

BUDHA DAL PUBLIC SCHOOL PATIALA

Final Examination (7 March 2025)

Subject - ENGLISH CORE

Class XI (Set - A)

M.M.80

Time: 3 hrs.

General Instructions:

1. The question paper contains Three sections - Reading, Grammar & Writing and Literature.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

Section - A (Reading) (26)

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

(10)

1. Gossip is the art of putting two and two together to make five. If all persons knew what others said of them behind their back, there would be no friends left in the world.
2. The spiteful gossip has plenty of spare time but little consideration. However, he possesses a remarkable ability to spread any information that he has come by.
3. A close look at the gossip reveals that he is malicious, imprudent and murders reputations with his tattling tongue. He is oblivious of the fact that even to throw a malicious hint is to stab a reputation. Reputation is Character is what we really are. Reputation is what people think of us. Richard Steels says, "Fire and sword are but slow engines of destruction in comparison with the babblers."
4. Another characteristic of the gossip is that he is a perfect combination of an empty head and an ever-wagging tongue. The Chinese have a saying that the tongue is only three inches long, yet it can "kill" a man six feet high.
5. Rumour-mongering is an affection common to most men and women. A German thinker singled out women as worse gossips. Personally, I disagree with him because I have known male gossips whose tongues virtually drip with delicious, colourful stories, especially about their female neighbours.
6. Of all quirks of human nature, rumour-mongering is the one that has caused maximum heartbreaks and disappointments. It has sullied untold reputations and has played havoc with the reputation of innumerable girls.
7. The gossip delights in leaking the "inside story". Whenever he stumbles upon a piece of gossip value, he visits a friend and whispers, "Have you heard?" And out tumbles an imaginary but spicy story.
8. A story-teller kills two birds with one stone: he assumes importance by showing off his acquaintance with the intimate details of other people's lives, and at the same time makes others look stupid on account of their ignorance. He has a sick but highly fertile imagination. He tries to embroider every bit of news and dramatise every event. Plain truth is unpalatable to him.
9. The gossip is a messenger of defamation. On its back rides slander. It blows away the soundness of reason and judgment. As it rolls on its way, it gathers more momentum and malice. It seldom goes waste as some vicious tongue repeats it. It is a pipe blown by surmises and conjectures which becomes a general clamour! Nip it on the lip.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the following questions:

1. Infer how gossiping can destroy beautiful relationships? (1)
2. A gossip may have all of the following qualities EXCEPT (1)
a) spitefulness b) prudence c) free-time d) loose tongue
3. How is 'character' different from 'reputation'? (1)
4. How can a three inch tongue 'kill' a man six feet high? (1)
a) It leaks out inside stories about people
b) It drips with delicious, colourful stories about people
c) It is an engine of destruction for people
d) It ruins the reputation of people.
5. Infer the ground on which the author challenges a German thinker's view that 'women are worse gossips'? (2)
6. Why is the author particularly weary of rumour-mongering? (2)
7. If slander is not 'nipped on the lip', it can (1)
a) spread from the lip to the tongue
b) destroy someone's social standing

- c) become an entertaining but harmless story
 d) make a person quite popular in society
8. All of the following are pairs of synonyms, EXCEPT (1)
- a) Spiteful – malicious b) surmises – conjectures
 c) defamation – slander d) oblivious – unpalatable

Q2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

(8)

1. In the last decade, the composition of garbage/solid waste in Indian cities and towns has been gradually dominated by 'disposable' thin polythene carrybags and varying sizes of sachets, cups, plates and containers made of flimsy plastic. Ironically, the word disposable is a misnomer, because most of these plastic items are not disposed of but just passed on along a typical chain.
2. Once they leave the place of manufacture, these low grade plastics (fit only for single use) travel from the storekeeper to the consumer to household garbage bins to tricycles/pick-up trucks to municipal solid waste bins and finally to landfill sites. When they are not char points, they are seen flying just about everywhere.
3. Each of us is well aware of the pollution and destruction caused to air, water, land, animal and man by the "never disposable" characteristics of low grade plastic materials which no one wants to retrieve. They are neither recyclable nor biodegradable.
4. Littering is now a behavioural licence in India. It is assumed that sanitation workers are paid and therefore people are entitled to litter the place. But no amount of resources spent on facilities for picking up litter is adequate for clearing the unsightly mess in front of eateries, shops and entertainment spots. For all the talk on segregating domestic waste at source, namely in households, the practice of filling cheap plastic containers with leftover food and wet wastes is only on the increase and compounds the problems of sanitation workers at every level.
5. If anyone is blamed it is the municipality! Surprisingly, no one speaks about who generated the litter in the first place. Growing consumerism over the last decade has compounded the problem to make it reach 'tsunamic' proportions. Less than two years ago, three young children foraging for bits of metal and recyclables in mountains of garbage at a landfill in Autonagar, Hyderabad, were actually buried alive under a landslide of garbage, predominantly plastic. A few months ago, three women went missing at a similar site at Jawaharnagar in the same city.
6. It is not that we as a nation were unaware of the problem 10 years ago. Several environmentally conscious citizens trusted our policymakers and waited for them to take bold decisions and implement them. In small groups, consumers decided to use their own reusable shopping bags and to "say no to plastics". The effort of such groups has, however, been a drop in the ocean!
7. While policymakers continue to discuss the optimal levels of microns (</> 40 microns) for prohibiting/permitting plastics, the responsibility of resisting the plastic deluge will rest with the end-users or consumers.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the following questions:

