

# DAV PUBLIC SCHOOLS, ODISHA ZONE - II

PRE- BOARD EXAMINATION 2015 – 16

ENGLISH (CORE)

CLASS XII

QUESTION BANK

SECTION A

(Reading, Note making & summarizing)

**Q1. Read the passage carefully:**

**[12]**

1. Settling down on the cane chair in their hostel in JNU, Dehli, Alisa Mohanty and her room mates discuss what they would do once they leave university.
2. "The idea of moving into the financial world and working long hours in a massive company does not appeal to me", said Mohanty, placing a text book down the floor, among scattered magazines, snacks and revision notes. The 20 years old has a final-year exam for her economics degree the next day.
3. People in their late teens and early twenties, she argues, were more keen to have a "good life with a standard amount of money" than 'slog' out like their parents. 'I saw my dad and mum work really hard, but my work ethic is different,' said Mohanty. 'I want to do well but want to have a great fun in life. Money and work are not the be all and end all. If you put effort into your job you lose sense of what you are living for'.
4. Mohanty is not alone. New research has found that a similar attitude to work is burgeoning among the group of people known as generation Y—usually defined as those between the ages of 11 to 25. A study of more than 2500 people born after the early 80's found that they were rebelling against their parents' values and were determined not to lead life that revolved so heavily around the world of work.
5. Instead they were ready to resign if their jobs were not fulfilling and fun, with decent holidays and opportunity to take long stretches off for travel. Salary and status were not high on the priority list, according to a recent study by a professional firm.
6. Here is a group that has never known, or even witnessed hardship, recession or mass unemployment and does not fear redundancy or repossession, according to researchers. The result is a generation that believes it can have it all and is not embarrassed to ask for it; a generation that will constitute the majority of the workforce within a decade.
7. This is why major companies, embroiled in the battle to attract the very best graduates are doing whatever they can to lure them in. 'The previous generation saw work as a primary part of life,' said Madalyn Brooks, HR Director at Procter and Gamble. 'When they left education, work was a dominant part of what they did and they were not looking for time out. Now we are seeing the growth of a different profile of candidates. They have grown up in relatively affluent families. They want to be sure that they can strike a balance between work and their personal life, and so the opportunity to take time off, to travel, to work for a company with a strong social responsibility record, these are all concerns that we increasingly hear when recruiting talent'.
8. Procter and Gamble has already adapted its recruitment efforts and what it offers to meet the needs of Generation Y. instead of just stressing higher salaries, this international company is highlighting the opportunity for flexible hours, the chance to work from home, the offer up to a year of 'family leave' to look after children or elderly parents and the promise of regular three months sabbaticals. Similar packages are being offered by companies across Britain.
9. The fact that young people changed jobs more frequently meant they were less willing to put up with long hours or poor holidays. Officials in the U.S have estimated that a typical member of Generation Y will have 10 jobs by the age of 38. Why stage in a job you do not enjoy.

10. In New Dehli, Mohanty and her roommates reached a similar conclusion. 'If a company offers more flexibility, it is a sign that it has the type of culture you would want to join' said the undergraduate.
11. It is the lack of significant downturn in the economy over the past decade and a half that is driving the new attitude, say experts. Generation Y has only known economic prosperity. They have many choices: gap years and extensive travel are the norm. They can join a company or set up their own. They have seen their parents in stressful jobs, working long hours, and release that hard work for big companies apparently does not bring prosperity and happiness or make the world a better place. They want their lives to be different-and this shows. If they are dissatisfied they resign'.
12. The top priority when choosing a job was 'doing work that I love'. 'Earning lots of money' is no longer a priority. When I came to walking away from an employer, a lack of motivation was top reason followed by a work-life balance leaning too far towards the job. The older generation [who are over 45] created the culture of long working hours and the next in line [aged between 28 and 45] reluctantly accepted it, however generation Y is different. While they are not work-shy, they don't live to work. They will get the job done on time.....but on their own terms.'
13. The confidence according to the experts came from a feeling of security. 'unlike the previous generations, they are not remotely daunted by the spectre of unemployment'

**On the basis of your understanding of this passage answer the following questions with the help of the given options:**

a. What are Alisa Mohanty and her room mates discussing?

- i. Their future job
- ii. Their economic notes
- iii. A new movie
- iv. A new lecturer

b. What is the age group of Generation Y?

- i. a new movie
- ii. 11-25years
- iii. between 28-45years
- iv. above 60 years

c. What is the top priority while choosing a job?

- i. a good salary
- ii. an enjoyable job
- iii. good work culture
- iv. flexible working hours

d. What is the top reason for leaving a job?

- i. lack of work-life balance
- ii. lack of motivation
- iii. a boring job
- iv. less remuneration

**Answer the following questions briefly:**

- e. What is Alisa Mohanty's work ethic?
- f. Compare the work ethic of previous generation with the present generation?
- g. How has Procter and Gamble adapted his recruitment efforts to meet the needs of Generation Y?
- h. What conclusion did Mohanty and roommates reach?
- i. What, according to experts, is the reason for generation Y's new work attitude?
- j. Why according to experts, are the new generations not scared of losing their jobs?

**Find the words from the passage which mean the same as:**

- k. increasing (para 4)
- l. Involved (para 7)

**Q1. Read the passage carefully:**

**[10]**

1. Bernie Madoff is an American swindler convicted of fraud and former stockbroker, investment advisor, and financier. He was the former non-executive chairman of the NASDAQ stock market, and the admitted operator of a fraudulent investing scheme (Ponzi scheme) that is considered to be the largest financial fraud in U.S. history. However, much remained a mystery about Bernie Madoff's crime, even after he pleaded guilty in March 2009. But one thing, it seemed that everybody knew was true was this: his wife and sons were guilty too. From the first week of his arrest, unidentified 'former prosecutors' and 'criminal lawyers who have followed the case' and 'legal sources' were repeatedly quoted in various media outlets asserting that Ruth, Mark and Andrew Madoff were under investigation and would soon be indicated. Glossy magazine articles would speculate carefully; garish Internet blogs would accuse recklessly; television commentators would wink and nod knowingly. All that fierce, smug certainty about their guilt-unsupported by any cited facts-effectively drove Madoff's immediate family into exile.
2. In an era of hypermedia with mobile phone paparazzi and self-defined Internet commentators constantly on the alert for ways to attract attention, it is worth noting that these attacks on Madoff family were a sharp departure from the typical public reaction to cases of white collar crime, going back to more than a century.
3. Of course, such criminals – confidence men, embezzlers, crooked politicians, fraudsters, of all kinds-were attacked savagely by the press and the public when their crimes came to light. But their wives and children were almost never included in those attacks; rather they were almost always ignored or, at the very least, quickly left alone. There were few exceptions where criminal charges were actually filed against a close relative, who was then pulled to the whipping post of public attention. In general, however, even the wives and children of executed murderers were left to rebuild their lives in relative obscurity, unless they sought the spotlight themselves.
4. The treatment over the years of organized-crime defendants is instructive. Despite widespread fascination with the murderous escapades of so called 'Mafia-dons' and crime-family 'capos', it was extremely rare for any attention to fall on the elderly Mrs Mafia don or the capos children-even though a realist might have wondered how much they knew about why their husband or father had asked all his closest buddies to wear guns and sleep on their mattresses in the garage. On rare occasions, a mobster's relatives actively courted publicity. But those who were routinely ignored by the media and certainly were never publicly and repeatedly accused of complicity in their 'husband's or father's crime.
5. Yet public outcry against Ruth Madoff and her sons began almost from the instant of Madoff's arrest and did not cease. By then he pleaded guilty, it was deafening.
6. From the beginning however there were facts in the Madoff's case that just didn't seem to be consistent with the family's guilt. First there was the fact that none of them fled the country. Perhaps Bernie Madoff, seventy years old at the time of this confession, felt too old and tried to leave as wealthy fugitive; and perhaps Ruth, even if she were guilty and faced arrest and a lifelong imprisonment, would not leave without him. But his two sons, if they were guilty, had the opportunity, the means, and the motive to flee. The end was clearly in sight weeks in advance. There was still a princely sum in the bank, and they and their families were relatively young and portable. Surely, Madoff before turning himself in, would have handed his sons the keys to company jet and enough cash to let them live comfortably beyond the reach of the law for the rest of their lives. After all if they were his accomplices their only other option would have been to stay and go to prison.

7. And yet Madoff didn't flee-and neither did his wife and sons.
8. Then, there was his confession. Some hostile theorists immediately argued that Madoff and his guilty sons staged his confession so they could turn him in and thereby deflect suspicion from themselves. But his would have been a worthless gesture unless they all could have been absolutely sure that no incriminating evidence would surface later and none of their other low level accomplices would finger the sons in a bid of leniency-assumptions that were not remotely realistic if the sons were actually guilty. Moreover if Madoff truly believed anyone could be insulated from suspicion simply by turning himself in, wouldn't he have arranged for that to be Ruth?
9. Logic aside, assumptions about the family's guilt began to run up against fact. As the Madoff investigation progressed, the predicted arrests of his wife and some simply did not happen.

**On the basis of your understanding of this passage answer the following questions with the help of the given options:**

- a. Why did the wife & sons of Madoff not flee the country?
  - i. Because Bernie Madoff had already pleaded guilty.
  - ii. Because they did not have the opportunity and means.
  - iii. Because they had deflected suspicion from themselves.
  - iv. Because they were not guilty of the crime.
- b. How did Bernie Madoff's family react to media frenzy declaring them guilty?
  - i. By launching counter publicity to prove their innocence.
  - ii. By suing the media for defamation.
  - iii. By staying away from the public eye.
  - iv. By approaching the media to confess their crime.

**Answer the following questions briefly:**

- c. What is Ponzi scheme?
- d. What was the one thing that everyone believed to be true about Madoff's crime?
- e. Why were the attacks on the Madoff family different from the other attacks on white-collar criminal's families?
- f. What facts in the Madoff's case didn't seem to be consistent with the family's guilt?
- g. What do hostile theorists say about Madoff's confession?
- h. 'Logic aside, assumptions about the family's guilt began to run up against fact.' Elaborate?

**Find the words from the passage which mean the same as:**

- i. Accused (para 1)
- j. Anonymity (para 3)

**Q1. Read the passage carefully:**

**[12]**

1. A generation growing up on the internet may now get their formal education there — from new schools offering kindergarten through 12th grade online. Backers of education technology say the internet can help children isolated from traditional school houses by distance or disabilities. Online education can also benefit children to be schooled at home by their parents.
2. "Education is what America cares about the most and technology is what we do best," said former education secretary William Bennett.
3. As a past critic of education technology, Bennett once gave schools' efforts to increase the use of computers in teaching an F-minus. Yet, he is joining companies and schools willing, even eager, to sail into uncharted cyber-space, despite skeptical child development experts and the spiraling business failure rate in the dotcom world.
4. There's no exact count of public and private elementary and secondary schools that have followed the lead of web-based colleges. The non-profit, Orlando-based Florida Online High School has offered online courses since 1997 for grades 9-12 nationwide. Public charter schools from California to Pennsylvania teach children online. At the state-funded Valley Pathways, online school based in Alaska, roughly 300 students take 1-6 courses a semester on the web.

5. "We wouldn't do it if we did not think it could produce quality education" said Pathways teacher Kathy Baldwin. "I know my students online and in detail. They tell you things in writing they would never tell you face to face." Classes are held by computers, teachers and staff work from a central office, and students sign in from their home desktop or laptop computers. Standards for teachers ideally are the same as those of traditional schools.
6. It's not all reading, writing and arithmetic. In gym class over the web, pupils keep daily logs of their exercises. They learn music theory online, and then go to a designated campus for piano or guitar lessons. They can fax, e-mail or bring in art projects completed at home. Parents even dial in for an online PTA meeting. Linda Deffenbaugh said online schooling has filled a void for her son, a third-grader with attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder. Each morning, despite his behavioral disorder, Douglas Meikie, 8, signs onto the Western Pennsylvania Cyber Charter
7. Smith downloads his reading, science and math assignments himself. He completes the lessons, working with online teachers, who include a special; education expert, to keep him focused. "He definitely had a bad school experience to the point that teachers were not letting him in the door of the classrooms." said Deffenbaugh, a cultural anthropologist who works for the federal government. "Not only was his -social life falling apart, but his academics were, too."
8. The going has been bumpy for some online schools. Teachers have to keep up student's interest with interactive lessons, guard against student cheating and do without body language or verbal clues to tell them whether students understand lectures.
9. And in October, one 15 year-old in an online charter school in California hacked into the system and racked up \$18,000 in damage, knocking the school offline for two days and destroying homework assignments, lesson plans and attendance records. "There simply is not enough research", said William Rukeyser, coordinator of the non-profit Woodland-based Learning in the Real World. "Too often, people say let's spend. The money and may be the wisdom will miraculously transfer from the computer to the child."
10. Schools spent more than \$5bn on education technology last year, and a Congressional panel concluded last week that 70 per cent of America's classrooms are connected to the web. But, the marriage of education and technology is needed, say educators who believe teaching is becoming more difficult in today's environment. Growing enrolment and shrinking budgets are leaving less room for one-on-one, hand-on-learning at the side of an attentive teacher. "We should not be stuck with one model," Bennett said.

**Answer the following questions briefly:**

- i. How does online education help children?
- ii. How does online education system work?
- iii. What are the various subjects or assignments offered online?
- iv. What are the shortcomings of this system?
- v. Despite the shortcomings, why is the online education catching up in US?
  - i. Why marriage of education and technology is needed?
- vi. Mention two things America is famous for?
- vii. What is percentage of America's classrooms that are connected to the web?
- viii. What has been of immense help to Linda?

**Find words from the passage which mean the same as:**

- i. Connected to or controlled by a central computer. (Para 3)
- ii. To get access to the contents of a computer memory without permission. (Para 7)
- iii. Something remarkable, contrary to what's expected. (Para 7)

**Q1. Read the passage carefully:**

**[10]**

1. Rabindra Nath Tagore raised the stature of our country in the eyes of the world. A versatile genius, a literary artist, an educator, a composer, a singer, an actor, RN Tagore had all the gifts of nature and fortune in his favour, Born in a renowned Hindu family, RN Tagore pleaded not only for concord with the past but also for freedom from the past.
2. All healthy growth needs continuity and change. We are not free unless our minds are liberated from dead forms, tyrannical restrictions and crippling social habits. Tagore condemned the corruption of many of our social practice. He believed that the essence of life was perpetual renewal and rededication to self development.

