

DEHRADUN PUBLIC SCHOOL
ASSIGNMENT (2023-24)
SUBJECT - ENGLISH CORE (301)
CLASS - XII

Reading

Q1. Read the following passage carefully.

1. South India is known for its music and for its arts and rich literature. Madras or Chennai can be called the cultural capital and the soul of Mother India. The city is built low in pleasant contrast to the ghoulish tall structures of Mumbai and Kolkata. It has vast open spaces and ample greenery. The majestic spacious Mount Road looks like a river, wide and deep. A stroll on the Marina beach in the evening with the sea glistening in your face is refreshing. The breeze soothes the body, it refreshes the mind, sharpens the tongue and brightens the intellect.
2. One can never feel dull in Chennai. The intellectual and cultural life of the city is something of a marvel. Every street corner of Chennai has a literary forum, a debating society and music, dance and dramatic club. The intelligent arguments, the sparkling wit and dashing irony enliven both the political and the literary meetings. There is a young men's association which attracts brilliant speakers and equally brilliant listeners to its meetings. It is a treat to watch the speakers use their oratorical weapons. Chennai speakers are by and large sweet and urbane, though the cantankerous, fire-eating variety is quite often witnessed in political campaigning. The urbane speakers weave their arguments slowly like the unfolding of a leisurely Carnatic raga.
3. Music concerts and dance performances draw packed houses. There is hardly any cultural family in Chennai that does not learn and patronise music and dance in its pristine purity. Rukmani Devi Arundale's 'Kalakshetra' is a renowned international centre. It has turned out hundreds of celebrated maestros and dancers who have brought name and glory to our country. Carnatic music has a peculiar charm of its own. It has the moon's soft beauty and moon's soft pace. Thousands of people flock to the temple 'maidans' to get drunk with the mellifluous melodies of their favourite singers. They sit out all night in the grueling heat, swaying to the rhythm of 'nadaswaram' and rollicking with the measured beats of 'mridangam'. M.S. Subbulakshmi is considered to be the nightingale of the South.
4. The Gods might descend from heaven to see a South Indian damsel dancing. There are several varieties of South Indian dance – Bharatnatyam, Mohiniyattam, Kuchipudi, Kathakali, etc. Age cannot wither nor custom stale its beautiful variety. Bharatnatyam is the most graceful and enchanting dance form, whereas Kathakali is most masculine and virile. South Indian dances combine voluptuousness with purity. Here, every muscle and fibre of the body vibrates into life, and as the tempo increases, a divine flame-like passion bodies forth as if making an assault on heaven.
5. South Indian dress, particularly of the males, is puritanically simple. There you cannot distinguish a judge from an 'ardali' by their dress. South Indian ladies too look charming and graceful in their colourful Kanjeevaram and Mysore silk sarees.
6. South Indian cuisine, especially 'dosa', 'idli' and 'vada' are so delicious that now we can enjoy them almost everywhere in India as well as in some foreign countries. The Madras 'idli', which was a favourite of Gandhiji, is served with 'sambhar' and 'coconut chutney'.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option.

- i. For what is South India mainly known?
 - a. For tasty food
 - b. For its traditional, music, art, literature
 - c. For scenic beauty
 - d. For its delicate and precise ways

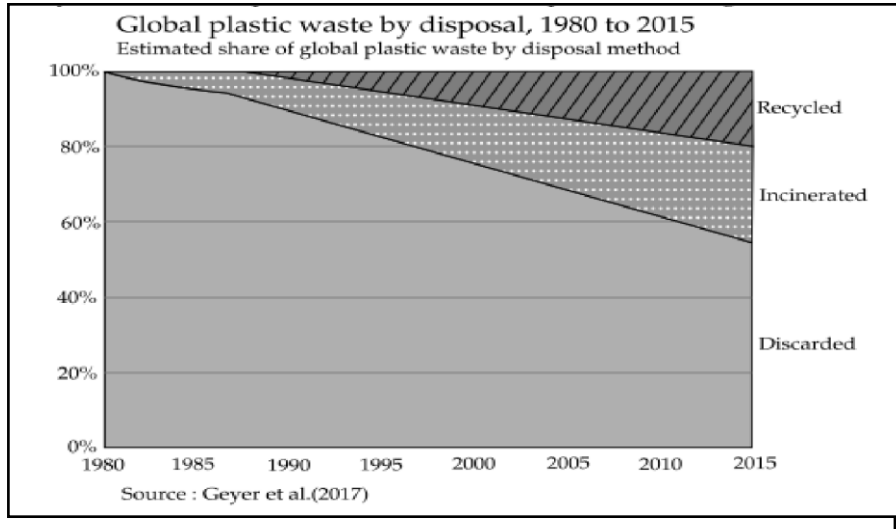
- ii. Why is it a treat to watch the speakers?
- a. Because they use oratorical weapons. b. Because they are witnessed in campaigning.
c. Because they weave their arguments fastly. d. Because they argue and complain a lot.
- iii. What is M.S. Subbulakshmi considered to be?
- a. Graceful and enchanting b. Masculine and virile
c. Nightingale of the South d. Moon's soft beauty
- iv. Which is the South Indian dance form?
- a. Bharatnatyam b. Kuchipudi c. Kathakali d. Kathak
- v. Why are South Indian dances special?
- a. Because Gods come from heaven to see them b. Because there aren't many varieties of dance
c. Because they are pure as well as sensuous d. Because they make an assault on heaven
- vi. How does the breeze on Marina Beach affect the author?
- a. Soothes the body, refreshes the mind, sharpens the tongue and brightens the intellect
b. Soothes the mind, refreshes the body, sharpens the intellect and brightens the tongue
c. Both a and b d. Does nothing
- vii. What makes Carnatic music charming?
- a. Because of its soft beauty and pace. b. Because of its tranquil beauty and pace.
c. Because of its harsh beauty and pace. d. Because of its apt beauty and pace.
- viii. What is the common connection between language, music and dance of South India?
- ix. Find a word from the passage (para-2) which means 'confident, comfortable and polite in social situations'.
- a. Urbane b. Wit c. Enliven d. Irony

Q2. Read the following passage carefully.

- When plastic waste is burnt, a complex weave of toxic chemicals is released. Breaking down PolyVinyl Chloride (PVC) used for packaging, toys and coating electrical wires. It produces dioxin, an organ chlorine which belongs to the family of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). A recent Dioxin assessment Report brought out by the United States Environment Protection Agency (USEPA) says the risk of getting cancer from dioxin is ten times higher than reported by the agency in 1994.
- Yet the Delhi government is giving the green signal to a gasification project which will convert garbage into energy without removing plastic waste. Former transport minister Rajendra Gupta, the promoter of this project, says this is not necessary. He claims no air pollution will be caused and that the ash produced can be used as manure. An earlier waste-to-energy project set-up in Timarpur failed. The new one, built with Australian assistance, will cost Rs.200 crore. It will generate 25 megawatts of power and gobble 1,000 tonnes of garbage every day.
- "Technologies like gasification are a form of incineration," says Madhumita Dutta, central coordinator with Toxics Link, New Delhi. Incineration merely transfers hazardous waste from a solid form to air, water and ash, she points out. Toxins produced during incineration include acidic gases, heavy metals as well as dioxins and furans. "The 'manure' will be hazardous and a problem to dispose," says Dutta.
- Municipal solid waste contains a mix of plastics. Breaking down this waste emits hydrochloric acid which attacks the respiratory system, skin and eyes, resulting in coughing, vomiting and nausea. Polyethylene generates volatile compounds like formaldehyde and acetaldehyde, both suspected carcinogenic. Breathing styrene from polystyrene can cause leukaemia. Polyurethane is associated with asthma. Dioxin released by PVC is a powerful hormone disrupter and causes birth defects and

reproductive problems. There is no threshold dose to prevent it and our bodies have no defence against it.