1. Why is it fair to say that 'single use plastic' is the main cause of environmental pollution in Indian cities and towns? (1)
2. Which of the following BEST summarizes the author's views on 'littering'? (1)
 - a) Littering is a problem that is hard to solve.
 - b) Reckless littering betrays public apathy and complicated the problem of sanitation.
 - c) How is 'character' different from 'reputation'?
 - d) How can a three inch tongue 'kill' a man six feet high?
3. What is Indians' typical attitude to 'littering'? (2)
4. "..... has compounded the problem" (Paragraph 5). Which 'problem' is the author talking about here? (1)
5. List two factors that have made the problem of plastic waste acquire 'tsunamic proportions'. (2)
6. According to paragraphs 6 and 7, the author seems to favour which of the following solutions to the problem of 'plastic pollution'? (1)
 - a) Bold decisions by the policymakers
 - b) Immediate ban on the use of all plastic items
 - c) Government permission to use plastic thicker than 40 microns
 - d) Consumers not using plastics at all or using them responsibly

Q3. Read the following passage carefully.

(8)

1. Most parents at some stage are driven to distraction by one or more of their children's annoying habits or behaviours, whether it is a toddler who continually whines, a school-aged child who leaves clothes lying around or a teenager who uses a less than pleasant vocabulary.
 2. How to affect change is a challenge for many parents. Do you ignore a child's annoying behaviour or do you pick up on it? A useful rule of thumb is to pick up on behaviours that are dangerous to the child himself or significantly infringe on the rights and comfort of others. Also ask yourself: Is this behaviour reasonable for the child's age? For instance, it is reasonable to expect an eight-year-old not to disturb you while you are on the phone for twenty minutes but it is not reasonable to expect the same of a two-year-old. It is also useful to take into account the child's current state of mind and what is going on in their lives that may be related to some unusual behaviour to occur at home.
 3. The following four principles for changing your child's behaviour will be effective if you are both patient and persistent. Change your initial response first. This is important because children's behaviour generally requires a pay-off, which may be your attention or an attempt to defeat you. The most important principle about changing children's behaviour is to change your own behaviour first. So, if your child whines to get his own way refrain from answering back or giving in.
 4. Practice with your child the behaviour that you want. The notion of behaviour rehearsal is fundamental to learning a new behaviour. Don't just tell kids what you expect, get them to practice the behaviour you want. In the example of a young whiner - get him to practice asking for help or a treat in a normal voice.
 5. Minimise the behaviour you don't want. That means when children continue their old behaviour despite your brilliant suggestions ignore it, sidestep it or implement a consequence but don't nag or harp on it. Remember it takes time often to change a behaviour, particularly if it has been happening for a long time. Spotlight the appropriate behaviour. When your children behave in the desired way show your sincere appreciation. We often take children for granted or rather we are trained to give children no attention when they are good, but plenty when they are less than perfect. The behaviours we focus on expand so we need to focus our attention on desirable behaviours more than on the negative behaviours. For our young whiner it is essential to make a fuss when he uses a normal voice to get what he wants.
 6. Like any process it will only work if you stick to it and follow it through. And don't be afraid to adapt it to suit your circumstances. Remember, it is the fact that you have a plan rather than the nature of the plan that is most powerful in achieving a change in your children's behaviour.
- (a) **On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it, in points only using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary- minimum 4). Also supply an appropriate title to it.** (5)
- (b) **Make a summary of the passage in about 80 words.** (3)

SECTION- B (Grammar & Writing) (23)

Q4. Complete the following passage by filling in the blanks with suitable words:

(3)

As robots (a) increasingly becoming more and more like human beings, many experts believe (b) robots may one day (c) given the same rights (d) humans. Sounds incredible, doesn't it, but (e) official report has claimed that by the year 2056, robot rights (f) become a reality.

Q5. Rearrange the following group of words to form meaningful sentences:

(4)

- (a) can modify/ scarce/ human behaviour/ that makes/ physical environment/ useful water/ in a way
- (b) in life/ helps us/ overcome/ obstacles/ their advice/ our failures/ not only/ but also helps/ remove
- (c) water scarcity are/ variability/ climatic changes and / some reasons/ for/ growth in population.
- (d) from books/ the concepts/ it is/ than just/ to clear/ always better/ solve problems

Q6. Answer any one of the following :

(3)

- A) On the occasion of National Science and Technology Day, the school has decided to organize a Science Fair. Kulwant Singh, the Secretary of the Science Society, wants to call a meeting of the office bearers of the society to discuss the arrangements for the fair. Write a notice, to be put up on your school notice board.

OR

- B) Design a poster that creates awareness to donate organs.