3. RN Tagore did not live in an ivory tower. He led a procession in 1905 through the streets of Calcutta singing his song, "Are you so mighty as to cut asunder the bond forged by providence?" Millions of voices have sung the 'National anthem' 'Jana Gana Mana' calling upon us to nourish the unity of our country and be devoted to it.
4. He was not only a playwright but a novelist and a story teller, a nationalist and an internationalist. As if these activities were not enough, he turned towards painting at the end of his life. He rejected traditional canons and experimented with new forms and colour compositions.
5. We honour him not only for his many sided genius, but also for the guidance of his life and work in this troubled world. RN Tagore's mission was one of reconciliation between East and West in a spirit of understanding and mutual enlightenment. For India, unity is truth and division is evil. The poet's name is symbolic of the light of the day, the sun which dispels the mist of darkness, the clouds of suspicion and restores health to the human system.
6. Though his work was rooted in Indian soil, his mind ranged over the wide world and hence had a universal appeal. RN Tagore's writings have been translated into many languages, but even the best translations do not bring out the music and the melody or the force of the original. As Rabindra Nath Tagore was born at a difficult stage when India was in a revolutionary mood, he participated in the movement revolting against social, political and religious institutions.
7. He was all the time convinced of the validity of the fundamental ideals set forth by the seers and saints of India. Tagore's philosophy was one of wholeness and unity. For Tagore, God, man and nature are bound together in a single unity.
8. He was not a dreamer or a visionary. He kept constant vigil over the world. He was a great sentinel, as Gandhi called him. The moral health of a nation depended on the inspiration the people derived from their poets and artists. Asceticism for Rabindra Nath Tagore meant self-control and not abstention from world activities. Very early in his life, when he was seventeen, he had the need to control his emotions. He was not an unworldly saint. He had a rough earthly quality. The ideals of social life, economic pursuits and the enjoyment of beauty should be cultivated equally.
9. Water surrounds the lotus flower but does not wet its petals. Even so, human beings should work in this world without being affected by it. Tagore himself was a harmonious man in whom there was a happy blend of contemplation and action. For Tagore, as for Gandhi, the measure of man's greatness is not his material possessions, but the truth in him which is universal. His voice was the conscience of our age. He bequeathed to the country and the world a life which had no littleness about it.

**On the basis of your understanding of this passage answer the following questions with the help of the given options:**

- a. Rabindra Nath Tagore was a versatile genius whose talents included being a
  - i. Literary artist
  - ii. Composer
  - iii. singer
  - iv. all of the these
- b. What does healthy growth need
  - i. Stability
  - ii. Creativity
  - iii. continuity and change
  - iv. both (a) and (b)
- c. Identify the statement which is not true, as per the passage.
  - i. RN Tagore led a procession in 1905 through the streets of Calcutta singing a song.
  - ii. He was a versatile genius.
  - iii. He participated in the movement revolting against social, political and religious institutions.
  - iv. For RN Tagore, asceticism meant abstention from world activities.

- d. Which of the following statements is true about RN Tagore?
  - i. He was a dreamer.
  - ii. He was an unworldly saint.
  - iii. For Tagore, the measure of man's greatness is his material possessions.
  - iv. He condemned the corruption of many of our social practices.
- e. How should a human being work in the world, according to RN Tagore?
  - i. He should work in the world by affecting all the people.
  - ii. He should work in this world without being affected by it.
  - iii. He should not work in this world harmoniously.
  - iv. He should work in this world carelessly.
- f. Which of the following words in para 1 is the synonym of 'despotic'?
  - i. Versatile
  - ii. Crippling
  - iii. Liberated
  - iv. tyrannical

**Answer the following questions briefly:**

- i. How was Rabindra Nath Tagore a versatile genius?
- ii. How should human beings go about their worldly pursuits, according to Tagore?
- iii. What was Tagore's philosophy of life rooted in?
- iv. What word used in para 1 means the same as 'never ceasing'?

**Q1. Read the passage carefully:**

**[12]**

1. Swami Vivekananda is a striking figure with his turban and his kindly features. On my enquiring as to the significance, if any, of his name, the Swami said, "Of the name by which I am not known, the first word is descriptive of a Sannyasi, or one who formally renounces the world, and the second is the title I assumed- as is customary with all Sannyasis – on my renunciation of the world; it signifies, literally, the bliss of discrimination."
2. "And what induced you to forsake the ordinary course of the world Swami?" I asked.
3. "I had a deep interest in religion and philosophy from my childhood", he replied, "and our books teach renunciation as the highest ideal to which man can aspire. It only needed the meeting with a great teacher- Ramakrishna Paramahansa to kindle in me the final determination to follow the path he himself had trod, as in him I found my highest ideal realized."
4. "Then did he found a sect, which you now represent"?
5. "No", replied the Swami quickly. "No, his whole life was spent in breaking down the barriers of sectarianism and dogma. He formed no sect. Quite the reverse. He advocated and strove to establish absolute freedom of thought. He was a great Yogi".
6. "Then you are connected with no society or sect in this country? Neither Theosophical nor Christian Scientist, nor any other?"
7. "None whatever!" said the Swami in clear and impressive tones. "My teaching is my own interpretation of our ancient books, in the light which my master shed upon them. I claim no supernatural authority. Whatever in my teaching may appeal to the highest intelligence and be accepted by thinking men, the adoption of that will be my reward". "All religions", he continued, "have for their object the teaching either of devotion, knowledge or yoga, in a concrete form. Now the philosophy of Vedanta is the abstract science which embraces all these methods, and this is that I teach, leaving each one to apply in to his own concrete form. I refer each individual to his own experiences, and where reference is made to books, the latter are procurable, and may be studied by each one for himself. Above all, I teach no authority proceeding from hidden beings speaking through visible agents, any more than I claim learning from hidden books or

manuscripts. I am the exponent of no occult societies, nor do I believe that good can come of such bodies. Truth stands on its own authority, and truth can bear the light of day."

8. "Then you do not propose to form any society, Swami"? I suggested.
9. "None; no society whatever. I teach only the self, hidden in the heart of every individual and common to all. A harmful of strong men knowing that self and living in its light would revolutionize the world, even today, as has been the case by single strong men before, each in his day".
10. "Have you just arrived from India"? I inquired.
11. "No," he replied, "I represented the Hindu religion at the Parliament of Religions held at Chicago in 1893. Since then I have been travelling and lecturing in the United States. The American people have proved most interested audiences and sympathetic friends, and my work there has to take root that I must shortly return to that country".
12. "And what is your attitude towards the western religions, Swami"?
13. "I propound a philosophy which can serve as a basic to every possible religious system in the world, and my attitude towards all of them is one of extreme – sympathy. My teaching is antagonistic to none. I direct my attention to the individual, to make him strong, to teach him that he himself is divine, and I call upon men to make themselves conscious of this divinity within. That is really the ideal- conscious or unconscious – of every religion".

**On the basis of your understanding of this passage answer the following questions with the help of the given options:**

- a. In his childhood, Vivekananda had interest in .....
  - i. religion and philosophy
  - ii. history and geography
  - iii. mathematics
  - iv. religion and ethics
- b. According to Vivekananda, Ramakrishna Paramahansa advocated .....
  - i. Sectarianism
  - ii. Religious rituals
  - iii. Belief in dogmas
  - iv. freedom of thought
- c. Vivekananda was connected with ....
  - i. Hindu sect
  - ii. Theosophical society
  - iii. Christianity
  - iv. No sect or society
- d. Vivekananda had ...
  - i. tantric power
  - ii. Supernatural Power
  - iii. Magical Power
  - iv. No such power

**Answer the following questions briefly:**

- e. What does Swami Vivekananda tell the interviewer regarding significance of his name?
- f. What influence did Ramakrishna Paramahansa have on Swami Vivekananda?
- g. What according to Vivekananda is the philosophy of Vedanta?
- h. Why had Swami Vivekananda gone to Chicago?
- i. How did Vivekananda find the American audience?
- j. Explain: "I direct my attention to the individual".

**Find words from the passage which mean the same as:**

- k. Abandon
- l. Very old.

**Q1. Read the passage carefully.****[10]**

1. South India is known for its music and for its arts and rich literature. Madras or Chennai can be called the cultural capital and the soul of Mother India. The city is built low in pleasant contrast to the ghoulish tall structures of Mumbai and Kolkata. It has vast open spaces and ample greenery. The majestic spacious Mount Road looks like a river, wide and deep. A stroll on the Marina beach in the evening with the sea glistening in your face is refreshing. The breeze soothes the body; it refreshes the mind, sharpens the tongue and brightens the intellect.
2. One can never feel dull in Chennai. The intellectual and cultural life of the city is something of a marvel. Every street corner of Chennai has a literary forum, a debating society and music, dance and dramatic club. The intelligent arguments, the sparkling wit and dashing irony enliven both the political and the literary meetings. There is a young men's association which attracts brilliant speakers and equally brilliant listeners to its meetings. It is a treat to watch the speakers use their oratorical weapons. Chennai speakers are by and large sweet and urbane, though the cantankerous, fire-eating variety is quite often witnessed in political campaigning. The more urbane speakers weave their arguments slowly like the unfolding of a leisurely Karnataka raga.
3. Music concerts and dance performances draw packed houses. There is hardly any cultural family in Chennai that does not learn and patronize music and dance in its pristine purity. Rukmani Devi Arundale's 'Kalakshetra' is a renowned international centre. It has turned out hundreds of celebrated maestros and dancers who have brought name and glory to our country. Karnataka music has a peculiar charm of its own. It has the moon's soft beauty and moon's soft pace. Thousands of people flock to the temple 'maidans' to get drunk with the mellifluous melodies of their favorite singers. They sit out all night in the grueling heat, swaying to the rhythm of 'nadaswaram' and rollicking with the measured beats of 'mridangam'. M.S Subbulakshmi is considered to be the nightingale of the South.
4. The Gods might descend from heaven to see a South Indian damsel dancing. There are several varieties of South Indian dance – Bharat Natyam, Mohini Attam, Odissi, Kathakali etc. age cannot wither nor custom stale its beautiful variety. Bharat Natyam is the most graceful and enchanting dance form whereas Kathakali is most masculine and virile. South Indian dances combine voluptuousness with purity. Here every muscle and fibre of the body vibrates into life, and as the tempo increases, a divine flame-like passion bodies forth as if making an assault on heaven.
5. South Indian dress, particularly of the males, is puritanically simple. There you cannot distinguish a judge from an 'ardali' by their dress. South Indian ladies too look charming and graceful in their colourful Kanjeevaram and Mysore silk saris.
6. South Indian cuisine, especially 'dosa', 'idli' and 'vada' are so delicious that now we can enjoy them almost everywhere in India as well as in some foreign countries. The Madras 'idli', which was a favourite of Gandhiji is served with 'sambhar' and coconut 'chutney'.

**On the basis of your understanding of this passage answer the following questions with the help of the given options:**

- a. South India is known mainly for its
  - i. tasty food
  - ii. traditional music, art, literature
  - iii. scenic beauty
  - iv. delicate and precise ways
- b. South Indian dances are special because
  - i. Gods come from heaven to see them
  - ii. there aren't many varieties of dance
  - iii. they are pure as well as sensuous
  - iv. they make an assault on heaven

**Answer the following questions briefly:**

- c. How does the breeze on Marina Beach affect the author?
- d. How do we know that music is very important for the people of South India?
- e. What is the common connection between language, music and dance of South India?
- f. What makes Karnataka music charming?
- g. Enumerate the features of Bharat Natyam and Kathakali form of dance.
- h. What is Kalakshetra renowned for?

**Find words from the passage which means the same as:**

- i. ill-tempered and quarrelsome (Para 2)
- j. smooth and sweet (Para 3)

**Q1. Read the passage carefully:**

**[11]**

1. To make our life a meaningful one, we need to mind our thoughts, for our thoughts are the foundation, the inspiration, and the motivating power of our deeds. We create our entire world by the way we think. Thoughts are the causes and the conditions are the effects.
2. Our circumstances and conditions are not dictated by the world outside; it is the world inside us that creates the outside. Self awareness comes from the mind, which means soul. Mind is the sum total of the states of consciousness grouped under thought, will and feeling. Besides self consciousness we have the power to choose and think. Krishna says”, no man resteth a moment inactive”. Even when inactive on the bodily plane, we are all the time acting on the thought plane. Therefore, if we observe ourselves, we can easily mould our thoughts. If our thoughts are pure and noble, naturally actions follow the same. If our thoughts are filled with jealousy, hatred and greed, our actions will be the same.
3. Karmically, however, thought or intent is more responsible and dynamic than an act. One may perform a charitable act, but if he does not think charitably and is doing the act just for the sake of gain and glory, it is his thoughts that will determine the result. Theosophy teaches us that every thought, no matter how fleeting leaves a seed in the mind of the thinker. These small seeds together go to make up a large thought seed and determines one’s general character. Our thoughts once generated and sent out becomes independent of the brain and mind and will live upon its own energy depending upon its intensity.
4. Trying to keep a thought from our mind can produce the very state we are trying to avoid. We can alter our environment to create the mood. When for instance. We are depressed, if we sit by ourselves trying to think cheerful thoughts, we often do not succeed. But if we, mix with people who are cheerful we can bring about a change in our mood and thoughts. Every thought we think, every act we perform, creates in us an impression, like everything else, is subject to cyclic low and becomes repetitive in our mind. So, we alone have the choice to create our thoughts and develop the kind of impressions that make our action more positive.
5. Let us choose the thought seeds of right ideas, noble and courageous aspirations that will be received by minds of the same nature. Right introspection will be required of us to determine that we really desire to effect. Everything in the universe is inter-related and inter-dependent that we live in one another and by accepting the grand principle of universal brotherhood we shall be in a position to responsibility is ever ours to thinks right. Let us reflect and send loving and helpful thoughts and light the load of the world’s suffering.

**On the basis of your understanding of this passage answer the following questions with the help of the given options:**

- a. The different circumstances of our life are caused by
  - i. mind
  - ii. deeds
  - iii. thoughts
- b. We can transform our thoughts by
  - i. observing others
  - ii. observing ourselves
  - iii. observing great people
- c. Our thoughts affect the
  - i. whole body
  - ii. mind only
  - iii. others

**Answer the following questions briefly:**

- d. How can we make our life meaningful?
- e. Why does Krishna say, "No man resteth a moment in active?"
- f. How do our thoughts affect the whole body?
- g. How can we change our mood when we are depressed?
- h. How can we bring about the desired effect?

