

**Comprehension (Prose And Poetry)****LEVEL –I**

**DIRECTIONS (Qs. 1-5):** Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it.

Nature is an infinite source of beauty. Sunrise and sunset, mountains and rivers, lakes and glaciers, forests and fields provide joy and bliss to the human mind and heart for hours together. Everything in nature is splendid and divine. Every day and every season of the year has a peculiar beauty to unfold. Only one should have eyes to behold it and a heart to feel it like the English poet William Wordsworth who after seeing daffodils said: And then my heart with pleasure fills and dances with the daffodils?.

Nature is a great teacher. The early man was thrilled with beauty and wonders of nature. The Aryans worshipped nature. One can learn the lessons in the vast school of nature.

Unfortunately the strife, the stress and the tension of modern life have made people immune to beauties of nature. Their life is so full of care that they have no time to stand and stare. They cannot enjoy the beauty of flowing rivers, swinging trees, flying birds and majestic mountains and hills. There is however, a cry to go back to village from the concrete and artificial jungle of cities. Hence the town planners of today pay special attention to provide enough number of natural scenic spots in town planning. To develop a balanced personality, one needs to have a healthy attitude which can make us appreciate and enjoy the beauty of nature.

There is other balm to soothe our tired soul and listless mind than the infinite nature all around us. We should enjoy it fully to lead a balanced and harmonious life, full of peace and tranquility.

1. Which of the following words has the SAME meaning as the word care as used in the passage?  
(a) Grief  
(b) Want  
(c) Needs  
(d) Pleasure
2. Choose the word which is most OPPOSITE in meaning of the word unfold as used in the passage?  
(a) Declare  
(b) Conceal  
(c) Describe  
(d) Perpetuate

3. Which of the following statements is not made in the passage about Nature?  
(a) Nature is an infinite source of beauty  
(b) Everything in nature is splendid and divine  
(c) Nature is a great teacher  
(d) The early man was scared of Nature
4. Why do people not enjoy the beauty of Nature?  
(a) They are running after material pleasures  
(b) They do not consider nature as balm to soothe their tired minds  
(c) Their life is full of worries and tensions  
(d) They are afraid of nature
5. What should we do to enjoy tranquil life?  
(a) Get totally immersed in our daily routine  
(b) Believe that nature is infinite source of beauty  
(c) Lead a disciplined and dedicated life  
(d) Enjoy the nature around us

**DIRECTIONS (Qs. 6-10):** Read the given passage and answer the questions that follow by selecting the most appropriate option.

He has reservations on the treatment of dance in Indian films, but, given a chance to work on his own terms, legendary Kathak Dancer Pandit Birju Maharaj would like to work more in Bollywood. The 75-year-old tells us, "In my opinion, dance is adulterated in Bollywood. To make it more dramatic, the dancers are asked to perform in an exaggerated manner. That makes any kind of dance impure, especially classical dance. I'd like to work more in Hindi films, provided my dance is not tampered with."

The Kathak maestro tells us that over the years he's been highly impressed with how some female actors have showcased classical dance on screen. On being asked on how he sees the passion for dance among youngsters in the country, Birju Maharaj says,

"I see that the young generation is divided in their response to classical dance. But in all my interactions with the younger lot, I have been impressed. These children have such amazing presence of mind, listening and learning while I talk and teach them." It is often said that classical dance doesn't receive due credit, but the man who is an authority on the subject thinks Delhi receives the art well. "I feel that classical dance might not be on a rise, in popularity, but I have always been overwhelmed by the response that I have received in

Delhi. My performances have always been applauded by packed houses in the Capital," he opines.

6. The information presented here about Birju Maharaj can be found in a/an  
(a) newspaper article  
(b) diary  
(c) encyclopedia  
(d) autobiography
7. The observation that 'dance is adulterated' means that the dance form is  
(a) not practiced according to tradition  
(b) found in adult entertainment  
(c) performed only in films  
(d) suitable to be performed by adults
8. A 'packed house' during his performance suggests that it was  
(a) jammed in tightly  
(b) filled into  
(c) exceeding allotted time  
(d) well-attended
9. The younger dancers have 'presence of mind' means that they  
(a) are open to learning the pure form of the dance  
(b) prefer traditional styles of dancing  
(c) can combine to perform in the traditional and modern styles  
(d) are calm while they prepare to perform
10. Birju Maharaj's assessment of his popularity lies in  
(a) the large numbers of practitioners and admirers of his style in Delhi  
(b) the influence of traditional styles in modern dance  
(c) his migrating to Mumbai on popular demand by producers  
(d) the number of dances he has choreographed in films

**DIRECTIONS (Qs. 11-15):** Read the given poem and answer the questions that follow by selecting the most appropriate option.