Q7. Answer any one of the following :

(3)

- A) You are Karan Kumar/Karuna Bajaj, a leading lawyer practicing in Surat. You want to buy an independent house at City Light Road to be used as office-cum residence. Draft an advertisement in about 50 words for the classified columns of a local newspaper. You can be contacted at 45645678.

OR

- B) As Secretary of the Literary Club of Vivekanand Senior Secondary School, Bhopal. Draft a formal invitation for the inauguration of the club in your school.

Q8. Answer any one of the following :

(5)

- A) You are Shruti of Class XII-D. You are a member of the Environment Society of your school. Write an article on 'Reduce Environmental Pollution Through Education and Legislation'. You can take help from the following clues.

- Environment getting destroyed due to pollutants and exploitation of natural resources
- Contamination of environment causes many diseases
- People need to be educated about using environment friendly items

OR

- B) You worked on a group project and found that some members didn't contribute much and got a 'free ride'. They were rewarded as the team did a good job. The members who put in a lot of efforts were not given any recognition. You also feel that certain major decisions take time since group work requires taking everyone's perspective as compared to when only a single individual is involved. Write a speech, in about 120-150 words, expressing your views on 'Individual work is more beneficial than group work'. You are Shyama/ Rahim.

Q9. Answer any one of the following :

(5)

- A) A student's anxieties never end. After clearing the Board Examination of class XII, there is the uncertainty of getting admission in a college and a course of one's choice. The cut-off percentage in good colleges rises every year. There are hardly any openings for average students. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily stating the above problems. You are Reena/ Rohit from New Delhi.

You can use the following inputs:

Uncertainty of getting admission, Cut-off percentage rising, Problem for average student, Frustration among students, Government should take necessary steps

OR

- B) You are Anjali/ Ajay Dev of House No. 101, Sector 22, Meerut. You are greatly disturbed by the insanitary condition prevailing in your city. Write a letter to the Chairman of the Municipal Corporation, Meerut, throwing light on it and seeking cooperation in keeping the city clean.

SECTION - C (Literature) (31)

Q10. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions of ANY ONE of the following extracts:

- A) *The whole tree trembles and thrills.*

(3)

It is the engine of her family.

She stokes it full, then first out to a branch-end

Showing her barred face identity mask

- i) The word 'stokes' has been used to convey which of the following meanings?
a) feeds b) runs c) empties d) covers
- ii) The expression 'flirts out' describes the way the goldfinch.
a) looks b) moves c) pecks d) chirps
- iii) How do you think the goldfinch feels after feeding her brood?

OR

B) *I do not understand this child
Though we have lived together now
In the same house for years. I know
Nothing of him, so try to build
Up a relationship from how
He was when small.*

- i) The expression 'this child' actually refers to
 - a) a new born son b) an adolescent son
 - c) a grown up adult son d) a middle aged son
- ii) Choose the option that lists statements that TRULY describe the father-son relationship?
 - 1. The father has a deep insight into the psychology of his son.
 - 2. The father and the son haven't spent any time together.
 - 3. The father wishes to throw the son out of his house.
 - 4. The father and the son have lived for years together in the same house.
 - 5. The father is unable to understand the behaviour of the son.
 - 6. The father has decided to leave his son alone and find another house for himself.
- a) Statement 1 & 4 b) Statement 2 & 5 c) Statement 3 & 6 d) Statement 4 & 5
- iii) Identify two underlying feelings that this extract seems to express.

Q11. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. (3)

(A) As hills started to push up once more from the rocky wilderness, we passed solitary drokbas tending their flocks. Sometimes men, sometimes women, these well-wrapped figures would pause and stare at our car, occasionally waving as we passed. When the track took us close to their animals, the sheep would take evasive action, veering away from the speeding vehicle. We passed nomads' dark tents pitched in splendid isolation, usually with a huge black dog, a Tibetan Mastiff, standing guard. These beasts would cock their great big heads when they became aware of our approach and fix us in their sights. As we continued to draw closer, they would explode into action, speeding directly towards us, like a bullet from a gun and nearly as fast.

- i) Bring out the contrast in the respective reactions of the sheep and the Tibetan Mastiff on noticing the approaching vehicle of the narrator.
- ii) Identify the literary device in the expression 'like a bullet from a gun'.
- iii) The expression 'explode into action' is NOT suggestive of which of the following?
 - a) suddenness b) speed c) agility d) inactivity

OR

(B) She had always been short and fat and slightly bent. Her face was a criss-cross of wrinkles running from everywhere to everywhere. No, we were certain she had always been as we had known her. Old, so terribly old that she could not have grown older, and had stayed at the same age for twenty years. She could never have been pretty; but she was always beautiful. She hobbled about the house in spotless white with one hand resting on her waist to balance her stoop and the other telling the beads of her rosary. Her silver locks were scattered untidily over her pale, puckered face, and her lips constantly moved in inaudible prayer. Yes, she was beautiful. She was like the winter landscape in the mountains, an expanse of pure white serenity breathing peace and contentment.

