

Solved Paper, 2024

ENGLISH CORE

Class-XII

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 80

General Instructions :

- (i) This question paper contains 13 questions. All questions are compulsory.
- (ii) This question paper contains THREE Sections - Section - A: READING SKILLS, Section - B : CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS and Section - C: LITERATURE.
- (iii) Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.
- (iv) Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.
- (v) Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

Delhi Set-1

Code No. 1/5/1

SECTION-A

Reading Skills

(22 Marks)

1. Read the text given below :

[12]

- (1) Five enterprises received 'approval and grants for prototype development of sustainable educational toys.
- (2) The government authorities, educational institutions and EdTech start-ups are planning to introduce state-of-the-art, made-in-India educational toys that not only throw light on Indian values and civilisations, but also help in developing children's critical thinking, and decision-making skills.
- (3) One such enterprise is working on different types of projects that can teach children how electromagnets and magnetic fields work.

These projects can resolve a lot of issues in many schools in tier two and three cities that don't have proper infrastructure. Another is working on an excavation site to teach children about ancient Indian civilisations. It has implanted a few artifacts at the site, which the children will have to find so that they are able to learn how to preserve and label artifacts. Another start up has proposed to create miniaturised labs for schools in tier 2 and 3 cities where children can learn concepts of Physics. "We will ensure that these prototypes are developed within a year and then the production can be scaled up," says the senior manager of the project talking about the importance of indigenously-built educational toys.

- (4) Playtime is vital for the cognitive development of children and toys are an essential component that helps enhance specific cognitive abilities and skill sets. "Well-designed toys ignite

students' curiosity, increase focus and can be very beneficial in helping them master a skill and enhance understanding. These can be in the form of visuals, auditory aids, kinesthetic, or a mixture of all three." says HOD, Early Childhood Education.

- (5) Toys offer an engaging avenue to teach mathematical, verbal, problem-solving skills. "Toys that engage students in experiential learning enhance their spatial awareness and fine motor skills. Those designed for two or more players help students develop better social skills as they learn to negotiate, settle differences, etc., with their peers."
- (6) Experiential gadgets and toys enable students to learn faster and retain lessons longer. "A child's interest is piqued when he is taught in a contextual framework as opposed to rote learning. The Indian education system has been witnessing several innovations with the development of toys and gadgets that can be used and felt in person or through VR platforms across subjects, be it Science, Technology, Math or Engineering.

Answer the following questions, based on the given passage :

- (i) By tier 2 and tier 3 cities, the author refers to [1]
 - (A) Metro cities
 - (B) Cities with huge population
 - (C) Underdeveloped cities
 - (D) Cities with less population
- (ii) Complete the sentence with evidence from the text. The made-in-India educational toys serves dual purpose of _____. [1]
- (iii) The author's point of view that can be inferred from the above passage is that _____. [1]

- (A) educational toys are the booming business
 (B) educational toys are meant to entertain children.
 (C) educational toys will replace teachers.
 (D) educational toys will make education more pragmatic.
- (iv) Complete the following sentence appropriately : [1]
 Educational toys enhance the personality of children by ____.
- (v) Read the five headlines (a) — (e), given below : [1]
 (a) Sustainable Educational Toys are Developmentally Appropriate.
 (b) Sustainable Educational Toys Promote Free play.
 (c) Sustainable Educational Toys — Free and Widespread.
 (d) Sustainable Educational Toys — Experiential Learning.
 (e) Sustainable Educational Toys — Hinder Interaction with people
- Identify the option that displays the headline that DOES/DO NOT correspond with what the passage highlights.
- (A) only (e) (B) (a) and (b)
 (C) (c) and (e) (D) only (d)
- (vi) What evidences do you gather from the passage to state that educational system is revolutionised by educational toys ? Answer in about 40 words. [2]
- (vii) Explain in about 40 words, how education at grassroot level is benefitted by these projects. [2]
- (viii) As opposed to learning by heart, experiential toys [1]
 (a) ignite interest
 (b) challenge the teachers
 (c) replace textbooks
 (d) confuse learners
- (ix) Playing is usually considered a distraction. Is it justified on the part of the narrator to assert that playing is an important aspect of education ?
 Write your answer in about 40 words. [2]
- 2. Read the text given below : [10]**
- (1) People below the age of 20 and above the age of 50 are more likely to believe fake news. Those relatively new to the use of the internet still do not grasp the concept of fake information over these platforms, reveals a new survey 'Countering Misinformation in India'. This survey has been conducted jointly by Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI).
- (2) At least 40% of the respondents believed in 'misinformation' received over social media if it came with leading backgrounds and evidence, while 34% of them believe the information when it is shared by a trustworthy organisation.
- (3) The dominant factor that drives people to forward such information is their belief that it might benefit others and help in their safety. In fact, that was the response of almost 50% of the respondents. This was compounded by the fact that at least 20% of the respondents expressed their lack of trust in conventional media thus their faith in contents shared by common people over social media.
- (4) But even then, newspapers still remain the top source of information for most. At least 53% of the respondents trust what is generally perceived as neutral media and only 29% trust technology and social media platforms.
- (5) However, what was surprising was that almost 45% of the respondents did not even know about the existence of fact-checking organisation and most did not even know that journalists had to verify data before they let it out. Only 26% of the respondents believe that it is the responsibility of the media to curb or identify fake news. Many respondents also put the responsibility of identifying such fake news on an individual.
- (6) The survey has found that first time or early users of the Internet platforms are more susceptible to fake news than others. There is a need for building capacities and creating a National Civil Digital Literacy Strategic Plan.
- Answer the following questions, based on the given passage:**
- (i) Select the option that comes under conventional media : [1]
 (A) Instagram (B) Newspaper
 (C) Facebook (D) E-mail
- (ii) Select the correct option :
 One factor that prompts people to believe fake news is that [1]
 (A) it supports their point of view
 (B) they are biased
 (C) it is from a reliable site
 (D) it has more 'likes' and 'shares'
- (iii) What according to the passage are the intentions of people who share information ? [1]
- (iv) Which reason do you infer from the passage is responsible for journalists spreading misinformation? [1]
- (v) Complete the sentence appropriately [1]
 The threat faced by the new entrants in social media is ____.
- (vi) Explain your understanding of the difference between 'misinformation' and 'fake news'. [1]
- (vii) As per your inference drawn from para (1), which category of people fall as victims to fake news ? [2]
- (viii) What is the blame game that goes on in fixing the onus of identifying fake news ? [2]

SECTION-B**Creative Writing Skills****(18 Marks)**

(Note : All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose)

3. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the following two, in about 50 words :

(a) Bharat Public School, I.P. Nagar, has recently constructed a Science Park, a dedicated area where specific equipments based on principles of science are setup. As Rashi Kapoor, President of Science Club, draft a notice for the school notice board, informing students of the same. Mention relevant details. [4]

OR

(b) You are the President, RWA Silver Oak Society. Draft a notice for the society notice board

5. Attempt **ANY ONE** of two, in 120-150 words:

(a) You are Dinesh / Deepa of M.G. Nagar, Pratap Nagar. You are a pharma graduate. You saw the given advertisement in a newspaper and wish to apply for the position advertised.

Write a letter to Ideal Pharma, along with your bio-data, expressing your interest in the advertised post.

**IDEAL PHARMA
Requires
Sales Representatives**

Required Qualification: Graduation in Pharmacy

Experience: Min. 3 years in the relevant field

Skills: Product Knowledge, Communication Skills, Computer Competency

Apply to The Manager, Ideal Pharma, 55, Ajit Arcade, Tenalipuram within a week.

[5]**OR**

(b) To maintain 'work life' balance, there is a surge of people going on short and budgeted vacations. Seizing this opportunity more people are offering the home stay option. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily sharing your views on this trend. You may use the following cues along with your own ideas to compose this letter. You are Ankit/Ankita

- HOME STAY
- Budgeted travel option
- Home cooked meals
- Opportunity to enjoy local culture, cuisines, life-style
- Emerging opportunities for locals.
- Opportunity to showcase indigenous communities in villages/small towns.

[5]

6. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in 120-150 words:

(a) Television has great educational value. It can be used as a tool for learning, both at home and in classrooms. There is a range of channels, that offer educational content.

You are Gopal / Geeta of Class XII. Write an article for your School magazine describing how television can be used as a tool for education. You may use the following cues along with your own ideas to compose this article :

informing residents about the appointment of security guards at Gate Nos. 2, 3 & 4 and an increase of ₹ 1,000 in the annual maintenance charges to meet the expenditure. Mention relevant details.

4. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two in about 50 words :

(a) You are a student counsellor of N.J. Public School. You are invited by S.M. International School, Kala Puram, to address Class XII students on Goal Setting & Time Management. Write a formal letter of reply accepting the invitation and confirming your presence at the stated time, include relevant details. [4]

OR

(b) You are Mr. Anmol Gupta. You are planning to celebrate your sister's silver jubilee wedding anniversary. Draft the invitation card to be sent to relatives and friends, sharing all relevant details.

- easy access to T.V.
- informative, news
- documentaries, panel discussions
- programme on new technologies, science, history,
- National Geographic, astronomy, etc.
- exposure to foreign culture, food, architecture, art, etc.

OR

- (b) Your school recently organised Y-20 Chaupal under G-20 initiative.

The theme chosen for the event was Health and Wellness. Nearly 20 speakers from Classes IX to XII participated and presented their innovative ideas.

You are Neeraj / Nirvita, student editor of your school magazine.

Write a report on the event to be published in your school magazine.

Use the following cues along with your own ideas to draft the report :

- Wellness —holistic and multidimensional,
- date, venue, time
- physical fitness / yoga
- emotional and intellectual well-being
- revival of alternative medicines, etc.
- importance of social interaction

[5]

SECTION-C

Literature

(Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text)

(40 Marks)

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions on ANY ONE of the given two. [6×1=6]

- (a) Sometimes I feel myself I can hardly bear

The thought of so much childish longing in vain,
The sadness that lurks near the open window there,
That waits all day in almost open prayer.

For the squeal of brakes, the sound of a stopping car,
Of all the thousand selfish cars that pass,
Just one to inquire what a farmer's prices are
And one did stop, but only to plow up grass
In using the yard to back and turn around;
And another to ask the way to where it was bound

(A Roadside Stand)

- (i) Select the option that has the same literary device as in 'The sadness that lurks near the open window there'.

- (A) Lucy moved across the room like a warship sailing into battle.
(B) Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.
(C) The water-wraith was shrieking.
(D) The pen is mightier than the sword.

- (ii) They prayed for the stopping of a car. When one car finally stopped, it brought _____ to the people of the roadside stand.

- (A) help (B) happiness
(C) disappointment (D) cash flow

- (iii) Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line, '.....childish longing in vain'.

- (iv) Complete the sentence appropriately.

The emotion of the poet reflected in the above extract is _____.

- (v) The expression 'selfish car' suggests that _____. [8]

- (vi) Based on the rhyme scheme, evident in the last two lines of the extract, which word would rhyme with the last line ?

_____ _____ _____
brass reply sound

OR

- (b) ... but soon

put that thought away, and

looked out at Young

Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling

out of their homes, but after the airports security check,

standing a few yards away, I looked again at her,
wan, pale as a late winter's moon and felt that old familiar ache, my childhood's fear.

(My Mother at Sixty-six)

- (i) Select the correct option.

The impact of 'merry children' on poet's mind

- (A) caused anxiety
(B) created a sense of longing
(C) brought comfort
(D) reminded her of her own childhood

- (ii) The tone of the poet expressed in the above lines is

- (A) sadness and helplessness
(B) excitement and eagerness
(C) appreciation and gratitude
(D) anger and anxiety.

- (iii) The words 'wan, pale' indicate the mother's _____.

- (iv) Complete the following sentence appropriately.

The poet looked at her mother again to _____.

- (v) Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line 'felt that old familiar ache'.

- (vi) 'put that thought away'.

What is the intention of poet that can be inferred from the above line?

8. Read the two extracts given below and answer the questions on ANY ONE.

- (a) The reason the programme has been so successful is because it is impossible to go any where near the South Pole and not be affected by it. It's easy to be

blase about polar ice caps melting while sitting in the comfort zone of our respective latitude and longitude, but when you can visibly see glaciers retreating and ice shelves collapsing, you begin to realise that the threat of global warming is real.

Antarctica, because of her simple eco-system and lack of biodiversity, is the perfect place to study how little changes in the environment can have big repercussions. *(Journey to the End of the Earth)*

[4×1=4]

- (i) As per given extract, the reason for the success of the programme is
- (A) the participation of young students.
(B) the journey to Antarctica.
(C) the exposure to reality.
(D) it was impossible to go near south pole.
- (ii) Complete the following sentence :
The warning that can be inferred from the above extract is _____.
- (iii) State whether the statement given is TRUE or FALSE with reference to the extract.
Global warming is a threat to human survival.
- (iv) Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line "It's easy to be blase about polar ice caps melting while sitting in the comfort zone".

OR

- (b) From that day onwards it was celebration time for all the tigers inhabiting Pratibandapuram.
The State banned tiger hunting by anyone except the Maharaja. A proclamation was issued to the effect that if anyone dared to fling so much as a stone at a tiger, all his wealth and property would be confiscated.
The Maharaja vowed he would attend to all other matters only after killing the hundred tigers. Initially the king seemed well set to realise his ambition *(The Tiger King)*
- (i) Select the correct option:
'.... he would attend to all other matters only after killing hundred tigers'. This reflects Tiger King's
(A) courage (B) determination
(C) selfishness (D) kindness
- (ii) Complete the sentence appropriately.
From that day onwards it was celebration time for all the tigers. The above statement is ironical in the sense _____.
- (iii) '..... if anyone dared to fling so much as a stone at a tiger, all his wealth and property would be confiscated'.
What trait of the king is reflected in the above line ?
- (iv) State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE

The King's ambition is to save people from the tigers.

9. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions on ANY ONE :
- (a) "Why do you do this?" I ask Saheb whom I encounter every morning scrounging for gold in the garbage dumps of my neighbourhood. Saheb left his home long ago. Set amidst the green fields of Dhaka his home is not even a distant memory. There were many storms that swept away their fields and homes, his mother tells him. That why they left, looking for gold in the big city where he now lives.
"I have nothing else to do," he mutters, looking away. "Go to school," I say glibly, realising immediately how hollow the advice must sound. "There is no school in my neighbourhood. When they build one, I will go" *(Lost Spring)*

[6×1=6]

- (i) Choose the correct option.
The expression 'scrounging for gold' refers to
(A) searching for gold items.
(B) looking for something that can fetch money.
(C) rummaging the garbage.
(D) digging to find food to eat.
- (ii) The influence of nature in Saheb's life was that it _____.
(A) brought prosperity
(B) yielded food for them
(C) gave them home
(D) brought disaster
- (iii) Complete the sentence with an appropriate word.
Saheb's conversation with the narrator draws _____ of readers towards Saheb.
- (iv) Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line "..... realising how hollow the advice must sound".
- (v) The expression 'when they build one, I will go' indicates Saheb's _____ to go to school.
- (vi) State whether the following statements is TRUE or FALSE.
'..... his home is not even a distant dream' states that Saheb sees his home often in his dream.

OR

- (b) Then the poet spoke. He couldn't have addressed a more dazed and silent audience — no one knew what he was talking about and his accent defeated any attempt to understand what he was saying. The whole thing lasted about an hour ; then the poet left and we all dispersed in utter bafflement — What are we doing ? What is an English poet doing in a film studio which makes Tamil films for the simplest sort of people ? People whose lives least afforded them the possibility of cultivating a taste for English

poetry. The poet looked pretty baffled too, for he must have felt the sheer incongruity of his talk about the thrills and travails of an English poet. His visit remained an unexplained mystery.

