Class XII Session 2023-24
Subject - English Core
Sample Question Paper - 1

Time Allowed: 3 Hours **Maximum Marks: 80**

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, WRITING and LITERATURE.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION-A
READING SKILLS (22 MARKS)

1. Read the following text.

(1) The monsoon is such a welcome respite from the scorching summer thanks to the overcast sky, gentle rain and lush greenery all around. Almost all of us love to savour spicy and crunchy food items, such as fritters (pakoras) and chaats like panipuri, sevpuri teamed with cutting chai as the rainwater lashes against the windowpane. However, the season also brings along a lot of diseases, such as dengue, malaria, conjunctivitis, typhoid, viral fever, pneumonia, gastrointestinal disturbances, diarrhea, food poisoning, cholera, cough and cold and jaundice due to the presence of bacteria in the environment. The challenge lies in going about your daily routine without falling ill. If you suffer from low immunity, you are at a higher risk of contracting these diseases. However, the right dietary tips can strengthen your immunity and help you stay hale and hearty.

(2) Due to the humid climate, you may not feel too thirsty and consume just one litre of water every day. But you need to be well hydrated as sweat doesn't evaporate quickly in monsoon. Consequently, this prevents the body from releasing heat. So consume a lot of water as it helps to flush out toxins from the body. Ensure that the water is clean, pure and safe to drink. Avoid aerated drinks; instead consume warm beverages, such as green tea with holy basil leaves, ginger, pepper and honey as they have anti-bacterial properties. A bowl of hot vegetable soup is also a good option. The hot beverages increase your body temperature (which will in turn give you warmth) while the ingredients will boost your immunity.

(3) Consume fruits, such as cherries, bananas, apples, pomegranates, plums, litchis and pears as they are packed with anti-oxidants and are rich in vitamin A, E, C and minerals. Vegetables, such as cauliflower, potatoes, cluster beans, ladyfingers, kidney beans, pigeon pea and sprouted grains get spoilt easily due to the humidity. So, they should be avoided. Opt for cooked or

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steamed veggies. Avoid salads as they comprise raw vegetables that contain active bacteria which lead to various infections and affect the body's immunity. Avoid strong smelling or extra sweet fruits, such as mangoes and jackfruit that attract flies as their excess intake can cause skin irritation and stomach ache. It's also important to store vegetables the right way during the rains. Do not wash the veggies thoroughly before storing, as the moisture will attract pathogenic fungus. These bacteria can spread to other susceptible food items as well, making them unhygienic. Instead, pat dry and store separate food items in different containers. Buy them in limited portions and use them as soon as possible.

(4) Dehydration makes your hair brittle and scanty. So hydrate yourself. Zinc and iron help to keep your tresses healthy and beautiful. Consume nuts, eggs and walnuts to maintain hair strength. Walnuts are rich in biotin and vitamin E, which are excellent antioxidants. Proteins are important for hair strength too. So add curd to your diet, as it is a great source of protein. Amla juice, oranges and other citrus fruits are rich in vitamin C. Vitamin C keeps your hair strong as it helps in production of collagen that among other things strengthens the hair capillaries (ensuring proper nutrient supply to our hair). Also, ensure that you wash your locks on alternate days and cover them well during the monsoon. Dried apricots, roasted sunflower seeds and lentils are better foods to consume during monsoon than other iron-rich foods which are susceptible to microbial attack. Do not forget to eat yummy corn on cob as corn is also rich in iron and zinc.

(5) So, the secret to enjoy the rains, without the fear of affecting your health is to go light on eating. Have a safe and healthy monsoon.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

i. Drinking water helps in _____and_____

ii. Raw vegetables should be avoided because

iii. The correct way to store veggies is to:

A. wash them properly before storing

B. buy them in bulks

C. pat them dry, store separate items in different food containers

D. soak them in water

iv. Choose an appropriate heading for the given passage.