**Find the words from passage which means the same as:**

- i. Full of activity (Para – 3)
- j. Happening in cycles (Para – 4)
- k. To look into one's own thoughts and feelings (Para – 5)

**Q1. Read the passage carefully:**

**[11]**

1. For many years now the governments have been promising the eradication of child – labour in hazardous industries in India. But the truth is that despite all the rhetoric no government so far has succeeded in eradicating this evil, nor has any been able to ensure compulsory primary education for every Indian child. Between 60 and 100 million children are still at work instead of going to school, and around 10 million are working in hazardous industries. India has the million in the world, plus the largest numbers of children who are forced to earn a living.
2. We have many laws that ban Child – labour in hazardous industries. According to the child – labours (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986, the employment of the children below the age of 14 in hazardous occupations has been strictly banned. But each state has different rules regarding the minimum age of employment. This makes implementations of these laws difficult.
3. Also, there is no ban on child – labour in non – hazardous occupation. This act applies to the organized or factory sector and not the unorganized or informal sector where most children find employment as cleaners, servants, porters, waiters etc, among other forms of unskilled work. Thus, Child – labour continues because of the implementation of the existing laws is lax.
4. There are industries, which have a special demand for child labour because of their nimble fingers, high level of concentration and capacity to work hard at abysmally low wages. The carpet industry in U.P. and Kashmir employs children to make hand – knotted carpets. There are 80,000 child workers in Jammu & Kashmir alone. In Kashmir because of the political unrest, children are forced to work while many schools are shut. Industries like gem cutting and polishing pottery and glass fulfil the want of the male force by employing children.
5. The truth is that it is poverty which is pushing children into the brutish labour market. We have more than 260 million people below the poverty line in India, a large number of them are women poor and especially, women headed families, have no option but to push their little ones in this hard life in hostile condition, will no human or labour rights.
6. There is a lobby which argues that there is nothing wrong with children working as long as the environment for work is conducive to learning new skills, but studies have shown that the children are made to do boring, repetitive and tedious jobs and are not taught new skills as they grow older. In this hell – hole like the sweet shops of the old, there is no hope.
7. Children working in hazardous industries are prone to debilitating diseases which can cripple them for life. By sitting in cramped, damp and unhygienic spaces, their limbs become deformed for life. Inside matchstick, fire – works and glass industries they are victims of bronchial diseases and T.B. Their mental and physical development is permanently impaired by long hours of work. Once trapped, they can't get out of this vicious circle of poverty. They remain uneducated and powerless. Finally in later years, they too are compelled to send their own children to work. Child – labour perpetuates its own night mare.

8. If at all the government was serious about granting children their rights, an intensive effort ought to have been made to implement the supreme courts Directive of 1997 which laid down punitive action against employers of child labour. Only compulsory primary education can eliminate child-labour.
9. Surely, if 380 million children are given a better life and elementary education, India's human capital would be greatly enhanced. But that needs, as former President Abdul Kalam said, "a second vision".

**On the basis of your understanding of this passage answer the following questions with the help of the given options:**

- a. The industries have a special demand for child labour because of
  - i. their nimble fingers
  - ii. high level of concentration
  - iii. Both
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ is pushing the children into labour market.
  - i. Hunger
  - ii. Habit
  - iii. poverty
- c. Child labour \_\_\_\_\_ its own night mares.
  - i. Stop
  - ii. Continues
  - iii. removes
- d. On which two counts has the government not succeeded so far in respect of children?
- e. What makes the implementation of child – labour law difficult?
- f. Why do the industries prefer child – labour?
- g. What are the adverse effects of hazardous industries on children?
- h. What does the Supreme Courts' Directive of 1997 provide?

**Find words from the passage which mean the same as:**

- i. risky / dangerous (Para -1 )
- j. very unfriendly (Para – 5)
- k. intended as punishment (Para – 8)

**Q1. Read the passage given below carefully:**

**[12]**

1. The most recent E.coli epidemic in the U.S struck late last year, when 33 people in Arizona, California, and Nevada suffered from abdominal cramps, nausea and diarrhoea after eating grab-and-go chicken salads. For two patients, the infection produced toxic substances that killed their red blood cells, which then clogged and damaged the tiny blood vessels in their kidneys, crucial for filtering out waste products and regulating blood pressure. Since treatments like dialysis often lead to a full recovery, no one dead; but the condition can lead to potentially fatal kidney failure, a long-term kidney damage that may require medication or dietary changes to keep blood pressure low.
2. Food borne illnesses affect 48 millions-or 1 in 6-Americans and kill 3,000 each year, according to CDC estimates. Usually a quick sniff test or glance at the expiration date can reveal whether or not a food item is past its prime but it's tricky with E.coli contamination, which is impossible to detect by smell, test or appearance alone.
3. But what if an alarm system could alert us to contamination? It's a possibility, thanks to research led by Manuel Porcar, a synthetic biology researcher at the University of Valencia in Spain. His group engineered harmless strains of E.coli bacteria to emit different colours of light depending on its environment, from temperature to pH. What's next? Engineered bacteria to food packaging, and if they detect environmental conditions that indicate contaminations, they can tell us-literally- to avoid eating the package's contents.

4. "It seems like science fiction," Porcar says. "But it's a simple idea, and it worked well." And food safety is just one application. For example, pharmacists can place a sample of a drug containing the engineered bacteria in a special machine outfitted with a microprocessor, so the bacteria can let them know whether they made the drug correctly by producing proteins that emit different colours of fluorescent light depending on the amount of a certain ingredient. Distillers can use the engineered bacteria in a similar way to determine whether their alcohol is ready to bottle.
5. "The amount of light the bacteria emitted went up or down depending on their comfort level." The project, published online in Letters in Applied Microbiology, was Porcar and his students' entry to the 2012 International Genetically Engineered Machine (iGEM) competition, which undergraduate student teams build biological system from a library of DNA sequences that encode specific biological parts.
6. One of Porcar's students asked a simple yet tantalizing question: Can we talk to bacteria through light pulses?
7. To find out, the team engineered four strains of E.coli to produce proteins that emit different colours and amounts of fluorescent light depending on environmental factors considered crucial for survival. Sure enough, when the researchers tweaked the environment in which E.coli bacteria were growing, the amount of light they emitted went up or down depending on their comfort level.
8. The next step is to use a microprocessor to convert vocal questions into light pulses that stimulate the engineered E.coli to produce fluorescent light emitting proteins. Then the microprocessor would convert that light into vocal responses, depending on its wavelength.
9. So far, the researchers have designed a microprocessor that can convert speech into light pulses, and vice-versa, but they haven't integrated it into a complete system. Porcar has no plans to continue the project and, as far he knows, no one else has taken up the charge. But Victor de Lorenzo, a microbiologist at the Spanish National Centre for Biotechnology, is engineering cells to command each other to perform sophisticated computations. These cells can then serve as building blocks for circuits to perform even more complex tasks, such as cleaning up toxic metals.
10. Nonetheless, Porcar's study--- the first-ever attempt to communicate with bacteria--- highlights the importance of regular "check-ins" with bacteria to optimize their performance. "On one hand, the domesticated biological object must follow predictably the orders of the mastered Lorenzo says."But we have thus far not cared about the other direction--- how bacteria feel while responding to our orders. Are they happy, are they stressed, will they refuse to obey?"

**On the basis of your understanding of this passage answer the following questions with the help of the given options:**

- a. How many people were affected by the E.coli epidemic?
  - i. 23
  - ii. 32
  - iii. 33
  - iv. 22
- b. How can presence of E.coli be detected?
  - i. By smell
  - ii. By taste
  - iii. By appearance
  - iv. none of the above
- c. The project was published online in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - i. Letters in Applied Macrobiology
  - ii. Letters in Applied Microbiology
  - iii. Letters in Applied Biology
  - iv. Letter in Applied Microbiology

- d. What does the acronym iGEM stand for?
  - i. Internationally Genetical Engineered Machine.
  - ii. International Genetically Engineered Machine.
  - iii. International Genetically Engineered Machinery.
  - iv. Internationally Genetic Engineered Machinery.

**Answer the following questions briefly:**

- e. How can E.coli epidemic affect people?
- f. What treatment saved the people?
- g. How can most of the food borne diseases be prevented?
- h. What did Porcar engineer the bacteria to do?
- i. How can this research be helpful?
- j. How far has research progressed in being able to communicate to bacteria through light pulses?

**Find words from the passage which mean the same as:**

- k. Keep (para 4)
- l. Twisted (para 7)

**Q1. Read the passage carefully:**

**[10]**

1. On 14 March 1959, the Jersey Zoological Park came into being. The first animal inhabitants were an assortment of beasts I had brought back from West Africa and stashed away in my sister's garden in Bournemouth against the day they would become founding members of the zoo. They were shipped to Jersey and my sister's neighbours heaved a collective sigh of relief.
2. Of course, for several months before the animals arrived, Les Augers Manor was a scene of frenzied activity. Carpenters and masons rushed about laying cement and making cages out of everything they could get their hands on. We transformed the things people discarded as being of no further use into animal shelters.
3. Our setting was, of course, idyllic. The beautiful manor house sat on the edge of a gentle valley, through which meandered a tiny stream.
4. In those early years, there were many bizarre happenings and even my mother was subjected to the sort of episode which can occur only if you are unwise enough to live in a zoo.
5. Our two half-grown chimpanzees, Chumley and Lulu, had discovered, after much research that interlink wire- if you find a free end-- could be unravelled like an old sweater and almost as quickly. This they proceeded to do one afternoon when no one was around. My mother, having just settled herself with a pot of tea in front of the television, heard a bang on the front door. Puzzled, she went to open it and found Chumley and Lulu on the front stairs. It was obvious from their demeanour that they had come to call, were delighted to find her at home and were in no doubt that she would greet them with the same enthusiasm with which they were greeting her.
6. My mother measured four feet eight inches high and the chimps came up to her waist. Not one to lose her head in crisis, she invited the apes in as she would honour guests, sat them down on a sofa and opened a box of chocolates and a tin of biscuits. While the chimps were feeding on this heavenly food, my mother quietly phoned downstairs and reported the whereabouts of the truants. The fact that the apes could have seriously injured her did not occur to her and when I argued with her for letting them into the flat, she was puzzled.
7. 'But dear, they came to tea, 'and added thoughtfully,' and they had jolly sight better manners than some of the people you've had up here.'
8. For the most part we didn't and still don't consider these sorts of episodes as interruptions to our lives, because they are part and parcel of our lives and work. It is only when we take friends and acquaintances around the collection that it is brought home to us that, to the average person, we must lead a very bizarre existence and yet—in spite of thinking us eccentric in the extreme—they are impressed.

9. Today they see our glittering array of reptiles, our wonderful collection of chocolate-brown gorillas. They marvel at our tapestry of birds. They fall in love with our strange looking, sometimes ugly animals, smallest of the monkeys and the cheetahs, sitting bold upright in a picture frame of tall grass.
10. Our friends see all these: animals they know about, others they had never known existed, and they ask how and why we set all this up. We answer that we have over a thousand animals in the collection and ninety percent of what we have shown them are creatures threatened with extinction and that they come from all over the world. They are threatened primarily by man's activity, and their condition shows what we are doing to the planet. The most important reason is to provide sanctuary for these creatures, and this is the reason I wanted my own zoo.

**On the basis of your understanding of this passage answer the following questions with the help of the given options:**

- a. When was the Jersey Zoological Park founded?
  - i. 1959
  - ii. 1958
  - iii. 1957
  - iv. 1956
- b. Who were founding members of the zoo?
  - i. The cheetahs
  - ii. The monkeys
  - iii. The chimps
  - iv. All of these

**Answer the following questions briefly:**

- c. Why did the narrator's sister's neighbours heave a collective sigh of relief?
- d. Why was the manor a scene of frenzied activity?
- e. 'Our setting was, of course, idyllic.' Elaborate.
- f. How did the two half-grown chimpanzees free themselves?
- g. 'They had jolly sight better manners than some of the people you've had up here.' Explain.
- h. Why were the narrator's friends impressed?

**Find words from the passage which mean the same as:**

- i. Overexcited (para2)
- j. Manner (para 5)

**Q1. Read the passage given below carefully:**

**[12]**

1. Consider the hands. Like other human appendages and organs that come in pairs, they are strikingly similar. Thus, it is strange that men and women would choose one hand over the other as the instrument of their will, leaving the second in the role of assistant and understudy. In addition, it is even stranger that throughout history they would consistently favour the right over the left. But the strangest thing of all is that small minority of mankind, ignoring prejudice, taboos, social pressure and a hostile physical world, insists on using their left hands.
2. During the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, prejudice against left-handers was formidable. Still quite a few adults remember receiving a ruler across their left knuckles in school. But, at least in the west, there has been a steady decline in anti-lefty sentiments. But while the old biases against left-handedness have given way to enlightened attitudes in much of the rest of the world, in Asia it can still be downright difficult. This is due to long-standing cultural and social prejudice against using the left hand, especially for writing and eating.
3. These biases carry over to many other activities, and as a result, the number of left-handers in most Asian countries is less, by about half, than in Europe and North America. Usually, the first obstacle lefty's face is their parents. When I was growing up in the US in the 1950s, mine were

mildly concerned but tolerant. Not so my grandmother, who was certain that I was headed for an unspecified mental illness. Overall, I got off easy. Less fortunate was Sridhar Palande, now a 75 year old retired government official from Pune, whose father was so intent on preventing him from being left handed that he tied a wooden rod to his arm like a splint to force him to use his right hand.

4. If young southpaws survive attempts by parents to tinker with their choice of hands they soon encounter the right minded world in school in such ordinary devices as desks, band instruments, lockers, microscopes and pencil sharpeners.
5. I can remember turning red as my school grade teacher help up my handwriting exercise as an example of how not to do it. Waving an admonitory figure at me, she said, "William, you will never have good handwriting until you learn to use your right hand." I tried but soon gave up. I could no more write with my right hand than with my left hand.
6. How bad is the Asian resistance to left-handedness? Fewer than ten years ago, Bipin Chandra Chaugule, who heads a lefty advocacy group in Pune, had a beggar who refused a small coin because it was offered with his left hand. In Korea, as India, it is considered rude to offer payment with left hand at a shop or a restaurant.
7. Discrimination against left handers can be seen in language. For centuries the English word 'left' has connoted craziness ('out in left field') or dubiousness ('a left hander compliment). The French for left is 'gauche', which also means clumsy or inappropriate. It's the same in Asia. A business demotion in Japan is 'sase', which literally means moved to the left. In Korean 'jawcheon' carries the same dual meaning.
8. Left handedness remains one of the great puzzles of science. After studying handedness for over 160 years, the scientific community cannot give an absolute reason why humans are biased to right handedness.
9. The only certainty among the experts is this: there is nothing "wrong with left handedness, and parents who attempt to change their left- handed offspring to right handers run the risk of damaging their psyches.
10. Far from the stereotype of awkward Southpaw, lefties in fact cope daily in a booby trapped world by using their non-preferred hands more often and skilfully than left handers. Watches are hard to wind because the stem is on the right, spouts are on the wrong side of the ladles, and all instruction books are tailored for righties. Other everyday devices that have posed special problems for lefties includes TV knobs, door knobs, camera, fishing reels, computer mouse,
11. Lefties say 'excuse me' a lot. We bump into people in crowds because on a collision course record- player and car ignitions. With a righty we both tend to duck the same way. We find ourselves elbowing our neighbours' at dinners, drinking somebody else's coffee. Even waiters present the credit card slip in the position for a right hander to sign, forcing us to flip it counter-clockwise so we card slip in the position for a right hander to sign, forcing us to flip it counter-clockwise so we can sign it. So give us a break, right- handers. Take a lefty to launch. Just don't sit next to him.

