

General Instructions:

- i) 15-minutes prior reading time is allotted for question paper reading.
- ii) The Question Paper contains THREE sections –
READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE.
- iii) Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

Section – A : READING (20 marks)

I. Read the following passage and answer the given questions accordingly: (10 marks)

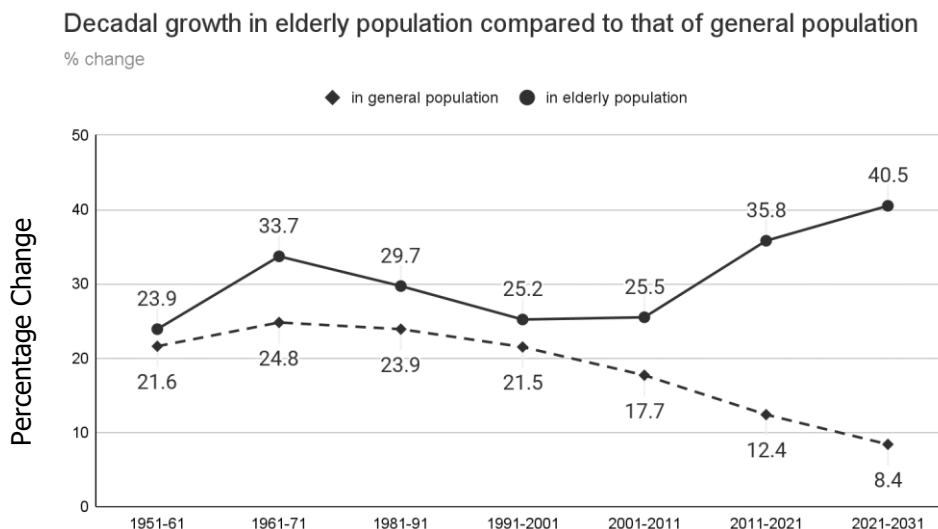
- 1 Bali, largely a Hindu Island, is deeply influenced by Buddhism and ancestor worship. I have never seen a greater overlap of religion and culture. There are beautiful stone temples every few meters, but, interestingly, without any deities except for an occasional shiva linga. People are very ritualistic. They primarily worship their ancestors and nature, specifically mother earth, the rituals are inherently simple.
- 2 We stayed on the outskirts of the tourist hub, surrounded by picture-perfect trees, paddy fields and beautiful architecture. Locals were gentle and friendly. The growing community of outsiders here is not the kind that seeks air-conditioned offices but rather, a life closer to nature and with more freedom to create. The place is safe and, to top it off, has high-speed internet.
- 3 Ubud attracts many 'digital nomads' who trade, consult, teach and study online. The Europeans are happy to escape the winter chill and high cost of living in their countries. Many come yearning for a life where body, mind and spirit are unplugged from the chatter of mass media and mindless development.
- 4 Hubud (Hub-in-Ubud), the first collaborative working space in Bali, is home to a diverse community of local and visiting creatives, techies, entrepreneurs and change makers. Its website says, "Come join a community of people who are quietly changing the way we work, live and bring ourselves to the world."
- 5 My belief that individual and collective wellbeing are so interdependent was reaffirmed. My own energies calmed down and I became more embracing of the surroundings, unlike in the city where I struggle to be centred and when I am, it is despite my surroundings.
- 6 The rootedness in playful and meaningful and the sprinkling of global ideas and initiatives, both playful and meaningful, have given rise to something quite special in Ubud. Having said that, one cannot escape to such havens all the time. So the challenge is how to create an Ubud mindset wherever we live. And yet not live in a bubble but remain intensely engaged with the things that matter, give a sense of purpose to our lives and make living worth it all.

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

- i) What according to the author are interdependent? 1
 - a) Playfulness and meaningfulness
 - b) Individual and collective wellbeing
 - c) Global ideas and initiatives
 - d) Individual and Global Ideas
- ii) What is the peculiarity of the temples of Bali? 1
 - a) They don't have any deities in any form.
 - b) They don't have an altar.
 - c) They are made of stone.
 - d) They don't have any deities except for shiva linga.
- iii) What, according to the author, is the challenge we, the city dwellers face? 1
 - a) We struggle to be centred.
 - b) We struggle with the internet.
 - c) We don't have any religion.
 - d) We lack culture.
- iv) The 'digital nomads' of Bali are engaged in which economic activity? 1
- v) State if the following observation is **true** or **false**: 1
According to the author, Bali is greatly influenced by Jainism and ancestor worship.
- vi) Fill in the blank with the correct option: 1
The first collaborative working space in Bali is known as _____.
 - a) Techies
 - b) Ubud
 - c) Hub
 - d) Community
- vii) What does the author mean by "ubud mindset"? 2
- viii) Who according to the author are 'digital nomads'? Pick the correct option given below: 1
 - a) People who work or learn online
 - b) The locals who are nomadic
 - c) The wandering network of the place
 - d) The digital landscape
- ix) According to the author, which of these is a challenge? 1
 - a) Visiting Ubud
 - b) Working with no internet in Ubud
 - c) Living in Ubud
 - d) Creating a certain mindset wherever we live

