What is meant by 'this business of Hindu and Muslim and Christian and Sikh'?
  - (v) How have we faced our trials?
- II. Find from the passage words which mean the same as the following:
- (i) legacy (para 1)
  - (ii) period (para 2)
  - (iii) dishonesty (para 4)

Q2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below:

1. It is an unpretentious structure tucked in a corner of Chandni Chowk. It could be missed by a passer-by but for the chirping which gives away its unique mission. The Charity Birds Hospital is the only one of its kind in the country.
2. Many people arrive here daily with injured birds which they may have found lying by the roadside. After a quick inspection, an attendant makes a simple entry in the register: name of the person, kind of bird and date and 'admits the patient' for treatment free of cost. The bird then becomes the sole responsibility of the hospital.
3. The ailing bird is administered first aid and then kept in an isolated cage. Often medication and proper care is all that is needed. After the wound heals, the bird is moved to a common section with other birds of its kind. Soon it will be healthy enough to fly away; many keep visiting the terrace for food and water.
4. The work began way back in 1929 in a small one-room structure. One Lala Lachumal Jain, along with others decided to start a medical facility for birds. Later,



- it became increasingly difficult to treat the large number of birds being brought. In 1957 the present building was inaugurated.
5. The progress of the hospital has been slow but steady. Till 1969 only ayurvedic treatment was being administered. Allopathy was adopted that year and it was as recently as in 1992 that a laboratory was set up to conduct pathological tests. Though surgery is conducted at times and doctors try their best to save the bird's life, it is often too late. The mortality rate is quite high: around five to six birds die every day.
  6. The hospital survives only on charity. The trustees proudly claim that there is a steady flow of donations. Rich businessmen visit it and even tourists donate generously. Till date they have never approached the government for funds.
  7. However, the hospital has some drawbacks. It does not accept carnivorous birds and does not admit pet birds. Moreover, the bird is subjected to a lot of stress as, being in old Delhi, the place is not easily accessible. Since it survives on charity, it is unable to take up research work.
    - (i) On the basis of your reading of the passage make notes on it, using recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply a suitable title.
    - (ii) Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words.

### **Section – B**

- Q3. As Principal of New Light Public School, Pant Nagar, draft an advertisement for a daily newspaper inviting applications for the post of a librarian in your school.  
OR  
You want to start a printing press. Draft an advertisement for a newspaper seeking a suitable building on rent.
- Q4. You are Suraj/Sandhya of Gargi Senior Secondary School. Write a speech for morning assembly on the 'Importance of Games and Sports in Personality Development.' (150–200 words)  
OR  
You are Rama, studying in Sun Public School, Bangalore. Every year your school celebrates the 'World Health Day' that falls on 7th April. Write a report for your school newsletter in 100-125 words on how the day was celebrated this year.
- Q5. You are the Secretary of Ashok Nagar Welfare Society, Kanpur. Write a letter to the Chairman, Kanpur Electricity Supply Undertaking, complaining about frequent power failures in your area. Sign yourself as XYZ.  
OR  
You are Tarun Jain of 15, Nehru Park, Lucknow. Write a letter to the Police Commissioner complaining about the increasing number of thefts in your area.
- Q6. Raj Rajeshwar of 160, Kesarganj, Kolkata, bought a frost-free Godrej Refrigerator of 265 litres from 'Living Style', C.R. Das Market, Kolkata. Having used it for about a month, he finds that the freezer section of the refrigerator is not working at all. Write a letter to the Sales Manager of the firm complaining about it.  
OR

Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper condemning the social evil of dowry system.

### Section – C

#### Chapter – 2: LOST SPRING, STORIES OF STOLEN CHILDHOOD

##### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (30 to 40 words each):**

1. Do you think Saheb was happy to work at the tea stall? Answer giving reasons.
2. What are the problems faced by the bangle makers?
3. What does the writer mean when she says, "Saheb is no longer his own master"?
4. Garbage to them is gold. Why does the author say so about the rag pickers?
5. How is Mukesh's attitude to his situation different from that of his family members?
6. What was Saheb's full name? What is a suitable name for him? Why? Why not?
7. 'I wonder if this is only an excuse to explain away a perpetual state of poverty? In what context does the author make this remark?
8. 'Seemapuri is on the periphery of Delhi yet miles away from it metaphorically'. Explain what the author means by this.
9. What trade does the family of Mukesh follow: Why does the writer feel that it will be difficult for Mukesh to break away from this tradition?
10. 'Together they have imposed the baggage on the child that he cannot put down.' Who do 'they' refer to? What is the 'baggage' and why can the child not get rid of it?
11. 'When I sense a flash of it in Mukesh, I am cheered.' What is this a reference to and why does it gladden the writer's heart?

##### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (125 to 150 words each)**

- i. 'Lost Spring' explains the grinding poverty and traditions that condemn thousands of people to a life of abject poverty. Do you agree? Why / Why not?
  - ii. 'Saheb is no longer his own master. Mukesh insists on being own master.' Discuss with reference to, 'Lost Spring'.
3. Explain the significance of the title 'Lost Spring'.
  4. The paradoxes of the society that we live in are aptly featured in 'Lost Spring'. Comment.

##### **Value Based Question**

In the Lesson 'Lost Spring' the author describes the miserable life of the children who are engaged in rag-picking. You feel disturbed and agitated to find children living their childhood like this. This makes you think of the children living in Indian slums who have in the grinding poverty and terrible conditions. Write an article in about 100 words on 'Children in Indian Slums'.

#### Poem – 2: AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM IN A SLUM

Read the lines given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. Break O break open till they break the town  
And show the children to green fields, and make their world

- Run azure on gold sands, and let their tongues  
Run naked into books the white and green leaves open  
History theirs whose language is the sun.
- To whom does 'they' refer?
  - What would they break?
  - What other freedom should they enjoy?
2. Surely, Shakespeare is wicked, the map a bad example,  
With ships and sun and love tempting them to steel –  
For lives that slyly turn in their cramped holes  
From fog to endless night? On their slag heap, these children  
Wear skins peeped through by bones and spectacles of steel  
With mended glass, like bottle bits on stones.
- Why is Shakespeare described as wicked?
  - Explain: 'from fog to endless night'.
  - What does the reference to 'slag heap' mean?
3. .... On their slag heap, these children  
Wear skins peeped through by bones and spectacles of steel  
With mended glass, like bottle bits on stones.  
All of their time and space are foggy slum  
So blot their maps with slums as big as doom
- Which two images are used to describe these slums?
  - What sort of life do these children lead?
  - Which figure of speech is used in the last line?

### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (30 to 40 words each)**

- What message does Stephen Spender convey through the poem, 'An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum'?
- How does the poet describe the classroom walls? (An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum)

Or

What do you think is the colour of sour cream? Why do you think the poet has used this expression to describe the classroom walls?

Or

The poet says, "and yet for these children, these windows, not this map, their world." Which world do these children belong to? Which world is inaccessible to them?

Or

"So blot their maps with slums as big as doom," says Stephen Spender. What does the poet want to convey?

Or

How do the pictures and maps on the wall contrast with the world the slum children live in?

Or

The walls for the classroom are decorated with the pictures of Shakespeare, but buildings with domes, world maps and beautiful valleys. How do these contrast with the world of these children?

Or

How does the world depicted on the classroom walls differ from the world of the slum children?

Or

Why does the poet, Stephen Spender, call the map a bad example?

(iii) What does the poet wish for the children of the slums?

Or

What does the poet want for the children of the slums? How can their lives be made to change?

(iv) What does the world of the slum children consist of?

5. The poet suggests that the children of the slums are caught in a web from which there is no escape. Why does he think so?
6. The slum children seem to be resigned to their fate. What are the examples in the poem that suggest this?
7. Why is the map on the wall referred to as a window, which is shut for these children of the slum?
8. What according to the poet is the only hope for the slum children?

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### **Assignment No.3**

#### **Section – A**

Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. It is worth looking at one or two aspects of the way a mother behaves towards her baby. The usual fondling, cuddling and cleaning require little comment, but the position in which she usually holds the baby against her body is rather revealing. Careful American studies have disclosed the fact that 80 per cent of mothers cradle their infants in their left arms, holding them against the left side of their bodies. If asked to explain the significance of this preference most people reply that it is obviously the result of the predominance of right-handedness in the population. By holding the babies in their left arms, the mothers keep their dominant arm free for manipulations. But a detailed analysis shows that this is not the case. True, there is a slight difference between right-handed and left-handed females, but not enough to provide an adequate explanation. It emerges that 83 per cent of right-handed mothers hold the baby on the left side, but then so do 78 per cent of left-handed mothers. In other words, only 22 per cent of the left-handed mothers have their dominant hands free for actions. Clearly there must be some other, less obvious explanation.
2. The only other clue comes from the fact that the heart is on the left side of the

mother's body. Could it be that the sound of her heartbeat is the vital factor? And in what way? Thinking along these lines, it was argued that perhaps during its existence inside the body of the mother, the growing embryo becomes fixated on the sound of the heartbeat. If this is so, then the re-discovery of this familiar sound after birth might have a calming effect on the infant, especially as it has just been thrust into a strange and frighteningly new world outside. If this is so then the mother, either instinctively or by an unconscious series of trials and errors, would soon arrive at the discovery that her baby is more at peace if held on the left against her heart, than on the right.

3. This may sound far-fetched, but tests have now been carried out which reveal that it is nevertheless the true explanation. Groups of newborn babies in a hospital nursery were exposed for a considerable time to the recorded sound of heartbeat at a standard rate of 72 beats per minute. There were nine babies in each group and it was found that one or more of them was crying for 60 per cent of time when the sound was not switched on, but that this figure fell to only 38 per cent when the heartbeat recording was being replayed. The heartbeat groups also showed a greater weight-gain than the others, although the amount of food taken was the same in both cases. Clearly, the beatless groups were burning up a lot more energy as a result of the vigorous actions of their crying.
  4. Another test was done with slightly older infants at bedtime. In some groups the room was silent; in others recorded lullabies were played. In others a ticking metronome was operating at the heartbeat speed of 72 beats per minute. In still others the heartbeat recording itself was played. It was then checked to see which groups fell asleep very quickly. The heartbeat group dropped off in half the time it took for any of the other groups. This not only clinches the idea that the sound of the heart beating is a powerfully calming stimulus, but it also shows that the response is a highly specific one. The metronome imitation will not do — at least, not for young infants.
  5. So it seems fairly certain that this is the explanation of the mother's left-side approach to baby-holding. It is interesting that when 466 Madonna-and-Child paintings (dating back over several hundred years) were analysed for this feature, 373 of them showed the baby on the left breast. Here again the figure was at the 80 per cent level. This contrasts with observations of females carrying parcels, where it was found that 50 per cent carried them on the left and 50 per cent on the right.
1. Answer the following questions as briefly as possible:
    - (i) What is the most significant thing about the way most mothers hold their babies?
    - (ii) How can you say that mothers don't hold babies on the left side of their bodies with the sole purpose of keeping their right arm free for work?
    - (iii) What has a calming effect on an infant and why?
    - (iv) Why does the baby feel more at peace against the left side of the mother's body?
    - (v) What fact is proved by the paintings of Madonna-and-Child?

II. Find from the passage words which mean the same as the following:

- (i) clearly (para 1)
- (ii) energetic (para 3)
- (iii) a thing that produces a reaction (para 4)

Q2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below:

1. People tend to amass possessions, sometimes without being aware of doing so. Indeed they can have a delightful surprise when they find something useful which they did not know they owned. Those who never have to change house become indiscriminate collectors of what can only be described as clutter. They leave unwanted objects in drawers, cupboards and attics for years in the belief that they may one day need just those very things. As they grow old, people also accumulate belongings for two other reasons; lack of physical and mental energy, both of which are essential in turning out and throwing away, and sentiment. Things owned for a long time are full of associations with the past, perhaps with the relatives who are dead, and so they gradually acquire a value beyond their true worth.
2. Some things are collected deliberately in the home in an attempt to avoid waste. Among these I would list string and brown paper, kept by thrifty people when a parcel has been opened, to save buying these two requisites. Collecting small items can easily become a mania. I know someone who always cuts out from newspapers sketches of model clothes that she would like to buy, if she had the money. As she is not rich, the chances that she will ever be able to afford such purchases are remote. But she is never sufficiently strong-minded to be able to stop the practice. It is a harmless habit, but -litters up her desk to such an extent that every time she opens it, loose bits of paper fall out in every direction.
3. Collecting as a serious hobby is quite different and has many advantages. It provides relaxation for leisure hours, as just looking at one's treasures is always a joy. One does not have to go out for amusement, since collection is housed at home. Whatever it consists of, stamps, records, first editions of books, china glass, antique furniture, pictures, model cars, stuffed birds, toy animals, there is always something to do in connection with it, from finding the right place for the latest addition to verifying facts in reference books. This hobby educates one not only in the chosen subject, but also in general matters which have some bearing on it. There are also other benefits. One wants to meet like-minded collectors, to get advice, compare notes, to exchange articles, to show off the latest find. So one's circle of friends grows. Soon the hobby leads to travel, perhaps to a meeting in another town, possibly a trip abroad in search of a rare specimen, for collectors are not confined to any one country. Over the years, one may well become an authority on one's hobby and will very probably be asked to give informal talks to little gatherings and then, if successful, to larger audiences. In this way self-confidence grows, first from mastering a subject, then from being able to talk about it.
  - (i) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it, using recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Use a format you

- consider suitable. Supply a suitable title.
- (ii) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words.

**Section – B**

- Q3. Suppose your family is migrating to a new place and you want to dispose of some furniture. To this effect prepare a short notice to be published in a local newspaper, giving necessary details of the articles, expected prices, etc.

OR

You want to purchase a second-hand motorcycle. Draft a suitable advertisement to be published in the 'Wanted' column of a newspaper.

- Q4. You are Rohit / Rashi of Vivekananda Sr. Secondary School, Bangalore. Your school has recently conducted a charity show in aid of the flood-affected people of Andhra Pradesh. As Cultural Secretary of the Students' Council, write a brief report.

OR

You are Mohan / Meena of Indira Gandhi Memorial Sr, Secondary School, Delhi. You have been asked to participate in a debate competition on the topic "Community service once a week should be introduced in schools and should be graded." Write your points for/against the motion. (150-200 words)

- Q5. You are a social worker. You are upset as some good schools are exploiting the parents at the time of admission by taking capitation fee in the name of donation or building fund. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily highlighting this corrupt practice. Sign the letter as Rahul / Rakhi.

OR

Write a letter to the Superintendent of Police of your district complaining about poor patrolling by the police in your area. Sign yourself as ABC.

- Q6. Geeta Kochhar, a student of Class XII, feels highly disturbed when she reads about a bride-burning case in the city of Sripur where she lives. She decides to write an article on the evil of the dowry system for the national daily 'Hamara Hindustan'. Write the article in maximum of 200 words.

OR

You are Rajan / Rani. Incidents of crimes against women, especially in big cities, are increasing. Write an article on this to be published in a newspaper to sensitise the police and the public on this matter.

**Section – C**

**CHAPTER – 3: DEEP WATER**

**PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (30 to 40 words each):**

- (i) Which factors led Douglas to decide in favour of Y.M.C.A pool;?
- (ii) When did Douglas realise that he was sinking? How did he plan to save himself?

- (iii) What did Douglas experience as he went down to the bottom of the pool for the first time?
- (iv) How did the drowning experience affect Douglas?
- (v) When did Douglas realise that he had an aversion to water?
- (vi) ‘.....and the curtain of life fell.’ What is this reference to and how did Douglas happen to be in this position?
- (vii) What was the immediate effect of Douglas’ experience of nearly drowning in the pool? What was the long term effect?
- (viii) How did Douglas’ experience of almost drowning continue to impact his life in the years that followed?
- (ix) ‘The instructor was finished. But I was not finished.’ What does refer to? Explain briefly.
- (x) How did Douglas get rid of all the residual fear that he had of water?

**PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (125 to 150 words each)**

- 1. A big boy threw Douglas into the swimming pool. How did this experience affect Douglas?
- 2. The narrative, ‘Deep Water’, by William Douglas is a saga of perseverance and courage. Elucidate.
- 3. ‘The handicap stayed with me as the years rolled by.’ What handicap is being referred to and what are the events that led up to him being thus handicapped?
- 4. ‘The experience had a deep meaning for me. What experience is being referred to? How did this experience impact the life of William Douglas?
- 5. ‘At last I felt released’. Describe the efforts undertaken by Douglas to find this moment of release.
- 6. ‘The instructor was finished. But I was not finished.’ What had the instructor finished that Douglas felt required reinforcement? How did he achieve it?
- 7. It is said that courage in danger is half the battle won. Comment with reference to William Douglas’s account ‘Deep Water’.
- 8. It has been said that a man who has never been in danger cannot answer for his courage. How does Douglas’ account of his personal battle with fear prove this?
- 9. Often the test of courage is not to die but to live. ‘Comment with reference to the essay, ‘Deep Water’.

**Value Based Question**

“All we have to fear is fear itself” the narrator in the lesson ‘Deep Water’ quotes Roosevelt while narrating his experience of going deep in water and all the rest of it. Narrate another story about conquest of fear and how courage helped someone to survive under the stress in about 100 words.

**Poem – 3: KEEPING QUIET**

Read the following line and answer the questions that follow:

- 1. Now we will count to twelve  
And we will all keep still  
For once on the face of the Earth



Let's not speak in any language,  
Let's stop for one second  
And not move our arms so much.

- a. How long does the poet want to stay still?
- b. What does he hope to achieve by keeping quiet?
- c. What does the poet mean by not move our arms so much?

2. Fishermen in the cold sea  
Would not harm whales  
And the man gathering salt  
would look at his hurt hands.

- (i) What does the poet expect of the fishermen and why?
- (ii) What will the man gathering salt do?
- (iii) What do the hurt hands imply?

3. Fishermen in the cold sea  
Would not harm whales  
And the man gathering salt  
would look at his hurt hands.  
Those who prepare green wars,  
Wars with gas, wars with fire  
Victory with no survivors,  
Would put on clean clothes  
And walk about with their brothers  
In the shade, doing nothing

- a. What does the fishermen not harming whales signify?
- b. How does the poet suggest that the idea of war and the winners in a war be made null and void?
- c. How can brotherhood and amity be restored in the world, according to the poet?
- d. What does the poet mean by doing nothing?

**PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (30 to 40 words each)**

1. Do you think the poet, Pablo Neruda, advocate total inactivity and death? Why/Why not?
2. According to the poet, what is it that human beings can learn from Nature? (Keeping Quiet)
3. Under the apparent stillness there is life. Justify this statement giving an example from the poem, 'Keeping Quiet'.

Or

What symbol from Nature does the poet invoke to say that there can be life under apparent stillness?

4. According to the poet, Pablo Neruda, what important lesson can the Earth teach us?
5. How, according to the poet, can our state of mind be changed if we maintain silence and suspend activity for a while?

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#### **Assignment No.4**

#### **Section – A**

Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. Other animals go about the world as nature made them. Why then, did man start to adorn himself by hanging round his neck, arms, waist and legs or putting things on his head? We can imagine many reasons. If an exceptionally strong or brave man succeeded in killing an exceptionally large bear, might he not get the idea of boring a hole through one of its teeth with a sharp flint and tying the tooth round his neck in order to remind himself of his great achievement and to show his friends what a great man he was? Gradually, it might become the custom in that tribe for all strong and brave hunters to wear a bear's tooth, and it might be regarded as a disgrace not to wear one and a sign that one was weak or very young.
2. Another man might make an ornament of a coloured shell or stone simply because he liked it or because its shape reminded him of something. Then if he happened to escape from some danger when he was wearing it, he might think the ornament had something to do with it, that it had magic qualities. And his friends and relations would not be satisfied until they had an ornament of the same kind.
3. People who wore ornaments would soon learn to arrange them in different ways according to their size and colour in order to make them more decorative and impressive. A necklace found in Italy with the skeleton of a young man of the Stone Age was quite elaborate. It consisted of stag's teeth arranged at intervals with, between them, two upper rows made up of the vertebrae of a fish and one row of shells.
4. Another reason, why men might tie feathers, horns, skins and all kinds of other things to themselves would be in order to make themselves look fierce and more terrifying to animals or to the men of other tribes. Objects that came from a distance and were therefore rare — such as sea-shells to people living far inland — would come in time to have a special value, and might be worn only by chiefs and their families in order to show that they were particularly important people.
5. Primitive tribes, living today, often associate themselves with some particular animal or bird, such as an eagle or a lion, or with a particular place, such as a mountain or river. Man may have started doing this kind of thing very early in his history. Then, every member of a group or family may have worn something such as feathers, claws or even a stone or wooden object of a certain shape or colour, to represent the animal or mountain or whatever it might be that they believed themselves to be connected with.
6. So, as we have seen, clothing may have started as ornament or to distinguish one tribe from another or to show rank or because certain things were believed to have

magic-qualities. But in some places, a time came when men and women began to wear clothes for other reasons. During the Ice Ages, when the polar ice spread over far more of the world than it does today, some of the districts in which human beings were living became very cold and bleak indeed. Man must have learnt that he would be more comfortable and more likely to survive, if he covered his body with the skins of animals. At first perhaps, he would simply tie a skin round his waist or over his shoulders but as time passed he learnt how to treat skins in order to make them softer and suppler and how to join them together in order to make better garments.

7. Flint tools-have been found buried deep under the earth floors of caves in which prehistoric men sheltered when the weather became colder. Some of the tools were probably used to scrape the inner sides of skins to make them soft. Stone Age people may also have softened skins in the same way that Eskimo women do today, by chewing them. The teeth of Eskimo women are often worn down to stumps by the constant chewing of seal skins.