**On the basis of your understanding of this passage answer the following questions with the help of the given options:**

- a. Preferring one hand over the other, the second hand becomes\_\_\_\_\_.
  - i. An assistant
  - ii. An understudy
  - iii. Both (i) and (ii)
  - iv. Neglected

- b. In the west, there has been a steady decline in \_\_\_\_\_.
- Anti-lefty sentiments
  - Pro-lefty sentiments
  - Anti-righty sentiments
  - Pro-righty sentiments
- c. Who is Bipin Chandra Chaugale?
- A retired government official
  - Head of lefty advocacy group
  - A famous businessman
  - A famous scientist
- d. How were the lefties punished in school in the 20<sup>th</sup> century?
- By trying their left hand with a wooden rod
  - By being beaten on their left knuckles
  - By abusing them in front of the class
  - By threatening and abusing them

**Answer the following questions briefly:**

- Why is human beings' preference for one hand over the other 'strange'?
- Why are left-handers present more in west than in Asia?
- Give two examples of everyday situations where lefties have to face problems because of their choice of hands?
- Give two examples to explain why left-handers have to say 'excuse me' a lot?
- Are the left-handers really clumsy or is there some other explanation for their strange behaviour in public places?
- Why the narrator ask the readers not to sit next to a leftie while having food?

**Find words from the passage which mean the same as:**

- Attempt to change (para 3)
- Giving a serious warning (para 9)

**Q1. Read the passage given below:**

**[10]**

- You're walking home from school on a windy November day when-whoosh-a breezy blast smacks you in the face. As your teeth start to chatter and you pull your jacket closer, you notice your eyes are tearing up. Your eyes are tearing, but you are not sad. What's going on? Your eyes are "watering".
- When your eyes water, they're making tears, just like when you cry. The tear from watering eyes helps protect your eyes. How? By keeping them moist and washing out dust and other foreign stuff that gets in there. The tears from watering eyes might only fill your eyes or they might trickle down your face.
- Whether you're crying or your eyes are just tearing, the liquid in your eyes is created in the same way. All tears come out of tear glands, or lachrymal glands, found way up under your upper eyelids. Tears wash down from the glands and over your eyes.
- Some of the tears drain out of your eyes through tear ducts, or lachrymal ducts. These ducts are tiny tubes that run between your eyes and your nose. Each tear duct is like a tiny bathtub drain. When the tears fill up your eyes, they drain out through the tear ducts. You have two tear ducts-one near the inside corner of each eye. You can see these holes if you gently pull down your lower eyelid a bit.
- If tears are flowing quickly, like when you're crying pretty hard, the ducts can't drain them all, so tears run down your face. And have you ever noticed that your nose something runs when you cry? That's because some of the tears making their exit through the ducts end up coming out of your nose.

6. Eyes water for lots of different reasons besides crying. Anything that irritates the eyes can bring on tears because the eyes will try to wash it out. So when something gets stuck in there-like dirt or an eyelash-here come the tears!
7. You can't always see the stuff that gets in your eyes. Have you ever walked into a smoky room? If so, you may have noticed your eyes tearing up as protection against the smoke. Even through the particles that make up smoke are too small to see, they can still bug your eyes. Eyes might also water if you're around an onion that's being peeled or chopped. The fumes onions give off actually contain tiny chemical that can get in your eyes and make them hurt.
8. Things that can dry out your eyes, like cold air or wind, will make eyes water, too. To protect the eyes from getting too dry, the tear glands crank out the tears. Imagine skiing down a hill with dry eyes as all that wind rushed at you. That would really hurt!
9. People's eyes also tear when they have allergies; infections like a cold; or pink-eye, known as conjunctivitis. All of these irritations can inflame the eyes and make them water.
10. You might not think twice about your watering eyes, but some people do have trouble making tears because their tear glands don't produce enough tears. Certain medical conditions or medicines can cause dry eyes.
11. Another problem is not being able to drain the tears, so the eyes can get too full of liquid. This may happen because someone has a blocked tear duct. Babies can be born with blocked lachrymal ducts. They usually open on their own, but some babies need a small operation to clear the ducts. So now you know what your eyes are up to when they get all wet.

**On the basis of your understanding of this passage answer the following questions with the help of the given options:**

- a. Where are the lachrymal glands situated?
  - i. On the pupil
  - ii. under the eyelid
  - iii. On the eyelashes
  - iv. on the iris
- b. How many lachrymal glands are present in humans?
  - i. One
  - ii. Two
  - iii. Three
  - iv. Multiple

**Answer the following questions briefly:**

- c. How do tears protect the eyes?
- d. What are lachrymal glands?
- e. When do tears run down the face?
- f. What do onion fumes contain?
- g. Why do eyes water during conjunctivitis?
- h. What happens when someone has a blocked tear duct?

**Find words from the passage which mean the same as:**

- i. hits (Para 1)
- i. annoy (Para 6)

**Q2. Read the passage carefully:**

**[8]**

1. Brian G Dyson, former President and CEO, Coca-Cola Enterprises, once said, "Imagine life as a game in which you are juggling five balls in the air namely- work, family, health, Friends and spirit. You will soon understand that work is a rubber ball. If you drop it, it will bounce back. But the other four balls- family, health, friends and spirit-are made of glass. If you drop one of these, they will be irrevocably scuffed, marked, nicked damaged or even shattered. They will never be the

same. You must understand that and strive for balance in your life". Industries have realized the importance of his words. Organisations are setting up policies for maintaining a work-life balance.

2. They are going in for innovative methods to keep their employees happy and satisfied, as it makes office a better place to work and also positively impact productivity. The Concept of work-life balance (WLB) is not a new one. However with the changing pace of life and increase in stress levels negatively affecting the quality of work, many organisations have started thinking about the strategies for maintaining a work-life balance.
3. Experts say that there is a strong link between work-life balance policies and reduced absenteeism, increased productivity and job satisfaction. Other benefits include improved recruitment and retention rates with associated cost savings, a reduction in employee stress, greater levels of job satisfaction and loyalty and an improved corporate image. The work-life balance strategy offers a variety of ways to reduce stress levels and increase job satisfaction of the employees, the fundamental principle being designing activities around the topic of work and life. Companies are ready to do everything possible to keep their employees happy and are pampering them like never before with new policies like flexi timings, day care centres for kids, extended maternity leave, healthcare centres, medical insurance , fun and games at work, team outing, spas and gyms at office etc. Employees tend to feel motivated when they feel that the organization is putting extra efforts in providing a healthy balance between work and life. Motivated employees not only enhance but also help create a positive work environment at office.
4. Work-life balance is a choice that an Individual has to make. However, it is the organisation that needs to take an initiative to help the employee. Industry add that today, an employee is not looking at their employee just for job; they want the company to care for their work-life balance and their well-being. If a company can address these needs, in addition to providing great career opportunities, they can be very successful in providing job satisfaction to the employee. Companies are adopting new means to ensure that their employees get enough time to enjoy their personal life and spend time with family. Certain companies also support the policy of adopting a child by their employees. For this they have adoption leave policy, which allows the employees to avail eight weeks of paid leaves to spend some quality time with their newly adopted children. Another recent trend is the sabbatical. Certain companies encourage employees on completion of certain period at work to take a sabbatical for a year to rethink and re-plan his/her practices to keep their employees happy. For example, a business solution providing company, promotes ROWE (Results Only Work Environment) culture within the organization, negating the age-old dogma that equates physical presence with productivity and encouraging people to focus on working smarter rather than longer. Another attempt by the company to manage work-life balance is to encourage all employees to take a minimum of seven days annual leave in a year. It is the responsibility of the reporting managers or supervisors to ensure that the employees reporting to then take this leave.
5. Some organizations have initiatives to provide timely assistance t the employees in a crisis situation rising out of financial or personal problems. HEAL (Honeywell Employees Assistance for Life issues) is the counselling service of Honeywell Technology Labs. HEAL has tied up with PPC World and provides round the clock advice and counselling on all issues ranging from financial, legal or emotional issues to all their employees. This service is totally confidential where the consultant respects the privacy of the employee and treats all details and treats all details and issues as highly confidential. At Accenture, they believe that telecommuting is one of the key tools for attracting and retaining employees especially women employees. Our employees have the flexibility to exercise a need-based work from home option as it helps them more in maintaining balance between work and home. The benefits of telecommuting include increased productivity, lower attrition, less number of leaves taken, cost savings on infrastructure and of course an extremely happy workforce. Firms are not leaving it at this point. They are also evaluating the results of these initiatives to ensure that all these initiatives have the desired impact. Company heads also talk informally with the staff to understand how they are balancing their personal and professional lives.

**On the basis of yours reading of the above passage makes notes on it, using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary- minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it.** [5]

**Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words.** [3]

**Q2. Read the passage carefully:** [8]

1. Every third person in an Indian city today is a youth. In about seven years, the median individual in India will be 29 years, very likely a city dweller, making it the youngest country in the world. India is set to experience a dynamic transformation as the population burden of the past turns into demographic dividend, but the benefits will be tempered with social and spatial inequalities.
2. These are some of the findings of the 'State of the Urban Youth, India 2012: Employment, livelihood skills,' a report published by IRIS Knowledge Foundation in collaboration with UN-HABITAT.
3. A closer analysis of the urban youth suggests that greater political participation, engagement at a policy level and urgent attention to improving their quality of life can ensure the India enjoys the benefits of this dividend.
4. The report traces the incredible rise-and eventual decline-of this cohort in India. The population in the age group of 15-34 increased from 353 million in 2001 to 430 million 2011. Current predictions suggest a steady increase in the youth population to 464 million by 2021 and finally decline to 458 million by 2026.
5. By 2020, India is set to become the world's youngest country with 64% of its population in the working age group. With the west, Japan and even china aging, this demographic potential offers India& its growing economy and unprecedented edge that economist believes could add a significant 2% to the GDP growth rate.
6. But the report suggests that urban spaces have not necessarily aided the quality of life enjoyed by Indian youth. A telling sign: one-fifth of the Indian urban population lives on less than a dollar a day. Additionally, the report finds that while income level in cities may appear to be higher, the cost of living is also constantly increasing, resulting in shrinking savings, inadequate access to health care and lack of quality education. Maternal mortality remains the 'top cause of death among young women'. Further more than half of young urban women are anaemic, pointing to inadequate food and nutrition.
7. The report's findings indicate that the problem is not urbanization per se but the inequalities that it seems to emphasize.
8. While India is undergoing a demographic transition, regional in education mean the benefits will not be evenly spread across the country. The report says the southern and western states will be first to experience a growth dividend as they accounted for 63 percent of all formally trained people. The largest share of youth with formal skills was found in Kerala, followed by Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat. Among those undergoing training .Maharashtra had the highest share, Bihar is the lowest.
9. The unequal access to opportunity and the lack of emphasis on education remains a persistent problem. The report reveals that a person in an urban area has 93% greater chance of acquiring training than someone in rural area.

**On the basis of yours reading of the above passage makes notes on it, using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary- minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it.** [5]

**Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words.** [3]

**Q2. Read the passage given below:****[8]**

1. The Stone Age tribes that live in Andaman and Nicobar are originally inhabitants of those islands. They were discovered in 1789 after the British occupied the islands. Each tribe has its own territory, and a distinct language. The ancestors of these tribes might have been part of the first human migrations out of Africa.
2. These aboriginal tribes belong to the Negroid and Mongoloid races. The Jarawas, the Great Andamanese, the Onges, and the Sentinelese are Negroid nose. They have a short stature with a well-proportioned body, broad head and straight nose. They have dark skin, straight, scanty thin hair, broad face, slanting eyes prominent cheek bones and are of medium height.
3. The aboriginals, who have been hostile to outsiders, have been able to preserve their fragile culture. On the basis of observation, it is possible to describe broadly the kind of life that they lead. These foragers are semi-nomadic and move in close-knit bands of around thirty to fifty members. The land belongs to the band and the others cannot hunt on the same land without permission. The band has a few camping sites and it leaves the sites once game is exhausted.
4. Generally, men cut and make poles for the huts, women weave baskets and string necklaces. Laziness is considered unacceptable behaviour as it deprives the band of the share of the individual's labour. In the evening, their main activities are singing and dancing. The Jarawas, who live in the thick forests of the South Andaman, shy away from outsiders. They do not practise even basic agriculture. They hunt wild animals; they fish with bows and arrows; and gather seeds, berries and honey from the forest.
5. There are about two hundred Jarawas whereas the Great Andamanese tribe, who live in Strait Island, number only thirty-two. The Great Andamanese are on the verge of extinction due to the tribe's exposure to diseases such as influenza and measles. The Onges are hunter-gatherers and live in Little Andaman. The Onges who work on local plantations, number around a hundred.
6. The Sentinelese live in North Sentinel Island and like most of the other tribes have no contact with the outside world. These foragers depend on hunting and fishing in the shallow coastal waters around their islands. Their population is less than a hundred.
7. The Shompens live in the inaccessible tropical jungles of Great Nicobar Island. They are considered to be originally Malay people who migrated to these islands. They live on meat, fish, yam, honey, roots, coconut and areca nut. Their shelters are constructed on raised platforms. They set up camps near fresh water sources like streams. This tribe shows active hostility towards all strangers and their number is not known. Today, the Shompens are one of the most remote and primitive communities in the world.
8. The Nicobarese, living in Car Nicobar, are fair complexioned, Mongoloid people. They are believed to be later migrants from the south-east of Asia, possibly Myanmar or Sumatra. Unlike the Andamanese tribes, the Nicobarese are at a more advanced stage of development. They have moved on from the foragers' stage to a settled and civilized life. Most of them are literate and are occupied in various professions. They are organized into villages controlled by a village headman. They engage in agriculture. They live mainly on fish, meat of island animals and coconuts.
9. The most indigenous societies of the world live in close harmony with nature. Will these tribes continue to live the way they have done for centuries? Only time will tell.

