

General Instructions:

- i) The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, WRITING and LITERATURE.
- ii) Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION : A - READING SKILLS (22 marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully:

(12 marks)

- 1 Andy Dehart is a shark expert and TV presenter who lives in the United States of America. He has had a lifelong interest in sharks and is always trying to look for ways to educate the public about them. Many people think that sharks have little or no intelligence, but Andy points out that recent studies have shown that many shark species possess powerful problem-solving abilities and social skills. "Sharks do not want to attack humans," he asserts. "There is no shark species that eats humans as part of its regular diet. In most shark attack cases, the shark leaves after realizing that it has mistakenly bitten a human and not its intended prey."
- 2 In Andy's opinion, all shark fishing should be stopped until the shark populations have had time to grow again. We then need to do a better job of managing the fishing of sharks. However, Even if the direct fishing of sharks is stopped, many will still be killed when they are caught up in the nets of boats, fishing for other species of fish.
- 3 When Andy was a boy, his father worked for a national oceanic organisation, and Andy travelled with him all over the Caribbean. He grew up by the coast and he has been connected with the sea for as long as he can remember. He also lived near one of the best aquariums in America. Andy then went on to build a career working with sharks in an aquarium environment. More recently, he has been involved with television and the making of programs about sharks.
- 4 Andy and his wife had their first child two years ago. They were amused and amazed to see to what extent their work with animals has proved to be useful in bringing up their daughter. They know how to observe her behaviour and teach her how to do things by rewarding her.
- 5 Andy loves sharks and is very passionate about their survival and protection. He feels extremely lucky to have had opportunities to work at the National Aquarium and the television station which presents the Nature Channel. He never wastes a moment in either place that could be spent educating people about sharks. He does admit that it is probably not possible for everyone to love sharks as he does. However, he does hope to persuade people personally or through the media to respect sharks and the critical role they play in our environment. His main objective is to keep spreading awareness that sharks are not dangerous man-eaters but essential creatures in our oceans, as they provide ecological balance and help to control other species.

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

- 1.1 Complete the following sentence by using the appropriate option. 1
 The sharks are intelligent because they possess _____.
 A. problem-solving abilities and social skills
 B. common skills C. human abilities
 D. abilities to eat humans
- 1.2 Select the option that **DOES NOT** display the most likely reason for Andy to believe that sharks only attack humans by mistake? 1
 A. They don't eat humans as a part of their diet.
 B. They leave after realizing that they have mistakenly bitten humans.
 C. A human is not its intended prey.
 D. They attack when they feel humans are a threat to them.
- 1.3 How did Andy's work help him and his wife when bringing up their daughter? 1
 A. They knew how to teach her things by rewarding her.
 B. They taught her by reprimanding her.
 C. They taught her to observe the behaviour of others.
 D. Connection of animals to the daughter's keenness.
- 1.4 Which word from para (5) means the same as having, showing, or caused by strong feelings or beliefs? 1
 A. Passionate B. Essential
 C. Awareness D. Objective
- 1.5 How does Andy hope to educate people about sharks? 2
- 1.6 Make a sentence of your own by using the word 'amazed'. 1