- I. On the basis of your reading, answer the following questions:
- (i) Why did man start to adorn himself?
  - (ii) What was special about the necklace found in Italy?
  - (iii) Why did the men tie feathers, horns and skins to themselves?
  - (iv) Why did man begin to clothe himself? Give two reasons.
  - (v) What tools did they make use of?
- II. Find from the passage words which convey similar meaning as the following:
- (i) decorative object (para 2)
  - (ii) in detail (para 3)
  - (iii) pliant (para 6)

Q2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below:

1. Whether work should be placed among the causes of happiness or among the causes of unhappiness may perhaps be regarded as a doubtful question. There is certainly much work which is exceedingly irksome, and an excess of work is always very painful. However work is not to most people less painful than idleness. There are in work all grades, from mere relief of tedium up to the profoundest delights, according to the nature of the work and the abilities of the worker. Most of the work that most people have to do is not in itself interesting, but even such work has certain great advantages. To begin with, it fills a good many hours of the day without the need of deciding what one shall do. Most people, when they are left free to fill their own time according to their own choice, are at a loss to think of anything sufficiently pleasant to be worth doing. And whatever they decide on, they are troubled by the feeling that something else would have been pleasanter. To be able to fill leisure intelligently is the last product of civilization and at present very few people have reached this level. Moreover, the exercise of choice is in itself tiresome. Except to people with unusual initiative, it is positively agreeable to be told what to do at each hour of the day, provided the orders are not too unpleasant. Most of the idle rich suffer unspeakable boredom as the price of their

freedom from drudgery. At times, they may find relief by hunting big game in Africa or by flying round the world, but the number of such sensations is limited, especially after youth is past. Accordingly, the more intelligent rich men work nearly as hard as if they were poor.

2. Work therefore is desirable, first and foremost as a preventive of boredom that a man feels when he is doing something out of compulsion; though uninteresting work is as boring as having nothing to do. With this advantage of work another is associated, namely that it makes holidays much more delicious when they come. Provided a man does not have to work so hard as to impair his vigour, he is likely to find far more zest in his free time than an idle man could possibly find.
3. The second advantage of most paid work and some of unpaid work is that it gives chances of success and opportunities for ambition. In most work, success is measured by income and while our capitalistic society continues, this is inevitable. However dull work may be, it becomes bearable, if it is a means of building up a reputation.
  - (i) 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 an appropriate title to it. Use a suitable format.
  - (ii) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words.

### **Section – B**

- Q3. You have a set of three simple rooms exclusively suitable for single occupants and students. Draft an advertisement for the 'To Let' column of a local daily.

OR

You are the Secretary of the ABC Colony Welfare Association. Write a notice to be circulated to all the residents of the colony informing them that there will be no water supply in your colony on 24th and 25th of August, 200— due to maintenance work.

- Q4. Children are the future citizens of a country. So we must devote our time on them. Write your views in the shape of a paragraph in about 100 words on the topic 'If you want to spend on children, spend time'.

OR

Your school celebrated 'a green week' in which a number of programmes, including the plantation of trees, guest lectures on environment, 'nukkad nataks' (street plays), etc., were organized. Write a report in 100-125 words for a national daily for creating awareness. You are Roshan / Rachna, Secretary, Youth Club of your school.

- Q5. You are Sobha Singh, living at 75, New Colony, Faridabad. Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper about the undesirability of primary school students carrying heavy bags to their schools.

OR

Write a letter to the Commissioner of Police requesting him to be the Chief Guest at your School Sports Day function to be held at your school playground. You are Michael / Mary, School Pupil Leader, Crescent Senior Secondary School, Civil Lines, Bhopal.

- Q6. Water is very precious. Some scientists even go to the extent of saying that the third world war may be fought on the issue of water. Keeping in view the need for saving each drop of water, write an article in 150-200 words. You are Natasha / Rohan, a resident of Lucknow.

OR

You are Bala, a social worker and freelance writer, much concerned about the discriminatory treatment given to females right from their birth in the Indian society. Write an article in 150-200 words throwing light on this problem and giving suggestions or putting an end to it.

### **Section – C**

#### **Chapter – 4: THE RATTRAP**

#### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (30 to 40 words each)**

- (i) Why was Edla happy to see the gift left by the peddler? (The Rattrap)
- (ii) Why did the peddler sign himself as Captain von Stahle?
- (iii) Did the stranger agree to go to the ironmaster's house? Why or Why not?
- (iv) How did the peddler react when he saw that the ironmaster had recognized him as Nils Olof, an old regimental comrade?
- (v) How did the tramp make his living?
- (vi) What was the thought that took hold of his fancy? What consolation did he derive from this thought?
- (vii) Describe the evening that the tramp spent with the owner of the cottage.
- (viii) 'The man was just as generous with his confidences as with his porridge and tobacco.' What was the outcome of this?
- (ix) What were the precautions that the peddler took to remain undetected as the thief?
- (x) Why did the peddler have to keep to the woods after leaving the cottage? How did he feel?
- (xi) What were the peddler's feelings as night fell in the woods?
- (xii) Why did the blacksmith at Ramsjo ironworks not pay any attention to the peddler?
- (xiii) Who was the owner of the ironworks and what sort of person was he?
- (xiv) Who did the ironmaster mistake the peddler to be? Why did the latter not reveal his identity? How did his true identity come to light?
- (xv) What was the ironmaster's reaction to the poor condition of the peddler? What light does it throw on the character of the ironmaster?
- (xvi) What were the peddler's feelings as he drove over to the ironmaster's house?
- (xvii) What was the sentiment expressed by the tramp in the letter that he left for Edla? Why had he signed himself as Captain Von Stahle?

**PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (125 to 150 words each)**

1. Describe how the story, 'The Rattrap' shows that basic human goodness can be brought out by understanding and love.
2. How did the peddler get out of the rattrap he had fallen into?
3. Compare and contrast the character of the ironmaster with that of his daughter.
4. The lesson 'The Rattrap' is both entertaining and philosophical. Do you agree with this statement? Why.
5. The story, 'The Rattrap', exemplifies the notion that it is the emotional needs of human beings that have a direct bearing on their behaviour. Elucidate.
6. What was the philosophy that the peddler had adopted? How did he live it out?
7. Despite all odds the reader's sympathies lie with the peddler in the story, 'The Rattrap'. Elucidate

**Value Based Question**

"The Rattrap" is a story that focuses on human loneliness and the need to be kind to others. It shows how an act of kindness can change a person's view of the world. In keeping with this mood of the story, write a Paragraph on the topic "On being Kind" in about 100 words.

**Poem – 4: A THING OF BEAUTY**

Read the following lines and answer the questions that follow:

1. Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing  
A flowery bond to bind us to the each,  
Spite of despondence, of the inhuman dearth  
Of noble natures, of the gloomy days  
Of all the unhealthy and o'er-darkened ways  
Made for our searching: yes, in spite of all  
Some shape of beauty moves away the pall  
From our dark spirits.
  1. What are the flowery bands that bind us to the earth?
  2. What message do the above lines convey?
2. A thing of beauty is a joy forever  
Its loveliness increases, it will never  
Pass into nothingness; but will keep  
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep  
Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing.
  1. How does a thing of beauty remain a joy forever?
  2. Mention any two sources of joy which a thing of beauty provides to us.

**PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (30 to 40 words each)**

1. Why is 'grandeur' associated with the mighty dead?
2. How does beauty sustain our life on this earth?
3. What is the source of the endless fountain and what is its effect?
4. What makes human beings love life in spite of troubles and sufferings?
5. What image does Keats use to describe the beautiful bounty of the earth?

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**Assignment No.5**

**Section – A**

Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. Archaeology is the scientific study of the remains of past human culture. Archaeologists investigate the lives of early people by studying the objects those people left behind. Such objects include buildings, artwork, tools, bones and pottery. Archaeologists may make exciting discoveries, such as a tomb filled with gold or the ruins of a magnificent temple in the midst of a jungle. However, the discovery of a few stone tools or grains of hardened corn may reveal even more about early people.
2. Archaeological research is the chief method available for learning about societies that existed before the invention of writing about 5,000 years ago. It also provides an important supplement to our knowledge of ancient societies that left written records. In America, archaeology is considered as a branch of anthropology — the scientific study of humanity and human culture. European archaeologists, however, think of their work as closely related to the field of history. Archaeology differs from history in that historians mainly study the lives of people as recorded in written documents.
3. Archaeologists look for information about how, where, and when cultures developed. Like other social scientists, they search for reasons why major changes have occurred in certain cultures. Some archaeologists try to understand why ancient people stopped hunting and started farming. Others develop theories about what caused people to build cities and to setup trade routes. In addition, some archaeologists look for reasons behind the fall of such early civilizations as the Maya in Central America and the Roman in Europe.
4. Archaeologists examine any evidence that can help them explain how people lived in past times. Such evidence ranges from the ruins of a large city to a few stone flakes. Archaeologists look for such things as artifacts, features and ecofacts. Artifacts include objects like arrowheads, pots and beads. Features consist mainly of houses, tombs, irrigation canals and other large structures built by ancient people. Ecofacts are natural objects found with artifacts or features. Ecofacts reveal how ancient people responded to their surroundings. Examples of ecofacts include seeds and animal bones.
5. Any place where archaeological evidence is found is called an archaeological site. To understand the behaviour of the people who occupied a site, archaeologists must study the relationship among the artifacts, features and ecofacts found there. For example, the discovery of stone spearheads near the bones of an extinct kind of buffalo at a site in New Mexico showed that early human beings had hunted buffaloes in that area.
6. If objects are buried deep in the ground, their position in the earth also concerns archaeologists. The scientists study the layers of soil and rock in which objects are found to understand the conditions that existed when the objects were placed there. In some places, archaeologists find many levels of deposits called strata.

The archaeological study of strata called stratigraphy, developed from the study of rock layers in geology.

7. Archaeologists use special technique and equipment to gather archaeological evidence precisely and accurately. They also keep detailed records of their findings because too much archaeological research destroys the remains being studied. Locating sites is the first job of the archaeologists. Sites may be above ground, underground or underwater. Some large sites are located easily because they are clearly visible or can be traced from description in ancient stories or other historical records. Such sites include the pyramids of Egypt and the ancient city of Athens in Greece.

1. Answer the following questions briefly:

- (i) What do archaeologists do?
- (ii) What is archaeological research?
- (iii) How does archaeology differ from history?
- (iv) Describe the archaeological evidences studied by archaeologists.
- (v) What kind of archaeological sites are easy to locate and why?

- II. Find from the passage words which convey similar meaning as the following:

- (i) a thing made by human workmanship (para 5)
- (ii) system of arranging in classes (para 9)
- (iii) exactly (para 7)

- Q2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below:

1. We know that other planets also have days and nights and seasons. One of the questions that has always proved fascinating to almost everybody is whether there are creatures on any of these worlds to see these changes. 'The Man from Mars' has become one of the most popular subjects for jokes. Why Mars? We naturally expect that if life exists on other planets, it would be on those most like the earth. These are Mars and Venus, the two planets nearest to us. Venus is toward the sun and Mars is in the other direction.
2. Of the two, the nearest planet Venus is more like the earth in size and distance from the sun, but Mars has excited more interest because we can see its surface. Venus is covered with clouds that we can't penetrate, even with rays that enable us to take pictures through earth clouds.
3. Mars was named after the god of war because of its red colour, which is plain even to our unaided eyes. When Mars is closest to the earth and sunlight is reflected directly from it, a very modest telescope will enlarge it to the apparent size of the moon; Although we can't see its features as clearly as the moon's, we have been able to learn more about its surface than about any other object in the sky except the moon.
4. The most noticeable features of Mars as seen through a telescope are the ice caps at its north and south poles. These appear just as those on earth would to a man on Mars. Since Mars is tilted at about the same angle that earth is, it has seasons as we do. The effect of the seasons can be clearly seen in the growing



- and shrinking of the polar ice caps. Another seasonal change has convinced most astronomers that there is some form of plant life in low-lying areas. These areas change from blue-green in summer to brown in winter.
5. A great argument raged among scientists for many years about some markings. Some saw straight canals connecting 'oases', from which they concluded that there must be intelligent creatures on Mars who had dug the canals to irrigate their lands. Astronomers at present are very doubtful about these canals but they do agree that it appears as if moisture — perhaps in the form of vapour — comes down from the polar caps and seems to nourish plant life. They also agree that the lighter areas, which give Mars its red colour, are deserts of rusty rocks.
- (i) On the basis of your reading of the passage make notes on it, using recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Use a format you consider suitable. Supply a suitable title.
- (ii) Make a summary of the passage in about 80 words.

### **Section – B**

- Q3. You are Deepak Kumar, Secretary, History Society, DAV School, Dehradun. Write a notice for the school notice-board inviting names for a trip to Rajasthan that you propose to organise.

OR

Draft a poster advertising a clearance sale of household articles by a family going abroad. List some of the articles being sold. (Use the address: R.K. Sharma, 34, Mall Avenue, Lucknow.)

- Q4. Deepika, a student of Mark Public School, has been asked to write a debate on the topic 'Should schools have uniform?' Write a debate for her either in favour of or against the motion. (150–200 words)

OR

Imagine that you are a foreman in a factory. There has been a fire in the factory and one of the workers has been badly burnt and is in hospital. Your General Manager has asked you to send him a report on the fire. Write the report in about 100 words.

- Q5. You are Amit Chakraborty staying at 81, Chitranjan Park, New Delhi. Last month you got an inverter installed at your house through 'Electronic World' of Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi. Now you find that the inverter is not working. Write a letter to the dealer asking him to replace it immediately under the terms and conditions of the deal.

OR

You are Geetanjali / Ganesh staying in Luvkush Cooperative Group Housing Society, Hari Nagar, Mumbai. There are no street lights on the main road leading to the colony. Write a letter to the Editor of The Times of India drawing attention of the Government to this problem of the residents of Hari Nagar. (word limit : 200)

words)

- Q6. Principal K.K. Shukla suspended two students from Bright Public School for creating indiscipline in the class. As Head Boy of the school, write an article for your magazine exhorting all students to avoid mischief and help establish a better image of themselves.

OR

Sushma Kalra had a discussion with her friend on the system of Public Schools. After coming to the conclusion that the primary aim of these schools is fleecing and not teaching, write an article for Sushma on the subject, 'Fleecing by Public Schools' for a famous monthly magazine, 'Education Today'.

### **Section – C**

#### **CHAPTER – 5 INDIGO**

##### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (30 to 40 words each)**

1. Why is Rajkumar Shukla described as being resolute?
2. Why did the servants think Gandhiji to be another peasant?
3. Why did Gandhiji object to C.F. Andrews' stay in Champaran?
4. Why did Gandhi agree to the planters' offer of a 25% refund to the farmers?
5. How do we know that ordinary people too contributed to the freedom movement?
6. Why did Rajkumar Shukla want to take Gandhiji to Champaran?
7. How was Gandhi able to influence the lawyers?
8. Why did Gandhiji decide to go to Muzzafarabad before going to Champaran? What sort of reception did he get there and why was it unusual?
9. What were the conditions of the sharecroppers at the time that Gandhi arrived at Champaran?
10. Why was Gandhi served summons to appear in court? What was his immediate reaction to this?
11. What made the British realise that the Indians could challenge their might, hitherto unquestioned?
12. Why did Gandhi protest against the delay in the trial? What was the outcome of Gandhi's refusal to furnish bail?
13. How did Gandhi manage the workings of the Ashram at Ahmedabad while he was at Champaran?
14. Why was Gandhi opposed to the idea of enlisting the assistance of Charles Freer Andrews even though he was a devoted follower?

##### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (125 to 150 words each)**

1. Which factors helped the fear-stricken peasants of Champaran to achieve freedom?
2. Describe how the Champaran episode became a turning point in Gandhi's life.
3. What problems did the sharecroppers of Champaran face? How did Gandhi help them overcome the problems?

4. 'Self-reliance, Indian Independence and help to sharecroppers were all bound together.' Elucidate with reference to the excerpt entitled 'Indigo' by Louis Fischer.
5. What measures did Gandhi take to improve the cultural and social backwardness of the villages of Champaran?
6. Gandhi was impressed by the sharecropper's tenacity and this led to a series of events, which had a far-reaching impact on the Indian freedom struggle. Discuss with reference to the excerpt by Louis Fischer, In 'Indigo'.
7. Rajkumar Shukla was illiterate but resolute. How did this work in favour of his comrades in Champaran?

### **Value Based Question**

The Lesson 'Indigo' highlights the qualities of leadership shown by Mahatma Gandhi to secure justice for the oppressed people through argumentation and negotiation. Getting a clue from the way Mahatma Gandhi dealt with the Champaran episode, write an article on 'Qualities of a Good Leader' in about 100 words.

### **Poem – 5: AUNT JENNIFER'S TIGERS**

Read the following lines and answer the questions that follow:

1. Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen,  
Bright topaz denizens of a world of green  
They do not fear the men beneath the tree;  
They pace in sleek chivalric certainty .
  - a. Why are the tigers referred to as Aunt Jennifer's tigers?
  - b. What does 'denizens' mean? What is 'the world of green' a reference to?
  - c. What is the significance of the third line?
  - d. Explain the last line.
2. Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool  
Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.  
The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band.  
Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's doing?
  - a. What is Aunt Jennifer doing?
  - b. Why are Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering?
  - c. Why does Aunt Jennifer create animals which are so different?

### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (30 to 40 words each)**

- (i) What will happen to Aunt Jennifer's tigers when she is dead?
- (ii) What is the weight that lies heavy on Aunt Jennifer's hand? How is it associated with her husband?
- (iii) Why did Aunt Jennifer choose to embroider tigers on the panel?
- (iv) How does the poet describe Aunt Jennifer's tigers?
- (v) What do the tigers embroidered by Aunt Jennifer on the panel signify?

- (vi) What is the significance of Uncle's wedding band? Why does Aunt Jennifer find it heavy?
- (vii) How does the poetess suggest that Aunt Jennifer will always be haunted by the demands of her life or that she will never be able to forget it?  
What does the poet suggest by saying that the tigers that she has embroidered will forever go on prancing proudly?

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### **Assignment No.6**

#### **Section – A**

Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. Early automobiles were sometimes only 'horseless carriages' powered by gasoline or steam engines. Some of them were so noisy that cities often made laws forbidding their use because they frightened horses.
2. Many countries helped to develop the automobile. The internal-combustion engine invented in Austria and France was an early leader in automobile manufacturing. But it was in the United States after 1900 that the automobile was improved most rapidly. As a large and growing country, the United States needed cars and trucks to provide transportation in places not served by trains.
3. Two brilliant ideas made possible the mass production of automobiles. An American inventor named Eli Whitney thought one of them, which is known as 'standardization of parts'. In an effort to speed up production in his gun factory, Whitney decided that each part of a gun could be made by machines so that it would be exactly like all the others of its kind.
4. Another American, Henry Ford, developed the idea of the assembly line. Before Ford introduced the assembly line, each car was built by hand. Such a process was, of course, very slow. As a result, automobiles were so expensive that only rich people could afford them. Ford proposed a system in which each worker would have only a portion of the wheels. Another would place the wheels on the car. And still another would insert the bolts that held the wheels to the car. Each worker needed to learn only one or two routine tasks.
5. But the really important part of Ford's idea was to bring the work to the worker. An automobile frame, which looks like a steel skeleton, was put on a moving platform. As the frame moved past the worker, each worker could attach a single part. When the car reached the end of the line, it was completely assembled. Oil, gasoline and water were added and the car was ready to be driven away. With the increased production made possible by the assembly line, automobiles became much cheaper and more and more people were able to afford them.
6. Today, it can be said that wheels run America. The four rubber tyres of the automobile move America through work and play.
7. Even though the majority of Americans would find it hard to imagine what life could be without a car, some have begun to realize that the automobile is a mixed blessing. Traffic accidents are increasing steadily and large cities are plagued by traffic congestion. Worst of all, perhaps, is the air pollution caused by the internal-

combustion engine. Every car engine burns hundreds of gallons of fuel each year and pumps hundreds of pounds of carbon monoxide and other gases into the air. These gases are one source of the smog that hangs over large cities. Some of these gases are poisonous and dangerous to health, especially for someone with a weak heart or respiratory diseases.

8. One answer to the problem of air pollution is to build a car that does not pollute. That's what several major automobile manufactures are trying to do. But building a clean car is easier said than done. So far the progress has been slow. Another solution is to eliminate car fumes altogether by getting rid of the internal-combustion engine. Inventors are now working on turbine-powered cars, as well as on cars powered by steam and electricity. But most auto makers believe that it will take years to develop practical models that are powered by electricity or steam.

- I. On the basis of your reading, answer the following questions:
- (i) How does standardization of parts help make mass production possible?
  - (ii) How does the assembly line help make mass production possible?
  - (iii) Why do some Americans call the automobiles a mixed blessing?
  - (iv) What suggestions are offered in this piece for getting rid of pollution?
  - (v) Why is it difficult to get rid of the internal-combustion engine?
- II. Pick out from the passage words which are similar in meaning to the following:
- (i) Mixture of smoke and fog (Para 7)
  - (ii) Remove (Para 8)
  - (iii) Poisonous gases (Para 8)

Q2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below:

1. The song of many birds seems beautiful to us. That is why it is called song, for it reminds us of human song. We do not know whether birds themselves consider their song beautiful, although we like to believe that they do. What birds feel we will never know, because they have no means of telling us? But we do know other things about bird song.
2. If we watch a male song-bird, such as a nightingale, early in the morning in early spring, just after it has arrived from its winter quarters, we shall notice that it is alone and has not yet got a mate. It spends most of its time singing. If we watch closely, we will see that while it sings it looks continually round in all directions. It is clearly very much on the alert.
3. If we continue to watch this bird from day to day, we shall notice it is singing every morning, usually from the same few perches. As the days on, the vigour of its song increases. Suddenly, one day, there is no singing bird. It has not left, however. A close scrutiny of the bushes will soon show that it is still there. But since our last visit a female has arrived, and our male is silent because it has mated. The pair keeps close together, now and then the male courting or pursuing the female; but it does not sing. The sudden change in its behavior is striking.
4. This behavior is not accidental; it is the rule in many species. The newly arrived male sings in order to attract a female. But we might well ask why it should stop singing when the song has served its purpose; why should not the male continue to

sing just for pleasure even after the female has arrived? The reason is that so many natural events are determined by their usefulness. Song is uttered, therefore, in many species only when it is necessary. It is very useful for the purpose of bringing male and female together, but as soon as this purpose is accomplished, it is merely dangerous for the male to sing; our male would run the risk of being killed.