**On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it, using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary- minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it. [5]**

**Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words. [3]**

**Q2. Read the following passage carefully:****[8]**

1. Scientists Set Forth Proposals to Tame Climate. In 20 years, global temperatures will rise by 0.2-0.4 degree centigrade, they say. Scientists from 12 academies round the world have met in Tokyo to issue a statement on the inevitable long-term rise in temperature. Their forecast is that in the next 20 years, global temperatures will rise by 0.2-0.4 degree centigrade. The consequences of global warming will be felt worldwide. Polar icecaps will continue to melt and the world's oceans will erode coastlines still further. The academics assessed the scientific aspects of global climate change. This will be a G-8 plus 5 summit involving China, India, South Africa, Brazil and Mexico. Representatives of these five nations participated in drafting the statement on climate change.

2. The decision to expand the summit format was logical as China now ranks second after the United States in industrial emissions, and the other four countries are also notorious for their high pollution levels. The scientists called on world leaders to minimise the threat of climate change, stressed the need for urgent action to clarify the causes of this process and set forth proposals to “tame” the climate.
3. Yury Izrael, director of the Institute of Global Climate and Ecology at the Russian Academy of Sciences, who co-authored the statement, told RIA Novosti that the document mostly aimed at enhancing climate-stabilisation measures, outlined ways of adapting to the situation and stipulated a transfer to a low carbon society.
4. He said less carbon carbon-intensive energy sources and the energy-preservation principle had to be introduced. Japan, which will hold the G-8 summit, has invented a production process making it possible to cut toxic emissions by 70 percent by 2050. However, Mr. Izrael said this would not solve the climate change problem even if all industrial giants followed suit. “To stabilise the climate, we must reduce toxic emissions down to the Earth’s natural absorbing capacity. The planet can now absorb less than 50% of toxic emissions,” he said.
5. “This means that we cannot achieve any short-term results in this sphere.” Mr. Izrael said direct efforts to fight greenhouse emissions held little promise. Scientists have not yet assessed the impact of greenhouse gases on the global climate. At any rate, state-of-the-art industrial technologies are not the only way to fight global warming. This costly programme will take several hundred years and many millions of dollars to implement. The G-8 plus 5 academic meeting also focussed on other factors influencing global climate change.
6. “We must have different ‘weapons’ for fighting climate change and stabilizing the climate, and have to use the most effective ones,” Mr. Izrael said. For instance, geo-engineering technologies can alter the Earth’s albedo, or reflecting power. According to scientists, young and old trees have different albedo levels. Young trees actively detonate carbon needed for their growth and development, while older trees either absorb little or no carbon at all. Consequently, new forests must be planted regularly to preserve a stable climate. Moreover, we must care for old forests, protecting them from wildfires and implementing well-thought-out tree felling programmes.
7. The Tokyo statement said it was necessary to intensify biological processes in the world’s oceans. For instance, plankton, the perennial inhabitant of the seven seas, requires huge amounts of carbon dioxide for further growth and should therefore be planted en masse with special biotechnologies.
8. It is also possible to build orbital solar-ray reflectors. This project may eventually prove less expensive than the costs of global warming. The statement called for developing and promoting Carbon Content Sequestering (CCS) technologies for accumulating, storing and extracting (sequestering) fossil-fuel carbon. This primarily concerns coal, which will remain a major source of energy for the next 50 years. All surplus carbon could be stored under the ground or dumped into the sea.
9. Mr. Izrael is an active supporter of the so-called optimal scenario aiming to change the meteorological solar constant by spraying fine dispersed aerosols of sulphuric acid and other substances into the lower atmosphere at 12-16 km altitudes. This will decrease sunshine reaching the Earth’s surface and reduce the temperature in the troposphere by the required number of degrees, serving as an instrument of climate change.
10. In 1974, Mikhail Budyko, member of the Soviet Academy of Science and author of the global-warming theory, proposed the aerosol-spraying method for increasing natural atmospheric layers. It is a well-known fact that after volcanic eruptions, surface temperature is reduced over vast areas because natural aerosols block sunshine and bring temperature down.

11. Sulphuric acid aerosols could be sprayed from specially-equipped planes. According to Mr. Izrael, this is an optimal and inexpensive scenario in case of fast global warming. It would be possible to change the situation in 12 months or several years at most.
12. Right now, a group of climatologists headed by Mr. Izrael is preparing to conduct an experiment to assess the impact of sulphuric acid aerosols on temperature fluctuations in some Russian areas. However, the method has some drawbacks. For example, the stratosphere must be sprayed regularly because sulphuric acid aerosols will eventually drift to the ground. But their amount is a thousand times smaller than current greenhouse gas emissions. According to Mr. Izrael, international agreements and joint projects are needed to introduce the aerosol-spraying method.
13. "We have to accomplish this objective because climate remains a major problem and a hard-to-solve social phobia." — *RIA Novosti*

**On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes of it, using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary - minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it. [5]**

**Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words. [3]**

**Q2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

1. The United Nations Development Programme's latest report on "strategies to create value for all" highlights viable business models that advance overall human progress by including the poor. While the findings reflect the imperative of globalised competition for enterprises, they are of particular relevance to the emerging economies of Asia where, despite the impressive growth of recent years, issues of equity and employment generation have been given the short shrift. That the world's poor—people who live on less than two dollars a day and constitute nearly one-third of the population—can spur growth and spark social change is the burden of the report commissioned under the UNDP's 2006 Growing Inclusive Markets initiative. It argues that the four billion people living at the bottom of the income pyramid—earning less than eight dollars a day and having a combined income of \$5 trillion—bring value as consumers, employees, and even as producers when native entrepreneurship is tapped and nurtured. The 50 case studies documented in the report, including the Sulabh paid-sanitation systems and Narayana Hrudayalaya's telemedicine networks, identify five common constraints that hinder business activity in the developing world and five successful strategies that integrate them into the value chain. Among the latter are pioneering adaptations of technology and business processes that underpin many low-cost telecommunication, financial, healthcare and other services and products for the poor. Their impact on small and medium enterprises has been nothing less than revolutionary: wireless networks reduce dependence on physical infrastructure; smart cards do away with the need for banks and service providers to follow up on payments; and biometrics help overcome inefficient regulation.
2. Often, these innovative adaptations of technologies and business models offer solutions to the one billion who have no access to clean drinking water and the 1.6 billion who are without electricity. These bottom-up approaches lend hope in the face of traditional impediments—red tape and bureaucratic apathy. India's massive strides in information and communication technologies are not matched by a realisation of its full potential in several domestic sectors. Drawing important lessons from the current report will go a long way in securing equity and fair distribution of the gains of development and sustaining the current economic momentum.

**On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes of it, using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary - minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it. [5]**

**Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words. [3]**

**Q2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: [8]**

1. The kingdom of books is as vast as the universe, for there is no corner of it which they have left unexplored. There is no dearth of books on any topic, be it as simple as the composition of

sodium nitrate or as intricate as the mechanism of a spacecraft rocketing towards Mars. We make use of books for the dissemination of useful ideas, for popularizing the fruits of our research in various fields of knowledge, and for spreading our progressive views on matters which are of vital concern to our fellow beings. In fact, no single product of human labour has been as helpful to the advancement of civilization as books which are written in all languages of the world and which are decoratively placed in bookshelves in our homes and tastefully displayed in bookstalls and libraries. If to Keats, works of ancient poets like Homer were realms of gold from which he derived much joy as well as inspiration, to the modern lover of books, the labors of all geniuses, including those of Keats, are mines of inestimable intellectual wealth which he goes on exploring for the sake of his mental and spiritual advancement.

2. There was a time some five centuries back when books, as we know them today, did not exist, and when there were few people who could read things written on stuff that certainly was not paper. At that time our ancestors used rocks, pillars and parchment with a view to recording and perpetuating their most important thoughts and achievements in the language they then understood. Now-a-days, the book-producing machinery gives to the work of every great scientific thinker, poet or philosopher the character of permanence, reproduces in attractive forms old and rare manuscripts and caters to the differing tastes of millions of people for whom book reading is an extremely pleasant, intellectual exercise. Moreover, the high percentage of literacy, the growth of libraries in towns and villages and the tendency of intellectuals to have their own private collection of useful books, have given birth to a number of big publishing houses with branches in many parts of the world and publications numbering thousands. In recent years, paperbacks have begun to reveal their attraction for the reading public, and although they have not completely thrown into neglect the hard-cover market, they have appealed to people who would not have thought of buying books not so very long ago. These paperbacks are generally reprints of popular fiction or of established classics or translation from foreign works which are in constant demand at all bookstalls.

**On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes of it, using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary - minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it.** [5]

**Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words.** [3]

**Q2. Read the following passage carefully.** [8]

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, more painful than idleness. There are, in work, all grades; from more 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 interesting in itself, but even that 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 more pleasant here. 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 tiresome in itself. 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. At times they may find relief by hunting big game in Africa or by flying around 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, although uninteresting work is as boring as having nothing to do. With this advantage of work, another associated advantage is that it makes holidays much more delicious when they come. Provided

that a man does not have to work so hard as to impair his vigour, he is likely to find far more zest than an idle man would 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 too, becomes bearable, if it is a means of building up a reputation. Continuity of purpose is one of the most essential ingredients of happiness and that comes chiefly through work.

**On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes of it, using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary - minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it. [5]**

**Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words. [3]**

## **SECTION B**

### **(Writing Skills)**

#### **NOTICE (4 Marks)**

1. An inter class drama competition is to be held in St. Stephens School, Visakapatanam. As Akash, the Head Boy of the school, draft a notice to be put up on the notice board inviting entries. Provide all necessary information in about 50 words.
2. You are Amar/Amrita, Secretary, Cultural Club, Aryamba Public School, Kochi. A charity show has been arranged in your school in aid of cancer patients. Write a notice to be displayed on the school notice board informing the students of the show and asking them to cooperate and make it a success. (Word limit:50)
3. You are Surya/Roshni, a social worker, much concerned about the reported cases of Dengue, a fever, spread by mosquitoes. Draft a notice for the local school informing the students about a seminar related to it. Invent necessary details.
4. On the eve of World Environment Day, your school has decided to have a face painting competition. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words for your school notice board giving details. You are Siddhee/Shivansh, The Head Girl/Boy, Airforce Public School, Delhi.
5. You are Siddhee/Shivansh, The Head Girl/Boy, Air force Public School, Delhi. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words for your school notice board giving details about the Teacher's Day Celebration to be held in your school.
6. As Principal of Sardar Patel Vidyalaya, Lucknow, draft a notice in not more than 50 words informing students of the change in school timings with effect from the 1st November. State valid reasons for the change.
7. Your school is holding a summer camp for training students in hockey and volley ball. Write a notice for the school notice board of Adarsh High School, Allahabad .You are the Sports Secretary.(Word limit: 50)
8. You are the secretary of your School Literary Association. Write a notice for the school notice board, giving details of an exhibition to be held on books for the young.(Word limit: 50)
9. You are the secretary of Environment Club. Write a notice for the school notice board asking for volunteers to help you to organize a rally against the use of plastic bags. Give the necessary details.(Word limit: 50).
10. You are the School Counsellor of Eklavya Secondary School, Agra. A workshop on 'Good Parenting' is being organized in the school for parents. Children should be asked to bring consent slips promptly. Write the notice in about 50 words for your school notice board.

#### **ADVERTISEMENT (4 Marks)**

1. You are working for an advertising agency. Draft an attractive advertisement in about 50 words for a company called THE NEW OUTLOOK which is launching a new kind of waste disposal machine.

2. Your company has made a new pen READ ALL, which in addition to working as a pen can read same text in various languages. Draft an attractive advertisement in about 50 words, announcing the launch of the new pen, giving all the relevant details.
3. You require a teacher to teach maths and science to your son at home who is in class 10. Draft an advertisement in not more than 50 words giving all your requirements. You are Arun/Aruna. Contact No. 93xxxxxxx.
4. You have cleared your IIT Entrance Exam and so want to sell off the reading material you have with you. Write an advertisement to be placed in the 'For Sale' columns of a local daily giving all details of the material you have with you in not more than 50 words. You are Mohan/Mohini. Contact No. 9811111111.
5. You have lost an expensive watch probably in the market. Write an advertisement for the 'Lost and Found' column of a local newspaper giving all the relevant details. Offer a reward also. Write the advertisement in about 50 words. You are Gopal/Gopa, 4 Manav Road, Kanpur.
6. You plan to sell your flat. Draft a suitable advertisement in not more than 50 words to be inserted in the classified column of local daily giving all necessary details of the flat. You are Neeraj/Neeraja, 28, Gopal Nagar, Delhi.
7. You have a three bedroom flat in Dwarka, which you want to let out on rent. Draft an advertisement in not more than 50 words to be published in 'The Times of India', under classified columns.
8. Imagine that a nursery school teacher is required by a school. Frame a classified advertisement for the same in 50 words.
9. A leading bank requires security guards. Frame a classified advertisement for the same in 50 words.
10. You wish to hold hobby classes in photography and carpentry. Frame a classified advertisement for the same in 50 words.

### **POSTER DESIGNING (4 Marks)**

1. Design a poster on the awareness to promote organ donation.
2. Design a poster creating awareness about saving the girl child.
3. Design a poster creating awareness about conservation of oil.
4. Design a poster on conservation of water
5. Fireworks and crackers are known to create pollution during festivals. As an environmentalist design a poster in about 50 words to create awareness of their ill effects.
6. Your school is organizing a Public Awareness Exhibition. In connection with it, prepare a poster to bring home the importance of conservation of electricity.
7. The Residents of Welfare Association, Pocket-B, Model Town is organizing an 'Organ Donation Awareness' camp in the locality. As the President of the association, draft a poster in not more than 50 words informing the residents about the same.
8. You are Radhika / Naresh, Secretary, Bhveen International School, Bangalore. You and some other students of the school are touched by the plight of the people in the old age home. You all wish to make a difference by going to old age homes and meeting the old who are mostly neglected by their children. You decide to invite other students for the same purpose. Draft a poster not exceeding 50 words, making other students aware of the plight of the elders in the old age home and appealing for generous help.
9. Your company, Freedom, has launched a new wearable device, which can bring about changes in your mood to make you feel either calm or energized. You are Radhika/Naresh, the advertising head of the company. Draft a poster in not more than 50 words informing the public about the same. Create other essential details too.

