

2023

ENGLISH

Full Marks : 100

Pass Marks : 33

Time : Three hours

The figures in the right margin indicate full marks for the questions.

Answer the questions in your words as far as practicable.

SECTION – A
(READING)

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

All of us are now aware of the threats facing the Earth of the degradation that man is causing to his own environment. We know that the global temperature is rising, that the ozone layer is being disrupted, that the ground water level is going down alarmingly. We also know that our air, water and soil are being increasingly polluted, that our forests are being steadily depleted. Our Earth is becoming more and more uninhabitable.

Why is this so? The most important reason is that our concept of development is unscientific and illogical. Our development has made life more complicated and difficult for us.

In fact, it is over-exploitation of our natural wealth that has resulted in many unsolvable problems we now have, problem of pollution of air, water and soil. The natural resources of our Earth are being exploited by the developed nations to such an extent that it becomes almost impossible for the rest of the world to meet even their basic needs. The developed nations do this for the sake of change and novelty and this craze has given rise to 'a throw away culture'. They throw away not only cups and plates, paper and clothes and food stuffs, furniture and

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cars, but even their homes and old people. This attitude of the developed countries has wrought havoc not only to them, but to the poor, backward nations too; for this is the model of development the developed countries place before them.

Development does not mean piling up luxuries; development does not mean having more and more automobiles on your roads; development does not mean making air, water and soil more polluted; development does not mean more and bigger buildings. The mad rush to catch up with the artificial speed of high competition is not development.

Let us take the example of a small state. Kerala was one of the most beautiful places on the Earth, all lush green with the Sahya Mountains on the east and the Arabian Sea on the west. Forty-four rivers and an intricate network of lakes and streams and backwaters and two regular rainy seasons kept this land cool and prosperous.

Then came development. The groves were cut down and cash crops were sown. The ponds were filled up because it was considered wastage of land. The people were told that their local seeds were no good and were given high yielding varieties. At subsidised rates, chemical fertilizers and pesticides were given. They considered it a boon. The soil and water and network of streams and canals have become polluted. Likewise, in the name of development we have cleared most of our precious lands.

- (a) What is the greatest danger which the earth is facing now? 2
- (b) What does the author mean by 'throw away culture'? 2
- (c) What does the attitude of developed countries affect to? 2
- (d) What is the real meaning of the term 'development' as explained in the passage? 2
- (e) How did the so-called development affect the people of Kerala? 2
- (f) Find out the words from the passage which mean the same as the following:
 - (i) not sensible or reasonable 1
 - (ii) the quality of being new and different 1

2. Read the following passage and give your answer as directed:

English is important not because a number of people know it in India, although it is a factor to be remembered. It is not important because it is the language of Milton and Shakespeare, although that also has to be considered. English is important because it is the major window for us on the modern world. And we dare not close that window. If we close it, we imperil our future. Every door of modern knowledge will be closed if we do not have one or more foreign languages. We need not have English; we can have French, German or Russian if you like. Certainly we want to learn them or other foreign languages, because we deal with people of those languages in business, trade and science. Every competent scientist today has to know two or three non-Indian languages. It is inevitable that in the present stage of our development of industrialisation, mechanisation, scientific progress and research, we cannot progress with all the Indian languages put together. If we want to stick to them only, without foreign languages, we do not go ahead.

- (a) Make notes of the main ideas from the passage. (use recognisable abbreviation wherever necessary) 4
- (b) Develop the main ideas into a summary. 4

SECTION – B

(ADVANCED WRITING SKILLS)

3. (a) Your elder sister loves you very much and holds you in high esteem. She was married yesterday. Write your feelings in about 50 words in the form of a diary entry. 3

Or

- (b) You are Manitomba, General Secretary, Modern Hr. Sec. School. Your school is organising a picnic at the side of Loktak Lake. Write a notice for circulation in about 50 words inviting the names of those who will join the picnic. 3
4. (a) Suppose you are the staff reporter of a daily newspaper. You attended a seminar on how to decrease the burden of school going children. Write a report to publish in your newspaper in about 125 words. 8

Or

(b) Describe in about 125 words the atmosphere inside and outside the examination centre on the first day of examination. 8

5. (a) Write a letter to the Chairman, Council of Higher Secondary Education, Manipur requesting him for the early declaration of Higher Secondary Examination results. Sign yourself as Rohit. 8

Or

(b) You come across an advertisement in the newspaper for the post of a receptionist in Ashoka Hotel, Imphal. Write a letter to the General Manager of the hotel in response to the advertisement for the job. You are Tonton. 8

6. (i) Which one of the following underlined words is an adjective phrase? 1

(a) This is a gold chain.

