

General Instructions:

- i) This paper is divided into three sections.
 - Section A (Reading) : 15 marks
 - Section B (Writing and Grammar) : 17 marks
 - Section C (Literature) : 28 marks
- ii) All the questions are compulsory.
- iii) Kindly attempt all the questions of each section in order.

SECTION – A : READING (15 marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully: (8 marks)
 - 1 Armadillos are western mammals known for their unique armour-like shell and notorious for their digging habits. Armadillos prefer warm, moist climates, and thrive in forested areas and grasslands. As they must dig for their food and shelter, they usually gravitate towards areas with loose, porous soil.
 - 2 These animals use their strong claws to dig several burrows throughout their home range in which they live and seek refuge from extreme weather or predators. An Armadillo's burrow is about 7-8 inches wide and up to 15 feet deep. Armadillos are mainly insectivores, with over 90 per cent of their diet consisting of animal matter, like insects and other invertebrates. They're also known to eat the occasional reptile or amphibian - especially in colder weather. The remainder of their diet consists of plant matter, although it's been found that most of the vegetation they eat has been consumed incidentally.
 - 3 In native southern regions, armadillos are nocturnal year-round, keeping cool underground during the day and foraging at night. However, because of the Armadillos' relatively low body temperature, the nine-banded species in North America tends to change its habits in the cooler months and emerge during the day to take advantage of the warm sun.
 - 4 Solitary animals, Armadillos, spend their lives foraging alone and only interact to breed or care for their young ones. Young Armadillos become independent about 6-12 months after they are born.

Based on your reading of the passage, answer the following questions:

- 1.1 What kind of climate do Armadillos prefer? 1

A. Extreme winters	B. Sunny and Bright
C. Moist	D. Extreme Summer
- 1.2 Give reason: Armadillos gravitate towards loose porous soil because _____ . 1
- 1.3 What is Armadillo's main diet? 2
- 1.4 State whether the following statement is **True or False**. 1
Armadillos become independent at 6-12 years.
- 1.5 Mention any one point about the Armadillos in North America. 1
- 1.6 Identify the antonym of the word 'infamous' from para 1: 1

A. Known for	B. Thrive
C. Porous	D. Gravitate
- 1.7 Make a sentence of your own by using the word, 'predators'. 1

2. Read the following passage carefully: (7 marks)
 - 1 Someone once said, "Friends are like flowers in the garden of life." Who doesn't need a good friend? We all need someone to talk, laugh, and share our problems with. You feel relaxed, comfortable, happy and in high spirits when you are with a good friend. A friend is someone who really cares for you. School is the best place to make strong friendships as you share wonderful memories of childhood – your favourite subjects and teachers, shared meals, school events, football and cricket matches etc. Often you stay in touch and remain friends long after school is over.
 - 2 How do you feel on a day your friend is absent from school? You probably feel lonely and miss him/her. It is likely that you will inform him about the topic he has missed; even perhaps help him complete the work. It does wonders for one's self-confidence to know that there is someone who will support us in times of need.
 - 3 One of the most important qualities of friendship is loyalty. A true friendship means that you stand by your friend through thick and thin. You should not be a 'fair-weather friend', i.e. a friend only when everything is well and turn your back in difficult times. Friendship also involves walking the extra mile. If a friend has had a bad day, you need to find ways to encourage and restore his/her self-confidence. Challenges appear less daunting if a good friend supports you.

- 4 The best part about friendship is the wonderful companionship it offers. Birthday parties, class outings, picnics and excursions are so much fun when one is with friends. Friends add positivity and cheer to our lives. Life would indeed be dull if one had no friends!

Answer the following questions by selecting the most appropriate option from the ones given below.


- 2.1 Who is a fair-weather friend? 1
 A. Someone who has a wonderful companionship.
 B. Someone who stands with you through thick and thin.
 C. Someone who stands when everything is fine and leaves you in a difficult situation.
 D. Someone who walks an extra mile.
- 2.2 State whether the following expression is **True or False**. 1
 'in high spirits' (para 1) means gloomy.
- 2.3 Friendship offers us _____. 1
 A. companionship B. bitterness
 C. loneliness D. rivalry
- 2.4 Identify the synonym of the word 'faithfulness' from para 3. 1
- 2.5 Explain the following line in your own words. 2
 'A true friendship means that you stand by your friend through thick and thin.'
- 2.6 Give a suitable title to this passage. 1

SECTION – B : WRITING AND GRAMMAR (17 marks)

3. Design a poster that promotes the importance of cultivating good reading habits among your peers. 5
 (OR)
 Design an attractive poster to raise awareness about the importance of saving electricity. 5
4. Complete the story in about 100-120 words with the beginning line, "Once a soldier was caught by the enemy force..." Also, give a suitable title to the story. 5
 (OR)
 Write a story in about 100-120 words with the beginning line, "In my hurry to get into the house, I didn't notice the black car..." Give a suitable title to the story. 5
5. Do as directed. Attempt **any 5**. 5
- i) The T.V. screen went blank when I _____ the news. (watch)
 (Fill in the blank with the past continuous tense of the verb.)
- ii) Join the pair of sentences with an appropriate conjunction.
 We stayed with our friends. They had invited us.
- iii) _____ turn is it to wash the dishes?
 A. Who's B. Which C. Whose D. Why
- iv) Ten thousand rupees _____ not a small amount.
 A. are B. is C. has D. were
- v) We _____ to save our Earth's resources so that our future generations can use them too.
 A. could B. must C. need D. would
- vi) The boy jumped _____ (in/into) the pool.



