

Instructions:

- i) This paper is divided into 3 sections

Section A :	Reading	(26 marks)
Section B :	Writing and Grammar	(23 marks)
Section C :	Literature	(31 marks)
- ii) Read the questions and the instructions carefully.
- iii) Attempt all the questions. Write the answer number carefully.

SECTION – A (READING)

1. Read the passage given below carefully: (10)

- 1 When we think of the game of cricket, we come to the conclusion that it is primarily a game that depends on outstanding physical strength, good hand-eye coordination, speed and skill. It provides entertainment and generates strong feelings of excitement. A good match of cricket or of any other game neither adds to the existing stock of human knowledge nor reveals any secret of existence. It does not carry any deep meaning but most people, particularly the lovers of sports attach deep emotions and numerous meanings to it. Games are thought of as a metaphor for life. They are supposed to teach many lessons. In fact, more is said and written about a cricket match than about scientific findings or great philosophy.
- 2 Games are like a morality play, in which settings and rules are made by us, and they can easily make people test their fair and foul conduct, principles of reward and punishment, and emotions of joy and disappointment. They can make us experience the thrill of war without exposing us to its dangers. A man watching a cricket match on T.V. and munching popcorn is like a surrogate warrior. In fact, games provide us with a safe outlet for our aggressiveness. If games become aggressive, they lose the very purpose of providing entertainment and purging us of our aggressiveness. They can calm our impatience without creating any conflict.
- 3 Commentators, journalists, politicians and analysts can do a great favor to the competing teams by keeping the excitement within limits. The teams should play without being dominated by feelings of national honor and shame. Excellent performance of the players of both teams should be enjoyed and appreciated. Winning or losing in a game should not be taken seriously. A game is fun if it is played with the true spirit of sportsmanship.

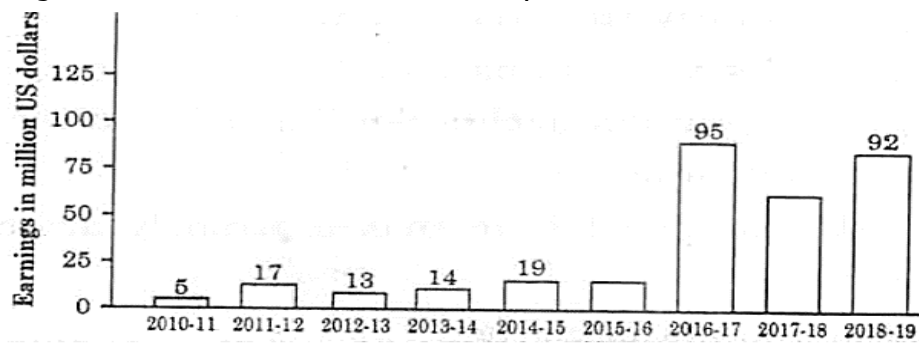
Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

- a) Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option: (1)
Most people conclude that cricket is primarily a game because it _____.
(i) is played as a match (ii) requires two teams
(iii) includes physical activity (iv) depends only on skill and strength
- b) Give two examples to prove that games are a metaphor of life. (2)
- c) What do you understand by 'true spirit of sportsmanship'? (2)
- d) Select the option which is an antonym of "destroy" from words used in para 1. (1)
(i) Reveals (ii) Metaphor
(iii) Generate (iv) Existence
- e) Which of the following statements is correct according to the writer? (1)
(i) Rules of any game are made by people.
(ii) Watching a cricket match makes the viewer believe that he is exposed to the dangers of the war.
(iii) It is necessary for a game to be aggressive in order to build excitement.
(iv) A game cannot test people's sense of fair judgment.
- f) With reference to the passage, a spectator is compared to a 'surrogate warrior'. Choose the option that best describes this phrase. (1)
(i) A spectator who is paid to watch.
(ii) A spectator who is in pain while watching the match.
(iii) A spectator who enjoys the match as an armchair soldier.
(iv) A spectator who makes judgments about reward and punishment.
- g) Why does the writer compare games to morality play? (1)
- h) Express your views on the statement, "Disputes should be settled through games not wars". (1)

2. Read the given passage carefully:

(8)

