

Roll No.

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Candidates must write the Q.P. Code  
on the title page of the answer-book

## ENGLISH - CORE

**Time allowed: 3 HOURS**

**Maximum Marks : 80**

- Please check that this question paper contains **15** printed pages.
- Please check that this question paper contains **13** questions.
- Q.P. Code given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- Please check that this question paper contains 13 questions.
- **Please write down the Serial Number of the question in the answer- book before attempting it.**
- 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the candidates will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.

**General Instructions:**

*Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:*

- This Question Paper has **13** questions. **All** questions are compulsory.
- This question paper contains THREE Sections Section A: **READING SKILLS**, Section - B: **CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS** and Section - C: **LITERATURE**.
- Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.
- Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.
- Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

**1. Read the passage given below :****12M**

- (1) What do we typically do when we find our children doing something we don't approve of ? We become reactive parents. Often, we pepper our reactions with lectures. When it doesn't work and predictably so; we end up screaming and dole out a punishment. And our children react with anger, resentment or 'can't-be-bothered' attitude.
- (2) Buddhist Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh put it beautifully when he described how each child has both negative seeds- of anger, despair, hatred, fear and violence- and wholesome seeds- of love, happiness, compassion and forgiveness. According to him, what will blossom depends on the seeds we nurture.
- (3) A parenting and educational approach that's gaining a large following internationally, called the Nurtured Heart Approach (NHA) by Howard Glasser, is very much in keeping with this Zen approach. The three main aspects of this approach are:
- Refuse to energize negativity.
  - Relentlessly energize their positives.
  - Reset: Do not. react negatively and stay calm when the child does something wrong.
- Parents following this approach commit to not saying or doing anything that may fuel negativity in the child. But the parent has to make sure she/he does this very calmly, without any anger or resentment.
- (4) While on a mission to cut the negative, the parent looks for every opportunity to energize the positive in the child. This is done through persistently appreciating the goodness in the child in the smallest of ways : You were really generous about sharing your pizza with your sister; I appreciate the hard work you have put in your project; It takes 'courage to stand up to a bully. If you observe, the appreciation is not about saying "excellent", "amazing" or "good", which is really an empty praise and does not speak much to the child. Qualifying a praise, on the other hand, gives the child direction and she/he begins to understand what qualities, values and strengths are appreciated. These are also necessary ingredients of life skills and success.
- (5) This approach is not merely about noticing when the child is being good, it is about recognizing the child's worth at every step. It's about aligning his energy in believing that he has great qualities, which are being identified and validated by the parents at every step. He realizes that there is no point choosing negativity, as there are no pay-offs in it. So, start building your child's inner wealth - there is nothing to lose

**Answer the following questions, based on the given passage:**

- (i) Complete the following sentence with an appropriate word: 1  
“– we end up screaming and dole out punishment.”

**Sol.** In the above sentence, the author criticizes the reactive approach of the parents.

**So,** we end up screaming and dole out a punishment. (1<sup>st</sup> Paragraph 3<sup>rd</sup> line)

- (ii) Explain in about 40 words, when and how do parents become reactive. 2

**Sol.** When we find our children doing something we don't approve of we become reactive parents. Often, we pepper our reactions with lectures. When it doesn't work and predictably so; we end up screaming and dole out a punishment. (1<sup>st</sup> Paragraph 1<sup>st</sup> line).

- (iii) In the line 'what will bloom will depend on the seeds we nurture' - what seeds does the author refer to ? 1

- (A) Seasonal seeds (B) Societal news  
(C) Parental attitude (D) Values and emotions

**Ans.** (D) Values and emotions

- (iv) Explain in about 40 words why does NHA focus on reforming parents to reform children. 2

**Sol.** NHA by Howard Glasser focuses on reforming parents to reform children because

- Refuse to energize negativity.
- Relentlessly energize their positives.
- Reset: Do not react negatively and stay calm when the child does something wrong.

(3<sup>rd</sup> Paragraph 2<sup>nd</sup> line).

- (v) Share evidence from the text, in about 40 words, to support the view that parents appreciate the goodness of the child at every opportunity. 2

**Sol.** In the 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph it says to cut the negative the parents looks for every opportunity to energize the positive in the child. This is done through persistently appreciating the goodness in the child.

- (vi) In paragraph 5, in what way does 'This approach' differ from the earlier approach? 1

**Sol.** The parent has to make sure she/he does this very calmly, without any anger or resentment and this approach is about recognizing the child's worth at every step.

- (vii) Select the option that can be classified as qualifying a praise as explained in the passage : 1

- (A) You can be more helpful.  
(B) You demonstrated patience while teaching your junior.  
(C) Use your skill to be an excellent sportsman.  
(D) You have to be amazing in your work.