- i) The narrator's remark "she had stayed at the same age for twenty years" implies that the narrator's grandmother
 - a) had stopped growing in age
 - b) had gained no height in twenty years
 - c) seemed to have undergone no change in her looks and physiognomy
 - d) had refused to accept that she was growing older and older.
- ii) What distinction does the author make between being pretty and being beautiful?
- iii) Complete the sentence appropriately.
The phrase 'like the winter landscape in the mountains' suggests that the grandmother

Q12. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two given. (4)

(A) Consequently, even though I could see the horse, so magnificent; even though I could smell it, so lovely; even though I could hear it breathing, so exciting; I couldn't believe the horse had anything to do with my cousin Mourad or with me or with any of the other members of our family, asleep or awake, because I knew my cousin Mourad couldn't have bought the horse, and if he couldn't have bought it he must have stolen it, and I refused to believe he had stolen it. No member of the Garoghlanian family could be a thief. I stared first at my cousin and then at the horse. There was a pious stillness and humour in each of them which on the one hand delighted me and on the other frightened me. Mourad, I said, where did you steal this horse? Leap out of the window, he said, if you want to ride.

- i) The narrator was convinced that the horse did not belong to Mourad because
 - a) Mourad did not answer his question about where the horse came from
 - b) Mourad and his family did not need a horse because they had a car
 - c) Mourad and his family were too poor to own a horse
 - d) He knew that Mourad had stolen it from someone's stable
- ii) Complete the sentence appropriately with respect to the following:
 "The narrator refused to believe that Mourad had stolen the horse".
 It was probably because
- iii) What frightened the narrator?
- iv) The initial response of the narrator to Mourad's offer of a horse ride was one of
 - a) no hesitation
 - b) outright rejection
 - c) gradual temptation
 - d) irresistible temptation

OR

(B) "Susan said not to give her the chloroform if it would harm the baby. She's awful set upon this child, Doctor, bach." Her old eyes warmed at a sudden thought. She added in a low tone: "Ay, we all are, I fancy."
 He collected himself with an effort.
 "It won't do any harm, the anesthetic," he said kindly. "They'll be all right."
 Here the nurse's voice was heard calling from the top landing. Andrew glanced at the clock, which now showed half-past three. He rose and went up to the bedroom. He perceived that he might now begin his work.
 An hour elapsed. It was a long, harsh struggle. Then, as the first streaks of dawn strayed past the broken edges of the blind, the child was born, lifeless.

- i) What does Susan's mother mean when she says, "She's awful set upon this child"?
- ii) The word 'bach' is a Welsh word that is most likely used as
 - (a) an interjection of worry
 - (b) a term of friendly address
 - (c) a filler in an informal conversation
 - (d) a mild harmless rebuke
- iii) Complete the statement appropriately.
 The break of the dawn and the birth of the baby would have been a happy coincidence if
- iv) The extract shows that mothers
 - a) have a more important role to play than fathers in bringing up a child
 - b) are unnecessarily worried about their children's well-being
 - c) suffer endlessly if their child is stillborn
 - d) can go to any length to ensure the safety of the children

Q13. Answer any two of the following questions in about 40-50 words each. (2×3=6)

- a) Shirley Toulson's poem "A Photograph" is about human sense of sorrow, loss and pain. Comment.
- b) Markus Natten's poem "Childhood" is about the loss of childhood innocence. Comment.
- c) Which lifetime habit did the grandmother break on the day of the author's arrival from abroad? How did she make amends for it?
- d) Describe Nick Middleton's visit to Darchen Medical College. Why was he taken there?

14. Answer any one the following questions in about 40-50 words.

(1×3=3)

- a) "Mrs. Fitzgerald acts as a savior to Mrs. Pearson." Comment.
- b) Why did a shiver of horror pass over Dr. Andrew when Mrs. Morgan's child was born?

15. Answer any one the following questions in about 120-150 words.

(1×6=6)

- a) Suppose you are the Captain of the 'Wavewalker' and steering it safely to Ile Amsterdam. Write a diary entry describing your feelings on surviving the ordeal in the sea
- In your diary entry, you should
- express your and your fellow voyagers' feelings on reaching Ile Amsterdam
 - describe the kind of welcome you all got
 - sum up your further plans

OR

- b) On the basis of your reading of "Discovering Tut: the Saga Continues", write a note on the history of Tutankhamun's dynasty.

16. Answer any one the following questions in about 120-150 words.

(1×6=6)

- a) Past whether good or bad is dead and gone. We must never worry about it. All we need to do is to make the best of the present moment. Discuss with reference to the story, "The Address".

OR

- b) Imagine you are a citizen of Melon City. You are shocked at the King's orders to build an arch. His sense of justice and his eventual execution, too, leave you baffled. Write a letter to a friend of yours describing the King's foolishness and inviting your friend's opinion on the King's actions.

BUDHA DAL PUBLIC SCHOOL PATIALA

Final Examination (7 March 2025)

Subject – ENGLISH CORE

Class XI (Set – B)

Time: 3 hrs.