- (i) On the basis of your reading of the passage make notes on it, using recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Use a format you consider suitable. Supply a suitable title.
- (ii) "Make a summary of the passage in about 80 words.

### **Section – B**

- Q3. You want to sell your Maruti 800 car as you are going abroad on an assignment. Draft a suitable advertisement to be published in the classified columns of 'The Times of India', New Delhi, (word limit: 50 words)

OR

You are the Secretary of Gymkhana Club of Coimbatore. Draft a notice to be sent to the members asking them to attend the annual meeting of the Governing Body. (Invent the necessary details.) Sign as Prabhat / Parvi. (Word limit: 50 words)

- Q4. A workshop on 'Participative Management in Schools' was organised in your school. You happened to attend it. Write your ideas on the above topic in about 100 words.

OR

You are Beena / Biju. As a representative of your residents' welfare association, you have attended an awareness camp on 'Keeping the City Clean'. Write a report on the camp and also about the suggestions given in the camp in connection with keeping the city clean, for publication in your association's newsletter.

- Q5. You are Pushpa of Trivandrum. Write a letter to the Deputy Commissioner complaining about the nuisance of loudspeakers in your city.

OR

You are Aman / Aarti of 119, Church Road, Kanpur. You are interested in doing a short-term course in Public Speaking for your personality enrichment during your summer vacation. Write a letter to the Director, Personal Centre, Sector 22, Chandigarh, inquiring about the duration of such a course and the terms and conditions for admission, (word limit : 200 words)

- Q6. K. S. Rao of 50, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad-15, strongly feels that reckless driving is largely responsible for accidents on the roads. He writes an article expressing his concern about the same. Write the article for Rao in not more than 200 words.

OR

Manoj Dutta, a student of Class XII, feels highly disturbed when he reads about the 'scams' which are being unearthed almost daily. He decides to write an article on the menace of corruption in India for the national daily 'Jan Jagriti'. Write the article in about 200 words.

## Section – C

### CHAPTER – 6 GOING PLACES

#### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (30 to 40 words each)**

1. Why did Jansie discourage Sophie from entertaining thoughts about the sports-star, Danny Casey?
2. Why did Sophie like her brother Geoff more than any other person? From her perspective, what did he symbolise?
3. Write a character sketch of Jansie.
4. Did Geoff keep his promise? How do you know?
5. Why did Sophie not want Jansie to know anything about her meeting with Danny Casey?
6. What impression do you get of Sophie's mother and her father?
7. 'Damn that Geoff, this was a Geoff thing not a Jansie thing.' Why did Sophie say so?
8. Why did she go to the canal after dark? Was she really going to meet Danny Casey?
9. How did Sophie's friend Jansie get to know about her meeting with Danny Casey? What was her reaction?
10. What were Sophie's thoughts as she waited by the canal?

#### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (125 to 150 words each)**

1. Contrast Sophie's real world with her fantasies
2. Describe the character of Sophie's father and the role played by him.
3. Jansie is just as old as Sophie but she is very different from her. Bring out the contrast between the two friends citing relevant instances from the story, 'Going Places'.
4. It is natural for teenagers to have unrealistic dreams. Discuss with reference to the story, 'Going Places'.
5. 'I can see the future and now I will have to live with this burden,' says Sophie. What is the burden being referred to? What light does this throw on Sophie's life?

#### **Value Based Question**

One of the themes of the lesson 'Going Places' is about an adolescent, given to hero worship. You, too, must have had your role model or someone you have always admired or whom you may have considered your hero'. Write in about 100 words a paragraph on 'My Favourite Hero'.

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#### **Assignment No.7**

## Section – A

Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. My grandmother, like everybody's grandmother, was an old woman. She had been old and wrinkled for the twenty years that I had known her. People said that she had once been young and pretty and even had a husband, but that was

hard to believe. My grandfather's portrait hung above the mantelpiece in the drawing-room. He wore a big turban and loose-fitting clothes. His long, white beard covered the best part of his chest and he looked at least a hundred years old. He did not look the sort of person who would have a wife or children. He looked as if he could only have lots and lots of grandchildren. As for my grandmother being young and pretty, the thought was almost revolting. She often told us of the games she used to play as a child. That seemed quite absurd and undignified on her part and we treated it like the fables of the Prophets she used to tell us.

2. She had always been short and fat and slightly bent. Her face was a criss-cross of wrinkles running from everywhere to everywhere. No, we were certain she had always been as we had known her. Old, so terribly old that she could not have grown older, and had stayed at the same age for twenty years. She could never have been pretty; but she was always beautiful. She hobbled about the house in spotless white with one hand resting on her waist to balance her stoop and the other telling the beads of her rosary. Her silver locks were scattered untidily over her pale, puckered face and her lips constantly moved in inaudible prayer. Yes, she was beautiful. She was like the winter landscape in the mountains, an expanse of pure white serenity breathing peace and contentment.
  3. My grandmother and I were good friends. My parents left me with her when they went to live in the city and we were constantly together. She used to wake me up in the morning and get me ready for school. She said her morning prayer in a monotonous singsong while she bathed and dressed me in the hope that I would listen and get to know it by heart. I listened because I loved her voice but never bothered to learn it. Then she would fetch my wooden slate which she had already washed and plastered with yellow chalk, a tiny earthen inkpot and a reed pen tie them in a bundle and hand it to me. After a breakfast of a thick, stale chapatti with a little butter and sugar spread on it, we went to school. She carried several stale chapattis with her for the village dogs.
  4. My grandmother always went to school with me because the school was attached to the temple. The priest taught us the alphabet and the Morning Prayer. While the children sat in rows on either side of the verandah singing the alphabet or the prayer in a chorus, my grandmother sat inside reading the scriptures. When we had both finished, we would walk back together. This time the village dogs would meet us at the temple door. They followed us to our home growling and fighting with each other for chapattis we threw to them.
  5. When my parents were comfortably settled, in the city, they sent for us. That was a turning point in our friendship. Although we shared the same room, my grandmother no longer came to school with me. I used to go to an English school in a motor-bus. There were no dogs in the streets and she took to feeding sparrows in the courtyard of our city house. (Khushwant Singh)
1. Answer the following questions as briefly as possible:
    - (i) What does Khushwant Singh say about the physical appearance of his grandmother?



- (ii) How can you say that Khushwant Singh's grandmother was a very religious woman?
- (iii) What was a turning point in their relationship?
- (iv) Which school did Khushwant Singh go to in his village?
- (v) What was his grandmother's routine?

II. Find from the passage words or phrases which convey the same meaning as:

- (i) unpleasant (Para 1)
- (ii) cared (Para 3)
- (iii) all together (Para 4)

Q2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below:

1. Research on solar energy is as sophisticated and intensive in India as anywhere else in the world. For ten months of the year, six to eight hours a day, much of India receives high intensity, fairly uniform sunshine. The Indian government has, therefore, given priority to six projects in the development of solar energy. The most important of these is the solar-energized water pump. The other five are solar power stations, solar distillation and desalination plants, solar air-conditioning units, solar water heaters and solar agriculture dryers.
2. The solar water pump, which will have a capacity of between two and five horse-power, is being developed principally for use in rural areas. Prototypes of such a pump are now being tested. (One French-designed model is capable of pumping 200 gallons of water per hour from a depth of 30 meters). A solar-energized pump would have no recurring power expenses and should last more than 10 years. The cost of the initial unit- Rs. 50,000 — is not as staggering as it sounds. When compared to the cost of conventional generation of electricity and its transmission to remote villages, a water pump may become economically feasible for many parts of the country.
3. The solar power station project hopes to develop a mini-power unit that can be used in rural India to collect solar energy and transform it into electrical energy for lights, fans, TV sets, and small-scale machinery. In one such unit, which is now under construction, solar energy would be collected to produce steam, which would then drive a turbine to generate electricity. The mini-power plant being built now will be in use towards the end of next year.
4. Research on solar desalination plants has been confined to the laboratory so far, but the Central Salt and Marine Chemicals Research Institute, Bhavnagar, has produced a successful prototype. Experts feel that solar energy is ideally suited to converting brackish water into drinking water, thus benefiting countless villages.
5. Research over the last 15 years has produced three major designs for solar water heaters with capacities ranging from 140 to 200 liters. However, since the cheapest of these costs about Rs. 3500, the solar heater is still too expensive for the average consumer.
  - (i) On the basis of your reading of the passage make notes on it, using recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Use a format you consider suitable. Supply a suitable title.

- (ii) Make a summary of the passage in about 80 words.

**Section – B**

- Q3. Draft a poster, to be displayed in the market-place, announcing sale of sarees at D-76, Boat Club Road. Mention some of the varieties available.

OR

You are B. Sinha, sports coach of ABC School, Delhi. Write a notice for the school notice-board informing the students that your school is playing against M.N. School, Delhi, in the Zonal Football Finals. Invite them to come and watch the match and cheer the team.

- Q4. Recently you attended a Career Fair organized by the Australian High Commission in which various Australian colleges and universities participated and gave information about their undergraduate and graduate programmes. You attended this fair. Write a detailed account of the fair in 100-125 words. You are Reshma / Hamid.

OR

Recently your school celebrated World Literacy Day and you arranged a programme, 'Each One Teach One'. Write a report on it in 100-125 words for your school magazine. You are Kumar / Kiran of New Public School, Delhi.

- Q5. You are Poonam of 5, R.K. Puram, Delhi. Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper about the flooding of your colony during the rains.

OR

You are Sunil of 63, Pitam Pura, New Delhi. Write a letter to the Station House Officer about the increasing incidents of pick pocketing in your area.

- Q6. Write in 200 words on any one of the following topics:

- (i) Walking to School on a Rainy Day.
- (ii) The Scene an Hour before the Examination in front of the Examination Hall.

**Section – C**

**Vistas- Chapter – 1 : THE TIGER KING**

**PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (125 to 150 words each)**

1. When did the Tiger King stand in danger of losing his kingdom? How was he able to avert the danger?
2. Describe the efforts made by the Tiger King to achieve his target of killing a hundred tigers.
3. How did the tiger king meet his end? What is ironical about his fate?
4. The astrologer's prediction about the death of the Tiger King came to be true. Do you agree with this statement? Explain why or why not. .

**PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (30 to 40 words each)**

1. What did the British officer's secretary tell the Maharaja? Why did the Maharaja refuse permission?

2. How did the Dewan try to help the Maharaja achieve his mission
3. How did the hundredth tiger take its final revenge upon the Tiger King?
4. Why was the Maharaja so anxious to kill the hundredth tiger?
5. How did the tiger king celebrate his victory over the killing of the 100<sup>th</sup> tiger?
6. What did the astrologers predict when the tiger king was born? What was the great miracle that occurred ten days after the birth of the tiger king?

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### **Assignment No.8**

#### **Section – A**

Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. In the buses of Delhi, all of us make use of one another for bodily comfort. In northern India, people have very great difficulty in keeping steady in moving vehicles, and therefore they lean against one another or put their arms round a fellow-passenger. Nobody is so ill-natured as to mind being used as a cushion, and if there is anyone with a wholly alien notion of private ownership in respect of his body objects, he is asked in offended tones, 'What harm is there in it, you are not a woman?' Again, if anyone wants to know the time and has not got a watch he simply takes up the left hand of another passenger and looks at his wrist-watch. I wear mine on the under side, and therefore I often have my wrist twisted.
2. The buses are also full of conversation not only on public topics but also on embarrassingly private ones, and not only between acquaintances but also between people who have never met before. Among the former the jokes are loud and hearty, and they are also permissible between total strangers. One day a fellow-passenger looked at my large sola topee and remarked that it was heavier than my whole body and when I replied that it was no bigger than his turban he said that he hoped I was not offended at his joke.
3. Another day I even had an anxious inquiry about my health. In the hot season I sometimes get an irritation at the back of my neck, especially because I wear a collar and tie even in summer, and this makes me jerk my head and even perk it like a bird. Last summer I had an attack of this and when travelling in the bus, I suddenly heard the gentleman sitting next to me asking me in English, 'Is it habit or is it disease?' As I was somewhat surprised by the question and could not at first understand what it was about, he repeated the query. I asked in my turn, 'Is what habit or disease?' Then the gentleman mimicked me exactly and said, 'This.' I was bound in common politeness to reply, 'I suppose it is habit.' I thought so too,' he rejoined. 'You have done this too many times, and it has now become a habit, and habit as you know is second nature.' 'So it is, so it is,' I said in an embarrassed manner.
4. The passengers also help one another about the best way to get to destination, because not infrequently the conductor has no clear idea of the topography of Delhi, and they often give contradictory directions, each maintaining that his is the right one. So far as newspaper reading is concerned, the fellow-passengers never snatch away anybody's paper, but they take the pages he is not reading, in

the most polite manner, and distribute them among themselves. These are, however, scrupulously returned. Books are often tugged at. One day a fellow-passenger pulled hard at an edition of the Gita I was holding in my hand, and when I did not let it go, but objected, he said angrily, 'You have got a holy book in your hand and you are behaving like this ! I don't want your book.' And he did make a pariah of me.

- I. Answer the following questions as briefly as possible:
  - (i) What happens if someone in a Delhi bus objects to a fellow-passenger leaning against him?
  - (ii) What kind of conversation goes on in the buses of Delhi?
  - (iii) What does the incident of the 'sola topee' show?
  - (iv) 'Is it habit or is it disease (Para 3)?' What is being referred to here?
  - (v) How are passengers helpful to one another?
- II. Find from the passage words which mean the same as the following :
  - (i) bad-tempered (Para 1)
  - (ii) question (Para 3)
  - (iii) opposing (Para 4)

Q2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below:

1. One common mistake that many people have made is this : they have thought that it would be a very good thing if everybody had exactly the same amount of money no matter whether they worked hard or lived quite idly. They forget that very few people would work at all if it were not for the money their work brings them and that without work there would be no money. And they have imagined that if all the money in the country were equally divided everybody would be rich. Now that is a very great mistake, because there simply is not enough money to make everybody rich. If it were shared equally among all, then every one would, on the basis of the calculations made in 1947, receive only about Rs. 165 a year. Today with a rise in the price level it might be Rs. 2000 a year. That may be more than you receive now or it may be less, but would certainly not make you really rich. It is quite true that there are in this country a small number of very rich people;-but they are so few in comparison with the whole population that even if they were to share out all their wealth among the rest, it would make very little difference. It is said that if you flattened out that great French mountain Mont Blanc, the highest mountain in Europe, and spread it over the whole of France you would only raise the level of the land by about six inches. See if you can think out what that has to do with the question I have been talking about.
2. Many people, unfortunately, seem to think also that government can always pay out money quite easily and in any quantity, and they forget, or else they do not know, that the government can only pay out money that it has received in taxes — money that the taxpayer had to work for.
3. And now here is one final mistake that I should like to warn you against. Don't ever imagine that there is anything to be ashamed of, or anything undignified,

to grumble about in having to work hard for your living. If you can go into a job that suits you, so that you can really enjoy the work itself, so much the better. But if the work is not exactly the kind that you would choose, you must try to remember that you are helping to produce the things that other people need; you are 'doing your bit' and playing your part in the work of the world.

- (i) On the basis of your reading of the passage make notes on it, using recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Use a format you consider suitable. Supply a suitable title.
- (ii) Make a summary of the passage in about 80 words.

### **Section – B**

- Q3. You are Ashok / Ashita of Sitapur, Lucknow. You have got a foreign assignment and would be going abroad soon. You have a television set and refrigerator to sell. Draft a suitable advertisement to be published in the classified columns of 'The Hindustan Times', New Delhi.

OR

You are Abhinav / Abha. You have planned a 2-week course for the children living in Apex Apartments, Kanpur. Your aim is to help the children acquire oral communication skills. Prepare a notice for the Apex Apartments notice-board, stating the objectives of the course, giving necessary details of the course and requesting the children of the Society to join the course.

- Q4. In the National Debate Forum, the topic given to the students is 'Should college students or even Class XII students be given unlimited freedom?' Write your views in favour of or against the motion.

OR

You are Ravindra / Ravina working for the Sunday Magazine. Last week, you attended a seminar on 'The Importance of Blood Donation', organised by All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi. Write a report of the seminar in not more than 100 words for publication in the magazine you represent.

- Q5. You want to visit Udaipur and two other cities of Rajasthan during the next summer vacation. Write a letter to the Director, Rajasthan Tourism, Jaipur, enquiring about at least four things that you consider important before you plan your visit. You are Venkatesh Iyer living at 3, Anna Nagar, Nambacum, Chennai.

OR

You are K. Reddy of 37, Sena Vihar, Hyderabad-7. Write a letter to the S.H.O., Park Street Police Station, Hyderabad-7, complaining about some strange movements and noises around your house at night.

- Q6. Girija Oswal had a discussion with her friend on 'Students and Fashions'. After coming to the conclusion that students should lead a simple and a disciplined life, Girija decides to write an article on the 'Value of Simple Living' for a popular monthly magazine, 'Yuva Shakti'. Write her article in not more than 200 words.

OR

Priya Dhingra has a discussion with her friend on the relative advantages of a Joint Family and a Nuclear Family, and they come to the conclusion that the Joint Family System has many advantages over the modern system of Nuclear Families. Priya decides to write an article on the advantages of the Joint Family System, for a popular fortnightly magazine 'Ghar Sansar'. Write her article in not more than 200 words.

### **Section – C**

#### **Vistas- Chapter –2 : THE ENEMY**

#### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (125 to 150 words each)**

1. Draw a character sketch of the old General in the lesson, 'The Enemy' .
2. What explains the attitude of the General in the matter of the enemy soldier? Was it human consideration, lack of national loyalty, dereliction of duty or simply self-absorption?
3. Describe the difficulties faced by Dr. Sadao when he tried to help the enemy soldier.
4. Sadao used his skills as a doctor not only to keep the prisoner alive but also to safeguard himself and his family Elaborate with reference to the story. 'The Enemy'.
5. Hana, Sadao's wife comes across as a woman with quite strength and a soft heart. Elucidate with reference to the story, 'The Enemy.'
6. The doctor and his wife had given refuge to an American prisoner of war who had escaped. How does Sadao, the doctor, use the old General as a pawn to maintain his integrity as patriotic Japanese and escape the course of the law?

#### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (30 to 40 words each)**

1. In what context does Hana remember General Takima? What does she infer?
2. What forced Dr. Sadao to be impatient and irritated with his patient?
3. Why did the messenger come to Dr. Sadao? What did Hana think about him?
4. Why did the General spare the American soldier?
5. How did Dr. Sadao get rid of the enemy soldier?
6. How did Dr. Sadao rise above narrow prejudices of race and country to help a human being in need?
7. How did the gardener react when Dr. Sadao told him about the wounded American soldier?
8. Why did the servants leave Dr. Sadao's house?
9. Hana told Yumi to wash the soldier. How did Yumi react?
10. Why was Dr. Sadao not sent to the battlefield?
11. What secret plan did the General have about the American sailor staying under the care of Dr. Sadao?
12. Why did Dr. Sadao let the wounded American soldier escape? Explain highlighting the character of Dr. Sadao.

13. What kind of relationship did Dr. Sadao Hoki Share with his father?
14. How did Sadao happen to meet his wife Hana and why did he not marry her in America?
15. How does the writer indicate that Sadao's father was a very traditional and conventional man?
16. What were the first thoughts that entered the minds of Sadao and Hana when they discovered the wounded man who had got washed ashore?
17. How did Sadao and his wife determine that the man was an American Prisoner of War?
18. In what way did Hana support her husband's efforts to save the American's life?

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### **Assignment No.9**

#### **Section – A**

Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. Let us charter a rocket to take us to the moon so that we can actually walk on its surface.
2. Our rocket must be shot off at a high speed — 6.93 miles a second at least — for if it starts at any lesser speed it will merely fall back to earth, like the shot from an ordinary gun. If it starts with a speed of exactly 6.93 miles a second, it will just get clear of the earth's gravitational pull, but after it has got clear, it will have no appreciable speed left to carry us on our onward journey. Let us start with a speed of 7 miles a second, then it will still have a speed of 1 mile a second left after it has got clear of the earth's pull, and we shall reach the moon in a little over two days.
3. We take only a few seconds to pass through the earth's atmosphere, which is relatively hardly thicker than the thin skin of a plum or a peach. As we pass through this, we gradually leave beneath us all the particles of air, dust, water vapour and so on, which scatter the sun's light and make the sky look blue. As the number of these particles decreases we see the sky assuming in turn the colours — blue, dark blue, dark violet and black-grey. Finally, we leave the earth's atmosphere beneath us and see the sky become jet black, except for the sun, moon and stars. These look brighter than they did from the earth, and also bluer because none of the blue light has been subtracted from them to make a blue sky. And the stars no longer twinkle at us as they did on earth, because there is no atmosphere to disturb the even flow of their light. They seem now to stab our eyes with sharp steely needles of light. If we look back at our earth, we shall see about half of its surface shrouded in mists and clouds. But in front, the whole surface of the moon shines out perfectly clear; it has no atmosphere to scatter the sun's light, and no fogs and rains to obscure the illumination of its surface.
4. Naturally, this clearness persists after we have arrived on the moon's surface, and far exceeds anything we have ever experienced on earth. Our atmosphere is the cause of the soft tones that add so much to a terrestrial landscape — the oranges and reds of sunrise and sunset, the purples and greens of twilight, the blue sky of full day, the purple haze of the distance. Here on the moon there is no atmosphere

to break up the sun's rays into their different colours and distribute them — the blue to the sky, the red to the dawn, and so on. There are only two colours — sunshine and shadow, white and black; everything in the sunshine is white, everything else is black. We feel as though we were in a cinema studio lighted only by one terrible powerful light — the sun. A valley stays utterly dark until the moment when the sun rises over the surrounding mountains; then full day comes, with all the suddenness of turning on an electric light.