**Ans.** (B) You demonstrated patience while teaching your junior.

- (viii) The phrase 'to cut the negative' in para 4 most nearly means: 1
- (A) to reduce wasteful expenditure (B) to stop criticizing  
(C) to eliminate challenges (D) to humiliate someone

**Ans.** (B) to stop criticizing.

- (ix) Read the five headlines (a) - (e) given below: 1

- (a) New Age Parenting  
(b) Children - A Rebellious Generation  
(c) Channelizing Energy  
(d) Teacher - A Nation Builder  
(e) Skill Development - Careers Ahead

Identify the option that displays the headline/s that Does/Do not correspond with the occurrences in the text

- (A) (a) and (e) (B) (c) and (e) (C) (b) only (D) (a) and (c)

**Ans.** (C) (b) only

**2 Read the passage given below: 10M**

- (1) We're all familiar with the usual reasons workers cite for wanting to stay away even after lockdowns have long ended: flexible schedules, not having to commute, and of course, increased productivity. However, productivity isn't the only reason people want to stay away from the office. We recently surveyed 1,000 remote workers to find out what's really keeping them tied to their work-from-home lives.
- (2) The findings include: 72% want to be able to take a nap or exercise during the day. Nearly three out of four remote workers surveyed stated that the ability to take a nap or workout during the workday was one of the reasons they wanted to stay home. Though these activities may very well increase worker productivity, there's no doubt that a nap on the kitchen couch would be frowned upon in the office.
- (3) 73% want to be able to watch TV while they work. Three out of four respondents again say that being able to entertain themselves with TV, podcasts, music, or other media is one of the reasons they want to keep their work-from-home lifestyle.
- (4) 62% cite concerns about their appearance. Well over half of respondents stated that they are concerned about their co-workers seeing them in-person again after such a long time apart. Whether it's weight loss or gain, not having the right clothes, or another concern about appearance, most would rather not have to worry about the way they look to their co-workers outside a Zoom call.
- (5) When asked to choose the reason that most affects their desire to keep working from home, predictable answers like caring for children and lack of a commute were still the most common number one reasons. 14% of respondents stated that working remotely was so important to them, that they would not go back to work in-person even if their employers required it.

**Answer the following questions, based on the given passage:**

- (i) '..... these activities will increase productivity'. By 'productivity,'  
the author refers to 1

(A) products produced (B) efficiency of the employee  
(C) time spent by the employee (D) number of activities

**Ans.** (B) efficiency of the employee

- (ii) What change in the work place would bring those people back to office who want amusement? 1

(A) giving long breaks (B) free coffee and tea  
(C) building entertainment lounge (D) spacious conference hall

**Ans.** (C) building entertainment lounge

- (iii) As per the survey, why do health conscious people prefer to work from home? 1

**Ans.** Because they can work out or take nap.

- (iv) Complete the following sentence appropriately: 1

The passage ends on a note that some people are resolved to \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Ans.** Work from home or would not go back to work in person.

- (v) Explain one inference that can be drawn from para 1 about the reason for people's preference to work from home. 1

**Ans.** Not having to commute / flexible schedule

- (vi) State whether the statement given below is True or False: 1

The survey reveals that people deeply miss socializing in the work from home style.

**Ans.** False

- (vii) Explain in your own words how appearance is one of the factors for people's preference for work from home. 2

**Ans.** Over half of respondents stated that they are concerned about their co-workers seeing them in-person again after such a long time apart. Whether it's weight loss or gain, not having the right clothes, or another concern about appearance, most would rather not have to worry about the way they look to their co-workers outside a Zoom call.

- (viii) As per the survey, what top priorities of people prevent them from going to office ? 2

**Ans.** Their desire to keep working from home, caring for children and lack of a commute, able to entertain, health and fitness prevent them from going to office.

**SECTION - B****(CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS)****[18 Marks]**

(**Note:** All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose).

**3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, in about 50 words:**

- (a) P.S. Public School, Aram Nagar has opened a gym for the benefit of students. As Sports Captain, draft a notice informing students about the facilities available in the gym, timings and other details. 4

**Ans.**

22 <sup>nd</sup> February 20XX	P.S. PUBLIC SCHOOL, ARAM NAGAR NOTICE <u>GYM FACILITY FOR STUDENTS</u>
<p>Gym facility has been started for all students in the school premises from 20<sup>th</sup> February to promote good health and performance of students. The timings will be from 6:30 a.m to 8:30 a.m. Experienced trainers to improve your health. High standard machinery installed in the gym for the maximum benefit for students. Lockers and changing rooms available. For any further inquiries or assistance, please contact the school office or gym reception.</p> <p>Vikram Singh (Sports Captain)</p>	

**OR**

- (b) The RWA of Ganga Society, Pushp Nagar has planned to start free yoga classes for its residents. You are Sharmila Tiwari, the President of RWA. Draft a notice informing residents about the proposal, timing, venue and other details. 4

**Ans.**

12 January 20XX	GANGA SOCIETY, PUSHUP NAGAR NOTICE <u>FREE YOGA CLASSES</u>						
<p>The RWA has decided to start Yoga classes in the society itself. It will encourage all residents to start Yoga to keep themselves healthy, punctual and the utmost peace of mind. The details of the proposed schedule are as follows :</p> <table><tr><td>Date :</td><td>20th January to 30th January</td></tr><tr><td>Timing:</td><td>6:00 A.M to 8:00 A.M</td></tr><tr><td>Venue:</td><td>Community Hall</td></tr></table> <p>There is no fee to join the yoga classes. Anamika Sharma - Yoga Guru will be the trainer. A meeting has been scheduled in the community hall on Sunday 12th January at 6:30 P.M for a detailed planning with all the residents.</p> <p>Sharmila Tiwari (President of RWA)</p>		Date :	20th January to 30th January	Timing:	6:00 A.M to 8:00 A.M	Venue:	Community Hall
Date :	20th January to 30th January						
Timing:	6:00 A.M to 8:00 A.M						
Venue:	Community Hall						

**4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two in about 50 words.**

- (a)** You are Mr. Srikanth Sharma. You have recently built a new house in the hills of Uttarakhand. Draft a letter inviting your brother and his family to spend a few days with you in your new home. Include relevant details.

