Section - A : Reading Comprehension (Text-Intensive Study)

Read the following extracts and answer the questions given below them:

So he went downstairs, opened the front door quite softly and went into the garden. When the children saw him, they were frightened. They all ran away. And in the garden it was Winter again. Only the little boy did not run, for his eyes were so full of tears that he did not see the Giant.

Questions :
1. Why was there winter again in the garden ?
2. Why could the little boy not see the Giant ?

Each of us is programmed biologically with rhythms and cycles. A new science called Chronobiology (the biology of time) studies the effects of these cycles on our everyday life. Dr. Franz Halberg is the founder professor of Chronobiology centre at the University of Minnesota, USA.

Questions :

Fill in the gaps and complete the sentences :

3. Chronobiology is ........................................
4. Dr. Franz Halberg is ....................................

Ranjan : Mummy, I'm going to Kiran's house. I'll be late. But please don't keep on ringing Kiran's parents. It looks so bad. Do you think I'm a kid ?

Mummy : O.K. I won't. But why do you go there every other day ? You can ......

Questions :

5. What is Ranjan's request to his mummy ?
6. Where is Ranjan going ?
Chairperson: But Ragini, tell me why there is a rise in India's export of diamonds.

Ragini: Sir, we asked the same question to the well-known diamond merchant Mr. Bakshi and we have got his answer recorded. Sir, please, listen to it.

Questions:

7. What does the Chairperson inquire?

8. What is Mr. Bakshi?

Here, Helen Keller talks about how her teacher helped her to learn. Helen Keller became deaf and blind when she was very young. Since she was deaf, she did not learn to speak. So her parents were extremely worried. Once they found Miss. Sullivan, a teacher for the deaf and blind. That changed Helen's Life. Here is an account of the turning point in her life in her own words.

Questions:

9. Why were Helen's parents worried?

10. What was Miss Sullivan?

Shepherd: But in this case I do need your permission, because I must change my clothes with yours. Lend me your Abbot's robe for a few days and send me to the king. You know how closely I resemble you.

Questions:

11. What permission did the shepherd want from the Abbot?

12. With whom did the shepherd resemble?

Mr. and Mrs. Dalal were sitting in the verandah and having tea. Suddenly they heard loud music from their children's room and rushed to their room. Jagat and Ved were dancing to the loud music of a film song. Mrs. Dalal shouted, "Reduce the volume of the CD player. It's unbearable."

Questions:

13. Why did Mr. and Mrs. Dalal rush to their children's room?

14. Complete the sentence by filling in the gaps:

According to Mrs. Dalal the children must ...................... the volume of the CD player because it was ......................
Answer the questions based on the text in two to three sentences each:

15. How can we say that Bunty and his friends were attracted to the bike?
17. How did Blandford introduce himself to the lady with a red rose?

Section - B: Reading Comprehension
(Poems, Supplementary Reading and Unseen Texts)

POEMS

Read the following stanza of the poem and answer the questions given below it:

My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farm house near,
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

Questions:

18. Where did the poet stop?  
19. The word 'queer' means ................ (strange, familiar, unknown)  
20. The word 'near' rhymes with the word .....................

Complete the following lines using the appropriate words. Select the words from the brackets given below them.

21. (A) All day she kept its .............. feet.
    (B) Pit-patting to and ..............

22. (A) And then she kissed its ............. ears.
    (B) Thanked it and .............. it go.
    (Silken, busy, let, fro)

SUPPLEMENTARY READING

Read the following text and answer the questions given below it:

In 1936, India was playing a cricket match against England. The English team was fielding. Alf Gower was the bowler. In his third ball Gower came running and instead of throwing the ball towards the batsman, he kept on running. He passed the umpire, pitch and the spectators and went straight into the pavilion with the ball still clutched in his hand. Later, it was found that the poor bowler had suddenly felt the urge to go to the toilet so badly that he had no time even to hand the ball over to anyone else.
Questions:

23. What was Alf Gower?
24. Alf Gower kept on running. Then what did he do?

Say whether the following are true or false.

25. The English team was batting.
26. The poor bowler had suddenly felt the urge to go to the toilet.
27. Alf Gower had enough time to hand the ball over to someone else.

Read the following unseen text and answer the questions given below it.

Wise people say that laughter is the best medicine. If you laugh, you may remain healthy. It is true that a smiling face is always admired and welcomed everywhere. Even your critics will admire you. Gandhiji gave a lot of importance to laughter. During the serious discussions he never missed a single chance to laugh at certain follies. He used to collect money for the 'Harijan Welfare Fund'. He gave his autograph by charging one rupee from the visitor. When Sardar Patel asked about it, he simply said that he was a 'bania'. And Sardar Patel along with Nehru burst into a hearty laughter!

Questions:

28. Gandhiji charged one rupee for his .........................
29. .................. is always welcomed everywhere.
30. Gandhiji collected money for the ..........................
32. Gandhiji called himself a ..............................

Read the following dialogue and answer the questions given below it.

Customer : I have come to open my savings bank account.
Bank Manager : O.K., take this form and fill in. Sign here at the bottom.
Customer : Yes, I'll do it. How much should I deposit?
Manager : You can open the bank account by paying one hundred rupees.
          You must give me your recent photograph and your resident proof.
Customer : Oh! that I've forgotten. I want to deposit this cheque.
Manager : Yes, after opening the account you can deposit it and collect the cash after one day.
Customer : Can't I get the cash today?
Manager : No. It's not possible. Your cheque will be sent for clearance today.
          You may come tomorrow after 1.00 p.m. and you will get the cash.
          It takes at least one day.
Customer : O.K. Thank you very much.
Manager : You are welcome!