A. How to Store Your Food During the Rainy Season

B. Beat the Monsoon Woes by Eating Right

C. Monsoon Sickness

D. Hair Fall Remedy

V. Which of these statements is false?

A. Warm beverages like soup is healthier option than aerated drinks.

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B. Vegetables such as cauliflower, bean sprouts, ladyfingers are more likely to get spoilt.
C. Amla juice, oranges and other citrus fruits are rich in vitamin D.
D. Iron and Zinc helps in keeping our hair healthy.
vi. Give two merits and two demerits of monsoon.
vii. How can different beverages help in monsoon?
viii. Discuss about the hair care during monsoons.
ix. Read the headlines given below and identify the option that corresponds with message of the passage.
(i) Rains mean crispy pakoras and cutting chai
(ii) The Rains do not bring diseases
(iii) Maintain your physical well-being during rains
(iv) The best hair days are rainy days
A. (i) and (ii)
B. only (iv)
C. (i), (ii) and (iv)
D. only (iii)

2. Read the following text.
(1) The United States Postal Service (also known as USPS, the Post Office, informally known as the P.O., or the U.S. Mail) is the third largest employer in the United States, after the Department of Defense and Walmart. It employs over 785,000 workers in over 14,000 U.S. postal facilities.
(2) The Postal Service has certainly grown and changed since 1775 when the first Postmaster General - Benjamin Franklin – was named to head the Post Office Department, the forerunner of the current USPS. At that time, members of the Second Continental Congress agreed that the Postmaster General headquarters, or most important offices, would be stationed in Philadelphia, and that the Postmaster would be paid $1,000 a year for his or her service.
(3) As the country grew westward, it became necessary for the railroad system to carry the mail. The Railway Mail Service (RMS) was initiated in 1862. The RMS workers sorted mail on the train, and became some of the fastest workers in the system. They sorted about 600 pieces of mail per hour. All the mail had to be sorted before the train reached the first stop, since some of the mail was destined for that first stop on the route.
(4) By 1918, the Post Office took over air mail from the U.S. Army. The first airplanes used in U.S. air mail were surplus planes from World War I. The Post Office started with only four pilots flying these leftover planes in August 1918, but by the end of that year, the Post Office had hired 36 more pilots. By 1920, over 49 million air mail letters had been delivered.
(5) The Post Office has used alternate methods of transmission during its history. It owned and

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operated the first telegraph lines from 1884 to 1887 - when the lines were privatized. It utilized "V-Mail" (Victory Mail) during World War II when U.S. military mail was put on microfilm in the U.S. and printed near its destination, in order to save space on military transport. During the 1980s, Electronic Computer Originated Mail, called ECOM, was used for some bulk mailings. Computer generated mail was printed near its destination, and bore a blue ECOM logo on its special envelopes.

(6) In 1970, the Postal Reorganization Act, signed by President Richard Nixon, replaced the Post Office Department (a Cabinet-level department) with the independent US Postal Service. The independent US Postal Service has streamlined its workload and modernized operations. Today's multi-line optical character readers (MLOCRs) can read the entire address on an envelope, print a barcode on the envelope, and sort the mail at the rate of nine letters per second. The zip code +4, a four digit code added to the end of the existing 5-digit code, has decreased the number of times a piece of mail needs to be handled.

(7) Special barcode sorters assign an 11-digit zip code to each address, apply a barcode to each letter, and sort the mail in order of delivery. The Postal Service has installed automated customer-service equipment in lobbies, and is planning to automate even more of its work, including more machines which will process parcels and forwarded mail. The price of a first-class stamp - recently approved at 44 cents and good for up to one-ounce domestic mail- seems relatively inexpensive compared to its predecessor; the first U.S. postage stamp, issued in 1847. The first stamps, adorned with a picture of Benjamin Franklin, sold for 5 cents apiece. They were used for letters weighing less than one ounce with a travel distance of less than 300 miles. By way of comparison, pay records available for the 1890s indicate that a typical year's pay for a schoolteacher was around $500, or 10,000 times the price of a stamp. Stamp prices then seem relatively high when compared to today's average teacher pay, in the $40,000 per-year range, or about 1,000,000 times the price of a postage stamp!

Answer the following questions, based on the passage.

i. What are the problems that overweight children develop? Answer in about 40 words.

ii. Select the incorrect statement from the ones given below.

A. The number of children and teens that are overweight has decreased.

B. Girls are more likely to be overweight than boys.

C. The family must be in total agreement that there is a problem.

D. Hispanic and African teens are slightly more likely to be obese than other races.

iii. What can be inferred from the following sentences? "While boys grow leading them to feel more satisfied with their bodies, young girls are getting increasingly upset."