4

**Ans.**

C5, Amber Valley  
Almora, Uttarakhand

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

Dear Anand

With the blessing of our parents, the construction of my new house in Nainital in Uttarakhand is completed. Summer vacations are about to start and you can easily make a plan to come here along with your family for at least 10 days. We would have a great time together after a long time. Hope you will surely think about visiting our home.

Your brother  
Srikant Sharma

- (b)** You are Mr. Shyam Sundar, Professor of Psychology. You are invited by S.K.M. College, Mahboob Nagar to be the keynote speaker at its Annual Conclave on 'Student Health - The Emotional impact of Social Media'. Draft a reply letter expressing your inability to accept the invitation and also cite a reason for refusal.

4

**Ans.**

156, Vasant Kunj  
New Delhi

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024

The Principal  
S.K.M. College  
Mehboob Nagar

Sub: Inability to accept the invitation.  
Sir

Thank you for inviting me to be the keynote speaker at the Annual Conclave on 'Students Health – The Emotional impact of Social Media' at S.K.M. College on 28<sup>th</sup> February. I am deeply honored and grateful for the invitation, However, it is with regret that I must inform you that due to my pre fixed schedule to attend the seminar on 'Psychological Errors and disorders' on the very same day, I am unable to attend the Annual Conclave as keynote speaker. Best wishes for the function.

Yours sincerely  
Shyam Sundar

**5. Attempt ANY ONE of the two in 120-150 words:**

- (a)** You are Neeta/Neeraj of Rainbow Nagar, Shaktiganj a qualified basketball coach. You saw the advertisement given below and wish to apply for the position advertised. 5

R.J. Sports Academy	
Requires	
Basketball Coach	
Qualification :	Master's Degree in specific game with NIS diploma.
Work Experience :	Minimum 2 years in the relevant field.
Skills :	Patience, empathy, leadership qualities, attention to detail.
Apply with complete bio-data to The Director, R.J. Sports Academy,	
43, L.M. Square, Shaktiganj expressing your interest in the advertised post	

**Ans.**

Rainbow Nagar  
Shaktiganj

13<sup>th</sup> May 20XX

The Director  
R.J. Sports Academy

43, L.M. Square, Shaktiganj

Subject: Application for the post of Basketball Coach

Sir

This is in response to your advertisement in The Shaktiganj News dated 12<sup>th</sup> May 20XX for the post of Basketball in your school. I wish to offer my candidature for the position mentioned above.

I have done M.A in Physical Education (M.A.PEd) and have three years coaching experience in a reputed school Sports Academy. I am fluent in English and have good leadership qualities.

My resume is enclosed herewith for your kind perusal and consideration.

If given an opportunity, I assure to work to the best of my ability. Anticipating a prompt response.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully

Neeraj Mishra

Encl : Resume

**RESUME**

Name	:	Neeraj Mishra
Father's Name	:	Mr. Hiten Mishra
Date of Birth	:	10th April 1996
Marital Status	:	Unarried
Educational Qualifications	:	M.A.PEd from Delhi University Diploma from NIS Delhi



Skills : Patience, empathy, leadership qualities  
Achievement : Best teacher award at Sharma International School, Noida  
Job Experience : Three years Basketball coaching experience at Sports Academy in Sharma International School, Noida  
Permanent Address : 92 Basant Vihar, New Delhi -2  
Languages known : English & Hindi  
Salary Expected : As per norms  
Email I.D : Neeraj\_mishra1996@gmail.com  
Reference : 1. Devesh Soni – 97758XXX00  
Principal – Sharma International School, Noida  
2. Mr. Kamal Singh Chauhan – 96685XX001  
HOD – English, Delhi University

**OR**

- (b)** You are Mira / Mithun, parent of a class 12 student. You were recently invited among others by the school to attend a two-day workshop on 'Preparing youth for the Road ahead.'  
Write a letter to the Editor, Daily News expressing your views on the need for such workshops to create awareness of skill development and. future opportunities.  
You may use the following cues along with your own ideas :

- skill development
- vocational education, apprenticeship and internship
- entrepreneurship
- skills for greater employment prospects and economic progress

**Ans.**

B-49, Subhash Enclave  
Kota

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024

The Editor  
The Dainik Bhaskar  
Kota

Sub: Need of skill development workshops

Sir

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper I want to express my views on the importance of skill development workshops. I have recently attended a two days workshop on 'Preparing Youth for the Road ahead.' and I am greatly benefitted by this workshop.

Whether technical or soft, skills are important attributes and traits for success in a workplace. One can learn and practice, self-confidence, adaptability, integrity, work ethic and leadership through these workshops. With the formal education, the time we are seeing now demands vocational education on

high priority. Vocational training focuses on developing technical skills for a specific job or trade. it provides practical knowledge in contrast to theoretical knowledge. Many children are not interested in formal education and wasting time in activities those are harmful for those and dangerous for society. But those children can be attracted towards skill development programs. Later it can help them to take up a high paying job or occupation.