(*Poets and Pancakes*)

(i) **Choose the correct option:**

The reason for the bewilderment of the audience is

- (A) unknown identity of the visitor.
- (B) that the speaker had not been introduced to them.
- (C) the visit of an English poet to a Tamil film studio.
- (D) that they did not understand English.

(ii) By 'thrills and travails' the author refers to

- (A) joy and happiness
- (B) interest and aspiration
- (C) excitement and pain
- (D) shocks and surprises

(iii) Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line, "He could not have addressed a more dazed and silent audience".

(iv) The failure of the speaker to connect with the audience with reference to the extract is his _____.

(v) What information in the extract reveals the fact that the people have no exposure other than to their own circle ?

(vi) State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE.

The audience were enthralled by the poet's impressive speech

10. Answer **ANY FIVE** of the following six questions, in 40-50 words each: [5×2=10]

(i) Explain the inference that can be drawn from the line; "Will they make them sing in German, even the pigeons: (*The Last Lesson*)

(ii) "Father laughed, but there was terror in my heart." What does the above statement speak of the father? (*Deep Water*)

(iii) The tigers in the panel that she made Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.

What is the tone of the poet reflected in the above lines ? (*Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*)

(iv) What is Pablo Neruda's complaint against fishermen? (*Keeping Quiet*)

(v) How and why does Keats relate 'mighty dead' to the 'Thing of Beauty' ? (*A Thing of Beauty*)

(vi) 'Jansie, knowing they were both earmarked for the biscuit factory, became melancholy'.

What inference about Jansie's character is drawn from the above line ? (*Going Places*)

11. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions, in 40-50 words each : [2×2=4]

(i) Why was Charlie fascinated with Galesburg ?

(*The Third Level*)

(ii) "I must get rid of this man for your sake". Said Dr. Sadao.

How will you describe Dr. Sadao as a husband with reference to the above line? (*The Enemy*)

(iii) 'The words that Annan spoke to me that day made a deep impression on me'.

What inference do you draw about the bond between Annan and Bama ?

(*Memories of Childhood*)

12. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in 120-150 words :

(a) but will keep

A bower quiet for us. (*A Thing of Beauty*)

Perhaps the Earth can teach us

as when everything see dead

and later proves to be alive. (*Keeping Quiet*)

Based on ideas from 'Keeping Quiet' and 'A Thing of Beauty', as President of Eco Club of your school. Draft a speech on the importance of preserving nature for the benefit of mankind.

You may begin like this.

Good morning to one and all!

After reading both the poems, I strongly believe

[5]

OR

(b) She gave a little cry of joy. She found a small rattrap..... (*The Rattrap*)

Saheb-e-Alam received a pair of discarded shoes with a hole in one of them. In spite of this he was very happy. (*Lost Spring*)

Compare the joy that both Edla and Saheb experience after receiving their respective gifts.

13. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in 120-150 words :

(a) Imagine you are Derry speaking at 'the funeral of Mr. Lamb highlighting Mr. Lamb's optimism and the change he brought about in your attitude towards life. (*On the Face of it*)

You may begin like this.

Dear friends,

I will be eternally grateful to Mr. Lamb

OR

(b) After having escaped from Japan with the help of Dr. Sadao, Tom (the prisoner of war) writes an article highlighting how Sadao's actions demonstrated the importance of humanity and living in harmony. (*The Enemy*)

(*The Enemy*)

You may begin like this.

Humanity is a value that binds us together

Except the following all other Questions are from Set-1

SECTION-B

Creative Writing Skills

(18 Marks)

5. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two, in **120-150** words:

- (a) You are Mahesh / Mrinal of 36, M.K. Avenue, Pratap Nagar. You are a Commerce graduate. You saw the given advertisement in a newspaper and wish to apply for the position advertised. Write a letter along with a detailed bio-data, expressing your interest in the advertised post.

S.K. GLOBAL BANK	
We're hiring	
'Management Trainees	
Qualification:	Graduation in any Subject
Experience:	0-2 yrs
Skills:	Project management, Communication skills, Customer service skills
Apply with bio-data to The Manager, S.K. Global' Bank, 45, Bannerghatta Road, Pratap Nagar.	

[5]

OR

- (b) You have recently come across a report stating that crime against the elderly is up by 22% in AB Nagar. Senior citizens especially those living alone are exposed to crimes like robbery, murder etc.

As a concerned citizen, write a letter to the editor of a local daily expressing your concern and suggesting ways to protect them. Use the following cues along with your own ideas to draft the letter

- Volunteer your services
- Environment to be made secure
- Not to leave old people alone
- Being touch with them
- Regular police check

6. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two questions, in **120-150** words: [5]

- (a) You are Anuj, a student of Class XII. Whenever you are stressed, you listen to music and get relaxed. You strongly believe that music distresses you and refreshes your body and mind

Based on your experience, write an article on 'Music as Therapy' for a health magazine highlighting the healing power of music. Use the following cues along with your own ideas to compose this article ;

- music establishes connection with self
- music helps in self-expression
- comforts body, mind & soul
- improves one's mood

OR

- (b) Your school recently conducted an Art exhibition in which students from all classes participated. Students presented various paintings, sculpture, etc. Parents and visitors congratulated the students on their efforts.

As a student editor, write a report on the exhibition to be published in your school magazine. Use the cues given below"along with your own ideas to compose this report:

- date, venue, time
- participants
- types of painting, sculpture
- theme, if any.
- visitors' feed back

[5]

SECTION-C

Literature

(Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text)

(40 marks)

11. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions, in **40-50** words each : [2×2=4]

- (i) They decided that the Maharaja must not come to know that he had missed the target'.

(The Tiger King)

Why did the hunters try to hide the truth from the king ?

- (ii) 'I must get rid of this man for your sake'.

(The Enemy)

How did Dr. Sadao act like a perfect husband?

- (iii) 'I had been tossed about in the air like a wooden puppet' and now my long hair was shingled like a coward's _____.

What inference about the life of Zitkala-Sa can be 'drawn from the above statement ?

(*Memories of Childhood*)

12. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions in **120-150** words :

- (a) Imagine you are Pablo Neruda of 'Keeping Quiet'. He advises Robert Frost in the context of his conflict and pain at the plight of the road side stand owners. Pen down your advice in a letter to Robert Frost. You may begin

Dear Frost.

You seem very pained at the plight of the roadside stand owners, and I would like to advise you...

[5]

OR

- (b) While M. Hamel talks of language being the key to nationalism. Gandhi tells the court it is a 'conflict of duties'. On the one hand, not to set a bad example as a law breaker, on the other hand, to render the humanitarian and national service. You get inspired and decide to write an article for a youth magazine urging the youth to dedicate themselves to the service, of the nation.

You may begin like this,

Youth plays an important role in the progress of the nation

13. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in **120-150** words :

- (a) Things out, shutting things in. (*On the Face of it*)

The above statement speaks about Mr. Lamb's open mindedness and large heartedness despite his disability. Inspired by his thought, you as a student leader, give a motivational speech to your class on how positive attitude and broad mindedness will help one succeed in life.

You may begin like this..

Good morning to one & all

Being positive and open minded will definitely make you evolve and grow... [5]

OR

- (b) 'that if the man were whole I could turn him over to the Police But since he is wounded' (*The Enemy*)

The above statement clearly displays Dr. Sadao's commitment to his profession and compassion. Write an article in appreciation of Dr. Sadao's professional ethics and his ability to rise above prejudices. You may begin like this.

Dr. Sadao proved himself to be a man with great humanitarian values ...

Delhi Set-3

Code No. 1/5/3

Except the following all other Questions are from Set-1 & 2

SECTION-B

Creative Writing Skills

(18 Marks)

5. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two, in **120-150** words:

- (a) You are Niharika/Nitish, a qualified software engineer. You saw the given advertisement in a newspaper and wish to apply for the position advertised. Draft an application for the position advertised.

TECH MAHINDRA	
Requires	
Software Engineer	
Qualification:	B.E. Computer Science
Work Experience skills:	Minimum 2 years in relevant field.
Age:	Not more than 28 yrs
Skills:	Knowledge of HTMS, Research skills Software building
	Apply to The Manager, Tech Mahindra, 40, L.G. Road, Teenalipuram.

[5]

OR

- (b) The civic authorities have upgraded the Central Park in your colony with a walking track, open air gym and a children's play corner with swings.

Write a letter to the editor of a national daily expressing your views on the responsibilities of citizens to support civic authorities in ensuring the upkeep of neighbourhood parks. Use the given along with your own ideas to compose this letter. You are Reena/Trikha.

Purpose

- Help Civic Authorities/Upkeep maintenance of parks
- Conduct R.W.A. meetings
- Put up notices
- Increase the number of garbage bins and create awareness of its proper utilisation.
- Put notices on the fixed timings of parks and instructions on how to use the park effectively.
- Motivate residents to plant more trees and flowers in the park.

[5]

6. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two questions, in 120-150 words:

- (a) You are Vinita, a student of Class XII. You decide to write an article on 'Impact of OTT Platforms on Youth' for your school magazine.

You may use the cues given below along with your own ideas to compose this article.

- easy to access
- violent & brutal scenes
- teens' addiction to OTT
- insomnia

Suggestions

- censor for OTT
- time limitation
- choice of content
- parental monitoring

[5]

OR

- (b) Your school recently organised an adventures trip to Manali. Students from various classes joined the trip and participated in various activities. As a student editor, write a report on the trip to be published in your school newsletter. You are Lata of Class XII. Use the cues given below along with your own ideas to compose this report.

- date, duration
- no. of students
- activities
- trekking, river rafting
- students feedback

[5]

SECTION-C**Literature**

(Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text)

(40 marks)

11. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions, in 40-50 words each : [2×2=4]

- (i) My stamp collecting for example, that's temporary refuge from reality. (*The Third Level*)

How can a hobby give one an escape from reality?

- (ii) "I will have nothing to do with it," Yumi said, "I am a poor person and it is not my business."

(*The Enemy*)

What inference can be drawn about the character of the speaker from the above expression?

- (iii) "The words that Annan spoke to me that day made a deep impression on me". How was Annan able to inspire Bama? (*Memories of Childhood*)

12. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions in 120-150 words :

- (a) "Well I'll be a manager then - yes, of course - to begin with." (*Going Places*)

Sophie (*Going Places*) lives in a world of fantasy. Douglas (*Deep Water*) faces reality and realises the importance of learning how to swim. Analyse based on the two texts the importance of doing things rather than mere dreaming.

Write an article on how the youth of today must inculcate an attitude of doing rather than dreaming.

You may begin

The youth today must _____.

OR

- (b) Where the peasants are so crushed and fear stricken, law courts are useless. The real relief for them is to be free from fear (*Indigo*). The people of Firozabad (*Lost Spring*) are fear stricken to form a cooperative as there is a vicious circle of middlemen, politicians, etc. These exploiters don't allow them to take any initiative. You agree that fear is the worst deterrent factor in one's life.

As a motivational speaker, give a speech advising students how to overcome fear and lead a successful life. Use material from the two texts to support your views.

You may begin like this

Dear Students,

The emotion of fear will always interfere and interrupt your path to success...

13. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in 120-150 words :

- (a) Derry : It's got nothing to do with my face and what I look like. (*On the Face of it*)

You do agree with Derry that appearance doesn't define a person. Only one's potential and innate qualities gain one respect and dignity in society.

As Derry, write a diary entry regretting how you wasted your time indulging in self-pity and frustration and how your encounter with Mr. Lamb transformed your personality.

You may begin like this.

I do really think my stars for bringing Mr. Lamb into my life _____.

[5]

OR

- (b) The boy drank the milk of an English cow, was brought up by an English nanny, tutored in English _____.

(*The Tiger King*)

You realise that western influence on Indian culture is deep rooted since the days of Tiger King.

Write an article using material from the text, on the pros and cons of western influence on Indian society.

You may begin like this;

Indian's exposure to English language and western influence _____.

[5]

Outside Delhi Set-1

Code No. 1/4/1

SECTION-A

Reading Skills

(22 Marks)

1. Read the passage given below :

[12]

(1) What do we typically do when we find our children doing something we don't approve of? We become reactive parents. Often, we pepper our reactions with lectures. When it doesn't work and predictably so; we end up screaming and dole out a punishment. And our children react with anger, resentment or 'can't-be-bothered' attitude.

(2) Buddhist Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh put it beautifully when he described how each child has both negative seeds of anger, despair, hatred, fear and violence – and wholesome seeds – of love, happiness, compassion and forgiveness. According to him, what will blossom depends on the seeds we nurture.

(3) A parenting and educational approach that's gaining a large following internationally, called the Nurtured Heart Approach (NHA) by Howard Glasser, is very much in keeping with this Zen approach. The three main aspects of this approach are:

- Refuse to energise negativity.
- Relentlessly energise their positives.
- Reset : Do not react negatively and stay calm when the child does something wrong.

Parents following this approach commit to not saying or doing anything that may fuel negativity in the child. But the parent has to make sure she/he does this very calmly, without any anger or resentment.

(4) While on a mission to cut the negative, the parent looks for every opportunity to energise the positive in the child. This is done through persistently appreciating the goodness in the child in the smallest of ways: You were really generous about sharing your pizza with your sister; I appreciate the hard work you have put in your project; It takes courage to stand up to a bully. If you observe, the appreciation is not about saying "excellent", "amazing" or "good", which is really an empty praise and does not speak much to the child. Qualifying a praise, on the other hand, gives the child direction and she/he begins to understand what qualities, values and strengths are appreciated. These are also necessary ingredients of life skills and success.

(5) This approach is not merely about noticing when the child is being good, it is about recognising the child's worth at every step. It's about aligning his energy in believing that he has great qualities, which are being identified and validated by the parents at every step. He realises that there is no point choosing negativity, as there are no pay-offs in it. So, start building your child's inner wealth – there is nothing to lose.

Answer the following questions, based on the given passage:

- (i) Complete the following sentence with an appropriate word : "we end up screaming and dole out punishment."
In the above sentence., the author criticises the _____ approach of the parents. [1]
- (ii) Explain in about 40 words, when and how do parents become reactive. [2]
- (iii) In the line 'what will bloom will depend on the seeds we nurture' – what seeds does the author refer to? [1]
(A) Seasonal seeds (B) Social news
(C) Parental attitude (D) Values and emotions
- (iv) Explain in about 40 words why does NHA focus on reforming parents to reform children. [2]
- (v) Share evidence from the text, in about 40 words, to support the view that parents appreciate the goodness of the child at every opportunity. [2]
- (vi) In paragraph 5, in what way does 'This approach' differ from the earlier approach? [1]
- (vii) Select the option that can be classified as qualifying a praise as explained in the passage: [1]
(A) You can be more helpful.
(B) You demonstrated patience while teaching your junior.
(C) Use your skill to be an excellent sportsman.
(D) You have to be amazing in your work.
- (viii) The phrase 'to cut the negative' in para 4 most nearly means: [1]
(A) to reduce wasteful expenditure
(B) to stop criticizing
(C) to eliminate challenges
(D) to humiliate someone
- (ix) Read the five headlines (a) – (e) given below: [1]
(a) New Age Parenting
(b) Children - A Rebellious Generation
(c) Channelising Energy
(d) Teacher - A Nation Builder
(e) Skill Development - Careers Ahead

Identify the option that displays the headline/s that Does/Do not correspond with the occurrences in the text

- (A) (a) and (e) (B) (c) and (e)
(C) (b) only (D) (a) and (c)

2. Read the passage given below : [12]

- (1) We're all familiar with the usual reasons workers cite for wanting to stay away even after lockdowns have long ended: flexible schedules, not having to commute, and of course, increased productivity. However, productivity isn't the only reason people want to stay away from the office. We recently surveyed 1,000 remote workers to find out what's really keeping them tied to their work-from-home lives.
- (2) The findings include: 72% want to be able to take a nap or exercise during the day. Nearly three out of four remote workers surveyed stated that the ability to take a nap or workout during the workday was one of the reasons they wanted to stay home. Though these activities may very well increase worker productivity, there's no doubt that a nap on the kitchen couch would be frowned upon in the office.
- (3) 73% want to be able to watch TV while they work. Three out of four respondents again say that being able to entertain themselves with TV, podcasts, music, or other media is one of the reasons they want to keep their work-from-home lifestyle.
- (4) 62% cite concerns about their appearance. Well over half of respondents stated that they are concerned about their co-workers seeing them in-person again after such a long time apart. Whether it's weight loss or gain, not having the right clothes or another concern about appearance, most would rather not have to worry about the way they look to their co-workers outside a zoom call.
- (5) When asked to choose the reason that most affects their desire to keep working from home, predictable answers like caring for children and lack of a commute were still the most common number one reasons. 14% of respondents stated that working remotely was so important to them, that they would not go back to work in-person even if their employers required it.