5. “Even the best run incinerators in the world have to deal with stringent norms, apart from contaminated filters and ash, making them hugely expensive to operate,” says Dutta. In Germany, air pollution devices accounted for two-thirds the cost of incineration. Despite such efforts, the European Dioxin Inventory noted that the input of dioxin into the atmosphere was the highest from incineration.

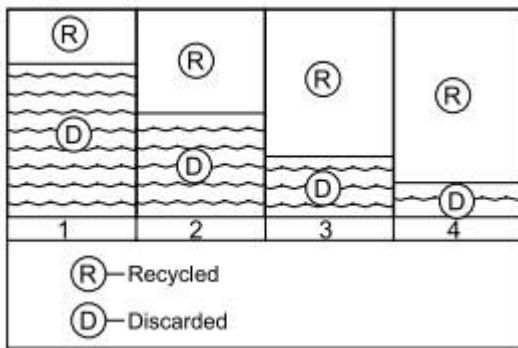


6. How has global plastic waste disposal method changed over time? In the chart, we see the share of global plastic waste that is discarded, recycled or incinerated from 1980 through to 2015. Prior to 1980, recycling and incineration of plastic was negligible; 100 percent was therefore discarded. From 1980 for incineration and 1990 for recycling, rates increased on average by about 0.7 percent per year. In 2015, an estimated 55 percent of global plastic waste was discarded, 25 percent was incinerated and 20 percent recycled.
7. “India does not have the facility to test dioxin and the cost of setting one up is prohibitively expensive,” says Dutta. Besides, Indian garbage has a low calorific content of about 800 cal/kg, since it has high moisture and requires additional fuel to burn. Toxics link calculates that the electricity generated from such technology will cost between Rs. 5-7 per unit, which is six times higher than conventional energy. India has chosen a dioxin preventive route and burning of chlorinated plastics is prohibited under Municipal Solid Waste and Biomedical Rules. Nearly 80 percent of Indian garbage is recyclable or compostable. Resident associations, the informal sector and the municipal corporation can make Delhi’s garbage disappear in a sustainable manner. “Instead, the government promotes end of pipeline solutions,” says Dutta.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

- i. Dioxin causes
 - a. cancer
 - b. heart attack
 - c. hypertension
 - d. sickness
- ii. Which statements are NOT TRUE according to the passage?
 1. India has adopted a preventive measure under which burning of chlorinated plastics is prohibited.
 2. USEPA says that the risk of getting cancer from dioxin is hundred times higher than reported by the agency in 1994.
 3. Incineration merely transfers hazardous waste from a solid form to air, water and ash.
 4. Hydrochloric acid attacks the digestive system, nose and eyes which results in diabetes and nausea.

- a. 2 and 4 b. 1 and 3 c. 3 and 4 d. 1 and 2
- iii. Garbage can be converted into energy by
- a. gasification b. gratification c. a chemical process d. incinators
- iv. Based on the graphical chart in the passage, choose the option that correctly states the ratio between discarded wastes to recycled global plastic waste in 2015.



- a. option 1 b. option 2 c. option 3 d. option 4
- v. Before 1980, how much global plastic waste was discarded?
- a. 40% b. 60% c. 80% d. 100%
- vi. Based on the given graphical representation of data in the passage, choose the option that lists the statements that are TRUE.
- In the year 2015, the incinerated plastic waste disposal was 80%.
 - In the year 1980, share of discarded plastic waste was 100%.
 - Discarded plastic waste was 60% in the year 2010.
 - Recycled plastic waste in the year 2000 was less than 70%.
- a. 1 and 3 b. 2 and 3 c. 1 and 4 d. 3 and 4
- vii. Former transport minister Rajendra Gupta claims that during gasification, ash produced can be used as.....
- viii. Converting waste to energy project will consume how much energy?

CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

- Q3.** You are Scout Master/Guide Captain of K.R. Sagar Public School, Mysore. You have decided to send a troop of scouts and guides of your school to the jamboree to be held at Lucknow for a week. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words to be placed on the school notice board inviting the names of those scouts and guides who are interested to participate in the jamboree. Invent the necessary details.
- Q4.** Your school is going to hold its annual sports day. You want Mr. Dhanraj Pillai, a noted hockey player to give away the prizes to the budding sportspersons of the school. Write a formal invitation in about 50 words requesting him to grace the occasion. You are Karun/Karan, Sports Secretary, Sunrise Global School, Agra.
- Q5.** Draft a formal reply to attend the inauguration of the showroom 'Regalia' on Sunday, the 20th July 20XX, at 11 a.m. at B-12, Rohini. You are Navin Jain/Nalini Jain of C-5, G.K.J, New Delhi.
- Q6.** You are Manoj/Mahi. You are going on a picnic with a group of your classmates to Kama Lake, near Karnal. Write an informal invitation to your friend Mohit/Mohita to join you on that day.
- Q7.** You have been invited to an evening bash at the Nirula's by Vibhu, your close friend, to celebrate his selection in NDA. Respond to the invitation. You are Nitin of 56, Gautama Enclave, New Delhi-56.
- Q8.** You have noticed many stray animals on the road during the busy hours of the day. These animals have caused traffic jam as well as accidents. You have already written to the concerned authorities but no action has been taken so far. So write a letter to the Editor of a leading newspaper telling him about the nuisance created by the stray animals.

- Q9.** Sunshine Public School, Pune requires two sports coaches (one male and one female). Each should be a degree holder in physical education as well as a SAI certified coach in athletics. You have seen their advertisement and you know that you have these qualifications. Write an application along with your resume. You are Praveen/Praveena, M-114, Najafarh, Delhi.
- Q10.** The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow. As a teenager you want India to achieve certain goals in the next ten years. Write an article in 120- 150 words on 'India After Ten Years'. You are Prabhu/Prabha.
- Q11.** You are Saba Parvin/ Parveen Kumar, a staff reporter of a national daily. You have been asked to cover an incident of major fire that broke out on the 19th floor of a 20-storey residential building Sachinam Heights located in Tardeo area of central Mumbai. The blaze erupted around 7 am, when many of its residents were still asleep. At least six persons were killed and 23 others injured in the incident. Write a report in 120- 150 words.

LITERATURE

Q12. Reference to Context.