A candidate prepared by these workshop can become a successful entrepreneur and start a traditional journey that can bring a huge success afterwards. The youth is facing unemployment and the govt. is unable to produce resources. These workshops and programs can produce greater employment and be helpful in economic progress of all.

I hope you would surely give my views a place in your newspaper.

Thank you

Yours truly

Mithun

**6. Attempt ANY ONE of the two questions in 120-150 words:**

**(a)** The rising obesity amongst youth today is a grave cause of concern.

Addiction to technology, inactive life-style and eating sugary, and highly processed foods are among the leading causes.

Write an article for the school magazine, sharing the importance of a healthy lifestyle and nutritious diet.

You may use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this article. You are Shivani/Satish of Class XII B.

- Reasons for Obesity
- Consequences: " ill health
- Suggestions:
  - active lifestyle
  - regular exercise
  - change in eating habits
  - Support and encouragement

**Ans.**

**Healthy Lifestyle and Diet**

**(By: Satish)**

Lifestyle and our health have an extremely close relationship with each other. Health experts have noticed a critical issue in every third person, Obesity. The inactive lifestyle and unhealthy eating habits are rapidly developing obesity in not only adults but also small kids.

Overweight and obesity are a result of poor eating habits and reduced energy expenditure. People of all age group are spending time on activities that can be enjoyed without moving for example watching cell phones lying on sofa. They are a lot much interested in eating junk food everyday hating the home made nutritious food.

Health issues like obesity are directly promoted by absence of daily walk, physical exercise and irregular unhealthy food. The people should be advised and encouraged to think about further consequences and change the present daily routine. A person who wakes up early in the morning, takes atleast a two kms

walk, surely makes a happy and energetic start of the day in comparison to one whose day starts late morning and taking noodles as breakfast. We are already facing decreasing quality day by day of raw food materials, And after that outside food makers are making it worse for profit making. First of all each one must avoid outside food and prefer only home made food.

People must incline to start the day with Yoga or morning walk. Reduction of fat can be achieved through physical activeness only so steps are must to be taken for as soon possible.

Lifestyle and our health have an extremely close relationship with each other. There is a difference between the lifestyle of older people. Up to the generation of our parents, lot of heed was paid towards the thought of health. They did not have to face growing competition, tensions as we do today. But still the physical work and mental wellbeing all was the outcome of their health lifestyle. Getting up early in the morning, doing physical work or exercise regularly, taking in nutritious and balanced diet, reading-thinking for mental health was their way of life. So they had to visit doctors for medicine very rarely. Today's comforts, financial well-being situation was not available for previous generation people, but they did not care for it much. So due to good health they were surely in good mental health and very happy.

**OR**

- (b)** As part of community outreach programme, a group of 40 students from your school identified a neighbourhood slum and took up the initiative to teach basic language and numerical skills, environmental cleanliness and personal hygiene awareness to the slum children. As Head of the team, write a report on the programme to be published in your school newsletter.

Use the cues given below, along with your own ideas to draft the report.

You are Rahul/Radhika

- |  |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• date, venue, duration</li><li>• books distributed</li><li>• activities carried out</li><li>• feedback of people</li><li>• no. of children who attended</li></ul> |
|--|

**Ans.**

A Social-Educational Program for Children of Santoshi Slum  
(By: Anant, Head of the team)

A slum children's educational and social development program was organised from 11<sup>th</sup> November to 20<sup>th</sup> November. I attended the program with 40 students of our school.

We chose the nearby Santoshi Basti for our program and we used to be there from 2 :00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. daily. We found there children who were not aware of what a school is. They are far from the education so all 40 volunteers went door to door to encourage their parents to send them school. We encouraged them to join our program based classes at nearby open area.

On the very first day they were not much interested to take part in program, we gave some gifts to attendees so that more children and people get inspired to come from next day. First of we tried to make them aware of cleanliness. Clean and healthy body with clean surroundings is the first step to self development. For this all our team members got involved in road cleaning. The whole first day was spent in this act. After that we taught them basic etiquette with real time demo.

On rest of the days basic language skills were taught to the children. For their analysis skill development we had numerical and puzzle solving classes. Related books and games were distributed to them everyday. Total of 215 students in 10 days got benefitted with our program. They thanked us a lot at the final day for the things we taught them. Their parents also praised us and promised to get them enrolled in schools.

Our team members worked hard each day for the program. Everyday after school it was not easy to give 4-5 hours in the slum area. We are so much excited for our next schedule in different slum area soon.

**SECTION - C****(Literature)****[40 Marks]****(TEXT BOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT)**

**7. Attempt ANY ONE of the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:**

- (a)** The little old house was out with a little new shed 6 x 1 = 6  
in front at the edge of the road where the traffic sped.

A road side stand that too pathetically pled

It would not be fair to say for a dole of bread.

But for some of the money, the cash, whose flow supports

The flower of cities from sinking and withering faint.

**(A Roadside Stand)**

- (i)** Which of the following expressions has the same literary device as used in  
"A roadside stand that too pathetically pled."

(A) All the world's a stage.

(B) I wandered lonely, as a cloud.

(C) The brutal wind bullied the tree.

(D) And life is too much like a pathless wood.

**Ans.** (C) The brutal wind bullied the tree.

- (ii)** Select the option that aptly conveys the poet's point of view with reference to the above extract :  
The roadside stand is put up with the purpose to

(A) display fruits

(B) to stop the traffic

(C) to do business

(D) to interact with city people

**Ans.** (C) to do business

- (iii)** What do you infer about the people, who put up the roadside stand from the phrase 'would not be fair to say for a dole of bread'?