5. Just because there is no atmosphere on the moon there can be no seas, rivers or water of any kind. We are accustomed to think of water as a liquid which does not boil away until it reaches a temperature of 212°F. But if ever we picnic high up on a mountain, we find out our mistake. We soon discover that water boils more easily and at a lower temperature there than on the plain below. The reason is that there is less weight of air to keep the molecules of the liquid pressed down, and so prevent them from flying off by evaporation. If there were no air-pressure at all, the water would evaporate no matter how low its temperature and this is precisely what would happen on the moon. Clearly then we shall find no water on the moon; we must take drinking water with us, and it will not be well to pour it out and leave it standing; if we do, it will have disappeared by the time we want to drink it — its molecules will have danced off, one by one, into space.
1. Answer the following questions as briefly as possible:
  - (i) What will happen if we shoot off our rocket at a speed of 6 miles a second? Why?
  - (ii) As we move higher towards the moon, what changes shall be seen in the colour of the sky? Why?
  - (iii) How is the moon different from our earth ?
  - (iv) Do you think it would be possible for man to live on the moon? Why?
  - (v) Why is there no water on the moon?
2. Find from the passage phrases which mean the same as the following:
  - (i) separate into different parts (Para 4)
  - (ii) learn by enquiry (Para 5)
  - (iii) evaporated (Para 5)
- Q2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below:
  1. Man's energy requirements from food are usually measured in kilo / calories. The daily total required by a healthy adult in Europe varies from 4,240 for an active manual worker to about 2,100 for a man with an inactive sedentary job. In the tropics, the levels are slightly lower. Energy is most easily and quickly derived from a carbohydrate diet such as cereals (wheat, rice or other grains) and tubers such as the potato, the sweet potato and cassava.
  2. But in addition to providing energy, a balanced diet must include proteins, fats, vitamins and mineral salts of various kinds. It is possible, therefore, to have plenty to eat, but if this consists of quantity rather than quality, malnutrition can result. One of the most widespread deficiencies in the diet of people in developing countries is animal protein such as meat, fish, milk, cheese and eggs.



Deficiency diseases such as pellagra, rickets, beriberi and some forms of anemia may result when the diet consists largely of one type of carbohydrate food material and lacks vitamins.

3. There are certain vegetable foods, such as the soyabean, which contain a relatively high proportion of protein, and these can be a valuable addition to a poor diet. Generally, however, some animal protein is necessary as well. Many people in overpopulated rural, areas cannot afford to devote their land to rearing domestic animals for food, when they can grow as much quantity of cereal or tuber from the same area.
4. The world production of protein foods is increasing each year by about 1.5 per cent. This is a long way behind the rate of population growth, so it is estimated that in the year 2010 the people in highly populated developing countries will be getting less protein, not more — the average falling from 14.4 grams per person per day to 9.6 grams.
5. Although the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) believe that the rate of protein production can be increased, the 'income gap', as it is called, is likely to be one of the greatest problems in raising nutritional standards. Incomes cannot be raised, however, without full employment, and work will have to be found for the 6,000 people who are being added each hour to the world population.
6. The chemical sciences have already made a tremendous contribution to improve agriculture by developing fertilizers and pesticides which help to control plants and animals which destroy crops.
  - (i) On the basis of your reading of the passage make notes on it, using recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Use a format you consider suitable. Supply a suitable title.
  - (ii) Make a summary of the passage in about 80 words.

### **Section – B**

- Q3. Draft a poster advertising a sale of handicrafts, including pottery and cane furniture, etc., organised by the Blind Welfare Society, Chennai. Mention how the proceeds will be used.

OR

You are the Sports Secretary of your school. Write a notice in 50 words for the school notice-board, asking the students interested in Hockey to give their names for selection for your School Hockey team.

- Q4. You are Rahul / Reema of Maharani Laxmi Bai Sr. Secondary School, Meerut. Your school has recently organised a Blood Donation Camp on the occasion of the Republic Day Celebrations. Write a report in not more than 100 words as an editor for your school magazine, on this widely acclaimed activity.

OR

You are Roshan / Roshini, Secretary of Cultural Club, Hyderabad Public School, Hyderabad. Write a speech to be delivered in the morning assembly on

the topic, ' The generation gap is destroying family tradition and life.'

- Q5. You are Atish of 5, A.N. Jha Road, Allahabad. Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper about the commercial use of residential premises in your locality.

OR

A leading news channel recently gave a live coverage of some young slum-dwellers being beaten up mercilessly by the police for crimes not committed by them. Such atrocities shake the very faith of people. Write a letter to the Commissioner of Police urging him to adopt effective measures to curb such brutality against innocent people. You are Nita / Nitesh, a resident of Guwahati.

- Q6. Women are today fighting for their rights of equality with men. In many fields, they have even excelled men and thus proved their worth. As Anuradha Goel, write an article for the school magazine about the rights of women in not more than 200 words.

OR

Write an article on the defects of the education system for The Indian Express. Your article should not exceed 200 words.

### **Section – C**

#### **Vistas- Chapter –3 : SHOULD WIZARD HIT MOMMY?**

##### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (125 to 150 words each)**

1. How is an adult's perspective on life different from that of a child? Explain with reference to the lesson, 'Should Wizard Hit Mommy'.
2. Why did Jo disapprove of Jack's ending of the story of Roger Skunk? How did she want it to end?

Or

Why did Jo disapprove of the way Jack ended the story of Roger Skunk? How did Jack react to her opinion?

3. What impression do you form of Jack as a father? (Should Wizard Hit Mommy?)
4. Why was Roger Skunk's mommy angry? Does her anger seem Justified? What did she decide to do?
5. The frustrations faced by adults and their personal experiences often intrude upon their interactions with their children. How does the story, 'Should Wizard hit mommy?', bear testimony to this fact?

##### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (30 to 40 words each)**

1. Why did Jo think Roger Skunk was better off with the new smell?
2. Why was Roger Skunk's mommy angry with him? What did she finally tell him?
3. How did the wizard help Roger Skunk?
4. Why did Jo want the wizard to hit the mother?
5. How did Skunk's mother get his old smell back?
6. How does the reader get the impression that Jack was quite insensitive to the feelings of his daughter?
7. What was the sequence that all the stories that Jack told his daughter follow?

8. What part of the story did Jack himself enjoy the most? Why?
9. What is the justification that is given by Jack for Mommy hitting the wizard?
10. How is Jack's childhood interwoven in the story of the stinky skunk?
11. What makes the reader feel that Jack is not used to having his authority questioned? How does he exhibit this to his daughter, Jo?
12. The writer mentions that when Jack comes down, he sees his wife painting the chair and though he feels her presence in the cage he has no desire to interact with her. What does the reference to the cage indicate? How do you account for his feelings?

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### **Assignment No.10**

#### **Section – A**

Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. It is the end of a school day, and the 12-year-old student is in the lavatory, doing what boys and girls of her age in Japan normally do at this time: scrubbing the floors. "Bathroom duty is the worst," she complains lightly. "Of course, we're supposed to scrub the toilets too, but sometimes we don't."
2. In Japanese schools, children, not sweepers, do the cleaning. From first standard through the final year of school, children spend 15 minutes to half an hour a day cleaning, taking out the garbage and removing graffiti. "Kids write graffiti in pencil," explains Miyuki Shibahara, a school teacher in Nishiki. "Since they have to clean it themselves," she says, "they don't have the stomach to write in ink."
3. Schools in Japan seem not so much institutions of learning as of social engineering— constantly reminding students that they are members of a larger community. Rules are ubiquitous, and the atmosphere is a bit like that of a military academy.
4. Take, for instance, the school in Omiya, a town of 5700 located 320 kilometers west of Tokyo. The school not only insists on a uniform, it also bans wrist-watches, hair ribbons, curled or bleached hair, perfume, scented deodorant, earrings, make-up, pocket-money and nonstandard school bags — anything that could set one student apart from another.
5. Romances are closely observed. Some of the 154 students in the school have boyfriends and girl-friends, but teachers try to keep an eye on them. "We talk to the parents and make sure the youngsters don't get in trouble," says Akio Murata, the principal.
6. Most Japanese students work very hard. School ends at 6 pm, after extra-curricular activities in which most students participate, and there is a half-day of school two Saturdays a month. During summer vacation, which lasts six weeks, teachers assign homework so that students don't forget what they have learned.
7. Shingo Hone, a 16-year-old, catches a train at 7 am each day for the hour-long ride to school. The train is jammed with young people. After school, Shingo plays on the basketball team. He gets home at 8 pm and does two or three hours of

homework. "I have hardly any time for friends," he says.

8. Why do young people work so hard? "We want to go to good universities and get good jobs," Shingo says. The Japanese themselves refer to the teen years as 'examination hell', a time of extraordinary pressure when a few failed exams can peg a student as - a lathe worker instead of a corporate executive. But Japanese youngsters usually have intact families and sometimes a close-knit community of students to provide support.
  9. In any case, studies consistently show that Japanese students perform among the best in the world in maths and science. The last time Japan participated in an international maths test, their final-year students ranked first among 12 countries including the United States.
  10. Japanese schools do teach some subjects miserably. One is English, which is taught almost entirely in Japanese. English words are memorized as if they were chemistry symbols. As a result, the students, who study this language for six years, never learn to speak it. "If we taught spoken English, we would be behind on the grammar, and students would fail the written college entrance exam," explains Takeshi Niwa, an English teacher
- I. Answer the following questions as briefly as possible:
    - (i) What do you think is the most significant thing about the schools in Japan?
    - (ii) Why has Shingo no time for friends?
    - (iii) What provides support to Japanese youngsters?
    - (iv) Why do the Japanese refer to the teen years as 'examination hell'?
    - (v) How is English taught in Japan?
  - II. Find from the passage words which mean the same as the following:
    - (i) domestic refuse (Para 2)
    - (ii) watched (Para 5)
    - (iii) always; not changing. (Para 9)

Q2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below:

1. You may never want to fly kites to keep away evil spirits, as the Chinese have done for centuries or to make rain, as the Tibetans did, but some more modern and western uses may tempt you to try experimenting for yourself along similar lines.
2. The most widespread use of kites in modern times has been for meteorological investigations. Everybody knows about how Benjamin Franklin, the great American scholar and statesman sent a kite up in 1752 during a thunderstorm to prove that lightning was caused by electricity. He produced sparks at ground level from a key hung on the wet line as the current flowed down it. (Do not under any circumstances think of trying this yourself. A second investigator repeated Franklin's experiment shortly afterwards and was killed.)
3. By sending up instruments on kites it has been possible to make readings of air pressure, temperature, speed, direction and humidity. Although thermometers had been sent up long before, it was not until 1894 that a self-reading thermometer — a thermograph — was sent up by kite.

4. The army, navy and air force have used kites in various ways for decades. Another Korean version of the invention of the kite tells how a general used one to carry a line across a stream. This line then formed the basis of a bridge. Lines are still occasionally flown from point to point in this way, using kites. At sea, kites have often been used to carry a line to distressed ships in rough weather.
5. Kites — especially box and bow kites — have been used as gunnery targets. They are easy to make and cheap to use and will stand quite a lot of punishment before they cease to fly. Apart from their use as targets, kites have been used by the army to fly flags, for carrying a man over enemy lines, for dragging torpedo's, etc. to a target area. They have been used by both military and civil authorities for raising, transmitting and receiving aerials to obtain improved wireless reception. As a matter of fact, the first long-distance short wave transmission of all, made use of an aerial flown on a kite. When Marconi made the famous transatlantic transmission he raised his receiving aerial some 400 feet on a kite. Never fly an aerial in stormy weather or when there are cumulus clouds about.
  - (i) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it, in points only, using recognisable abbreviations (minimum 4), wherever necessary.
  - (ii) Make a summary of the above passage in about 80 words.

### **Section – B**

- Q3. Draft a poster on behalf of Y.M.C.A., Pune for a Diwali Mela being organized in Sambhaji Park, Pune, naming some of the attractions.
- OR
- You are Rajesh Goel, Secretary, Science Forum, Modern School. Write a notice for the school notice-board inviting students to attend a lecture to be delivered by an eminent scientist.
- Q4. You are Abhinav / Megha working for 'The Asian Age' as a reporter. Yesterday you were invited to attend a press conference called by the Chief Minister of Delhi on 'Unprecedented Price Rise of Vegetables and Pulses'. Write a report for the paper in not more than 100 words.
- OR
- You are Amrapali / Avinash of Sardar Bhagat Singh Memorial Senior Secondary School, Chandigarh. Recently you participated as a contingent leader of your school team in the Republic Day parade in Delhi, in which your school was adjudged the best participating team. Write a report in not more than 100 words.
- Q5. You are Tarun Jain of 15, Bandra, Mumbai. Write to the postmaster complaining about the irregular delivery of letters.
- OR
- You are Krishan Pratap of M.S. Nagar, Jaipur. Write a letter to the Station House Officer, Central Market, Jaipur, complaining about bad law and order situation in your area.

- Q6. Rama Model Sr. Secondary School, Ranjit Nagar, celebrated its Annual Youth Festival on March 6 'and 7. Mrs. Rita Soni, the teacher incharge of the school magazine, asks Vaishali, a student of Class XII, to write a detailed description of the event for the school magazine. Write the description for Vaishali in not more than 200 words.

OR

Pankaj Roy, a student of class XII, feels much excited about the coming elections. He is going to exercise his right to vote for the first time. Write an article for Pankaj on the 'Value of the Vote' for the national daily, 'Chetna'.

### **Section – C**

#### **Vistas- Chapter –4 : ON THE FACE OF IT**

#### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (125 to 150 words each)**

1. Do you think Derry's chance meeting with Mr. Lamb would prove meaningful to him? Answer giving valid reasons.  
Or  
How did Mr. Lamb's meeting with Derry become a turning point in Derry's life?
2. Though both Mr. Lamb and Derry suffer from a physical disability, their attitude to life is very different. Justify the relevance of this statement with reference to the story, 'On the Face of It'.
3. "It ate my face up. It ate me up," says Derry to Mr. Lamb. What is this a reference to and how does the play bear out the latter part of the statement?
4. 'The world's got a whole face and the world's there to be looked at.' How does this statement reflect Mr. Lamb's state of mind and how does this help in changing Derry's outlook of life?
5. Despite all that the old man says, he is yet a lonely old man. How is this brought out in the course of the play? How does Mr. Lamb overcome this?
6. 'Because if I don't go back there, I'll never go back anywhere in the world'. Says Derry to his mother. How do these words reflect Derry's state of mind? How did he come to feel this way?

#### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (30 to 40 words each)**

1. Why does Mr. Lamb leave his gate always open?
2. What did Derry's mother think of Mr. Lamb?
3. How does Mr. Lamb try to remove the baseless fears of Derry?
4. Which peculiar things does Derry notice about Mr. Lamb?
5. What is the disability that the old man suffers from? How does he cope with it in his daily life?
6. How are Derry and Mr. Lamb different in their attitudes to their respective disabilities?
7. How did Derry's face get scarred? How did this scar on his face scar his life?
8. Why does Derry feel drawn towards Mr. Lamb?
9. What qualities of the old man does Derry seem to have an admiration for, despite him?

10. Why does he live in a house without any curtains?
11. What advice does the old man give Derry that makes him start to thaw a little?
12. How does the old man get across the idea that come cannot go through life being scared?
13. Why does Derry decide to come back to Mr. Lamb's house?
14. What do you think would have been his mother's objection to his going back to Mr. Lamb's house?
15. How does the old man try to make a friend of Derry?

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### **Assignment No.11**

#### **Section - A**

Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. So great is our passion for doing things for ourselves that we are becoming increasingly less dependent on specialized labour. No one can plead ignorance of a subject any longer, for there are countless do-it-yourself publications. Armed with the right tools and materials, newly-weds gaily embark on the task of decorating their own homes. Men of all ages spend hours of their leisure time installing their own fireplaces, laying out their own gardens, building garages and making furniture. Some really keen enthusiasts go so far as to make their own record players and radio transmitters. Shops cater for the do-it-yourself craze not only by running special advisory services for novices, but by offering consumers bits and pieces which they can assemble at home. Such things provide an excellent outlet for pent-up creative energy, but unfortunately not all of us are born handymen.
2. Wives tend to believe that their husbands are infinitely resourceful and versatile. Even husbands who can hardly drive a nail in straight are supposed to be born electricians, carpenters, plumbers and mechanics. When lights fuse, furniture gets rickety, pipes get clogged, or vacuum cleaners fail to operate, wives automatically assume that their husbands will somehow put things right. The worst thing about the do-it-yourself game is that sometimes husbands live under the delusion that they can do anything even when they have been repeatedly proved wrong. It is a question of pride as much as anything else.
3. Last spring my wife suggested that I call in a man to look at our lawn-mower. It had broken down the previous summer, and though I- promised to repair it? I had never got round to it. I would hear of the suggestion and say that I would fix it myself. One Saturday afternoon I hauled the machine into the garden and had a close look at it. As far as I could see, it only needed a minor adjustment; a turn of a screw here, a little tightening up there, a drop of oil and it would be as good as new. Inevitably the repair job was not quite so simple. The mower firmly refused to mow, so I decided to dismantle it. The garden was soon littered with chunks of metals which had once made up a lawn-mower. But I was extremely pleased with myself. I had traced the cause of the trouble. One of the links of the chain that drives the wheels had snapped.
4. After buying a new chain I was faced with the insurmountable task of putting the

confusing jigsaw puzzle together again. I was not surprised to find that the machine still refused to work after I had reassembled it, for the simple reason that I was left with several curiously shaped bits of metal which did not seem to fit anywhere. I gave up in despair. The weeks passed and the grass grew. When my wife nagged me to do something about it, I told her that either I would have to buy a new mower or let the grass grow, needless to say that our house is now surrounded by a jungle. There is a rusting lawn-mower buried somewhere in deep grass which I had promised to repair one day.

- I. Answer the following questions as briefly as possible:
- (i) Why do people not rely on specialised labour so much nowadays, according to the writer?
  - (ii) How do business organizations encourage people to do things for themselves?
  - (iii) What do wives tend to believe about their husbands?
  - (iv) Why do husbands think that they can do anything even when proved otherwise?
  - (v) 'Do-it-yourself craze has its own advantage. What is that?
- II. Find in the passage words which convey the similar meaning as the following:
- (i) strong feeling (Para 1)
  - (ii) again and again (Para 2)
  - (iii) break (Para 3)
- Q2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below:
1. The writing of large numbers may seem too trivial a matter to write much about, but in time of Archimedes, the finding of a way to write big numbers was a great discovery and an important step forward in the science of mathematics.
  2. Very large numbers often pop up in what may seem at first sight a very simple problem in which you would never expect to find any number larger than a few thousands.
  3. One victim of overwhelming numbers was King Shirham of India, who, according to an old legend, wanted to reward his grand vizier Sissa Ben Dahir for inventing and presenting to him the game of chess. The desire of the clever vizier seemed very modest. "O Majesty!" he said kneeling in front of the king, "Give me a grain of wheat to put on the first square of this chessboard; and two grains to put on the Second Square, and four grains to put on the third, and eight grains to put on the fourth. And so, oh King, doubling the number for each succeeding square, give me enough grains to cover all 64 squares of the board."
  4. "You do not ask for much, ok my faithful servant," exclaimed the King, silently enjoying the thought that this liberal proposal of a gift to the inventor of the miraculous game would not cost him much of his treasure. "Your wish will certainly be granted." And he ordered a bag of wheat to be brought to the throne.
  5. But when the counting began, with 1 grain for the first square, 2 for the second, 4 for the third and so forth, the bag was emptied before the twentieth square was



accounted for. More bags of wheat were brought before the King but the number of grains needed for each succeeding square increased so rapidly that it soon became clear that with all the crop of India the king could not fulfill his promise to Sissa Ben. To do so, he would have required 18,446,744,073,709, 551,615 grains!

6. Assuming that, a bag of wheat contains about 5 million grains, one would need some  $4^{12}$  bags to satisfy the demand of Sissa Ben. Now assuming that the production of wheat in the King's land averaged  $2^9$  bags a year, the amount requested by the grand vizier was that of the kingdom's wheat production for the period of some two thousand years!
7. Thus King Shirham found himself deep in debt to his vizier and had either to face the incessant flow of the latter's demands, or to cut his head off. We suspect that he chose the latter alternative.
  - (i) On the basis of your reading of the passage make notes on it, using recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Use a format you consider suitable. Supply a suitable title.
  - (ii) Make a summary of the passage in about 80 words.

### **Section – B**

- Q3. As the Secretary, Students' Union, ABC School, Agra, write out a poster to announce the staging of a play in your school.

OR

You are Nandita / Naresh. As the Secretary of the Cultural Club of your school, you have organized a Cultural Evening as a thanksgiving programme on the last day of your school. Write a notice for your school notice-board, giving necessary information about this event in not more than 50 words.

- Q4. Write a debate in favour of or against the topic, 'What is more important -Salary or job satisfaction.' (150–200 words)

OR

You are Ram / Rama of Vidya Senior Secondary School, Kanpur. You visited a Science Exhibition organised by the city schools recently. Write a brief report in 100-125 words for your school magazine on what you saw, the exhibit you liked most and other special features of the exhibition.

- Q5. You are Babu Reddy of 216, Ishaq Colony, Hyderabad-24. Write a letter to the Editor of the Hyderabad Daily, Hyderabad-24, about the misuse and poor maintenance of the public park in your area.