Sprinkle, squish between my toes,  
The smell of ocean to my nose.  
I can feel each grain of sand,  
It falls from air into my hand.  
The shells I find along the shore,  
Picked up by birds that fly and soar.

They sparkle like the ocean's waves,  
And carry sand from all the lakes.  
I walk  
That's where my feet leave prints to be.  
I walk all the way to the end of the land,  
The land that holds this beautiful sand.

**- Morgan Swain**

11. The poem's central theme is  
(a) a factual description of nature  
(b) sharing experiences with nature  
(c) a recollection of a visit  
(d) an introspection by the writer
12. Here, "to the end of the land" refers to the  
(a) seashore (b) land  
(c) sky (d) horizon
13. Here, "That's where my feet leave prints to be" means that the writer  
(a) knows that everything is temporary  
(b) relieves past visits  
(c) expects to forget the experience  
(d) hopes to remember his visit
14. The phrase in the poem that conveys the same meaning as "along the tip of the sea" is  
(a) "each grain of sand"  
(b) "end of the land"  
(c) "air into my hand"  
(d) "like the ocean's waves"
15. A word that can replace 'squish' is  
(a) crush (b) hold  
(c) scrunch (d) trample

**DIRECTIONS (Qs. 16-19):** Read the given passage and answer the questions that follow by selecting the most appropriate option:

Why do poets use poems to tell about social injustices? The answer is simple. This way a poet can catch and hold the reader's attention, his/her emotions. Usually poets in their works present facts in order to capture attention of many people. These are not new facts that are presented to an audience. Poems are always aimed at reaching feelings of people and, thus, pulling strings. Literature of every state shows all the complexity of every epoch. When the situation is the same at several countries, it has a worldwide significance. Before talking about poetry, we should answer the question: What is poetry? Poetry is a special way of describing

situations, things, ideas, feelings. Poets present the ideas in short phrases.

A poem can be compared to a photograph as it reflects real life, real situations and feelings. In a poem a poet captures the exact moment and represents it the way he/she has seen it. When you read a poem you see the poet's subjective evaluation of facts, situations and the epoch in general. Poets of the Romantic Movement wrote their poems to share their feelings. They wrote to help people understand their time from the poet's point of view.

16. A poem reflects the culture of the  
(a) period it belongs to  
(b) historical past  
(c) imaginary life  
(d) present only
17. A word in the passage which means a quality of being intricate is  
(a) general (b) photograph  
(c) complexity (d) evaluation
18. The structure of poetry is usually characterized by  
(a) sequences of two or more words without an 'action word'  
(b) long winded sentences  
(c) lengthy descriptive stanzas  
(d) short, factual stanzas
19. The meaning of the word 'epoch' is a  
(a) lengthy, complex poem  
(b) type of literary work in England  
(c) distinctive point of time  
(d) being great and impressive

**DIRECTIONS (Qs. 20-24):** Read the given poem and answer the questions that follow by selecting the most appropriate option.

### Between the Miles

Because existence can become severe in one day, just  
sense me and I'll be there.  
In the mind's eye,  
I'm not so far away.  
If you hold out your hand, in the-whispers,  
I'll become the zephyr...and besiege you.  
If your eye's upon the stars, in the crystalline darkness,  
I'll become the moon.  
And the light shall guide you.  
If you rest upon the ground, in the warmth,  
I'll become the grass.

And embrace you.,  
If you turn outside, in the wetness,  
I'll become the rain.  
An upon your forehead, kiss you.  
If you free the air, in the light of day,  
I'll become the sun.  
And smile for you.  
Between the miles if you need me.  
If you need a friend.  
Let me be the friend, I want to be.