(b) This is a golden chain.

(c) This is a chain made of gold.

(d) This is a chain which is made of gold.

(ii) Simple Present Tense indicates – 1

(a) progressive action

(b) time expression

(c) preceding action

(d) habitual action

(iii) 'Neither', 'Either', 'none', 'each', 'every', 'anyone' used as pronoun or adjective should be followed by – 1

(a) first person singular verb

(b) second person plural verb

(c) third person singular verb

(d) third person plural verb

- (iv) Choose the correct one which can be substituted for the following given words: 1

Having no beginning or end to its existence.

- (a) obscure
- (b) eternal
- (c) universal
- (d) immeasurable

7. *Make a precis of the following passage in about one-third of its length.* 4

Good English teaching in a school is essential. This does not mean efficient teaching only, it means teaching aimed at the right things; mainly at the developing the pupils' skill in handling language in all types of expression and in comprehending all types of meaning with precision and alertness. So it is evident that language has a central position in the school education of children, though we must also admit that learning about language is often forced into more prominence in the school work of the younger children than is necessary for their natural and balanced development. Leaving this for discussion elsewhere, we turn to the role of language in the child's life. Language in our society at present is of such importance to the child that the development of his ability to use language effectively is closely related to the development of his mind and character.

8. (a) Write an essay of the following topic using the outlines in about 150 words:
Topic : War on Drugs 8

[outlines: Introduction - to check the illicit trafficking of drugs - punishment for illegal trade of drugs - campaign against poppy plantation - conclusion]

Or

- (b) Jamini decides to write an article for the school magazine on the topic - Problem of Environment Pollution. Write an article for him/her suggesting some possible remedies in about 150 words. 8

Or

- (c) Naoton is aware of the advantages of tree plantation. So he plans to deliver a speech in the school assembly about 'how trees can serve us in many ways'. Write a speech for him in about 150 words. 8

SECTION – C

(PROSE)

9. Answer the following question in about 125 words:

- (a) How did the passengers, crewmen and others behave and act on the Titanic even though danger and death were looming around them? 8

Or

- (b) How does the scourge of HIV turn into a curse of suffering and death to the hundreds of thousand of men, women and children? 8

10. Answer the following question in about 60 words:

- (a) Why is Mahmood compared with the banyan tree? 4

Or

- (b) Why did Mr. Abel Merryweather decide to get married at the age of 72? 4

11. Answer the following question in about 50 words:

- Why did William Hazlitt write the letter to his son? 3

12. Answer the following questions in about 40 words each:

- (a) How does the Time Traveller say that the Fourth Dimension is another way of looking at time? 2

- (b) Why were the bandsmen of the Titanic described as heroes? 2

(POETRY)

13. Read the following extract and answer the question that follow:

(a) Whence thou dost pour upon the world a flood
Of harmony, with instinct more divine ;
Type of the wise ; who soar, but never roam ;
True to the kindred points of Heaven and Home !

- (i) What does 'a flood' mean here? 1
(ii) What instinct has the skylark to sing? 1
(iii) Why does the skylark never roam? 1
(iv) What do the kindred points mean? 1

Or

(b) O Captain! my Captain! our fearful trip is done,
The ship has weather'd every rack, the prize we sought is won,
The port is near, the bells I hear, the people all exulting,
While follow eyes the steady keel, the vessel grim and daring;

- (i) To whom does the poet address as 'my Captain'? 1
(ii) What does the ship symbolize here? 1
(iii) Why are the people exulting? 1
(iv) Why is the vessel described as 'daring'? 1

14. Answer the following questions in about 40 words each:

- (a) Why does the poet say that rich people of the town lead a life of idleness? 2
(b) Why does Coleridge think that life's a warning where no hope is? 2
(c) Why should it be forever England if the poet dies in a foreign land? 2
(d) "And so, I missed my chance with one of lords

Of Life".

Why did the poet say the above line?

2

(SUPPLEMENTARY READER)

15. Answer the following question in about 125 words:

- (a) Why did Najab Hussain, a diffident boy of twenty venture to cross the dangerous salt desert alone, and even during daytime? 8

Or

- (b) Why did Charlie want to get a singing canary and go to Canary Islands and had to retrace in a cargo boat? 8

16. Answer the following question in about 60 words :

- (a) What were the two possessions of Jim and Della which they took a mighty pride of them? 4

Or

- (b) What are the concept and growth of human right? 4

17. Answer the following question in about 40 words:

- What is the risk of HIV infection? 2