

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER

BLUE PRINT

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 80

Typology	MCQs (1 mark)	SA-I (2 marks)	SA-II (3 marks)	LA (5 marks)	Total
Reading Skills	20	–	–	–	20
Writing Skills	–	–	2	2	16
Literary Text Books and Supplementary Reading Text	20	7	–	2	44
Total	$20 \times 1 = 20$	$7 \times 2 = 14$	$2 \times 3 = 6$	$4 \times 5 = 20$	80

ENGLISH CORE

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum marks : 80

General Instructions :

- (i) *This paper is divided into two parts: A and B. All questions are compulsory.*
- (ii) *Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.*
- (iii) *Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*

PART - A (40 Marks)

READING (20 Marks)

1. Read the passage given below.

- (1) Today, India looks like it is on course to join the league of developed nations. It is beginning to establish a reputation not just as the technology nerve centre and back-office to the world, but also as its production centre. India's secularism and democracy serve as a role model to other developing countries. There is great pride in an Indian that easily integrates with a global economy, yet maintains a unique cultural identity.
- (2) But what is breathtaking is India's youth. For despite being an ancient civilization that traces itself to the very dawn of human habitation, India is among the youngest countries in the world. More than half the country is under 25 years of age and more than a third is under 15 years of age.
- (3) Brought up in the shadow of the rise of India's service industry boom, this group feels it can be at least as good if not better than anyone else in the world. This confidence has them demonstrating a great propensity to consume, throwing away ageing ideas of asceticism and thrift. Even those who do not have enough to consume today feel that they have the capability and opportunity to do so.
- (4) The economic activity created by this combination of a growing labour pool and rising consumption demand is enough to propel India to double digit economic growth for decades. One just has to look at the impact that the baby boomers in the US had over decades of economic activity, as measured by equity and housing prices. This opportunity also represents the greatest threat to India's future. If the youth of India are not properly educated and if there are not enough jobs created, India will have forever lost its opportunity. There are danger signs in abundance.
- (5) Fifty-three per cent of students in primary schools drop out, one-third of children in Class V cannot read, three quarters of schools do not have a functioning toilet, female literacy is only 45 per cent and 80 million children in the age group of 6-14 do not even attend school.
- (6) India's IT and BPO industries are engines of job creation, but they still account for only 0.2 per cent of India's employment. The country has no choice but to dramatically industrialize and inflate its domestic economy. According to a forecast by the Boston Consulting Group, more than half of India's unemployed within the next decade could be its educated youth. We cannot allow that to happen.
- (7) India is stuck in a quagmire of labour laws that hinder employment growth, particularly in the manufacturing sector. Inflexible labour laws inhibit entrepreneurship so it is quite ironic that laws ostensibly designed to protect labour actually discourage employment.

- (8) Employment creation needs an abundant supply of capital. Controls on foreign investment have resulted in China getting five times the foreign direct investment, or an advantage of \$200 billion over the past five years. The growing interest in India by global private equity firms offers well as they represent pools of patient and smart capital, but they too face many bureaucratic hurdles.
- (9) When it comes to domestic capital availability, budget deficits adding up to 10 per cent of the national GDP impede capital availability for investment and infrastructure.
- (10) Raising infrastructure spending, coupled with rapid privatization, may not only create employment but also address the growing gaps in infrastructure China has eight times the highway miles and has increased roads significantly in the past few years while India has only inched along. Freight costs at Indian ports are almost double the worldwide average, just to, give two examples.
- (11) Moreover like the Lilliputians that kept the giant Gulliver tied down there are some 30,000 statutes in India of which only a portion are even operational and these keep the employment creation engine tied down. Since there are no sunset provisions in any laws the regulatory morass only grows every year.
- (12) In the meantime, we as citizens of the world and descendants of India have to make a difference we have to ensure that India and its youth attain that potential both through our business pursuits and the support of educational charities, on-the-ground proponents of participative democracy as well as other deserving organizations and initiatives.
- (13) I believe that hope can triumph and that this can be India's century — not one that will happen as surely as the sun will rise each day, but one that many willing hands will need to create together.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the eleven given below. **(1 × 10 = 10)**