A. Boys are made to feel bad about growing.

B. Growing up is not good for girls.

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C. Women are made to feel bad about their bodies.
D. It is better to remain as children.

SECTION-B
CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (18 MARKS)

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, in about 50 words.
A. As Sports Secretary of G.D.G. Public School, Pune. Draft a notice for your school notice board informing the students about the sale of old sports goods of your school. You are Rohini/Rohit.

OR

B. You are Manpreet/Anushka. You have planned a two week creative writing workshop to be arranged to inspire and educate young aspiring writers of Modern School, Bangalore to hone their creative writing skills. Draft a notice stating the objective of the cause, also provide the necessary details and requesting students to participate in the workshop.

4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, in about 50 words.
A. You are an English teacher of St. George High School. Draft an invitation to the author, Ms. Karuna K. requesting her to conduct a workshop on creative writing in your school.

OR

B. Draft a formal reply accepting an invitation to be present on the occasion of the wedding of Ankush S/o Mr & Mrs Shankar of 24, Green Park Road, Kanpur. You are Vikram Gaur of Raja Ki Mandi, Agra.

5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, in about 120-150 words.
A. You are Arun/Anjali of 21 Kailash Park, New Delhi. Write a letter to the Editor of the local newspaper about the menace of stray animals in your colony.

OR

B. You are Kirti/Ketan of, 34, Raj Lanes, Delhi-12. You saw an advertisement in The Hindu for the post of accountant in a reputed firm. Write an application to the The Area Manager, ABC Consultants 2, Chandni Chowk, New Delhi-06, giving your detailed bio-data.
6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, in 120-150 words.
A. Write an article throwing light on child abuse and what we can do to prevent it.

OR

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B. You are Latha/Lalith of Gurgaon. You attended the inaugural ceremony of the newly opened vocational stream and hobby classes at the secondary school level in Paras Public School, Gurgaon. Draft a report to be published in 'Gurgaon Times. Invent other details.

SECTION-C
LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT
(40 MARKS)

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.

A. I looked again at her, wan, pale as a late
winter's moon and felt that old familiar ache,
my childhood's fear, but all I said was, see you soon, Amma,
all I did was smile and smile and smile...

i. Name the poem and poet of the above stanza.

ii. Who is the poet talking about? Why is she likened to a 'late winter's moon'?

iii. What is the cause of poet's distress?

iv. Identify the figure of speech used in the given lines, “"pale as a late winter's moon."

A. Simile
B. Metaphor
C. Alliteration
D. Hyperbola

V. What is the "old familiar ache" of the poet?

A. Leaving the country
B. Seeing happy children
C. Ageing and decaying of her mother
D. Leaving her mother alone

vi. Do you think that the poet was hopeful of seeing her mother again?

A. Yes, she was hopeful.
B. No, she was hopeless.
C. She might be hopeful.
D. None of these

OR

B. 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.

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i. The tigers referred here are :
A. Real tigers
B. Aunt Jennifer's pets
C. Aunt Jennifer's embroidered tigers representing her spirit
D. Aunt Jennifer's husband
ii. The tigers are_____in color.
A. green
B. bright yellow
C. black
D. colorless
iii. How are they different from Aunt Jennifer ?
iv. Which word in the lines mean jump?
A. Pace
B. Prance
C. Sleek
D. Certainty
V. Name the poet of the above stanza.
vi. The literary device used in 'chivalric certainly' is,
A. metaphor
B. simile
C. alliteration
D. imagery

8. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.
A. Mr. Lamb: Later on, when it's a bit cooler, I'll get the ladder and a stick, and pull down those crab apples. They're ripe for it. I make jelly. It's a good time of year, September. Look at them....orange and golden. That's magic fruit. I often say. But it's best picked and made into jelly. You could give me a hand.
i. Why did Mr. Lamb change the topic?
A. Because he was bored.
B. Because he felt uncomfortable talking about the boy's face.
C. Because he intentionally didn't pay attention to his insecurities.
D. Because he wanted to boast of his skills.
ii. Mr. Lamb categorically narrates what he will do to the crab apples. Why?
iii. "You could give me a hand." What do you make of Mr. Lamb's character from the given lines?
iv. Assertion (A): Mr. Lamb picks the crab apples only in September.