OR

You are Dimple Sharma of 10, Preet Vihar, Delhi. Write a letter to the General Manager, Delhi Transport Corporation, complaining about the rude and irresponsible behavior of the drivers and conductors.

- Q6. S.V. Model School, Bharat Nagar, Meerut, celebrated its Annual Basant Festival on 24 January. Sh. Vidya Prakash, the teacher incharge of the school magazine

asks Rahul, a student of class XII, to write a detailed description of the event for the school magazine. Write the article for Rahul in not more than 200 words.

OR

Ganesh Chopra feels greatly shocked when he learns that Vipul, one of his classmates, has taken to drinking. He decides to write an article on the evil of 'Alcoholism among the Youth', for the national daily, 'Young India'. Write the article in a maximum of 200 words.

### **Section – C**

#### **Vistas- Chapter –5: EVANS TRIES AN O-LEVEL**

#### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (125 to 150 words each)**

1. What precautions were taken by the prison authorities to ensure that the German exam was conducted smoothly and also under strict security?
2. How did the question paper and the correction slip help the prisoner and the Governor?
3. The Governor was going to make sure that he (Evans) wouldn't be disgracing them'. However this is exactly what he (Evans) did do. Explain how this state of affairs came to pass.
4. `It had not been Evans impersonating McLeery who had walked out. It had been Evans impersonating McLeery who had stayed in'. Explain how this had come about?
5. Evans had evaluated and assessed the weaknesses of the prison system and that of the prison officers and this aided his escape from the prison. Elaborate with examples from the story.

#### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (30 to 40 words each)**

1. Why did Evans not take off his hat when Jackson ordered him to do so?
2. What precautions were taken by the prison authorities for the smooth conduct of the examination?

Or

What kind of a person was Evans? What were the precautions taken for the smooth conduct of the examination?

3. Who do you think has outwitted the other – Evans or the Governor? How?

Or

How did Evans outwit the Governor in the end?

4. What clues did the answer sheet of Evans provide to the Governor?
5. What request did the Secretary of the Examination Board receive from the Governor of Oxford Prison?
6. Who met Evans on the eve of the examination and what did the brief interview reveal?
7. Who was supposed to invigilate the exam? Why? What did he carry with him in order to fulfil his duty to satisfaction?
8. What were the Governor's misgivings regarding the exam? How did he put his fears to rest?

9. Why was Evans known as 'Evans the Break'? Why had he been housed in the jail at Oxford?
10. The Governor received a call from the Examinations Board soon after the exam had begun. What was the real purpose of this?
11. What was the purpose of the correction slip that the Examinations Board had mentioned? What was the real purpose of this?
12. Do you think that Evans had left behind the examination paper on purpose? Why? Why not?

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### **Assignment No.12**

#### **Section - A**

Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. Speed of transport has become the greatest feature of the modern industrial world. Rapid transport saves so much valuable time that designers and mechanics everywhere are doing their utmost to increase the speeds of motor cars, ships and aeroplanes.
2. There are three chief ways by which speed can be increased. We can improve the engine, we can improve the fuel which drives the engine, and we can reduce the air-resistance. Until a few years ago, little attention was given to air-resistance, but today streamlining of vehicles is being developed to overcome it.
3. What exactly is air-resistance? To understand the answer to this question, it must be realized that air, like water or other fluids, has weight and volume. On every square inch of our body, the air presses with a weight of fourteen pounds, and this weight has to be pushed aside when we walk or run, just as water is pushed away by a swimmer. The air resists our efforts to push it aside, and this sets up friction — or drag which acts like a brake upon our speed. To reduce this friction to the lowest possible friction is the object of streamlining.
4. The chief aim in the construction of modern cars and aeroplanes has been to reduce the surface area of those parts which press against the air, just as the prow of a ship is given a sharp edge to plough through the sea. In other words, the streamlined car is made to 'cut' the air instead of push it aside. Most of our older types of vehicles were designed without any attention to the surface they offered to the air. The motor cars which can be seen at the rallies of old corks and the flat fronts of our locomotives are bad examples of streamlining. The first motor cars simply followed the pattern of the horse-drawn carriages of earlier times, but as their highest speed remained below twenty or thirty miles an hour the air-resistance was not of great importance. It is when vehicles reach the terrific speeds of today that the problem becomes a serious one.
5. Let us understand the reason for this. If we walk slowly we do not feel the air on our face, but if we run, or ride in an open car, it seems as if a strong wind is blowing at us. This is called air-pressure, and it increases at a very rapid rate, for if we run twice as fast as we walk, the air-pressure increases four times, and if we run four times as fast as we walk, the air-pressure is sixteen times as great. We can, therefore, understand that at very high speeds the air-pressure becomes

- tremendous.
6. Nature affords many examples of the way to overcome air-resistance. A hare flattens its ears when running; birds draw up their legs when in flight. The first step in streamlining, therefore, has been to cut out all sharp angles and projections. Let us suppose that a manufacturer brought his car to us and asked us to turn it into a streamlined model. How should we begin?
  7. First of all we would bend the front of the radiator in such a way that it had a curved surface instead of a flat one; we would similarly shape the back of the car. Then we would tilt back the windscreen, remove the wide mudguards and fit narrow tapered ones called 'spats', and we would fix the spare wheel at the back instead of at the side. Finally, we would sink the lamps, door-handles and other projections into the body of the coachwork so that the whole surface of the car becomes as smooth as possible.
- I. Answer the following questions as briefly as possible:
    - (i) How does air act as a brake on our speed?
    - (ii) How can the air pressure on vehicles be reduced to the minimum?
    - (iii) Why do birds draw up their legs in flight?
    - (iv) How are the 'old crocks' different from our modern cars?
    - (v) How can a car be streamlined?
  - II. Find from the passage phrases which mean the same as the following:
    - (i) produces (Para 3)
    - (ii) remove (Para 6)
    - (iii) bend (Para 7)
- Q2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below:
1. There are three main groups of oil: animal, vegetable and mineral. Great quantities of animal oil come from whales, those enormous creatures of the sea which are the largest remaining animals in the world. To protect the whale from the cold of the Arctic seas, nature has provided it with a thick covering of fat called blubber. When the whale is killed, the blubber is stripped off and boiled down, either on board ship or on shore. It produces a great quantity of oil which can be made into food for human consumption. A few other creatures yield oil, but none so much as the whale. The livers of the cod and the halibut, two kinds of fish, yield nourishing oil: Both cod liver oil and halibut liver oil are given to sick children and other invalids who need certain vitamins. These oils may be bought at any chemist's.
  2. Vegetable oil has been known from antiquity. No household can get on without it, for it is used in cooking. Perfumes may be made from the oils of certain flowers. Soaps are made from vegetable and animal oils.
  3. To the ordinary man, one kind of oil may be as important as another. But when the politician or the engineer refers to oil, he almost always means mineral oil, the oil that drives tanks, aeroplanes and warships, motor cars and diesel locomotives; the oil that is used to lubricate all kinds of machinery. This is the oil that has

changed the life of the common man. When it is refined into petrol, it is used to drive the internal-combustion engines. To it we owe the existence of the motor car, which has replaced the private carriage drawn by horse. To it we owe the possibility of flying. It has changed the method of warfare on land and sea. This kind of oil comes out of the earth. Because it burns well, it is used as fuel, and in some ways it is superior to coal in this respect. Many big ships now burn oil instead of coal. Because it burns brightly, it is used for illumination countless homes are still illuminated with oil-burning lamps. Because it is very slipper; it is used for lubrication. Two metal surfaces rubbing together cause friction and heat but if they are separated by a thin film of oil, the friction and heat are reduced. No machine would work for long if it were not properly lubricated. The oil used for this purpose must be of the correct thickness; if it is too thin it will not give sufficient lubrication, and if it is too thick it will not reach all parts that must be lubricated.

- (i) On the basis of your reading of the passage make notes on it, using recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Use a format you consider suitable. Supply a suitable title.
- (ii) Make a summary of the passage in about 80 words.

### **Section – B**

- Q3. You want to purchase a flat. Draft an advertisement in about 50 words for a newspaper detailing your requirements and your capacity to pay.

OR

Write a notice for the school notice-board inviting volunteers for one-day Blood Donation Camp to be organized in your school. You are B. Lal, Head Boy, XYZ School, New Delhi.

- Q4. You are Beena / Biju. As a representative of your school, you have attended a workshop on creative writing. Write a report in about 125 words for publication in your school magazine.

OR

You are Anirudh / Aisha of Vivekananda Memorial Sr. Secondary School, Kolkata. Recently you had the honour of participating as a contingent leader of your school team in the Republic Day parade in Delhi, in which your school was adjudged the best participating team. Write a report in not more than 100 words about this memorable event for publication in your school magazine. ,

- Q5. You are Anita / Gautam staying at the 'Ankur Apartments', Mayur Vihar, Delhi. There is no bus-stop within the radius of 2 km. from the apartments, causing a lot of inconvenience to the residents. Write a letter to the editor of The Times of India drawing attention of the government to this problem of the residents for rectification, (word limit: 200)

OR

You are Nikhil / Nisha staying at 53, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad. Last summer, you

bought a colour television from the 'Clear Vision' of Hyderabad with a warranty of 2 years. Now you discover that the picture gets blurred every now and then. Even the sound has become defective. Write a letter to the dealer complaining about the problem and requesting him to get the defect rectified. Also request him to replace it, if needed, against the warranty that goes with it. (Word limit: 200)

- Q6. Write an article in 200 words on any one of the following:
- (i) The increasing crime rate in today's society and ways to curb it.
  - (ii) A television programme you enjoyed most.

### **Section – C**

#### **Vistas- Chapter –6: MEMORIES OF CHILDHOOD**

##### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (125 to 150 words each)**

1. Describe how Zitkala-Sa tried in vain to save her hair from being cut. Why did she want to save her hair?
2. Describe the experience Bama had on her way back home which made her feel sad.
3. What are the similarities in the lives of Bama and Zitkala though they belong to different cultures?
4. What oppression and discrimination did Zitkala-Sa and Bama experience during their childhood? How did they respond to their respective situations?

Or

Bama's experience is that of a victim of the caste system. What kind of discrimination does Zitkala-Sa's experience depict? What are their responses to their respective situations?

5. 'Then I lost my spirit.' What are the incidents that led the writer to feel this way?
6. What was the incident that shattered the innocence of Bama's childhood? How did the incident impact her feelings then and in later life?

##### **PRACTICE QUESTIONS – (30 to 40 words each)**

1. Why did the landlord's man ask Bama's brother, on which street he lived? What was the significance?
2. Why did Zitkala-Sa object to the cutting of her long heavy hair?
3. How did Zitkala-Sa try to prevent the shingling of her hair?
4. When did Bama first come to know of the social discrimination faced by the people of her community?
5. What evidence is there to prove that Zitkala was unaccustomed to the ways of the Whites?
6. What did the writer's friend, Judewin, tell her from what she had overheard and what was her feeling about this?
7. What did Bama notice with regard to an elder from their street? What explanation did her brother give her for this strange behaviour?

8. What advice did Bama's brother give her so that she may overcome the humiliation of being born an untouchable?
9. What was Bama's reaction to the way the people of her community were treated?
10. What communities did Bama and Zitkala-Sa belong to? Why did the two feel a deep sense of alienation

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**HALF YEARLY PAPER**

**Section – A : Reading (Max. Marks: 30)**

**Q.1. Read the passage given below and then answer the questions which follow: 12 marks**

1. Life on our planet earth began with the sea; it is the birth place of life on the earth. The earth is the only planet of our solar system so far known which contains plenty of water and this water has made our earth colourful, pulsating with life of a vast variety.
2. At present sea occupies about 70 percent of the earth's surface. In the southern hemisphere it occupies more area than that in the northern. About 97% of the total water on the surface of the earth is found in the seas and the remaining three percent, which is generally fresh, in lakes, rivers, ponds etc.
3. Sea has given food and shelter to countless creatures. It is a potential source of protein. In 1900 the world was only 150 crore, now it is more than 560 crore and is increasing at a very fast rate. As a result, there is a terrible hunger in many parts of the world. In Africa, Asia and South America, millions of people do not get enough to eat. Many die of malnutrition. Sea, if used scientifically and judiciously can meet most of our demands.
4. Plankton or algae mostly constitutes the plant life. Like plant plankton there are also animal plankton; the smallest living creature in the sea. These animal plankton feed on plant plankton and small fish. Thus, there is an unbroken chain of life in the sea.
5. Arctic and Antarctic seas abound in plankton and algae and so in fish also. Blue whales, the largest living creatures of the world, are also found here in great number.
6. Some countries have developed sea farming to a great extent. The Japanese and the Hawaiians relish eating sea plants but it is not so in other countries though some use them to feed their cattle or as manure in their fields. The fact is that sea plants contain rich nutrients not found in other vegetarian food. It is good that even in our country some scientists have developed some recipes for curries, jams etc. To be made from algae.
7. But we must remember one thing that sea is not to be exploited immediately. For example, man in his greed has hunted whales and some other sea creatures so recklessly that some of their species have either become extinct or are on the verge of extinction. Now, nations of the world have realised their folly and have taken some joint decisions. For example, one such decision is that the size of the holes in fishing nets should be big enough to let baby fish escape through. Otherwise, killing or large quantities of very young fish would have an adverse



effect on the fish population. In the same way another decision is for the protection of the blue whales.

**a. Answer the following questions:**

**1. Tick the correct option:** [2]

1. Sky is the birth place of life on the earth.
2. Moon is the birth place of life on the earth.
3. Sea is the birth place of life on the earth.
4. Land is the birth place of life on the earth.

**2. Plankton or algae mostly constitutes \_\_\_\_\_** [1]

- |   |                |   |                |
|---|----------------|---|----------------|
| 1 | the wild life  | 3 | the sea life   |
| 2 | the human life | 4 | the plant life |

**3. The size of the holes in fishing nets should be big enough to let \_\_\_\_\_** [1]

- |      |                  |       |                           |
|------|------------------|-------|---------------------------|
| (i)  | big fish stay in | (iii) | baby fish escape through  |
| (ii) | water flow out   | (iv)  | more fish and water enter |

**4. Sea plants contain rich nutrient not found in \_\_\_\_\_** [1]

- |      |                       |       |                        |
|------|-----------------------|-------|------------------------|
| (i)  | other plants          | (iii) | non-vegetarian food    |
| (ii) | other vegetarian food | (iv)  | milk and milk products |

**5. Antonym of 'plenty' is \_\_\_\_\_** [1]

- |      |            |       |          |
|------|------------|-------|----------|
| (i)  | little     | (iii) | scarcity |
| (ii) | inadequate | (iv)  | minimal  |

**6. Animal plankton feed on \_\_\_\_\_** [1]

- |      |                               |       |                     |
|------|-------------------------------|-------|---------------------|
| (i)  | plant plankton and small fish | (iii) | blue whales         |
| (ii) | vegetarian food               | (iv)  | other sea creatures |

**b. Answer the following questions briefly:**

- (i) Why is our earth more colourful and full of life than any other planets of our solar system? [1]
- (ii) Mention any two uses of the sea. [1]
- (iii) "There is an unbroken chain of life in the sea." Explain. [1]
- (iv) How is man responsible for the extinction of some species of sea creatures? [1]
- (v) Find a word in the passage which means the same as the following: [2]
  - a. Wisely (para 3)
  - b. unfavourable (para 7)

**Q.2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:**

1. It was a great shock to me to discover that I had motor neuron disease, I had never been very well co-ordinated physically as a child, I was not good at ball games, and my handwriting was the despair of my teachers. May be for this reason, I didn't care much for sport or physical activities. But things seemed to change when I went

- to Oxford, at the age of 17, I took up coxing and rowing. I was not Boat Race standard, but I got by the level of inter-college competition.
2. In my third year at Oxford, however, I noticed that I seemed to be getting more clumsy and I fell over once or twice for no apparent reason. But it was not until I was at Cambridge, in the following year, that my father noticed, and took me to the family doctor. He referred to me a specialist, and shortly after my 21st birthday, I went into hospital for tests. Although, there was a cloud hanging over my future. [found, to my surprise, that I was enjoying life in the present more than before. I began to make progress with my research, and I got engaged to a girl called Jane Wilde, whom I had met just about the time my condition was diagnosed. That engagement changed my life. It gave me something to live for But it also meant that I had to get a job if we were to get married. I, therefore, applied for a research fellowship at Gonville and Cains college, Cambridge. To my great surprise, I got a fellowship up to 1974, I was able to feed myself and get in and out of bed. This lasted until I caught pneumonia in 1985. I had to have a tracheotomy operation.
  3. Before the operation, my speech had been getting more slurred, so that only few people who knew me well, could understand me. But at least I could communicate. I wrote scientific papers by dictating to a secretary, and I gave seminars through an interpreter, who repeated my words more clearly. However, the tracheotomy operation removed my ability to speak altogether. For a time, the only way I could communicate was to spell out words letter by letter, by raising my eyebrows when someone pointed to the right letter on a spelling card. It is pretty cliff cult to carvy on a conversation like that, let alone write a scientific paper. However, a computer expert in California, called Walt Woltosz, heard of my plight. He sent me a computer programme he had written, called equalizer. This allowed me to select words from a series of menus on the screen: by pressing a switch in my hand. The programme could also be controlled by a switch, operated by head or eye movement. When I have build up what I want to say, I can sent it to a speech synthesizer. At first, I just ran the Equalizer programme on a desk top computer.
  4. However, David Manson, of Cambridge Adaptive Communication, fitted a small portable computer and a speech synthesizer. At first, I just ran the Equalizer programme on a desk top computer. computer and a speech synthesizer to my wheel chair. This system allowed me to communicate much better than I could before. I can then print it out, or call it back and speak it sentence by sentence. Using this system. I have written a book, and dozens of scientific papers. "I have also gien many scientific and popular talks. They have all been well received. I think that is in a large part due to the quality of the speech synthesizer, which is made by Speech Plus. One's voice is very important. If you have a slurred voice, people are likely to treat you as mentally deficient." This synthesizer is by far the best I have heard, because it varies the intonation, and does not speak like a Dalek. The only trouble is that it gives me an American accent.
  5. I have had motor neuron disease for practically all my adult life. Yet it has not prevented me from having a very attractive family, and being successful in my work. This is thanks to the help I have received from Jane, my children, and a large number of other people and organisations. I have been lucky, that my condition has progressed more slowly than is often the case. But it shows that one need not lose hope.

**I. Answer the following questions choosing the most appropriate options:**

1. The narrator didn't seem to be much interested in sports/physical activity because ..... [1]  
(a) he didn't have a good hand writing  
(b) he avoided company of others  
(c) he was more interested in academics  
(d) he had not been very well co-ordinated physically as a child\_
2. At the age of 17 at Oxford he took up.....[1]  
(a) swimming and diving (c) cycling and horse-riding  
(b) skating and surfing (d) coxing and rowing
3. Speech synthesizer helped the narrator..... [1]  
(a) In communicating better (c) In playing video games  
than before (d) In making calculations better  
(b) In singing better
4. Tracheotomy operation ..... [1]  
(a) helped the narrator in speaking better  
(b) improved his diction  
(c) removed his ability to speak altogether  
(d) made him speak with a slur
5. Pick out a word/words from the passage having the same meaning as 'hopelessness'. (para 1) [1]  
(a) Sadness (c) Despair  
(b) Disappointment (d) Dejection

**II. Answer the following questions briefly:**

- (a) What gave Stephen Hawking a great shock? [1]
- (b) Which symptoms of the disease were obvious during the early period of his life? [1]
- (c) What was the major side effect of tracheotomy operation? How did he try to overcome it? [1]
- (d) What is an Equalizer? How did it help Stephen Hawking? [1]
- (e) Find out a word from the passage having opposite meaning to the following: 'distinct/clear' (para 3) [1]

**Q. 3. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:**

**8 marks**

1. The residents of Bhirung Raut Ki Gali, where Ustad Bismillah Khan was born on March 21, 1916, were in shock. His cousin, 94-year-old Mohd Idrish Khan had tears in his eyes. Shubhan Khan, the caretaker of Bismillah's land, recalled: "Whenever in Dumaraon, he would give rupees two to the boys and rupees five to the girls of the locality."
2. He was always keen to play shehnai again in the local Bihariji's Temple where he had started playing shehnai with his father, Bachai Khan, at the age of six. His original name was Quamaruddin and became Bismillah only after he became famous as a shehnai player in Varanasi.
3. His father Bachai Khan was the official shehnai player of Keshav Prasad Singh, the

Maharaja of the erstwhile Dumaraon estate. Bismillah used to accompany him. For Bismillah Khan, the connection to music began at a very early age. By his teens, he had already become a master of the shehnai. On the day India gained freedom, Bismillah Khan, then a sprightly 31-year-old, had the rare honour of playing from the Red Fort. But Bismillah Khan won't just be remembered for elevating the shehnai from an instrument heard only in weddings and naubatkhana to one that was appreciated in concert halls across the world. His life was a testimony to the plurality that is India. A practising Muslim, he would take a daily dip in the Ganga in his younger days after a bout of Kusti in Benia Baga Akhada. Every morning, Bismillah Khan would do riyaz at the Balaji Temple on the banks of the river; even during his final hours in a Varanasi hospital, music didn't desert Bismillah Khan. A few hours before he passed away early on Monday, the shehnai wizard hummed a thumri to show that he was feeling better. This was typical of a man for whom life revolved around music.

4. Throughout his life he abided by the principle that all religions are one. What marked Bismillah Khan was his simplicity and disregard for the riches that come with musical fame. Till the very end, he used a cycle rickshaw to travel around Varanasi. But the pressure of providing for some 60 family members took its toll during his later years.