**-Heather Stoop**

20. The 'zephyr' is a  
(a) fine quality of cloth  
(b) scent or odour  
(c) strong stream of air  
(d) gentle, mild breeze
21. An example of a metaphor is  
(a) 'I'll become the grass.'  
(b) 'Between the miles'  
(c) 'I want to be.'  
(d) 'If you rest upon the ground'
22. A synonym of the word 'besiege' is  
(a) surround (b) attack'  
(c) befriend (d) trap
23. The 'crystalline darkness' that surrounding is  
(a) black and sombre  
(b) in the moonlight  
(c) lit up by the stars only  
(d) pitch dark and quiet suggests
24. In the poem, the poet suggests that friendship is unaffected by  
(a) individual independence  
(b) changing feelings  
(c) time and distance  
(d) differences in attitude

**DIRECTIONS (Qs. 25-30):** Read the poem below and answer the questions that follow.

I saw the fog grow thick  
Which soon made blind my ken,  
It made tall men of boys,  
And giants of tall men.  
It clutched my throat, I coughed;  
Nothing was in my head  
Except two heavy eyes  
Like balls of burning lead.  
And when it grew so black  
That I could know no place  
I lost all judgment then,  
Of distance or of space.  
The street lamps, and the lights

Upon the halted cars,  
 Could either be on earth  
 Or be the heavenly stars.  
 A man passed by me close,  
 I asked my way, he said,  
 "Come, follow me, my friend "-  
 I followed where he led.  
 He rapped the stones in front,  
 "Trust me," he said, "and come";  
 I followed like a child -  
 a blind man led me home.

25. 'It clutched my throat, I coughed' tells us that  
 (a) the poet was suffocating because of the fog  
 (b) the fog and the poet were fighting fiercely  
 (c) the fog held the poet by the throat  
 (d) the poet had a sore throat
26. The following statements are true except  
 (a) the fog grew so thick that the poet could not get his directions right  
 (b) a blind man who was also lost came to help the poet  
 (c) the fog caused the poet to see things differently  
 (d) the fog hurt the poet's eyes
27. The word halted shows that the cars were probably  
 (a) stolen (b) moving  
 (c) expensive (d) stationary
28. 'the stones in front' in the last stanza refers to  
 (a) the stones the blind man carried in a pouch in front of him  
 (b) the stones that were lying by the side of the road  
 (c) the road they were on  
 (d) loose gravel
29. The blind man could lead the poet through the fog because he  
 (a) was wearing a pair of sunglasses  
 (b) had been to the poet's house  
 (c) had a stick with him  
 (d) knew his way
30. The last stanza of the poem tells us that  
 (a) the blind man was boastful  
 (b) the poet trusted the blind man  
 (c) the poet could not return home  
 (d) the fog had hurt the feelings of the poet

**DIRECTIONS (Qs. 31-34):** Read the poem below and answer the questions that follow

Someone dropped a burning match  
 Unheeded by the way  
 It caught on fire some underbrush;  
 Its user did not stay.  
 From grass to brush from brush to tree  
 So stealthily it ran,  
 That no one ever guessed or knew  
 Just where that fire began.  
 Someone built a campfire  
 And failed to put it out.  
 A breeze came and quickened;  
 The embers spread about;  
 And soon the woods were blazing,  
 The fire spread and spread;  
 The trees that took long years to grow  
 Stand blackened now and dead.  
 Someone saw a little fire  
 As he was passing by.  
 He did not stop to put it out;  
 He did not even try.

31. What does the word 'Unheeded' refer here?  
 (a) knowingly (b) ignored  
 (c) cautiously (d) forgot
32. So stealthily it ran. It in the stanza is referred for:  
 (a) wood (b) bush  
 (c) fire (d) stranger
33. That no one ever guessed or knew what?  
 (a) about the stranger  
 (b) the spreading of fire  
 (c) just where that fire began  
 (d) the cause of the fire
34. In the last four lines the cause of the incident is given. Can you find out the right option?  
 (a) the stranger did not try to put out the little fire that he saw  
 (b) wind blew and quickened  
 (c) it was an accident  
 (d) enemies caused the fire

## LEVEL- II

**DIRECTIONS (Qs. 35-59):** Read the following passages and answer the questions that follow.

### PASSAGE-1

Rupert was born and raised in the vast, open interior of the Australian continent.  
 His only unpleasant childhood memory was when he was separated from his mother and brought in with many

other young horses of his age and branded with a hot iron. The pain was only momentary. But the mark ... 2GD/20 ... remained on his nearside shoulder for the rest of his life. The brand indicated that Rupert's birthplace was Gordon Downs Station in the Australian state of Queensland.

It was shortly after this experience that Rupert was driven to the coast and then put on board a ship and sent to India. Rupert had been selected to be a cavalry horse in the Indian Army.

Rupert was a magnificent looking horse and he performed his duties extremely well. He was clever, brave, strong and fast; and he also had wonderful stamina.

On one occasion, the heir to the British throne - the Prince of Wales - was visiting India when he saw Rupert. The Prince was so taken by this beautiful black cavalry horse that he was determined to buy him: which he did. And he sent him to England by ship.