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Reason (R): September is the time of year when the fruits ripen.
A.Both A and R are true, and A is the correct explanation of R.
B. Both A and R are true, but A is not the correct explanation of A.
C. A is true but R is false.
D. A is false but R is true.

OR

B. Yes, I've taken the obvious step: I talked to a psychiatrist friend of mine, among others. I told him about the third level at Grand Central Station, and he said it was a waking-dream wish fulfilment. He said I was unhappy. That made my wife kind of mad, but he explained that he meant the modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry and all the rest of it, and that I just want to escape. Well, who doesn't? Everybody I know wants to escape, but they don't wander down into any third level at Grand Central Station.
i. The narrator went to a psychiatrist because
A. he went through an experience no one else did.
B. he was unhappy and wanted to know why.
C. he was depressed.
D. he wanted to meet him.
ii. According to the psychiatrist, what is waking-dream wish fulfilment?
A. Charley finding of a Third Level at Grand Central Station.
B. Charley's realization of his wish to visit Galesburg Illinolis.
C. Charley's escaping into his daydreaming every day.
D. Charley's post stamp collecting habit.
iii. What was the Third Level?
iv. What did the psychiatrist explain to Charley?

9. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.
A. To do anything else would mean to dare. And daring is not part of his growing up. When I sense a flash of it in Mukesh I am cheered. "I want to be a motor mechanic," he repeats: He will go to a garage and learn. But the garage is a long way from his home. "I will walk," he insists. "Do you also dream of flying a plane?" He is suddenly silent. "No," he says, staring at the ground.
i. What was Mukesh supposed to be if not his dream to be a motor mechanic?
A. Rag picker
B. Pilot
C. Bangle maker
D. Doctor

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ii. "I will walk" this line shows Mukesh's.
A. helplessness
B. determination
C. shyness
D. disappointment
iii. With whom was the speaker sharing his dream?
A. Mukesh
B. Anees
C. Saheb
D. A garage owner
iv. Did Mukesh sound unreasonable?
A. Yes
B. No
C. Maybe
D. Can't be determined
V. From which chapter is the given extract taken?
vi. What can we understand from the line, “And daring is not part of his growing up?"?

OR

B. Then, from one thing to another, M. Hamel went on to talk of the French language, saying that it was the most beautiful language in the world - the clearest, the most logical; that we must guard it among us and never forget it, because when people are enslaved, as long as they hold fast to their language it is as if they had the key to their prison. Then he opened a grammar and read us our lesson. I was amazed to see how well I understood it. All he said seemed so easy, so easy!
i. What did M. Hamel say about the French language?
ii. What advice did M. Hamel give about the language?

iii. What was different about the lesson that day?
A. Franz seem to be distracted.
B. Franz found the lesson boring.
C. Franz found the lesson short.
D. Franz understood his lesson very easily.
iv. "Key to their prison” means
A. The mother tongue will lead them to prison.
B. Language can be used as a weapon to fight against oppression.
C. Language needs to prisoned.

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D. Language plays a very little part in saving a country.
V. Why does M. Hamel urge his students to guard their mother tongue?
A. Because French is the most clearest and logical language in the world.
B. Because language is rooted to one's identity.
C. Because holding fast to one's mother tongue is the key to the prison of slavery.
D. Both (b) and (c)
vi. Choose the option that best describes the atmosphere of the class when M. Hamel gave his speech.
A. Introspective B.
B. Energetic
C. Zany
D. Tranquil

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions, in about 40-50 words.
i. How did the ironmaster react on seeing the stranger lying close to the furnace?
ii. Mention the hazards of working in the glass bangle industry?
iii. What did the landlords do when they know that Germany had developed synthetic indigo?
iv. Which sadness is Pablo Neruda worried about in his poem?
V. Why did the author go to Lake Wentworth in New Hampshire?
vi. How did Franz's feelings about M. Hamel and school change?