M.M.80

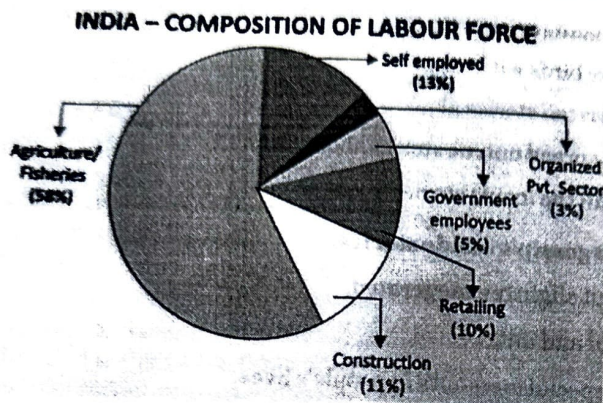
General Instructions:

1. The question paper contains Three sections – Reading, Grammar & Writing and Literature.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

Section – A (Reading) (26)

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

(10)



1. Labour in India refers to employment in the economy of India. In 2020, there were around 50 million workers in India, the second largest after China. Out of which, agriculture industry consists of 41.19%, industry sector consists of 26.18% and service sector consists of 32.33% of total labour force. Of these over 94 per cent work in unincorporated, unorganised enterprises ranging from pushcart vendors to home-based diamond and gem polishing operations.
2. The organised sector includes workers employed by the government, state-owned enterprises and private sector enterprises. In 2008, the organised sector employed 27.5 million workers, of which 17.3 million worked for government or private sector. Over 94 per cent of India's working population is part of the unorganised sector. In local terms, organised sector or formal sector in India refers to licensed organisations, that is, those who are registered and pay GST. These include the publicly traded companies, incorporated or formally registered entities, corporations, factories, shopping malls, hotels, and large businesses. They have access to a larger market, and can sell their products or services for a higher price. The unorganised sector, on the other hand, is usually made up of small businesses and refers to all unlicensed, self-employed or unregistered economic activity such as owner manned general stores, handicrafts and handloom workers, rural traders, farmers, etc. They have a smaller market and have fewer resources available to them.
3. The unorganised sector has low efficiency and productivity, and offers lower wages. Even though it accounted for over 94 per cent of workers, India's unorganised sector created just 57 per cent of India's national domestic product in 2006, or about 9 fold less per worker than the organised sector. The productivity gap sharply worsens when rural unorganised sector is compared to urban unorganised sector, with gross value added productivity gap spiking an additional 2 to 4 fold depending on occupation. Some of the lowest income jobs are in the rural unorganised sectors. Poverty rates are reported to be significantly higher in families where all working age members have only worked in the unorganised sector throughout their lives.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the following questions:

1. According to the visual, which sector employs labour force that is equal to the sum of organised private sector and retailing? (1)
2. The writer would agree with the given statements based on paragraph 1, EXCEPT (1)
 - a) India's labour force includes Indian workers whether working in India or abroad.
 - b) According to the 2020 statistics, India has more than 500 million workers.
 - c) A little more than $\frac{2}{5}$ th of total labour force in India is employed by the agriculture industry.
 - d) Close to $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of total labour force in India is engaged in the service sector.

B-1

3. Which idea or piece of information in the first paragraph is NOT mentioned?
paragraph? (1)
4. All of the following belong to the organized sector of India's labour force EXCEPT (1)
- workers in the Government sector
 - workers or registered private sector enterprises
 - workers of state-owned enterprises
 - workers of handicrafts & handloom industries
5. State 'True' or 'False' (1)
- "Rural traders are included in the formal sector of Indian labour force."
6. List two reasons why businesses in the organized sector are more successful and efficient as compared to those in the unorganized sector? (2)
7. List two disadvantages of the unorganized sector in the context of paragraph 3. (2)
8. In the context of information given in the passage, which of the following statements do you think the Union Minister of Labour can safely make in the Parliament? (1)
- "I am very happy to inform the house that my Ministry has set a target of employing a total of 500million workers by 2024."
 - "India's unorganized sector managed to create a little less than 60% of the nation's national domestic product in 2006."
 - "Of the total workforce in India, only six per cent is engaged in the unorganized sector."
 - "Agriculture and Fisheries account for less than 50% of the total labour force in India."

Q2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

(8)

ROAD ACCIDENT SURVEY OF INDIA BY WHO

- The World Health Organisation (WHO) has conducted a survey on road accidents around the world. As per the survey, almost 1.35 million (13.5 lakh) die each year due to road casualties and a good majority of them are aged between 5 and 29 years. What is even more concerning is that India accounts for around 1.5 lakh road deaths every year.
- India's death toll is in the rate of 22.6 lives per one lakh people; a severe figure compared to foreign countries. Road accidents are a common sight in India and there are multiple factors to blame for this -ranging from traffic discipline, carelessness, vehicle faults, drowsiness and even animal-crossing.
- Therefore unlike in the past, Indian cars are giving more priority to safety rather than just pricing and fuel efficiency. Most of the new cars sold in India come with all the basic safety essentials such as dual airbags (as standard), ABS+EBD, ISOFIX child seat mounts and decent structural rigidity.
4. However, WHO claims that the next challenge for India is the implementation of Electronic Stability Control (ESC), even in the budget car segment. As per reports, 70 per cent of cars sold worldwide come with ESC, but 90 per cent of cars sold India do not have it.
- Road safety in India is still a far cry from what it is in many developed nations. However, authorities and responsible individuals are trying their best to make this better, and they have certainly made a difference in the past few years. In a country with a population of over 1.34 billion, high traffic and below-average road conditions; accident rates can be reduced, but not in a short period of time.
- The high accident figures in India are also the reason why Global NCAP (New Car Assessment Program) has introduced the #SaferCars ForIndia project. Under the initiative, popular cars sold in India will be put to several crash tests.
- There is a serious need to reduce the growing rate of accidents in India, as well as the world. Owing to this, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organisation shared, "These deaths are an unacceptable price to pay for mobility. There is no excuse for inaction. This is a problem with proven solutions. This report is a call for governments and partners to take much greater action to implement these measures."

