

**B-0-C**

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Total No. of Questions : 11 ]

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**XIIKDAR21**

**5000-C**

**ENGLISH**

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Section-A

(Reading Comprehension)

1. Read the following passage. Make notes and write a summary with a suitable title :

All writers are vain, selfish and lazy, and at the very bottom of their motives there lies a mystery. Writing a book is a horrible, exhausting struggle, like a long bout of some painful illness. One would never undertake such a thing if one were driven on by some demon whom one can neither resist nor understand. For all one knows that demon is simply the same instinct that makes a baby squall for attention. And yet it is also true that one can write nothing readable unless one constantly struggles to efface one's own personality. Good prose is like a windowpane I cannot say with certainty which of my motives are the strongest, but I know which of them deserve to be followed. And looking back through my work. I see that it is invariably where I lacked a political purpose that I wrote lifeless books and was betrayed into purple passages, sentences with meaning, decorative adjectives and hum bug generally.

2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

All autobiographies are lies. I do not mean unconscious, unintentional lies: I mean deliberate lies. No man is bad enough to tell the truth about himself during his lifetime, involving, as it must, the truth about his family and his friends and colleagues. And no man is good enough to tell the truth to posterity in a document which he suppresses until there is nobody left alive to contradict him. People keep asking me why I do not write my own biography. I reply that I am not at all interesting biographically. I have never killed any one. Nothing very unusual has happened to me. The first time I had my hands

examined by a palmist, he amazed me by telling me the history of my life, or as much of it as he had time for. Apparently he knew about things I had never told anyone. A few days later I mentioned in conversation with a friend that I had been dabbling in palmistry. He immediately put out his hand and challenged me to tell him anything in his life. I told him about himself exactly what the palmist had told me about myself.

Questions :

- (i) Why are autobiographies lies?
- (ii) Posterity means :
  - (A) future generation
  - (B) new generation
  - (C) old generation
  - D) dislike generation
- (iii) Why does a writer not write his own biography ?
- (iv) Do you feel that writer thinks highly of Palmistry?
- (v) 'No man is bad enough to tell the truth about himself.' Explain.
- (vi) 'Contract' is used as: (noun/verb/adjective/adverb)
- (vi) (vii) Use the word 'posterity' in a sentence other than that in the passage.
- (viii) What is the antonym of "dabbling"?
- (ix) Who challenged the writer to tell him anything in his life?
- (x) The word 'apparently' is used in the passage as : noun/adverb/verb/preposition

Section-B

(Writing Skills and Grammar)

3. You are Principal, J.N.M. School, Srinagar. Draft a classified advertisement (not exceeding 50 words) for the post of 'academic director in your school.

Or

You are Riwan Samson, in charge of school library. Write a letter to Published and stationary seller, requesting them to supply books mentioned in the list attached herewith.

4. Write a letter to the editor of a reputed newspaper, highlighting the issue of environmental pollution at various local picnic spots. (120-150 words)

Or

You are Vivek, the sports secretary of your school. Write a letter to National Prime Sports, Srinagar requesting them to supply their trade catalogue. Mention the items you would require and ask for a discount on the catalogue prices. (120–150 words).

5. You see a classified advertisement in the newspaper inviting applications for the post of office assistant in Godrej Soap Company, Srinagar. Write your job application and resume to the Chief Manager, G.S.C., applying for the advertised post. (120-150 words).

Or

You see a classified advertisement in the newspaper inviting applications for the post of Lecturer in Higher Secondary School, Srinagar. Write your job application and resume to the Principal, applying for the advertised post. (120-150 words).

6. Covid-19 has checked the economic growth of India. Write an article on “The effects of Covid-19 in 200-250 words’.

OR

Regular habit of morning walk and exercise helps in maintaining good health and prevention of many ailments. Write a speech on the benefits of morning walk and exercise to be delivered on the morning assembly. (200–250 words).

7. Edit the following passage :

It is his Karam his destiny says Mukesh grandmother who have watched her own husband go blind with dust from polish the glass of bangles can a god given lineage ever be broken she implies Born in the caste of bangle maker they have seen nothing but bangles in the house in the yard in every other house every other yard every street in Firozabad.

Section-C

(Literature)

8. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:

(a) Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling  
Out of their homes, but after the airport's  
Security check, standing a few yards away.  
I looked again at her, wan pale  
as a late winter's moon and felt that old  
familiar ache.

Questions :

- (i) Why are the young trees described as sprinting?
- (ii) Why has the mother been compared to the 'Late Winter's moon' ?
- (iii) Name the poet/poetess.
- (iv) Who is standing a few yards away ?

(b) Once upon a time there was a man who went around selling small rattraps of wire. He made them himself at odd moments from the material he got by begging in the stores or at the big farms. But even so, the business was not especially profitable, so he had to resort to both begging and petty thievery to keep body and soul together.

Questions :

- (i) Name the chapter and its writer.
- (ii) Why had he resorted to begging and thievery?
- (iii) Of what material, did he make rattraps ?
- (iv) Why was his business not profitable ?

9. Answer any five of the following questions in 30–40 words each :

- (a) How, in your opinion, can Mukesh realise his dream?
- (b) Why did the Peddler leave a Christmas gift for Edia ?
- (c) How was Gandhi able to influence lawyers ? Give two examples.
- (d) What does the poet want for the children of the slums ? Why?
- (e) In the poem 'keeping quiet', does the poet advocate total inactivity and death?

(f) What do you infer from Sam's letter to Charley?

(g) Why is an adult's perspective on life different from that of a child's ?

10. Answer the following question in 120-150 words :

The reader's sympathy is with the Peddler right from the beginning of the story. Why is this so ? Is the sympathy justified ?

Or

Why do celebrities find fault with an interview ?

11. Answer the following question in 150–180 words :

Why is Antarctica the place to go to, to understand the earth's present, past and future ?

Or

What happened at the Golden Lion Hotel ? (Evans Tries an O-level).