10. Your company, Energizer, has developed a new device that can extend a disposable battery's lifespan by 100 percent. The gadget will be in the market soon. You are Radhika/Naresh, the advertising Head of the company. Draft a poster in not more than 50 words informing the public about the same.

### **INVITATION (4 Marks)**

1. Your grandparents are celebrating the golden Jubilee of their marriage. Draft an invitation for friends and relatives.
2. You have been invited by your old school to be a part of 'Old Students' Reunion Club'. Write an informal reply expressing your joy and happiness to be a part of it in not more than 50 words.
3. Namita/Namithas topped in the XII class examination. She/he has decided to have a party for her/his friends. Draft an invitation in about 50 words giving details of venue, date and time.
4. Suman/Suresh has 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 in not more than 50 words.
5. Mrs. and Mr. Ramesh Sinha have sent an invitation to Mr. And Mrs. Prakash Dhawan for the celebration of their wedding anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. Prakash Dhawan could not go to the party for some reasons. Write a refusal to the invitation. (50 words)
6. Your school is organizing its Annual Day. Mr. Sachin Tendulkar has consented to be the Chief Guest. Draft a formal invitation for the same.
7. The English Department of Sambalpur University is organizing a two days seminar on "English-a foreign language in India". Frame an invitation for the same.
8. You are a student leader of Green Valley High School, Hyderabad. Draft a formal invitation for a musical evening to be held in your school.
9. You have been given the Best Student of the Year award. Your parents would like to celebrate your success. Write an invitation to a friend.
10. You have been invited as a judge to an Inter School Painting Competition. Send a reply confirming your acceptance of the invitation.

### **LETTER (6 Marks)**

1. You are Ratish/Sonali, the student prefect in charge of the school library. You have been asked by your principal to write a letter to M.S Book Depot, Ramnagar, Bikaner placing an order for ten titles of class XI and XII text books. Invent the necessary details.
2. You are Arun / Arti 12, Raja Road, Kanpur. You had ordered Ram Book Depot, 4 Mall Road, Delhi for the supply of two books. You wanted to give them as a gift to a friend of yours. On receiving them you were disappointed to find that the books were damaged. Write a complaint letter in 120-150 words to the Manager, about your problem.
3. You are interested in doing a course in fashion designing. For this you want to join NIFT which holds a competitive examination for admission. Sapphire Academy, Dadar, Mumbai gives coaching for the admission test. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the Director, Sapphire Academy requesting him to provide you with all the necessary information. You are Karan / Kirti, 48 Fort Apartments, Pune.
4. K.B University, Pune offers short-terms courses in Entrepreneurial Skills, Communication Skills and Personality Development. You wish to enquire about these courses and join one of them. Write a letter to the university asking for information. You are Ahlaam/Aaina.
5. You are Rehan/Radhika. The increasing number of atrocities on women in the society has left you disturbed and worried. Write a letter to the editor to The Hindu expressing your opinion on the issue.

6. You have noticed many stray animals on the road during the busy hours of the day. These animals have caused traffic jams as well as accidents. You have already written to the concerned authorities but no action has been taken so far. Write a letter to the editor of a leading newspaper, telling him /her about the nuisance created by the stray animals. You are Preeti/Krishna, C/5, Krishna Nagar, Guwahati, Assam.
7. You are Upendra/Rashika staying at 3, Jawahar Nagar, Jaipur. Last year you bought a telephone answering system from the 'Electronic World' of Chhattisgarh. Though it records the caller's message, it does not save it. Write a letter to the dealer complaining about the problem. Also request him to replace it, if needed, against the warranty that goes with it.
8. You are Murli at 7, Pycrofts Road, Chennai. You have come across an advertisement in The Times of Indian for recruitment of Computer Engineer trainees by Prabhu Software. Apply in response to this advertisement, giving your CV. Invent all necessary details.
9. The drinking water supplied to your locality Anandlok Colony, Kanpur has a dirty colour and foul smell. As secretary of the Residents Welfare Association, write a letter in 120-150 words to the Chief Engineer, Water Authority, Kanpur complaining about the problem and requesting him to take necessary action at the earliest.
10. You would like to join NDA coaching classes. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the Director Model Coaching Centre, Andheri, Mumbai to enquire about the coaching classes for the next examination. Ask for all necessary details. You are Sunita / Suraj, 4 Grant Road, Dadar.
11. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily expressing your concern on the steep hike in the prices of all essential commodities like sugar, vegetables, pulses, food grains etc. Give some concrete solution to the problem. You are Parminder / Seema of 40 – C, Sector Vim Mohali.
12. Of late, many incidents of fake academic degrees of ministers are coming into the limelight. It would have been easier had steps been taken to ensure the credibility of the degrees before the ministers were elected. After these things surface, political parties' only contribution is mudslinging. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the editor of a national daily expressing your views on the topic. You are Siddhee/Shivansh.
13. The best way to get new talent would be reviving of Talent Resource Development Officer's (TRDO) Wing. However, it is important that such a wing be developed for all the sports so that players from lesser known states, who would otherwise be ignored at the expense of those from the dominant teams of the zone, receive precious openings. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the Head of the institution asking for the relevant details. You are Siddhee/shivansh.
14. You are Amit/Amita staying at Sunrise Apartments, Gymkhana Road, Pune. The main road leading to this colony has three open manholes causing frequent accidents at night. The streetlight is also not available. Write a letter to the Editor of "The Times of India" expressing your concern about the apathy of the authorities towards this situation. Also suggest ways to mobilize city dwellers, with the help of school children, for the cause for safe roads.
15. Through free mid-day meals are provided to poor children in government schools, their needs and choice are never taken into consideration. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the editor of a national daily expressing your opinion on the topic. You are Radhika/Naresh.

### **ARTICLE (10 Marks)**

1. A spurt of violence previously unknown in Indian schools makes it incumbent on the educationists to introduce value education effectively in schools. Write an article in 150-200 words expressing your views on the need of value education. You are Anu/Arun.
2. Write an article in 150-200 words for your school magazine on the topic, "Obesity among school children". You are Mohit/Mohini.

3. Presently the prices of essential commodities are skyrocketing, causing much hardship to the common man .Write an article in 150-200 words expressing your views and suggesting measures to curb this problem.
4. A 12 year old boy in your neighbourhood drives a car and the parents proudly boast of it. Write an article in 150-200 words on the hazards of underage driving and the need to educate the young ones and their parents on the consequences of unlawful driving. You are Vishnu/Vaishnavi.
5. You are Mamta/Mohan. You find corruption, the biggest impediment in the development of a nation. You strongly believe that youth can play a very important role in fighting the menace of corruption. Write an article on the “Role of youth in fighting corruption”.(150-200 words).
6. People live a hectic life and hardly get time to interact with each other. Most of the free time goes in interacting online. The real social interaction has got lost somewhere. Write an article in 150-200 words expressing your views and suggesting measures to change the situation. You are Bhawan/Bhawani.
7. It is said that if you educate a boy, you educate a person and if you educate a girl you educate a family. Write an article in 150-200 words on the importance of educating women. You are Suresh/ Shobha.
8. Nowadays, students attend coaching classes early in the morning or after school hours. You feel that this trend makes them tired, affects their health and so their grades. Write an article in 150-200 words to make the students understand how this is not very helpful in improving their grades and is a waste of their precious time. You are Ram/Rani.
9. Owning cars, motorbikes, houses and luxury items on loans has become very common, Even those who cannot afford repayment of loans fall in the vicious debt traps, leading to tensions, quarrels and even suicides. Write an article in not more than 150 – 200 words, highlighting the need to curb this tendency and live within one’s means.
10. Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) blacklisted at least 32 products from various prominent brands. Though this sudden crackdown by FSSAI is highly commendable, you feel it is also leading to a lot of waste of money and resources. If FSSAI had made it compulsory to check the products periodically, such a situation would never come up. Write an article in 150-200 words expressing your views on this issue. You are Siddhee/Shivansh.
11. Recently you read a report in the newspaper about 6 JEE toppers quitting IIT to pursue Physics abroad. This is despite the fact that job opportunities for Physics students are limited. Write an article in 150-200 words expressing your views on ‘Pursuing a passion rather than the trend’. You are Siddhee/ Shivansh.
12. You are an active member of the Animals Lovers Club of your school which works for preventing cruelty to animals. Write an article in 150 -200 words for your school magazine emphasizing the need to co-exist peacefully with animals. You are Zaheeda/Zahir of P. K. Senior Secondary School, Hyderabad.
13. For the second successive year, the monsoon is likely to be below normal in India. That could trim farm output and push up food prices. Write an article in 150-200 words expressing how India needs early planning to neutralize impact of below-normal rains. You are Radhika/Naresh.
14. According to the World Giving Index 2013, India ranked 93<sup>rd</sup> out of 135 countries overall in giving to charity. Write an article in 150-200 words for a national daily on how India is losing out on its philanthropic streak. You are Radhika/Naresh.
15. You recently read an article in the newspaper on how two people saved an injured turtle whose fin had got tangled up in a massive plastic bag. Write an article in 150-200 words expressing how it is important for us to not just dump our waste in the oceans and endanger the lives of our fellow beings. You are Radhika/Naresh.

16. Global Warming has adversely affected the climate of the world. Glaciers are melting. For the survival of humanity, the environment has to be protected at any cost. Write an article on 'Need for Green Earth through Environmental Protection'.
17. India is standing at the threshold of joining the developed nation but that is not possible till we achieve complete literacy in the country. The contribution of students may be very significant in achieving our goals. Write an article on 'The Role of Students in removing Illiteracy'.
18. Owning a car has become a status symbol these days. However increase in the number of cars has added to pollution and other problems. Write an article highlighting the urgent needs for reducing these man-made problems and give suitable suggestions.

### **SPEECH (10 Marks)**

1. In today's competitive world, many families find it necessary for both parents to go out to work. While some say the children in these families benefit from additional income, others feel they lack support because of their parents' absence. Since your parents are working, you realize that having working parents is advantageous for children. Write a speech for the morning assembly on the benefits of having working parents in 150-200 words. You are Ruhima/Ratan.
2. Nowadays just about everyone owns a cell phone but most of the users don't follow even the basic rules of cell phone conduct. They are seen speaking loudly taking a phone call in the middle of the meeting or even a funeral etc. Write a speech in about 150-200 words to be delivered in the assembly of your school to apprise fellow students of cell phone etiquette.
3. Regular practice of yoga can help in maintaining good health and even in the prevention of many ailments. Write a speech in 150-200 words to be delivered in the morning assembly on the usefulness of yoga. You are Fatima /Fernandez.
4. The Prime Minister's campaign, 'Swachh Bharat' has become popular throughout India. Inspired by this, you, the principal of a reputed school decide to address the students on 'The value of cleanliness'. Write your speech in 150-200 words.
5. You have always been proud of being a citizen of the country which shows love and care for elders. However, now this value is found to be disappearing. Write a speech in 150-200 words on 'Difficulties faced by senior citizens.'
6. Outside the gate of your school there are a few food courts. They don't observe strict hygienic standards. You have observed that so many of your students go to them immediately after the school is over. This can create health problems. As Principal write a speech in 150-200 words on 'Healthy Food' to be delivered in the morning assembly.
7. Today's children are not yet aware of many opportunities awaiting them after they complete their school education. As an academic counsellor give a talk to the students of St Antony's School on the need for career guidance and how knowledge of the available careers can benefit the youth. Write the speech in 150-200 words.
8. Recently you read in the newspaper about an incident in which the children tried to imitate the stunts shown on television and embraced death. Write a speech on the hazards of television watching for kids to be delivered in the morning assembly.
9. Students leave their prestigious seats (IIT, IIM, and AIIMS) and pursue higher level courses abroad. Government spends a lot of money on these students and all this money goes waste when students opt for courses in foreign countries. Write a debate in 150—200 words expressing your views for/against the topic.
10. You are Suraj/Sandhya of Gargi Senior Secondary School Delhi. Games and Sports should be made compulsory in schools. Write a speech for morning assembly on the Importance of Games and Sports in Personality Development in about 150 -200 words.

11. You have been asked to participate in a debate competition on the topic “Community service once a week should be introduced in all schools and should be graded”. Write the speech in about 200 words either for or against the motion.
12. A court in Muzaffarpur has directed that an FIR be registered against Bollywood stars Amitabh Bachchan, Madhuri Dixit and Preity Zinta, besides two officials of Nestle India that produce Maggi. Write a debate in 150-200 words either for or against the topic “Can actors who endorse products be held liable?”
13. Today the high sales of popular consumer goods reflect the power of advertising and not the real needs of the society in which they are sold. Write a debate in 150-200 words either for or against this view.
14. Endorsing the benefits of yoga, UN has decided to celebrate 21 June as the International Yoga Day. However some politicians have objected to celebrating Yoga Day in Indian schools propagating that Yoga is against their religion. Write a debate in 150-200 words either for or against the topic.
15. Draft a speech to be delivered in a seminar to be held on the principle of ‘Simple Living and High Thinking: A mantra of healthy living’.

**SECTION – C**  
**(LITERATURE)**

**FLAMINGO**

**Extract based very short answer type questions (01 Mark each)**

**MY MOTHER AT SIXTY SIX**

**Q1.** Driving from my parents’ home to

Cochin last Friday morning,  
I saw my mother, beside me,  
Doze, open mouthed, her face ashen like that  
Of a corpse and realized with pain  
That she was as old as she looked but soon  
Put that thought away, and looked out at young  
Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling  
Out of their homes,

- a. Name the poem and the poet.
- b. Where was the poet going to and with whom?
- c. What did the daughter notice inside the car?
- d. name the poetic device used in the last line.

**Q2.** but after the airport’s

security check, standing a few yards  
away, I looked again at her, wan  
pale  
as a late winter’s moon

- a. Who went for the security check?
- b. Who is ‘her’ in the above lines?
- c. What does the poetess compare her mother’s face to and why?
- d. Name the poem and the poet.

**Q3.** and felt that  
familiar ache, my childhood's fear  
but all I said was, see you soon,  
Amma,  
all I did was smile and smile and  
smile.....

- a. What was the poet's childhood fear?
- b. What do the poet's parting words suggest?
- c. Why did the poet smile, smile and smile?
- d. Explain 'and felt that old familiar ache'.

