

Section A (Reading)

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

People travelling long distances frequently have to decide whether they would prefer to go by land, sea, or air. Hardly anyone can positively enjoy sitting on a train for more than a few hours. Train compartments soon get cramped and stuffy. It is almost impossible to take your mind off the journey. Reading is only a partial solution, for the monotonous rhythm of the wheels clicking on the rails soon lulls you to sleep. During the day, sleep comes in snatches. At night when you really wish to go to sleep, you rarely manage to do so. If you are lucky enough to get couchettes, you spend half the night staring at the small blue light in the ceiling or fumbling to find your passport when you cross a frontier. Inevitably you arrive at your destination almost exhausted.

Long car journeys are even less pleasant, for it is quite impossible even to read. On motorways you can at least travel fairly and safely at high speeds, but more often than not, the greater part of the journey is spent in narrow, bumpy roads which are crowded with traffic. By comparison, trips by sea offer a great variety of civilized comforts. You can stretch your legs on the spacious decks, play games, swim, meet interesting people and enjoy good food—always assuming of course, that the sea is calm. If it is not, and you are likely to get sea-sick, no form of transport could be worse. Even if you travel in ideal weather, sea-journeys take a long time. Relatively few people are prepared to sacrifice up to a third of their holidays for the pleasure of travelling on a ship.

Aeroplanes have the reputation of being dangerous and even hardened travellers are intimidated by them. They also have the grave disadvantage of being the most expensive form of transport. But nothing can match them for speed and comfort. Travelling at a height of 30,000 feet, far above the clouds, and at over 500 miles an hour is an exhilarating experience. You do not have to devise ways of taking your mind off the journey, for an aeroplane gets you to your destination rapidly. For a few hours, you settle back in a deep armchair to enjoy the flight. The real escapist can watch a free film show and sip a hot or cold drink on some services. But even when such refreshments are not available, there is plenty to keep you occupied. An aeroplane offers you an unusual breathtaking view of the world. You soar effortlessly over high mountains and deep valleys. You really see the shape of the land. If the landscape is hidden from view, you can enjoy the extraordinary sight of unbroken clouds, plains that stretch out for miles before you, while the sun shines brilliantly in a clear sky. The journey is so smooth that there is nothing to prevent you from reading or sleeping. However you decide to spend your time, one thing is certain: you will arrive at your destination fresh and uncrumpled. You will not have to spend the next few days recovering from a long and arduous journey.

Questions:

- a. Why is it difficult to read on a train in long distance journeys? Give two reasons. 2
- b. What are the two disadvantages of travelling by sea? 2
- c. What are two disadvantages of travelling by air? 2
- d. Why does the writer dislike long car journeys? 2 She
(come) here the day after tomorrow She (come) here the day after tomorrow She
(come) here the day after tomorrow
- e. Find a word in the passage which means 'lacking fresh air or ventilation'. 1
- f. Give an antonym of 'narrow'. 1

Section-B (Advance Writing Skills)

- 2. You are Sourabh/Rimpi, of North Lakhimpur. You have seen an advertisement for the post of Art Teacher in Gohpur High School. Write a letter to the President of the managing committee of the school, applying for the job. Give your detailed bio-data as well. 10
- 3. Your school has recently celebrated "Golden Jubilee" organizing a number of inter-school competitions. As the Secretary of the Eco Club of your school, prepare a report in 120-150 words, suitable to be published in your school magazine. You are Nilim/Nilima. 10

Or

Your state government had banned the use of plastic bags. You are Ranjit/ Ranjita, a reporter of 'The Assam Tribune'. Write a report in 120- 150 words on how the ban is being ignored and what damage the indiscriminate use of plastic bags is causing to the environment.