FLAMINGO

THE LAST LESSON

- A.** Poor man! It was in honour of this last lesson that he had put on his fine Sunday clothes, and now I understood why the old men of the village were sitting there in the back of the room. It was because they were sorry, too, that they had not gone to school more. It was their way of thanking our master for his forty years of faithful service and of showing their respect for the country that was theirs no more.
- i. Why does the narrator refer to M. Hamel as 'Poor man!'?
- He empathizes with M. Hamel as he had to leave the village.
 - He believes that M. Hamel's "fine Sunday clothes" clearly reflected that he was not rich.
 - He feels sorry for M. Hamel as it was his last French lesson.
 - He thinks that M. Hamel's patriotism and sense of duty resulted in his poverty.
- ii. Choose the option that might raise a question about M. Hamel's "faithful service".
- When Franz came late, M. Hamel told him that he was about to begin class without him.
 - Franz mentioned how cranky M. Hamel was and his "great ruler rapping on the table".
 - M. Hamel often sent students to water his flowers, and gave a holiday when he wanted to go fishing.
 - M. Hamel permitted villagers put their children "to work on a farm or at the mills" for some extra money.
- iii. Which of the following idioms might describe the villagers' act of attending the last lesson most accurately?
- 'Too good to miss'
 - 'Too little, too late'
 - 'Too many cooks spoil the broth'
 - 'Too cool for school'
- iv. Choose the option that most appropriately fills in the blanks, for the following description of the given extract.
- The villagers and their children sat in class, forging with their old master a (i) ____ togetherness. In that moment, the class room stood (ii) _____. It was France itself, and the last French lesson a desperate hope to (iii)_____ to the remnants of what they had known and taken for granted. Their own (iv) _____.
- (i) graceful; (ii) still; (iii) hang on; (iv) country
 - (i) bygone; (ii) up; (iii) keep on; (iv) education
 - (i) beautiful; (ii) mesmerized; (iii) carry on; (iv) unity
 - (i) forgotten; (ii) transformed; (iii) hold on; (iv) identity
- v. Identify the tone of the speaker for M. Hamel.

LOST SPRING

B. She still has bangles on her wrist, but no light in her eyes. “Ek waqt ser bhar khana bhi nahin khaya.” she says, in a voice drained of joy. She has not enjoyed even one full meal in her entire lifetime—that’s what she has reaped! Her husband, an old man with a flowing beard says, “I know nothing except bangles. All I have done is make a house for the family to live in.” Hearing him one wonders if he has achieved what many have failed in their lifetime. He has a roof over his head! The cry of not having money to do anything except carry on the business of making bangles, not even enough to eat, rings in every home. The young men echo the lament of the elders. Little has moved with time, it seems in Firozabad, years of mind-numbing toil have killed all initiative and the ability to dream.

- i. ‘She still has bangles on her wrist, but no light in her eyes.’ This implies that
 - a. she is married but has lost the charm in her eyes.
 - b. she is a married woman who has lost her grace and beauty.
 - c. though she is married, her eyes are devoid of happiness.
 - d. she is a married woman who has lost her eyesight.
- ii. ‘He has a roof over his head!’ The tone of the author is
 - a. pessimistic
 - b. empathetic
 - c. sympathetic
 - d. optimistic
- iii. Choose the term which best matches the statement ‘The young men echo the lament of their elders.’
 - a. acceptance
 - b. reflection
 - c. reiteration
 - d. doubtfulness
- iv. ‘Years of mind-numbing toil have killed all initiative and the ability to dream’. This shows that:
 - a. the bangle makers are exhausted yet they are enterprising and have dreams.
 - b. the drudgery of work has destroyed their willingness to improve their lot.
 - c. the daily grind has stolen the dreams of the bangle makers and made them dull.
 - d. the bangle makers have been working so hard that there’s no time to dream.
- v. Why the bangle makers do not adopt any other means of survival?

DEEP WATER

C. My breath was gone. I was frightened. Father laughed, but there was terror in my heart at the overpowering force of the waves. My introduction to the Y.M.C.A swimming pool revived unpleasant memories and stirred childish fears. But in a little while I gathered confidence. I paddled with my new water wings, watching the other boys and trying to learn by aping them. I did this two or three times on different days and was just beginning to feel at ease in the water when the misadventure happened.

- i. Choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below.
Statement 1: The author’s father laughed to mock his son’s inability to swim.
Statement 2: The author wanted to swim just to prove to his father that he can swim.
 - a. Statement 1 is true but Statement 2 is false.
 - b. Statement 1 is false but Statement 2 is true.
 - c. Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 cannot be inferred.
 - d. Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 can be inferred.
- ii. “My introduction to the Y.M.C.A. swimming pool revived unpleasant memories and stirred childish fears.” It can be inferred that this was a clear case of
 - a. suppression
 - b. oppression
 - c. depression
 - d. repression
- iii. The misadventure that took place right after the author felt comfortable was that:
 - a. the author slipped and fell into the swimming pool.
 - b. a bully tossed him into the pool for the sake of fun.
 - c. his coach forgot to teach him how to handle deep water.
 - d. his father couldn’t help him from drowning into the water.
- iv. What was the misadventure that took place right after the author felt comfortable?
- v. Describe the YMCA swimming pool.

THE RATTRAP

D. "Since you have been so nice to me all day long, as if I was a captain, I want to be nice to you, in return, as if I was a real captain — for I do not want you to be embarrassed at this Christmas season by a thief; but you can give back the money to the old man on the roadside, who has the money pouch hanging on the window frame as a bait for poor wanderers.

The rattrap is a Christmas present from a rat who would have been caught in this world's rattrap if he had not been raised to captain, because in that way he got power to clear himself.

"Written with friendship
and high regard,
Captain von Stahle."

- i. Which of the following CANNOT be attributed to the peddler, according to the above extract?
a. indebtedness b. reform c. self-pity d. self-awareness
- ii. Why did the peddler gift a rattrap as a Christmas present?
a. It was all the peddler had that he could give away, and represented his turn to honesty.
b. It symbolized his successful escape from entrapment as he returned the stolen money.
c. It served as a reminder for Edla to be wary of the dangerous temptations of the world.
d. It was a practical and convenient present that the lady of the house could effectively use.
- iii. This communication includes:
1. a promise 2. Regret 3. an apology 4. shame
a. only 4 b. only 1 c. 1 & 3 d. 2 & 4
- iv. List the reason that makes Edla happy to see the gift.
- v. The peddler signed himself as "Captain von Stahle". Give reason.

INDIGO

E. They had merely heard that a mahatma who wanted to help them was in trouble with the authorities. Their spontaneous demonstration, in thousands, around the courthouse was the beginning of their liberation from fear of the British. The officials felt powerless without Gandhi's co-operation. He helped them regulate the crowd. He was polite and friendly. He was giving them concrete proof that their might, hitherto dreaded and unquestioned, could be challenged by Indians. The government was baffled. The prosecutor requested the judge to postpone the trial. Apparently, the authorities wished to consult their superiors.

- i. Which style, from those given below, is being used by the author, when he says, "Apparently, the authorities wished to consult their superiors."?
a. humorous b. dramatic c. sarcastic d. persuasive
- ii. The officials felt powerless because of:
a. Gandhi's refusal to co-operate with them b. Gandhi's polite and friendly behaviour
c. the crowd was listening only to Gandhi d. the crowd was getting violent
- iii. The demonstration proved that the:
a. polices of the British had failed.
b. dread instilled in the hearts of Indians had begun to lessen.
c. dealings with the Indian citizens had been unsuccessful.
d. might of the British had not been understood by Indians.
- iv. Gandhiji's behaviour towards the British prior to the proposal of postponement of the trial was that of:
a. Humorous b. Dramatic c. Sarcastic d. Persuasive
- v. List the indicator of beginning of peasant freedom from fear of the Britishers.

POETS AND PANCAKES

F. His success in films overshadowed and dwarfed his literary achievements-or so his critics felt. He composed several truly original 'story poems' in folk refrain and diction and also wrote a sprawling novel

Thillana Mohanambal with dozens of very deftly etched characters. He quite successfully recreated the mood and manner of the Devadasis of the early 20th century. He was an amazing actor-he never aspired to the lead roles-but whatever subsidiary role he played in any of the films, he performed better than the supposed main players. He had a genuine love for anyone he came across and his house was a permanent residence for dozens of near and far relations and acquaintances.