- 1 The story of Joanne Kathleen Rowling's near magical rise to fame is almost as well known as the characters she creates. Rowling was constantly writing and telling stories to her younger sister Dianne. "The first story I ever wrote down was about a rabbit called Rabbit." Rowling said in an interview. "He got the measles and was visited by his friends including a giant bee called Miss Bee. And ever since Rabbit and Miss Bee, I have always wanted to be a writer, though I rarely told anyone so. However, my parents, both of whom come from impoverished backgrounds and neither of whom had been to college, took the view that my overactive imagination was an amusing personal quirk that would never pay a mortgage or secure a pension."
- 2 A writer from the age of six, with two unpublished novels in the drawer, she was stuck on a train when Harry walked into her mind fully formed. She spent the next five years constructing the plots of seven books, one for every year of his secondary school life. Rowling says she started writing the first book, 'Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone', in Portugal, where she was teaching English. At first nobody wanted to publish Harry Potter. She was told that the plot was too complex. Refusing to compromise, she found a publisher.
- 3 In 1997 Rowling received her first royalty cheque. By book three, she had sky rocketed to the top of the publishing world. A row of zeroes appeared on the author's bank balance and her life was turned upside down. Day and night she had journalists knocking on the unanswered door of her flat. Rowling's quality control has become legendary, as is her obsession with accuracy. She's thrilled with Stephen Fry's taped version of the books and outraged that an Italian dust jacket showed Harry minus his glasses. "Don't they understand that the glasses are the clue to his vulnerability."



On the basis of your understanding of the passage answer all questions given below:

(1 × 8 = 8)

- a) Explain J. K. Rowling's 'near magical rise to fame'.
- b) What reason did the publishers give for rejecting Rowling's book?
- c) What was the drawback of achieving fame?
- d) According to the graph, what has been Rowling's highest income so far?
- e) Find a word in para 3 that means the same as 'insecure/helpless'.
- f) According to the graph, in which year J. K. Rowling was least successful?
- g) According to the graph which year shows a slight decline in her success after the tremendous popularity?
 - i) 2014-15
 - ii) 2017-18
 - iii) 2018-19
 - iv) 2011-12
- h) Find a word from paragraph 1 which means the opposite of 'normalcy'.

3. Read the given passage carefully:

One night around two millenniums ago, a Han dynasty general sent a square-shaped assemblage of bamboo and cloth into the air above enemy territory at a Palace in central China; he was trying to measure how much ground his men would need to tunnel through in order to breach their enemies' defense line. It is one of the most famous early stories of kite flying. The most widespread use of kites in modern times has been for meteorological investigations. By sending up instruments on kites it has been possible to make readings of air pressure, temperature, speed, direction and humidity. Although thermometers had been sent up long before, it was not until 1894, that a self-reading thermometer, a thermograph, was sent up by a kite. The army, navy and air force have used kites in various ways for decades.

Kites, especially box and bow kites, have been used as gunnery targets. They are easy to make and cheap to use and will stand quite a lot of punishment before they cease to fly. Apart from their use as targets, kites have been used by the army to fly flags, for aerial photography over enemy trenches, for suspending flares over targets during night fighting, for carrying a man over enemy lines, for dragging torpedoes etc. to a target area. They have been used by both military and civil authorities for raising, transmitting and receiving aerials to obtain improved wireless reception. As a matter of fact, the first long-distance short-wave transmission of all made use of an aerial flown on a kite.

- a) On the basis of your reading of the given passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply an appropriate title to it. (5)
- b) Summarize the above passage in 50 words. (3)

SECTION - B (WRITING AND GRAMMAR)

4. Attempt the following questions: (4)
- i) Complete the following passage by choosing the most appropriate option given below. Write the correct words/phrases opposite the blank numbers:
- Most of us fail in our efforts (a) _____ self-improvement because our schemes are too ambitious and we never have time to carry (b) _____ out. We also make the fundamental error of announcing our resolution to everybody, (c) _____ we look even more foolish when we slip back into our old bad days. So, this year I attempted (d) _____ keep my resolution to myself.
- | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|---------|-----|-------|------|--------|-----|-----|
| a) | i) | by | ii) | at | iii) | will | iv) | to |
| b) | i) | them | ii) | these | iii) | it | iv) | all |
| c) | i) | because | ii) | thus | iii) | though | iv) | so |
| d) | i) | as | ii) | to | iii) | which | iv) | at |
5. Arrange the following jumbled words/phrases into meaningful sentences: (attempt any three) (3)
- a) on the platform / vendors with / were / wares / their / selling / flowers / sweet-smelling / the
- b) great importance / one of the / essentials of life / discipline is / in all spheres / and is of / of life
- c) fit and / the body / games / look active / and / develop / keep it / make a person
- d) really / games and sports / true education / are / for / essential

Creative Writing Skills.