- 4. Write a letter to the Editor of the Telegraph, complaining about the noise pollution in your locality drawing the attention of the concerned authorities to take steps to check the same. Sign as Mohan/Anjali, Fancy Bazar, Guwahati. 10

Section-C (Grammar)

- 5. Rewrite the following sentences using the verbs given in brackets in their correct verb forms: 1x15=15
 - a. Wait, I (open) the door.
 - b. I already (have) my breakfast.
 - c. He (sleep) for three hours now.
 - d. I usually (go) to school by bus.
 - ✓e. If he had tried hard, he (get) the job.
 - f. If I (have) money I would give you some.
 - g. If I weren't so tired, I (go) for a walk with you.
 - ✓h. I (have) my hair cut whenever it gets too long.
 - i. You (play) with dolls when you were a little girl?
 - j. How often you (go) to the theatre when you were in London?
 - k. If the baby is a girl, we (go) to call her Radha.

- l. We (not see) Padma for several months.
 - m. I assure that I (help) you.
 - n. The First World War (last) for four years and ended in 1918.
 - o. She (come) here the day after tomorrow.
6. Rewrite the following sentences as directed: 1x10=10
- a. Their glory can never fade. (Turn into interrogative)
 - b. Who does not know him? (Turn into assertive)
 - c. She is one of the most intelligent girls in the class. (Make it comparative)
 - d. No other place is so charming as this. (Make it superlative)
 - e. He seems to be happy. (Make it complex)
 - f. As he was ill, he could not come. (Make it compound)
 - g. He must do this. (Make it negative)
 - h. It is not always easy to speak the truth. (Make it affirmative)
 - i. The enemy fled as soon as they saw us. (Make it a compound sentence)
 - j. A stone that is rolling gathers no moss. (Make it a simple sentence)

Section-D (Text Book)

7. Read the following stanza and answer the questions that follow
- a. 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.
- i. Name the poet of these lines? 1
 - ii. What are the different kinds of wars mentioned in the passage? 1
 - iii. What kind of victory do they achieve? 1
 - iv. What should the war mongers do? 1
 - v. Find the words in the passage that mean 'those left alive' and 'win' 1
8. Answer the following questions : (any ten) 1x10=10
- a. Which war does the writer mention in 'The Last Lesson'?
 - b. Where were the Prussian soldiers drilling on the day of the last lesson?
 - c. What did Franz think for a moment?
 - d. What is the name of the river mentioned in "The Last Lesson"?
 - e. Name the French districts mentioned in the story "The Last Lesson"?
 - f. By whom has "The Life of Mahatma Gandhi" been reviewed as one of the best books ever written on Gandhi?
 - g. Who was Rajkumar Shukla?
 - h. Where is Champaran situated?
 - i. Who was Prof. J B Kripalani?

- ✓ j. Choose the correct answer-
Rajkumar Shukla was:

i. Poor

✓ ii. Physically strong

iii. Illiterate

- ✓ k. What is Saheb looking for in the garbage dumps?

l. What is Lost Spring about?

9. Answer any five of the following questions in 30-40 words:

2x5=10

- ✓ a. Why did the blacksmith tell Franz not to hurry to school?
- ✓ b. What was the commotion that Franz anticipated?
- ✓ c. Why was the lesson called the last lesson?
- ✓ d. What would Franz love to do on that sunny morning instead of going to school?
- e. Why do you think the servants of Rajendra Prasad thought Gandhi to be another peasant?
- ✓ f. Where and when did Louis Fischer first visit Gandhi?
- g. Where and when was the annual convention of the Indian National Congress held?
- h. Why is Rajkumar Shukla described as being resolute?
- i. What will counting upto twelve and keeping still help us achieve?
- j. What is the sadness that the poet refers to in the poem "Keeping Quiet"?

10. Answer any five of the following questions in 30-40 words:

2x5=10

- ✓ a. What was the conflict of Dr. Sadao?
- ✓ b. What did the General suggest to get rid of the American?
- ✓ c. What is the moral of the story "The Enemy"?
- ✓ d. What did the astrologers predict when the Tiger King was born?
- e. Give a brief description of the upbringing of the Tiger King?
- f. What did the State ban? What was the proclamation issued?
- g. How did the maharaja react after killing the first tiger?
- ✓ h. Who was Dr. Sadao? Where was his house?
- i. How does the writer indicate that Dr. Sadao's father was a very traditional and conventional man?