- (i) India is on its way to establish a reputation as _____.
 (a) technology nerve centre (b) back office to the world
 (c) production centre (d) all of these
- (ii) India is amongst the youngest countries of the world because
 (a) More than half the country is under 25 years of age and more than a third is under 15 years of age.
 (b) India is a developing country
 (c) India only gained independence a few decades ago
 (d) India has more than a half of its population under 20 years
- (iii) "This confidence has them demonstrating a great propensity to consume" the confidence referred here is
 (a) India being a young country
 (b) the feeling that India can be at least as good if not better than anyone else in the world.
 (c) India being the world's back office
 (d) India being the biggest spender
- (iv) What can propel India to double digit economic growth for decades?
 (a) India's young population
 (b) India's rising status in production and manufacturing
 (c) The economic activity created by the combination of a growing labour pool and rising consumption demand
 (d) Growth in public sectors
- (v) India can lose the opportunity if _____.
 (a) there are not enough jobs (b) the youth is not educated
 (c) housing prices are high (d) both 'a' and 'b'

- (vi) India's _____ are engines of job creation.
 (a) IT (b) BPO (c) primary schools (d) both 'a' and 'b'
- (vii) The one factor that is obstructing the growth of employment in manufacturing sector in India is
 (a) Population growth (b) Uneducated youth
 (c) Labour laws (d) Lack of investors
- (viii) _____ gets five times more foreign direct investment.
 (a) India (b) US (c) China (d) Russia
- (ix) The narrator suggests _____ for creating more employment.
 (a) Raising infrastructure spending (b) Rapid privatisation
 (c) Increase in population (d) Both (a) and (b).
- (x) Synonym of the word morass is
 (a) Hiatus (b) Remorse (c) Quagmire (d) Problem
- (xi) Antonym of asceticism is
 (a) Frugal (b) Extravagant (c) Austerity (d) Pretty

2. Read the passage given below.

- (1) Torrential rains and swollen rivers have caused chaos across central and Eastern Europe, while a massive heat wave in southern Europe has helped reduce the Portuguese wood land to tinder. Tens of thousands of people face a massive relief operation as the extent of the devastation slowly becomes clear. The death toll continues to mount steadily across the continent. The latest estimate puts the number since mid August, 2005 at over 150. "Unfortunately, we are expecting the number of victims to rise by the hour," said Romanian interior minister Vasile Blaga. Though the heat wave persists in Portugal and Spain, forest fires in Portugal have been brought under control. By August 26, 2005, the waters began to recede across Germany and the Czech Republic, the countries hardest hit, by the floods. The situation also improved in Croatia, Austria, Bulgaria, Poland, Hungary and Slovenia. But some areas of Switzerland and Germany remained on alert. Huge damages were reported from all over Europe. Thousands of people had to be evacuated from their homes. Many villages were abandoned in Portugal, while helicopters were used in Switzerland and Austria to airlift people from flooded houses and landslides. The floods worst impact was along the Danube, Morava and Elbe rivers and their tributaries. Dresden in Germany was one of the hardest hit. Germany puts the damages at around US \$14 billion, but the German state of Saxony alone puts its own costs at around US \$16 billion. Austria quotes a clean up bill of US \$2 billion, and the 'Czech Republic US \$3 billion. But all these figures are speculative. What is disturbing is that relief operations appear stretched. In Germany, only US \$200 per adult is currently available from both the EU and the government. The reason behind the bedlam is the jet stream, high-speed winds usually found just below the tropopause, which drives the depressions and fronts that affect the weather. Usually found between 7,620 metres (in) and '13,716(m) altitude, it flows eastwards at speeds up to 200 m per hour around the Earth. It is formed when cold air from the Arctic meets warm air from the tropics. Because the jet stream fluctuates, its track makes huge differences to the weather. This year it positioned around Europe locking high pressure over southwest Europe which in its turn is responsible for creating intense drought in some parts and deluges of rain in other parts.
- (2) While many blame global warming for the disaster, some scientists are reluctant to draw a direct link. "We are linking these events to climate change... There are also other things happening building up of the land, bad land use plans, bad fire prevention in the south... But all the factors together are more and more exacerbated by global warming," explains Martin Hiller spokesperson for Worldwide Fund for Nature Malcolm Haylock of the University of East Anglia the UK, is more dithering. You can say that due to the Earth getting warmer there will be on an average more extreme events but you can't attribute any specific event to climate change'.