- i. Which of these statements is NOT TRUE about Subbu?
- a. His literary accomplishments stole the limelight from his films.
 - b. He was a gifted poet and writer and his literary works were noteworthy.
 - c. He was selfless in nature and was empathetic towards others.
 - d. He never hankered after lead roles and performed minor roles in films.
- ii. The word 'sprawling' has been used with the word 'novel'. Pick the option with which the word 'sprawling' CANNOT be used.
- a. metropolis
 - b. handwriting
 - c. campus
 - d. portrait
- iii. The phrase 'defltly etched' shows that Subbu
- a. created the roles delicately.
 - b. was skilful in creating the characters.
 - c. pondered beyond necessity about the characters.
 - d. gave very little thought to the characters.
- iv. Pick the option that best describes Subbu according to the extract.
- 1. benevolent
 - 2. powerful
 - 3. accomplished
 - 4. witty
 - 5. generous
 - 6. temperamental
- a. 4, 5 & 6
 - b. 2, 3 & 4
 - c. 1,3 & 5
 - d. 3,4 & 6
- v. Complete the following analogy correctly:
Overshadowed: dwarfed:: : inclined

THE INTERVIEW

G. 'Yet despite the drawbacks of the interview, it is a supremely serviceable medium of communication. "These days, more than at any other time, our most vivid impressions of our contemporaries are through interviews." Denis Brian has written. "Almost everything of moment reaches us through one man asking questions of another. Because of this, the interviewer holds a position of unprecedented power and influence."

- i. Despite the drawbacks, what is an interview?
- a. An interview is a supremely serviceable medium of communication.
 - b. An interview is a inferior medium of communication.
 - c. An interview is a medium to insult someone.
 - d. Both a and b.
- ii. Through which medium, how do we get most vivid impressions of our contemporaries ?
- a. Through interviews, we get most vivid impressions of our contemporaries.
 - b. Through meetings, we get most vivid impressions of our contemporaries.
 - c. Through calls, get most vivid impressions of our contemporaries.
 - d. Through meditation.
- iii. How would you describe Denis Brian's opinion on interviews? Choose the most appropriate option.
- 1. appeasing
 - 2. utilitarian
 - 3. approving
 - 4. praising
- a. Options 1 and 2
 - b. Options 3 and 4
 - c. Options 2 and 3
 - d. Options 1 and 4
- iv. According to Saul Bellow, interviews are like thumbprints on his windpipe. What emotion might best describe such an image?
- a. sadness
 - b. frustration
 - c. pain
 - d. fear
- v. Denis Brian states that the interviewer occupies a position of power and influence as _____
- a. everything reaches us through one man asking questions of another.
 - b. the interview is a supremely serviceable medium of communication.

- c. our most vivid impressions of our contemporaries are through interviews.
- d. interviews are like thumbprints on the interviewee's windpipe.

GOING PLACES

H. "She thinks money grows on trees, don't she, Dad?" said little Derek, hanging on the back of his father's chair. Their mother sighed. Sophie watched her back stooped over the sink and wondered at the incongruity of the delicate bow which fastened her apron strings. The delicate-seeming bow and the crooked back. The evening had already blacked in the windows and the small room was steamy from the stove and cluttered with the heavy-breathing man in his vest at the table and the dirty washing piled up in the corner. Sophie felt a tightening in her throat. She went to look for her brother Geoff.

- i. Choose the correct option about Sophie's parents based on the extract given above.
 - a. Sophie's parents' marriage was an example of harmony and affection.
 - b. Sophie's relationship with her parents was warm and friendly.
 - c. Sophie's mother was subdued while her father was detached.
 - d. Sophie and her brother didn't like to stay with their parents.
- ii. Choose the option that supports the contention coming through Derek's dialogue, "She thinks money grows on trees, don't she, Dad?".
 - a. Derek thought his sister to be unreasonable at times.
 - b. Derek had no faith in Sophie's abilities to open a boutique.
 - c. Derek thought of his sister as someone who was not realistic.
 - d. Derek was not at all happy about Sophie's habit of day dreaming.
- iii. It could be inferred that Sophie's mother was fatigued and burdened. Choose the option listing the elements that form the basis of this inference.

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. her sigh | 2. her delicate bow | 3. her apron's strings | 4. her crooked back |
| a. 1, 2 | b. 3, 4 | c. 2, 3 | d. 1, 4 |
- iv. "Sophie felt a tightening in her throat." Pick the option that lists Sophie's feelings in this context.

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. anxious | 2. annoyed | 3. uneasy | 4. terrified |
| a. Options 1 & 3 | b. Options 2 & 3 | c. Options 1 & 4 | d. Options 2 & 4 |
- v. The word used in the extract for "the quality or state of being incompatible" is

POETRY

MY MOTHER AT SIXTY SIX

I. Driving from my parent's
 home to Cochin last Friday
 morning, I saw my mother,
 beside me,
 doze, open mouthed, her face
 ashen like that
 of a corpse and realized with
 pain
 that she was as old as she
 looked but soon
 put that thought away...

- i. Choose the option that best applies to the given extract.

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. a conversation | 2. an argument | 3. a piece of advice |
| 4. a strategy | 5. a recollection | 6. a suggestion |
| a. 1, 3 & 6 | b. 2, 4 & 5 | c. Only 5 |
| | | d. Only 1 |
- ii. Pick a suitable option to describe the figure of speech mentioned in the above extract.

| | | |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| a. Metaphor | b. Personification | c. Irony |
| | | d. Alliteration |

iii. Choose the option that applies correctly to the two statements given below.

Assertion: The poet wards off the thought of her mother getting old quickly.

Reason: The poet didn't want to confront the inevitability of fate that was to dawn upon her mother.

- a. Assertion can be inferred but the Reason cannot be inferred.
- b. Assertion cannot be inferred but the Reason can be inferred.
- c. Both Assertion and Reason can be inferred.
- d. Both Assertion and Reason cannot be inferred.

iv. Choose the option that displays the same literary device as in the given lines of the extract.

her face

ashen like that of a corpse...

- a. Just as I had I had this thought, she appeared and...
- b. My thoughts were as heavy as lead that evening when ...
- c. I think like everyone else who...
- d. I like to think aloud when ...

v. Identify the line that implies an acceptance by the poet that her mother is aging.

KEEPING QUIET

J. 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. We refer to the human beings.
- b. We refer to the animals.
- c. We refer to the people around.
- d. We refer to the environment.

ii. Why does the poet want us to 'do nothing' for once?

- a. The poet wants us to 'do nothing' for once so that our mind can be at peace.
- b. The poet wants us to 'do nothing' for once so that our mind can be at tranquility.
- c. The poet wants us to enjoy life.
- d. Both a and b.

iii. What do you think is the mood of the poet in the above extract?

- a. gloomy, cynical
- b. reflective, inspired
- c. introspective, aware
- d. critical, demotivated

iv. Pick the option that DOES NOT complete the given sentence suitably, as per the extract.

Threatening ourselves with death _____

- a. feeds on the fear of death.
- b. challenges finiteness of life.
- c. keeps us rushing through life.
- d. makes us restless and impatient.

v. What might the "huge silence" signify?

