

SECTION-A.

1: ii) A: scientific purposes. ✓

1: iii) D: have a device which is fixed in the gondola to trigger to snap its ties with the balloon. ✓

1: iv) D: become redundant. ✓

1: v) A: balloons can reach greater heights. ✓

1: vi) B: research work. ✓

1: vii) C: to snap its ties with the gondolas. ✓

1: viii) B: they can hover over the area for a longer time. ✓

1: ix) A: they are flagged as slow-moving birds. ✓

1: xi) B: are at the mercy of wind.

1: xii) D: by institutions working under ISRO.

~~1: xiii)~~

1: xiv) C: complex.

1: xv) D: advocating.

2: i) D: suggests how time has passed quietly.

2: ii) A: The poet has been amply compensated.

2: iv) B: high and sublime thoughts.

2: v) D: suppress.

3:ii) C: increase in registered vehicles. ✓

3:iii) The Himachal Pradesh Government has now decided to lift some of Shimla's traffic load off the ground with a network of ropeways. ✓

3:iiii) False. ✗

3:v)

The general public would prefer to travel by ropeway because the ropeway fare would more or less be at par with conventional transportation. The fare for journeys of upto 10 km would be ₹50. ✓

Section - C.

7 (i) @.

The extract has been taken from ~~the~~ 'A Wedding in Brownsville' written by Isaac Bashevis Singer.

(i) Usually on Sundays, Dr. Margolin and his wife, Gretl would take a walk in Central Park or if the weather was mild, went to Palisades. However, today Dr. Margolin lingered in bed to catch up on the sleep he was going to lose because he had ~~attend~~ Abraham Mekheles' daughter, ~~Suzie~~ Sylvia's wedding in Brownsville. * He had also stopped attending the functions of the Sencinin Society and at the wedding, his old

(ii) This story has been set in a Post World War two world. Therefore, acquaintances and neighbours from Sencinin would pester him and call him a snob for growing detached from his roots.

ii) This story has been set in a post World War Two world. The Second World War marked the mass genocide against the Jews. Since Sencimín was a Jewish town, it had been destroyed ~~was~~ by Adolf ^{Hitler, and the Nazis} under the Nazi Germany regime.

iii) Solomon Margolin expected to meet the Sencimíners who belonged to the bride's family and the Tereshpólers belonging to the groom's family.

iv) The words "He had already sent out the present" meant that he had already sent out the gift he was to give on the occasion of the wedding so he ~~to~~ had to attend the wedding even though he was hesitant about the same.

v) The Sencimíners were natives of the town of ~~the~~ Sencimín where the protagonist of the story, Solomon Margolin had also grown up. The town had been destroyed under Nazi ~~of~~ Germany and many, including Dr. Margolin's family had been tortured, burned, gassed and killed.

Others managed to survive and escaped to America later.

vii) Opposite of perished - survived.

7 (ii) (b) The poem is 'Wild Swans at Coole' written by W.B. Yeats.

i) The poem 'Wild Swans at Coole' by W.B. Yeats talks about the evergreen beauty of nature, in this case, swans in comparison to the mortal dullness of humanity. In the poem, the swans become a symbol of immortality and humans that of mortality.

ii) The poet had first come to the park in Coole, in Ireland nineteen years ago. Back then, he had made his first count of the swans ^{in the pond} as ~~five~~ fifty-nine. However, before he could finish counting, the swans had flown above him, leaving their wings in broken circles.

iii) Nineteen years ago when the poet had made his first count of the swans at Coole, before he could finish counting the swans had scattered to fly above him, leaving their ~~clamorous~~ wings in broken circles.

iv) Nineteen years ago when the poet had first seen the swans, they were passionate, beautiful and dazzling. The poet too was youthful, joyful and compassionate. Now although the swans still remain as brilliant and dazzling as they were nineteen years ago, the poet has lost his youth, vitality and has become old, frail and ~~too~~ weak. This makes the poet monotonous.

v) The poem talks about the contrasting nature of man and nature. Nature, in this poem, portrayed through ~~the~~ swans, show that nature continues to a constant source of inspiration, joy, delight and immortal in its beauty. However, human beings go through various changes throughout their entire lifespan making them old, frail, weak, tied down to the earth with burdens and worries and other complexities of life, ultimately leading to their demise making human beings a symbol for mortality.

vi) noisy / squawking - clamorous.