- (3) Despite growing consensus about global warming, it is hard to find long-term trends in rainfall that would have direct effect on the droughts and floods. Some experts believe the North Atlantic Oscillation climate system has caused a drift towards drier conditions in southern Europe and more rainfall in the north during winters; its effects during summers are not as clear.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the eleven that follow. **(1 × 10 = 10)**

- (i) What helped reduce the Portuguese wood land to tinder?
(a) a massive heat wave in Southern Europe (b) torrential rains and swollen rivers
(c) a fire in Eastern Europe (d) a heat wave in Western Europe
- (ii) Which country had the forest fire under control despite the heat wave?
(a) Spain (b) Portugal (c) Germany (d) Czech Republic
- (iii) Some areas of Germany and _____ remained vigilant of the floods even after the water levels receded.
(a) Slovenia (b) Hungary (c) Switzerland (d) Poland
- (iv) With an estimated damage of about \$ 2 billion _____ suffered less as compared to its neighbouring countries.
(a) Austria (b) Czech Republic (c) Bulgaria (d) Poland
- (v) The reason for the mayhem is credited to
(a) the strong wind pressure coming from the eastern Europe
(b) jet stream, high-speed winds usually found just below the tropopause affects the weather
(c) a massive heat wave in Southern Europe
(d) torrential rains and swollen rivers
- (vi) “But all the factors together are more and more exacerbated by global warming” meaning
(a) Global warming combined with the other factors made little difference
(b) Global warming slowed down the impact of other factors
(c) Global warming was the root cause of the other factors
(d) Global warming made all the factors turn worse
- (vii) “Despite growing consensus about global warming,” what is the growing consensus referred here?
(a) that global warming is responsible for these extreme events
(b) that global warming is not related to these extreme events
(c) that global warming needs to be addressed
(d) that global warming is not a serious threat
- (viii) According to some experts what caused a drift towards drier conditions in southern Europe?
(a) the South Atlantic Oscillation climate system has caused the change
(b) the North Atlantic Oscillation climate system has caused the change
(c) building up of the land caused it
(d) bad fire prevention in the south is the reason.
- (ix) Which of the statements is false?
(a) Torrential rains and swollen rivers have caused chaos across central and Eastern Europe.
(b) In Germany, only US \$200 per adult is currently available from both the EU and the government.
(c) Many villages were abandoned in Spain during the flood.
(d) The floods worst impact was along the Danube, Morava and Elbe rivers and their tributaries.
- (x) “deluges of rain” means
(a) short period of rain (b) heavy rain coming down at the same time
(c) little episodes of rain (d) frequent rain

- (xi) Antonym of dithering is
(a) fluctuating (b) dwindling (c) advancing (d) dawdling

LITERATURE (20 Marks)

3. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY TWO of the three given by answering the questions that follow. (4 + 4 = 8)

A. 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 book 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 ?
(a) That it was the most beautiful language in the world.
(b) That it was the language to enslave them.
(c) That it was the most difficult language in the world.
(d) That it was a forsaken language.
- (ii) What did M. Hamel ask them to never forget about the language ?
(a) That it is easy to learn any language.
(b) That language has nothing to do with one's identity.
(c) That when people are enslaved, as long as they hold fast to their language it is as if they had the key to their prison.
(d) That language needed not be guarded.
- (iii) 'Key to their prison,' explain the phrase.
(a) 'A tool to fight against slavery/oppression'
(b) An opportunity to learn new culture
(c) A tool for escaping from your fellow countrymen
(d) A means of forgetting your identity
- (iv) What Franz was amazed about?
(a) Franz was amazed about the speech M hamel gave
(b) Franz was amazed by how boring the lessons seem
(c) Franz was amazed by how easily he understood the lessons
(d) None of these
- B. Go to the end of the lane and turn around three times and look down the magic well and there you will find three pennies. Hurry up.' So Roger Skunk went to the end of the lane and turned around three times and there in the magic well were three pennies! So he took them back to the wizard and was very happy and ran out into the woods and all the other little animals gathered around him because he smelled so good
- (i) Who was the one giving instructions to Roger?
(a) Jo (b) Roger's mom (c) the wizard (d) Jo's father
- (ii) What did Roger find in the magic well?
(a) Three pennies (b) a perfume (c) 2 socks (d) 3 shirts
- (iii) Why did all the other animals gather around Roger?
(a) Because he had money. (b) Because he had food.
(c) Because he smelled good. (d) Because he asked so.
- (iv) Which word in the lines means pleased?
(a) Gathered (b) Turn (c) Ran (d) Happy

C. What about the injustice to the sharecroppers, Gandhi demanded. The lawyers withdrew to consult. Rajendra Prasad has recorded the upshot of their consultations : “They thought, amongst themselves, that Gandhi was totally a stranger, and yet he was prepared to go to prison for the sake of the peasants : If they, on the other hand, being not only residents of the adjoining districts but also those who claimed to have served these peasants, should go home, it would be shameful desertion.”