Answer the following questions, based on the given passage:

- (i) '..... these activities will increase productivity'. By 'productivity'. the author refers to [1]
(A) products produced
(B) efficiency of the employee
(C) time spent by the employee
(D) number of activities
- (ii) What change in the work place would bring those

people back to office who want amusement ? [1]

- (A) giving long breaks
(B) free coffee and tea
(C) building entertainment lounge
(D) spacious conference hall

- (iii) As per the survey, why do health conscious people prefer to work from home? [1]
- (iv) Complete the following sentence appropriately :
The passage ends on a note that some people are resolved to _____. [1]
- (v) Explain one inference that can be drawn from para 1 about the reason for people's preference to work from home. [1]
- (vi) State whether the statement given below is True or False: [1]
The survey reveals that people deeply miss socialising in the work from home style.
- (vii) Explain in your own words how appearance is one of the factors for people's preference for work from home. [2]
- (viii) As per the survey, what top priorities of people prevent them from going to office ? [2]

SECTION-B

Creative Writing Skills

(18 Marks)

(Note: All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose)

3. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, in about 50 words :
(a) P.S. Public School, Aram Nagar has opened a gym for the benefit of students. As the Sports Captain, draft a notice informing students about the facilities available in the gym, timings and other details. [4]

OR

- (b) The RWA of Ganga Society, Pushp Nagar has planned to start free yoga classes for its residents. You are Sharmila Tiwari, the President of RWA. Draft a notice informing residents about the proposal, timing, venue and other details. [4]
4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two in about 50 words :
(a) You are Mr. Srikanth Sharma. You have recently built a new house in the hills of Uttarakhand. Draft a letter inviting your brother and his family to spend a few days with you in your new home. Include relevant details. [4]

OR

- (b) You are Mr. Shyam Sundar, Professor of Psychology. You are invited by S.K.M. College, Mahboob Nagar to be the keynote speaker at its Annual Conclave on 'Student Health – The Emotional impact of Social Media'. Draft a reply letter expressing your inability to accept the invitation and also cite a reason for refusal. [4]

5. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two, in **120–150** words:

- (a) You are Sujata/Suresh, a qualified fashion designer. You came across the given advertisement in a newspaper and wish to apply for the position advertised. Write a letter of application along with bio-data for the same.

We are Hiring !	
Apparel Designer	
Required Qualification:	Graduation in fashion design.
Experience:	Minimum 2 years in relevant field.
Skills:	Creativity, computer designing of apparels, aptitude for sewing, business sense, in depth knowledge of fabric drafting.
Apply to the Director, Estella House of Fashion 26, M.G. Road, Kanthapuram.	

[5]

OR

- (b) You are Jyoti/Jagan of Park Avenue, Karampur. You feel sad to notice that people litter the roads with utter disregard for sanitation and cleanliness. As a responsible citizen, write a letter to the editor or a national daily highlighting the need for educational institutions to instill civic responsibility among school children.

You may use the following cues along with your own ideas to compose this letter.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cleanliness drive • eco club activities in schools • workshops, seminars | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spreading awareness campaigns • volunteer for cleanup |
|--|--|

[5]

6. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two questions, in **120-150** words:

- (a) With the advancement of science and technology, basic communication has adversely impacted the social skills of today's youth. You are Girish / Girija of class XII. Write an article for your school magazine highlighting the adverse effects of technology and the ways to enhance social skills among the younger generation to prevent social awkwardness.

You may use the following cues along with your own ideas to draft the article.

<p>Impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • decrease in face to face communication • lack of engagement • inability to converse and poor inter-personal skills <p>Suggestions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improve conversational and communication skills • personal interaction, develop collaborative skills • outdoor sports and activities
--

[5]

OR

- (a) The members of your school Drama Club, recently put up a street play at the Central Park of your city. The theme of the play was Education – An Equal Opportunity. As President of Drama Club, write a report on the event to be published in your school newsletter. Use the following cues along with your own ideas to compose the report :

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • date, venue, time • no. of participants • performance followed by interactive session with spectators • star actors • response • people's feedback/response |
|--|

[5]

SECTION-C

Literature

(Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text)

(40 Marks)

7. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow: [6×1=6]
- (a) The little old house was out with a little new shed in front at the edge of the road where the traffic sped. A road side stand that too pathetically pled It would not be fair to say for a dole of bread. But for some of the money, the cash, whose flow supports The flower of cities from sinking and withering faint. (*A Roadside Stand*)
- (i) Which of the following expressions has the same literary device are used in "A roadside stand that too pathetically pled."
- (A) All the world's a stage.
 (B) I wandered lonely, as a cloud.
 (C) The brutal wind bullied the tree.
 (D) And life is too much like a pathless wood.

- (ii) Select the option that aptly conveys the poet's point of view with reference to the above extract :
The roadside stand is put up with the purpose to
(A) display fruits
(B) to stop the traffic
(C) to do business
(D) to interact with city people
- (iii) What do you infer about the people, who put up the roadside stand from the phrase 'would not be fair to say for a dole of bread'?
- (iv) Complete the following sentence with reference to the extract.
The word 'pathetically' reflects the condition of the roadside stand.
- (v) State whether the following statement is True or False :
By 'Flower of Cities', the poet refers to the garden in cities.
- (vi) Based on the rhyme scheme, evident in lines 1–4, which word would rhyme with line 2 ?
— — —
part fled seen
- OR**
- (b) Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool
Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.
The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band
sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand
when Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie
still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by,
The Tigers in the panel that she made
will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.
(*Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*) [6×1=6]
- (i) 'Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.' Through the above expression the poet indicates :
(A) Aunt Jennifer is happily married.
(B) Aunt Jennifer loves the tigers in the panel.
(C) Aunt Jennifer's unhappy married life.
(D) Aunt Jennifer's rich and luxurious life.
- (ii) Select the option that has the same literary device as used in 'Still ringed with ordeals'.
(A) Leopards cannot hide in the jungle as they are spotted.
(B) Sun smiled happily on us.
(C) Her lovely voice was music to his ears.
(D) Life is like a box of chocolates.
- (iii) Complete the following sentences with reference to the extract.
The Tigers in the panel symbolise
- (iv) State whether the statement given below is True or False :
"Find even the ivory needle hard to pull."
- (v) Based on the rhyme scheme, evident in lines 1–2, which word would rhyme with line 1?
— — —
full sand bye
- (vi) The use of the word fluttering fingers' in the extract suggest that the fingers of Aunt Jennifer are trembling. This creates an image of _____
8. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:
- (a) I did not open my mouth to answer. Then the steps were quickened and the voices became excited. The sounds came nearer and nearer. Women and girls entered the room. I held my breath and watched them open closet doors and peep behind large trunks. Someone threw up the curtains, and the room was filled with sudden light. What caused them to stoop and look under the bed. I do not know. I remember being dragged out, though I resisted by kicking and scratching wildly. In spite of myself, I was carried downstairs and tied fast in a chair.
(*Memories of Childhood*) [4×1=4]
- (i) Select the appropriate option :
_____ Sounds came nearer and nearer _____
(A) describes the increase in volume.
(B) adds suspense and anxiety to readers.
(C) reflects the thought of the speaker.
(D) is a factual narrative.
- (ii) Complete the following sentence :
'In spite of myself' suggests that the speaker was _____.
- (iii) What do you infer from the first line of the extract ?
(a) It was her first day in school.
(b) She did not want to get caught.
(c) She was unprepared for the lesson.
(d) She preferred to be by herself.
- (iv) State whether the statement given below is True or False :
The speaker hoodwinked the people looking for her.
- OR**
- (b) Human civilisations have been around for a paltry 12,000 years – barely a few seconds on the geological clock. In that short amount of time, we've managed to create quite a ruckus, etching our dominance over nature with our villages, towns, cities, mega cities. The rapid increase of human populations has left us battling with other species for limited resources, and the unmitigated burning of fossil fuels has now created a blanket of carbon dioxide around the world, which is slowly but surely increasing the average global temperature.
(*Journey to the End of the Earth*)
[4×1=4]
- (i) According to the view expressed by the author in the above extract, increase in global temperature is due to
(A) mega cities
(B) human people
(C) burning of fossil fuels
(D) limited resources
- (ii) Complete the following sentence with reference to the extract :

- Humans are criticised by the author for _____.
- (iii) According to the author, the relation between human population and resources is _____.
- (iv) In that short amount of time, we've managed to create a ruckus'. By 'ruckus' the author refers to _____.
- (A) movement
(B) misunderstanding
(C) breach
(D) commotion
9. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow :
- (a) I heard M. Hamel say to me, "I won't scold you, little Franz : you must feel bad enough, see how it is ! Everyday we have said to ourselves. Bah! I've plenty of time I'll learn it tomorrow. And now you see where we've come out. Ah, that's the great trouble with Alsace; she puts off learning till tomorrow. Now those fellows out there will have the right to say to you. How is it; you pretend to be Frenchmen, and yet you can neither speak nor write your own language ?" But, you are not the worst, poor little Franz. We've all a great deal to reproach ourselves with". (*The Last Lesson*) [6×1=6]
- (i) "And now you see where we've come out.'
The tone of M. Hamel in the above line is that of:
(A) kindness (B) happiness
(C) regret (D) enthusiasm
- (ii) 'We've all a great deal to reproach ourselves with.'
Select the option, which conveys the meaning of 'reproach' as reflected in the above line.
(A) The player received a reprimand for breach of rules.
(B) The students approached the management with a demand for new canteen.
(C) The clerk received a letter of appreciation for his innovative ideas.
(D) She could not find a way to broach the subject with her boss.
- (iii) State whether the following statement is true or false with reference to the extract.
M. Hamel endorses the belief that there is plenty of time to learn their language.
- (iv) Complete the sentence appropriately.
You must feel bad enough.' Through these words M. Hamel urges the people _____.
- (v) Identify the line from the text that reinforces the theme of patriotism in the story.
- (vi) She puts off learning till tomorrow. The phrase 'puts off' suggests _____.

OR

- (b) They thought he would demand repayment in full of the money which they had illegally and deceitfully extorted from the sharecroppers. He asked only 50 per cent. "There he seemed adamant", writes Reverend J.Z. Hodge, a British missionary in

Champan, who observed the entire episode at close range. "Thinking probably that he would not give way, the representatives of the planters offered to refund to the extent of 25 per cent, and to his amazement Mr. Gandhi took him at his words thus breaking the deadlock." (*Indigo*) [6×1=6]

- (i) **Choose the correct option:**

"Then he seemed adamant,' reflects Gandhi's trait of being

- (A) arrogant (B) uncompromising
(C) argumentative (D) courageous

- (ii) _____ deceitfully extorted from the sharecroppers. The status of sharecroppers as inferred from the above line is

- (A) law abiding citizens
(B) followers of Gandhi
(C) victims of exploitation
(D) contract labourers

- (iii) Complete the following sentence :

Gandhi surprised them by _____.

- (iv) The inference that can be drawn from the line "Mr. Gandhi took him at his word" is _____.

- (v) 'Deadlock in the last line means _____.

- (vi) What do we infer about the attitude of planters towards sharecroppers?

10. Answer **ANY FIVE** of the following six questions in 40–50 words each: [5×2=10]

- (i) When I sense a flash of it in Mukesh, I am cheered. How is Mukesh's attitude of life different from that of his family and friends ? (*Lost Spring*)

- (ii) "I was frightened, but not yet frightened out of my wits." Says Douglas. Which qualities of the speaker are highlighted in the above statement? (*Deep Water*)

- (iii) 'See you soon Amma.' How are these words contrary to the speaker's emotions ? (*My Mother at Sixty-six*)

- (iv) 'And such too is the grandeur of the dooms ; we have imagined for the mighty dead.' Explain the inference you can draw from the phrase 'mighty dead'. (*A Thing of Beauty*)

- (v) What evidence from the text reveals that Rudyard Kipling did not walk the talk? (*The Interview*)

- (vi) "Soaf, you really should be sensible !" What does Jansie's advice to her friend Sophie reveal about their friendship ? (*Going Places*)

11. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions, in 40–50 words each : [2×2=4]

- (i) How can you say "Students on Ice Programme' was a step towards the future ?

(*Journey to the End of the Earth*)

- (ii) Louisa behaves like a perfect wife. Give evidence from *The Third Level* in support of the above statement.

- (iii) What was the servants' reaction to Sadao's decision of treating the American soldier ? (*The Enemy*)

12. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions in 120–150 words :

- (a) After reading 'Aunt Jennifer's Tiger' and 'Going Places', you realise that Aunt Jennifer and Sophie's mother have been subdued by their respective husbands.

As a social activist you have to write an article to a newspaper on the need to empower women.

You may begin like this.

Empowerment of women is a very essential social reform. It needs to be accelerated for any nation to progress _____.

[5]

OR

- (b) 'A Roadside Stand' and 'Lost Spring' depict two contrasting worlds existing in society.

Justify this statement with reference to the poem 'A Roadside Stand' and the text "The Lost Spring.

You may begin.

Social satire in the two texts portrays two contrasting worlds that exist in society.

[5]

13. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in 120-150 words :

- (a) Mr. Lamb: Lord, boy, you've got two arms, two legs

and eyes and ears _____.

You could get on better than all the rest. Optimism is the best tool to face challenges in life.

Imagine you are Mr. Lamb. You want to give a motivational speech to a group of differently-abled students urging them to be positive in their approach to life. Write the speech on behalf of Mr. Lamb.

You may begin like this.

Hello ! Dear Students ! Believe in yourself. Nothing is impossible. (*On the Face of It*)

[5]

OR

- (b) 'Tiger population became extinct in the forests of Pratibandapuram.'

'Tiger King' is a typical example of man's dominance over nature.

As a member of your school Eco Club, write an article for your school magazine on how man should follow the policy of, 'Live and Let Live'.

You may begin like this.

The noblest principle, man should follow in his life is co-existence. (*The Tiger King*)

[5]

Outside Delhi Set-2

Code No. 1/4/2

Except the following all other Questions are from Set-1

SECTION-B

Creative Writing Skills

(18 Marks)

5. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two, in 120–150 words:

- (a) You are Neeta/Neeraj of Rainbow Nagar, Shaktiganj a qualified basketball coach. You saw the advertisement given below and wish to apply for the position advertised.

R.J. Sports Academy Requires Basketball Coach	
Qualification:	Master's degree in specific game with NIS diploma.
Work experience:	Minimum 2 years in relevant field.
Skills:	Patience, empathy, leadership qualities, attention to detail.
Apply with complete bio-data to – The Director, R.J. Sports Academy, 43, L.M. Square, Shaktiganj expressing your interest in the advertised post.	