Eventually the Prince of Wales became King of England and Emperor of India. For the rest of his life, Rupert remained the King's favorite charger and lived in the Royal Stables in London.

What a story Rupert could have told had he been able to write it down!

- 35.** How does the reader know that this story is not set in the present?  
(a) India currently does not have an army  
(b) India currently has a different type of ruler  
(c) Horses are not branded today  
(d) Horses do not travel by ship today
- 36.** How did Rupert prove to be a good cavalry horse?  
(a) he remained the King's favorite charger  
(b) he had been selected to be a cavalry horse  
(c) he was a very good looking horse  
(d) he performed his duties extremely well
- 37.** Horses employed in the Indian Army needed to possess stamina so that they could  
(a) endure long, challenging situations  
(b) show how clever and fast they were  
(c) look magnificent  
(d) charge in the right direction
- 38.** Which word from the second paragraph indicates that the pain from Rupert's branding was short-lived?  
(a) unpleasant  
(b) momentary  
(c) mark  
(d) remained

- 39.** What is the most likely reason for branding horses in Australia?  
(a) to show which horses should be sent to India  
(b) to show which horses would be suitable for cavalry  
(c) to indicate a king's horse  
(d) to indicate to whom the horses belonged

## PASSAGE-2

Two friends, Bina and Amita, always walked home from school together past an exclusive restaurant, often visited by foreign tourists.

One day, just as they were walking past the restaurant, a well-dressed woman tourist bustled out of the main entrance. She made for a taxi waiting at the curb, and in her haste, three? 1,000 notes fluttered from her handbag to the footpath beside Amita's feet.

Amita bent to pick up the notes to return them to the woman, but before she could do that, Bina stepped on the notes, hiding them from view. Before Amita could react, the woman scrambled into the taxi which accelerated away into the traffic.

Amita quickly turned to face Bina who had deftly scooped up the money and stuffed it into the top of her school shirt. "What are you doing?" she raged. "That money doesn't belong to you!" "It does now," smirked Bina, "finders keepers. This will help my family pay some bills and we'll still have enough leftover to buy ourselves a treat!" Amita was shocked at this. "But it's not your money. You've stolen it! I'm not having anything to do with it or you ever again!" And with that, Amita turned on her heels and stormed away, leaving her friend with a puzzled look on her face.

- 40.** Which word best describes the girls' relationship at the beginning?  
(a) kind (b) wary  
(c) cautious (d) amicable
- 41.** This text could best be described as  
(a) a puzzle, (b) a debate.  
(c) a dilemma, (d) a discussion.
- 42.** To resolve the situation without damaging the girls' friendship, instead of walking away, Amita could have  
(a) chased the taxi.  
(b) shouted for help.  
(c) asked the police to talk to Bina.  
(d) discussed the situation with Bina.
- 43.** Which of the possible endings for this passage shows the girls acting appropriately?

- (a) The next day, Bina offered to share the money with Amita.
- (b) Later that day, Amita visited Bina and demanded that she share the money with her.
- (c) An hour later, Bina changed her mind and asked Amita to help her return the money.
- (d) Eventually, the two friends forgot about the incident and became best friends again.

- 44.** Which of the following, from the second paragraph, indicates that the woman may have been wealthy?
- (a) tourist
  - (b) handbag
  - (c) restaurant
  - (d) well-dressed

### PASSAGE-3

Way back in 1870, when the technology to print coloured pictures was developed, tobacco companies began using it to promote their cigarettes.

Famous people, including athletes and movie stars, were pictured on cards that were included in each cigarette packet.

For years, cigarettes were advertised in magazines, newspapers and cinemas. These advertisements used many strategies to promote positive attitudes towards smoking. Doctors, dentists, famous people and healthy looking teenagers having fun with friends were shown in cigarette advertisements. There wasn't a dirty ashtray in sight!

It isn't a surprise, therefore, that addiction to cigarettes among teenagers and adults increased greatly. Not only did addiction increase, but smoking-related deaths also increased.

International groups claim that tobacco is a legal consumer product that kills. This makes it a perplexing product. Recently, some countries introduced laws to force cigarette makers to place warnings against smoking on every packet of cigarettes. The warnings show some of the consequences of smoking, such as diseased lungs and mouth cancers, but many people continue to smoke.

