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Roll No.....

Total No. of Questions : 12]

[Total No. of Printed Pages : 15

XILKGAR21

5600

ENGLISH

Time : 2.30 Hours]

[Maximum Marks : 80

Section-A

(Reading Comprehension)

1. Read the following passage. Make notes and write a summary with a suitable title :

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

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towards Mars. We make use of books for the dissemination of useful ideas, for popularising the fruits of our research in various fields of knowledge, and for spreading our porgressive 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 civilisation as books which are written in all languages of the world and which are decoratively placed in book shelves in our homes and tastefully displayed in book stalls and libraries. We have golden treasure of joys, pleasure, inspiration and wit and wisdom of life, left to us by great writers and poets like Keats, Homer, Aristotle and other genius.

There was a time, some five centuries back, when books, as we know them today, did not exists, 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 different 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, paper back have begun to reveal their attraction for the reading public, and although they have not completely thrown into neglect the hard covering world, they have appeared to people who would not have thought of buying books not so very long ago. These paper-backs are generally reprints of popular fiction or of established classics or translations from foreign works which are in constant demand of all book-stalls.

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2. Read the following passage and answers the questions given at the end :

High altitude climbing is still a very dangerous task in spite of the availability of oxygen masks and other protective equipments which modern climbers take with them. These, of course, are indispensable accessories of climbing, but more important than these, is the stamina

of the climber which ultimately determines the success of his attempt. Throughout his Journey, death is his constant companion, which he can keep at a distance only with his superb presence of mind. He has to tread every inch of the ground with the utmost care, for a false step may not only strike him a fatal blow but also bring disaster to the whole expedition. That is why all expeditions invariably take with them local guides who are experienced climbers and who have thorough knowledge of the nature of the terrain. Moreover, a huge amount of capital is needed for financing these expeditions, and this is generally provided by governments or rich private organisations.

The primary object to mountaineering expedition is to get to the top of a high mountain which in the past has withstood all attempts to conquer it. But it should not be presumed that the expedition is a

complete failure if it does not reach its destination. Sometimes operations are temporarily suspended because of bad weather, loss of some valuable equipment or the sudden death of a very important member of the party. Every big expedition takes with it men who are interested in botany, biology, geology and various other branches of science, these men carry with them equipments for recording their observations concerning, weather, the terrain, and different forms of life in higher altitude. The scientists, explorers and expeditionists utilise the fruits of their observations.

To ordinary people, mountaineering need not be a fearful journey in the land of snowstorms where the brave adventurer is always face to face with death. They can scale less ambitious heights, rest their weary limbs under a quiet shelter and feast their eyes on the distant

landscape. In the company of friends they can enjoy an outing near a waterfall or cross into the next valley with haversacks full of provisions dangling from their shoulders. All those who can afford to go to a hill station should seek this innocent pleasure, for it can be had without any risk to life or limbs.

Questions :

- (i) Mention at least *three* factors that determine the success of the climbers.
- (ii) The primary object of a mountaineering expedition is to conquer the peaks yet not conquered. (True/False)
- (iii) In 'fearful journey', the word 'fearful' is :
 - (A) Noun
 - (B) Verb
 - (C) Adjective
 - (D) Adverb

(iv) How does a local guide help an expedition ?

(v) Use the word 'fatal' in your own sentence.

(vi) Why are sometimes the expeditions suspended ?

(vii) Give the opposite of 'primary'.

(viii) The finances for expeditions are mostly provided by

(Complete it.)

(ix) Pick out the words in the passage, which mean :

(A) area of land

(B) taken for granted

(x) Give the synonym of 'Weary'.

1x10=1

Section-B

(Writing Skills and Grammar)

3. Your uncle has recently been transferred from Chennai to your state and city. He may shift here by next month. He has asked you to hire a suitable accommodation in a good residential colony for two years (since he has been sent for two years). Write out any advertisement for it (not exceeding **50** words) to be published in the classified columns of a popular local Newspaper.

Or

You are Cultural Secretary of your school. Your school has decided to organise a cultural programme to raise funds for the victims of recent floods. Draft a notice (not exceeding **50** words) for your school notice board. Also invite the suitable items from the students.

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4. You are an active campaigner of "keep the city pollution under control." Write a letter to the editor of a popular Local Newspaper requesting and advising people to celebrate Diwali without crackers.

Or

Chandigarh University has started running a new corresponding course in M.B.A., especially for poor students. Write a letter to the 'Diretor Corresponding Course Study Centre, Chandigarh requesting for a prospectus and brocher.

1x6=

5. Write an e-Mail to your friend at Delhi asking about the health of his/her mother who accidently broke her foot. (50-80 words)
6. You have to take part in "Inter-school Debate Contest" on the topic "Advantages of Co-education". Write a speech on the topic (200-250 words) remember a speaker can speak in favour or against the topic.

Or

You are the head boy/head girl of the school, you just came back from a factory which employs children. You have seen the awful working conditions. Write an article for your school magazine advocating 'Total ban on child labour'.

(200-250 words)

1×8=8

7. Edit the following passage by corrected the errors underlined :

I knocked on(1) the door and waited for some time. A old lady (2) opened the door. I wished her and said, "Aunty, I am (3), your son's friend Somesh. Is Rajan home ?" She looked at me and said, "He's just went (4) to market for bringing my medicines. He will come soon. Come in and weight *wait* (5) for him in the drawing room." I went in and sat on a sofa and the aunty offer (6) me a glass of water. I thanked her. "Are you both in the same class." (7) she, suddenly asked me. I told her that we were in the same class and I have (8) come to discuss on the project, we were supposed to prepare.

1×8=8

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Section—C

(Literature)

2. An extract from a prescribed poem has been given below. Read the extract and answer any two of the questions that follow.

Upward to heaven, whence vaguely formed, altogether changed, at
yet the same,

I descend to have droughts, atomies, dust-layers of the glope.

And all that in without me were seeds only, latent unborn;

Questions :

- (i) Who is the speaker in these lines and who does he speak to in these lines ?
- (ii) Describe the things that receive the blessings of the rain.
- (iii) Which word in the stanza mean "hidden" ?

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1x2^{1/2}

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9. Answer any *five* of the following questions :

(i) Why does the father say "Silence surrounds us" ?

(ii) Why did the author complain of headache ? How did he get relief ?

(iii) Why did professor Gaitonde decide never to preside over meetings again ?

(iv) How could Shahid maintain his contact with Kashmir while living in America ? <https://www.jkboseonline.com>

(v) How did Mrs. Pearson become the mistress and the boss of her family in the end ?

(vi) Did the boys return the horse because they were conscience-stricken or because they were afraid ? Comment.

2×5=10

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10. Describe the unique relationship of the grandmother with the sparrows.
How did the sparrows mourn her death ? (120–150 words)

Or

What is "art brut" ? How did India's Nek Chand became a representative of 'outsider art' ? Describe Nek Chand's achievements in the world of art. (120–150 words)

11. Draw a character-sketch of Mrs. Dorling. Do you justify her behaviour towards Mrs. S and her daughter ? (120–150 words)

Or

Describe the meeting between Albert and the head teacher and how the head teacher made it easy for Albert to leave school.

(120–150 words)

(15)

12. Describe the narrator's meeting with Norbu in Darchen. Why did he feel that Norbu could be an ideal companion ? (120–150 words)

Or

Describe the wonderful old tale of Wu Daozi. What does this tale tell us about the Chinese art and painting ? (120–150 words) 6