[5]

OR

- (b) You are Mira/Mithun, parent of a class IV student.

You were recently invited among others by the school to attend a two-day workshop on "Preparing youth for the Road ahead."

Write a letter to the Editor, Daily news expressing your views on the need for such workshops to create awareness of skill development and future opportunities.

You may use the following clues along with your own ideas:

- skill development
- vocational education, apprenticeship and internship
- entrepreneurship
- skills for greater employment prospects and economic progress

[5]

6. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two questions, in 120–150 words:

- (a) The rising obesity amongst youth today is a grave Addiction cause of concern. Addiction to technology, inactive lifestyle and eating sugary and highly processed foods are among the leading causes.

Write an article for the school magazine, sharing the importance of a healthy lifestyle and nutritious diet. You may use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this article. You are Shivani/Satish of Class XII B.

- Reasons for obesity
 - Consequences - ill health
- Suggestions**
- Active lifestyle
 - Regular exercise
 - Change in eating habits
 - Support and encouragement

[5]

OR

- (b) As part of community outreach programme, a group of 40 students from your school identified a neighbourhood slum and took up the initiative to teach basic language and numerical skills, environmental cleanliness and personal hygiene awareness to the slum children. As Head of the team, write a report on the programme to be published in your school newsletter.

Use the clues given below, along with your own ideas to draft the report.

You are Rahul/Radhika.

- date, venue, duration
- activities carried out
- no. of children who attended
- books distributed
- feedback of people

[5]

SECTION-C

Literature

(Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text)

(40 marks)

11. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions, in 40–50 words each: [2×2=4]

- (i) 'And for humans, the prognosis is not good'.

What is in store for humans, as per the above statement? (*The Journey to the End of the Earth*)

- (ii) 'My three hundred dollars bought less than two hundred in old style bills, but I didn't care.'

(*The Third Level*)

What prompted Charley to compromise on less value of money?

- (iii) What was the servants' reaction to Sada's decision of treating the American soldier? (*The Enemy*)

12. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions in 120–150 words:

- (a) Wars with gas, wars with fire.

Victory with no survivors.

(*Keeping Quiet*)

Pablo Neruda in the above lines, highlights the futility of war.

Gandhi also brought about the change in the plight of the Champaran sharecroppers through civil disobedience and non violence.

Write an article on the importance of peace and the right way to resolve issues. [5]

OR

- (b) Imagine you are Mukund Padmanabhan from the Indian (The Interview) and you interviewed M. Hamel, after he finished delivering the last lesson.

(*The Last Lesson*)

Write a paragraph on Hamel's views on individual responsibility and nationalism.

13. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in 120-150 words:

- (a) Mr. Lamb: "Oh, there's lot of things I've learned to do and plenty of time for it. Years. I take it steady."

(*On the Face of it*)

Mr. Lamb, despite his handicap learnt to be independent and has proved where there is a will, there is a way. As a motivational speaker, write a speech to be delivered to the school students, highlighting how one should develop resilience and determination to achieve one's goal citing references from this story.

You may begin like this..

To remain resilient during difficult times, will help one move forward in life. [5]

OR

- (b) Until then the Maharaja had given his entire time and energy to tiger hunting. He had no time to spare for the crown prince. (*The Tiger King*)

In the present times, we see people following their profession and running after money and neglect their children. As a professional counsellor, you address working parents, stressing the need to spend quality time with children. Take material from the story 'The Tiger King' to re-inforce your points of view.

You may begin like this.

Spending time with children will boost their confidence.... [5]

Except the following all other Questions are from Set-1 &2

SECTION-B

Creative Writing Skills

(18 Marks)

5. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two, in **120-150** words:

- (a) You are Ujwal/Urmila of J.P. Nagar, A.B. Puram. You saw the given advertisement in a newspaper and wish to apply for the position advertised.

G.R.T. Hotel, New Delhi
Requires
Chief Chef

Qualification: Graduation in Hotel Management.
Work Experience skills: Minimum 2 years in relevant field.
Skills: Team Management, Kitchen Management, Food Plating.
Apply with bio-data to The Manager, G.R.T. 40, Rajendra Nagar, A.B. Puram.

[5]

OR

- (b) You are Tanvi of Rosewood Colony, Sagar Nagar. You have recently observed that people waste a lot of food in hotels, at marriages and parties. You are upset at the casual attitude of people towards wastage of food."

Write a letter to the editor of a national daily expressing your concern and suggest ways to improve the situation. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this letter.

Problems

- oversized servings
- ordering too much food
- casual attitude towards food and
- the effects of wastage.

Suggestions

- order only what can be consumed
- prepare less items
- donate unconsumed food
- create food banks

[5]

6. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two questions, in **120-150** words:

- (a) You are Ravi/Rajni, a class XII student. Write an article for a youth magazine on selfie safety, advising youngsters to be more cautious and careful.

Use the following cues along with your own ideas to draft the article:

- don't pose near moving train or other vehicles
- don't pose with wild animals
- be aware of your surroundings
- keep away from stairs, drop-offs.
- casual posting of selfies - pose a threat
- Support and encouragement

[5]

OR

- (b) You are the President of RWA, Preeti Nagar. Your society recently organised a cooking competition for the residents on the occasion of Women's Day. Eminent chef Sanjay Kumar was invited to be judge.

Write a report on the event to be published in a local daily.

Use the following cues along with your own ideas to draft the report :

- date, venue, time
- no. of participants
- variety of dishes displayed
- winner

[5]

SECTION-C

Literature

(Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text)

(40 marks)

11. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions, in **40-50** words each : [2×2=4]

- (i) 'With students of ice, he offers future generation of policy makers a life-changing experience...

(The Journey to the End of the Earth)

What expectation of the narrator is reflected in the above line ?

- (ii) 'Don't thank me too early'. Sadao said coldly. What inference is drawn about Sadao's state of mind from the above line ? *(The Enemy)*

- (iii) Jack Finney portrays Louisa as a perfect wife. Give evidences from Charley's life in support of the above statement. *(The Third Level)*

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in 120-150 words :

- (a) Franz from 'The Last Lesson' and the peddler from 'The Rattrap' demonstrate the importance of learning from one's mistakes and rising up to evolve as a better person.

Write an article based on the two texts on how a man evolves after learning from his mistakes. [5]

OR

- (b) 'Lost Spring' and 'Indigo' highlight the apathy of society and exploitation by those in power. Elaborate. [5]

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in 120-150 words :

- (a) Derry : Oh no, because if I don't go back there, I'll never go anywhere in this world again.

(On the Face of it)

Derry later realises that the decision taken at that moment helped him to come out of shell. As Derry, write a diary entry expressing your happiness and thanking your stars for the right decision taken.

You may begin like this.

I was so fortunate to be able to be decisive at the right moment..... [5]

OR

- (b) Your Majesty, I have two wives already. If I marry you..... (Tiger King)

No doubt it adds humour to the story. Humour always captures the mind of readers.

Taking ideas from the story 'Tiger King', write an article on the 'Importance of Humour in Life'

You may begin like this; Sense of humour helps us deal with problems of life and improves one's mental and physical health..... [5]

Answers

Delhi Set-1

Code No. 1/5/1

SECTION-A

Reading Skills

- 1.(i) Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: The idea is to provide facilities to these 'Underdeveloped cities' as they lack proper infrastructure.

- (ii) The made-in-India educational toys serve dual purpose of not only throwing light on Indian values and civilisations, but also help in developing children's critical thinking and decision-making skills – "Well-designed toys ignite students' curiosity, increase focus and can be very beneficial in helping them master a skill and enhance understanding."

- (iii) Option (D) is correct.

Explanation: educational toys will make education more pragmatic – as it is aimed to develop children's critical thinking skills instead of following fixed theories or rules.

- (iv) Educational toys enhance the personality of children by – engaging them in experiential learning that develops their social skills, mathematical, verbal and problem-solving skills.

- (v) Option (C) is correct.

- (vi) Playtime is crucial for children's cognitive development, with toys playing a key role in enhancing specific skills and abilities. Well-designed toys spark curiosity, improve focus, and aid skill mastery and understanding, utilising visuals, auditory aids, kinesthetic elements, or a blend of all three.

- (vii) Government, educational institutions, and EdTech start-ups are developing state-of-the-art, made-in-India educational toys to illuminate Indian values, foster critical thinking, and improve decision-making

skills. Projects include teaching electromagnetism, ancient civilisations through excavation sites, and creating mini labs for Physics in smaller cities. These toys are vital for cognitive development, enhancing specific skills, and offering engaging ways to learn various subjects

- (viii) Option (A) is correct.

- (ix) Playtime is necessary for every child's cognitive development. Toys enhance specific skills such as ignite curiosity and improve focus. They come in various forms like visuals, auditory aids and kinesthetic elements, offering an engaging way to teach skills and improve social interactions.

2. (i) Option (B) is correct.

- (ii) Option (C) is correct.

- (iii) The dominant factor that drives people to forward/share information is their belief that it might benefit others and help in their safety.

- (iv) The inferred reason for journalists spreading misinformation, as suggested by the passage, is a public misunderstanding of journalistic processes and the necessity of verifying information.

- (v) The threat faced by the new entrants in social media is that they are more susceptible to fake news.

- (vi) Difference between 'misinformation' and 'fake news' – Misinformation refers to false or inaccurate information that is spread unintentionally or without malicious intent. Fake news is deliberately created and disseminated with the intent to deceive, mislead, or manipulate the public.

- (vii) People below the age of 20 and above the age of 50 fall prey to fake news as inferred from para 1.

- (viii) Respondents and media blame each other for the spread of fake news; each holding the other responsible to identify them.

SECTION-B**Creative Writing Skills**

3. (a)

Bharat Pubic School, IP Nagar
NOTICE

February 22, 2024

Science Park

This is to apprise all the students that our school has recently constructed a Science Park within the school compound. This is a specifically dedicated area where specific equipments based on principles of Science are setup. All the students are requested to pay a visit to this Science Park and gain some knowledge. For further details contact the undersigned.

Rashi Kapoor
President Science Club

4. (a) N. J. Public School
Delhi

22nd February 2024

S.M. International School
Kala Puram**Subject: Acceptance of Invitation**

Sir

I feel honoured for being invited to address class XII students on goal setting and time management dated 2nd March 2024, Saturday.

I confirm my presence at your school. I hope to utilise this opportunity to the best extent.

Yours sincerely
Natasha

(b)

Mrs. and Mr. Anmol Gupta

request the pleasure of your company on the auspicious occasion of 25th wedding anniversary of my sister

Naina and Vikram
Monday 15th march, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.
At Dream Resort Sector 10 Rohini, Delhi.

RSVP
Anmol Gupta
Phone 98xxxxxxx

5. (a) M. G. Nagar
Pratap Nagar

March 22, 2024

The Manager
Ideal Pharma

(b)

Silver Oak Society
NOTICE

February 22, 2024

Appointment of Security Guards

This is to inform all the members of the society that due to increasing cases of theft in our society, we are appointing few more security guards at Gate no. 2, 3 & 4. Also, an additional expense of ₹ 1,000 (annually) is to be paid as Annual Maintenance charges by all the residents to meet the expenditure. We are looking forward for your cooperation.

President
RWA

55, Ajit Arcade
Tenalipuram

Subject: Application for the post of Sales Representative

Sir

With reference to your advertisement for the above mentioned post, I would like to apply for the same. I have completed my Graduation in Pharmacy from M.M. University, Pratap Nagar. I have been working as a sales representative at Manoj Pharmaceuticals for the past five years. Also, I have completed my diploma in computers from NIIT.

I am attaching my resume for your kind consideration. If given a chance, I would leave no stone unturned to prove my calibre. I would be extremely delighted to offer any extra information required by you.

Yours sincerely
Dinesh/Deepa

BIO-DATA	
Name	: Dinesh/Deepa
Father's name	: V.K. Malik
Date of Birth	: 25 th September 1995
Permanent address	: House No. 126, M G Nagar, Pratap Nagar
Contact no.	: 98xxxxx123
Marital status	: Unmarried
Educational qualification	: Passed Senior Secondary School examination from Central School, Pratap Nagar Bachelor's degree in Pharmacy from M.M. university Diploma in computers from NIIT
Professional experience	: Sales Representative in Manoj Pharmaceuticals from past 10 years.
Skills	: Product knowledge, communication skills, computer competency
References	: 1. Mr. Arun Nayyar, Senior Manager, Manoj Pharmaceuticals 2. Mr. Ashok Bhatt, Director, NIIT
If my particulars suit your job requirement, I would be happy to come for a Personal Interview. Thanking you	
Dinesh/Deepa	

OR

(b) 16, Kidwai Nagar
Delhi
22nd February 2024
The Editor
The Times of India
Delhi

Subject: On growing trend of short and budgeted vacations

Sir

I am writing this letter to express my views on the growing trend of individuals seeking short and budgeted vacations as a means to maintain a healthier work-life balance.

In today's fast-paced environment, where work responsibilities frequently come to the forefront, individuals are recognising the significance of taking frequent breaks to revitalise both their minds

and bodies. Choosing shorter vacations enables individuals to refresh themselves without requiring extended periods away from work. This not only enhances mental well-being but also cultivates heightened productivity upon resuming work.

One noteworthy option gaining popularity in this regard is the concept of homestays. Homestays offer a unique and personalised experience by allowing travellers to immerse themselves in the local culture. Beyond being budget-friendly, they provide a sense of comfort and authenticity that traditional accommodations may not offer. Engaging with local hosts and communities enhances the overall travel experience and fosters a deeper connection with the destination.

To sum up, the move towards brief and cost-effective vacations, combined with the increasing appeal of homestays, signifies a favourable development in attaining an improved work-life equilibrium.

Yours sincerely
Ankit/Ankita

6. (a) The Educational Power of Television

Television is more than just entertainment; it's a potent educational tool. From documentaries to interactive programmes, television offers engaging content that enhances learning across subjects and age groups. With its flexibility and accessibility, television complements traditional learning methods, encourages critical thinking and fosters a culture of continuous education.

In recent times, the integration of technology and education has become increasingly important. Educational channels and programmes now have accompanying websites and interactive resources that enhance the learning experience. Viewers can access additional materials, participate in quizzes, and engage in discussions, turning passive watching into an interactive learning process.

Television has transformed into a valuable educational resource, providing a diverse array of content suitable for different ages and subjects. Utilising television allows us to supplement conventional learning approaches, interact with a variety of educational materials, and promote a mindset of ongoing learning. As students, let's embrace television's educational capacity to enhance our academic experience.

Gopal/Geeta
Class- XII

**(b) Y-20 Chaupal on Health and Wellness
By Neeraj/Nirvita**

The recent Y-20 Chaupal, organised by our school under the G-20 initiative, focused on the theme of "Health and Wellness." The event took place on February 2 at the school auditorium, featuring 20 speakers from classes 9 to 12. Student speakers covered topics such as physical fitness, Yoga, nutrition, mental health and mindfulness. The interactive sessions allowed students to engage actively, posing questions and sharing personal experiences. Guest speakers and experts added depth to the discussions on the revival of alternative medicines. The event left a lasting impact on our school community, fostering awareness and understanding of the importance of health and wellness.

The Y-20 Chaupal showcased not only our students' knowledge but also their passion for contributing to vital global conversations.

SECTION-C**Literature**

(Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text)

7. (a) (i) Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: The water-wraith was shrieking. (personification is used)

- (ii) Option (C) is correct.
(iii) The speaker experiences an unfulfilled longing,

perhaps connected to their desire for someone to stop at the roadside stand.

