

SECTION - A

(Reading Skill, Grammar, Vocabulary, Note-making and Summary)

Q. 1. (A) Read the following extract and answer the questions given below : (11)

Gandhiji said that the greatest lessons in life are learnt from children, not from learned men. A child will fearlessly try before giving up. As adults, fearing failure, we give up before we try.

A child is inherently curious about the world, about relationships, about wanting to understand how things work. As adults, our blinkered and conditioned self prevents us from truly exploring without prejudice. For a child, what she does is meaningful in its own right. As an adult, we usually link every action to an external reward of money or recognition.

I did not learn how to be a father from manuals. Whatever little I learnt about being a parent, I learnt by observing my children and letting them teach me. Similarly, I think our teachers could grow enormously by learning from their students.

We will then refrain from pushing our knowledge down their young minds, and begin the democratic process of being joint learners as we discover and understand our world. I believe a powerful force for empowerment is to have motivated teachers who are learners first, teachers second. Only then will we stop trying to mould children into our "adult" likeness. Only then will we let them blossom.

- (1) What, according to the writer, is a powerful force for empowerment ? (1)
- (2) How did the writer learn his role as a father ? (1)
- (3) Why did Gandhiji say that the greatest lessons in life are learnt from children ? (1)
- (4) How, according to the writer, is a child different from an adult ? (2)
- (5) Who, according to you, is an ideal student ? (2)
- (6) Rewrite the following sentences in the ways instructed :
  - (i) The greatest lessons in life are learnt from children. (1)  
(Rewrite it beginning with 'We.....'.)
  - (ii) We give up before we try. (Add a question tag.) (1)
  - (iii) Our blinkered and conditioned self prevents us from truly exploring without prejudice. (Rewrite it using Present Perfect tense.) (1)
- (7) Find out from the extract the words which mean :
  - (i) unreasonable dislike or preference for a person, group or custom. (1/2)
  - (ii) one who is very interested and works hard. (1/2)
- (B) Grammar : (4)

Do as directed :

- (i) Being good teacher, he teaches in best way. (Insert the appropriate articles wherever necessary.)
- (ii) The main drawback ..... the area is its distance ..... the railway station.  
(Fill in the blanks with proper prepositions.)
- (iii) 'Brush your teeth and gargle with a mouthwash after every meal', said the dentist to Meena. 'I will make it my habit', said Meena. (Change into reported speech.)

*Nooo ! It's modernizing, popularising, enriching and globalising English.*

It's the hottest drug in teentown. It's more addictive than any mood food. Indeed, at the press of a few keys, SMS (short text message service) is hooking generations.

All you need to do to be part of Generation i2u, or Tribe SMS, is to activate your cellphone and send messages – romantic, business or help – to anybody, anywhere, anytime. Already, 20 billion messages, or more, are sent every month worldwide. Say S to SMS.

Of course, if you are an SMSer, just keep messaging.

For you are now part of a cultural revolution that has ushered in the Bright Ages, or Mess Ages, after the dotcom's Dark Years. Hype's over Hope's here : another set of innovators is getting networked. The word is out : be brief, be quick. Capture your luminous nano-moments through the language of SMS.

In the *lingua shrunka* of SMS, punctuations make words, letters create sentences, and words become paragraphs. And, in the SMS of love, a mere preposition can proposition. Has the world gone nuts ? Have we become mute witnesses to a taciturn *tamasha* ? Is English being guillotined by hordes of new-economy, cellphone-toting, revolutionaries determined to create a fraternity out of mobility ?

- (1) What is SMS ? (
- (2) What should we do to become a part of Tribe SMS ? (
- (3) When has the cultural revolution ushered in ? (
- (4) What kind of linguistic changes are brought about by SMS ? (
- (5) Do you feel that English will be ruined by using SMS ? Why do you think so ? (
- (6) Rewrite the following sentences in the ways instructed : (
  - (i) Have we become mute witnesses to a taciturn *tamasha* ? (
 

(Rewrite it as an assertive sentence.)
  - (ii) It's the hottest drug in teentown. (
 

(Rewrite the sentence beginning with 'No other.....')
  - (iii) 20 billion messages are sent every month worldwide. (
 

(Frame a 'Wh' question to get the underlined part as its answer.)
- (7) Find out the antonyms of the following from the extract : (
  - (i) few (ii) dark