**3.1 On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations where necessary. 5 marks**

**3.2 Make a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words using the notes made and also suggest a suitable title. 3 marks**

**Section – B : Advanced Writing Skills (Max. Marks: 30)**

**Q.4. A. K. International School is looking for a receptionist for the school. Write an advertisement on behalf of the Administrative Officer in the classified columns of the local newspaper giving necessary details. Draft the advertisement in not more than 50 words.**

**OR**

**Suman / Suresh have cleared the Pre-Medical Pre-Dental entrance examination. The family is elated at the achievement and they decide to have a get-together for all friends. Draft an informal invitation for the get-together. 4 marks**

**Q.5. You are Nitin / Natasha, a student of class XII at K.P.N. Public School, Faridabad. The student is required to cope with lot of pressure in today's competitive environment. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily highlighting the increasing stress faced by students and suggest ways to combat the same. [6]**

**OR**

You are Suresh / Smita. You come across the following advertisement in a national daily. You consider yourself suitable and eligible for the post. Write an application in response to the advertisement. 10 marks

Applications are invited for the post of a nursery teacher in a reputed school of Delhi. The candidate must have at least 5 years' experience of teaching tiny tots. The applicant must have a pleasant personality. He / She should be creative and innovative. Attractive salary. Interested candidates should apply to the Principal, AKS International, Indirapuram, New Delhi, within 10 days with detailed resume.

- Q.6. You are Mohan/Meeta. You are worried about the hikes in the prices of essential commodities like LPG, pulses, vegetables etc. Write a speech on this in about 150-200 words for the morning assembly suggesting certain steps to curb inflation.

OR

You are Zeenia/Zeeshan a class XII student of RSV school, Badli. You interacted with your friends for knowing their views on shopping Malls which have come up in every corner of the city. You found that around half the total number of your friends love to go to Malls, while the other half hate them. Write a debate in 150.200. Words in favour of or against the topic. Mall Culture in Cities. Positive or Negative Aspect on Teenagers. [10]

- Q.7. Some colleges conduct entrance test for admission to undergraduate courses like English (Hons.) and Journalism (Hons.). Do you think that an entrance test is the right method of selecting students? Write an article in about 150-200 words. You are Rohan / Rachita, a student of class XII at A.P. International School, Agra.

OR

Computer games and video games have become popular with children today. As a result, outdoor games seem to have no place in their life any more. You are Satish / Sakshi. You had the opportunity of playing hide-and-seek when you visited your cousins in a small town. You decide to write an article on your experiences about the joys of playing outdoor games for the school magazine. Write the article in 150-200 words.

10 marks

**Section – C : Textbooks (Max. Marks: 40)**

- Q.8. (i) They do not fear the men beneath the tree;  
They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.
- (a) Are 'Aunt Jennifer's tigers real? Give reasons for your answer. [2]
- (b) Why do the tigers not fear the men beneath the tree? [1]
- (c) What do you understand by 'chivalric certainty'? [1]

OR

A thing of beauty is a joy for ever  
Its loveliness increases, it will never  
Pass into nothingness; but will keep  
A bower quiet for us.

- (a) 'A thing of beauty is a joy for ever.' Explain. [2]  
(b) Why does a beautiful thing never 'pass into nothingness'? [1]  
(c) What does the poet mean by 'a bower quiet for us'? [1]

**Q.9. Answer any four of the following questions in about 30-40 words.**

**[4 × 3 = 12 marks]**

- (i) For Franz, what was much more tempting than going to school and why?  
(ii) Mention any two hazards of working in the glass bangles industry.  
(iii) How did Douglas overcome 'the old terror'?  
(iv) The crofter can be called as a 'good host'. Why?  
(v) Even though the Maharaja lost Rs. 3 lac, he was still happy. Why? (The Tiger King)  
(vi) Why did Roger Skunk go in search of the wizard? (Should Wizard Hit Mommy?)

**Q.10. Answer anyone of the following in about 125-150 words. [6 marks]**

Franz's attitude towards school as well as towards M. Hamel changes when he comes to know about the take-over of his village by Prussians. Do you agree? Discuss with reference to 'The Last Lesson'.

OR

What lapses on the part of the police and prison authorities helped Evans to escape from the prison?

**Q.11. Write a speech in about 100 words for a National Magazine on the "need for revival of patriotic spirit amongst the youth in India" [6 marks]**

**Q.12. What did Mr. and Mrs. Hall experience when they entered the room of the stranger? How do you explain this behaviour? [6 marks]**

**Q.13. Draw a characters sketch of Mr. Oliver, the professor. [6 marks]**

**Solution - Half yearly Paper**

**Question 1**

- I.1. (c) Sea is the birth place of life on the earth.  
2. (d) the plant life  
3. (c) baby fish escape through  
4. (b) other vegetarian food  
5. (c) scarcity  
6. (a) plant plankton and small fish
- II (a) The earth is the only planet which contains plenty of water. This has made our earth more colourful and full of life than the other planets of the solar system.  
(b) Uses of the sea:  
(i) The sea gives food and shelter to many living creatures.  
(ii) The sea is a potential source of protein which helps in controlling malnutrition.  
(c) Plankton or algae form the basis of the entire sea-life. Like plant plankton, there are also animal plankton, the smallest living creatures of the sea. These animal plankton feed on plant plankton and small fish. Arctic and Antarctic seas abound in plankton and in fish as well. Thus, there is an unbroken chain of life in the sea.  
(d) Man, in his greed, has hunted whales and some other sea creatures so recklessly that some of their species have either become extinct or are on the verge of extinction.  
(e) (i) Judiciously (ii) Adverse

**Question 2**

- .I. 1. (d) he had not been very well co-ordinated physically as a child.  
2. (d) coxing and rowing  
3. (a) in communicating better than before  
4. (c) removed his ability to speak altogether  
5. (c) despair
- II. (a) Stephen Hawking was having motor neuron disease, it gave him great shock.  
(b) He was not good at ball games and his handwriting was the despair of his teachers. As a child he had not been very well co-ordinated physically and so didn't care much for physical activities.  
(c) The tracheotomy operation removed his ability to speak altogether. He tried to remove this side effect and to communicate by spelling out words letter by letter by raising his eye brows when someone pointed to the right letter on a spelling card.  
(d) An Equalizer is a computer programmed which can be controlled by a switch operated by head or eye movement. This programme proved helpful to Stephen Hawking as it allowed him to select words from a series of menus on the screen by simply pressing a switch in his hand, which he could send

- to a speech synthesizer.  
(e) slurred

### Question 3

#### 3.1 Notes on the passage:

- (i) Shock at the demise:
  - (a) Cousin-tears in eyes.
  - (b) Caretaker recalled-
    - a. Giving two rs. to boys
    - b. Five rs. to girls
2. His early life:
  - (a) Org. name Quamaruddin
  - (b) Pld. shehnai at temp.-with father
  - (c) Recognized as Bismillah-at Vns.
3. Music as Fml. heritage:
  - (a) Father-court off. shehnai player at Dumaraon
  - (b) Pld. shehnai from age six
  - (c) At 31-pld. shehnai-Red Fort, 1947
4. Daily routine in Vns.:
  - (a) Taking dip in the Ganga
  - (b) Riyaaz at Balaji Temp.
  - (c) Before his last breath-hummed thumri
  - (d) used cycle rickshaw to travel
  - (e) bread-winner for 60 fml. mem.
5. Bismillah beyond religion:
  - (a) Main principle-all religions one
  - (b) Life-testimony of plurality
  - (c) Pract. Muslim.

#### Abbreviations used :

- |           |              |
|-----------|--------------|
| 1. rs.    | - rupees     |
| 2. org.   | - original   |
| 3. pld.   | - played     |
| 4. temp.  | - temple     |
| 5. Vns.   | - Varanasi   |
| 6. fml.   | - family     |
| 7. off.   | - official   |
| 8. mem.   | - member     |
| 9. pract. | - practising |

#### 3.2 Summary of the Passage:

Ustad Bismillah Khan was born and brought up at Dumaraon. He got interested in music at a very early stage of life. His father was an official musician at the Estate of Dumaraon. He started accompanying him for the musical concerts. Ustad Bismillah Khan got the honour of playing the shehnai at the Red Fort on the occasion of India's independence. He believed that all religions are one. He led a very simple life. Music was his soul. Even when he was on his deathbed he kept humming the thumri.

Title: A Tribute to Bismillah Khan.



#### Question 4

##### WANTED A RECEPTIONIST

A.K. International School, Nehru Nagar invites applications for the post of a receptionist. The applicant should have a pleasant personality and good command of spoken English. A working knowledge of computers is also desired. Salary shall be commensurate with experience and qualifications. Apply with complete bio data before the 20th of this month to the Administrative Officer of the school.

OR

45 Beauty Lane  
Bahadurgarh  
14' June 200  
Dear Friend

You will be glad to know that my daughter Suman has come out successful in the Premedical/Pre-dental entrance examination held this year in the month of April. It is a matter of great joy and pride for each member of our family. The family has decided to have a get-together to share the joy with all friends. The get-together will be held at Mehfil Banquet Hall at 8 p.m. on Sunday, the 25th of June.

You are requested to grace the occasion and give Suman your blessings and good wishes.

Yours sincerely  
Nikhil Verma

#### Question 5

K.P.N. Public School  
Faridabad  
17 November 200  
The Editor  
The Times of India  
New Delhi

**Subject:** The Problem of Stress Faced by Students  
Sir

Students are the most harassed lot these days. All through the years of their studies, they have to lead a life of strain and stress. The number of subjects and the level of their difficulty are becoming greater year after year. Poor students find no time for recreation or play. They have to spend all their hours on books. All their efforts are directed to scoring as high marks as possible. There is a lot of competition in all streams of study. Students scoring even above 80-85 per cent find it hard to have admission in the college or stream of their choice. Many students find so much stress unbearable and turn to drugs or other drastic things. The only way to release this stress is proper guidance and counselling at every stage. Parents have also a vital role to play. They should not set too big or high goals for their children. They

should let them grow to their natural potential.

Yours truly

Nitin

**OR**

24 Gandhi Nagar New Delhi

15 October 200

The Principal

AKS International School

Indirapuram

New Delhi

Sir

This is in response to your advertisement in the Times of India dated 12 October, 200 for the post of a Nursery Teacher in your school. I did my N.T.T. conducted by Department of Education, Delhi in the year 200-. At present I am working as a nursery teacher in ABC School where I have taught for more than five years. Reputed as your school is, I would deem it an honour to be associated with it as a teacher. I am confident that I shall meet all your expectations as far as my duties as a teacher are concerned. I can claim to have all the qualities and qualifications demanded by you in your advertisement. My detailed resume is as follows:

Name	:	Mrs. Smita Bhatia
Husband's name	:	Mr. Harnam Bhatia
Age	:	29 years
Educational Qualifications	:	(a) XII conducted by CBSE, securing 85% marks (b) N.T.T. securing 92% marks.
Experience	:	I have been working with ABC School for more than five years.
Games	:	Efficient in coaching Kho-Kho and Kabaddi.
Hobbies	:	Painting, drawing, photography.
Enclosures	:	Photo-copies of relevant testimonials.

Yours Truly

Smita

### **Question 6**

**Good morning to all of you. Today I am here to express my views on .Price Rise a constant problem.**

**Suggested value points**

**Para-I**

**. start with rising price index in India**

**. world wide phenomena with hike in petrol price, natural gas etc.**

### Para-II

Write problems related to it to the low income group people, salaried people, pensioners, labour class etc.

#### Causes

- . increases in population
- . more demand less production (supply)
- . hoarding, false short supply
- . black marketing
- . rise and fall of equity shares in stock exchange
- . defective planning and distribution system
- . Corruption by beurocrates
- . increase in standard of living
- . M.N.C groups . high pay scale

### Para-III

- . Suggestions . strict stops by government to encrease the fair prices
- . strict action against corrupt officials
- . awareness of general public
- . use right to information develop public distribution system
- . any other relevant point

## 6 Mall Culture in Cities . Positive Aspects

.Zeenia/Zeeshan

Honble judges and my dear friends, I stand before you to express my views in favour of the motion Mall culture in cities. Shopping malls are becoming integral part of cities. Every corner of a city has at least one shopping mall in it. They are fast emerging as new hallmark of development.

Teenagers love to visit malls with their friends and family. Air conditioned atmosphere provides a big relief from sweltering heat one has to face while shopping in markets in summers. The neat and clean, safe and secure building helps teenagers to forget the stress and pressure of schools and colleges and enjoy free time in a relaxed way.

Shopping malls help teenagers to shop for any thing under the sky under one roof. All their favourite things like Junk Jewellery, latest DVD, newly released books all are available there. They can take electronic item of any brand without caring about bargaining as the articles sold in malls are of quality brands with fixed price tags. Window shopping, the best way to learn about latest products in market is best done in malls. Teenagers with their peer are seen window shopping at showrooms of famous brands there.

Shopping malls also provide perfect place to give and enjoy parties. Mcdonalds, Pizzahuts, KFC and many such eating joints have their outlets in malls. It is becoming a new trend among teenagers to celebrate birthdays, friendship days and many such occasion in the company of whole gang of their friends in shopping malls. Shopping malls with their movie theaters provide another way of enjoying holidays with friends and family. One can

watch latest movie in cool and relaxed atmosphere of such theaters. Thus shopping malls are emerging as the most favourite place for teenagers to hang around in the company of their loved ones without worrying about heat or hunger.

### Question 7

#### DESIRABILITY OF ENTRANCE TESTS AT COLLEGES

Many colleges conduct entrance tests for admission to undergraduate courses like English (Hons.) and Journalism (Hons.). Only those who qualify in these tests are given admission to that particular course of study. Many educationists think such tests are undesirable because they put poor students under a lot of strain and stress. But there are others who consider these tests to be very necessary and desirable. In my view, these tests are an evil but they are a necessary evil. There is no other way to judge whether a student will be able to do well in that particular course or not. It is after Plus Two Board Examinations that students seek admissions to undergraduate courses. There are different Boards holding these exams and their standards are also not uniform. Moreover, Board Examinations are not a real test of students' capabilities. They have set patterns of syllabus and question papers and encourage rote learning among students. Besides this, the use of unfair means at these examinations can't be ruled out. Thus it is through entrance tests only that the students' capability for that particular course can be ascertained. And these tests are in the students' own interest. They save them from later frustration when they find that they have made a wrong choice in taking up that subject for which they are not capable.

Contributed by:  
Rohan Khanna, Class XII  
(A.P. International School, Agra)

OR

#### Joys of Playing Outdoor Games

Nowadays computer and video games are becoming more and more popular with school-going children. They enjoy playing these games sitting in their rooms and spend hours on them. They have hardly any interest in playing outdoor games. But these computer and video games do the children a lot of harm. They harm them both physically and mentally. On the other hand, outdoor games are useful both for the mind and the body. They fill the child with energy to work harder. They refresh his mind and then he finds it easier to learn in his studies also. While computer and video games are played singly, outdoor games are played in groups with others. Thus they develop in the child a healthy spirit of co-operation as well as competition. Therefore, children mustn't get addicted to computer and video games. They can play these games but for a while only. Their chief interest should be in outdoor games which can keep their mind and body in good health.

### Question 8 (i)

- (a) No, her tigers are not real. She has embroidered them in wool on a screen. They can be seen on a panel only.
- (b) The tigers are symbols of chivalry. They know no fear and have no need to be afraid of men.

- (c) The words 'chivalric certainty' convey the idea that the tigers are confident of their power and are brave in their actions.

**OR**

- (a) A thing of beauty leaves a permanent impression on our mind. It stays in our imagination and becomes a source of joy for ever.
- (b) A beautiful thing never passes into nothingness. Our imagination adds new colours to it. Its loveliness increases every time we think of it.
- (c) The poet has compared a thing of beauty to a quiet bower. Just as a quiet bower gives peace to the mind, similarly a thing of beauty fills our mind with joy.

**Question 9**

- (i) For Franz, what was much more tempting than going to school and why?  
Playing in the bright warm sun, hearing birds chirp in the trees and seeing Prussia soldiers drilling in the open field tempted Franz much more than going to school
- (ii) Mention any two hazards of working in the glass bangles industry.  
Workers in the glass bangles industry have to work in very high temperature. They have to work in dingy cells where they don't have any daylight. They lose their eyesight at an early age. The powder used in the polishing glass blinds them.
- (iii) How did Douglas overcome 'the old terror'?  
Douglas visited some of the famous water spots. He swam across them successfully. At last he went to Lake Wentworth. He swam across to the other shore and back. He shouted with joy. Now he knew that he had overcome his old terror of water.
- (iv) The crofter can be called as a 'good host'. Why?  
The crofter welcomes the tramp into his cottage. He at once arranges hot supper for him. He gives him a roll of tobacco to smoke. He also plays a game of cards with him. All this shows that the crofter was a good host.
- (v) Even though the Maharaja lost Rs. 3 lac, he was still happy. Why?  
The Maharaja was in danger of losing his kingdom because he had offended a high-ranking British officer by refusing to let him hunt in his kingdom. In order to appease the officer, the Maharaja sent diamond rings for the officer's wife. These rings cost him 3 lac rupees. But he was happy because he had averted the danger of losing his kingdom.
- (vi) Why did Roger Skunk go in search of the wizard?  
Roger Skunk smelled so bad that none of the other creatures would play with him. They would all run away from him. Then the wise owl told Roger Skunk that the wizard could help him get rid of his bad smell. That was why Roger Skunk went in search of the wizard.

### Question 10

**Franz's attitude towards school as well as towards M. Hamel changes when he comes to know about the take-over of his village by Prussians. Do you agree? Discuss with reference to 'The Last Lesson'.**

Franz did not like his school. He often absented himself from school. He would like to spend his days out of doors. He usually got late for school. He would not care about learning his lessons. He was not good at studies. His French teacher M. Hamel used to scold him. He did not like his teacher at all. But one day when Franz reaches his school he finds many grown-up people sitting among the students. He comes to know that it is the last lesson that Mr. M. Hamel is going to teach them. The order has come from Berlin to teach only German in the schools of Alsace. This comes as a big shock to Franz. He is now full of regret. He feels sorry for not learning his lessons. School which appears to him very boring now becomes a very important place for him. He feels he will miss the school from next day. Mr. M. Hamel who appears to him cranky now becomes a good teacher for him. He suddenly develops love for his books. Thus the news that Prussians have taken over his village changes Franz's attitude towards his school and M. Hamel completely.

**OR**

In spite of elaborate precautions and careful arrangements, Evans succeeds in slipping away. Certain lapses on the part of the police and prison authorities contribute to it. The Governor, who smells a rat in every call and tries to cross check it, fails at vital moments. For example, no one tries to verify the identity of the German teacher, the invigilator, the "injured" McLeery, the driver of prison-van and the "silent" prison officer who handcuffs Evans at the Golden Lion hotel. Sometimes, appearance– the outward form and dress– deceives as it is accepted to be genuine. The criminals impersonate even the prison officer and driver. The Detective Superintendent too acts hastily. He does not drive to the Radcliffe and get the "injured" McLeery admitted there. This provides him God-sent opportunity to disappear. The greatest lapse is on the part of the Governor who nabs Evans at Golden Lion hotel and fails to bring him to jail as he gets tricked by the prison-van, "silent" prison officer and driver. Had he waited for police escort, Evans would not have escaped yet again.

**Question 11: Attempt yourself.**

### Question 12:

**Mr. Hall knocked the door of the stranger's room but got no response. He opened the door and entered. It was as he expected. The bed and the room were empty. The guest's garments and bandages lay strewn on the bedroom chair and along the rail of the bed. His big slouch hat was cocked over the bedpost. Mr. Hall told it to his wife. When they both came up, they heard someone sneezed on the staircase. She found the pillow and clothes very cold in the guest's room as if the**

guest was up for many hours. The bed-clothes gathered together and jumped over the bottom rail. The stranger's hat hopped off the bed-post, whirled a circle in the air and whacked Mrs. Hall in her face. The bedroom chair, flinging the stranger's coat and trousers aside, turned itself up with its four legs charging at her. She screamed and the couple were pushed out of the room by the chair. The door slammed violently and was locked. And then suddenly everything was still. Any person, who believes in ghosts and spirits, may believe this act to be of spirits haunting the room.

**Question 13:**

Mr. Oliver is a Professor by profession but a journalist by instinct. Griffin was his student. Oliver was a scientific founder. As described by Griffin, Oliver was a thief of ideas. He was, as stated, a journalist by instinct, always in an attempt to steal ideas, theory, thesis, fact and research conceived and developed by others and to receive all the credit for some other's work. As a result, he was always prying at every one whom he came into contact. It is therefore, evident, that he was not a trustworthy person even being into a holistic profession of teaching and do not form a good opinion of himself among his press and students. People would like to keep distance from him to prevent any kind of intellectual harm.

**PRE-BOARD PAPER**

**Section – A : Reading (Max. Marks: 30)**

**Q.1. Read the poem given below and answer the questions that follow:**

**12 marks**

I heard a thousand blended notes,  
While in a grove I sat reclined,  
In that sweet mood when pleasant thoughts  
Bring sad thoughts to the mind.  
To her fair works did Nature link  
The human soul that through me ran;  
And much it grieved my heart to think  
What man has made of man.  
Through primrose tufts, in that green bower,  
The periwinkle trailed its wreaths;  
And 'tis my faith that every flower  
Enjoys the air it breathes.  
The birds around me hopped and played,  
Their thoughts I cannot measure:-  
But the least motion which they made  
It seemed a thrill of pleasure.  
The budding twigs spread out their fan,  
To catch the breezy air;  
And I must think, do all I can,  
That there was pleasure there.  
If this belief from heaven be sent,  
If such be Nature's holy plan,  
Have I not reason to lament  
What man has made of man?