- (iv) that of sadness/disappointment
(v) cars are not concerned about the people at the roadside stand
(vi) sound

OR

(b) (i) Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: Brought comfort because the poet wanted to distract herself from the thought of losing her mother.

- (ii) Option (A) is correct.
Explanation: sadness and helplessness as the poet is pained by the thought of separation from her mother.
(iii) mother's face which has lost colour due to old age and sickness
(iv) have a look at her one last time before leaving
(v) her childhood fear of losing her mother has resurfaced
(vi) the poet's intention was to put away the painful thought of losing her mother due to her declining health.

8. (a) (i) Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: The exposure to reality as the author realised the actual implications of environmental damage in Antarctica.

- (ii) ignoring minor environmental issues can pose serious repercussions
(iii) True
(iv) people tend to ignore the seriousness of the situation until they experience the problem firsthand

OR

(b) (i) Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: Selfishness as the king gave more importance to his pursuit of killing tigers.

- (ii) the tiger king plans to kill tigers to prevent his death. So, it is not actually a time of celebration for the tigers as they are in danger.
(iii) authoritarian/dominance/selfishness
(iv) false; as his ambition is to change his destiny, not to save the people

9. (a) (i) Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: Looking for something that can fetch money

- (ii) Option (D) is correct.
(iii) sympathy/attention
(iv) the advice was impractical as she suggested Saheb to go to school despite his circumstances
(v) willingness/desire
(vi) False

OR

(b) (i) Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: the visit of an English poet to a Tamil film studio

- (ii) Option (C) is correct.
 - (iii) The audience was baffled and could not make sense out of the poet's words.
 - (iv) Difficult language/cultural barrier
 - (v) The people have no taste for English poetry due to their limited exposure.
 - (vi) False; as they could not make meaning out of it
10. (i) The line suggests the impact of cultural dominance on the environment. It highlights the cruelty/tyranny of the Germans for imposing their language on French people. It emphasises the harshness or oppression of the Germans in enforcing their language upon the French population.
- (ii) This reveals the cold and in different attitude of the father towards the author. He did not bother and thought it wasn't a big deal. He showed no concern and deemed it inconsequential.
 - (iii) Through these lines, the poet conveyed her admiration and positivity, which she conveyed through prancing tigers.
 - (iv) The poet feels that fishermen are a threat to the marine life since they catch fish and whales. This idea is suggestive that he feels that humans destroy the nature and use it for their own benefits.
 - (v) The mighty dead refers to our glorious forefathers and ancestors who are things of beauty for the poet as the stories of their heroic deeds and valour provide inspiration to us.
 - (vi) Jansie was more practical and realistic. She, being mature and sensible, reminded Sofie that wild dreams were not befitting for their low financial status.
11. (i) Galesburg is depicted as a serene, uncomplicated, and tranquil town characterised by large, traditional wooden houses, expansive lawns and towering trees. During the summer evenings, which seemed to stretch on, residents enjoyed the peaceful atmosphere by sitting outdoors on their lawns. Men would be seen smoking cigars while women used palm-leaf fans, creating a serene and idyllic environment.
- (ii) Dr. Sadao is a man of great intelligence and resourcefulness, who is torn between his loyalty to his country and his humanistic values. The couple appears to genuinely and tenderly love each other, even if those feelings are largely unspoken. Many of the decisions Sadao makes about how to deal with Tom stem from Sadao wanting to alleviate his wife's severe anxiety at housing the prisoner. He didn't want to bother his wife whom he loved dearly.
 - (iii) Annan told Bama that only education could help them earn some respect in society. These words have a deep impact on Bama. She was inspired and motivated by Annan's words of wisdom.
12. (a) **Good morning to one and all**

After reading both the poems, I strongly believe that beauty is a source of joy and inspiration. However, this beauty is not merely for our admiration; it comes with a responsibility. As stewards of this

planet, it is our duty to preserve and protect the natural wonders that surround us.

Conserving nature extends beyond the concerns of environmentalists; it is an urgent appeal for our very existence. Nature supplies the air we inhale, the water we consume, and the nourishment essential for our survival.

Let's find motivation in the works of Keats and Neruda, acknowledging the inherent worth of nature. Through the preservation of nature, we secure a legacy of beauty and abundance for the forthcoming generations.

In conclusion, let's commit to being conscientious caretakers of our environment. Let's actively strive to protect the fragile harmony of nature. This isn't just a duty; it's a precious legacy we owe to ourselves, our children, and the generations that will follow.

OR

- (b) Both Edla and Saheb received gifts, where Edla received a rattrap from the peddler and Saheb received a pair of discarded tennis shoes. Edla displayed significant trust by allowing the peddler to stay at their manor on Christmas Eve. However, the news of the robbery saddened her. When she returned home and discovered the package and letter left by the peddler, she was thrilled. The peddler's act of appreciation brought her joy.

Saheb received a pair of tennis shoes from an affluent boy who discarded them due to a hole in one shoe. Saheb is overjoyed as he takes in the shoes because it fulfils his dream of wearing tennis shoes.

Saheb and Edla experience joy in different contexts and for distinct reasons. Edla's joy is nuanced, intertwined with empathy and a deeper understanding, while Saheb's joy is straightforward, arising from the fulfilment of a personal dream. Both stories highlight the diverse ways in which individuals find happiness, whether through acts of kindness or the realisation of personal aspirations.

13. (a) Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in 120-150 words:

Dear friends

I will be eternally grateful to Mr. Lamb as he was quite different from all others whom I came across in my life. Mr Lamb's concept of the world and friendship intrigued me. In fact, I was able to shed my inhibitions, insecurities, fears and complexes because of Mr Lamb who has totally transformed me.

Despite his physical appearance, Mr. Lamb exuded kindness, wisdom, and a gentle demeanour. Mr. Lamb's acceptance and non-judgmental attitude left a profound impact on me, challenging my preconceived notions about people based on outward appearances.

I want to express my profound appreciation for the lessons you've taught me, not just about the

resilience of the human spirit but also about the importance of empathy and the ability to see beyond appearances. Your acceptance and lack of bitterness have become a guiding light for me, challenging me to reassess my own biases and encouraging a more compassionate outlook.

So, on behalf of all those whose lives you've touched, Mr. Lamb, I want to say thank you. Thank you for being an inspiration, a mentor, and, above all, a testament to the enduring strength of the human soul. May your wisdom and kindness continue to ripple through the lives of those fortunate enough to know you.

Thank you.

OR

- (b) In a world overshadowed by the bitterness of war, there arise moments that challenge expectations and redefine our understanding of humanity. My encounter with Dr. Sadao, a respected surgeon on the opposing side, has profoundly shaped my perception about people.

Dr. Sadao, a skilled healer, extends his compassionate care not only to his countrymen but

also unexpectedly to a soldier from the enemy – myself. Despite the turbulent circumstances of our time, Dr. Sadao's commitment to preserving life transcends national and wartime boundaries. His actions reveal a deep sense of humanity that defies the conventional norms of conflict.

Through my interactions with Dr. Sadao, I have witnessed a man who values life above all else. His dedication to his work, his family, and even to an injured enemy like me speaks volumes about the universal nature of compassion. In an era marked by division, Dr. Sadao emerges as a source of hope, proving that empathy can thrive even in the most unexpected places.

As I reflect on our shared moments, I am filled with a new found appreciation for the unexpected connections that can arise in challenging circumstances. Dr. Sadao, through his actions and kindness, has become a symbol of the enduring strength of humanity, reminding us that compassion can triumph over conflict.

In times of war, Dr. Sadao's example serves as a reminder that even in the face of animosity, we can discover common ground and recognise the shared humanity that binds us together.

Delhi Set-2

Code No. 1/5/2

Except the following all other Questions are from Set-1

SECTION-B

Creative Writing Skills

5. (a) 123, Miles Colony
Pratap Nagar

February 23, 2024

The Manager
S.K. Global Bank
Pratap Nagar

Subject: Application for the Position of Management Trainee
Sir

I am writing this letter to express my keen interest in the Management Trainee position advertised in the recent edition of Hindustan Times dated February 20, 2024. With a solid educational background in Commerce and a sincere passion for banking and finance, I am confident that my skills and enthusiasm make me a strong candidate for this role.

I have graduated with a Commerce degree from Delhi University and am eager to embark on a challenging career in the banking sector. The qualities mentioned in the advertisement, such as project management, communication skills, and customer service skills, resonate with my academic and extracurricular experiences.

During my academic journey, I acquired a strong foundation in financial management, accounting principles and business ethics. Additionally, I participated in various projects that required effective project management and teamwork, which honed my organisational and leadership abilities.

Regarding communication skills, I have actively engaged in public speaking events, participated in debates, and undertaken coursework that demanded effective written and verbal communication. I believe these experiences have equipped me with the skills necessary for a dynamic role in the banking sector.

I am confident that my educational background, coupled with my skills and experiences, align with the requirements of the Management Trainee position at S.K. Global Bank.

I am excited about the opportunity to contribute to the success of S.K. Global Bank and am eager to discuss how my skills and qualifications align with your organisation's goals. I appreciate your time and consideration of my application. I look forward to the possibility of an interview to further discuss my candidacy.

Thank you for considering my application. Enclosed with this letter is my detailed bio-data, providing a comprehensive overview of my academic achievements, relevant coursework, and extracurricular activities.

Sincerely

Mrinal/Mahesh

BIO-DATA	
Name	: Mrinal
Address	: 36, M.K. Avenue, Pratap Nagar
Date of Birth	: dd/mm/yyyy
Nationality	: Indian
Marital status	: Single
Educational qualification	: • Bachelor of Commerce (B.Com), Delhi University, 2018 • Relevant Coursework: Financial Accounting, Managerial Economics, Business Statistics, Banking and Finance A Levels, GCSEs
Skills	: Strong analytical and problem-solving skills developed through academic coursework and projects. Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal, demonstrated through presentations and group discussions. Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint). Ability to work collaboratively in a team environment and independently when required. Strong attention to detail and ability to multitask effectively.
Work Experience	: Worked as an Account at UPNNSS firm for 1 year.
Achievements	: • Star Performer of the year • Scored 95 in CBSE Accounts Exams.
References	: Available upon request.
Declaration:	
I hereby declare that the information provided above is true to the best of my knowledge.	
Date:	
February 23, 2024	
Signature:	

(b) 167 Homes road
AB Nagar

February 23, 2024

The Editor
The Times of India
AB Nagar

Subject: Regarding the Rise in Crimes Against the Elderly

Sir

I am writing as a concerned citizen to bring attention to a recent report revealing a distressing 22% increase in crimes against the elderly in AB Nagar. It is disconcerting to learn that our senior citizens,

particularly those living alone, are increasingly becoming targets of crimes such as robbery and murder.

Our community must unite to address this pressing issue and work collaboratively to enhance the safety and well-being of our elderly residents. Here are some suggestions that could contribute to their protection:

- Volunteer Services: Encourage community members, including youth and neighbours, to volunteer their services.
- Regular check-ins on senior citizens, offering assistance with errands, and providing companionship can significantly enhance their safety and security.
- Secure Environment: Advocate for measures to improve the security of the living environment for senior citizens. This could include increased street

lighting, the installation of surveillance cameras in public spaces, and enhanced security infrastructure in residential areas.

–Regular Police Checks: Request heightened police presence and regular checks in areas with a higher population of senior citizens. Proactive policing can act as a deterrent to potential criminals and offer a sense of security to the elderly.

It is imperative that we address this issue collectively, involving the active participation of community members, local authorities and law enforcement agencies. By implementing these suggestions, we can take significant strides toward creating a safer and more secure environment for our elderly residents in AB Nagar.

I trust that you will use your platform to raise awareness about this critical issue, and I appreciate your consideration of these suggestions. Together, as a community, we can ensure that AB Nagar remains a place where residents of all ages feel secure and protected.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely ABC

Resident of AB Nagar

6. (a) **Harmony for Healing: Music's Healing Power**

With everything going on in our everyday lives, stress may easily become an unwanted friend. I am a Class XII student, so I am familiar with the stresses that come with schoolwork and uncertainty about the future. But music has shown to be a dependable partner in my fight against stress. Not only has music's transforming ability assisted me in unwinding, but it has also become my go-to type of treatment for revitalising my body and mind.

Relationship with Self: Music has the amazing power to create a strong bond with our inner selves. It seems as though I am taken to a place where I can fully comprehend and accept my sentiments when I am surrounded by music that speaks to my emotions. In and of itself, this connection is therapeutic because it gives me the opportunity to think and feel in a manner that words can't always express.

Self-Expression: One of music's most amazing qualities is its ability to encourage self-expression. Music gives me a way to communicate that sometimes words can't, whether it's through lyrics that speak to my experiences or instrumental compositions that capture my emotions. I can go through my emotions with the help of this cathartic release, which gives me clarity and serenity.

Comfort for the Body, Mind, and Soul: There is no denying music's calming influence. I sense a consoling embrace that is beyond this world when the melodies and rhythms wrap me. Research has shown that listening to music can lessen anxiety,

stress hormones, and even physical pain. It's a cure-all for the body, mind, and soul—not simply a feast for the ears.

Mood Enhancement: One of music therapy's most obvious and instantaneous results is its influence on mood. A cheerful song has the ability to elevate my spirits and make a dismal day feel positive. On the other hand, a soft tune might bring me the peace and quiet I need when I need a minute to reflect. Our emotional landscapes can be uniquely shaped and enhanced by music.

To summarise, a wide range and depth of therapeutic effects are associated with music. I've found comfort in the harmonies that mirror my emotions and experiences as a student overcoming the difficulties of academic life. Through self-expression, self-reflection, or just plain comfort, music has grown to be my go-to partner in the quest for a stress-free, well-balanced life. Thus, the next time tension is knocking, think about listening to the calming tones of your favourite songs; you might just experience the music's transformational power for yourself.

Thank you

Anuj

(b) Date: February 23, 2024

Venue: ABC School

Time: 3 p.m.

The school recently held a riveting Art Exhibition, exhibiting the artistic prowess of students from all classes, and the walls of ABC School came alive with brilliant hues and imaginative emotions. The occasion, which took place on February 23, 2024, gave aspiring artists a stage on which to showcase their skills in paintings and sculptures.

Participants: Students from all classes enthusiastically participated in the exhibition, which displayed an astonishing array of artwork. Every artwork showcased the distinct ingenuity and inventiveness of its maker. The variety of artistic expression, which ranged from elaborate paintings to fascinating sculptures, was quite impressive.

Types of Artwork: It was astounding how many different kinds of art were on show. A wide variety of paintings, from modern mixed-media pieces to traditional oil paintings, were on display in this exhibition. Three-dimensional works of art made of clay, wood, and repurposed materials were on display in the sculpture section. An eye-catching and dynamic show was produced by fusing traditional and modern art forms.

Themes: "Harmony in Diversity," the exhibition's theme, was evident in a lot of the artwork. Students addressed social, cultural and environmental issues as they investigated this theme from a variety of angles. The exhibition's profundity was enhanced

by the theme diversity, which also encouraged people to have meaningful conversations.

Visitor Feedback: Both parents and guests praised the students' creativity. The exhibition hall was filled with joy as parents praised their children on their artistic talents. Many were astounded by the students' level of originality, highlighting the need of nurturing such skills in an academic atmosphere. To summarise, the Art Exhibition was more than simply a visual feast; it was also a celebration of creativity, imagination, and artistic expression at the school. The event's success reflects our students' ability and passion, as well as the school's commitment to offering a well-rounded education. We look forward to seeing more amazing demonstrations of artistic excellence in the future.