- 45.** What is the meaning of the word 'perplexing' as used in this context in paragraph 3?
- (a) popular
  - (b) puzzling
  - (c) confronting
  - (d) life threatening
- 46.** Which of the following statements shows a relationship of cause and effect?
- (a) addiction and smoking related deaths
  - (b) teenagers and having fun with friends
  - (c) warnings and diseased-lungs and mouth cancers
  - (d) advertising and magazines, newspapers and cinemas

- 47.** Advertisements showing doctors and dentists smoking cigarettes are designed to suggest that
- (a) cigarettes are related to illness.
  - (b) smokers are successful and rich.
  - (c) smokers are healthy and attractive.
  - (d) cigarettes are not harmful to one's health.

- 48.** Some advertisements for cigarettes show healthy looking teenagers having fun with friends. What is the main message this presents?
- (a) Smoking is a dirty habit.
  - (b) Popular teenagers smoke.
  - (c) It costs money to buy cigarettes.
  - (d) Smoking promotes positive attitudes.

- 49.** Which of the following advertising strategies is aimed at reducing smoking?
- (a) using visual warnings
  - (b) using international groups
  - (c) showing healthy looking people
  - (d) showing athletes and movie stars

### PASSAGE-4

The Kolkata Knight Riders won their second Indian Premier League (IPL) when they beat the Kings XI Punjab in a thrilling game at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bangalore. After winning the toss, Gautam Gambhir chose to bowl first. Wriddhiman Saha's tontook Punjab to 199 for four and then in reply, Manish Pandey's 94 setup the run-chase and Kolkata clinched the game in the last over by three wickets.

This victory was a thrilling one as Punjab kept coming back in the game. Piyush Chawla was the star at the end as he smashed a six off Mitchell Johnson in the penultimate over and then hit the four to seal the contest. Shahrukh Khan's joy knew no bounds and he and his players posed for quite a few pictures after winning the game. "I dedicated this win to my little child Ab Ram and the hard work done by Gautam and his team. Thank you Bengaluru and thank you IPL. We believed in ourselves and the hard work done by the team management," Shah Rukh told the official broadcasters after the IPL final. Shah Rukh attributed the success to "teamwork".

After the finals, Shah Rukh as a goodwill gesture wore the Kings XI Punjab jersey, a custom prevalent among the footballers as he exchanged pleasantries with Preity Zinta. "Punjab is a great team, they did fantastic job during auction. But luck was on our side, we did manage

to capture a few moments," he added. Study the passage given above and answer the following questions.

- 50.** What inference can be drawn from Shahrukh 'sact of wearing Kings XI Punjab Jersey after his team's win?  
 (a) to put down Punjab team  
 (b) to applaud and appreciate performance of Kings XI Punjab  
 (c) to make fun of their loss  
 (d) to show his will to become the next owner of the team.
- 51.** What does the phrase 'seal the contest' mean?  
 (a) finishing the match  
 (b) finishing the over  
 (c) winning the contest of hitting maximum number of fours  
 (d) winning the contest of hitting maximum number of sixes.
- 52.** Choose the word from the given options most nearly opposite in meaning to the word CLINCH.  
 (a) disprove (b) conclude  
 (c) assure (d) seal
- 53.** Which of the following is not a synonym of the word BROADCASTER?  
 (a) anchor (b) reporter  
 (c) newscaster (d) audience
- 54.** Who is being considered as the star of the match?  
 (a) Shahrukh Khan (b) Piyush Chawla  
 (c) Preity Zinta (d) Wriddhiman Saha

#### PASSAGE-5

The Antarctic ice sheet is disappearing at twice the speed of when it was last surveyed, losing 159 billion tonnes of ice to the ocean every year. Three years of observations from the European Space Agency's (ESA) Cryostat satellite have surpassed scientists' worst fears. A 20-year mean average determined from a combination of techniques on the ground predicted the continent's ice would be melting at half the current rate. Polar ice sheets are a major contributor to the global rise in sea levels and the losses in Antarctica alone are enough to raise levels by 0.45mm every year. From 2010 to 2013, West Antarctica, East Antarctica and the Antarctic Peninsula lost 134 billion, 3 billion and 23 billion tonnes of ice each year respectively. It is still a small fraction of the total area of Antarctica, which holds more than 26 million cubic km of ice. The research, published in the journal Geophysical

Research Letters, was made possible by the CryoSat mission that launched in 2010 to measure the variation in ice thickness in unprecedented detail. Dr Malcolm Macmillan from Leeds University, who was the lead author of the study, said ice losses were most pronounced along fast-flowing streams in the Amundsen Sea. He said they were disappearing at rates of 4 to 8 metres a year where ice streams are lifted from the land and float into the sea. The area has long been identified as the most vulnerable to changes in climate and assessments suggest its glaciers may have passed a point of irreversible retreat.