6. You are the General Manager of a leading company. You need a Chartered Accountant for your office. Draft an advertisement, with all the relevant details, in not more than 50 words to be published in The Times of India under the Classified column. (3)
- (OR)
- You are Suyash/ Suyashi living at A-45, Model Town, Delhi. You want to sell off your mobile phone. Draft an advertisement for the classified column of a national daily in proper format, giving the necessary details. (50 words) (3)
7. As President of Lion's Club of Vasundhara City, design a poster in not more than 50 words for promoting good health through 'Health Mela' to be held at Central Community Hall of the city. Mention some of its attractions. (3)
- (OR)
- As President of the Residents Welfare Association of Mayur Colony, Delhi, design a poster in not more than 50 words promoting cleanliness in the surroundings of your colony. (3)
8. You are Ankit/Ankita. You have to deliver a speech on the topic "Education Gives One Power". You have jotted down the following notes:
- trains mind, sharpens skill and abilities, independent, knowledge, removes superstition, creates awareness, rights, duties. Write your speech in 120-150 words. (5)
- (OR)
- You are selected for delivering a speech in the morning assembly about the importance of environmental conservation. Write a speech in 120-150 words. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose your speech: reasons-healthy existence, practical steps - eco-friendly alternatives, life-style changes. Survival - humans & Mother Earth. (5)
9. "Social Media is negatively influencing modern society". Write a debate in about 120-150 words on the given topic. You may write FOR/AGAINST the motion. Use the given cues below along with your own ideas to compose your answer in proper format. (5)
- impact on communication- relationships- personal well-being. Argue whether the benefits outweigh the drawbacks or vice versa.

(OR)

"Technology is making our life worse not better!". Write a debate in about 120-150 words on the given topic. You may write FOR/AGAINST the motion. Use the given cues below along with your own ideas to compose your answer in proper format.
 revolutionized lives – education – healthcare - communication, potential negative effects. (5)

SECTION – C (LITERATURE)

10. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions based on any ONE of the two extracts: (3 x 1 = 3)

A) *"Now she's been dead nearly as many years
 As that girl lived.
 And of this circumstance
 There is nothing to say at all.
 Its silence silences."*

(A Photograph)

- i) To whom does "that girl" refer?
- ii) What is state of speaker's mind?
- iii) The poetic devices used in this line: 'Its silence silences' are:
 - a) Alliteration and personification
 - b) Alliteration and transferred epithet
 - c) Alliteration and oxymoron
 - d) Alliteration and metaphor

(OR)

B) *"It is the engine of her family.
 She stokes it full, then flirts out to a branch-end
 Showing her barred face identity mask
 Then with eerie delicate whistle-chirrup whisperings
 She launches away, towards the infinite
 And the laburnum subsides to empty."*

(Laburnum Top)

- i) What does the phrase "Showing her barred face identity mask" mean?
- ii) What does the phrase "Then with eerie delicate whistle-chirrup whisperings" suggest about the goldfinch's departure?
 - a) The goldfinch is communicating with other birds.
 - b) The goldfinch is expressing its excitement.
 - c) The goldfinch is leaving silently and mysteriously.
 - d) The goldfinch is making a loud and abrupt exit.
- iii) Which of the following best describes the overall tone of the poem?

a) Melancholic and reflective	b) Energetic and boisterous
c) Humorous and satirical	d) Angry and confrontational

11. Answer the questions based on any ONE out of two prose extracts given below: (3 x 1 = 3)

A. "The first indication of impending disaster came at about 6 p.m., with an ominous silence. The wind dropped, and the sky immediately grew dark. Then came a growing roar, and an enormous cloud towered aft of the ship. With horror, I realized that it was not a cloud, but a wave like no other I had ever seen. It appeared perfectly vertical and almost twice the height of the other waves, with a frightful breaking crest."