- a. melancholy
- b. understanding
- c. discomfort
- d. flexibility

A THING OF BEAUTY

K. And such too is the grandeur of the dooms
We have imagined for the mighty dead;
All lovely tales that we have heard or read;
An endless fountain of immortal drink,
Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink.

- i. The 'endless fountain' gets its immortal drink from
 a. the river banks b. the tap c. the waterfall d. heaven's brink
- ii. Immortal drink' of the endless fountain is a reference to
 a. the continuous flow of sacred or holy water b. water of Ganges
 c. water from the Yamuna d. water from the tap
- iii. Pick the quote that matches best with— 'And such too is the grandeur of the dooms we have imagined for the mighty dead.'
 a. In the night of death, hope sees a star, and listening love can hear the rustle of a wing.
 b. When a great man dies, for years the light he leaves behind him, lies on the paths of men.
 c. Endings are not always bad, most times they're just beginnings in disguise.
 d. Cowards die many times before their death; the valiant never taste of death but once.
- iv. Pick the option that refers to what 'an endless fountain of immortal drink' suggests.
 1. inspirational deeds of great men 2. a ceaseless series of dreams
 3. an infinite source of strength 4. an elixir of life for upliftment of the soul
 5. an eternal source of delight 6. a boundless gift of love
 a. 1, 4 and 5 b. 2, 3 and 5 c. 1, 2 and 6 d. 2, 4 and 6
- v. Pick the option that pairs the TRUE statements based on the extract, from the list below.
 1. The bushes with fragrant flowers lift the human spirit and bring joy.
 2. Death is inevitable and everyone faces it no matter how powerful.
 3. Immortality is achieved by man when he drinks the nectar of joy.
 4. Legendary heroes and their heroic deeds instill inspiration in us.
 a. 1 and 2 b. 2 and 4 c. 1 and 4 d. 2 and 3

AUNT JENNIFER'S TIGER

L. Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen,
 Bright topaz denizens of a world of green
 They do not fear the men beneath the tree,
 They pace in sleek chivalric certainty

- i. How are Aunt Jennifer's tigers described?
 a. Aunt Jennifer's tigers have been described as golden yellow in colour.
 b. They prance fearlessly across a screen in sleek chivalric certainty.
 c. They are not afraid of men.
 d. They try to attack humans.
- ii. Why are they described as denizens of a world of green?
 a. because they are the immigrants of green forests.
 b. because they are the natives of dense green forests.
 c. because they are the endemic of dense green forests.
 d. because they are the natives of thin forests.
- iii. In the poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers', "denizens of world of green" refer to:
 a. humans who live in this world. b. Aunt Jennifer's tigers.
 c. tigers in the green spaces. d. nature and all its inhabitants.
- iv. Aunt Jennifer's tigers are not described as:
 a. Fearless b. Elegant c. Brave d. Captive
- v. List the phrase that uses the poetic device- alliteration.

A ROADSIDE STAND

M. No, in country money, the country scale of gain,
 The requisite lift of spirit has never been found,

Or so the voice of the country seems to complain,
I can't help owning the great relief it would be
To put these people at one stroke out of their pain.

- i. What is not found in country money?
 - a. The requisite lift of spirit is never found in country money, at the country scale of gain.
 - b. The requisite lift of spirit is always there in country money, at the country scale of gain.
 - c. Both a and b.
 - d. Peace and tranquility.
- ii. Who complains and why?
 - a. The voice (villagers) of the country never complains because relief is given to them from the government.
 - b. The voice (villagers) of the country complains because relief is given to them from the government or greedy good-doers.
 - c. The voice (villagers) of the country complains because no relief is given to them from the government or greedy good-doers.
 - d. Both b and c.
- iii. The 'country money' contextually here refers to:
 - a. money kept aside for the rural development.
 - b. wealth accumulated by the whole country.
 - c. meager income earned by the countryside people.
 - d. riches collected by the ancestral farmers over time.
- iv. Pick the option that mentions elements justifying monetary aspect as the 'requisite lift of spirit'.

| | | | | |
|---------------|------------|----------------|------------|---------|
| 1. confidence | 2. ego | 3. self-esteem | 4. status | 5. fame |
| a. 1, 2, 4 | b. 2, 4, 5 | c. 1, 3, 4 | d. 1, 3, 5 | |
- v. Choose the correct option with respect to the two statements given below.

Statement 1: The poet is agitated and depressed.

Statement 2: The poet realizes the futility of his thought about giving up.

 - a. Statement 1 can be inferred but Statement 2 cannot be inferred.
 - b. Statement 1 cannot be inferred but Statement 2 can be inferred.
 - c. Statement 1 and Statement 2 can be inferred.
 - d. Statement 1 and Statement 2 cannot be inferred.

VISTAS

THE THIRD LEVEL

N. Have you ever been there? It's a wonderful town still, with big old frame houses, huge lawns, and tremendous trees whose branches meet overhead and roof the streets. And in 1894, summer evenings were twice as long, and people sat out on their lawns, the men smoking cigars and talking quietly, the women waving palm-leaf fans, with the fire-flies all around, in a peaceful world. To be back there with the First World War still twenty years off, and World War II over forty years in the future... I wanted two tickets for that.

- i. Who does 'you' refer to?
 - a. Charley's psychiatrist, Sam Weiner
 - b. Charley's wife, Louisa
 - c. The reader
 - d. Nobody in particular, it is a figure of speech.
- ii. Choose the option that best describes the society represented in the above extract.
 - a. content, peace-loving
 - b. leisurely, sentimental
 - c. orthodox, upper class
 - d. comfortable, ancient
- iii. Imagine that the city of Galesburg is hosting a series of conferences and workshops. In which of the following conferences or workshops are you least likely to find the description of Galesburg given in

the above extract?

- a. Gorgeous Galesburg: Archiving a Tourist Paradise
- b. Welcome to the home you deserve: Galesburg Realtors
- c. Re-imagining a Warless Future: Technology for Peace
- d. The Woman Question: The world of women at home

iv “tremendous trees whose branches meet overhead and roof the streets” is NOT an example of

- 1. imagery 2. metaphor 3. alliteration 4. anachronism
- a. Options 1 and 2 b. Options 1 and 3
- c. Options 2 and 3 d. Options 2 and 4

v. How would you describe Charley?

- a. confused, happy-go-lucky b. escapist, adventurous
- c. imaginative, nostalgic d. friendly, responsible

THE ENEMY

O. The man moaned with pain in his stupor but he did not awaken.

“The best thing that we could do would be to put him back in the sea,” Sadao said, answering himself. Now that the bleeding was stopped for the moment he stood up and dusted the sand from his hands.

“Yes, undoubtedly that would be best,” Hana said steadily. But she continued to stare down at the motionless man.

“If we sheltered a white man in our house we should be arrested and if we turned him over as a prisoner, he would certainly die,” Sadao said.

“The kindest thing would be to put him back into the sea,” Hana said. But neither of them moved. They were staring with curious repulsion upon the inert figure.

i. In which of the following options can the underlined words NOT be replaced with ‘stupor’?

- a. She hung up the phone feeling as though she had woken up from a slumber.
- b. The manager complained about the employee’s sluggishness.
- c. He seemed to be in a trance when the doctor called upon him last week.
- d. Seeing him in a daze, the lawyer decided not to place him in the witness box.

ii. Pick the option that best describes Sadao and Hana in the passage.