8: a) 'Eveline' by James Joyce traces the life of Eveline Hill who is tired of her current life and her father's abuse full of responsibilities, burdens and her father's constant nagging and abuse and wants to run away to Buenos Aires with her lover Frank. However, when the time to leave actually comes, she becomes hesitant about her choices. Suddenly, she is filled with nostalgia and sentimentality and reminisces her childhood when her mother was alive, her brother, Ernest was alive and their father was good to them. She wants to leave with her love, wants to do away with her responsibilities but she finds comfort and security in the familiarity of her home - in the dusty cretonne, in the yellowing photograph of the priest above the harmonium. Most of all, she remembers the promise she had made to her dying mother that she would keep the family together as long as she could. Ultimately, she chooses filial duty above personal choice and does not run away with Frank.

9: b) Pablo Neruda, in the story 'I Sell my Dreams' by Gabriel Garcia Marquez is a 'larger than life' and flamboyant character. He has a child's curiosity, moves about the world as an invalid elephant and treats the world as a wind-up toy with which life invented itself. He was glib and refined and was described as the author as a 'Renaissance Pope' because they were also known for being glib and found joy in discussing and eating food. He could dissect a lobster with a surgeon's skill and his wife, Matilde ~~was~~ put ~~the~~ a bib around him to keep him from taking bath in sauce.

10: b) 'Chandalika' by Rabindranath Tagore is a tale of ^{intense spiritual} ^{conflict and} self-consciousness overreaching its limit. It follows the life of a girl, Prakriti, who belonged to the lowest untouchable caste and was discriminated and oppressed by the rest of the society. One day, Ananda, a monk and disciple of Buddha asks for some water from her. This simple act of

Offering water becomes an impetus for change in Prakriti's character. He also tells her that one should not attach oneself to the false and artificial norms of society but judge oneself based on their capacity to offer love and service. This shocks Prakriti into ~~ret~~ realisation as her ~~role~~ role of a woman and her position into society. This was the first time someone had accepted Prakriti as her true self. Never having felt such a feeling before, out of desperation and misery, she falls ~~in~~ in love with Ananda. However, when Ananda does not recognise ~~her~~ her the second time, overpowered by misery and helplessness, forces her ~~for~~ mother to use the 'spell of the earth' to drag Ananda to her. She was so intoxicated in her newly found identity that she forgot that love ~~does~~ not claim possession but gives freedom. In conclusion, I do not think Prakriti was wrong in falling ~~in~~ in love ~~to~~ with Ananda but the drunken feeling of love and acceptance for the first time in her life led her to act without thinking of the consequences. Acceptance after years of suppression, can be overpowering and lead people ~~into~~ into destitution.

11: a)

The tigress had ~~to~~ come from the adjoining forest and Raja, the tiger who was a ferocious beast back then and thought he was the king of the forest had felt his territory being threatened upon her arrival. This ^{had} engaged in a physical brawl between Raja and the tigress and when they were both lying injured and wounded, ~~the~~ jackal had witnessed this and advised the ~~two~~ two to make peace between themselves and join hands so that they could rule both the forests together and become even more powerful. This led to Raja and ~~the~~ tigress becoming mates and giving birth to cubs.

12: a)

Before the arrival of the Master / Swami ji's in Raja's life, he had been through two phases in ~~the~~ his life. The first one was as a young tiger in the forest in the Kempti range and the second was ~~in~~ in the circus. In the first phase, he was initially detached from his mother as a cub and tortured by the bigger animals. However, when he grew up and became powerful and began to think of himself as all-important, the king of ~~the~~ ~~ju~~ and the undisputed

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Suzerain of the ~~jungle~~. He would torture and punish animals of lower ranks. He ~~ex~~uded youth, power and arrogance. In the second stage, he was captured by Captain, the owner of the Great Malgudi Circus. During his ~~time~~ in the circus, he was tortured ~~and~~, abused, starved ~~and~~ whipped by the Captain. Captain was a cruel figure of authority in his life. The third phase of his life marked the arrival of the Master who converted Raja from a vicious and arrogant creature ~~and~~ to a sensitive and sublime creature. The Master taught him about life and death, spirituality, lessons about God, actions ~~and~~ their consequences (~~karma~~ to dharma and karma) etc. Master's arrival in the novel also ~~im~~proved the negative man and nature relationship into something ~~positive~~.

13(a) R.K. Narayan is right in giving his novel the title, 'A Tiger For Malgudi'. The novel traces the life of Raja, a tiger who goes through a complete ~~transp~~ transformation of character from a cub to an old tiger. The ~~novel~~ is written in fable format and in first person narrative so it is the protagonist narrating his life's

journey to the readers. Raja goes through three phases of his life in the novel. The first ~~one~~ phase captures his life as a cub who was detached from his mother and later as a youth who exuded arrogance, power and thought himself as the supreme power of the jungle, torturing smaller animals and punishing them.