- 1.7 Andy's growing years around the coast and his father impacted his love for sharks. Comment with reference to para 3. 2
- 1.8 Give a suitable title to this passage. 1
- 1.9 Based on the reading of the text, comment on the main objective of Andy. 2
2. Read the following passage carefully: (10 marks)
- 1 In recent years, there has been a surge in both group and solo travel among young adults in India. A survey conducted among young adults aged 18-25 aimed to explore the reasons behind their travel preferences and recorded the percentage variation for 10 common points that influence travel choices.
 - 2 Among those who prefer solo travel, the most common reason cited was the desire for independence and freedom (58%), followed closely by the opportunity for introspection and self-discovery (52%). Additionally, solo travellers appreciated the ability to customize their itinerary to their preferences (44%) and the chance to meet new people on their own terms (36%).
 - 3 On the other hand, those who prefer group travel often cited the desire for socialising and making new friends (61%) as their primary reason. Group travel also provided a sense of security and safety in unfamiliar places (52%) and allowed for shared experiences and memories with others (48%). Additionally, group travellers enjoyed the convenience of having pre-planned itineraries and organised transportation (38%).
 - 4 Interestingly, both groups had similar levels of interest in exploring new cultures and trying new experiences (40% for solo travellers, 36% for group travellers). Similarly, both groups valued the opportunity to relax and escape from the stresses of everyday life (36% for solo travellers, 32% for group travellers).
 - 5 However, there were also some notable differences between the two groups. For example, solo travellers placed a higher priority on budget-friendly travel options (38%) compared to group travellers (24%). Conversely, group travellers were more likely to prioritise luxury and comfort during their travels (28%) compared to solo travellers (12%).
 - 6 Overall, the survey results suggest that both group and solo travel have their own unique advantages and appeal to different individuals, based on their preferences and priorities.
- On the basis of your reading of the passage answer the questions that follow:
- 2.1 Infer two possible ways that the survey, mentioned in paragraph (1) could be beneficial. 2
- 2.2 Which travel choice point of the survey would influence tour operators to incorporate group dinners, social events, and shared accommodations in their itinerary? 1
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| A. Freedom to customise itinerary | B. Luxury and comfort |
| C. Security and safety | D. Desire for making new friends |
- 2.3 What do the top choices in the survey, for travelling solo and in a group suggest about young adults? 2
- 2.4 Identify the solo traveller from the following four travellers: 1
- A. Reshma- I don't want to keep hunting for rickshaws or taxis. A pre-booked vehicle is perfect.
 - B. Nawaz-I'm happy sharing a single room in a hostel. I want to plan my itinerary on my own terms.
 - C. Deepak-I'm not worried about my well-being, even while exploring remote areas to see different cultures and people.
 - D. Sam: I would love to explore new places. It gives me an opportunity to socialise with others.
- 2.5 Which of the following statements is **CORRECT** according to the given passage. 1
- A. Independence and freedom to travel is more visible among 44% of the group travellers.
 - B. 24%of the group travels give priority to budget friendly travel options.
 - C. 44% of solo travels can compromise with itinerary plans.
 - D. 61%of solo travellers would like to socialise.
- 2.6 State whether **True or False**. 1
- The solo and group trips help the travellers to meet a new unfiltered version of themselves, about which they either never knew or had hidden because of societal pressure and stresses of everyday life.
- 2.7 Complete the sentence appropriately. 1
- The similarities in the percentage of both solo and group travellers who are interested in exploring new cultures and trying new experiences may be due to _____.
- 2.8 Give one reason why the title, "Wanderlust: The Solo & Group Travel Trend Among Young Adults in India", is appropriate for this passage. 1

SECTION – B : CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (18 Marks)