- a. Sadao: scrupulous Hana: wary
- b. Sadao: daring Hana: prudent
- c. Sadao: prudent Hana: suspicious
- d. Sadao: wary Hana: daring

iii. Pick the idiom that best describes the situation in which Sadao and Hana were in.

- a. to be like a fish out of water b. like water off a duck’s back
- c. to be dead in the water d. to be in hot water

iv. Choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below.

Statement 1: Sadao and Hana cared about the soldier but were worried about the consequences of being considerate.

Statement 2: Sadao and Hana wanted to shirk their responsibilities of looking after an injured soldier, who could be an American.

- a. Statement 1 is true but Statement 2 is false. b. Statement 1 is false but Statement 2 is true.
- c. Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 are true. d. Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 are false.

v. Pick the quote that best describes the theme of the story.

- a. World belongs to humanity, not this leader, that leader or that king or prince or religious leader.
World belongs to humanity.
- b. You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirt.

- c. The purpose of human life is to serve, and to show compassion and the will to help others.
- d. To deny people their human rights is to challenge their very humanity.

JOURNEY TO THE END OF THE EARTH

P. Students on Ice, the programme I was working with on the Shokalskiy, aims to do exactly this by taking high school students to the ends of the world and providing them with inspiring educational opportunities which will help them foster a new understanding and respect for our planet. It's been in operation for six years now, headed by Canadian Geoff Green, who got tired of carting celebrities and retired, rich, curiosity-seekers who could only 'give' back in a limited way. With Students on Ice, he offers the future generation of policymakers a life-changing experience at an age when they're ready to absorb, learn, and most importantly, act.

- i. Students on Ice is headed by Geoff Green. Select the option to fill in the blank correctly.
 - a. a travelogue b. an expedition c. a globetrotting d. a tour
- ii. Choose the option that marks the ODD ONE OUT based on your reading of the above extract.
 - a. Sumit donates 10% of his monthly income to the environment-friendly NGOs.
 - b. Manmeet and her twin plant a new plant on their birthday every year.
 - c. Vivek invests in eco-friendly cosmetics that are packaged in plastic containers.
 - d. Afsana plans to device a machine that recycles the biodegradable wastes from home.
- iii. Pick the option that characterizes the celebrities based on your understanding of the extract.

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| 1. overachiever | 2. zealous | 3. miserly | 4. impassive |
| a. 1, 2 | b. 3, 4 | c. 1, 3 | d. 2, 4 |
- iv. Choose the option that lists the reasons for Green's programme.
 - 1. making youngsters realize the gory reality of the planet.
 - 2. provoking the youth to think about the future earnestly.
 - 3. giving a chance of exploring the north pole to the young generation
 - 4. providing travel opportunities to students that were unfortunate.

| | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| a. 1, 2 | b. 3, 4 | c. 1, 3 | d. 2, 4 |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
- v. Choose the correct option with respect to the statements given below.

Statement 1: Antarctica is a lesson in itself for the readers of the text.

Statement 2: Antarctica gives an insight to the damage being done to Earth by humanity.

 - a. Statement 1 can be inferred but Statement 2 cannot be inferred from the text.
 - b. Statement 1 cannot be inferred but Statement 2 can be inferred from the text.
 - c. Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 can be inferred from the text.
 - d. Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 cannot be inferred from the text.

THE TIGER KING

Q. From that day onwards it was celebration time for all the tigers inhabiting Pratibandapuram. The state banned tiger hunting by anyone except the Maharaja. A proclamation was issued to the effect that if anyone dared to fling so much as a stone at a tiger, all his wealth and property would be confiscated.

The Maharaja vowed he would attend to all other matters only after killing the hundred tigers. Initially the king seemed well set to realise his ambition.

Not that he faced no dangers. There were times when the bullet missed its mark, the tiger leapt upon him and he fought the beast with his bare hands. Each time it was the Maharaja who won.

- i. The tone of the author when he says, 'it was celebration time for all tigers' is
 - a. solemn. b. sarcastic. c. sympathetic. d. mocking.
- ii. Pick the pair of TRUE statements based on the extract.
 - 1. Tiger hunting was absolutely banned in the kingdom.
 - 2. The Maharaja was extremely courageous and fearless.
 - 3. The Maharaja paid no heed to matters related to his kingdom.

4. The Maharaja was able to fulfill his ambition, without any perils.
 a. 1 and 2 b. 2 and 4 c. 2 and 3 d. 1 and 4
- iii. In which of the following options can the underlined words NOT be replaced with 'proclamation'?
- The politician shared his manifesto during the election meeting.
 - All the citizens of the kingdom had to abide by the emperor's edict.
 - The communiqué made by the official had a disastrous effect.
 - The decree of the state forbade cruelty against animals.
- iv. On the basis of this passage, pick the option that enumerates the characteristics of the king.
- gullible 2. arrogant 3. willful
 - aggressive 5. apathetic 6. scrupulous
- a. 1, 2 and 6 b. 3, 4 and 6 c. 3, 5 and 6 d. 2, 3 and 5
- v. On the basis of this passage, state two qualities that enumerate the characteristics of the King.

ON THE FACE OF IT

R. MR LAMB: look, boy, look.... What do you see?

DERRY: just....grass and stuff. Weeds.

MR LAMB: some call them weeds. If you like, then.... a weed garden, that. There's fruit and there are flowers, and trees and herbs. All sorts. But over there.... weeds. I grow weeds there. Why one green, growing plant is called a weed and another 'flower'? Where's the difference. It's all life.... growing. Same as you and me.

DERRY: we're not the same.

MR LAMB: I'm old. You're young. You've got a burned face, I've got a tin leg. Not important. You're standing there.... I'm sitting here. Where's the difference?

- How would you describe Derry's tone when he says – "we're not the same"?
 a. Angry b. Perplexed c. Gloomy d. Practical
- Which of the following represents Mr. Lamb's analysis of flowers and weeds?
 a. Comparison is an act of violence against the self.
 b. If you have a garden in your library, everything will be complete.
 c. One man's freedom fighter is another man's terrorist.
 d. The cosmos is within us. We are made of star-stuff.
- Like the play, the given extract is a study in contrasts. What does Mr. Lamb seek to do by bringing up distinctions?
 a. To explain that weeds are important and should be valued and cared for as much as flowers.
 b. To emphasize that distinctions are made by man to serve specific purposes and uses.
 c. To highlight that labels are arbitrary and essentially reflect a common life experience.
 d. To remind Derry that the only difference that matters is that of attitude and experience.
- 'Why is one green growing plant called a ———— and another a flower?' asks Mr. Lamb.
 a. thorn b. grass c. weed d. fruit
- What difference is Mr. Lamb pointing to Derry?

MEMORIES OF CHILDHOOD

S. When I heard this, I didn't want to laugh any more, I felt terribly sad. How could they believe that it was disgusting if one of us held that package in his hands, even though the vadai had been wrapped first in a banana leaf, and then parcelled in paper? I felt so provoked and angry that I wanted to touch those wretched vadais myself straightaway. Why should we fetch and carry for these people, I wondered. Such an important elder of ours goes meekly to the shops to fetch snacks and hands them reverently, bowing and shrinking, to this fellow who just sits there and stiffs them into his mouth. The thought of it infuriated me.