### **ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM IN A SLUM**

**Q1.** On sour cream walls, donations, Shakespeare's head,  
Cloudless at dawn, civilized dome riding all cities.  
Belled, flowery, Tyrolese valley. Open-handed map  
Awarding the world its world.

- a. Which walls have been referred to in these lines?
- b. What is meant by 'sour cream walls'?
- c. What donations are there on the walls?
- d. Name the poem and the poet.

**Q2.** Far far from gusty waves these children's faces.  
Like rootless weeds, the hair torn round their pallor:

- a. Which children have been mentioned here?
- b. What do their faces reveal?
- c. Why have they been compared to rootless weeds?
- d. What has happened to their hair?

**Q3.** 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 lessons from his desk. At back of the dim class  
One unnoted, sweet and young. His eyes live in a dream,  
Of squirrels' game, in tree room, other than this.

- a. Why does the tall girl have a weighed down head?
- b. Explain 'paper seeming boy'.
- c. Why is the student referring to have an unlucky heir?
- d. What is the unnoted boy dreaming about?

**Q4.** Unless, governor, inspector, visitor,  
This map becomes their window and these windows  
That shut upon their lives like catacombs,  
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.

- a. What is meant by 'Break O break'?
- b. Who are 'they'?
- c. What does the poet want for them?
- d. Who are the people who create history?

## **KEEPING QUIET**

**Q1.** 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 arm so much.

- a. Why does the poet want us to keep quiet?
- b. What does he want us to do for one second?
- c. What does he mean by 'not move our arms'?
- d. Name the poem and the poet.

**Q2.** "It would be an exotic moment  
Without rush, without engines,  
We would all be together  
In a sudden strangeness."

- a. What does 'it' refer to?
- b. Who is the poet speaking to?
- c. What would be the moment like?
- d. Name the poem and the poet.

**Q3.** "We would all be together  
In a sudden strangeness,  
Fishermen in the cold sea  
would not harm whales  
And the man gathering salt  
would look at his hurt hands."

- a. What is the figure of speech in second line?
- b. How can 'we' all be together?
- c. What do the activities mentioned signify?
- d. What does the phrase 'his hurt hands' symbolize?

**Q4.** 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 poet mean by 'green wars'?
- b. Explain 'victory with more survivors'?
- c. What does the poet want the warmongers to do?
- d. Name the different kinds of war mentioned in the above lines

## **THING OF BEAUTY**

**Q1.** A thing of beauty is a joy forever  
Its loveliness increases; it will never  
Pass into nothingness; but still will keep  
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep  
Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing.

- a. How does a thing of beauty remain a joy forever?
- b. Mention any two sources of joy which a thing of beauty provides us.
- c. What is meant by 'bower'?
- d. Explain 'never pass into nothingness'.

**Q2.** Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing  
A flowery band to bind us to the earth,  
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:

- What are the flowery bands that bind us to the earth?
- Which evil things do we possess and suffer from?
- What is meant by 'spite' in the above lines?
- What message do the above lines carry?

**Q3.** Yes, in spite of all  
Some shape of beauty moves away the pall  
From our dark spirits. Such the sun, the moon,  
Trees old, and young, sprouting a shady boon  
For simple sheep; and such are daffodils  
With the green world they live in; and clear rills  
That for themselves a cooling covert make  
'Gainst the hot season; the mid-forest brake,  
Rich with a sprinkling of fair musk-rose blooms;

- List the things that give us joy.
- What provides respite in the hot season?
- What is the mid forest break?
- What is the green world?

**Q4.** And such too is the grandeur of the dooms  
We have imagined for the mighty dead;  
All lovely tales that we have heard or read;  
An endless fountain of immortal drink,  
Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink.

- Who are the mighty dead? How do we know about them?
- What images does the poet use to convey that beauty is ever lasting?
- Explain 'grandeur of the dooms'.
- What is the effect of that immortal drink?

### **AUNT JENNIFER'S TIGERS**

**Q1.** 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.

- How are Aunt Jennifer's tigers described?
- Why are they not afraid of men?
- What does 'denizens mean'? What is referred to by the phrase 'a world of green'?
- Why are the tigers referred to as Aunt Jennifer's tigers?

**Q2.** Aunt Jennifer's finger 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.

- What is Aunt Jennifer doing?
- Why are her fingers fluttering?
- Why does Aunt Jennifer create animals which are so different from her?
- Why is the wedding band described as massive?

**Q3.** When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie  
Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by.  
The tigers in the panel that she made  
Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.

- a. Why are Aunt Jennifer's hands terrified?
- b. Why did she make the tigers?
- c. What will happen to her tigers after her death?
- d. How are tigers different from her?

**Short answer type questions (03 marks)**

**MY MOTHER AT SIXTY SIX**

1. What is the kind of pain and ache that the poet feels?
2. Why are the young trees described as 'sprinting'?
3. Why has the poet brought in the image of the merry children 'spilling out of their homes'?
4. Compare the world inside the car and outside the car?
5. My mother at sixty six, Kamala Das has pointed out at close relationships in an objective manner comment.
6. Why did the poet suddenly recall 'the last Friday morning'?
7. "My parents' home". Was the poet possessive in her thought? If so why?
8. Why is human relationship subtle and complex? How is Kamala Das trapped in this maze?
9. Kamala Das refers to her fear as "childhood fear". Do you think every time she was overpowered with this she kept smiling or was it different this time? Describe the word 'smile'.
10. What are the thoughts of the poet as she is driving from her parents' home to the airport?

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM IN A SLUM**

1. 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?
2. What does the poet want for the children of the slums? How can their lives be made to change?
3. How does the poet describe the classroom walls
4. What are the consequences of the distorted form of education given to the under privileged children?
5. The strength of a nation depends on its system of education. Comment
6. How can the indifference of those in power be social threat? Comment with reference to this poem?
7. The education in slum schools is a violation of human rights of children. How?
8. The children of the slum hope to have a life of mental and physical freedom. Comment
9. If class inequalities exist in the West, how are education and social changes effect in the Indian context?
10. 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?

**KEEPING QUIET**

1. What will count up to twelve and keeping still help us achieve?
2. What symbol from nature does the poet invoke to say that there can be life under apparent stillness?
3. What kind of a dream – world does the poet visualize?
4. How can war be brought to an end?
5. Why does the poet count up to 12? What is the significance of 12?
6. What are the Environmental issues mentioned in the poem?
7. How is the idea of 'universal brotherhood' brought out in the poem?
8. Silence can be very eloquent sometimes. Mention when is silence preferred to language?
9. The poem begins with "Now we will count "and ends with "now I'll count and you keep quiet". What does the shift in the pronoun signify?
10. According to Pablo Neruda, what is it that human beings can learn from nature? (Keeping Quiet)

## **A THING OF BEAUTY**

1. What does the line, 'therefore are we breathing a flowery band to bind us to earth' suggest to you?
2. Do we experience things of beauty only for short moments or do they make a lasting impression on us?
3. What image does Keats use to describe the beautiful bounty of the earth?
4. How is a thing of beauty a joy forever?
5. Why do we wreath a flowery band? How?
6. List out the over darkened ways made for our suffering.
7. Beauty is heaven's immortal drink. Is the peace that we derive from beauty also immortal?
8. Who are the 'mighty dead' and how and why is 'grandeur' associated with them?
9. How are the 'Daffodils' and the rills the sources of joy and pleasure?
10. What images does the poet use to describe the beautiful bounty of the earth?

## **AUNT JENNIFER'S TIGERS**

1. Why do you think Aunt Jennifer created animals that are so different from her own character? What might the poet be suggesting through this difference?
2. How does Aunt Jennifer create her tigers? What traits of tigers do they reveal?
3. What is the weight that lies heavy on Aunt Jennifer's hand? How is it associated with her husband?
4. How are the tigers different from her?
5. What is the veiled message in the poem?
6. In spite of her limitations Aunt Jennifer displays her rebellious attitude. How?
7. Discuss the relevance of the poem in the light of contemporary women's movement.
8. How would you describe Aunt Jennifer?
9. Can you say that Aunt Jennifer found an outlet for her emotions? If yes, how?
10. How do you relate the theme highlighted in the poem to Indian social context?

## **THE LAST LESSON**

1. Why had the bulletin board become a centre of attention during the last two years?
2. How did Franz perform when his turn came to recite? How did M Hamel react?
3. Why didn't M Hamel punish Franz, even though he was late?
4. How did Franz enter the class? How did his teacher react?
5. Whom did M.Hamel blame for the neglect of their language?
6. How was the teacher dressed that day and why did it surprise Franz?
7. For Franz, what was much more tempting than going to school and why?
8. How did Franz's feelings about M. Hamel and school change?
9. According to M.Hamel, what is the importance of French?
10. Why did Franz find the school in an unusual state that day?

## **LOST SPRING**

1. Seemapuri is on the periphery of Delhi and yet miles away from it. Why does the author say so?
2. 'Garbage to them is gold'. Why does the author say this about the rag pickers?
3. What is Saheb's complete name and why is it ironical?
4. Why does Saheb lose his carefree look on getting a job at a tea-stall?
5. What has Mukesh's father achieved after so many years of hard work?
6. Why are the children compelled to become bangle makers?
7. What explanation does the author offer for the children for not wearing footwear?
8. Who is Mukesh? What is his dream?
9. Mention any two hazards of working in the glass bangle industry.
10. Why don't the poor bangle makers organize themselves into a cooperative?

## **DEEP WATER**

1. Why did Douglas go to Lake Wentworth in New Hampshire?
2. How did the instructor turn Douglas into a swimmer?
3. When did William first develop an aversion to water?
4. How did the fear of water ruin the author's leisure activities?
5. What does the author mean by "All we have to fear is fear itself"?
6. What factors led Douglas to decide in favour of YMCA pool?
7. When did Douglas realize that he was sinking? How did he plan to save himself?
8. How did the drowning experience affect Douglas?
9. How did Douglas get rid of the fear that he had of water?
10. Mention the two misadventures that Douglas experienced in his childhood.

## **RATTRAP**

1. What made the peddler think that he had indeed fallen into a rat trap?
2. Why did the peddler sign himself as Captain Von Stahle?
3. Why was the peddler surprised when he knocked on the door of the cottage?
4. How did the peddler earn a living?
5. Why did the peddler compare the world with a rattrap?
6. How did the peddler prove to be an ungrateful guest?
7. What was the mistaken identity?
8. What doubts did Edla have about the peddler?
9. Why was Edla happy to see the gift left by the peddler?
10. What made the peddler accept Edla Willmansson's invitation?

## **INDIGO**

1. Why is Raj Kumar Shukla described as being 'resolute'?
2. Why do you think Gandhi considered the Champaran episode to be a turning point in his life?
3. Why did Gandhi agree to a settlement of 25% refund to the farmers? How did it influence the peasant-landlord relationship in Champaran?
4. How were Shukla and Gandhiji received in Rajendra Prasad's house?
5. Why did Gandhiji object to C.F Andrews' stay in Champaran?
6. What did Gandhi achieve at Muzzafarpur?
7. How were the health conditions of the people in Champaran?
8. Why did the indigo planters obtain new agreements from the sharecroppers to pay them compensation? Why did many sign willingly?
9. When and where did Gandhiji have the idea first that the British must be made to leave India for good?
10. Why did Rajkumar Shukla go to meet Gandhi?

## **GOING PLACES**

1. Why did Sophie and her family admire Danny Casey?
2. Describe Geoff briefly.
3. Why did Sophie wriggle when Geoff told her father that she had met Danny Casey?
4. What did Sophie imagine about her meeting with Danny Casey?
5. Why did Sophie not want Jansie to know anything about her meeting with Danny Casey?
6. Write a character sketch of Jansie.
7. How did Sophie's friend Jansie get to know about her meeting with Danny Casey? What was her reaction?
8. What does Sophie dream of doing after school? Why does Jansie discourage her?
9. Why was Sophie jealous of her brother's silence?
10. How did the author describe the family's visit to the play ground? (Going Places)

## VISTAS

### THE TIGER KING

1. Who is the tiger king? Why does he get that name?
2. How did the maharaja prepare himself for the hundredth tiger which was supposed to decide his fate?
3. What was the astrologer's reaction when the maharaja told him that he had killed his first tiger?
4. When did the tiger king stand in the danger of losing his kingdom? How was he able to avert the danger?
5. Why did the maharaja decide to get married?
6. What did the royal infant grow up to be?
7. How did the Tiger King celebrate his victory over the killing of the hundredth tiger?
8. How did the tiger king meet his end?
9. How was the protection of tiger in Pratibandapuram ironical?
10. What was the dewan's anxiety about the hundredth tiger and how did he overcome it?

### ENEMY

1. Why did the messenger come to doctor Sadao? What did Hana think about it?
2. Why did Dr. Sadao help in the escape of the American soldier?
3. Why did the servants leave? Do you justify their actions?
4. Why does the author bring the general into the story? Could the story be same without it? Explain.
5. Who was Dr Sadao? Where was his house?
6. Why was Sadao not sent with the troops at war?
7. How did Sadao meet his wife? Which act of his shows that he belonged to a conservative family?
8. According to the old General, Dr.Sadao was indispensable to him .In what way?
9. Describe the condition of the soldier when he was found by Dr.Sadao and Hana.
10. How did general plan to help Sadao to get rid of the prisoner?

### SHOULD WIZARD HIT MOMMY

1. How does Jo want the story to end and why?
2. What makes Jack feel caught in an ugly middle position?
3. How did Roger skunk pay the wizard?
4. What made Jack realise that his custom of telling a story was turning futile?
5. Who is Jo? How does she respond to her father's story telling?
6. What do you think was Jo's problem?  
What is the moral issue that the story raises?
7. How does Jo want the story to end and why?  
Why does Jack insist that it was the wizard that was hit and not the mother?
8. What was the main plot of all the stories told by Jack?

### ON THE FACE OF IT

1. Who is Mr. Lamb? How does Derry get into his garden?
2. What is it that draws Derry towards Mr. Lamb?
3. How did Mr. Lamb convince Derry that one cannot live in fear?
4. How did Derry's face get scared? How did this scar on his face affect him?
5. Why does he live in a house without any curtains?
6. What did Derry's mother think of Mr. Lamb?
7. How was Mr. Lamb's loneliness revealed?
8. What does Derry know about the fairy tale 'Beauty and the Beast'? Why is he not convinced by its moral?
9. Describe the message that the play 'On The Face Of It' conveys to the readers.
10. How did people try to console Derry about his burnt face?