6. Look at the pictures given below and change the sentences from direct to indirect speech. (1 x 2 = 2 marks)

- i)  Father said to me, "Please, give me a glass of water."

- ii) The police said to us, "What are you doing?"



SECTION – C : LITERATURE (28 marks)

7. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: (5 marks)

*The poetry of earth is ceasing never:
On a lone winter evening when the frost
Has wrought a silence, from the stone there shrills
The cricket's song, in warmth increasing ever,
And seems to one in drowsiness half lost;
The grasshopper's among some grassy hills.*

- i) According to the poet, the poetry of earth is _____.
- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| A. beginning | B. concluding |
| C. never-ending | D. mesmerising |
- ii) "And seems to one in drowsiness half lost;
The grasshopper's among some grassy hills." Explain these lines.
- iii) Which season is symbolised by the grasshopper?
- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| A. Summer | B. Winter |
| C. Spring | D. Monsoon |
- iv) Identify the element of nature that has been personified in these lines.
- v) Where does the sound of the cricket come from?
- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| A. Grasslands | B. Stones |
| C. Tree | D. Meadows |

(OR)

*The sun glistened on the sand, and the sea waves broke waywardly.
A child sat playing with shells.
He raised his head and seemed to know me, and said,
"I hire you with nothing."
From henceforward that bargain struck in child's play
made me a free man.*

- i) Who is the speaker of these lines?
- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| A. The king | B. The poet |
| C. The child | D. The man |
- ii) Identify the line which states the action of the child when the speaker met him.
- iii) Where did the speaker meet the child?
- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| A. At the seashore | B. At the stone-paved road |
| C. In the garden | D. Near the crooked lane |
- iv) "From henceforward that bargain struck in child's play
made me a free man."
Explain these lines.
- v) Identify the synonym of the word 'deal' from the extract.
- | | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| A. Glistened | B. Henceforward |
| C. Bargain | D. Struck |

8. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: (5 marks)

"Is there any advice you can give the disabled people, something that might help them make life better?" "They should concentrate on what they are good at; I think things like the disabled Olympics are a waste of time." "I know what you mean." I remembered the years I'd spent trying to play a Spanish guitar considerably larger than I was; and how gleefully I had unstrung it one night.

- i) Which activity had the writer been learning?
- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| A. Swimming | B. Spanish Guitar |
| C. Chinese cuisine | D. Singing |

- ii) What was the scientist strongly against?
 A. The disabled Olympics
 B. The Spanish Guitar
 C. Swimming
 D. Writing
- iii) Identify the synonym of the word 'joyfully' from the given extract.
 A. Concentrate
 B. Waste
 C. Gleefully
 D. Considerably
- iv) Why was the advice given by Hawking?
- v) How well does the writer connect with the advice given by Hawking?

(OR)

When Dr Chanda came, Bepin Babu said, "I'm fine. It all came back as soon as I got off the train at Ranchi." 'A unique case', said Dr Chanda. "I shall certainly write about it in a medical journal."

"The reason why I sent for you, said Bepin Babu, is that I have a pain in the hip from a fall in Ranchi. If you could prescribe a painkiller."

- i) Why was Dr Chanda surprised?
 A. Because Bepin Babu's case was a unique one.
 B. Because Bepin Babu had become well without medication.
 C. Because Bepin Babu needed a painkiller.
 D. Because Bepin Babu had hurt his hip.
- ii) Why does Bepin Babu choose to tell a lie to Dr Chanda?
 A. Bepin Babu was too embarrassed to tell Dr Chanda the truth.
 B. Bepin Babu thought Dr Chanda was an ally of Chunilal.
 C. Bepin Babu wanted to confuse Dr Chanda.
 D. Bepin Babu had lost it completely.
- iii) Dr Chanda thinks of writing about Bepin Babu's case in a _____.
 A. Newspaper
 B. Health Magazine
 C. Medical journal
 D. Anthology
- iv) Does Bepin Babu share details of this incident with anyone? Why/Why not?
- v) What had happened to Bepin Babu?
9. Answer the following questions in 40-50 words. Attempt **any 4**. (2 x 4 = 8 marks)
- A. Why is it important to climb the 'summit within'? (The Summit Within)
 B. Discuss the mood of the school boy in the poem 'The School Boy'.
 C. State any two changes that occur during monsoon season. (A Short Monsoon Diary)
 D. How does Ranji make friends with his opponent? (The Fight)
 E. Explain the line "The boy plays a game with Allah miyan" with reference to the chapter 'Jalebis'.
 F. Compare the characters of the ant and the cricket in the poem 'The Ant and the Cricket'.
10. Answer the following questions in 80-100 words. Attempt **any 2**. (2 x 5 = 10 marks)
- A. Mention any three features of the ancient Indian education system. What was the role of community in promoting education in ancient India?
 B. You are Jody of the story 'This is Jody's Fawn'. You are very happy after being able to bring the fawn home safely and save its life. Express your feelings through a diary entry in about 80-100 words.
 C. The Selfish Giant said, "My own garden is my own garden." How does he transform by the end of the story?

-X-X-X-X-X-