- (i) What did Gandhi demand to the lawyers ?
 (a) He demanded the lawyers about the injustice to the sharecroppers.
 (b) He demanded the lawyers money for legal advice.
 (c) he demanded the peasants’ crops as a gift.
 (d) He demanded the lawyers leave him alone.
- (ii) What was the reaction of the lawyers ?
 (a) The lawyers didn’t listen. (b) The lawyers made new complaints.
 (c) The lawyers withdrew to consult. (d) The lawyers decided to give up on the case.
- (iii) What did the consultants think of Gandhi?
 (a) They thought Gandhi was bluffing.
 (b) They thought Gandhi a stranger was ready to go to prison for the peasants.
 (c) they thought Gandhi will ask for a hefty sum of money.
 (d) They thought poorly of Gandhi.
- (iv) What would be- shameful desertion ?
 (a) Leaving the country to British landowners would be shameful desertion.
 (b) Staying in jail for peasant rights would be shameful dissertation.
 (c) Fighting the British landlords would be a shameful dissertation.
 (d) If they should go home, claiming to have served those peasants, it would be shameful desertion.

4. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY ONE of the two given by answering the questions that follow. (1 × 4 = 4)

A. Aunt Jennifer’s fingers fluttering through her wool
 Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.
 The massive weight of Uncle’s wedding band
 Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer’s hand.

- (i) What was Aunt Jennifer’s hands doing?
 (a) Prancing around (b) knitting
 (c) Cooking (d) Washing
- (ii) In second line the massive weight is
 (a) Marriage and female oppression (b) Crushing desire
 (c) Weight of guilt (d) Weight of love
- (iii) What was hard to pull?
 (a) The wool (b) The ivory needle (c) the ring (d) None of these
- (iv) Which word in the lines means immense?
 (a) Fluttering (b) Hard (c) Massive (d) Band

OR

B. If we were not so single-minded
 about keeping our lives moving,
 and for once could do nothing, perhaps a huge silence
 might interrupt this sadness
 of never understanding ourselves
 and of threatening ourselves with death.

- (i) Whom does 'we' refer to in the above lines ?
 (a) the human beings who are self-centred and who only think about themselves
 (b) the creatures of the planet
 (c) the poet and his friends
 (d) the poet and nature
- (ii) Why does the poet want us to 'do nothing for once' ?
 (a) Because he doesn't see the point in living
 (b) By doing nothing for once, we can have ample time to introspect ourselves and analyse our actions.
 (c) Because he wants total shutdown of all activity for inner peace
 (d) Because he wants to bring chaos to the world
- (iii) What is the 'sadness' that the poet refers to in the poem ?
 (a) The sadness of losing someone dear
 (b) The sadness of being vulnerable
 (c) The sadness of not understanding ourselves and harming each other
 (d) The sadness of losing wealth
- (iv) Which word means focussed?
 (a) Moving (b) Nothing (c) Understanding (d) Single-minded
- 5. Attempt any eight questions of following from the ten given below. (1 × 8 = 8)**
- (i) After meeting with the wizard Roger felt:
 (a) Anxious (b) Unsure (c) Delighted (d) Saddened
- (ii) Male chauvinism is addressed in
 (a) A Thing of Beauty (b) Keeping Quiet
 (c) My Mother at Sixty six (d) Aunt Jennifer's tiger
- (iii) Reverend J. Z. Hodge was:
 (a) Charley's grandfather (b) Mr Lamb's real name
 (c) A British missionary in Champaran (d) Douglas' coach
- (iv) Mukesh wanting to become a mechanic instead of making bangles makes him:
 (a) Foolish (b) Aspirational (c) Greedy (d) Delusional
- (v) According to Neruda the earth can teach us that
 (a) There can be live in protection and resurrection of life
 (b) There is no place for human beings
 (c) There is no need for suspension of activities
 (d) Life needs chaos
- (vi) The bully who threw Douglas into the pool was:
 (a) 16 years old (b) 18 years old (c) 19 years old (d) 17 years old
- (vii) Galesburg was :
 (a) Where Evans escaped to (b) Where Derek lives
 (c) Where Charley wants to go (d) Where Joanne and her family lived
- (viii) The wizard demanded _____ as fees for changing Roger Skunk's smell.
 (a) 3 pennies (b) 5 pennies (c) 6 pennies (d) 7 pennies
- (ix) Mahadev Desai and Narhari Parikh were
 (a) peasants (b) rebels (c) Gandhi's disciples (d) Shukla's friends