- The elder handing snacks reverently, bowing and shrinking to the fellow indicates that the 'fellow' was:

1. condescending.
 2. unassuming.
 3. submissive.
 4. disdainful.
 5. aggressive
 6. domineering.
 - a. 2, 3 and 6
 - b. 1, 4 and 5
 - c. 1, 4 and 6
 - d. 2, 3 and 4
- ii. Pick an idiom that DOES NOT describe how the author felt about this incident.
- a. at the end of one's tether
 - b. be in a black mood
 - c. up in arms
 - d. throw up one's hands
- iii. Based on the given context, choose the option that illustrates when a person can be provoked, out of the examples given below.
1. The employees organized a peaceful protest outside the firm.
 2. The manager ill-treated one of the employees and wrongfully terminated him.
 3. The employees wrote a letter of complaint against the manager.
 4. The director of the firm scheduled a meeting for reconciliation.
 - a. Option 1
 - b. Option 2
 - c. Option 3
 - d. Option 4
- iv. The given extract DOES NOT talk about:
- a. author's realization of her misconception.
 - b. elders being ill-treated in her society.
 - c. the haughtiness of the 'fellow'.
 - d. how the author was enraged.
- v. What did Bama notice?

Q13. SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:

FLAMINGO

THE LAST LESSON

- i. What did the French teacher tell his students in his last French lesson? What impact did it have on them?
- ii. What was the implication of the blacksmith's remark? How did Franz respond to his remark?
- iii. What does M. Hamel mean when he says, 'we've all a great deal to reproach ourselves with'?
- iv. If this had been M. Hamel's first lesson, how do you think the school experience of the students might have been impacted?

LOST SPRING

- i. What explanation does the author offer for the children not wearing footwears?
- ii. What instances in the chapter reveal that according to infrastructural point of view, Ferozabad is a neglected city?
- iii. What has Mukesh's father achieved in life despite years of hard back-breaking labour?
- iv. Why do you think Mukesh is content to dream of cars and doesn't dream of flying a plane?

DEEP WATER

- i. What sort of terror seized Douglas as he went down with the water with a yellow glow? How could he feel that he was still alive?
- ii. 'I jumped with everything I had'. Why did Douglas jump? Did the jump make any difference?
- iii. What intensified Douglas's will to live?
- iv. Seemingly small everyday wins are actually the greatest learnings of life. Comment on the statement with reference to the chapter "Deep Water".

THE RATTRAP

- i. How did the tramp make his living? What idea do you get about him from the way he earned to keep his body and soul together?
- ii. How does the metaphor of the rattrap serve to highlight the human predicament?
- iii. What did the ironmaster plan to do for the so called Captain?
- iv. If the world is "nothing but a big rattrap" as the tramp stated in the story 'The Rattrap', who might the rattrap peddler be? Discuss.

INDIGO

- i. Why did Gandhiji visit Muzzafarpur on his way to Champaran? Who received him there?
- ii. How were the Britishers shown that their dreaded and unquestioned authority could be challenged by the Indians?
- iii. What were the terms of the indigo contract between the British landlords and the Indian peasants?
- iv. The peasants were themselves the most crucial agents in the success of the Champaran Civil Disobedience. Expand.

POETS AND PANCAKES

- i. Who was the English visitor to the studios and what was the purpose of his visit?
- ii. Why was Subbu considered number two at Gemini Studios?
- iii. Why did Asokamitran pray for crowd shooting all the time?
- iv. What kind of effect does Asokamitran's style of writing have on the reader?

THE INTERVIEW

- i. "The Name of the Rose" deals with medieval history. Was it responsible for the novel's success?
- ii. How did Lewis Carroll react to the interviews?
- iii. What do you think about Umberto Eco? Does he like being interviewed? Give reasons in support of your answer from the text 'The Interview'.
- iv. Why do you think Christopher Silvester describes the viewpoints of other writers and authors when discussing the concept of an interview? Support your opinion with reference to any one writer cited.

GOING PLACES

- i. Sophie is a typical adolescent hero-worshipper who carries her fantasizing too far. Comment.
- ii. "Sophie's dreams and disappointments are all in her mind." Do you agree? Give reasons in support of your answer.
- iii. Why was the visit of Sophie's father and his family to watch United 'their weekly pilgrimage'?
- iv. The story is written in a manner that it makes it difficult to point out clearly if Sophie met Danny Casey or not. Suggest possible reasons for such writing.

POETRY

MY MOTHER AT SIXTY SIX

- i. How did the face of Kamala's mother betray her thoughts?
- ii. What is the significance of the images, 'sprinting trees' and 'merry children spilling out of their homes' in the poem "My Mother at Sixty-six"?
- iii. What childhood fear do you think Kamala speaks of?
- iv. The pain of separation is expressed both literally and metaphorically in this poem. Elucidate.

KEEPING QUIET

- i. How would man be together in a 'sudden strangeness'?
- ii. What kind of wars does the poet refer to in the poem?
- iii. What does the poet mean when he says that a chemical war will result in a 'victory with no survivors'?
- iv. In a world that is constantly running after 'more' chasing the next new thing, would it be fair to think of Neruda's call as merely a fanciful idea?

A THING OF BEAUTY

- i. What images does the poet use to describe the beautiful bounty of the earth?
- ii. How does beauty leave an indelible imprint on our mind?
- iii. How, according to the poet, does the darkness and despair of life wither away?
- iv. If you were given an opportunity to share your perception of beauty, what would you say? Explain.

AUNT JENNIFER'S TIGERS

- i. What do 'tigers' symbolize in the poem?
- ii. Where does Aunt Jennifer seek refuge on being victimized by the male world? Does she find her

freedom?

- iii. Do you think Aunt Jennifer is both a victim and an oppressor? Comment.
- iv. Would you say that the poem ends on a note of hope? Justify your opinion.

A ROADSIDE STAND

- i. Explain: “soothe them out of them wits” with reference to the poem ‘The Roadside Stand’.
- ii. What was the plea of the folk who had put up the roadside stand?
- iii. What news in the poem ‘A Roadside Stand’ is making its round in the village?
- iv. Though money holds the same value everywhere, the poet draws a distinction between city money and country money. Elaborate.

VISTAS

THE THIRD LEVEL

- i. Do you think that the third level was a medium of escape for Charley? Why?
- ii. Do you find an intersection of time and space in the story?
- iii. What does the third level refer to?
- iv. Why do you think Charley withdrew nearly all the money he had from the bank to buy old-style currency?

THE ENEMY

- i. What reasons would you ascribe to the General beating his wife?
- ii. Why do you think Hana believes that the man is a “menace, living or dead”?
- iii. Why did Sadao and Hana not marry heedlessly in America?
- iv. Sadao and Hana have a moral compass which urges them to save the prisoner’s life. Do we all need this moral compass? Why?

JOURNEY TO THE END OF THE EARTH

- i. ‘Akademik Shokalskiy’ was heading towards Antarctica, why?
- ii. Why the programme ‘Students on Ice’ became so successful?
- iii. Why Geoff Green started to bring only students to Antarctica?
- iv. Antarctica is a doorway to the past. Explain.

THE TIGER KING

- i. When he was only ten days old, a prediction was made about the future of the Tiger King. What was ironic about it?
- ii. What sort of hunt did the Maharaja offer to organize for the high-ranking British officer? What trait of the officer does it reveal?
- iii. What happened to the tiger provided by the dewan?
- iv. Do you think an author who includes several instances of satire in a story faces the risk of being too cynical? Explain.