3. Attempt **ANY ONE** of two in about 50 words. 4
- A. Water supply will be suspended for eight hours (10 am to 6 pm) on 6th of March for cleaning of the water tank in your society. Write a notice in about 50 words advising the residents to store water for a day. You are Karan Kumar/Karuna Bajaj, Secretary, Janata Group Housing Society, Palam Vihar, Kurnool.
- (OR)
- B. Delhi Public School will be conducting an online course on 'news reading' during the summer vacations for students of Classes XI and XII. In this course, students will learn to understand news reports, build the habit of reading the news regularly, and will have a chance to interact with well-known journalists. As Marwin/Mansi, Editor of the school magazine, draft a notice in about 50 words for the school notice board, urging students to sign up. Mention any other relevant details required for the notice.
4. Attempt **ANY ONE** of two in about 50 words. 4
- A. M/s Shyam Lai & Sons are opening a new general store 'Galaxy Novelties' in Geetanjali Enclave, Dwarika, Delhi. The inauguration ceremony is fixed for Sunday, the 19th of December 20XX at 11 am. Draft a formal invitation for this purpose.
- (OR)
- B. You and your parents have received an invitation of your cousin's first birthday to be held in Lucknow on 21st December 2023. All of you would be delighted to attend. Draft a reply to your uncle accepting the invite and sharing your excitement about the birthday party.
5. Attempt **ANY ONE** of two in about 120 – 150 words. 5
- A. You are Prem/Parul of 16, TT Nagar, Bhopal. You would like to apply for the post of Marketing Manager in a reputed firm in Mumbai. Write a letter to the Public Relations Officer, Chantac Enterprises, Mumbai, applying for the job and giving your biodata.
- (OR)
- B. You are a resident of Mahalakshmi Apartments, Patparganj, Delhi. Your residential area is flooded with roadside dwellers who are deprived of the basic civic amenities like light, public toilets and bathrooms. Write a letter to the Editor of The Hindustan Times, highlighting the problems faced by these roadside dwellers, and also the problems posed by these roadside dwellers to the public. Give suggestions for improvement.
6. Attempt **ANY ONE** of two in about 120-150 words. 5
- A. In many parts of our country girls are still discouraged from going to school. Consequently, a sizable section of the population is deprived of education. Schemes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, CBSE scholarship to the single girl child and the Government's policy of giving free education to girls have come as a boon to our society. Write an article in 150-200 words on the education of the girl child in the country.
- (OR)
- B. Your school recently organised a workshop on 'Mental Well-being' for students of Classes XI and XII on 30th September 2023. As Sameer/Amira, a member of the organising committee, draft a report covering the event for your school's magazine. Support your ideas with the outline cues given below to craft your report.

- purpose of the workshop
- who attended the workshop
- activities that took place
- key messages or takeaways from the workshop
- post-workshop resources and information given to attendees
- what impact the workshop would have on the students and their environment

SECTION – C : LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 marks)

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two given. 6
- A. *Why keep your money (this crossly) and go along.
The hurt to the scenery wouldn't be my complaint
So much as the trusting sorrow of what is unsaid:
Here far from the city we make our roadside stand
And ask for some city money to feel in hand
To try if it will not make our being expand,
And give us the life of the moving-pictures' promise
That the party in power is said to be keeping from us.*
- (A Roadside Stand)

- a) What does the speaker wonder in line 1?
- b) Select the correct option for the following Assertion - Reasoning.
 Assertion: The speaker refers to the possible harm to the scenery.
 Reasoning: The speaker is angry about the lack of awareness about the natural environment in city people.
- A. Both the assertion and reasoning are true and the reasoning explains the statement.
- B. Both the assertion and reasoning are true and the reasoning does not explain the statement.
- C. The assertion is false but the reasoning is true.
- D. The assertion is true but the reasoning is false.
- c) Complete the sentence appropriately.
 The phrase "trusting sorrow" refers to _____.
- d) The speaker sees the roadside stand as a means to bridge something. State what it is.
- e) State whether **True** or **False**.
 The concluding lines are underscored by a sense of bitterness and resentment.
- f) Which of the following best summarises the theme conveyed in the extract?
- A. The benefits of rural living and the importance of supporting local businesses.
- B. The challenges and inequities faced by rural communities and a longing for urban life.
- C. The beauty of the natural environment and the need to protect it from human impact.
- D. The struggles of small business owners and the importance of government support.

(OR)

B.