Study the passage given above and answer the following questions.

- 55.** Which of the following statements are true with respect to the passage?  
 A: Sea levels are increasing due to the melting of ice-sheets.  
 B: Polar ice sheets are melting at a very fast pace.  
 C: It is a good sign as now ice melting in to water can be used for various purposes.  
 (a) Only A  
 (b) Only B  
 (c) A and B  
 (d) A and C
- 56.** What are the possible causes of the melting of the ice in Antarctica?  
 (a) eating of ice by polar bears.  
 (b) global warming.  
 (c) pollution in Antarctica  
 (d) all of these.
- 57.** Choose the word from the given options most nearly opposite in meaning to the word UNPRECEDENTED.  
 (a) extraordinary (b) eccentric  
 (c) common (d) bizarre
- 58.** Choose the word from the given options most similar in meaning to the word VULNERABLE.  
 (a) guarded (b) closed  
 (c) accessible (d) unsusceptible
- 59.** Who has conducted this survey of Antarctica ice sheet melting?  
 (a) Leeds University  
 (b) Dr. Malcolm Macmillan  
 (c) European Space Agency  
 (d) Geophysical Research Letters

**DIRECTIONS (Qs. 60-79):** Read the poems carefully and answer the questions that follow.

### POEM-1

Up into the cherry tree  
Who should climb but little me?  
I held the trunk with both my hands  
And looked abroad in foreign lands.

I saw the next door garden lie,  
Adorned with flowers, before my eye,  
And many pleasant places more  
That I had never seen before.

I saw the dimpling river pass  
And be the sky's blue looking-glass;  
The dusty roads go up and down  
With people tramping in to town.

If I could find a higher tree  
Farther and farther I should see,  
To where the grown-up river slips  
Into the sea among the ships,

To where the roads on either hand  
Lead onward into fairy land,  
Where all the children dine at five,  
And all the playthings come alive.

60. The expression in the second line 'little me' means  
(a) the poet  
(b) poet as a little boy  
(c) small man  
(d) little tree
61. Once riding on the cherry tree the why the poet looks abroad?  
(a) to see the foreign land  
(b) to reach sky  
(c) to know about the distant lands  
(d) to reach the moon
62. 'Adorned with flowers' means:  
(a) full of flowers  
(b) praised by the flowers  
(c) loved by the flowers  
(d) decorated with flowers
63. What does the line 'I saw the dimpling river pass' express?  
(a) bending river (b) sleeping river  
(c) bubbling river (d) deep river
64. Why the poet looks for a higher tree?  
(a) to see more distant lands

- (b) to enjoy climbing  
(c) to hide from his parents  
(d) to see the stars

### POEM -2

#### I Build Walls

I build walls:  
Walls that protect,  
Walls that shield,  
Walls that say I shall not yield  
Or reveal  
Who I am or how I feel.  
I build walls:  
Walls that hide,  
Walls that cover what's inside,  
Walls that stare or smile or look away,  
Silent lies,  
Walls that even block my eyes  
From the tears I might have cried.  
I build walls:  
Walls that never let me  
Truly touch  
Those I love so very much  
Walls that need to fall  
Walls meant to be fortresses  
Are prisons after all.

65. What are the walls in this poem made of?  
(a) hidden feelings and thoughts  
(b) bricks or any physical material  
(c) cement and tiles  
(d) blood and flesh
66. The poet uses "walls" as a  
(a) alliteration  
(b) simile  
(c) personification  
(d) metaphor
67. When walls act as a protection, they  
(a) surrender to strong feelings  
(b) do not reveal what is inside  
(c) make one shed tears  
(d) touch the ones who are truly loved
68. The expression 'silent lies' in the second stanza implies that  
(a) walls lie silently around all of us  
(b) walls are silent  
(c) walls are liars  
(d) walls make one hide one's true feelings



69. Walls built to protect us ultimately turn into a prison. It is an example of a  
(a) riddle (b) satire  
(c) paradox (d) puzzle little bit

### POEM-3

The grass has so little to do  
a sphere o simple green  
with only butterflies to brood  
and bees to entertain  
and stir all day to pretty tunes  
the breezes fetch along  
and hold the sunshine in its lap  
and bow to everything  
and thread the dews all night like pearls  
and make itself so fine  
a duchess were too common for such noticing  
and even when it dies, to pass  
inodours so divine  
as lowly spices gone to sleep  
or amulets of pine  
and then to dwell in sovereign barns  
and dream the days away  
the grass has so little to do  
I wish I were the hay.