Report by:

XYZ

Student Editor

Monthly at ABC School

SECTION-C

Literature

(Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text)

11. (i) In the story "The Tiger King," the hunters decided that the Maharaja must not come to know that they had missed the target for several reasons:

Fear of Punishment: The hunters, fearing the wrath of the Maharaja, chose to conceal their failure to avoid facing any adverse consequences.

Maintaining the Maharaja's Image: The Maharaja had a grandiose image that he wished to uphold, portraying himself as a powerful and successful ruler. A failed attempt at hunting the designated tiger could tarnish this image and diminish the Maharaja's prestige. The hunters sought to protect the Maharaja's reputation by hiding the truth and avoiding any potential embarrassment.

Preserving the Maharaja's Ego: The Maharaja was known for his ego and self-importance. Informing him of a missed target would mean acknowledging a shortcoming, and the hunters were likely to be apprehensive about bruising the Maharaja's pride. Concealing the failure was an attempt to shield the Maharaja from any perceived humiliation.

- (ii) The line "I must get rid of this man for your sake" suggests that Dr. Sadao, in the story or context you're referring to, is willing to take action to protect or ensure the well-being of his wife. Dr. Sadao's actions could be seen as those of a husband trying to prioritise the safety and happiness of his spouse.
- (iii) The statement "had been tossed about in the air like a wooden puppet, and now my long

hair was shingled like a coward's" from Zitkala-Sa's "Memories of Childhood" suggests a forced transformation in her life due to cultural assimilation. The metaphor implies a loss of control, and the symbolic act of shingling her long hair, traditionally significant in Native American cultures, reflects the coercion and struggle. Indigenous individuals faced in conforming to Western norms, indicating the profound impact of assimilation on Zitkala-Sa's identity and autonomy.

12. (a) Dear Robert Frost

You appear to be deeply concerned about the suffering of the roadside stall owners, and I would suggest you to take a minute to breathe and meditate on the interconnectivity of our lives and the environment around us.

In the poem "Keeping Quiet," I discuss the transformational potential of quiet and contemplation. In times of conflict and grief, it is critical to pause and study the reality before jumping to action. Consider the stillness between us not as a void, but as a space full with possibility.

In your care for the roadside stall proprietors, attempt to understand their situations on a deeper level. Consider the history behind each stand, the dreams that arose there, and the difficulties that reverberate throughout the structures. Allow empathy to guide your understanding.

Remember that poetry is a tool for expressing silent voices and putting light on the unseen aspects of our shared existence. Channel your frustration and pain into words that speak to your readers' emotions. Make your verses a cry to empathy and social change.

Art has the ability to raise communal consciousness, and your pen can be a catalyst for change. Channel your enthusiasm for the predicament of roadside business owners into verses that encourage action and raise awareness.

In the spirit of "keeping quiet," find peace in reflecting on our shared humanity. Use your literary voice to bridge the divides between people, cultures and social classes. Illuminate the beauty and hardships of roadside business operators, weaving a tapestry of words that elicits empathy and understanding.

May your pen be a source of hope and a driving force for constructive change in the world.

Sincerely

Pablo Neruda

OR

- (b) Youth play a significant part in the advancement of the country, embodying the vigour and promise that can change the future. In the rich tapestry of national service, M. Hamel and Gandhi's remarks ring true, emphasising the deep effect of language and the careful balance of competing responsibilities.

M. Hamel underlines the importance of language as the key to nationalism, and we, the youth, find ourselves at the crossroads of cultural legacy and national identity. Our language prowess becomes an effective instrument for preserving and sustaining our country's rich tapestry of diversity. By committing to the mastering of our languages, we not only promote personal progress but also the preservation of our cultural identity, generating a sense of unity in variety.

Gandhi's viewpoint introduces the concept of the "conflict of duties," which has tremendous implications in the modern world. As young people, we must strike a delicate balance between personal goals and community responsibilities. Gandhi's quandary of not setting a negative example as a lawbreaker while both providing humanitarian and patriotic service exemplifies the complex dilemmas we confront.

It is critical that the youth recognise their potential as catalysts for society improvement. Service to the nation can take many forms, ranging from supporting educational efforts and environmental protection to pushing social justice concerns. Every deed, no matter how tiny, adds to the bigger story of nation-building.

In conclusion, the youth must seize the mantle of responsibility and dedicate themselves to the service of the nation. Let us harness the power of language to strengthen the bonds of our diverse society and navigate the conflicts of duties with a steadfast commitment to humanitarian and national service. By doing so, we not only shape our individual destinies but also contribute to the collective progress of our beloved nation.

13. (a) Good morning to one & all.

Being positive and open-minded is akin to unlocking the doors of possibility and allowing the winds of change to sweep through our lives. Today, I stand before you inspired by the profound message encapsulated in "Things out, shutting things in" from the play "On the Face of It." Mr. Lamb's open-mindedness and large-heartedness, despite his disability, serve as beacons of wisdom, guiding us towards a path of resilience, adaptability and success.

Life, much like the doors mentioned in the statement, presents us with countless opportunities and challenges. How we perceive and approach these defines our journey. A positive attitude becomes the key that unlocks doors, allowing us to embrace opportunities and navigate through adversities with grace.

Open-mindedness is not just about accepting new ideas; it is about actively seeking them out. Mr. Lamb, with his disability, exemplifies that a broad

perspective is not hindered by physical constraints. Instead, it is a choice, a mindset that enables us to explore the vastness of human experience and connect with the world beyond our immediate circumstances.

As students, you are at a crucial juncture where challenges and opportunities coexist. In the pursuit of academic excellence, extracurricular endeavours, and personal growth, the doors of possibilities are wide open. A positive attitude is the key that propels you forward, allowing you to learn, adapt, and overcome obstacles.

Moreover, broad-mindedness is a quality that extends beyond academics. In an increasingly interconnected world, understanding and appreciating diverse perspectives is crucial. It fosters a spirit of collaboration, empathy and innovation. It enables you to form meaningful connections and contribute positively to the community around you.

Success in life is not solely determined by external achievements but also by the internal landscape of one's mind. Cultivating a positive attitude and open-mindedness is an investment in your personal and professional growth. It is a mindset that not only propels you towards success but also enriches your journey, making it a fulfilling and transformative experience.

So, my fellow students, let us adopt the mantra of "Things out, shutting things in" in our lives. Let us open the doors of our minds to the vast possibilities that lie ahead. With a positive attitude and broad-mindedness, there is no limit to what we can achieve. Embrace the journey, face challenges with optimism, and let the winds of change guide you towards a future filled with success and fulfillment. Thank you.

OR

- (b) Dr. Sadao proved himself to be a man with great humanitarian values, transcending societal prejudices and embodying the true essence of professional ethics. In the thought-provoking narrative of "The Enemy," his commitment to his profession and compassion towards the wounded stranger are not only commendable but also serve as an inspiring example for us all.

In a world often divided by prejudices, Dr. Sadao's actions underscore the power of humanity and the responsibility that comes with the medical profession. His statement, "that if the man were whole, I could turn him over to the Police... But since he is wounded," encapsulates a profound understanding of the fundamental duty of a physician – to heal, irrespective of circumstances.

Dr. Sadao's decision to prioritise the well-being of his patient over societal norms challenges the

conventional boundaries of duty. His commitment to treat a wounded enemy, even at the risk of facing repercussions, reflects an unwavering dedication to the principles of healing and compassion.

Moreover, Dr. Sadao's actions invite us to question our own biases and preconceived notions. In a world often marked by divisions, his example prompts us to rise above societal prejudices and recognise the shared humanity that binds us all. It encourages us to view each individual as a patient in need, deserving of care and compassion, regardless of their background or affiliations.

The professional ethics displayed by Dr. Sadao extend beyond the realm of medicine; they serve as a guiding light for all professions. In a society where individuals are often judged based on external factors, Dr. Sadao's dedication to his patient sets a precedent for integrity, ethical conduct, and a

commitment to the greater good.

In honoring Dr. Sadao, we recognise that true greatness lies not only in professional expertise but also in the capacity to extend a healing hand to all, regardless of the circumstances. He stands as a beacon of inspiration, reminding us that the path of righteousness is paved with compassion, understanding, and an unwavering commitment to humanity.

Dr. Sadao's legacy challenges us to be better, to rise above societal prejudices, and to embrace a world where compassion knows no boundaries. In doing so, we honour not only his character but also the timeless principles that should guide us in our pursuit of a more compassionate and just society.

Delhi Set-3**Code No. 1/5/3**

Except the following all other Questions are from Set-1 & 1

SECTION-B**Creative Writing Skills**

5. (a) ABS Bangle Street
Tenalipuram

February 23, 2024

The Hiring Manager
Tech Mahindra
40 LG Street

Subject: Application for the Position of Software Engineer

Sir

I am writing this letter to express my keen interest in the Software Engineer position at Tech Mahindra, as advertised in the HT Media. With a Bachelor of Engineering (B.E.) degree in Computer Science and over two years of experience in the relevant field, I am excited about the opportunity to contribute to your team.

Throughout my career, I have demonstrated a strong ability to adapt to new technologies and methodologies which has significantly enhanced the product quality and efficiency of projects I have worked on. My technical skills include a profound knowledge of HTML, CSS, and JavaScript, along with experience in software building and development processes. I have successfully implemented these skills in developing user-centric applications that have improved client satisfaction and operational efficiency.

I am particularly attracted to this role at Tech Mahindra because of the company's commitment to innovation and excellence in the tech industry. I am confident that my skills and experiences align well with the responsibilities of the Software Engineer role, and I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to contribute to your company's success.

Thank you for considering my application. I am eager to bring my strong work ethic, technical skills, and passion for software development to Tech Mahindra. Attaching my Bio data for your reference.

Yours sincerely

Niharika/Nitish

BIO-DATA

Name	: Niharika/Nitish
Date of Birth	: dd/mm/yyyy
Age	: 26
Nationality	: Indian
Marital status	: Single
Contact No.	: 9999999
Email Address	: abc.com
Educational Background	: Bachelor of Engineering (B.E.) in Computer Science from Delhi University, 2018
Work Experience	: • Software Engineer, TTT Firm, Mumbai, 2 Years
Responsibilities	: • Developed and maintained web applications using HTML, CSS and JavaScript. • Contributed to all phases of the development lifecycle, from conception to deployment.
Technical Skills	: Languages: HTML, CSS, JavaScript.
Tools & Technologies	: Familiar with Git, Jenkins, Docker.
Software Development	: Experienced in software building and project management methodologies (Agile, Scrum).
Certifications	: • Coding Ninja, 2018 • Hackathon leader, 2020
Languages	: English (Fluent)
References	: Available upon request.

(b) ABS Bangle Street
Delhi

February 23, 2024

The Editor
HT Media
Delhi

Subject: Partnering with Civic Authorities for the Upkeep of Our Neighbourhood Parks

Sir

I am writing to express my views on an often overlooked yet crucial aspect of community living – the shared responsibility of citizens and civic authorities in maintaining the aesthetic and functional integrity of our neighbourhood parks. The recent upgrade of the central park in our colony, which now boasts a walking track, an open-air gym, and a vibrant children's play corner, stands as a testament to the commendable efforts of our civic authorities. However, the sustainability of such spaces hinges on the active participation and cooperation of the community residents.

The transformation of our central park has not only beautified our neighbourhood but also significantly enhanced our quality of life. It is a reminder that while civic authorities lay the groundwork, the onus of maintaining these spaces falls equally on us, the citizens. To this end, conducting Resident Welfare Association (RWA) meetings can serve as a powerful platform for brainstorming and implementing strategies aimed at the upkeep of our parks.

One practical measure is to increase the number of

garbage bins within the park premises. However, mere availability is not enough. There is a pressing need to create awareness about its proper utilisation, encouraging residents to take ownership of their waste. In parallel, putting up notices about the fixed timings of park operations and instructions on effective usage can significantly mitigate the risk of misuse and vandalism.

In conclusion, the upkeep of neighbourhood parks is a collective responsibility that requires active citizen engagement in tandem with the support of civic authorities. By adopting a collaborative approach, conducting regular RWA meetings, and initiating community-driven environmental projects, we can ensure that these public spaces continue to serve their purpose and remain a source of joy and pride for our community.

Yours sincerely,
Reena/Trikha

6.(a) Impact of OTT Platforms on Youth: A Double-Edged Sword

In the digital age, Over-The-Top (OTT) platforms have revolutionised the way we consume entertainment. As a student of Class XII, I've observed firsthand the profound impact these platforms have had on my peers and the youth at large. While they offer unparalleled convenience and a treasure trove of content at our fingertips, it's crucial to use them very well with a positive impact.

Accessibility: A Blessing and a Curse

The easy access to OTT platforms is indeed a remarkable advancement in technology, providing us with the ability to watch our favourite shows and movies anytime, anywhere. This convenience, however, comes with its own set of challenges.

The sheer volume of content available can be overwhelming and, at times, lead to excessive consumption, especially among teenagers.

The Dark Side of Content: Violence and Brutality

A significant concern is the depiction of violent and brutal scenes that are easily accessible on these platforms. Such content can have a profound impact on young, impressionable minds, potentially desensitising them to violence or causing distress and anxiety. The lack of strict censorship compared to traditional media means that the onus is on the viewers to navigate these waters carefully.

Addiction and Its Consequences

The addiction to OTT platforms among teens is a growing concern. Binge-watching series can lead to unhealthy lifestyle choices, with physical inactivity and bad sleep patterns being the most common. Insomnia, too, has become increasingly prevalent, with the blue light from screens disrupting natural sleep cycles and the excitement of cliff-hangers keeping young viewers up at night.

Navigating the OTT Landscape: Suggestions for a Balanced Approach

Given these challenges, it's imperative to adopt a more balanced approach to our consumption of OTT content. Implementing a censoring mechanism specifically tailored for OTT platforms can help mitigate exposure to inappropriate content. Additionally, viewers should exercise discretion in their choice of content, opting for shows and movies that contribute positively to their mental and emotional well-being.

Setting time limitations on viewing and encouraging other hobbies and physical activities can also help counteract the addictive nature of these platforms. Perhaps most importantly, parental monitoring plays a crucial role in guiding young viewers' consumption habits. Parents can set up profiles with age-appropriate content and keep an open dialogue about what their children are watching and how it affects them.

Conclusion: OTT platforms have indeed changed the landscape of media consumption, offering a wealth of benefits but also posing significant challenges. As we navigate this new digital age, it's crucial for both youths and their guardians to be mindful of the content they consume and the amount of time they spend on these platforms. By fostering a balanced and responsible approach to OTT consumption, we can enjoy the best of what these platforms have to offer while safeguarding our mental and physical health.

By Vinita,
Class XII

(b) Adventure Trip to Manali: A Journey of Thrills and Bonds

In the embrace of the majestic Himalayas lies Manali, a town that recently became the backdrop for an unforgettable adventure for the students of our school. From February 1 to 7, a group of enthusiastic young adventurers from various classes embarked on a journey that promised excitement and delivered more than just that.

A Diverse Group on an Unforgettable Journey

The trip saw the participation of 70 students, a diverse group with a common love for adventure and exploration. The companionship among students from different years was a sight to behold as they came together, sharing stories, experiences, and laughter, forging friendships that would last a lifetime.

The Heart of Adventure: Trekking and River Rafting

Our adventure in Manali was packed with activities that challenged our limits and allowed us to revel in the beauty of nature. The trekking expedition was a highlight, with students navigating the rugged terrains, breathing in the fresh mountain air, and witnessing the serene beauty of the Himalayan landscape. The sense of achievement upon reaching the summit was unparalleled, with many describing it as a transformative experience.