**Ans.** The Roadside stand was not build for charity but for inflow of city money by offering things.

- (iv)** Complete the following sentence with reference to the extract.

The word 'pathetically' reflects the condition of the roadside stand.

**Ans.** The word 'pathetically' reflects the pitiable condition of the roadside stand.

- (v)** State whether the following statement is True or False:

By 'Flower of Cities', the poet refers to the garden in cities.

**Ans.** Statement is False

(vi) Based on the rhyme scheme, evident in lines 1-4, which word would rhyme with line 2?

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_  
part          fled          seen

**Ans.** Rhymes with 'fled'

**OR**

(b) Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool

**6 x 1 = 6**

Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.

The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band

sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand

when Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie

still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by,

The Tigers in the panel that she made

will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.

**(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)**

(i) 'Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.' Through the above expression the poet indicates: .

(A) Aunt Jennifer is happily married.

(B) Aunt Jennifer loves the tigers in the panel.

(C) Aunt Jennifer's unhappy married life.

(D) Aunt Jennifer's rich and luxurious life.

**Ans.** (C) Aunt Jennifer's unhappy married life.

(ii) Select the option that has the same literary device as used in 'Still ringed with ordeals'.

(A) Leopards cannot hide in the jungle as they are spotted.

(B) Sun smiled happily on us.

(C) Her lovely voice was music to his ears.

(D) Life is like a box of chocolates.

**Ans.** (C) Her lovely voice was music to his ears.

(iii) Complete the following sentences with reference to the extract.

The Tigers in the panel symbolize.

**Ans.** The tigers in the panel symbolise freedom, courage and confidence.

(iv) State whether the statement given below is True or False:

"Find even the ivory needle hard to pull."

The above expression suggests that Aunt Jennifer is dying.

**Ans.** Statement is False.

(v) Based on the rhyme scheme, evident in lines 1-2, which word would rhyme with line '1'?

\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_  
full      sand      bye .

**Ans.** Rhymes with 'full'

(vi) The use of the word 'fluttering fingers' in the extract suggest that the fingers of Aunt Jennifer are trembling. This creates an image of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Ans.** This creates the image of suffering and miserable condition of Aunt.

**8. Attempt ANY ONE of the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:**

(a) I did not open my mouth to answer. Then the steps were quickened and the voices became excited. The sounds came nearer and nearer, Women and girls entered the room. I held my breath and watched them open closet doors and peep behind large trunks. Someone threw up the curtains, and the room was filled with sudden light.

What caused them to stoop and look under the bed. I do not know. I remember being dragged out, though I resisted by kicking and scratching wildly. In spite of myself, I was carried downstairs and tied fast in a chair.

**4 x 1 = 4**

**(Memories of Childhood)**

(i) Select the appropriate option:

..... sounds came nearer and nearer.

(A) describes the increase in volume.

(B) adds suspense and anxiety to readers.

(C) reflects the thought of the speaker.

(D) is a factual narrative.

**Ans.** (B) adds suspense and anxiety to readers.

(ii) Complete the following sentence:

'In spite of myself' suggests that the speaker was \_

**Ans.** 'In spite of myself' suggests that the speaker was caught in spite of all her struggle.

(iii) What do you infer from the first line of the extract?

(A) It was her first day in school.

(B) She did not want to get caught.

(C) She was unprepared for the lesson.

(D) She preferred to be by herself.

**Ans.** (B) She did not want to get caught.

(iv) State whether the statement given below is True or False:

The speaker hoodwinked the people looking for her.

**Ans.** Statement is False. 'Hoodwinked' means cheated.

**OR**

- (b)** Human civilisations have been around for a paltry 12,000 years - barely a few seconds on the geological clock. In that short amount of time, we've managed to create quite a ruckus, etching our dominance over nature with our villages, towns, cities, mega cities. The rapid increase of human populations has left us battling with other species for limited resources, and the unmitigated burning of fossil fuels has now created a blanket of carbon dioxide around the world, which is slowly but surely increasing the average global temperature.

**4 x 1 = 4**

**(Journey to the End of the Earth)**

- (i)** According to the view expressed by the author in the above extract, increase in global temperature is due to

- |                             |                       |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| (A) mega cities             | (B) human people      |
| (C) burning of fossil fuels | (D) limited resources |

**Ans.** (C) burning of fossil fuels

- (ii)** Complete the following sentence with reference to the extract:

Humans are criticised by the author for \_\_\_\_\_.

**Ans.** Humans are criticised by the author for increasing global temperature by unmitigated burning of fossil fuels.

- (iii)** According to the author, the relation between human population and resources is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Ans.** The relation between human population and resources is inversely proportional.

- (iv)** 'In that short amount of time, we've managed to create a ruckus'. By 'ruckus' the author refers to \_\_\_\_\_.

- |              |                      |
|--------------|----------------------|
| (A) movement | (B) misunderstanding |
| (C) breach   | (D) commotion        |

**Ans.** (D) commotion

**9. Attempt ANY ONE of the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:**

- (a)** I heard M. Hamel say to me, "I won't scold you, little Franz : you must feel bad enough, see how it is Everyday we have said to ourselves. Bah! I've plenty of time I'll learn it tomorrow. And now you see where we've come out. Ah, that's the great trouble with Alsace; she puts off learning till tomorrow. Now those fellows out there will have the right to say to you. 'How is it; you pretend to be Frenchmen, and yet you can neither speak nor write your own language?' But, you are not the worst, poor little Franz. We've all a great deal to reproach ourselves with".