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.
i. What are some of the peculiar things Derry noticed about Mr. Lamb?
ii. How did the Tiger King celebrate his victory over the killing of the 100th tiger?
iii. Why was Zitkala-Sa terrified when Judewin told her that her hair would be cut short?

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words.
A. After leaving the ironmaster's house, the peddler began to do some introspection. As the peddler, write a diary entry about how despite the stolen money, the treatment from Edla changed him. You may begin this way:
After the amazing welcome by the ironmaster's daughter Edla, I was intrigued to see how people like me are still welcomed and cared for by strangers.....

OR

B. How did a visit to Champaran become a turning point in Gandhi's life? How does this show Gandhi's love and concern for the common people of India?

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words.
A. What benefits did Derry reap from his association with Mr. Lamb.

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OR

B. Imagine you are an ardent environmentalist who is involved in the Save the Tiger campaign. You have been asked to deliver a speech in a seminar related to your campaign and the need for the youth to be involved in such campaigns. Draft your speech.

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SOLUTIONS

1. i. keeping the body hydrated, flushing toxins out of the body
ii. they contain active bacteria which lead to various infections
iii. C. pat them dry, store separate items in different food containers
iv. B. Beat the Monsoon Woes by Eating Right.
v. C. Amla juice, oranges and other citrus fruits are rich in vitamin D.
vi. Merits (1) Monsoons provide a relief from the scorching summer heat, with lush greenery all around.
(2) People love to savour various delicacies like pakoras, chai, chaats, etc. to enjoy the rainy season.
Demerits: (1) Monsoons bring with it various diseases like dengue, food poisoning, diarrhea, viral fever, cough and cold, etc.
(2) The weather becomes humid and due to less water intake dehydration can also occur.
vii. Keeping ourselves well-hyderated can help us as sweat doesn't evaporate quickly in monsoons. Consuming a lot of water can also help in flushing out the toxins from our body. We should avoid aerated drinks. We should consume warm beverages with ingredients that have anti bacterial properties. Hot vegetable soup is also a good option to consume. Hot beverages can increase the body temperature and their anti-bacterial properties ingredients can boost immunity.
viii. During monsoons due to dehydration hair can become brittle and scanty. So to take of one's tresses, one should consume zinc and iron. Walnuts rich in biotin and Vitamin E and nuts and eggs are also good for hair. Adding curd which is high in protein is also good for hair health. Vitamin C that helps in production of collagen is also good which can be found in citrus fruits like oranges, etc.
ix. D. only (iii)

2. i. C. Walmart
ii. C. 1862
iii. B. By sorting the mail on the train before every stop
iv. It was called Railway Mail Service (RMS).
V. Benjamin Franklin
vi. The mails were being carried through the railway system and this was initiated in 1862. The RMS workers become some of the fastest in the system. They used to sort mails on the train. And they were capable of sorting 600 mails per hour. The reason being some of the mails were supposed to be dropped at the first stop of the route.
vii. The independent US Postal service has streamlined its workload and modernized operations. MLOCRS (Multi- line Optical Character Readers) now can read the entire address

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on a mail, print a barcode on an envelope and sort the mail at a speed of nine letters per second. Also the zip code +4, a four digit code added to the end of the existing 5 digit code, has decreased the number of times a mail needs to be handled.

viii. False

3. A.

G.D.G. PUBLIC SCHOOL, PUNE

NOTICE

20 September, 20××

Sale of Old Sports Goods

This is to inform all students that our sports club has organised a sale of old sports goods this Saturday, March 25, 20×× at our school basketball court from 11:00 a.m. till stock lasts. It will be on a first come, first served basis, so kindly arrive on time. Contact the undersigned for further information.

Rohit Singh

(Sports Secretary)

OR

B.

MODERN SCHOOL, BANGALORE

NOTICE

20 April, 20××

Creative Writing Workshop

A two week creative writing workshop is being organised in your school from 25th April to 8th May. Students interested in honing their creative writing skills can give their names and fees to their class teacher, by 24th April. The fees is ₹2000 for the whole course. Certificate of participation will be given to each participant. For further query, contact the undersigned.

Manpreet Singh

(Workshop Co-ordinator)

4. A.

Dear Ms. Karuna K

To encourage literary skills among students, our school is celebrating Tolstoy Week from August 1 to 5, 20××. We would be highly grateful if you could grace the occasion and conduct a workshop on creative writing in our school. Please respond to the invitation.