## **EVANS TRIES AN O LEVEL**

1. What were the precautions taken for the smooth conduct of the examination? Did the Governor and his staff finally heave a sigh of relief? Why? Why not?
2. 'Who was Evans the Break'? Why was he called so?
3. What was the declared purpose of the rubber ring and for what was it actually used?
4. Where was the real McLeery all through the examination?
5. Why did Evan not take off his hat when Jackson ordered him to do so?
6. What did the Detective Superintendent inform the Governor about Evans?
7. Who was Carter? What did the Governor ask him to do?
8. What were the contents of the small brown suitcase that Mc Leery carried?
9. What were the precautions taken for the smooth conduct of the examination?
10. How did the question paper and the correction slip help the prisoner and the Governor?
11. How did Evans outwit the Governor in the end?

## **MEMORIES OF CHILDHOOD**

1. How did Zitkala-sa try to prevent the shingling of her hair?
2. When did Bama first come to know of the social discrimination faced by the people of her community?
3. Why did Zitkala-Sa find the school uniform uncomfortable?
4. Explain 'eating by formula'?
5. What were the amusing sites that Bama narrated to her brother?
6. What are the similarities in the lives of Bama and Zitkala-Sa though they belong to different culture?
7. What does Zitkala-Sa remember about her first day in the land of apples?
8. Why did the landlord's man ask Bama's brother where he lived? What was the significance of this?
9. Mention any two reasons because of which it would take thirty minutes to an hour for Bama to reach home.
10. What does Zitkala –Sa do to avoid having her hair cut?

## **Long answer type Questions includes value based (06 marks)**

### **FLAMINGO**

#### **THE LAST LESSON**

1. What is 'linguistic chauvinism'? Analyse the order from Berlin on this light? How do you justify M Hamel's views about French and the new-found love of the people towards their languages?
2. 'I will do it later' is quite a common refrain we all use these days. How does putting of things for later affect life? Explain with reference to the chapter, The Last Lesson?
3. "When a people are enslaved, as long as they hold fast to their language it is as if they have the key to their prison" Comment with reference to the lesson 'The Last Lesson'.
4. Describe the measures linguistic minorities take to keep their languages alive. What would happen if they do not take measures to keep their language and culture alive? The last lesson is a story that dwells upon universal human nature. Comment.
5. After reading the 'The Last Lesson, you begin to reflect on the lost spirit of patriotism amongst the youth in India due to which there is no respect for one's country men and no determination amongst the youth to lead the country to a better future.
6. Write an article in about 100 words for a national magazine on the need for revival of patriotic spirit amongst the youth in India.

#### **LOST SPRING**

1. The bangle makers of Firozabad make beautiful bangles and make everyone happy but they live and die in squalor. Elaborate.

2. 'Lost spring' explains the grinding poverty and traditions that condemn thousands of people to a life of abject poverty. Do you agree? Why or Why not?
3. The extract 'Lost Spring' describes the plight of street children forced into labour early in life and denied the opportunity of schooling. Explain this with reference to the extract.
4. The story 'Lost Spring' gives us an authentic picture of child labour prevalent in India. What measures would you suggest to stop child labour?
5. The extract 'Lost Spring' tells us about the callousness of society and the political class to the sufferings of the poor. Is this true of contemporary India. Cite examples.
6. What are the two distinct worlds referred by Anees Jung in the lessons 'Lost Spring'?
7. The beauty of the glass bangles of Firozabad contrasts with the misery of the people who produce them. Comment.
8. What message does the author convey through the story?
9. "The story is a satire on colonial mindset". Elucidate
10. 'The beauty of the glass bangles of Firozabad contrasts with the misery of people who produce them'. Explain.
11. "To do anything else would mean to dare. And daring is not a part of growing up". Discuss.

### **DEEP WATER**

1. Douglas was tossed into the deep end by a big bully of a boy. Bullying is a common phenomenon witnessed in many schools. Eradication of bullying is important for proper development of a child. Comment.
2. Fear is a stumbling block to success and can be challenged. Douglas proves it by overcoming his fear of water. 'Braving the odds is the key to successes'. Comment.
3. It is Douglas' will power that enabled him to overcome his fear of water. This reveals that with a strong will human beings can overcome all kinds of fear. Explain with two illustrations from real life.
4. "In death there is peace but there is terror only in the fear of death". Discuss.
5. Explain 'All we have to fear is fear itself'.

### **THE RATTRAP**

1. Compare and contrast the character of the iron master with that of his daughter?
2. How does the metaphor of the rattrap serve to highlight the human predicament?
3. Describe the peddler's meeting with the ironmaster. Why did he decline his invitation?
4. The story 'The Rattrap' exemplifies the truth that essential goodness of human beings can be awakened through understanding and love. Discuss.
5. The readers' sympathy lies with the peddler in the story 'The Rattrap'. Explain why?
6. How would you react if you were Elda Wilmanson?
7. The story is both entertaining and philosophical. Explain.
8. The story focuses on human loneliness and the need to bond with others. Explain.
9. Justify the title of the story 'The Rattrap'.
10. How does the peddler come out of his 'rattrap'?
11. Is it appropriate to say that the whole world is nothing but a big rattrap?

### **INDIGO**

1. The Champaran episode was a turning point in Gandhiji's life. Elucidate.
2. Why did Raj Kumar Shukla invite Gandhi to Champaran? How did Gandhi solve the problem of the indigo farmers?
3. Give an account of Gandhiji's efforts to secure justice for the poor indigo sharecroppers of Champaran?
4. Dialogue and non-violence can resolve conditions of conflict. Elucidate
5. What did Gandhiji do with regard to education in the Champaran village?
6. What do you gather about Gandhiji's personality and philosophy in handling affairs of the sharecroppers?
7. Which factors helped the fear-stricken peasants of Champaran to achieve freedom?

## **GOING PLACES**

1. Compare and contrast Sophie and Jansie, highlighting their temperaments and aspirations.
2. 'It is natural for teenagers to have unrealistic dreams. Comment on the benefits and disadvantages of such fantasising.
3. The extract 'Going Places' is about adolescent fantasizing. Who are the adolescents and what are their dreams?
4. The extract 'Going Places' deals with hero worship. Explain with reference to the story.
5. How does Sophie's family react to her dreams, thoughts, and actions? Who in the family is sympathetic towards her?
6. Sophie is representative of contemporary youth and their aspirations. Explain with reference to the story.
7. Adolescents worship icons. Why do they do this? Is this characteristic of adolescence? Explain with examples.

## **VISTAS**

### **THE TIGER KING**

1. What prophecy was made about the Maharaja? What did he do to disprove it?
2. The story is a satire on the conceit of those in power. How does the author employ the literary device of dramatic irony in the story?
3. What is the author's indirect comment on subjecting innocent animals to the wilfulness of human beings?
4. How would you describe the behaviour of the Maharaja's minions towards him? Do you find them truly sincere towards him or are they driven by fear when they obey him? Do we find a similarity in today's political order?
5. Can you relate instances of game-hunting among the rich and the powerful in the present times that illustrate the callousness of human beings towards wildlife?

### **ENEMY**

1. How did doctor Sadao overcome the difficulties that came in his way to save the wounded soldier? How did Hana help her husband?
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. Do you think Dr. Sadao's final decision was the best possible one in the circumstances? Why or why not? Explain.
4. There are moments in life when we have to make hard choices between our roles as private individuals and as citizens with a sense of national loyalty. Discuss
5. Dr Sadao was compelled by duty as a doctor to help the enemy soldier. What made Hana, his wife, sympathetic to him in the face of open defiance from the domestic staff?
6. How would you explain the reluctance of the soldier to leave the shelter of the doctor's home even when he knew he couldn't stay there without risk to the doctor and himself?
7. While hatred against a member of the enemy race is justifiable, especially during war time, what makes a human being rise above narrow prejudices?
8. Does the story remind you of 'Birth' by A.J. Cronin that you read in Snapshots last year? What are the similarities?

### **SHOULD WIZARD HIT MOMMY**

1. Roger skunk's mother hit the wizard on his head. Do you think it was right on her part to do so? Should the wizard hit back Roger skunk's mother?
2. Why does Jo want the wizard to hit the mommy? Does her stand reflect a child's perspective on life? What is your choice?
3. Jack appears to be an immature father. Discuss.

### **ON THE FACE OF IT**

1. The actual pain or inconvenience caused by a physical impairment is often much less than the sense of alienation felt by the persons with disabilities. What is the kind of behaviour that the person expects from others?

2. Will Derry get back to his old seclusion or will Mr. Lamb's brief association affect a change in the kind of life he will lead in the future?
3. People are insensitive to those who have disabilities. Give instances from the story, 'On The Face Of It'?
4. How does Mr. Lamb try to remove the baseless fears of Derry?
5. The lesson 'On the face of it', is an apt depiction of the loneliness and sense of alienation experienced by people on account of a disability. Explain.
6. Do you think Mr. Lamb leaves Derry with a positive frame of mind in the end? Mr. Lamb dies but lives his spirit behind.
7. How did Mr. Lamb's meeting with Derry become a turning point in Derry's life?
8. Physically challenged people don't want sympathy, they just need acceptance. Explain.
9. Derry's family and the society were responsible for making Derry an introvert. Explain.
10. The actual pain or inconvenience caused by a physical impairment is often much less than the sense of alienation felt by the person with disabilities. What is the kind of behaviour that the person expects from others?

### **EVANS TRIES AN O LEVEL**

1. When Stephens comes back to the cell he jumps to a conclusion and the whole machinery blindly goes by his assumption without even checking the identity of the injured 'McLeery'. Does this show how hasty conjectures can prevent one from seeing the obvious? How is the criminal able to predict such negligence?
2. What could the Governor have done to securely bring back Evans to the prison when he caught him at the Golden Lion? Does that final act of foolishness really prove that "he was just another good-for-a-giggle, gullible governor, that was all"?
3. While we condemn the crime, we are sympathetic to the criminal. Is this the reason why prison staff often develops a soft corner for those in custody?
4. Do you agree that between crime and punishment it is mainly a battle of wits?
5. When Stephens comes back to the cell he jumps to a conclusion and the whole machinery blindly goes by his assumption without even checking the identity of the injured 'McLeery'. Does this show how hasty conjectures can prevent one from seeing the obvious? How is the criminal able to predict such negligence?

### **MEMORIES OF CHILDHOOD**

1. The two accounts that you read above are based in two distant cultures. What is the commonality of theme found in both of them?
2. It may take a long time for oppression to be resisted, but the seeds of rebellion are sowed early in life. Do you agree that injustice in any form cannot escape being noticed even by children?
3. 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?
4. What were the articles in the stalls and shops that fascinated Bama on her way back from school?

### **THE INVISIBLE MAN**

1. Describe the dramatic entry of the stranger at the 'Coach and Horses' and his strange behaviour.
2. Describe how the invisible man meets his death. What is your final impression of him, and the lesson you learnt?
3. Why do you think Mrs. Hall tolerated the invisible man as long as she did? Write a short note on her character?
4. Griffin is a hunted man after his stay in Kemp's house. Explain how the people prepared for his hunt, and how he tried to escape.
5. Describe some of the things Marvel does at Griffin's biddings. When does he become clever and tries to protect him?
6. Describe the meeting between Thomas Marvel and the invisible man and its consequences.
7. Describe the events which force the invisible man to be on the run.

8. Write a character sketch of Dr Cuss.
9. What impression does Dr Kemp leave on you? Do you blame him for betraying Griffin?
10. Describe the events that took place at 'Jolly Cricketers'.
11. Illustrate whether the ending of the novel is justified? What is your reaction when Griffin gets killed and Marvel gets to keep all the stolen money? Are you glad that the invisibility formula is hidden from Kemp, who could have used it?
12. What impressions do you form of the stranger by his strange appearance and the intermittent conversation with Mrs. Hall?
13. Mrs. Hall tried to prove the best of hosts but the regular snubbing on the part of the stranger frustrated all her efforts. Comment.
14. What difference do you find in Mrs. Hall's treatment of the stranger and her husband? How much importance did Mrs. Hall give to Mr. Hall's observations, remarks and suggestions about the strange guest that she had taken into the "Coaches and Horses" inn? What traits of her character are highlighted by her approach?
15. Describe the stranger's behaviour while unpacking the crates. What does it indicate about his personality?
16. What made Cuss interview the stranger? What kind of interview was it and what was the outcome?
17. There has been a shift in Mrs. Hall's temperament and opinion about the stranger in sixth chapter. Explain the statement in context of the chapter.
18. What made Mrs. Hall change her opinion about the stranger and what change do you notice in her attitude towards the stranger?
19. Why did the invisible man choose Mr. Marvel as his helper and why did Mr. Marvel comply?
20. The unusually strange experience with the invisible man could not weaken the enthusiasm of the people for much awaited 'Whit Monday'. Justify the statement.
21. Give pen portrait of Dr. Kemp and contrast it with that of Griffin.
22. Unseen fear of something strange often leads to puzzle senses of the people. Justify the statement in the light of people at 'Jolly Cricketers' and their handling the invisible man.
23. "All men, however highly educated retain some superstitious inkling". Explain the line in context of Dr. Kemp's reaction at unusual sight in his house.
24. What strange thoughts or nightmare Griffin had when he was sleeping after he had executed his experiment on himself and why did he feel so? What do these suggest about his present state?
25. Once Griffin saw no drawbacks in the invisibility but when he became invisible, there came to his view thousands of disadvantages. Explain the statement in the general way when we have certain fantastic plans and the ensuing disappointment when we have realized them.
26. Sometimes the plan or the intention behind some ambitious innovation is so wicked that the accomplishment of it is either prevented from or if it is done, it is done with some irreparable faults. Justify the statement with Griffin's plans and intentions.
27. Often the innocent people fall the victim of the mad raid. Justify the statement with Griffin attacking and killing Wickstead desperately and cruelly. Why did he do so?
28. The entire course of Griffin's life is that of wickedness, cruelty, rudeness and unscrupulous existence. However, at the end he ended with a tragic note. Explain the statement with Griffin's chasing his ambition, getting deceived and finally leading to his catastrophic death.
29. Give a character sketch of Mrs. Hall.
30. Give a character sketch of Thomas Marvel
31. Give a character sketch of Griffin.
32. Why did Kemp turn out differently than Griffin? After all they are both scientists. Is Kemp less isolated than Griffin? Is it simply because Kemp has more money?
33. What were Dr. Cuss and Mr. Bunting doing in the Parlour of the 'Coaches and Horses'? What happened in the parlour?
34. Justify the title of the chapter 'The furniture's went mad'.

\*\*\*\*\*Best of Luck\*\*\*\*\*