**6 x 1 = 6**

**(The Last Lesson)**

- (i)** 'And now you see where we've come out.'

The tone of M. Hamel in the above line is that of:

- |              |               |            |                |
|--------------|---------------|------------|----------------|
| (A) kindness | (B) happiness | (C) regret | (D) enthusiasm |
|--------------|---------------|------------|----------------|

**Ans.** (C) regret

(ii) 'We've all a great deal to reproach ourselves with.'

Select the option, which conveys the meaning of 'reproach' as reflected in the above line.

- (A) The player received a reprimand for breach of rules.
- (B) The students approached the management with a demand for new canteen.
- (C) The clerk received a letter of appreciation for his innovative ideas.
- (D) She could not find a way to broach the subject with her boss.

**Ans.** (A) The player received a reprimand for breach of rules.

(iii) State whether the following statement is true or false with reference to the extract.

M. Hamel endorses the belief that there is plenty of time to learn their language.

**Ans.** Statement is False

(iv) Complete the sentence appropriately.

'You must feel bad enough.' Through these words M. Hamel urges the people\_\_\_\_\_.

**Ans.** M.Hamel urges the people to realise their mistake in not giving importance to learning.

(v) Identify the line from the text that reinforces the theme of patriotism in the story.

**Ans.** "We've all a great deal to reproach ourselves with"

(vi) She puts off learning till tomorrow. The phrase 'puts off' suggests

**Ans.** 'puts off' suggests 'to delay' / defer'.

**OR**

(b) They thought he would demand repayment in full of the money which they had illegally and deceitfully extorted from the sharecroppers.

He asked only 50 percent. "There he seemed adamant", writes Reverend J.Z. Hodge, a British missionary in Champaran, who observed the entire episode at close range. "Thinking probably that he would not give way, the representatives of the planters offered to refund to the extent of 25 percent, and to his amazement Mr. Gandhi took him at his words thus breaking the deadlock."

**6 x 1 = 6**

**(Indigo)**

(i) Choose the correct option

'Then he seemed adamant,' reflects Gandhi's trait of being

- (A) arrogant
- (B) uncompromising
- (C) argumentative
- (D) courageous

**Ans.** (B) uncompromising

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_ deceitfully extorted from the sharecroppers.

The status of sharecroppers as inferred from the above line is

- (A) law abiding citizens
- (B) followers of Gandhi
- (C) victims of exploitation
- (D) contract labourers

**Ans.** (C) victims of exploitation



(iii) Complete the following sentence:  
Gandhi surprised them by \_\_\_\_\_.

**Ans.** Gandhi surprised them by accepting 25% amount as refund.

(iv) The inference that can be drawn from the line. "Mr. Gandhi took him at his word" is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Ans.** Mr. Gandhi took him at his word" is "he agreed with the deal offered by the planters."

(v) 'Deadlock' in the last line means \_\_\_\_\_.

**Ans.** Deadlock means "Resistance or state of inaction."

(vi) What do we infer about the attitude of planters towards sharecroppers?

**Ans.** The planters had illegally and deceitfully extorted money from the sharecroppers.

**10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40-50 words each:**

**5 x 2 = 10**

(i) When I sense a flash of it in Mukesh, I am cheered. How is Mukesh's attitude of life different from that of his family and friends?  
**(Lost Spring)**

**Ans.** Firozabad is dominated by bangle industry and most families are engaged in making bangles, working around furnaces, physically and mentally hazardous but no one dares to do anything else. Mukesh's family and friends had also accepted defeat and lost ability to dream. But Mukesh aspires to be a mechanic, unlike his peers, dares to dream, determined to walk to a garage and learn to drive, his passion would help him break away from tradition and achieve his goal.

(ii) "I was frightened, but not yet frightened out of my wits." Says Douglas. Which qualities of the speaker are highlighted in the above statement?  
**(Deep Water)**

**Ans.** Douglas was sitting all alone on the edge of the pool, when a well-built eighteen-year-old bruiser came, picked him up and tossed him into the deepest part of the pool. Douglas hit water surface in a sitting position and began to sink to the bottom slowly. He did not know how to swim. He was terrified but not out of his wits. Despite feeling fear, Douglas maintains a level of composure and resilience. Though he was terrified, his mind was in his control and he devised a plan to save himself. He demonstrates a rational approach to their fear by assessing their level of fright.

(iii) 'See you soon Amma.' How are these words contrary to the speaker's emotions?

**(My Mother at Sixty-six)**

**Ans.** "See you soon Amma" were the parting words spoken by Kamala Das to her old aged mother. These words are contrary to the emotions of the speaker's mother. The speaker has an insecurity and feeling of losing her mother or getting separated from the mother due to old age. These words are spoken by her as just assurance and consolation to herself as her old aged mother to meet again. "See you soon Amma" might mask underlying feelings of reluctance, discomfort, or even sadness about the impending meeting.