The second phase starts when Captain, owner of the Grand Malgudi Circus captures him. His life in the circus was abusive.

He was abused by the Captain who became a cruel and heartless figure of authority in Raja's life. The Captain ~~abused~~ tortured Raja and forced him to perform tasks that were ^{either} too hard for him or impossible for an animal to perform. When he could not perform, he was starved for days. Overreaching his limits, Raja kills the Captain one day when he tried to electrocute Raja for not being able to perform a task. This is when he escapes and the third phase of his life begins as he meets the Master. The Master takes ~~with him~~ Raja to solitude in the forest away from human interaction. There, he transforms Raja into a sensitive and understanding creature. He gives Raja life lessons about God, spirituality, Dharma and Karma and also teaches

him that ~~animals only killing to animals~~ does not come second nature, they only kill when they feel threatened. When it is time for them to part ways, he ~~make~~ ensures that Raja is in safe hands. Throughout the story, we explore themes of love, man-nature relationship, ~~animal~~ cruelty etc.

SECTION - B.

4: a) Ashoka was ~~the~~ greater than most of the Indian emperors.

4: b) I prefer death to dishonour.

4: d) This news may or may not be true.

4: e) He forced his way through the crowd.

4: g) You do not ~~love~~ love her more than I do.

4: h) He is too simple to see through the game.

4: i) On seeing his mistake, the boy grew nervous.

4: j) There being no evidence against him, he was acquitted of the charge.

~~5: k)~~ "life / is / it"

The biggest cycle.

"Life is like riding a bicycle - To keep your balance, you must keep moving"

- Albert Einstein.

If we compare life to a bicycle, the person sitting atop is us and the wheels of the bicycle are dedication and will. I believe these are the two most important elements of life for without

them, we maybe as good as a punctured bicycle. ~~Idea~~ We only have one life and we must utilise that life to the fullest and try and try and keep ~~on~~ trying. If one has dedication, will and is true to oneself, they are sure to fulfil their dreams. One failure cannot define a person just like one impairment cannot define a bicycle's quality. The impairment could have been caused by obstacles or hurdles or a big bump on the road. Once repaired, it would be sure to cross that big bump. Similarly with human beings, obstacles will come and go but we must be grateful for our privileges and move on because the biggest cycle called life is waiting to be explored.

5% b)

Comfortably Numb

Jiddu Krishnamurti once said, "Comfort and fear kills sensitivity". I live by this motto. One must have the courage, the thirst for knowledge to achieve great things in life. Alert perception and constant enquiry are two key elements to be different from the common brunt of mankind. One must

Step out of their comfort zones, stop being comfortably numb to the happenings of one's surrounding to integrate as a wholesome contributing member of society. To conform, to imitate, to accept are signs of cowardice and selfishness. ~~Lead~~ One must delve deeper, discover for one's own self for the world is waiting to be explored. The mountain, the sea, the birds, the trees are calling ~~out~~ our name. We must venture out in the world!

(c)

* Clairvoyance.

What does the term "clairvoyant" mean? Someone who has a clear vision of the future, is ahead of their times. Only someone clairvoyant can be a true leader. A leader is someone who stands apart from the crowd and is confident to stand ~~along~~ alone and secure in themselves. Some of our greatest leaders are Mahatma Gandhi, Subhas Chandra Bose, ^{Robin Parks} who valiantly fought for our freedom. All these leaders had a clear goal. This is the most important

Quality of a leader — To have a goal. A leader must sort out their priority. Other than these crucial characteristics, a leader must be compassionate, kind, benevolent and open to debate. A leader must accept contradictions and have the knowledge to come to a consensus.

Lastly, a leader must have the ability to cancel out individual differences and dream for a common vision.

Increase in Traffic
leads to Increase in Accidents.

— Reena

Qa

On the 16th of August, 2023, there was an accident in the juncture between in Park Circus.

The accident had occurred between a school bus and a truck. About 15 students were injured and the driver died.

The goods in the truck suffered a major blow, all of them perished.

"Such accidents will keep increasing if the traffic is not

well-managed by authority" reported a parent of ~~the~~ an injured student.

Measures like road reconstruction must be conducted for the same. Construction of bi-lanes should be done and more police should be ~~post~~ posted in the junctures.

Increase in traffic could lead to other ~~major~~ major accidents in the future as well. Petitions should ~~be~~ filed to the government. Road safety is important!