(We're not Afraid to Die...)

- i) What was the first indication of impending disaster as described in the extract?

a) A sudden drop in temperature	b) An ominous silence
c) A burst of sunlight	d) A distant thunderclap
- ii) How did the narrator describe the wave that appeared aft of the ship?

a) It was a normal cloud	b) It was shorter than the other waves
c) It had a gentle breaking crest	
d) It was vertical and had a frightening crest	
- iii) Assertion: The darkening of the sky was a result of an approaching storm.
 Reasoning: The sudden drop in wind speed often leads to a reduction in sunlight, resulting in darker skies.
 - a) Both assertion and reasoning are true, and the reasoning is the correct explanation of the assertion.
 - b) Both assertion and reasoning are true, but the reasoning is not the correct explanation of the assertion.

- c) The assertion is false, but the reasoning is true.
- d) Both assertion and reasoning are false.

(OR)

B. "After five years I came back home and was met by her at the station. She did not look a day older. She still had no time for words, and while she clasped me in her arms I could hear her reciting her prayers. Even on the first day of my arrival, her happiest moments were with her sparrows whom she fed longer and with frivolous rebukes."

(The Portrait of a Lady)

- i) What is the significance of the narrator's observation that the grandmother "still had no time for words"?
 - a) She was too busy with her daily routine.
 - b) She preferred non-verbal communication.
 - c) She was reserved and introvert.
 - d) She was unable to speak properly.
- ii) Why does the grandmother's happiness revolve around her sparrows?
 - a) She finds them more interesting than people.
 - b) She enjoys feeding them and scolding them playfully like her own grandson.
 - c) She dislikes human interactions.
 - d) She wants to avoid spending time with her family.
- iii) What is the meaning of the word "frivolous" as used in the sentence: "Even on the first day of my arrival, her happiest moments were with her sparrows whom she fed longer and with frivolous rebukes"?

a) Genuine and sincere	b) Playful and light-hearted
c) Serious and stern	d) Insignificant and trivial

12. Answer the questions based on any ONE out of two prose extracts given below: (4 x 1 = 4)

A. "ONE day back there in the good old days when I was nine and the world was full of every imaginable kind of magnificence, and life was still a delightful and mysterious dream, my cousin Mourad, who was considered crazy by everybody who knew him except me, came to my house at four in the morning and woke me up tapping on the window of my room." I jumped out of bed and looked out of the window. I couldn't believe what I saw.

(The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse)

- i) Why do you think the narrator's cousin Mourad chose to visit the narrator's house at such an early hour and wake them up?
 - a) Mourad was trying to play a prank on the narrator.
 - b) Mourad wanted to surprise the narrator and his assistance for a risky endeavor.
 - c) Mourad wanted to test the narrator's loyalty and friendship.
 - d) Mourad believed that the early morning was the best time to visit.
- ii) The narrator describes a time "when the world was full of every imaginable kind of magnificence." What can you infer about how the narrator views their past experiences?
 - a) The narrator felt that their childhood was dull and uneventful.
 - b) The narrator romanticizes and idealizes their past.
 - c) The narrator regrets the choices they made as a child.
 - d) The narrator was often disappointed during their childhood.
- iii) What is the meaning of the word "crazy" as used in the sentence: "Mourad, who was considered crazy by everybody who knew him except me."

a) Highly intelligent	b) Socially popular
c) Unpredictable and unconventional	d) Extremely serious
- iv) The speaker in the above extract is

a) Mourad	b) Uncle Khusrove
c) Aram	d) John Byro

(OR)

B. "Won't you sit down?" asked the girl. She held open the door of the living-room and I went inside past her. I stopped, horrified. I was in a room I knew and did not know. I found myself in the midst of things I did want to see again but which oppressed me in the strange atmosphere. Or because of the tasteless way everything was arranged, because of the ugly furniture or the muggy smell that hung there, I don't know; but I scarcely dared to look around me."

(The Address)