(iv) 'And such too is the grandeur of the dooms; we have imagined for the mighty dead.' Explain the inference you can draw from the phrase 'mighty dead'.  
**(A Thing of Beauty)**

**Ans.** The phrase "mighty dead" typically refers to individuals who were influential, powerful, or esteemed during their lifetimes but have since passed away. It implies that even in death, these individuals retain a sense of greatness or significance. In the context of the quote "And such too is the grandeur of the dooms; we have imagined for the mighty dead," it suggests that there is a certain grandeur or magnificence associated with the fates or destinies that we imagine for these esteemed figures after their deaths. This phrase often conveys the idea that the legacies of such individuals continue to have a profound impact on society even after they are no longer alive, and the way we remember or envision them in death often reflects their enduring influence and importance.

**(v)** What evidence from the text reveals that Rudyard Kipling did not walk the talk? **(The Interview)**

**Ans.** Rudyard Kipling hated being interviewed. As per his wife Caroline, their holidays were wrecked by two interviewers. Thus he did not walk the talk. He considered it immoral and a crime which deserved punishment. He claimed that only a coward person would become an interviewer and no respectable person would agree to be an interviewee. The irony was that later, Kipling had himself interviewed Mark Twain.

**(vi)** 'Soaf, you really should be sensible !' What does Jansie's advice to her friend Sophie reveal about their friendship? **(Going Places)**

**Ans.** Sophie and Jansie are classmates and friends. After a few months, they will be out of school. Sophie is a daydreamer whereas Jansie's feet are planted firm on. Sophie tells Jansie that after school, she will have a boutique. Jansie tells her that she should be sensible as she will need a lot of money to have a boutique, but Sophie is not discouraged. Sophie also hopes to be a fashion designer or an actress too. Jansie becomes sad. She knows they have no other option but to work in a biscuit factory. Thus Jansie is a true friend of Sophie, practical, and cares for Sophie making her realise the practicality of life.

**11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in 40-50 words each: 2 x 2 = 4**

**(i)** 'And for humans, the prognosis is not good;'

What is in store for humans, as per the above statement? **(The Journey to the End of the Earth)**

**Ans.** In Tishani Doshi's "The Journey to the End of the Earth," the statement "And for humans, the prognosis is not good;" suggests a bleak outlook for humanity. This could imply various challenges or threats that humans face, such as environmental degradation, societal issues, or existential concerns. The context of the statement within the larger work would provide more specific insights into what exactly is in store for humans according to Doshi's perspective.

**(ii)** 'My three hundred dollars bought less than two hundred in old style bills, but I didn't care.'

Charley to compromise on less value of money?

**(The Third Level)**

**Ans.** In this excerpt from "The Third Level," Charley reflects on the experience with time travel or transportation to another dimension, where their modern currency was exchanged for a lesser amount in old-style bills. He got his three hundred dollars out the bank and got them changed into two hundred dollars old style currency so that he could go back to the third level and buy the tickets to Galesburg. The only consolation was that in the year 1894, the two hundred dollars would have more value, as things were much cheaper than they are now. It also captures a sense of adventure, mystery, and perhaps a willingness to embrace the unknown despite material losses.

**(iii)** What was the servants' reaction to Sadao's decision of treating the American soldier? **(The Enemy)**

**Ans.** In "The Enemy" by Pearl S. Buck, Sadao's decision to treat the American soldier found washed ashore causes significant tension and concern. The servants felt that they could not stay if Sadao hid that white man anymore in the house. They thought that Dr. Sadao liked the Americans as they had been there for 8 years. They were concerned for future of Sadao's children's. Their reactions reflect the moral dilemma and conflicting loyalties faced by individuals caught in the midst of war. Finally, the servants left Sadao's house, as they were frightened of the repercussions of helping an enemy soldier.

**12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in 120-150 words:**

- (a)** Wars with gas, wars with fire,  
Victory with no survivors.

**(Keeping Quiet)**

Pablo Neruda in the above lines, highlights the futility of war. Gandhi also brought about the change in the plight of the Champaran sharecroppers through civil disobedience and not violence.

Write an article on the importance of peace and the right way to resolve issues.

**5**

**Ans.**

**Embracing Peace: The Path to Resolving Issues**

In a world marred by conflicts, violence, and injustices, the importance of peace cannot be overstated. As Pablo Neruda's poetic verses echo the futility of war and Mahatma Gandhi's transformative actions in Champaran illustrate, the path to resolving issues lies not in aggression but in peaceful means, such as civil disobedience and dialogue.

War, with its devastating consequences on human lives, infrastructure, and societies, stands as a stark testament to humanity's failure to resolve differences peacefully. As Neruda eloquently portrays, the ravages of war leave scars that endure for generations, sowing seeds of bitterness, resentment, and suffering. In a world where advancements in technology have escalated the destructiveness of warfare, the urgency of embracing peace as a fundamental value becomes increasingly apparent.

Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolent resistance, exemplified in his successful advocacy for the Champaran sharecroppers, offers a compelling alternative to violence. In the face of oppression and exploitation, Gandhi mobilized the power of civil disobedience, uniting communities in peaceful protest and ultimately compelling the authorities to address the grievances of the marginalized farmers. His approach not only achieved tangible results but also highlighted the moral superiority and transformative potential of nonviolent action.

the pursuit of peace requires a commitment to addressing the root causes of conflicts, including poverty, inequality, discrimination, and injustice. By addressing underlying structural issues and promoting social justice and equitable development, societies can create conditions conducive to lasting peace and prosperity for all.