II. Read the following passage and answer the given questions accordingly: (10 marks)

- 1 New Delhi: Kerala, as per 2021 data, has the maximum proportion (16.5%) of elderly people in its population, followed by Tamil Nadu (13.6%), Himachal Pradesh (13.1%), Punjab (12.6%) and Andhra Pradesh (12.4%), according to a government report.
- 2 The proportion is the least in Bihar (7.7%) followed by Uttar Pradesh (8.1%) and Assam (8.2%), according to the report of the Technical Group on Population Projections for India and States for 2011-2036, whose findings have been cited in the 'Elderly in India 2021' document released on Thursday by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI).
- 3 The projections for 2031 show that Kerala will have the maximum proportion (20.9%) of elderly people in its population, followed by Tamil Nadu (18.2%), Himachal Pradesh (17.1%), Andhra Pradesh (16.4%) and Punjab (16.2%), according to the report. It cited data to show that the general population has grown by 12.4% during 2011-2021, in comparison to around 18% in the earlier decade, while the elderly population grew by 36% in each of the last two decades (2001-2011 and 2011-2021). High growth rate in elderly population compared to general population was also observed earlier in the two decades between 1961 and 1981, the report said.
- 4 The growth in elderly population has been attributed to the longevity of life achieved because of economic well-being, better healthcare and medical facilities and reduction in fertility rates.
- 5 Old age dependency ratio provides a clearer picture of the number of persons aged 60-plus per 100 persons in the age group of 15-59 years. The report said that an increasing trend has been observed in the old age dependency ratio - it has risen from 10.9% in 1961 to 14.2% in 2011 and is further projected to increase to 15.7% and 20.1% in 2021 and 2031, respectively. The projected dependency ratio for females and males is 14.8% and 16.7% respectively in 2021.



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

- i) As per Population Census Data what will be the share of elderly population in 2021-31? 1
 a) 35.8% b) 40.5% c) 8.4% d) 12.4%
- ii) During which decade the gap between the general population and the elderly population was the least? 1
- iii) As per 2021 data which state has the lowest share of elderly population? 1
 a) Tamil Nadu b) Andhra Pradesh
 c) Bihar d) Kerala
- iv) Mention any two factors contributing to the growth in elderly population? 2
- v) How many years does a decade constitute of? 1
 a) 10 b) 20 c) 50 d) 100
- vi) What is the old age dependency ratio? 1
 a) Ratio of old people dependent on younger population.
 b) Ratio of young people taking care of old population.
 c) Number of persons aged 60 plus per 100 person in the group of 15-59 years.
 d) Number of persons aged 60 plus per 100 persons in population.
- vii) The above data has being released by the Ministry of _____ . 1
 a) Human Resource Development b) Urban Affairs
 c) Defence
 d) Statistics and Programme Implementation

- viii) The word in the passage which means the same as 'long existence' is _____ . (para 4) 1
- ix) State if the given statement is **True** or **False**. 1
The projections for 2031 show that Tamil Nadu will have the maximum proportion (20.9%) of elderly people in its population.

Section - B : GRAMMAR AND WRITING SKILL (20 marks)

III. Attempt **ANY TEN** of the following as directed: (1 x 10 = 10)

- i) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket.
The officer commanded, "Who do you think _____ (steal) the gun?"
- ii) Read the given sentence and find the error. Also write the correct answer.
Is your friend helped you in this venture?

Error	Correction

- iii) Fill in the blank with the correction option given.
The experience of nursing an injured bird left me _____ grateful for being kind and compassionate to all creatures.
- | | |
|------------|----------------|
| a) feeling | b) having felt |
| c) felt | d) feels |
- iv) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the line given below.
Dolphins and whales has learned elaborate routines to entertain aquarium audiences.