*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.*

(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

- a) Fill in the blank with an appropriate word.
 The word "prance" in the first line of the extract evokes a sense of _____, which highlights the tigers' confident movements.
- b) State whether **True** or **False**.
 The word choice of "denizens" adds a sense of sacredness and exclusivity to the tigers, as if they have created a shared space with aunt within the world of tapestry.
- c) What does the line, "They do not fear the men beneath the tree" suggest about Aunt Jennifer's Tigers?
- A. They are bold and independent.
- B. They are unaware of the men's presence.
- C. They are intimidated by the men.
- D. They are protecting Aunt Jennifer from the men.
- d) What does the poet wish to emphasize with the word "sleek", in reference to the tigers, besides a certain level of physical attractiveness?
- e) Fill in the blank with an appropriate option.
 The use of "chivalric" adds an element of _____ in the tigers.
- | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. Steadiness | 2. Grandeur | 3. Optimism |
| 4. Nobility | 5. Talent | |
- A. 1 and 3
- B. 2, 4 and 5
- C. 2 and 4
- D. Only 1
- f) What do the tigers serve as a metaphor for?
8. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two, given. 4
- A. "Your majesty may kill ninety-nine tigers in exactly the same manner. But..." the astrologer drawled. "But what? Speak without fear." "But you must be very careful with the hundredth tiger."
 "What if the hundredth tiger were also killed?" "Then I will tear up all my books on astrology, set fire to them, and..." "And..." "I shall cut off my tuft, crop my hair short and become an insurance agent," the astrologer finished on an incoherent note.

(The Tiger King)

- a) State whether **True or False**.
The writer might have chosen the word 'drawled' to add an element of suspense and intrigue to the astrologer's words, creating a sense of anticipation in the reader.
- b) For the line, "What if the hundredth tiger were also killed?", identify the tone which **does not** correspond to it.
- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| A. Uneasy | B. Uncertain |
| C. Apprehensive | D. Authoritative |
- c) Complete the following appropriately.
The use of "And", in the extract suggests that The Tiger King expects _____.
- d) What does the astrologer's response reveal about his character?
- | |
|---|
| A. He is willing to sacrifice his beliefs for the Maharaja's success. |
| B. He is fearful of the consequences of his prediction coming true. |
| C. He is confident in the accuracy of his prediction. |
| D. He is manipulating the Maharaja for his personal gain. |

(OR)

- B. 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 a curious repulsion upon the inert figure.

(The Enemy)

- a) According to the given extract, what was Sadao's conflict?
- b) State whether **True or False**.
After reading the passage, Sadao and Hana can be described as bewildered and confused.
- c) 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 <u>slumber</u> . |
| B. The manager complained about the employee's <u>sluggishness</u> . |
| C. He seemed to be in <u>trance</u> when the doctor called upon him last week. |
| D. Seeing him in a <u>state of oblivion</u> , the lawyer decided not to place him in the witness box. |
- d) Choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given.
- Statement 1: Sadao and Hana cared about the soldier but were worried about consequences of being considerate.
- Statement 2: Sadao and Hana wanted to evade 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. |

9. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two given. 6

- A. "When I leave," Sophie said, coming home from school, "I'm going to have a boutique." Jansie, linking arms with her along the street; looked doubtful. "Takes money, Soaf, something like that." "I'll find it," Sophie said, staring far down the street. "Take you a long time to save that much." "Well I'll be a manager then — yes, of course — to begin with. Till I've got enough. But anyway, I know just how it's all going to look." "They wouldn't make you manager straight off, Soaf." "I'll be like Mary Quant," Sophie said. "I'll be a natural. They'll see it from the start. I'll have the most amazing shop this city's ever seen."

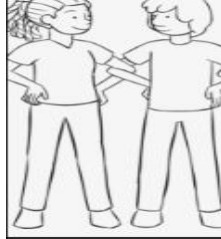
(Going Places)

- a) Sophie expresses her ambition to open a boutique and become a manager. What does Jansie doubt?
- | |
|--|
| A. Sophie's ability to have collected the funds. |
| B. Sophie's managerial skills. |
| C. Sophie's knowledge of how the shop will look. |
| D. Sophie's comparison to Mary Quant. |

- b) Select the image option that captures the way Sophie and Jansie were walking together.