**OR**

- (b)** Imagine you are Mukund Padmanabhan from the Indian '(The Interview) and you interviewed M. Hamel, after he finished delivering the last lesson.

**(The Last Lesson)**

Write a paragraph on Hamel's views on individual responsibility and nationalism.

**Ans.**

As Mukund Padmanabhan, having just interviewed M. Hamel after his poignant delivery of the last lesson, I found his views on individual responsibility and nationalism to be profoundly insightful. Hamel emphasized the importance of individuals taking responsibility for their own education and cultural heritage, regardless of external circumstances. He believed that every person has a duty to preserve their language, history, and traditions, as they form the foundation of one's identity and sense of belonging. Furthermore, Hamel stressed the role of nationalism in fostering unity and resilience in the face of adversity. He spoke passionately about the need for citizens to love and honor their country, not out of blind obedience, but as a manifestation of their commitment to its values and ideals. Hamel's words underscored the notion that individual responsibility and nationalism are intertwined, each reinforcing the other in the pursuit of collective progress and preservation.

**13. Write ANY ONE of the following two questions, in 120-150 words:**

- (a)** Mr. Lamb: Oh, there's lot of things I've learned to do, and plenty of time for it. Years. I take it steady."

**(On the Face of it)**

Mr. Lamb, despite his handicap learnt to be independent and has proved where there is a will, there is a way. As a motivational speaker, write a speech to be delivered to school students, highlighting how one should develop resilience and determination to achieve one's goal citing references from this story.

You may begin like this.

To remain resilient during difficult times, will help one move forward in life.

**Ans.** Good Morning one and all. You all know that to remain resilient during difficult times is a quality that can truly define our journey in life. As we navigate the challenges and obstacles that come our way, it is essential to remember the inspiring example set by individuals like Mr. Lamb in the story "On the Face of It." Despite facing adversity in the form of a physical handicap, Mr. Lamb demonstrates remarkable resilience and determination, proving that where there is a will, there is indeed a way.

Dear students, imagine facing the world with a physical limitation, yet having the courage and strength to embrace life with unwavering positivity and determination. Mr. Lamb teaches us that disabilities need not define us; rather, it is our attitude and perseverance that shape our destiny.

In the face of his handicap, Mr. Lamb learns to be independent, mastering various tasks over the years with patience and perseverance. His journey teaches us that progress may be gradual, but with steady effort and a positive mindset, we can overcome any obstacle that stands in our way.

Students, let us draw inspiration from Mr. Lamb's story and apply it to our own lives. When faced with challenges or setbacks, remember that setbacks are not failures but opportunities for growth and learning. Cultivate resilience by staying focused on your goals, believing in your abilities, and never giving up, no matter how tough the journey may seem.

Just as Mr. Lamb took it steady, let us approach life with patience and determination, knowing that with time and perseverance, we can achieve anything we set our minds to. Let us embrace our challenges as opportunities to become stronger, wiser, and more resilient individuals.

In conclusion, remember that resilience is not just about bouncing back from adversity; it is about rising stronger and more determined than before. So, as you embark on your journey through life, carry with you the spirit of Mr. Lamb - a spirit of resilience, determination, and unwavering positivity. With resilience as your guide, you can conquer any obstacle and achieve your dreams.

**OR**

- (b)** Until then the Maharaja had given his entire time and energy to tiger hunting. He had no time to spare for the crown prince. **(The Tiger King)**

In the present times, we see people following their profession and running after money and neglect their children. As a professional counsellor, you address working parents, stressing the need to spend quality time with children. Take material from the story 'The Tiger King' to re-inforce your points of view.

You may begin like this.

Spending time with children will boost their confidence....

**5**

**Ans.** Spending time with children will boost their confidence. It is not just a leisure activity; it is a fundamental aspect of parenting that plays a crucial role in shaping a child's emotional well-being and development. In the story "The Tiger King," we witness the consequences of neglecting familial responsibilities in pursuit of personal interests, as illustrated by the Maharaja's obsession with tiger hunting at the expense of his relationship with his son, the crown prince.

Dear working parents, it is essential to recognize that while professional success and financial stability are important, they should not come at the cost of neglecting our children's needs for love, attention, and guidance. Just as the Maharaja prioritized tiger hunting over spending time with his son, many of us may find ourselves consumed by our careers or other pursuits, inadvertently neglecting the precious bond we share with our children.

The story of the Tiger King serves as a poignant reminder of the importance of balancing our professional ambitions with our responsibilities as parents. Despite his wealth and power, the Maharaja's failure to invest time and energy into nurturing his relationship with his son ultimately leads to tragic consequences. Similarly, as working parents, we must prioritize quality time with our children, fostering strong emotional connections and creating lasting memories that will shape their future relationships and outlook on life.

Spending time with children will boost their confidence, enhance their social and communication skills, and deepen their sense of security and belonging within the family unit. It provides opportunities for meaningful interactions, open dialogue, and shared experiences that are essential for building strong parent-child relationships and fostering a supportive and nurturing environment at home.

As professional counselors, we urge you to reflect on the lessons learned from "The Tiger King" and prioritize quality time with your children amidst your busy schedules. By making a conscious effort to spend quality time with our children, we can nurture strong, loving relationships that will withstand the test of time and enrich both their lives and ours immeasurably.