**1.1 Answer the following questions choosing the most appropriate options:**

**1. The poet's mind was filled with ..... [1]**

- |                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| (i) Depression         | (iii) Tension and anxiety |
| (ii) Pleasant thoughts | (iv) anger                |

**2. The poet was sad because of ..... [1]**

- (i) his past actions
- (ii) what his family members did to him
- (iii) the destructions man has caused to Nature
- (iv) All the above

**3. According to the poet, Nature is ..... [1]**

- (i) not lifeless
- (ii) not a living organism
- (iii) full of resources for man to explore and exploit



(iv) passive and has no life

4. The poet found the birds ..... [1]

- |              |                                |
|--------------|--------------------------------|
| (i) sleeping | (iii) happy and hopping around |
| (ii) dead    | (iv) killed by man             |

5. The budding twigs were ..... [1]

- |                                  |                                |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| (i) spreading out their leaves   | (iii) enjoying the cool breeze |
| (ii) were fluttering in the wind | (iv) all the above             |

6. The opposite of breezy is ..... [1]

- |           |            |            |              |
|-----------|------------|------------|--------------|
| (i) windy | (ii) gusty | (iii) calm | (iv) airless |
|-----------|------------|------------|--------------|

II. Answer the questions briefly:

(i) Where was the poet sitting and what was he doing? [1]

(ii) What did the birds do and what effect did it have on the poet? [1]

(iii) Find words in the poem which mean the following: [3]

- |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| (a) movement | (c) feel sad |
| (b) branches |              |

(iv) What filled the poet's heart with sadness? [1]

Q. 2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:  
10 marks

- (i) Computers are capable of doing extremely complicated work in all branches of learning. They can solve the most complex mathematical problems or put thousand unrelated data in order. These machines can be put to varied uses. For instance, they can provide information on the best way to prevent traffic accidents. They work accurately and at high speed. They save research workers years of hard work. This whole process by which machines can be used to work for us has been called 'automation'. In future, automation may enable human beings to enjoy more leisure than they do today. The coming of automation is bound to have important social consequences.
- (ii) Some years ago, an expert on automation, Sir Leon Bagrit pointed out that it was a mistake to believe that these machines could think. There is no possibility that human beings will be controlled by machines. Though computers are capable of learning from their mistakes and improving on their performances, they need detailed instructions from human beings to be able to operate. They can never lead independent lives or rule the world by taking decisions of their own.
- (iii) Sir Leon said that, in future, computers would be developed which would be small enough to be carried in one's pocket. Ordinary people would then be able to use them to obtain valuable information. Computers could be plugged into a wireless network and can be used like radios. For instance people, going on holiday, could be informed about weather conditions. Car

drivers can be given an alternative route, when there is a traffic jam. It will also be possible to make tiny translating machines. This will enable people who do not share a common language to talk to each other without any difficulty or to read foreign publications.

- (iv) It is impossible to assess the importance of a machine of this sort, for many international misunderstandings are caused simply due to our failure to understand each other. Computers will also be used in ordinary public hospitals. By providing a machine with a patient's systems, a doctor will be able to diagnose the nature of his illness. Similarly, machines could be used to keep a check on a patient's health record and bring it up to date. Doctors will, therefore, have immediate access to great many facts which will help them in their work. Book-keepers and Accountants too could be relieved of dull clerical work. For the tedious task of compiling and checking lists of figures could be done entirely by machines. Computers are the most efficient servant man has ever had, and there is no limit to the way they can be used to improve our lives.

**I. Answer the following questions choosing the most appropriate options:**

- 1. Write out the correct option:** [1]  
(i) There is no possibility that human beings can be on their own with no need of machines.  
(ii) Human beings are likely to be controlled by machines one day.  
(iii) There is no possibility that human being will ever be controlled by machines.  
(iv) Machines can replace humans.
- 2. Write out the correct option:** [1]  
(i) Computers can solve only certain mathematical problems.  
(ii) Computers can't solve any mathematical problems.  
(iii) Computers can solve the most complex mathematical problems.  
(iv) Computers can solve only very complex mathematical problems.
- 3. Computers can be used ..... [1]**  
(i) to find a cure for the patient's illness.  
(ii) to prescribe a medicine for the patient  
(iii) to diagnose the nature of patient's illness  
(iv) to keep the patient in good mood
- 4. Many international misunderstandings are caused due to ..... [1]**  
(i) our failure to understand ourselves  
(ii) our failure to understand other nations

- (iii) our failure to understand our friends
- (iv) our failure to understand each other

**II. Answer the following questions briefly:**

- (i) State the main capabilities of computers. [1]
- (ii) What is automation? [1]
- (iii) What benefit can man derive from 'automation'? [1]
- (iv) Why can't computers replace man? [1]
- (v) Find from the given passage the synonym of the following word:  
'results' (para 1) [1]
- (vi) Find from the given passage the synonym of the following word:  
'monotonous' (para 4) [1]

**Q. 3. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:**  
**8 marks**

The small village of Somnathpur contains an extraordinary temple, built around 1268 A.D. by the Hoyasalas of Karanataka - one of the most prolific temple builders. Belur and Helebid are among their better-known works. While these suffered during the invasions of the 14th century, the Somnathpur temple stands more or less intact in near-original condition.

This small temple captivates with the beauty and vitality of its detailed sculpture, covering almost every inch of the walls, pillars and even ceilings. It has three, shikharas and stands on a star-shaped, raised platform with 24 edges. The outer walls have a profusion of detailed carvings: the entire surface run over by carved plaques of stone. There were vertical panels covered by exquisite figures of gods and goddesses, with many incarnations being depicted. There were nymphs too, some carrying an ear of maize (a symbol of plenty and prosperity). The elaborate ornamentation, very characteristic of Hoyasala sculptures, was a remarkable feature. On closer look - and it is worth it - the series of friezes on the outer walls revealed intricately carved caparisoned elephants, charging horsemen, stylized flowers, warriors, musicians, crocodiles, and swans.

The temple was actually commissioned by Soma Dandanayaka or Somnath (who named the village after himself), the minister of the Hoyasala king, Narasimha the third. The temple was built to house three versions of Krishna. The inner centre of the temple was the kalyana mandapa. Leading from here were three corridors, each ending in a shrine, one for each kind of Krishna - Venugopala, J anardana and Prasanna Keshava, though only two remain in their original form. In the darkness of the sanctum sanctorum, I tried to discern the different images. The temple's sculptural perfection is amazing and it includes the doors of the temple and the three elegantly carved towers. [324 words]

**3.1 Make notes of the above passage using an acceptable format including abbreviations, giving it a suitable title. [5 marks]**

3.2 Make a summary of the -above passage in not more than 80 words.

3 marks

**Section – B : Advanced Writing Skills (Max. Marks: 30)**

Q.4. You are the President of your school theatre club. Your club is organizing a play 'The Miser' to help the victims of earthquake. Design a poster informing the students about this play. Invent necessary details.

OR

The students' council of your school has organized an excursion to Goa for the students of class XII, during the autumn break. As President of the council, write a notice in not more than fifty words informing the students about this excursion. Sign yourself as Ravi / Raveena.

4 marks

Q.5. You are Naresh / Neetu. Recently, you came across a newspaper report on the burning of a young woman as her parents could not meet the dowry demands. You feel that even after 60 years of independence, we have not really progressed as a nation. Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper expressing your views and also giving suggestions to improve the status of women in Indian society.

OR

You are Satish / Sonali, the student prefect incharge of the school library. You have been asked to place an order for children's story-books (age group: 10-13 yrs). Write a letter to M.S. Book Depot, Ram Nagar, Bikaner, placing an order for the books. Invent the necessary details.

6 marks

Q.6. You are Vidya/Vijay, a student of Class XII of Sarvodaya School Dilshad Colony. You feel disturbed to read news about increasing cases of honour killing in northern India. You feel that such attitude of some elders in the society deprives children of their free will and pose hindrance in choosing life partner and career of their choice. Write a speech to be delivered in the morning assembly in about 150–200 words on the topic, .Honour Killing a Stigma on Modern Society.

OR

You are Veer/Veena, a student of Class XII of SPS school Maidan Garhi. While watching many reality shows on T.V. you felt that they are harmful for children. Write a speech to be delivered in the morning assembly in 150–200 words on Negative impact of reality shows on children.

10 marks

Q.7. India is a country with diverse cultures, traditions, religious and

political beliefs. To keep such a country together, to bind the people and take the nation ahead on the path of progress, democracy is the most suitable form of government. Write an article in about 150-200 words. You are Akshay / Asha, a class XII student at Rosary Senior Secondary School, Lucknow.

OR

You are Amit / Amita, a student of class XII at K.N. Senior Secondary School, Nagpur. You recently visited a hill station along with your parents. It was an exhilarating, adventurous and joyful experience. Write an article for the school magazine sharing your experience in 150-200 words. 10 marks

**Section – C : Textbooks (Max. Marks: 40)**

- Q.8. (i)** Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool  
Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.  
The massive weight of uncle's wedding band  
Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.
- (a) Why were Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering? [1]
- (b) What is suggested by the image 'the massive weight of uncle's wedding band'? [1]
- (c) Why did Aunt Jennifer create animals which were so different from her own character? [2]

OR

And yet, for these  
Children, these windows, not this map, their world, Where all  
their future's painted with a fog,  
A narrow street sealed in with a lead sky  
Far far from rivers, capes and stars of words.

- (a) What does the map on the wall signify? [1]
- (b) Who are 'these' children? What is their world like? [2]
- (c) What kind of future does the poet foresee for them? [1]

**Q.9. Answer any four the following questions in about 30-40 words.**

**[4 × 3 = 12 marks]**

- (i) Why was Franz afraid when he was going to school that day?
- (ii) What is the 'misadventure' that William Douglas speaks about?
- (iii) Why was Sophie jealous of her brother's silence?
- (iv) Why did Rajkumar Shukla go to meet Gandhi?
- (v) Why does Derry tell Mr. Lamb that he is afraid of seeing himself in the mirror in the play 'On the Face of It' ?
- (vi) Why did people doubt Evans's sincerity towards taking the 'O' Level Exam? (Evan Tries an O-Level)

**Q.10. Answer anyone of the following in about 125-150 words. [6 marks]**

The life of bangle makers of Firozabad was full of obstacles which forced them to lead a life of poverty and deprivation. Discuss with reference to 'Lost Spring'.

**OR**

An adult's perspective is different from that of a child. Why? Answer with reference to the story 'Should Wizard Hit Mommy?'.

**Q.11. In the Lesson 'Lost Spring' the author describes the miserable life of the children who are engaged in rag-picking. You feel disturbed and agitated to find children living their childhood like this. This makes you think of the children living in Indian slums who have in the grinding poverty and terrible conditions. Write an article in about 100 words on 'Children in Indian Slums'. [6 marks]**

**Q.12. Describe the meeting of the invisible man with Dr. Kemp in Kemp's bedroom. [6 marks]**

**Q.13. Which subject fascinated the invisible man and why? [6 marks]**

**SOLUTION - PRE-BOARD PAPER**

**Question 1**

- I. 1. (b) Pleasant thoughts  
2. (c) the destructions man has caused to Nature  
3. (a) not lifeless  
4. (c) happy and hopping around  
5. (d) All the above  
6. (d) airless
- II. (a) The poet was sitting in a grove. He was quietly savouring in the sights and sounds of beautiful nature.  
(b) The birds played and hopped around the poet, sitting there. The sight filled the poet's heart with great thrill and joy.  
(c) (i) motion (ii) twigs (iii) lament  
(d) Initially, the poet felt delighted to watch the boundaries of nature around him but when he started thinking of how man has destroyed Nature and thus harmed man himself. Such thoughts filled the poet's heart with sadness.

- Question 2** 1. (c) There is no possibility that human beings will ever be controlled by machines.  
2. (c) Computers can solve the most complex mathematical problems.  
3. (c) to diagnose the nature of patient's illness  
4. (d) our failure to understand each other
- II. (a) (i) Computers can solve the most complex mathematical problems.  
(ii) They provide information with speed and accuracy, thus saving research workers years of hard work.  
(b) Automation is the process by which machines are used to work for us.  
(c) Automation implies the use of more and more machines which would help man in enjoying more leisure which in turn will have important social consequences.  
(d) Computers, howsoever efficient, can't replace man as they all the time need derailed instruction from human beings and they can't take decisions on their own. In fact, they depend on a man in many ways and thus can't be substitutes to humans.  
(e) consequences  
(f) tedious

**Question 3**

- (i) Notes :  
Prom. temples at Somnathpur :  
(a) built around 1268 A.D. by the Hoyasalas.  
(b) built by the most prolific temple-builders.  
(c) Belur and Helebid  
(d) suffered during the invasions of the 14 century .

Abbreviations used:

1. prom. - prominent  
2. scul. - sculpture  
3. exq. - exquisite  
4. fig. - figures  
5. comm. - commissioned

- (ii) Temple: its beauty and vitality
  - (a) detailed scul.-covering walls, pillars, ceilings.
  - (b) three shikharas - stand star-shaped, raised platform -24 edges
  - (c) the outer walls-detailed carvings
  - (d) the entire surface-carved plaques of stone
  - (e) vertical panels covered by exq. fig.
- (iii) Temple as representation of Hinduism:
  - (a) with many incarnations
  - (b) many deities
- (iv) Characteristic of Hoyasala sculptures
  - (a) the series of friezes on the outer walls
  - (b) reveal intricately carved caparisoned elephants
  - (c) charging horsemen
  - (d) stylized flowers
  - (e) warriors, musicians, crocodiles, and swans.
- (v) Temple in the History
  - (a) actually comm. by Soma Dandanayaka or Somnath
  - (b) the inner centre of the temple was the kalyana mandapa.
  - (c) leading - three corridors, each ending in a shiren
  - (d) each kind of Krishna - Venugopala, Janardana and Prasanna Keshava.

### **3.2 Summary of the Passage:**

The temple of Somnathpur looks extraordinary due to the sculptures on its walls, pillars and even the ceiling which has exquisite figures of gods and goddesses. The sculptures have a series of friezes on the outer walls. The various motifs carved on them show elephants, charging horsemen and stylized flowers.

### **Question 4**

**FOR TRUE RELIEF OF THE EARTQUAKE VICTIMS  
COME AND SEE  
THE MISER**

**(A HILARIOUS SIDE-SPLITTING COMEDY)**

**Presented by: THEATRE CLUB HOLY HEART PUBLIC SCHOOL, AJMER.**

**ON SUNDAY, 15th MARCH AT 3 P.M.**

**TICKETS**

**AVAILABLE IN ADVANCE WITH THE SCHOOL OFFICE**

**Rs. 25/- Rs. 50/- Rs. 100/**

**OR**



17 September 200

**NOTICE  
EXCURSION TO GOA**

The Students' Council of the school has organized an excursion to Goa during the coming autumn break. Only the senior students (Class XII) of the school shall be taking part in it. Those who are interested to join should give their names to the undersigned by the 25th of this month. The expenses shall amount to about Rs. 800/- per head.

Ravi

President Students' Council

**Question 5**

355 Valmiki Nagar

New Delhi

4 Sept. 200

The Editor

Times of India

New Delhi

Sir

The recent bride-burning case in the city of Sripur has once again proved that the evil 'O' dowry system has taken roots in our society. It also proves that even after 60 years of independence we have not really progressed as a civilized nation. The dowry system is a stigma on our society. It is an insult to women. It is matter of shame for men. The greed of dowry has taken the lives of many innocent girls. They are tortured physically as well as mentally. Many a time they are burnt alive, as has recently happened in the city of Sripur. Though we have a law which disallows the giving and taking of dowry, yet this evil is spreading day by day. We can't end it merely by shouting slogans and holding demonstrations. Women will have to become bold. They should be educated so that they can become economically self-dependent. They should refuse to marry dowry-seekers. They should stand up boldly against the greedy in-laws who pester them for money and valuables after their marriage. Men should also try to wash off this dirty stigma. They should take a vow not to demand or accept any dowry at the time of their marriage. It is only by exercising strong will-power that this evil can be ended.

Yours truly

Naresh Sharma

ABC Public School Jodhpur

9 Sept. 200

**OR**

The Manager

M.S. Book Depot

Ram Nagar Bikaner

Dear Sir

We have a well-stocked library in our school. We have books for students of all classes. But our children's section needs some addition and renovation. Due to over-use and poor handling by young readers, many of the books have become unusable. Therefore we want an urgent and immediate supply of the books mentioned below. The payment shall be made by cheque as soon as the books are received. We need five copies for each of the following books.

1. Amar Chitra Katha - Vol I to V
2. Vikram-Vaital Chitra Katha
3. Jataka Tales-latest edition
4. Indian Folk-tales (by Ram Chand)
5. Enid Blyton : The Mountain of Adventure
6. J.M. Barrie : Peter Pan
7. Lewis Carroll : Alice in Wonderland
8. Dorothy Edwards: My Naughty Little Sister
10. Eileen Colwell : Tell Me A Story

*Yours Truly*

Satish Kumar  
Student Prefect Incharge  
School Library

### **Question 6**

#### **Good morning to all**

Honour Killing, now popularly and ironically called by media as Horror killing is a social evil that has existed in our society for a very long time. It might have emerged with the onset of civilization. The root cause of this social evil lies in exercise of parental authority, over their children as their matter of right. Especially in the patriarchal societies, the thinking that whatever parents think is right; that children can't take good decisions for their life partners, their future or career goals. Majority of Indian parents don't trust their children when it comes to decide their life partner or career. Even if society had not been divided along the lines of caste and creed, problems would have persisted in other forms. But the evil of Honour killing began to raise its ugliest head when structure of society became more and more complex. It is more frequently found in rural areas where the light of education is yet to reach.

These things are very shocking in context of Honour killing. First of that the perpetrators do not regret after killing their daughters, sisters and their boy friends. Rather the killings are glorified. Secondly, ways of killing are very heinous and brutal going beyond the limits of humanity. For example. In Delhi the couple was electrocuted after being closed and tied in an iron box.

Third thing is that not only older generation i.e., parents but the youths who are expected to bring out the social change and revolution in society are also killing their sisters,

cousins in the name of family honours. Whatever the reason and whoever is the perpetrator, Honour Killing is totally wrong and a punishable crime. It is against the pattern of society and civilization. Each older generation must give way to the forthcoming generation the freedom to take their decisions about their life priorities. We must have trust in our children and respect their decisions. Even it is not right, no law allows us to kill our children. The practice of Honour killing must be stopped immediately and all legal agencies. Govt. NGOs, Social activists should come forward to rescue the young boys or girls who have decided their life partners on their own.

**OR**

***Good morning to all***

There has been a lot of discussion on the relative merits of reality shows. When it comes to different people in society. There are a number of people who will argue that these shows are very good for children and there are many reasons to prove their point of views. But I think that these reality shows are not good for young minds and have a negative impact too. Firstly they watch television in excess without breaking their concentration regularly. Secondly as children they tend to ignore their other important activities such as reading, writing, social and some type of thinking skills. Today children have no interest in reading story books, to solve puzzles and other brain storming activities. They want to watch only and only television. Consequently they have poor eyesight, bad posture and other physical disorder due to lack of outdoor games.

There are many reality shows which are being telecast on the silver screen such as Dance India Dance, Little Champs, Chhote Ustad, Boogy woogy, laughter Challenges. Talent Hunt etc. These shows are being viewed by the children interestingly and they want to be the part of such shows at the cost of their studies. I agree that these shows give a big platform to perform and draw out the talents of young children. Undoubtedly they do that but what about their childhood. They have to spend or live with the organisers for many months without family, without love and care. They lose their innocence, their childhood

and to act as per the orders of the organisers just like the puppets. They perform under great stress and to the last extent of their abilities and physical capabilities. They face a big challenge to prove their best to compete with other participants. They face great stress and tension at the moment of Judges. Remarks, public votes consequently their elimination. The children have become the earning tools of their parents to earn name, fame and money. They act in place of learning. They are involved in many shows, serials, modelling and advertisements. This is child exploitation and should be censored to save their childhood. The innocent children do the stunts at home inspired by the shows and untimely entangle with death. They also have deficit attention disorders or behavioural problems.

### Question 7

#### **Democracy-The Most Suitable Form of Government for India**

"Democracy means equal rights for all. The head of the government has those very rights which the common man has. There is no distinction on the basis of class, religion or creed. Women have all those rights which men have. Thus it is the most suitable form of government in modern times. But it is particularly suitable for a country like India. India is a country with diverse cultures and traditions. There are men who follow different religions and have different political leanings. We can call it a country of diversities. It is only democracy that can lend unity to these diversities. It is only democracy that can give the people a feeling of being united in having equal rights and opportunities. Though it is the majority that rules in a democracy, the minority can't be denied its basic rights. The minority can protest if they feel that any injustice is being done to them. Democracy is a form of government that is for the good of all people. It can never afford to favour one against the other. People at once vote out such a government that is not fair in its actions and decisions.

Written by :

Akshay

Class XII

Rosary Senior Secondary School

Lucknow

OR

#### **A Joyful Dilly Experience**

Last month I had an opportunity to visit Mussoorie with my parents. A distant relative had invited us - to marriage there. It was a new and joyful experience for me because I had never been to a hill station before that. I liked the place so much that I requested my parents to prolong the stay for a couple of days and they readily agreed to it. After the marriage function was over, we shifted to a hotel in the morning. After having some rest we set out for a hiking among the hills. It was an exhilarating and adventurous experience. Hills were all covered with greenery and tall pine trees. A cool pleasant air was blowing. As it beat against our faces, we felt as if we were in a dreamland. We saw there a number of hikers from other countries also. I had heard that Mussoorie is called the 'Queen of Hills' and now I found that it really had the beauty of a queen. We began to feel a little tired by afternoon and came back to the hotel for a lunch. The next day Father took us around all the beauty spots in and around Mussoorie. I liked Kempty Falls the most. It was a sight to see. No words can describe its beauty. In short, my visit to Mussoorie was such a memorable experience that it keeps flashing in my mind's eye again and again.

Contributed by

Amita Jain

Class XII

### Question 8

- (a) Aunt Jennifer seems to have grown very old. That is why her fingers are fluttering.
- (b) Aunt Jennifer's marriage was just like a heavy band put on her. With her marriage, she lost all of her former freedom.