A



B



C



D

- c) What does Sophie’s distant gaze indicate as per the given line?
 “... Sophie said, staring far down the street.”
- d) List any one entrepreneurial quality that Sophie exhibits as per the extract.
- e) Support the given opinion with one justification.
 Despite her realistic outlook, Jansie displays a supportive nature.
- f) Sophie compares herself to Mary Quant in terms of her boutique aspirations.
 What does this comparison imply?
- Sophie admires Mary Quant’s fashion sense.
 - Sophie believes she will have a similar impact in the fashion industry.
 - Sophie wants to work with Mary Quant.
 - Sophie thinks she can recreate Mary Quant’s shop.

(OR)

- B. Morning found the town of Motihari black with peasants. They did not know Gandhi’s record in South Africa. 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 cooperation. 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. Gandhi protested against the delay.

(Indigo)

- a) Complete the following appropriately.
 The word “black” is being used metaphorically to suggest _____.
- b) In the line, “Their spontaneous demonstration, in thousands, around the courthouse...”, what type of demonstration does the word ‘spontaneous’ indicate?
- | | | |
|--------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1. Unplanned | 2. Immediate | 3. Insignificant |
| 4. Delayed | 5. Calculated | |
- 1 and 2
 - 2 and 5
 - Only 3
 - 1, 3 and 4
- c) Which of the following best represents a possible thought of a British official in response to feeling powerless without Gandhi’s cooperation?
- Gandhi’s cooperation is irrelevant to our goals.
 - We should use force to make Gandhi cooperate with us.
 - Let’s ignore the situation and hope it resolves itself.
 - We need to find a way to convince Gandhi to cooperate with us.
- d) State whether **True** or **False**.
 The behaviour of Gandhi towards the British officials during the spontaneous demonstration in Champaran confirmed their perception of Indian power.
- e) List any one quality common to both Gandhi and Shukla as per the extract.
- f) Give one reason why we can say that this extract is narrative in nature.

10. Answer **ANY FIVE** of the following six questions in about 40-50 words. (5 x 2 = 10)

- If the Christmas spirit is about selflessness, forgiveness and becoming 'better' versions of ourselves amongst other things, Edla Willmansson is the epitome of this spirit. Justify with two points of evidence from 'The Rattrap'.
- The readers tend to sympathize with both Saheb and Mukesh in 'Lost Spring'. Give reasons.

- c) Why has the poet chosen "twelve" in the poem 'Keeping Quiet'?
- d) In context of the chapter 'The Interview', state any two positive aspects of the interview.
- e) Franz was surprised when he entered his class. Give any two reasons. (The Last Lesson)
- f) What makes human beings love life in spite of troubles and sufferings?
(A Thing of Beauty)

11. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words. (2 x 2 = 4)

- a) In what ways did Annan's advice affect Bama? (Memories of Childhood)
- b) What were Zitkala-Sa's feelings when her braids were being cut off?
(Memories of Childhood)
- c) Do you think that the third level was a medium of escape for Charley? Why?
(The Third Level)

12. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions in about 120-150 words. (5)

- A. Imagine a conversation between William Douglas and Mahatma Gandhi about the importance of overcoming fear, in order to be able to lead our lives successfully. Write three dialogues each for both Gandhi and Douglas sharing their experiences and how overcoming the fear affected them and others in their journey.

(OR)

- B. You are a journalist who has interviewed Kothamangalam Subbu of *Poets and Pancakes*. Write the three significant questions you had asked. Also, state Subbu's responses to those questions. Your questions should be from the textual content of *Poets and Pancakes*.

13. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 120 – 150 words. (5)

- A. After returning from the expedition with Tishani Doshi, you write your thoughts reflecting on how your decision to enroll for the 'Students on Ice' programme has been the best decision of your life that has completely transformed you.

You may begin like this:

I was fortunate enough to grab the opportunity

(OR)

- B. Imagine that a few days after Mr. Lamb's fall from the ladder, Derry writes his thoughts on how his meeting with Mr. Lamb transformed him and changed his perspective towards life. Think of yourself as Derry and express these thoughts.

You may begin like this: A few days ago, I met an extraordinary person....

-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-