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the following questions:

- Infer why India's death toll in road accidents have been described 'severe'? (1)
- Based on your reading of text, state a point to challenge the given statement. (2)
Indian car manufacturers continue to give priority to pricing and fuel efficiency over car safety.
- All of the following factors are listed in paragraph 2 as the possible causes of a high number of road accidents EXCEPT (1)
 - Carelessness, indiscipline and lack of sleep
 - Wild or stray animals on the roads

c) Faults in vehicles

d) Poor or faulty design and condition of roads

4. Choose the option that lists three statements that the Union Minister of Surface Transport of India may safely make in the Parliament, according to the information given in the passage. (1)

1. "Our country loses 226 lives per one lakh people in road accidents every year."

2. "Worldwide the majority of people to die in road accidents are aged below thirty."

3. "About 1.35 lakh people die every year in road accidents in India."

4. "India's rate of death in road accidents per one lakh people is the lowest among the world."

5. "Our challenge is to make Electronic Stability Control system mandatory in all cars in India, including the cheaper ones."

6. "Most cars in India do have basic safety features like dual airbags, ABS+EBD, ISOFIX child seat mounts and adequately strong structures."

a) Option 1, 3 and 4 b) Options 2, 5 and 6 c) Option 3, 4 and 5 d) Options 4, 5 and 6

5. How will crash tests of cars benefit the car manufacturing industry and consumers in India? (1)

6. Identify and list one feature that is there in most cars in the world but is so far missing in a vast majority of cars in India. (1)

7. "..... to make this better...." (Paragraph 5). Here 'this' refer to (1)

a) car design b) road design c) road safety d) car safety

(8)

Q3. Read the following passage carefully.

1. The cornea is the clear, transparent, tissue covering the front of the eye. It serves as a window to allow light to enter the eye. Vision will be dramatically reduced or lost if the cornea becomes cloudy from disease, injury or infection.
2. The main causes of corneal blindness are injuries, malnutrition, infections, chemical burns, congenital disorders and post-operative complications or infections. Fortunately, lost sight due to corneal diseases can only be restored through corneal transplantation. This is a procedure in which the cornea of a donor eye is grafted to replace the diseased cornea of the patient. A significant proportion of these patients can have their sight restored through corneal transplantation. You can help this happen. Let eye donation be your family tradition.
3. Donate eyes of your dearest after death. Age does not matter. The eyes of the deceased of any age can be donated whether he/she has pledged the eyes or not. Spectacle wearers, and people suffering from systemic disorders like asthma, tuberculosis, diabetes and hypertension can also donate eyes. Patients who have undergone cataract surgery can donate eyes.
4. Eyes have to be removed within six hours after death. So, lose no time in informing the nearest eye bank. You could be instrumental in ensuring an eye donation in time. If someone unfortunately dies in your family or friends circle, remember to call the nearest eye bank. Till the authorised person comes to remove the eyes, switch off fans, keep the airconditioner or cooler running and place wet cotton with ice over the closed eyelids. It will help keep the tissue moist and increase the viability of the donated cornea. The eyes are removed by a trained person using a sterile procedure. They can be removed at home or any other place where the body is kept after death. It leaves no scar/disfigurement of the face. The donated eyes are never bought or sold. A request for eye donation is always attended to. The eye collection centre will rush a doctor to the donor's home. This is a free service in the public interest.
5. Corneal blindness affects mainly children and young adults who have a long life ahead of them. In India approximately 22,000 corneas from donated eyes are collected against the requirement of about 1 lakh corneas per year. Because of this huge dearth of donor eyes in India new patients are added each year to a long list of already waiting patients.
6. As a preventive measure, all children should be vaccinated as per schedule. Sharp objects like scissors, knives and nail-cutters must be kept out of their reach. One should be very careful about the use of chemicals during Holi and crackers on Diwali. People working in hazardous industries should wear protective goggles.

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(a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it, in points only using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary- minimum 4). Also supply an appropriate title to it. (5)

(b) Make a summary of the passage in about 80 words. (3)

SECTION- B (Grammar & Writing) (23)

Q4. Complete the following passage by filling in the blanks with suitable words:

(3)

Hands free kits allow people (a) make phone calls without holding the mobile phone next (b) their head. The user (c) then free to use both hands to perform (d) tasks. Due to the increased separation (e) the antenna and the user's head, RF exposure to the head is reduced (f) about 100 times when compared to normal mobile phone use.