ON THE FACE OF IT

- i. Why is one green, growing plant is called ‘weed’ and another ‘flower’? What does Mr. Lamb mean by this statement?
- ii. “So you will. But the world won’t. The world’s got a whole face, and the world’s there to be looked at.” Explain.
- iii. How have people been sermonizing to Derek about his burnt face? How does Derek feel about this sermonizing?
- iv. ‘It is not merely age but experience that counts.’

With reference to any one example from the text, comment on how Derry found Mr. Lamb different from other adults he had encountered.

MEMORIES OF CHILDHOOD

- i. How did Zitkala-Sa’s first day in the land of apples begin?

- ii. When did Bama come to know about the social discrimination towards her community?
- iii. Why did the landlord's man ask Bama's brother on which street he lived? What was the significance?
- iv. Zitkala-Sa mentions the indignities she had to suffer as a child. How do such indignities break the morale of a child?

Q14. LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS:

FLAMINGO

THE LAST LESSON

- i. The story "The last lesson" is all about 'linguistic chauvinism'. Comment.
- ii. Though tempted by the bright day, Franz stated that he had "the strength to resist, and hurried off to school." As the story progresses, the reader realizes that Franz, M. Hamel and the villagers would perhaps need "the strength to resist" much larger forces.
Discuss how the story provides strategies for resistance and protection of one's identity and community through its events and characters. Provide relevant textual details to support your argument.

LOST SPRING

- i. Slums are the ugly underbelly of all big cities the world over. Describe the contrasting world of 'haves' and 'have-nots' inhabiting these two worlds.
- ii. How does the story, 'Lost Spring' highlight the apathy of society and those in power to end the vicious cycle of poverty? Support your answer with textual evidence.

DEEP WATER

- i. How was Douglas able to brush aside his fear of water?
- ii. Imagine that the bully who threw Douglas into the pool, reads this chapter and realizes his mistake. As the bully, write a dairy entry penning down your response to Douglas' perseverance and your own feelings of guilt and regret.

THE RATTRAP

- i. What made the peddler finally change his ways?
- ii. How would you compare the peddler's actions in relation to the crofter and Edla? Would you say kindness does not always beget kindness, and that the conditions for receiving kindness are important for it to truly transform people? Elaborate. Provide relevant textual details to support the analysis.

INDIGO

- i. Why did Gandhiji's casual visit to Champaran get extended to over a year?
- ii. Imagine Gandhi were to deliver a speech to students in present day India showing them the path to becoming responsible world leaders. Based on your understanding of Gandhi's own leadership skills, write a speech, as Gandhi, addressing the students about the qualities that every leader and politician should nurture.
Dear students, you are all leaders of social change. I see many bright and enthusiastic faces that assure me that our future is in good hands. I have learnt from my own experience.....(continue).....

POETS AND PANCAKES

- i. Subbu was 'tailor-made for films'. How did he use his genius in various activities in the Gemini Studios?
- ii. Imagine Asokamitran witnesses a film shooting and visits a film set of presentday Bollywood. As Asokamitran write a diary entry penning down the transformation you notice between film making of yesteryears and today.

THE INTERVIEW

- i. How does Mukund Padmanabhan comment on Eco's academic writing style? What does Eco say about it
- ii. Imagine that you are Christopher Silvester. You have been invited to a seminar series titled – 'Ethics and Techniques of Interviewing'. The organisers would like you to speak about the challenges of conducting interviews, and skills interviewers must have in order to conduct good and ethical

interviews.

Based on your reading of *The Interview*, Part I and II, draft your speech. Include relevant details from the text in support of your answer.

GOING PLACES

- i. Describe the bond between Geoff and Sophie in spite of differences in their temperament and thinking.
- ii. Imagine Sophie's father finds out about Sophie's going to the canal to meet Danny Casey which leads him to think that she has lied to everyone about the whole affair. He is infuriated and prohibits Sophie from going anywhere except to school. As Geoff, write a diary entry disapproving of your father's punishment by citing your reasons for being sympathetic to Sophie.

You may begin this way:

Monday, 2 September xxxx

9 PM

I cannot get myself to stand with father in his tirade against Sophie. Sure, she is not the most...

POETRY

MY MOTHER AT SIXTY SIX

- i. Analyze the concept of losing our dear ones on account of old age in the context of the poem.
- ii. Imagine you are the poet's friend.

Write a dialogue exchange between yourself and the poet where the latter confides in you about her fears and asks for your advice.

What would your advice be –to face her fears, to ignore them or something else?

KEEPING QUIET

- i. It could be said that the poem 'Keeping Quiet' presents the poet's philosophy for a different kind of world. If you were asked to highlight elements of Neruda's vision that resonate in your specific social, political and cultural context, which three main ideas would you engage with? Use relevant textual details to support your analysis.
- ii. How, according to the poet, can keeping quiet change our attitude towards life?

A THING OF BEAUTY

- i. We have often heard the phrase: 'Beauty is skin deep'. In spite of that, we often see people idolizing actors and celebrities who are good looking and attractive. You have a conversation regarding this with your friend who believes that physical beauty defines a person. Write down that conversation.
- ii. How does Keats show his unhappiness with his fellow human beings?

AUNT JENNIFER'S TIGERS

- i. Steeped in feminism, Rich presents a vivid criticism of a male-dominated societal setup. Comment.
- ii. Explain the stark difference in the death of Aunt Jennifer and the tigers prancing.

A ROADSIDE STAND

- i. Through this poem, Frost underlines his sympathy for the rural people in opposition to the uncaring capitalistic elite. Justify.
- ii. The rural-urban divide causes immense anguish to the poet. How does he express this?

VISTAS

THE THIRD LEVEL

- i. How does the psychiatrist friend interpret Charley's visit to the third level?
- ii. Describe the third level as a science fantasy?

THE ENEMY

- i. How would you explain the reluctance of the soldier to leave the shelter of the doctor's home even when he knew he couldn't stay there without risk to the doctor and himself?
- ii. What impression do you form about Dr Sadao as a man and a surgeon on your reading the chapter 'The Enemy'?

JOURNEY TO THE END OF THE EARTH

- i. 'Take care of small things and big things will take care of themselves'. What is the relevance of this statement in the context of the Antarctica?
- ii. Imagine an interview where Green is asked to explain more about his work and why he decided to initiate programs for students.

Keeping both Green and the interviewer's perspectives in mind, pen down this interview.

THE TIGER KING

- i. The astrologers predicted about the king, "The child will grow up to become the warrior of warriors, hero of heroes, champion of champions." Do you think this prediction was right?
- ii. The king was callous as a ruler and behaved whimsically. Thus, the people in his kingdom suffered while he fulfilled his desire of killing a hundred tigers.

Do you find leaders or politicians in the world today being indifferent to the needs of the people and behaving in the same way? Comment with relevant examples.

ON THE FACE OF IT

- i. What are your personal views on the statement, "Blind people only ought to be with other blind people"?
- ii. In today's world, the mantra for success is considered to be the ability to think out of the box. At the same time, as in the play, acceptance is difficult for those who are different.

As Derry says, "After I'd come home, one person said, "He'd have been better off stopping in there. In the hospital. He'd be better off with others like himself."

How would you reconcile both these ideas, of a demand for difference, on one hand, and a need to isolate difference on the other hand?

MEMORIES OF CHILDHOOD

- i. The two accounts that you read above are based in two distant cultures. What is the commonality of theme found in both of them?
- ii. Untouchability is not only a crime, but it is also inhuman. Why and how did Bama decide to fight against it?