—Anonymous

70. A good 'starter' activity for introducing this poem would be  
(a) ask the students what they know about grass  
(b) ask the students to recall what they see in open green fields  
(c) show them a picture of a green field  
(d) take the students to the 'school garden' and ask them to list the things they see and smell.
71. Which of these things does the grass do during the day?  
(a) passes in odours  
(b) dreams all the time  
(c) holds the sunshine in its lap  
(d) becomes hay
72. The breezes fetch along \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) pine  
(b) pearls  
(c) amulets  
(d) dew
73. In the line 'and thread the dews all night like pearls', the literary device used is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) simile  
(b) personification

- (c) metaphor  
(d) hyperbole

74. Which of these words would be the antonym of Sovereign?  
(a) royal  
(b) majestic  
(c) luxurious  
(d) lowly

### POEM – 4

Hope is the thing with feathers  
That perches in the soul.  
And sings the tune — without the words,  
And never stops at all,

And sweetest in the gale is heard;  
And sore must be the storm  
That could abash the little bird  
That kept so many warm.

I've heard it in the chilliest land,  
And on the strangest sea;  
Yet, never, in extremity.  
It asked a crumb of me.

Emily Dickinson

75. In the line 'Hope is the thing with feathers' the poet is using a/an  
(a) hyperbole (b) imagery  
(c) simile (d) allegory
76. The observation 'perches in the soul' refers to human  
(a) spirituality (b) worries  
(c) disappointment (d) expectation
77. 'And sweetest in the gale is heard' means  
(a) joy and happiness go hand in hand  
(b) winds blow loudly during a gale  
(c) sorrow is the greatest during a storm  
(d) expectation of relief even in sorrow
78. 'Abash' means a sense of  
(a) pride (b) embarrassment  
(c) hope (d) loss
79. 'Never, in extremity,' refers to  
(a) unexpected  
(b) extreme happiness  
(c) longing excessively  
(d) hope costs nothing

## HINTS & EXPLANATIONS

### LEVEL -I

1. (a) grief
2. (b) conceal
3. (d) The early man was scared of Nature
4. (c) Their life is full of worries and tensions
5. (d) Enjoy the nature around us
6. (a) The information given here is in reflective or narrative form which can be found only in a newspaper article. Here it also seems that the editor has conducted an interview in which Birju Maharaj has given his views.
7. (a) The observation that 'dance is adulterated' means that the dance form is not practiced according to tradition. Dancers consider it to be a part of innovation where they inculcate various other dance forms into the traditional or classical form which loses the genuine art of dance.
8. (d) A 'packed house' during his performance suggests that it was well-attended. Here it is revealed that the shows of Birju Maharaj receive overwhelming response by the audience of Delhi. They understand the true form of dancing art and appreciate it simultaneously.
9. (a) The younger dancers have presence of mind means that they are open to learning the pure form of dance. Artists of this generation are more flexible to adopt the newest techniques in a easier way. They are intelligent to understand that to learn the pure form of dance will benefit them to hold the basics of dance on which they can develop their own innovations in future.
10. (a) Birju Maharaja's assessment of his popularity lies in the large numbers of practitioners and admirers of his style in Delhi. It is obvious that when an artist receives good response from the audience then it means that his/her performance is of extraordinary quality which makes them unique as well.
11. (b) The poem's central theme is sharing experiences with nature. Here the poet is standing on the bank of an ocean and is feeling every bit of it, waves, sand, air, smells and even the joy of birds who are also experiencing the same pleasure.
12. (a) It refers to sea line means where land meets the sea or the sea shore. Here to denote this phrase the poet means the point of land from where the sea starts flowing.
13. (d) By this phrase the writer hopes to remember his visit, footprints on sand are a natural aspect which the poet turns symbolic to keep it in his memory.
14. (b) Here the same meaning of the phrase is referred to the 'end of the land'.
15. (d) A word that can replace 'squish' is trample. Here in poem it means the water is touching and splashing on the feet of the poet.
16. (a) A poem may reflect the culture of any period; hence, it reflects the culture of the period it belongs to.
17. (c) A quality of being intricate may also be described as 'complexity'.
18. (a) The structure of poetry is usually characterized by sequences of two or more words without and 'action word'.
19. (c) 'Epoch' means a period of history; hence, it may describe 'distinctive point of time.'
20. (d) Here 'zephyr' means gentle, mild breeze.
21. (a) Metaphor is a way of describing something by referring to it as something different and suggesting that it has similar qualities to that thing. Here option (a) is a good example of metaphor.
22. (a) Surround is the synonym of the word 'besiege.'
23. (c) Here the stanza suggests that by crystalline darkness, the poet means the darkness that is lit up by the stars only.