River rafting on the rapids of the Beas River added a thrilling dimension to our trip. With safety gears on and paddles in hand, we navigated through the swirling waters, working as a team to steer our rafts. The happiness of conquering the rapids was a moment of pure adrenaline and joy.

Students' Reflections: A Testament to the Trip's Impact

Feedback from the students highlighted the trip as an extraordinary experience that went beyond just adventure. Many expressed how the trip offered them a much-needed break from academics, allowing them to connect with nature and their peers on a deeper level. The challenges faced during trekking and rafting taught valuable lessons in perseverance, teamwork, and self-discovery.

Conclusion: More Than Just an Adventure

As we returned to the hustle and bustle of school life, the memories of our Manali adventure trip lingered, reminding us of the moments of joy, challenge and camaraderie we experienced. It was a journey that broadened our horizons, strengthened our bonds, and left us with stories to tell and memories to cherish.

This trip was a testament to the spirit of adventure that dwells within each of us, urging us to explore, to challenge ourselves, and to connect with the world in profound ways. Here's looking forward to more such exhilarating experiences in the future!

Lata
Student Editor
Class XII

SECTION-C**Literature****(Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text)****(40 marks)**

11. (i) A hobby like stamp collecting offers an escape from reality by providing a focused activity that distracts from daily stressors, creating a peaceful sanctuary. This immersion induces a flow state, momentarily pausing real-world concerns, thus rejuvenating the mind and spirit to face life's challenges anew.
- (ii) Yumi's statement in "The Enemy" suggests a cautious, pragmatic character, wary of overstepping social boundaries or risking personal safety. Her reluctance to involve herself in potentially troublesome situations reflects a desire to maintain her status quo, prioritising self-preservation and a fear of authority.
- (iii) Annan inspired Bama in "Memories of Childhood" by highlighting education's power against caste discrimination. His advice, grounded in empathy and wisdom, motivated Bama to view education as a tool for change, instilling a sense of hope and determination to overcome societal injustices.
12. (a) The youth today must recognise the profound difference between mere dreaming and the act of doing. In the narratives of "Going Places" and "Deep Water," we are presented with two contrasting approaches to life through the characters of Sophie and Douglas. Sophie's world is one of fantasy and daydreams, where aspirations hover in the realm of imagination without a bridge to reality. Conversely, Douglas's story in "Deep Water" exemplifies the transformative power of confronting fears and the tangible progress that comes from taking action. Sophie's dreams, though beautiful, remain unanchored to the practical steps required to realise them, illustrating a common pitfall among the youth: the allure of dreams without the commitment to action. Dreams, in this context, act as a comfort zone, a refuge from the challenges of reality, yet they also tether one's potential to the confines of imagination. Douglas, on the other hand, faces his fear of water head-on, embarking on a journey that is both physical and psychological. His determination to learn how to swim, spurred by a traumatic childhood experience, underscores the importance of confronting reality, no matter how daunting it may seem. Through perseverance and the deliberate act of facing his fears, Douglas not only overcomes his phobia but also gains a newfound confidence and a sense of achievement that dreaming alone could never afford. This difference between dreaming and doing serves as a crucial lesson for the youth of today. While dreaming is essential for setting goals and fostering ambition, it is the act of doing that propels individuals toward growth and fulfilment. The

youth should strive to transform their dreams into tangible goals, breaking them down into actionable steps and embracing the challenges that come with pursuit. It is through this process of doing that individuals learn resilience, develop skills, and ultimately, achieve their aspirations.

In conclusion, the stories of Sophie and Douglas remind us that while dreams paint the horizon with possibilities, it is our actions that move us forward. The youth of today must inculcate an attitude of doing, for it is through determined action that dreams are realised and true potential is unlocked. Let us encourage a generation not just of dreamers but of doers, who approach life with both imagination and resolve.

OR

- (b) Dear Students

The emotion of fear will always interfere and interrupt your path to success. As a motivational speaker, I urge you to recognise fear as the greatest deterrent in life, as illustrated in the narratives of "Indigo" and "Lost Spring." In these stories, we witness how fear cripples individuals and communities, rendering them powerless against exploitation and injustice.

In "Indigo," the peasants are so crushed by fear that they find law courts useless in seeking justice. Their real relief comes from being free from fear itself. Similarly, in "Lost Spring," the people of Firozabad are trapped in a cycle of fear perpetuated by middlemen and politicians. This fear prevents them from taking initiative and forming cooperatives to improve their lives.

To overcome fear and lead a successful life, it is crucial to adopt a mindset of courage and resilience. Firstly, acknowledge your fears and confront them head-on. Understand that fear is often a product of the unknown or of past experiences, and by facing it directly, you can diminish its power over you.

Secondly, cultivate a support system of friends, family, and mentors who can provide encouragement and guidance along your journey. Surround yourself with positive influences that inspire confidence and belief in your abilities.

Thirdly, embrace failure as a natural part of growth and learning. Understand that setbacks are not permanent obstacles but opportunities for growth and improvement. Use each failure as a stepping stone towards success, learning valuable lessons along the way.

Lastly, take proactive steps towards your goals, even if they seem daunting or out of reach. Break down your objectives into manageable tasks and tackle them one step at a time. By taking action, you will build momentum and confidence, gradually diminishing the power of fear in your life.

In conclusion, fear may be a formidable adversary, but it is not insurmountable. By acknowledging, confronting, and ultimately overcoming fear, you can unlock your full potential and lead a successful

and fulfilling life. Remember, the only thing to fear is fear itself.

Believe in yourself, embrace challenges, and pursue your dreams with unwavering determination. The world is yours to conquer.

Thank you.

Sincerely

XYZ

13. (a) I do really thank my stars for bringing Mr. Lamb into my life. Before meeting him, I was consumed by self-pity and frustration, believing that my appearance defined my worth. But Mr. Lamb's wisdom and kindness have opened my eyes to a new perspective.

I regret the wasted years I spent dwelling on my physical appearance, allowing it to overshadow my true potential and innate qualities. Mr. Lamb's unwavering belief in me has shown me that true respect and dignity come from within, from the strength of character and kindness that we possess.

His gentle encouragement and genuine interest in my well-being have transformed my outlook on life. I no longer define myself by society's standards of beauty or by the limitations I once imposed on myself. Instead, I embrace my uniqueness and strive to make a positive impact, just as Mr. Lamb has done for me.

I am grateful for his friendship and guidance, and I am determined to live each day with courage and authenticity. With Mr. Lamb's mentorship, I am confident that I can overcome any obstacles and reach my full potential, regardless of how society may perceive me.

Thank you, Mr. Lamb, for showing me the true meaning of respect and dignity and for helping me discover the strength that lies within me.

Forever grateful

Derry

- (b) Indian's exposure to English language and Western influence has been deeply rooted in our society since ancient times, as evidenced by the narrative of "The Tiger King" by Kalki Krishnamurthy. This classic tale highlights both the pros and cons of Western influence on Indian culture, offering valuable insights into the ongoing debate surrounding cultural assimilation.

On the one hand, the protagonist of "The Tiger King," the boy who drank English cow's milk, was brought up by an English nanny, and tutored in English, represents the positive aspects of Western influence. Exposure to the English language and Western education opened doors to new opportunities and advancements, enabling individuals to broaden their horizons, acquire knowledge and connect with the global community.

Moreover, Western influence has played a significant role in shaping India's modernisation and development. It has introduced innovative ideas, technologies, and systems that have contributed to economic growth, scientific progress and cultural exchange. The adoption of Western practices in various fields such as education, governance, and industry has facilitated India's integration into the global economy and enhanced its competitiveness on the world stage.

However, it is essential to recognise the potential drawbacks of excessive Western influence on Indian society. The blind emulation of Western values, customs and lifestyles can lead to cultural erosion, diluting the rich heritage and traditions that define Indian identity. The overemphasis on Western ideals of materialism, consumerism, and individualism may undermine traditional Indian values of community, spirituality and social harmony.

Furthermore, Western influence has often been associated with cultural imperialism and neocolonialism, perpetuating power imbalances and disparities between Western nations and the Global South. It can result in the marginalisation and exploitation of indigenous cultures, languages and knowledge systems, threatening cultural diversity and indigenous rights.

In conclusion, while Indian's exposure to English language and Western influence has undoubtedly brought about significant benefits and advancements, it is essential to approach it with a critical and balanced perspective. Embracing the positive aspects of Western influence while safeguarding India's cultural integrity and heritage is key to fostering a harmonious and inclusive society that celebrates diversity and promotes mutual respect between cultures.

Let us strive to strike a balance between embracing progress and preserving our cultural roots, ensuring that Indian society remains resilient, vibrant and inclusive in the face of global influences.

Outside Delhi Set-1

Code No. 1/4/1

SECTION-A

Reading Skills

- 1.(i) The author criticises the reactive approach of the parents.

- (ii) Parents become reactive when they witness their children engaging in behaviours they disapprove of. Initially resorting to lectures, they escalate to screaming and punishment when their initial attempts fail, often leading to negative reactions from the children.

(iii) **Option (D) is correct.**

Explanation: The author refers to values and emotions as the seeds that will determine the development of a child's character and behaviour.

(iv) The Nurtured Heart Approach (NHA) focuses on reforming parents to reform children because it believes in nurturing positive qualities in children by first changing the parents' reactions and interactions with their children, fostering an environment of positivity and encouragement.

(v) Parents appreciate the goodness of the child at every opportunity by persistently acknowledging even the smallest positive actions or qualities of the child. This is evident from phrases like "I appreciate the hard work you have put in your project", "It takes courage to stand up to a bully", "You were really generous about sharing your pizza with your sister."

(vi) The approach in paragraph 5 differs from the earlier approach by emphasising persistent appreciation of the child's goodness, aligning their energy positively, and recognising their worth at every step, instead of reacting to negativity.

(vii) **Option (B) is correct.**

Explanation: This qualifies as praise by specifically acknowledging the demonstrated patience while teaching, providing a specific and positive direction for the child's behaviour, aligning with the Nurtured Heart Approach principles.

(viii) **Option (B) is correct.**

Explanation: To cut the negative" in paragraph 4 implies stopping or reducing criticism and discouraging actions that fuel negativity, aligning with the Nurtured Heart Approach of avoiding reactions that energise negativity.

(ix) **Option (D) is correct.**

Explanation: The new parenting approach and the art of channelising energy correspond with the occurrences in the text.

2.(i) **Option (B) is correct.**

Explanation: When the author mentions "productivity," they are referring to the efficiency of the employee. The passage suggests that activities like napping, exercising, and watching TV may positively impact employee efficiency.

(ii) **Option (C) is correct.**

Explanation: The passage suggests that the desire for amusement is a factor keeping some remote workers at home. To bring them back to the office, (C) building an entertainment lounge would be most aligned with their preference for amusement.

(iii) Health-conscious people prefer to work from home because this gives them a chance to take a nap or exercise during the day while working, which aligns with their wellness routines.

(iv) The passage ends on a note that some people are resolved to continue working from home even if their employers require them to return to the office.

(v) One inference that can be drawn from paragraph 1 is that the people prefer flexibility and autonomy in managing their work, as indicated by the desire to take naps or exercise during work hours, which contributes to their preference for remote work.

(vi) False. The survey does not indicate that people deeply miss socialising in the work-from-home style.

(vii) Appearance is a factor for people's preference for work from home because many are concerned about how they look to their coworkers after a long period of remote work. This concern includes worries about weight changes, clothing and general appearance, for which they feel more conscious about in-person than on a Zoom call.

(viii) Caring for children and lack of a commute are still the most common number one reasons that prevent people from going to the office.

SECTION-B

Creative Writing Skills

(18 Marks)

3. (a)

P.S. Public School, Aram Nagar NOTICE

February 22, 2024

NEW GYM

All the students are informed that our school has opened a gym for the benefit of students. The gym will have Cardio machines (treadmills, ellipticals, stationary bikes), strength training equipments (free weights, machines), aerobics area and stretching zone. The gym will be open on all weekdays from Monday to Friday from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. For registration and more information contact your class teacher or undersigned.

Arman

(Sports Captain)

(b)

Ganga Society, Pushp Nagar NOTICE

February 22, 2024

FREE YOGA CLASSES

All the residents are informed that RWA Ganga Society will be initiating free yoga classes. Join us to rejuvenate your mind and body! Classes will commence on February 29, 2024 from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. in the society's central park. Bring your yoga mats and water bottles. Last date to register is February 27, 2024. Contact undersigned or Ms. Neelam (Flat 101) for more information.

Sharmila Tiwari

President of RWA

4. (a) ABC housing
Delhi

February 22, 2024

Dear Nikhil

I hope this letter finds you and your family in excellent health and high spirits. It brings me immense joy to share the exciting news of our newly built home nestled amidst the tranquil hills of Uttarakhand. The pristine beauty of the surroundings coupled with the crisp mountain air makes it a perfect getaway spot.

We have been eagerly waiting to host you and your family in our new abode, where you can experience the serenity and tranquility of the hills firsthand. The thought of spending quality time together amidst such picturesque scenery fills me with anticipation and happiness.

We propose the weekend of February 24, 2024, as the weather is expected to be pleasant during this time. You are welcome to stay for as long as you like, but we suggest a minimum of three days to fully immerse yourselves in the beauty of the surroundings. We have prepared a cosy guest room with a comfortable bed, fresh linens, and stunning views of the mountains. Additionally, we have arranged for all necessary amenities to ensure your comfort during your stay.

During your visit, we can explore the nearby hiking trails that lead to cascading waterfalls and lush green meadows. We can also plan a picnic by the riverside or simply unwind on the veranda while sipping on hot chai and soaking in the breathtaking vistas.

Please let us know if these dates suit your schedule, and if there are any specific dietary preferences or requirements we should consider. We are more than happy to accommodate any special requests to make your stay truly memorable.

We eagerly await your arrival and look forward to creating cherished memories together in our new home amidst the tranquility of the hills.

With the warmest love

Srikanth Sharma

- (b) ABC housing
Delhi

February 22, 2024

Prof. Nihar Sharma

S.K.M. College

Mahboob Nagar

Sir

I hope this letter finds you well. I am deeply honoured to receive your invitation to be the keynote speaker at the Annual Conclave on Student

Health, focusing on "The Emotional Impact of Social Media" at S.K.M. College, Mahboob Nagar.

I must express my sincere gratitude for considering me for this prestigious opportunity. However, after careful consideration of my current commitments and professional obligations, I regret to inform you that I am unable to accept your gracious invitation at this time.

As much as I would have liked to contribute to such an important discussion on student health and the emotional impact of social media, my schedule is currently stretched thin with prior commitments and ongoing research projects in my field of psychology. Regrettably, I will not be able to allocate the time and attention required to deliver a keynote address that meets the standards of excellence expected at your esteemed institution.

Please accept my apologies for any inconvenience caused by my inability to accept your invitation. I am truly honoured by the invitation and sincerely hope that we may have the opportunity to collaborate on future initiatives.

Thank you once again for considering me for this significant event. I wish you all the best for a successful and enlightening Annual Conclave.

With warm regards

Shyam Sundar

Professor of Psychology

5. (a) ABC housing
Delhi

February 22, 2024

The Director

Estella House of Fashion

26 M. G Road, Kanthapuram

Subject: Application for the Position of Apparel Designer

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to express my keen interest in the position of Apparel Designer advertised in Hindustan Times on February 21, 2024. With a Bachelor's degree in Fashion Design and over two years of experience in the fashion industry, I am confident in my ability to contribute effectively to your esteemed establishment, Estella House of Fashion.

Having graduated with a degree in Fashion Design from Delhi University, I have acquired a strong foundation in design principles, fabric selection, and garment construction techniques. My experience of working as a fashion designer has honed my skills in computer-aided design, pattern drafting, and sewing, enabling me to bring creative and innovative ideas to life.