Option	Incorrect	Correct
a	has	have
b	learned	learnt
c	to	in
d	elaborate	elaborated

- v) Complete the following with the appropriate option.
I _____ English for seven years now.
- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| a) learnt | b) have been learning |
| c) will be learning | d) am learning |
- vi) Choose the correct option that gives the correct future continuous tense for the given sentence.
Sonu works as hard as he can.
- | | |
|--|---|
| a) Sonu will be working as hard as he can. | b) Sonu would be working as hard as he could. |
| c) Sonu was working as hard as he could. | d) Sonu has been working as hard as he could. |

- vii) Find the error in the following line and write the correct option also.
A lame man was travelling through a bus yesterday.

Incorrect	Correct

- viii) Choose the correct form of the word given in the bracket.
Either she or her friends _____ (be) responsible for this accident.
 - ix) Complete the sentence with the correct word.
Whenever we met, we _____ talk for hours.
- | | | | |
|---------|----------|----------|-------------|
| a) must | b) would | c) might | d) ought to |
|---------|----------|----------|-------------|
- x) Choose the correct option to transform the given sentence into simple past tense.
She _____ all her jewellery yesterday.
- | | |
|---------|--------------------|
| a) sold | b) had sold |
| c) sell | d) will be selling |
- xi) Identify the tense form of the highlighted verb in the given sentence.
He will have completed the assignment by the time the boss arrives back from his trip.

- xii) Choose the appropriate word from given options to complete the following sentence.
Leah is the only one of the many applicants who _____ (has/have) the ability to step into this job.

IV. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the following:

5

Recently your school celebrated its Golden Jubilee. To celebrate this occasion a special program with the theme 'SXS-50' was conducted. Write a descriptive paragraph describing the same in 100-120 words.

(OR)

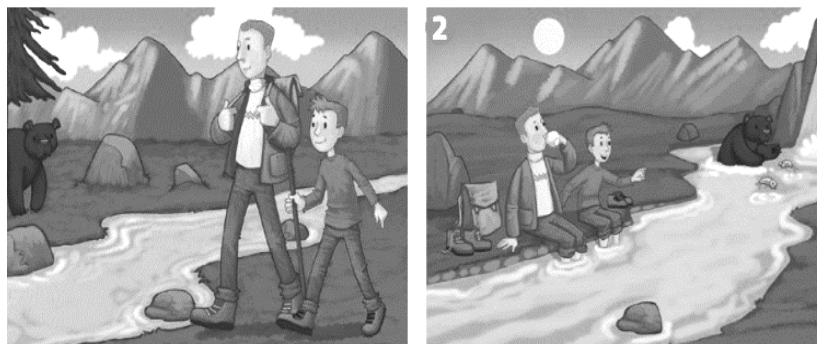
During your recent summer vacation, you visited the native village of your friend located at the foothills of the Himalayas. Describe the village in 100-120 words.

[valley – brooks – fields - children playing - big grounds - mountains - clear sky]

V. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the following:

5

Based on the picture given, write a story in 100-120 words. Give a suitable title to the story.



(OR)

Complete the following story in 100-120 words. Give a suitable title to the story.

Ann and her grandmother were alone in the house. Ann's parents had gone for a wedding. Ann was studying. Suddenly she heard a cry, _____.

SECTION – C : LITERATURE (40 marks)

VI. Attempt **ANY ONE** from the given extract:

(1 x 5 = 5)

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

- A) The Macdonalds lived next door. They had five children. Looking through a gap in the fence the little girl saw them playing 'tag' in the evening. The father with the baby, on his shoulders, two little girls hanging on his coat pocket ran around the flower-beds, shaking with laughter. Once she saw the boys turn the hose on him- and he tried to catch them laughing all the time. Then it was, she decided there were different sorts of fathers.

- i) Pick the option that correctly classifies Fact/s (F) and Opinion/s (O) from the statements given below:
- (1) I think the little girl accepted that her father will not be like Macdonalds.
 - (2) I think the little girl's father was stressed.
 - (3) I think no matter what, he should spend time with Kezia.
 - (4) I think Kezia should put more effort towards her relationship with her father.
- a) F- 1 and O-2, 3, 4 b) F- 2, 3, 4 and O-1
c) F-2 and O- 1, 3, 4 d) F-3, 4 and O-1, 2
- ii) What did the little girl see Macdonalds playing with his children?
- a) Hide and Seek b) Cornhole
c) Tag d) Ladder Toss
- iii) Choose the option that lists the set of statements that are **NOT TRUE** according to the given extract.
- (1) The little girl was afraid of her father.
 - (2) The little girl didn't want to stay with her father.
 - (3) The little girl always admired her father for his good behaviour.
 - (4) The little girl wanted her father to be like Mr. Macdonalds.
 - (5) Her father was a fun loving person.
 - (6) Both father and daughter had a strong bond as they shared everything.
- a) 2, 3, 4 b) 1, 2, 4 c) 3, 5, 6 d) 4, 5, 6

- iv) What kind of relation does Kezia share with her father?
- v) What conclusion did the little girl draw after observing the Macdonalds?