For any further clarification, please contact Father Anthony. The Principal at 98350××××.

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OR

B.

Mr and Mrs Vikram Gaur
thank Mr And Mrs Shankar
for inviting them on the occasion of the wedding of their son Ankush at 24, Green Park Road, Kanpur on 15 May, 20×× and assure them that they will be present on the occasion to wish the newly weds a very happy married life.
Mr and Mrs Gaur will reach Kanpur by the Agra Mail which leaves Agra at 8.00 a.m.
Vikram Gaur

5. A.

21, Kailash Park
New Delhi
March 2, 20××
The Editor
The Hindu
G.T. Road
New Delhi
Subject : Nuisance Caused by the Stray Animals
Respected Sir,
Through the columns of your esteemed daily, I wish to draw the attention of Municipal Commissioner, Delhi towards the nuisance caused by the stray animals.
It is mostly during the busy hours of day that this has been observed. Stray animals, such as pigs, cows, dogs, monkey, etc. wander around freely causing traffic jams, road accidents and sometimes, health hazards. Recently, a neighbour's child was attacked by a dog in search of food. Stray cows stand or sit in the middle of the road and refuse to move even after relentless sounding of horn. Population of stray dogs is multiplying each day, not to mention cow dung on roads is adding to the nuisance. I have already written to the concerned authorities several times. However, no action has been taken so far. The problem can be easily dealt with by establishing animal shelters, where they will be taken care of properly. I wish that the Municipal Commissioner takes note of the situation at the earliest and orders the concerned authorities to take immediate action regarding the same without any further delay.
Thank you
Yours sincerely
Anjali Shah

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OR

B.

34, Raj Lanes
Delhi-12
5 March, 20××
The Area Manager
ABC Consultants
2, Chandni Chowk
New Delhi-06
Subject : Application for the Post of Accountant
Sir,
In response to your advertisement in 'The Hindu' dated 6 March 20××, I wish to apply for the post of accountant in the mentioned reputed firm. I have a total of four years' experience in the said field. Currently, I am working as an assistant accountant, with Liza Corporations. I am enclosing my bio-data and testimonial for your review.
Thank you
Yours faithfully
Ketan Pandey
Enclosed : Bio-data and testimonial

Bio-Data

Name	:	Ketan Pandey
Gender	:	Male
Date of Birth	:	2 January 1988
Father's Name	:	Mr. Ravi Pandey
Postal Address	:	34, Raj Lanes, Delhi-12
Contact No.	:	011-234××××, 981073××××
Educational Qualification	:	B.Com from Hansraj College, Delhi University M.Com from ABC University MBA from ABC University
Work Experience	:	4 years with XYZ corporation
Salary Drawn	:	4,80,000/- p.a.
Salary Expected :	:	Negotiable
Language Skills :	:	Fluency in English, Hindi and German
References	:	Mr. Suresh Holkar, Sr. Accounts Manager, Liza Corporation Mr. Prabhas Rao, General Manager, XYZ Corporation

6. A. Child Abuse

Sexual abuse of children has become rampant. Over a million reports of child abuse are made every year and it is believed that there are still many more cases unreported and undisclosed. The number of child deaths due to child neglect and abuse are also increasing to terrifying numbers. Children who are abused at a tender age undergo a psychological trauma that leads to lifelong depression and indifference to society and family. The worst part is that in most cases

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the culprits are those who are expected to protect and take care of the child. Victims of child abuse never fully recover from the scars and, at times, suffer from distrust of others, hostility, depression, anxiety, inability to form close relationships and a host of other psychological and psychiatric problems. The only solution is the enactment of a law that protects the victims. Presently, the laws of the country are so liberal that a person who commits a crime once is inclined to repeat it because the consequences are not severe. Besides the law, parents have an important role to play in checking child abuse. They should educate their children on social and cultural values as well as making children understand how to distinguish between a 'good touch' and 'bad touch' and then act accordingly. Working parents should find time to look after their children rather than employ babysitters.