24. (c) The last stanza of the poem 'Between the miles' suggest that the friendship is unaffected by time and distance.
25. (a) Not available
26. (b) Not available
27. (d) Not available
28. (c) Not available
29. (d) Not available
30. (b) Not available
31. (b) Not available
32. (c) Not available
33. (c) Not available
34. (a) Not available

### LEVEL -II

35. (b) India currently has a different type of ruler. This shows that the given story of Rupert is not set in the present.
36. He performed his duties extremely well.
37. (b) Horses employed in the Indian Army needed to possess stamina so that they could endure long challenging situations.
38. (b) The word 'momentary' from the second paragraph correctly indicates that the pain of Rupert's branding was short-lived.
39. (d) The reason for branding horses in Australia was to indicate to whom the horses belonged.
40. (a) The girls' relationship at the beginning was kind. This is given by the fact that they always walked home from school together.
41. (b) The text could be described as a debate as it involves formal discussion or argument.
42. (d) Not available
43. (c) Not available
44. (d) Not available
45. (b) Perplexing means complicate or confuse or puzzle. Therefore, option (b) is the correct choice.
46. Smoke related death are the effect of addiction. Hence, option (a) is the correct choice.
47. (d) Not available
48. (d) Not available
49. (a) Not available
50. (b) Shahrukh's act of wearing Kings XI Punjab jersey is his goodwill gesture to applause, the commendable performance of Punjab in IPL.
51. (a) Seal the contest is used in the regard of finishing of match by winning the game.
52. (a) clinch means secure a goal.
53. (d) Broadcaster means media commentator.
54. (b) Piyush Chawla is the star of the match as his innings made KKR win the match.
55. (c) A and Bare true with respect to the passage.
56. (b) Global warming which is leading to the increase in temperature is the main reason behind the melting of ice sheets.
57. (c) Unprecedented means exceptional, original.
58. (c) Vulnerable means open to attack.
59. (c) European Space Agency has conducted the research.
60. (b) Here the poet climbs a cherry tree in his early childhood.
61. (a) In the first stanza last line the poet says, and looked abroad in foreign lands.
62. (d) Here the poet referring a garden at a distance which is decorated with different flowers.
63. (c) As the river flows it passes through many hindrances on its way and creates bubbles.

64. (a) In the fifth stanza the poet says. If I could find a higher tree/ Farther and farther I should see that means he wants to see more distant places.
65. (d) The walls do not reveal who the poet is or what he feels. The last line of para 1 say this — "Who I am or how I feel." So option (a) is the best answer.
66. (d) The poet uses walls as a metaphor because walls are compared to "shields", "fortresses" and above all a human being because they "share or smile or look away"
67. (b) When walls "protect" they do not "reveal, who I am or how I feel" as said in para.\
68. (d) The expression "silent lies" in implies that walls are build up all around to hide true feelings. So option (d) is the best answer.
69. (c) The very walls which are meant to protect us ultimately imprison us and make us lonely. This is the paradox.
70. (d) Not available
71. (c) Not available
72. (b) Not available
73. (a) Not available
74. (d) Not available
75. (b) Poet uses imagery language i.e. visually descriptive language in which Hope is a "thing" because it is a feeling; the thing/feeling is like a bird. Poet uses the standard dictionary format for a definition; first she places the word in a general category("thing"), and then she differentiates it from everything else in that category.
76. (d) Expectation or hope. The subject is hope and that the bird metaphor is only defining hope. Whatever is being said of the bird applies to hope or in human perspective, and the application to hope is Dickinson 'point in this poem.
77. (d) "And sweetest in the gale is heard "describes the bird's song of hope as sweetest in the wind and expectation of relief would get even in sorrow. It conjures up images of a bird's song of hope whistling above the sound of gale force winds and offering the promise that soon the storm will end.
78. (b) Abash means to make ashamed, embarrassed, or self-conscious. Essentially only the most extreme or impossible-to-escape storm would affect the bird/hope. If the bird is "abashed" what would happen to the individual's hope.
79. (c) Hope is a free gift. It exists for all of us. All we must do is not clip the wings of hope and let it fly and sing freely. Its song can be heard over the strangest seas, coldest lands, and in the worst storms. It is a song that never ends as long as we do not let it.