(B) Note-making : (

Read the following extract and draw a tree-diagram about the 'Types of Volcanoe

The volcanoes of the world are divided into three types on the basis of period of eruption. The volcanoes which erupt frequently and constantly the molten lavas, gases, ashes and fragmental materials, are known as active volcanoes. Most of the active volcanoes are found along the mid-oceanic ridges. All volcanoes do not erupt regularly. These dormant volcanoes may not show any sign of activity for years together nor any type of indication for future eruptions. But they suddenly erupt very violently and cause enormous damage to human life and property. Visuvius (Naples in Italy) volcano is the best example which erupted first in 1579 A.D. and then in 1631 A.D. The subsequent eruptions occurred in 1803, 1872, 1906, 1927, 1928 and 1929. A volcano which is neither active nor dormant and has not erupted within the last few thousand years is called as extinct or dead volcano. This type of volcano has no indications of future eruption. Lonar lake in Maharashtra and Kailash lake in Jammu and Kashmir (India) are the typical examples of extinct volcano.

The weather forecaster of the future will be helped in his work by earth satellites. Special 'Weather Satellites' going round and round the earth in space will enable him to 'see' what the weather is like in far-off places, where there are no weather stations. He will be able to see what the weather is like at the North Pole, or in a remote island of the Pacific Ocean. He will be able to tell when hurricanes or new storms are starting, and will be able to warn everyone of their approach.

Already space scientists have done experiments in space with weather satellites. Using special television cameras fixed to satellites, they have learnt how to send back to earth photographs of the clouds high above the earth's surface. A sort of cloud never before seen from earth has already been discovered by a weather satellite.

Weather forecasting is only one of the many ways in which earth satellites can help us. Earth satellites are often travelling science laboratories. Space scientists can fix scientific instruments, telescopes and cameras inside and on the outside of earth satellites to find out many things about the earth and the space around it. The radio messages the satellites send back are teaching us new facts about the sun and the stars.

- (1) What will help the weather forecaster to know about the weather in far-off places? (1)
- (2) What is the passage about ? (2)
- (3) How can the weather forecaster help the people at the time of approaching calamities? (2)
- (4) What according to you should the people do at the time of natural calamities? (2)
- (5) Rewrite the following sentences in the ways instructed :
  - (i) Space scientists have done experiments in space. (1)  
(Use *Present Perfect Continuous tense*.)
  - (ii) Space scientists can fix cameras inside the earth satellites. (Use 'able to') (1)
  - (iii) They are teaching us new facts about the sun and the stars. (1)  
(Rewrite the sentence using 'not only - but also'.)
- (6) Give the meanings of : (i) enable (ii) forecasting (1)
- (B) Write a brief summary of the above extract and suggest a suitable title. (4)

#### SECTION - B (POETRY)

At a distance, on the other side,  
 the dark-skinned villagers sit near fire  
 and talk of the dreadful past nights,  
 when a herd of wild elephants  
 coming from the side of the stream  
 trumpeted and grunted in protest  
 against the presence of unwanted humans  
 on their way sweet home.  
 Some of them boasted of encounters  
 with animals moving their strong tuskers.  
 On wedding nights, they enjoy liquor  
 with dance and drums; wild insects  
 dancing around the throbbing petromax  
 or hurricane lanterns hired for the night.  
 Bitten by cobras, and suffering from malaria,  
 they pass their life of days and nights,  
 and live for generations in the forest.

- (1) What miseries of life do the villagers in the extract face ? (1)
- (2) How do the villagers pass their time ? (2)
- (3) What things of the village life do you like most ? Why ? (2)
- (4) Name and explain the figure of speech in the following line : (1)  
'wild insects dancing around the throbbing petromax'
- (5) Pick out the lines that suggest that the villagers are a part of the forest. (2)

### SECTION - C (RAPID READING AND COMPOSITION)

5. (A) Read the following extract and answer the questions given below : (4)

She took me by the hand, and then I felt it would be silly to pull my hand away. She told a coolie to look after my suitcase, and then she led me away down the platform. Her hand was gentle, and she held mine neither too firmly nor too lightly. I looked up at her again. She was not young. And she was not old. She must have been over thirty, but had she been fifty, I think she would have looked much the same.

