

This paper consists of three sections :

Section A	Reading	5 marks
Section B	Writing	3 marks
	Grammar	4 marks
Section C	Literature	8 marks

General Instructions :

- i) All questions are compulsory.
- ii) Where required copy the entire sentence and then underline the word or words.
- iii) Strictly adhere to the word limit.
- iv) Marks will be deducted for untidiness.

SECTION – A (READING)

1. Read the following poem and answer the questions given below : (5 marks)

The Ant and The Cricket

A silly young cricket, accustomed to sing
Through the warm, sunny months of gay summer and spring,
Began to complain when he found that, at home,
His cupboard was empty, and winter has come.
Not a crumb to be found
On the snow-covered ground;
Not a flower could he see,
Not a leaf on a tree.
"Oh ! what will become," says the cricket, " of me?"
At last by starvation and famine made bold,
All dripping with wet, and all trembling with cold,
Away he set off to a miserly ant,
To see if, to keep him alive, he would grant
Him shelter from rain,
And a mouthful of grain.
He wished only to borrow;
He'd repay it tomorrow;
If not, he must die of starvation and sorrow.
Says the ant to cricket, "I'm your servant and friend,
But we ants not borrow; we ants not lend.
But tell me, dear cricket, did you lay nothing to be eat.
When the weather was warm ?" Quote the cricket, "Not I !
My heart was so light
That I sang day and night,
For all nature looked gay."
"You sang, Sir, you say ?"
"Go then," says the ant, " and dance the winter away."
Thus ending, he hastily lifted the wicket,
And out of the door turned the poor little cricket.
Folks call this a fable. I'll warrant it true:
Some crickets have four legs, and some have two.

- a) Why was the young cricket worried at the onset of winter?
- b) To whom did he go to get help?
- c) What did the cricket ask the ant?
- d) What did the ant tell the cricket to do?
- e) Find a phrase from the poem which means 'in the habit of' ?

SECTION – B (WRITING AND GRAMMAR)

2. Read the following conversation between Anirudh and Amitabh. Write the message that Anirudh leaves for Manish. (50 words) (3 Marks)

Anirudh : Hello !
 Amitabh : May I speak to Manish ?
 Anirudh : I am afraid he is out. Can I take your message?
 Amitabh : Well, this is Amitabh here. I was wondering whether Manish will be free this evening. I am going to the new film at Milan. I'd like him to come with me. When will he be back?
 Anirudh : He won't be long. He's just gone to buy a book. I don't think he's doing anything in the evening.
 Amitabh : Well, its 4:30 now. I will be reaching Milan at 5:30. Can you tell him to meet me there?
 Anirudh : Yes, I'll tell him. Good-bye !
 Amitabh : Good-bye ! Thank You.

3. In the following paragraph, one word is missing in each line. Write the missing word along with the word which comes before and the word which comes after it: (2 Marks)

Bees are flying insects closely related to wasps and ants, and known for their role in pollination and producing honey and beeswax. e.g-- and are known
 There are nearly 20,000 known species bees. a) _____
 They are on continent except on Antarctica, in b) _____
 every habitat on the planet contains c) _____
 insect-pollinated flowering plants. d) _____

4. Following is a set of instructions for making cucumber sandwich. Use these to complete the paragraph that follows : (2 Marks)

- i) Take two slices of sandwich bread.
- ii) Apply butter on one side of both the slices.
- iii) Cut cucumber and tomato into thin round pieces.
- iv) Place the pieces of cucumber and tomato on the buttered side of the bread.
- v) Sprinkle salt and pepper on it.
- vi) Keep the other slice over it.
- vii) The sandwich is now ready to eat.

Two slices of sandwich bread (a) _____. Butter (b) _____ on one side of both the slices. Cucumber and tomato (c) _____ into thin round pieces. These pieces of cucumber and tomato (d) _____ on the buttered side of the slice. The other slice is kept over it. The sandwich is now ready to be eaten.

SECTION – C (LITERATURE)

5. Read the following extracts and answer the questions given below : (3 Marks)

*"I ` faith `tis an excellent bonfire!" quoth he,
 "And the country is greatly obliged to me,
 For ridding it in these times forlorn
 Of Rats that only consume the corn."*

- a) Explain the line "I ` faith `tis an excellent bonfire!".
 - b) Who is "me" in the second line ? How is the country greatly obliged to "me"?
 - c) Write the meaning of ` forlorn`.
6. Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each: (3 Marks)
- a) What customs did the guests and the hosts follow in times of the Emperor Akbar Shah?
 - b) Write the qualities of a 'soldier' as described in the poem "All the Worlds a Stage."
 - c) Explain the last stage of life according to William Shakespeare.
7. 'Bama was treated unfairly and suffered a lot of humiliation'. Enumerate with instances from the text 'Difficult Days, Difficult Years'. (2 Marks)