- (c) Perhaps Aunt Jennifer created through the tigers a picture of her own husband. There is also a suggestion that women create men but those very men dominate and tyrannise over women when they grow up.

**OR**

- (a) The map on the wall signifies a world that is far different from the world of poor children living in a slum.  
(b) They are the poor children living in a slum area. Their world is dull and dreary.  
(c) The poet does not foresee any bright future for them

**Question 9**

- (i) Why was Franz afraid when he was going to school that day?

Franz was late for school that day. He feared the teacher would scold him. Also, the teacher was to ask questions on participles. Naturally, he was afraid.

- (ii) What is the 'misadventure' that William Douglas speaks about?

One day the writer was sitting alone on the side of a swimming pool. Suddenly a big boy came in. He picked the writer up and tossed him into the pool. The writer did not know swimming. However, he was taken out of the pool and saved.

- (iii) Why was Sophie jealous of her brother's silence?

Sophie used to think that her brother had seen a lot of places while ~he had hardly seen any. But her brother would never talk to her freely about his outdoor exploits. That was why she felt jealous of his silence.

- (iv) Why did Rajkumar Shukla go to meet Gandhi?

Rajkumar Shukla was a poor peasant from Champaran. He went to meet Gandhiji at Lucknow. He wanted him to come to Champaran and help the poor sharecroppers.

- (v) Why does Derry tell Mr. Lamb that he is afraid of seeing himself in the mirror in the play 'On The Face of It'?

Derry has a burnt face. Acid had fallen on one side of his face and burnt it all away. Now he looked very ugly in his face. People always kept reminding him of his burnt face. Once a woman looked at him and said, "That is a face only a mother could love." That is why Derry says that he is afraid of seeing himself in the mirror.

- (vi) Why did people doubt Evans's sincerity towards taking the 'O' Level Exam?

Evans was a kleptomaniac. He was arrested for stealing many a times. Three times he had managed to escape from prison. Naturally no one believed that he was sincere about taking the 'O' level examination. It was feared that he would use it as a means to escape from prison once again. Even his German teacher had said, "You have no chance of getting through." Thus Evans's intentions were clear from the very beginning.

### **Question 10**

The life of bangle makers of Firzobad was full of obstacles which forced them to lead a life of poverty and deprivation. Discuss with reference to 'Lost Spring'.

Every other family at Firozabad is engaged in making bangles. They are doing this work for generations. But these people have always been very poor. They have to work in very high temperatures. They work in dingy cells without air and light. Many of them lose their eyesight even before they become adults. Even after working so hard they remain poor. They are caught in the vicious circle of sahuikars, middlemen, policemen, bureaucrats and politicians. If the bangle makers try to organize themselves into a cooperative, the police catch and beat them. They are put into jail on false charges of illegal acts. The poor bangle makers! have no leader to guide them. Thus their life is full of obstacles which force them to lead a life of poverty and deprivation.

**OR**

An adult's perspective is different from that of a child. Why? Answer with reference to the story 'Should Wizard Hit Mommy'?

An adult develops his own likes and dislikes. He has his own set of values or principles. He looks at the world through his own coloured glasses. But a child is free from any prejudices or preconceived notions. His responses are spontaneous. He can accept nothing that to him is unjust or improper. An adult can make compromises but a child doesn't. That is why an adult's perspective on life is different from that of a child. This very idea has been conveyed through the story 'Should Wizard Hit Mommy?' Jack (the father) tells Jo (his daughter) a story in which Roger Skunk's mommy hits a gentle wizard for no reason. Jo thinks that the wizard should have hit that mommy back. But her father does not want the child to form a negative opinion of a mommy. He wants her to form the idea that a mommy ought to be loved and respected by the child. So he insists that Mommy was right. But the child sticks to her point of view. Roger Skunk had himself desired to make him smell like roses. So it was not the wizard's fault at all. Mommy had no right to hit him. She deserved to be hit back by the wizard. Jack feels himself caught in an ugly middle position. He knows that Jo's point of view is right but he has told a story which he does not want to end the way Jo wants. His superficial sense of morality does not let him do that.

**Question 11. Attempt yourself.**

**Question 12.**

**Dr. Kemp heard a voice of a man – “Good Heavens! – Kemp!” The voice asked Kemp to control his nerve, and not to panic. The voice introduced itself as an invisible man. To confirm the presence, Dr. Kemp stepped forward and his hand extended towards the bandage, met invisible fingers and recoiled in fear. The hand gripped his arm and struck at it. The invisible man told Kemp that he knew him from school – he is really a guy named Griffin, almost an albino. He was a little younger than Kemp, and he won a medal for chemistry at University College. Kemp calms down enough to give Griffin some whiskey, clothes and a cigar. It was just a coincidence that Griffin broke into Kemp's house to recover, but now he needs Kemp's help**

because his partner, Marvel had stolen his money.

**Question 13.**

The Invisible man was initially a student of medicine, However, subsequently he switched over to Physics because he was fascinated by light and its wonderful characteristics. He was attracted by the marvels and miracles of that were there in the subject of Physics. He also had curiosity and a desire to find out a method to change colours of substances without changing their fundamental properties. He also wanted to carry out a research on this topic using various principles and laws of Physics such as reflection, refraction. All this phenomenon were concerned with light and its properties. He was also enchanted by the phenomenon of visibility and invisibility of objects. He had a loose theory on invisibility and he wanted to find out methodology to figure it out. It was, therefore, he was fascinated by the subject of Physics.

**Novel Based Questions-(The Invisible Man)**

1. Why was Mrs. Hall shocked to see the visitor when she came to him with a mustard pot?
2. Describe the way the strange visitor was dressed.
3. What information did Henfrey share with Mr. Hall?
4. What two reasons were given by the stranger to Mrs. Hall for not being interrupted by anyone?
5. What did Fearenside tell Henfrey about the strange man?
6. Describe the life of the stranger at the Inn.
7. Discuss the meeting of Dr. Cuss with the stranger.
8. Discuss the robbery episode at dawn in Bunting's house.
9. What did Mr. and Mrs. Hall experience when they entered the room of the stranger? How do you explain this behavior?
10. Describe the escape of the stranger from Coach and Horses Inn.
11. What did Gibbons experience while taking a nap in the open fields of the village?
12. Give a brief character sketch of Mr. Thomas Marvel.
13. Describe the episode of Mr. Marvel vanishing by the corner of the church wall.
14. What was the reaction of the invisible man to Mr. Marvel's request for resignation?
15. What unusual things were happening around Iping as heard by the old mariner?
16. What did Dr. Kemp see from the window of his study?
17. Who was sure that he killed the invisible man?
18. Draw the character sketch of Dr. Kemp.
19. How did Dr. Kemp behave on reaching his little consulting room?
20. Which subject fascinated the invisible man and why?
21. Did the study of Medicine and knowledge about Physiology help the invisible man in his discovery of invisibility? Support your answer with reason.
22. Why did Griffin decide to destroy all the evidence at the house?
23. Why the invisible man Griffin was fearful of dogs?
24. What did Griffin see in the dream at night at the Departmental complex?
25. How did Griffin escape from Dr. Kemp's house?
26. What inhuman things did Dr. Kemp advise Adye to do in order to catch the invisible man?
27. Give a brief account of the murder of Mr. Wicksteed.
28. How did the two policemen face the invisible man at Dr. Kemp's house?
29. How did the invisible man Mr. Griffin meet his end?
30. Describe the encounter between Griffin and Colonel Adye.



### Pre-Board Examination

#### General Instructions:

- (i) This paper is divided into three sections: A, B and C. All the sections are compulsory.
  - (ii) Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
  - (iii) Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering questions.
- =====

### SECTION – A (READING)

[30]

Q.1 Read the following passage carefully :

[12 marks]

1. "We become brave by doing brave acts," observed Aristotle in the Nicomachean Ethics. Dispositions of character, virtues and vices, are progressively fixed in us through practice. Thus "by being habituated to despise things that are terrible and to stand our ground against them we become brave, and it is when we have become so that we shall be most able to stand our ground against them."
2. Standing ground against threatening things is not to be confused with fearlessness, however. Being afraid is a perfectly appropriate emotion when confronted with fearful things. The great American novelist Herman Melville makes the Aristotelian point beautifully in a telling passage in Moby-dick, where Starbuck, the chief mate of the Pequod, first addresses the crew. "I will have no man in my boat", said Starbuck, 'who is not afraid of a whale', By this, he seemed to mean, not only that the most reliable and useful courage was that which arises from the fair estimation of the encountered peril, but that an utterly fearless man is a far more dangerous comrade than a coward.
3. The brave person is not one who is never afraid. That is rather the description of a rash or reckless person, someone who may be more harm than help in an emergency. It is hard to "educate" such a person on the spot. The coward, on the other hand, the one who characteristically lacks confidence and is disposed to be overly fearful, may yet be susceptible to the encouragement of example.
4. The infectious nature of strikingly courageous behavior on the part of one person can inspire – and also in part can shame – a whole group. That was one key to the kind of courage inspired by Horatius at the bridge in ancient Rome and by Henry V at Agincourt. It was one key to the kind of courage displayed by those who silently suffered abuse when they joined ranks with Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr., in acts of non-violent protest directed at rousing the public conscience against injustice.
5. Another key to their success, of course, was reason: practical reason delivered with the kind of eloquence that is informed by a real command of one's cultural heritage and that steels the will to take intelligent action. The mere inclination to do the right thing is not in itself enough. We have to know what the right thing to do is. We need wisdom – often the wisdom of a wise leader – to give our courage determinate form, to give it intelligent direction. And we need the will, the motivating power that inspiring leaders can sometimes help us discover within ourselves, even when we are unable to find it readily on our own.
6. Fear of the dark is almost universal among young children, and it provides relatively safe opportunities for first lessons in courage. In families, older siblings are greatly

assisted in cultivating their own dispositions in this respect by putting up a brave front before their younger brothers and sisters. "You see? There's really nothing to be afraid of." This is excellent practice, and a fine place to begin.

7. So, daring to do what is not good and beneficial for all is far more insidious than not daring to do something for a right cause. Naturally, bravery well nurtured and backed by moral courage alone is exemplary, and so, should be promoted.
- I. On the basis of your reading of the above passage, complete the following sentences by choosing the correct options from those given below : [6]
1. Virtues and vices are progressively fixed in us through \_\_\_\_\_ [1]  
(a) company we keep (b) heredity  
(c) environment at home (d) practice
2. Being afraid is \_\_\_\_\_ [1]  
(a) to be avoided (b) to be suppressed  
(c) not a healthy feeling (d) a perfectly appropriate emotion
3. It is normal to be afraid of \_\_\_\_\_. [1]  
(a) One's elders (b) fearful things  
(c) a boss (d) one's parents
4. To give our courage intelligent direction we need \_\_\_\_\_. [1]  
(a) guidance (b) support of the people  
(c) knowledge (d) wisdom
5. The more universal fear among children is fear of the \_\_\_\_\_. [1]  
(a) Solitude (b) dark  
(c) strangers (d) height
6. The word in the passage which means the same as 'dislike' is \_\_\_\_\_. [1]  
(Para 1)  
(a) Confronted (b) disposed  
(c) despise (d) displayed
- II. Answer the following questions briefly: [6]
- (a) Explain: "We become brave by doing brave acts".  
(b) When is 'being afraid' an appropriate emotion?  
(c) Describe a reckless person.  
(d) What kind of person is a coward?  
(e) What was special about the courage that Gandhiji had?  
(f) Find a word in the passage which means "ability to speak effectively and well".  
(para 5)
- Q.2 Read the passage given below carefully: (10 marks)
1. Today's woman is a highly self-directed person, alive to the sense of her dignity and the importance of her functions in the private domestic domain and the public domain of the world of work. Women are rational in approach, careful in handling situations and want to do things as best as possible. The fourth World Conference of Women held in Beijing in September 1995 had emphasized that no enduring solution of society's most threatening social, economic and political problems could be found without the participation and empowerment of the women. The 1995

world Summit for Social Development had also emphasised the pivotal role of women in eradicating poverty and mending the social fabric.

2. The constitution of India had conferred on women equal rights and opportunities – political, social, educational and of employment – with men. Because of oppressive traditions, superstitions, exploitation and corruption, a majority of women are not allowed to enjoy the rights and opportunities, bestowed on them. One of the major reasons for this state of affairs is the lack of literacy and awareness among women. Education is the main instrument through which we can narrow down the prevailing inequality and accelerate the process of economic and political change in the status of women.
3. The role of women in a society is very important. Women's education is the key to a better life in the future. A recent World Bank study says that educating girls is not a charity, it is good economics and if developing nations are to eradicate poverty, they must educate the girls. The report says that the economic and social returns on investment in education of the girls considerably affect the human development index of the nation. Society would progress only if the status of women is respected and the presence of an educated woman in the family would ensure education of the family itself. Education and empowerment of women are closely related.
4. The prevailing cultural norms of gender behavior and the perceived domestic and reproductive roles of women tend to affect the education of the girls. Negative attitude towards sending girls to schools, restrictions on their mobility, early marriage, poverty and illiteracy of parents affect the girl's participation in education.
5. Women's political empowerment got a big boost with the Panchayati Raj Act of 1993 which gave them 30 per cent reservation in Village Panchayats, Block Samities and Zila Parishads throughout the country. The National Commission for Women was also set up in 1992 to act as a lobby for women's issues.
6. The educational system is the only institution which can counteract the deep foundations of inequality of sexes that are built in the minds of people through the socialization process. Education is the most important instrument of human resource development. Educational system should be used to revolutionise the traditional attitudes and inculcate new values of equality.

I. On the basis of your reading of the above passage, complete the following sentences by choosing the correct options from those given below:

**[6]**

1. In handling situations women are \_\_\_\_\_ in approach.

**[1]**

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| (a) Emotional | (b) romantic  |
| (c) rational  | (d) technical |

2. No lasting solution of society's problems could be found without \_\_\_\_\_

**[1]**

- |  |
|--|
| (a) respecting women                           |
| (b) giving equal status to women               |
| (c) educating women                            |
| (d) the participation and empowerment of women |

3. Many women are not allowed to enjoy the rights and opportunities because of \_\_\_\_\_

**[1]**

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| (a) Lack of securities for women | (b) oppressive traditions and exploitation |
|----------------------------------|--|

- (b) politicalisation of their problems (d) lawlessness in society
4. The prevailing inequality between men and women can be narrowed down only by providing women \_\_\_\_\_ [1]  
(a) financial support (b) social recognition  
(c) education (d) political awareness
5. The girl's participation in education is adversely affected by \_\_\_\_\_ [1]  
(a) negative attitude towards girl's education  
(b) early marriage  
(c) illiteracy of parents  
(d) all of the above
6. The word in the passage which means the same as 'cruel and unfair' is \_\_\_\_\_ [1]  
(a) enduring (b) threatening  
(c) oppressive (d) reproductive

- II. Answer the following questions briefly: [4]
- (a) Why is women empowerment considered necessary?  
(b) Which factors adversely affect the education of girls?  
(c) Which benefits did the women get with the enactment of the Panchayati Raj Act of 1993?  
(d) How can we remove the sense of inequality of sexes from the minds of the people?

- Q.3 Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: [8]

Cycling survives as a popular pastime because it yields pleasure and benefits. First of all, cycling provides exercise, the need of which is felt by most people. The development of machinery tends to deprive us of adequate opportunities of expending energy while earning a livelihood. Other opportunities should be created through the medium of sport. Of cycling, many people hastily say that it is "hard work", but a fit and practiced rider does not agree with this verdict. The art of easy cycling must be cultivated, as will be shown later, but more once it has been acquired, a long day's run should not unduly tire and rider endowed with the normal measure of health. Nobody has better described the exercise of cycling than the late Twells Brex, who said enthusiastically, speaking from experience : "You move along by your own glad effort". Many of us wish to use our legs and our lungs, as well our eyes. An active, healthy person ought not to be content to travel always as a mere passenger – "like an image pushed from behind", as Stevenson says. That is not life. Those who would turn all active cyclists into sedentary motor-drives, or into idle passengers, would serve the nation better if they restricted their attentions to the aged and infirm, for whom petrol-generated propulsion is doubtless a blessing and may be a necessity.

It is often said that the cyclist cannot travel as fast or as far as the motorist. Admitting this, the cyclist may be permitted to ask if it is always desirable that travel should involve modern motoring speeds (or accidents). Is the enjoyment of a traveler in search of pleasure to be measured merely in miles, or, what is worse in

miles-per-hour, or what is worse still, in miles per-gallon ? Surely the cyclist, pedaling calmly along at a modest twelve miles an hour is able to assimilate scenery more easily, more completely, and with more enjoyment, than the hurrying occupant of a car! Cyclists believe that their method of travel is a sensible and convenient compromise between walking and driving. If bicycles were unobtainable, most keen cyclists would become trampers rather than motorists.

There are at least two distinct types of cyclists. The exercise of pedaling provides an all sufficient satisfaction for one type. This is the purely athletic rider who travels in long, fast riders, in time trails, and other forms of strenuous competition, and sometimes attacks records. This type of cyclist goes into strict training, develops leg-thrust, and perfect ankle action and thinks nothing of pedaling of twenty miles an hour. The other distinct type is the tourist, who takes no interest in racing but a deep interest in the countryside and the pageant unfolded by the open road. Comparatively, few cyclists are interested deeply in both racing and touring.

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

**Section-B(WRITING)**

**[30]**

- Q.4 You are the General Manager of a leading industrial concern. You need a chartered Accountant for your office. Draft an advertisement in not more than 50 words to be published in The Times of India, New Delhi, under the classified columns. [4]

Or

As the President of Leo Club of Temple Town, prepare a poster on behalf of Lions Club and Leo Club for 'Christmas Carnival' to be held at Nehru Stadium, Chennai.

- Q.5 There is a flood of advertisements on television channels these days. Useless commodities and even superstitious beliefs are promoted through glamorous and exaggerated presentations. Write a letter to the editor, 'New Indian Express' about the negative influence such advertisements have on the minds of the people. You are Radha/Ramesh of Mayur Vihar, Lucknow. [6]

Or

You are Apoorva/Ashima, Librarian of Wisdom Public School, Chandigarh. Write a letter to the Sales Manager of Bharat Publishers Limited, Delhi, enquiring about the undue delay concerning the delivery of books for your school library for which you placed an order two months ago. Also specify that you may have to cancel the order in case of further delay as the first term of the academic year has almost come to an end.

- Q.6 You have been reading in the newspapers about the suicides being committed by the teenagers just because he/she didn't come up to the expectations in his/her performance in the examination or he/she failed in the Board examination. Such news items have upset you and have set you thinking about examinations. Write an

article in 200 words on 'Examinations – A Necessary Evil'/'The Terror of Examination'. [10]

Or

As Shamim who has gone to see Gemini Circus, write your reactions on seeing the torture which was carried out on the animals to make them perform daring feats. The poor food-quality and the small places in which they live are bad. The poor medication and above all the rigorous torture that they go through while getting trained is against all qualities which make us human. Write an article expressing your pain at the animals being tortured for human entertainment. Give some suggestions regarding such training. (Word limit 200)

- Q.7 On the occasion of the 'Children Day' you have been asked to prepare a speech relevant to the children. You decided to speak on 'Television and the Violence in Children' for your school morning assembly. Write the speech in 150-200 words. [10]

Write a debate in favour of or against the topic "Vocational course should be made compulsory in schools after class VIII". (Word limit 150-200)

**Section-C (Literature)**

[40]

- Q.8 Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow : [4]

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

- (i) What should not be confused with 'total inactivity'?
- (ii) What is life about?
- (iii) What would the single-minded people do ? What would we do for once if we were not single-minded?
- (iv) When can 'a huge silence' do us good ?

**OR**

Far far from gusty waves these children's faces.  
Like rootless weeds, the hair torn round their pallor :  
The tall girl with her weighed-down head. The paper-  
Seeming boy, with rat's eyes. The stunted, unlucky heir

Of twisted bones, reciting a father's gnarled disease,  
His lesson, from his desk. At back of the dim class  
One unnoted, sweet and young. His eyes live in a dream,  
Of squirrel's game, in tree room, other than this.

- (i) Where do "these children" live?
- (ii) What do their faces look like? What is the comparison the poet shows here?
- (iii) Why is the girl's head weighed down?
- (iv) Why is the boy called an "unlucky heir"? What is he reciting?

Q.9 Answer any four questions in 40-50 words [4X3=12]

- (a) Interpret the symbols found in the poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers'
- (b) What was the last message of the teacher to his students and the villagers
- (c) Why does Mr Lamb keep his windows without curtains and his gates open?
- (d) What preparations and arrangements were made in the prison for Evans'
- (e) Why did Sophie wriggle when Geoff told her father that she had met
- (f) Why did Gandhi agree to a settlement of 25% refund to the sharecroppers?

Q.10 What kind of discrimination did Bama and Zitkala Sa experience? How did they respond to their respective situations? [6]

**OR**

What problem did Roger Shunk face and how did he solve this problem? How did his mother react to the change? (Word limit 120-150)

Q.11 The story "The Tiger King" has a powerful message on preservation of Mother Earth and its wildlife. The story highlights the wanton nature of those in power. They have a very callous attitude towards nature. They plunder the natural resources and today the earth is in a very perilous condition. Based on your reading of the story write 120-150 words on the topic: 'Importance of Preserving Nature'.

**OR**

One of the themes of the lesson 'Going Places' is about an adolescent, given to hero-worship. You too, must be having your role model or some one you have always admired or whom you may have considered your 'hero'. Write an article in about 150 words on 'My Most Favourite Hero.'

Q.12 In the light of the sequence of events in "The Invisible Man", elucidate how ambition can prove to be destructive in 120-150 words. [6]

Q.13 Describe in 120-150 words how Griffin got ready to go out as a credible figure. [6]

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