- (x) The Detective Superintendent whom the Governor summoned after Evans' supposed escape was
(a) McLeery (b) Stephens (c) Carter (d) None of these

PART - B (40 Marks)

WRITING (16 Marks)

- 6. Attempt any one of the following : (1 × 3 = 3)**

A. You are P. Sharma of Varanasi. You want an English tutor for your daughter. Write an advertisement to be published in the classified columns of a local newspaper.

OR

B. You are Praveen /Prabha. As the Secretary, Science Club of your school, write a notice informing students about an Inter-School Science Exhibition and encouraging them to participate in it.

- 7. Attempt any one of the following : (1 × 3 = 3)**

A. You are Johnathan/Jessica Fernandez living at 48, Dhirubhai Colony, Mumbai. You have organised a birthday party for your grandmother who has just turned 80. Draft a formal invitation in not more than 50 words, inviting friends and family members to attend the grand party. Provide all the necessary details.

OR

B. You are Manoj /Mini. You have been invited to attend a birthday party of your closest friend. Respond to this invitation, accepting it.

- 8. Attempt any one of the following : (1 × 5 = 5)**

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 dogs in your colony.

OR

B. You are Rahul/Renu of 97, Prashan Vihar, Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh, studying at a coaching centre in Model Town, Delhi. You need accommodation for yourself. Write a letter to the Manager of Paying Guest Services, 108, students Complex, Model Town, Delhi, inquiring about the details such as the type of accommodation, monthly charges and other facilities.

- 9. Attempt any one of the following : (1 × 5 = 5)**

A. You are a press reporter. You have interviewed different victims of the earthquake to know their experiences. Sum up their experiences in 120-150 words as a report for a newspaper.

OR

B. Write an article on the dying business of physical copies in books and rise of e books in modern times.

LITERATURE (24 Marks)

- 10. Attempt ANY FIVE out of the six questions given below, in 30-40 words each. (2 × 5 = 10)**

- (i) Who were the elderly persons sitting at the back benches ?
- (ii) It is 'a tradition to stay barefoot' What is the attitude of the rag-pickers of Seemapuri towards wearing shoes?
- (iii) How does the world depicted on the classroom walls differ from the world of the slum children?
- (iv) From where did the peddler get the idea of the world being a rattrap?
- (v) What symbol from Nature does the poet invoke to say that there can be life under apparent stillness?
- (vi) Why did Gandhiji meet Secretary of the British landlord's association? How was he treated by him?

- 11. Attempt ANY TWO out of the three questions given below in 30-40 words each.** (2 × 2 = 4)
- (i) What do you infer from Sam's letter to Charley?
 - (ii) Who were Jackson and Stephens?
 - (iii) In what sense is the friendship between Mr Lamb and Derry fruitful?
- 12. Answer any one of the following questions in about 100-120 words.** (1 × 5 = 5)
- A.** Exploitation of the poor and the down trodden started a long time ago and 'Indigo' is a proof of that. However, the poor are still being exploited by the rich and it must be stopped.
- Based on your understanding of the chapter 'Indigo', how do you think exploitation can be defeated in present scenario?
- OR**
- B.** Desire, determination and diligence lead to success. Explain the value of these qualities in the light of Douglas' experience in "Deep Water".
- 13. Attempt ANY ONE out of the following questions in 120-150 words** (1 × 5 = 5)
- A.** The arrival of the wounded American soldier destroyed the peace of Sadao's home. Comment.
- OR**
- B.** Where did the Governor find Evans? How was he able to locate that place?