(OR)

B) Toto was finally accepted by grandmother, he was given a comfortable home in the stable, where he had for a companion the family donkey, Nana. On Toto's first night in the stable, grandfather paid him a visit to see if he was comfortable. To his surprise he found Nana, without apparent cause, pulling at her halter and trying to keep her head as far as possible from a bundle of hay.

i) Choose the option that lists the set of statements that are **NOT TRUE** according to the given extract.

- (1) Toto was a mischievous pet.
- (2) Toto and Nana became friends.
- (3) Toto and Nana shared the same stable for a night.
- (4) Grandmother liked Toto's mischief.
- (5) Toto was loved by every pet in the zoo.

- a) 1, 2, 3 b) 2, 4, 5 c) 3, 4 d) 2, 3

ii) Why was Toto sent to stable?

- a) To keep him away from all animals.
- b) To give him a comfortable home.
- c) To punish him.
- d) To accompany Nana.

iii) Which word does 'halter' correspond to?

- a) Rope b) Canvas c) Seat d) Hamper

iv) Why was the grandfather surprised on visiting the stable?

v) Why did the grandfather pay a visit to the stable?

VII. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the following:

Read the following stanza and answer the questions that follow:

(1 x 5 = 5)

A) I will arise, and go now, for always night and day
I hear the lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore;
While I stand on the roadway, or on the pavement grey,
I hear it in deep heart's core.

a) What does the line "I hear it is deep heart's core" mean?

b) Name the poet of the poem.

c) "grey pavements" is a metaphor for _____ .

- (i) city as a jungle (ii) dreary urban life
- (iii) shore of the lake (iv) bright future

d) An example of a sound word (onomatopoeia) in the stanza is _____.

- (i) hear (ii) shore
- (iii) lapping (iv) core

e) Identify the figure of speech in 'lake water lapping with low sounds'.

- (i) Alliteration (ii) Repetition
- (iii) Anaphora (iv) Simile

(OR)

- B) "When the humid shadows hover
Over all the starry spheres
And the melancholy darkness
Gently weeps in rainy tears,
What a bliss to press the pillow of cottage- chamber bed
And lie listening to the patter of the soft rain overhead".
- a) The word 'starry' in the extract refers to _____.
(i) the sun (ii) the moon
(iii) the stars (iv) the rain drops
- b) What is the poet feeling in the given extract?
(i) Sad (ii) Excited
(iii) Pitiful (iv) Desperate
- c) What is the poet doing while it starts raining?
- d) Name the poetic device used in the last line of the stanza?
- e) The poet of the poem is _____.
(i) S. Bharati (ii) Phoebe Cary
(iii) W. B. Yeats (iv) Coates Kinney

VIII. Answer **ANY FOUR** of the following questions in 40-50 words each. (3 x 4 = 12)

- a) What was Margie's and Tommie's reaction on seeing a real book?
b) "Evelyn Glenn has achieved more than the most people twice her age". Explain.
c) What is the central idea of the poem "Wind"?
d) 'Ustad Bismillah Khan's life was a perfect example of the rich, cultural heritage of India'. Justify.
e) Explain the symbolism in the poem "The Road Not Taken".

IX. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following questions in 40-50 words each. (2 x 3 = 6)

- a) How did Iswaran's story about the female ghost change Mahendra's perception about the place?
b) "The boy was a nature lover." Justify the statement with reference to the chapter 'The Lost Child'.
c) What used to be a great treat for Toto during winters?

X. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following in 100-120 words. 6

Write a paragraph comparing the present day schools with future schools.
(The Fun They Had)

(OR)

Imagine yourself as Einstein. Write a diary page expressing your feelings after the explosion of atom bombs at Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

XI. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following in 100-120 words. 6

"Iswaran was a great storyteller". Give a brief character sketch of Iswaran with reference to the statement given.

(OR)

Describe the character of the little boy as depicted in the story "The Lost Child".