She took me into the station dining-room, ordered tea and samosas and jalebis, and at once I began to thaw and take a new interest in this kind woman. The strange encounter had little effect on my appetite. I was a hungry school boy, and I ate as much as I could in as polite a manner as possible. She took obvious pleasure in watching me eat, and I think it was the food that strengthened the bond between us and cemented our friendship, for under the influence of the tea and sweets I began to talk quite freely, and told her about my school, my friends, my likes and dislikes. She questioned me quietly from time to time, but preferred listening; she drew me out very well, and I had soon forgotten that we were strangers. But she did not ask me about my family or where I lived, and I did not ask her where she lived. I accepted her for what she had been to me – a quiet, kind and gentle woman who gave sweets to a lonely boy on a railway platform....

- (1) What did the woman order for in the canteen ? (1)
- (2) Where did the event in the story take place ? (1)
- (3) Why did the boy say that he had forgotten that they were strangers ? (2)

- (B) Composition : (4)

Imagine you are the kind lady and narrate the above extract.

Begin your composition as - 'I took him by the hand.....'

### SECTION - D (WRITING SKILLS)

- Q. 6. (A) Letter Writing : (4)

Write any ONE of the following letters :

Write a letter to your younger sister congratulating her on her success in winning the 'Best Dancer Award' in the Inter-school dancing competition.

OR

Most of the TV channels show obscene and violent scenes in their serials, which badly affect the young minds. Write a letter of complaint to the Director of such a TV channel requesting him/her to stop showing such scenes.

- (B) Write on any ONE of the following items as directed : (4)

Prepare an 'appeal' in the form of a handout :

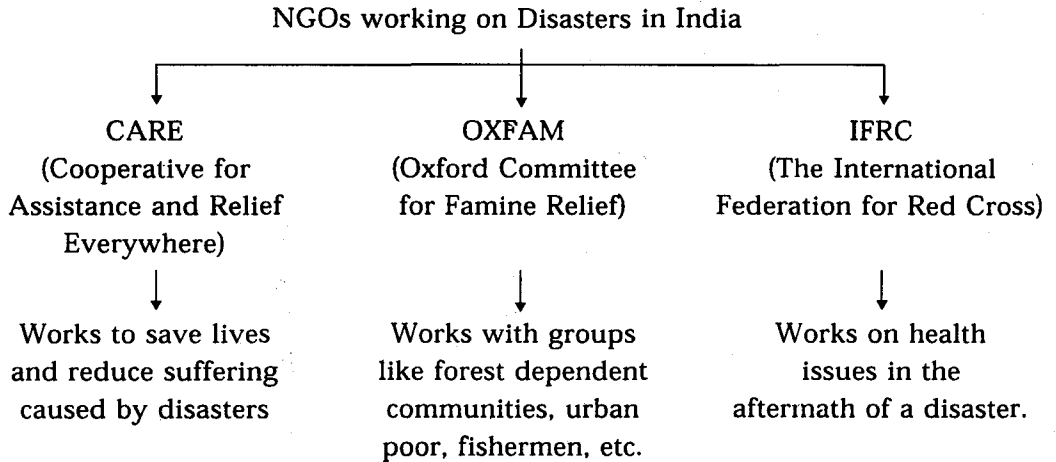
Prepare an appeal for making the people of your area aware about the importance of cleanliness and personal hygiene. Use attractive slogans and illustrations.

OR

Prepare a headline, dateline and a continuing paragraph to any ONE of the intros given below

- (i) A 26-year-old unidentified male pedestrian was killed in an accident on early Thursday morning on the Pune-Solapur Road.
- (ii) Some 9,000 city National Cadet Corps (NCC) cadets will help the city traffic police regulate traffic between November 21 and 25 in various parts of the city as part of 'road safety week'.
- (C) Answer any ONE of the following :

Read the following tree-diagram and prepare a short paragraph regarding the NGO working.



OR

Prepare a paragraph to be used for the counter-view section on the following topic  
'There should be a ban on fire crackers'.

You can take help of the following points included in the view section.

**View-Section**

**Only on certain occasions fire crackers should be allowed.**

- It is the expression of joy.
- It is the projection of emotional integrity.
- They should be used only on certain social occasions.
- There should be certain time limit set up for that.

**Q. 7. Essay Writing :**

Write an essay on any ONE of the following topics in about 250 words :

- (1) Are Entrance Tests Essential Today ?
- (2) The Cricket Match I Had Seen.
- (3) My Ambition in Life.