OR

B. Inaugural Ceremony for Vocational Courses and Hobby Classes Celebrated by Latha, Staff Reporter, Gurgaon Times Gurgaon, April 10, 20xx: Paras Public School, Gurgaon recently opened vocational streams and hobby classes at the secondary school level, the inaugural ceremony of which was held yesterday, April 9, 20xx at their newly constructed vocational studies wing. Eminent entrepreneur, Ms. Shehnaz Hussain inaugurated the ceremony along with the school Principal and Vice Principal by cutting the ribbon. The function began with a special welcome dance, performed by the students of the school. The school Pupil Leader gave a presentation on the importance of vocational streams and hobby classes. An exposition was also organised on the same day for students and their parents where they learned about various vocational courses to be taught in these classes. The parents and students both looked impressed by the future prospects of these vocational streams and registered for them on the spot. Ms. Shehnaz Hussain applauded the efforts of the school, students and the parents and encouraged the students to pursue their hobbies if that is what interests them.

7. A. i. The name of the poem is My Mother at Sixty- Six and the poet is Kamala Das.
ii. The poet is talking about her mother. She is likened to a 'late winter's moon' because her old age makes her appear pale and grey, as if fading due to illness.
iii. The poet is ached by the fact that her mother is no longer young. The returning fear, now that her mother is old and gradually inching towards her end, makes the poet anxious.
iv. A. Simile
V. C. Ageing and decaying of her mother
vi. A. Yes, she was hopeful.

OR

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B. i. C. Aunt Jennifer's embroidered tigers representing her spirit
ii. B. bright yellow
iii. They are not afraid of men unlike Aunt Jennifer who is helpless against patriarchy.
iv. B. Prance
V. Adrienne Rich
vi. C. alliteration

8. A. i. C. Because he intentionally didn't pay attention to his insecurities.
ii. To see if Derry will calm down.
iii. He is trying to befriend Derry.
iv. A. Both A and R are true, and A is the correct explanation of R.

OR

B. i. A. Because he went through an experience no one else did.
ii. A. Charles finding of a Third Level at Grand Central Station.
iii. The Third Level was another level at the Grand Central Station.
iv. The psychiatrist explained to Charlie that it was the result of stress and anxiety of his mind.

9. A. i. C. Bangle maker
ii. B. determination
iii. B. Anees
iv. B. No
V. The given extract is taken from the chapter "Lost Spring" by Anees Jung.
vi. It shows that the profession of bangle-making has been passed on from generations and that it was also expected of Mukesh to be in that work.

OR

B. i. That it was the most beautiful and clearest language.
ii. To guard it and never forget it.
iii. D. Franz understood his lesson very easily.
iv. B. Language can be used as a weapon to fight against oppression.
V. Both (B) and (C)
vi. A. Introspective

10. i. On seeing saw the peddler at the forge, the ironmaster walked close to him. He thought the peddler was his one of his regimental acquaintances. He called him by the name of Nils Olof. The ironmaster felt sorry to see his miserable condition and so, he invited the peddler to his home.

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ii. Working in the glass bangle industry has both mental and physical hazards. Mostly children are engaged in this industry. When they grow up, working in the industry for years, they lose the ability to dream. There are many physical hazards of working in this industry. The children have a very bad effect on their eyes. Their eyes are more adjusted to the dark than light outside. That is why, they often end up losing their eyesight before they become adults.
iii. The landlords came to know that Germany had developed synthetic indigo and now producing natural indigo was not profitable for them. They very cunningly hid that fact from the peasants. They instead obtained agreements from the sharecroppers to pay them compensation for being released from the 15 per cent arrangement.
iv. The sadness that Pablo Neruda is worried about in his poem is the sadness of isolation that has made modern man its victim. This sadness has made man self-centered and uncaring to the needs of his fellowmen. He has sacrificed the needs of his emotional self in favour of materialism.
V. The author had learnt swimming from a very capable instructor. But the author wanted to conquer his fear of water completely. Therefore, he went to Lake Wentworth in New Hampshire. He swam across the lake. Only once did his old fear of water return. However he brushed this thought of fear aside and swam across the lake.
vi. Franz was overcome with a feeling of remorse and regret when he heard that henceforth only German was to be taught in the schools of Alsace and Lorraine. He wished he hadn't spent so much time in trivial pursuits like seeking birds' eggs, or going sliding in the Saar. The books that seemed such a nuisance earlier appeared like old friends now.