Q5. Rearrange the following group of words to form meaningful sentences:

(4)

- (a) well-versed/ is very/ regular practice/ to make you/ in maths/ important
- (b) between yourself and anyone/ at least three feet distance/ who is coughing/ maintain/ or sneezing
- (c) then dispose of/ cover your cough/ with a tissue,/ or sneeze/ the tissue safely
- (d) cleaning spray or wipe/ and surfaces/ frequently-touched objects/ using a regular household/ clean and disinfect

Q6. Answer any one of the following :

(3)

- A) You are Reshma/ Rajan, Head Girl/ Head Boy of Moonrise Public School, Chandigarh. A cooking competition is going to take place in your school. Write a notice to be displayed on the school notice board informing the members of the Culinary club to attend a meeting with the Principal for the organization of the competition.

OR

- B) A 'Health Mela' is being organized by the Health Department of your state. As a secretary, design a poster creating awareness about the benefits of exercising and inviting for a free health check-up.

Q7. Answer any one of the following :

(3)

- A) Your school, Akash Public School, Agra needs a canteen manager. On behalf of the Principal, write an advertisement in about 50 words to be published in the classified columns of a local daily. Mention the educational and professional qualifications, other qualities required in the manager, whom to apply to and the last date for the receipt of applications.

OR

- B) As Secretary of the Literary Club of Vivekanand Senior Secondary School, Bhopal, draft a formal invitation for the inauguration of the club in your school.

Q8. Answer any one of the following :

(5)

- A) "When people immigrate, should they adapt to the new country or customers?" Write your viewpoint for/against the motion, to be presented in the morning assembly, in about 120-150 words. Give examples to support your argument.

OR

- B) Due to incessant rains during the past few weeks, the Army has launched 'Operation Megh Rahat' in Naoshera, Rajouri, Thanamandi and Poonch districts of Jammu and Kashmir in coordination with the civil authorities for search, rescue and relief of people. Write a speech, in about 120-150 words, to be given at the Republic Day programme in your school, applauding the role of the army and the need to boost their morale. You are Shalini/ Suraj of Greenfields Public School.

Q9. Answer any one of the following :

(5)

- A) There is a flood of advertisements on television channels these days. Useless products are promoted through glamorous and exaggerated presentations. Write a letter to the Editor, Indian Express regarding the same using the clues given below. You are Sunita/ Sunil of Mayur Vihar, Kanpur.

Flood of advertisements, Lack in quality of the products, Hide the realities of the products, Boring, too long and too dull, In between movies

OR

- B) You are Shobhit Sanwal, a student of class XI living in Sector 37, Faridabad. You want three books which are not available in the market. Write a letter to Atma Ram and Sons Booksellers, Kashmiri Gate, Delhi to send you the desired books by VPP. Include all necessary details..

SECTION - C (Literature) (31)

10. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions of ANY ONE of the following extracts:

A) *Upward to heaven, whence, vaguely form'd, altogether changed, and yet the same,
I descend to lave the droughts, atomies, dust-layers of the globe,
And all that in them without me were seeds only, latent, unborn;* (3)

- i) Identify three statements that agree with the ideas in the extract.
 1. The rain goes upward in a liquid form.
 2. The rain rises upward through evaporation.
 3. The water vapours condense to take different forms.
 4. The rain does not change form after rising up from the land and the sea.
 5. The water in condensed vapours takes the shape of clouds.

a) Options 1, 2 & 4 b) Options 2, 3, & 5 c) Options 3, 4 & 5 d) Options 1, 3 & 4
- ii) Complete the sentence appropriately.
When the rain claims that it is "although changed, and yet the same". 'It' means to say that
- iii) In the expression 'lave the droughts, atomies, dust-layers', what does the word 'lave' mean?

OR

B) *When did my childhood go?
Was it when I found my mind was really mine,
To use whichever way I choose,
Producing thoughts that were not those of other people
But my own, and mine alone
Was that the day!*

- i) This extract focuses mainly on the speaker's
 - a) childhood innocence
 - b) growing individuality
 - c) deep-rooted hypocrisy
 - d) stark rationalism
- ii) Identify the poetic device used in the expression "my mind was really mine".
- iii) What characteristic of childhood does this extract emphasise?

Q11. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. (3)

(A) The night of the scan, workmen carried Tut from the tomb in his box. Like pallbearers they climbed a ramp and a flight of stairs into the swirling sand outside, then rose on a hydraulic lift into the trailer that held the scanner. Twenty minutes later two men emerged, sprinted for an office nearby, and returned with a pair of white plastic fans. The million-dollar scanner had quit because of sand in a cooler fan. "Curse of the pharaoh," joked a guard nervously.

- i) The night the mummy of Tut was scanned, it was
 - a) a clear weather
 - b) a windy weather
 - c) a rainy weather
 - d) a cloudy but calm night
- ii) Justify the comparison of workmen to pall bearers in the above extract.
- iii) What Egyptian belief is the expression "the Curse of the Pharaoh" related to?