Questions:
33. Who are talking here?
34. What has the customer forgotten?
35. How much should the customer pay to open the bank account?
36. When can the customer deposit his cheque?
37. How long will it take for the clearance of the cheque?

Section C : Short Writing

38. Read the following telephonic talk and on behalf of Dhaval you prepare Manoj's message for Priya in about 30 words.

Manoj : Hello! Is this 2731582?
Dhaval : Yes, please.
Manoj : May I talk to Priya Thakkar?
Dhaval : Sorry. She has gone to the Vidyapeeth ground for the hockey practice.
Manoj : O.K. I am the Class Representative. Tell her to come to the Town Hall at about 4.00 p.m. to attend a special function. It is organized by the Gujarat Hockey Association. A special guidance will be given by the experts. Tell her to remain present alongwith her I-Card. Also tell her to take her seat five minutes earlier in the hall.

MESSAGE

Start this way:
Priya, your Class Representative .................

Write the following short notes using the clues given below them in about 5-6 sentences:

39. Jenna and Canada
   (Clues : interested - classical music - independent - karata - immigrants - include - production)

OR

How Julianne was helped at last?
(Clues : tenth day - the boat - human voices - three persons spanish - washed - food - offered - arrived - hugged)
40. T.S.-1
(Clues: a strange - wonder of science - experimental - gain - a time meter - dial - back in time)

OR
The effects of noise pollution:
(Clues: loud and disturbing - annoying - 85 decibeld - result in - illness - deafness - suffer from - cause)

41. There was a fire in your neighbouring house on the eve of Diwali. Write a short report on the incident. You may use the following points.
(Points: Children - burst crackers - rocket - entered a house - fire brigade - control the fire - loss of property - no loss of life)

Section - D : Long Writing Task

42. Write a paragraph in about 100 words on 'The Life of a magician' using the points given below:

OR
Write a paragraph in about 100-125 words describing your visit to an exhibition of computers and electronic items. Include the following details.
(Points: Place of the exhibition - timing - main gate - different sections - stalls - software programmes - hardware materials - internet services - guidance - electronic items - a new experience - return)

43. Write the following letter by selecting the appropriate words or group of words given in the box and rewrite the whole letter.
(Points: named, photographs, enjoyed, worried, pilgrimage, visited, a pleasant)

9, Padma Society,
Near Cross Roads,
Anand.
13th January 2007

Dear friend Chintan,

There is no letter from you. I am really ......................... How is your health now?

In the last week we .................... Vaishno Devi Temple. We went there by train .......... Jammu-Tavi Express. What ..................... journey! Though
it was very cold, I ................... the real beauty of nature. This temple has become
the place of ................ for thousands of devotees. I shall send you some ..............
of my visit.

I hope you will write me soon. Take care. ...........................

Sincerely yours, 

Meet.

OR

From 15, Viral Plaza, Amilata Corner, Rajkot - 1 Vaidehi Shah writes a letter
to her friend Mukti Acharya in Gandhinagar about the importance of good
health, physical fitness and simple diet.

Section - E : Language in Use / Grammar

Rewrite the following paragraph selecting the correct words from the brackets. 4
(Que. nos. 44 to 51)

___(44)___ (A / The) most valuable thing is the thing ___(45)___ (who / which)
always helps its owner. Man possesses ___(46)___ (much / many) costly
things ___(47)___ (like / likes) cars, bungalows, land and gold. He wants more
because he is ___(48)___ (never / always) satisfied. This happens as man
is ___(49)___ (ignorant / ignorance) of his own abilities and natural gifts. He
must ___(50)___ (found / find) out these gifts for he has been sent on this
earth with this ___(51)___ (purposeful / purpose) only.

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate forms of the verbs given in the brackets. 5
(Que. nos. 52 to 56)

Certain wild animals can ___(52)___ (train) easily. Sometimes it ___(53)___
(be) very funny to watch the bear ___(54)___ (ride) a bicycle. Some
trainers ___(55)___ (give) them a special training. ___(56)___ (perform)
different tricks in the circus.

Read the parts of the sentences given in column A and B. Join the appropriate
parts and form sentences :

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>57. As soon as the traveller stopped near the temple</td>
<td>you may go home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58. The scouts did not lose courage</td>
<td>because you are very clever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59. Since your problem is solved</td>
<td>a band of beggars gathered around him</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

though it was a very dark forest.
Complete the following paragraph using 'so', 'because' and 'which' at proper places. (Que. Nos. 60 to 62)

The villagers did not allow the minister to enter their village (60) ... remained very backward for a long time (61) ... no help from the government reached it (62) ... the people and the Sarpanch were displeased.

63. Turn this conversation into reported speech:

Shopkeeper : Madam, I think this sari will suit you well.
Sarladevi : Yes. I shall buy it. How much is it?
Shopkeeper : Only Rs. 1,500/-
Sarladevi : Oh! It is very costly. Will you give me some discount?

Start this way:
Reporting
The shopkeeper told Sarladevi politely ....................

Rewrite the following paragraph filling in the gaps using the proper form of words given in the brackets. (Que. nos. 64 to 67)

We must watch TV (64) ... (wise / wisely). Children are attracted (65) ... (most / more) than the grown-ups. The parents should encourage them (66) ... (careful / carefully). They should also check the (67) ... (selection / select) of their TV Channels.

Use the word / words given below in place of the underlined words and rewrite the whole paragraph: (Que. nos. 68 to 70)

(view, in charge of, on my behalf)

I am responsible for my own S.S.C. result. Nobody can prepare and work instead of me. Let us all, as students have this kind of approach to get the best result.

Convert the verbs of the following text into the passive voice and rewrite it. (Que. Nos. 71 to 74)

Birds build their nests very intelligently. Some water birds lay eggs in the wet land. Birds like the cuckoo never take such trouble. Do you know this fact?