11. i. Derry noticed that Mr. Lamb always left the gates open for anybody and everybody so as to welcome strangers. Derry was amazed that unlike others, old Mr. Lamb treated him with utmost kindness, that he was not repulsed by Derry's scarred face. Derry also found it peculiar that Mr. Lamb lived in a huge house with a huge garden but without curtains.
ii. After 'killing the hundredth tiger, the Tiger King was filled with joy. He had proved the astrologers wrong. In order to celebrate his victory, the Maharaja ordered the tiger to be brought in a grand procession. Having fulfilled his vow, the Tiger King had all the time in the world. So, he turned his attention to his son.
iii. When Judewin told her that her hair would be cut short, Zitkala-Sa was terrified because cutting hair short was against her custom. Short hair was a sign of mourning, cowardice and defeat. Long hair, on the other and was a symbol of bravery.

12. A. After the amazing welcome by the ironmaster's daughter Edla, I was intrigued to see how people like me are still welcomed and cared for by stranger. I had stolen the crofter's money as I was in need of it and I didn't think about the old man. He will manage on his own survival. I

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had the belief that no one cares and whatever I can get free from others, I will take them as much as I can. Later on, an ironmaster mistook me for his old friend and even though I was reluctant to accompany him to his house, I had to go along. It's not that I don't want to eat in his rich house, but I was more scared that I will be caught for the 30 kronos that I've taken from the old crofter. But with the warm welcome I received, and the sumptuous meals I had during my stay with them, I decided to confess about the stolen money and also asked Edla to return it, as I had not the courage to do so. I will try to become a better person and be more truthful about how I live my life.

OR

B. Gandhiji considered the Champaran episode to be a turning point in his life perhaps because he declared that the British could not order him in his own country. It was for the first time that Gandhiji introduced a non-violent resistance, which came to be known as Satyagraha, against the Britishers. During this struggle, Gandhiji decided to urge the departure of the Britishers for the first time. The Champaran episode grew out of an attempt to alleviate the distress of large number of poor peasants and farmers and became the first civil disobedience movement led by Gandhiji. He, with local support, convinced poor farmers that they too had rights. When his lawyer friends suggested that having Mr. Andrews around would prove to be beneficial for them, Gandhiji told them taking help from a Britisher only shows the weakness in the hearts of the Indians. Gandhiji taught self reliance to his fellow Indians. The Champaran episode proved that if the cause was just there was nothing to fear, not even the Britishers; the victory was inevitable.

13. A. Derry is a withdrawn and defiant boy. He does not like to be around people because they look at his face and pass uncharitable remarks. Once, one side of his face got burnt by acid, which left a scar on his face. This created a complex in his mind. He thinks that people are afraid of him. Mr. Lamb is a physically challenged man, one of whose leg is made of tin. Mr. Lamb is a complete contrast to Derry when it comes to his attitude and outlook towards life. He is an optimist who does not allow trivial teasing and name calling do not bother him. In fact, he likes having company. Mr. Lamb is not repulsed by Derry's scarred face. Neither he is angry nor put off by the boy's rudeness. Instead, Mr. Lamb understands Derry's anguish and tries to make him realise that being handicapped is not a drawback. His meeting with Mr. Lamb becomes a turning point in Derry's life because Derry is ready to overcome his obstacles and face the world. He finds courage and strength to get what he wants.

OR

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B. Good afternoon, everyone. I extend my heartfelt gratitude for this special invitation and I wish to welcome everyone for giving me the opportunity to talk on the importance of saving the tigers. We all know how tigers are deemed to be the most ferocious of animals but at the same time, they play an important part in maintaining the population of other animals. Each animal, be it predator or prey, all have their roles in ensuring the balance and that is why we, as human beings, must be active in playing our part too. We can do this by helping spread awareness about the need for conservation of wild animal population, and ensuring they have a safe place to live. Young people these days all have access to the internet and smart devices. We can make use of these resources and be active participants to keep our earth's ecosystem as well as forests and wild life are conserved and maintained. Let us all work hard to do our part in keeping the earth safe for everyone. Thank you.

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