OR

(B) We had survived for 15 hours since the wave hit, but Wavewalker wouldn't hold together long enough for us to reach Australia. I checked our charts and calculated that there were two small islands a few hundred kilometers to the east. One of them, Ile Amsterdam, was a French scientific base. Our only hope was to reach these pinpricks in the vast ocean. But unless the wind and seas abated so we could hoist sail, our chances would be slim indeed. The great wave had put our auxiliary engine out of action.

- i) Which of the following statements is supported by the extract?
 - a) The narrator was sure to find the small islands a few hundred kilometers away from his location.
 - b) The narrator knew that the Wavewalker was too damaged to complete the journey.
 - c) The narrator and company's chances to find the islands could improve if the sea remained agitated and the strong wind continued to blow.
 - d) The narrator's only hope was to reach Australia somehow on board the Wavewalker.

- ii) What could dash the Wavewalker's hope of reaching the islands?
- iii) Complete the sentence appropriately.
The expression "pinpricks in the vast ocean" suggests that the islands in ocean were

Q12. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. (4)

- (A) Every time she leaves here she takes something home with her,' said my mother. 'She took all the table silver in one go. And then the antique plates that hung there. She had trouble lugging those large vases, and I'm worried she got a crick in her back from the crockery'. My mother shook her head pityingly. 'I would never have dared ask her. She suggested it to me herself. She even insisted. She wanted to save all my nice things. If we have to leave here we shall lose everything, she says: 'Have you agreed with her that she should keep everything?' I asked. 'As if that's necessary', my mother cried. 'It would simply be an insult to talk like that. And think about the risk she's running, each time she goes out of our door with a full suitcase or bag. My mother seemed to notice that I was not entirely convinced. She looked at me reprovingly and after that we spoke no more about it.
- i) List one character trait each of the narrator's mother and the woman, as evident in the extract.
- ii) What doubt does the narrator seem to have at this time in the story?
- iii) If someone has a crick in their back, they have
a) a wound on it b) a deformity in it c) a tattoo on it d) a spasm in it
- iv) In the narrator's opinion the other lady in the extract seems to be
a) doing her mother a favour by keeping her things securely
b) helping her mother by buying her old stuff
c) getting generous help from her mother
d) robbing her mother of her valuable possessions

OR

- (B) CYRIL : (briskly) Hello – Mum. Tea ready?
MRS PEARSON : No
CYRIL : (moving to the table; annoyed) Why not?
MRS PEARSON : (coolly) I couldn't bother.
CYRIL : Feeling off-colour or something?
MRS PEARSON : Never felt better in my life.
CYRIL : (aggressively) What's the idea then?
MRS PEARSON : Just a change.
CYRIL : (briskly) Well, snap out of it, Ma – and get cracking. Haven't too much time

(Cyril is about to go when Mrs. Pearson's voice checks him.)

- MRS PEARSON : I've plenty of time.
CYRIL : Yes, but I haven't. Got a busy night tonight.
(moving left to the door) Did you put my things out?
MRS PEARSON : (coolly) Can't remember. But I doubt it.
CYRIL : - Look. When I asked you this morning, you promised. You said You'd have to look through 'em first in case there was any mending.
MRS PEARSON : Yes – well now I've decided I don't like mending.

- i) How does Cyril react to his mother's changed behaviour in this extract?
- ii) Which of the following expressions means 'stop behaving in a negative way' ?
(a) Get cracking b) Snap out of it c) Feeling off-colour d) In case there was any mending
- iii) List one character trait of Cyril as is evident from the extract.
- iv) In what way is Mrs. Pearson's conduct in this extract a sharp contrast to her son's behaviour?

Q13. Answer any two of the following questions in about 40-50 words each. (2×3=6)

- a) What is the symbolic significance of the author's mention of the Constellation "Orion" in the concluding paragraph? (Discovering Tut : The Saga Continues)
- b) What do the Laburnum tree and the goldfinch symbolize respectively?
- c) Sue and Jonathan are brave children of brave parents. Comment.
- d) How does the poem 'Father to Son' bring out the psychological problem of generation gap?

Q14. Answer any one the following questions in about 40-50 words.

(1×3=3)

- a) What proclamation did the King make? Why?
- b) Wars can make people selfish, mean and greedy. Do you agree? Discuss with reference to Marga Minco's story "The Address".

Q15. Answer any one the following questions in about 120-150 words.

(1×6=6)

- a) As Nick Middleton, write a letter to the Editor of The Tibetan Times about the dismal conditions in the town Hor and what steps could be taken to improve its environment.

OR

- b) "From 'surrogate mother' in the village to a 'lonely old lady' in the city" Summarise the grandmother's journey from the village to the city in the light of this statement.

Q16. Answer any one the following questions in about 120-150 words.

(1×6=6)

- a) Dr. Andrew's immense confidence, strong will-power and refusal to accept defeat resulted in resuscitation of the child. Comment.

OR

Most mothers in the world do the thankless job of running homes. Do you agree? Discuss with reference to the play "Mother's Day"?