In my previous role at an eminent fashion house in Bangalore, I successfully conceptualised and designed apparel collections that received positive feedback from clients and contributed to increased sales and brand visibility. My attention to detail, coupled with a keen eye for current fashion trends, has allowed me to create designs that resonate with the target audience.

I possess a strong business sense and understand the importance of market research and consumer preferences in developing commercially viable designs. Additionally, my in-depth knowledge of fabrics and their properties enables me to make informed decisions regarding fabric selection and sourcing.

I am excited about the opportunity to join Estella House of Fashion and contribute to the success of your brand. I am confident that my skills, creativity, and passion for fashion will make me a valuable asset to your team.

Enclosed is my bio-data, which provides further details about my qualifications and experience. I am available for an interview at your earliest convenience and can be reached at 999999xxxx or abc.fgh@gmail.com.

Yours sincerely,
Sujata

BIO-DATA

Name: Sujata

Father's Name: Ramesh Sen

Date of Birth: 25/08/1998

Permanent Address: ABC Housing

Mobile Number: 999999XXXX

Email: abc.fgh@gmail.com.

Education:

- Bachelor's Degree in Fashion Design from Delhi University, 2020
- Certificate from Manipal University

Work Experience:

- Designer at ABC Firm

Responsibilities:

- Conceptualising and designing apparel collections
- Conducting market research and trend analysis
- Collaborating with production team to ensure quality and timely delivery
- Maintaining awareness of industry trends and consumer preferences

Skills:

- Proficient in computer-aided design software (e.g., Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop)
- Strong aptitude for sewing and garment construction
- Excellent knowledge of fabric drafting and selection
- Creative thinking and ability to translate ideas into visually appealing designs
- Strong attention to detail and ability to meet deadlines
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills

Achievements:

- Done model fashion designing from ABC Institute of International Fashion.
- Selected as best fashion designer in sustainable clothing at Delhi fashion week.

Reference: Available upon request.

Signature:

Sujata

(b) Park Avenue
Karampur
February 22, 2024
The Editor
Hindustan Times
Karampur

Subject: Urgent Need for Educational Institutions to Foster Civic Responsibility in School Children

Sir

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the alarming disregard for sanitation and cleanliness that plague our streets and public spaces. It saddens me to witness the widespread littering and lack of

awareness about the importance of maintaining a clean environment.

It is evident that there is an urgent need for proactive measures to address this issue at its root. One crucial avenue for intervention is through educational institutions. Schools play a pivotal role in shaping the attitudes and behaviours of our future generations, and it is imperative that they instill a sense of civic responsibility and environmental stewardship in their students from a young age.

To achieve this goal, educational institutions can implement various initiatives such as cleanliness drives, spreading awareness campaigns, and fostering eco-club activities. By actively engaging students in volunteer cleanup efforts and organising workshops and seminars on environmental conservation, schools can cultivate a culture of respect for our surroundings and empower students to become agents of positive change in their communities.

Furthermore, integrating lessons on civic responsibility and environmental sustainability into the curriculum can help reinforce these values and ensure that they are ingrained in the hearts and minds of students.

It is time for us as a society to recognise the critical role that education plays in shaping our collective future. By investing in initiatives that promote civic responsibility and environmental consciousness among school children, we can pave the way for a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable future.

I urge educational authorities and policymakers to prioritise the implementation of such programmes in schools and to provide the necessary support and resources to make them successful.

Yours sincerely,

Jyoti/Jagan

6. (a) **Navigating the Digital Age:
Balancing Technology with Social Skills**
- By Girish

In today's fast-paced digital world, the influence of technology on our lives is undeniable. With the rise of smartphones, social media, and virtual communication platforms, the younger generation is more connected than ever before. However, amidst the convenience and efficiency offered by technology, there lies a growing concern – the decline in social skills among today's youth.

One of the most noticeable impacts of technology on social skills is the decrease in face-to-face communication. Instead of engaging in meaningful

conversations with peers or family members, many young people prefer to communicate through text messages or social media platforms. This reliance on digital communication can lead to a lack of engagement and genuine connection, ultimately hindering the development of interpersonal skills.

Furthermore, excessive screen time and virtual interactions can contribute to an inability to converse effectively in real-life situations. Many young individuals struggle with maintaining eye contact, expressing themselves articulately and engaging in meaningful conversations. As a result, they may experience social awkwardness and find it challenging to build and maintain relationships in both personal and professional settings.

To address these concerns and foster the development of social skills among the younger generation, it is essential to implement strategies both inside and outside the classroom. Here are some suggestions:

1. **Improve conversational and communication skills:** Schools can incorporate activities and exercises that encourage students to practice verbal communication and active listening. Role-playing exercises, group discussions and public speaking opportunities can help students become more confident and proficient communicators.
2. **Promote personal interaction and develop collaborative skills:** Encourage students to participate in group projects, team-building activities and cooperative learning experiences. These opportunities allow students to interact with their peers in a face-to-face setting, collaborate on tasks and develop essential teamwork and leadership skills.
3. **Encourage outdoor sports and activities:** Encouraging students to participate in outdoor sports and recreational activities can provide valuable opportunities for social interaction and skill-building. Team sports promote cooperation, communication, and camaraderie, while outdoor adventures foster resilience, problem-solving and interpersonal relationships.

In conclusion, while technology offers numerous benefits and opportunities for connection, it is essential to strike a balance and prioritise the development of social skills among today's youth. By incorporating strategies to improve communication, promote personal interaction, and encourage outdoor activities, we can empower the younger generation to navigate the digital age with confidence, empathy, and strong interpersonal relationships.

Let us embrace the potential of technology while nurturing the timeless art of face-to-face communication and human connection.

(b) **Street Play - "Education: An Equal Opportunity"**

By President, Drama Club

Date: February 23, 2024

Venue: Central Park, Agra

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Introduction: The Drama Club of BCS School recently organised a thought-provoking street play titled "Education: An Equal Opportunity" at the Central Park of our city. The event aimed to raise awareness about the importance of providing equal access to education for all individuals, regardless of their background or socioeconomic status.

Participants: The street play involved 8 participants, enthusiastic members of our Drama Club, including actors, backstage crew, and support staff. Each member played a crucial role in bringing the powerful message of the play to life.

Performance and Interactive Session: The performance captivated the audience with its compelling storyline, vibrant performances, and impactful dialogues. The street play depicted the struggles faced by underprivileged children in accessing quality education and highlighted the transformative power of education in breaking the cycle of poverty and inequality.

Following the performance, the Drama Club organised an interactive session with the spectators, inviting them to share their thoughts and insights on the theme of the play. This session facilitated meaningful discussions and encouraged the audience to reflect on the role of education in promoting social justice and equity.

Star Actors: Several members of the Drama Club showcased exceptional talent and dedication during the performance, earning praise and recognition from both the audience and the organising team. Special mention goes to Akriti, Akshay, whose stellar performances brought depth and authenticity to the characters portrayed in the play.

Response and Feedback: The street play received an overwhelmingly positive response from the audience, with many expressing appreciation for its powerful message and impactful presentation. Spectators commended the efforts of the Drama Club in using the medium of theatre to address important social issues and inspire positive change in our community.

Conclusion: Overall, the street play "Education: An Equal Opportunity" was a resounding success, thanks to the hard work, dedication, and creativity of the members of our Drama Club. Through this initiative, we hope to continue raising awareness and advocating for equal access to education for all individuals, thus paving the way for a more inclusive and equitable society.

Sincerely,
Abhishek
President, Drama Club

SECTION-C

Literature

(Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text)

(40 marks)

7. (a) (i) Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: The literary device used in "A roadside stand that too pathetically pled" is personification. It attributes human qualities (pleading) to a non-human entity (roadside stand).

(ii) Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: The poet suggests that the roadside stand is set up for the purpose of doing business, as implied by the words "a dole of bread" and the mention of money.

(iii) The phrase, "would not be fair to say for a dole of bread" suggests that the people who put up the roadside stand are struggling financially and are not asking for charity but rather trying to earn a living.

(iv) The word 'pathetically' reflects the desperate and sad state the roadside stand.

(v) False. The "Flower of Cities" refers to the prosperity and vibrancy of urban life, not a garden.

(vi) The word "fled" would rhyme with line 2.

OR

(b) (i) Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: The phrase "sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand" conveys the burden and oppression of Aunt Jennifer's marriage, suggesting an unhappy and difficult marital experience.

(ii) Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: The literary device used in 'Still ringed with ordeals' is metaphor. It metaphorically depicts Aunt Jennifer's hands being encircled or marked by the challenges she faced in her life.

(iii) The tigers in the panel symbolise Aunt Jennifer's desire for freedom and strength, which she lacks in her married life.

(iv) **FALSE**

Explanation: The expression suggests that Aunt Jennifer is facing difficulties even in simple tasks, indicating her physical and emotional burden, but it does not imply that she is dying.

(v) In the given options, the word “full” would rhyme with line 1.

(vi) This creates an image of fragility and vulnerability, portraying Aunt Jennifer as someone who is delicate and perhaps struggling with her tasks or emotions. It evokes a sense of tension or unease surrounding her actions.

8. (a) (i) Option (B) is correct.

(ii) In spite of myself suggests that the speaker was acting against her own will or desires.

(iii) Option (B) is correct.

(iv) **FALSE**

Explanation: The speaker did not intentionally deceive or trick the people looking for her.

OR

(b) (i) Option (C) is correct.

(ii) Humans are criticised by the author for their rapid increase in population, dominance over nature and their consumption of limited resources.

(iii) unbalanced, humans are overusing the resources.

(iv) Option (D) is correct.

9. (a) (i) **Option (C) is correct.**

Explanation: In this line, M. Hamel’s tone reflects regret as he addresses the consequences of procrastination and the impact on the students’ ability to learn and appreciate their own language, highlighting the significant loss they now face.

(ii) Option (A) is correct.

(iii) **FALSE**

Explanation: M. Hamel does not endorse the belief that there is plenty of time to learn their language. Instead, he expresses regret over the students’ procrastination, emphasizing the consequences of delaying their language learning in Alsace.

(iv) feel that they are losing their country and culture.

(v) Vive La France

(iv) Procrastination

OR

(b) (i) **Option (B) is correct.**

Explanation: The phrase “Then he seemed adamant” suggests Gandhi’s trait of being uncompromising, firm, and resolute in his stance during the negotiation, reflecting his commitment to principles.

(ii) Option (C) is correct.

(iii) accepting only 25 per cent, breaking the deadlock and demonstrating unexpected flexibility during the negotiation.

(iv) Gandhi accepted the offer made by the representatives of the planters without further negotiation.

(v) A situation where no progress can be made or agreement reached because of opposing views or staminate.

(vi) The attitude of planters towards sharecroppers appears exploitative or unfair, as indicated by the phrase “illegally and deceitfully extorted” from the sharecroppers.

10. (i) Mukesh’s attitude towards life appears to be different from that of his family and friends in the sense that he brings a sense of cheer and positivity even in challenging situations. While his family and friends may be more inclined towards pessimism or negativity, Mukesh seems to possess a more optimistic outlook, which uplifts the spirits of those around him.

(ii) The statement “I was frightened, but not yet frightened out of my wits” highlights the speaker’s resilience and ability to maintain composure even in frightening situations. It suggests that despite feeling fear, the speaker remains rational and composed, indicating qualities of courage and mental strength.

(iii) The words “See you soon Amma” are contrary to the speaker’s emotions because they convey a sense of normalcy and reassurance, while the speaker is actually feeling emotional distress or sadness about leaving his mother. The speaker is trying to appear strong and optimistic despite experiencing conflicting emotions.

(iv) The phrase “mighty dead” refers to great and influential figures from the past who are no longer alive. The inference drawn from this phrase is that even in death, these individuals retain their grandeur and impact on history. It suggests that the legacy of these “mighty dead” persists, highlighting the enduring significance of their lives and accomplishments.

(v) Evidence from the text that reveals Rudyard Kipling did not “walk the talk” could include instances where his actions or behaviour contradicted the values or principles he espoused in his writing. This might involve instances of hypocrisy or inconsistency between his public persona and private conduct.

(vi) Jansie’s advice to her friend Sophie to “really be sensible” reveals a dynamic in their friendship where Jansie takes on a more protective and authoritative role. It suggests that Jansie may feel responsible for

Sophie's well-being and wants what is best for her. Additionally, it implies that Sophie may sometimes act impulsively or irresponsibly, prompting Jansie to offer guidance and support.

11. (i) The "Students on Ice Programme" can be regarded as a step towards the future due to its forward-looking approach in several aspects:

1. **Environmental Awareness:** By exposing students to polar regions, which are highly sensitive to climate change, the programme fosters a deeper understanding of environmental issues. This awareness is crucial for shaping future generations who will be tasked with addressing and mitigating the impacts of climate change.
2. **Educational Innovation:** The programme offers students a unique educational experience beyond traditional classroom settings. This innovative approach to learning equips students with interdisciplinary knowledge and skills, preparing them to tackle complex challenges in various fields in the future.

In summary, the "Students on Ice Programme" is a forward-thinking initiative that not only provides students with valuable educational experiences but also empowers them to become agents of positive change in shaping a more sustainable and resilient future.

- (ii) In "The Third Level," Louisa's behaviour exemplifies traits commonly associated with being a perfect wife. One piece of evidence is when she demonstrates understanding and support for her husband, Charley, despite his seemingly unrealistic beliefs. When Charley expresses his conviction about the existence of a third level in the Grand Central Station, Louisa patiently listens to him and even entertains the idea, showing her willingness to indulge his fantasies. Additionally, Louisa exhibits a nurturing and caring nature when she expresses concern for Charley's mental well-being and suggests seeking professional help for his stress-induced fantasies. Overall, Louisa's understanding, support, and care for her husband's well-being illustrate her qualities as a loving and supportive wife.
- (iii) In "The Enemy", the servants' reaction to Sadao's decision to treat the American soldier is one of shock and disbelief. They are initially apprehensive about the implications of harbouring an enemy soldier, as it goes against societal norms and could have severe consequences for Sadao and his family. However, despite their reservations, the servants ultimately comply with Sadao's instructions and assist him in caring for the wounded soldier. Their reaction highlights the moral and ethical dilemmas

faced by individuals caught in the midst of war and underscores the internal conflicts experienced by characters like Sadao and his servants as they navigate complex ethical choices.

12.(a) Empowerment of women is a very essential social reform. It needs to be accelerated for any nation to progress. The recent literary works, 'Aunt Jennifer's Tiger' and 'Going Places', vividly portray the silent struggles of women subdued by the expectations and control exerted by their husbands.

In "Aunt Jennifer's Tiger," we witness Aunt Jennifer's creative outlet through her needlework, where she embroiders a powerful symbol of her inner strength and resilience, the tiger. However, beneath the surface, Aunt Jennifer's art becomes a reflection of her suppressed desires and dreams, overshadowed by the dominance of her husband. The weight of societal expectations and the constraints of her marriage leave Aunt Jennifer feeling trapped and powerless, unable to fully express herself or break free from her husband's influence.

Similarly, in "Going Places," Sophie's mother is depicted as a woman whose aspirations are stifled by the patriarchal norms of her society. Despite her desire to pursue a career and explore the world, Sophie's mother is resigned to the role of a homemaker, fulfilling the expectations placed upon her by her husband and society. Her dreams and ambitions are subjugated by the prevailing gender roles, leaving her feeling unfulfilled and trapped in a life she did not choose.

These narratives underscore the urgent need for women's empowerment in our society. Women like Aunt Jennifer and Sophie's mother represent countless individuals whose potential remains untapped due to systemic barriers and societal norms that perpetuate gender inequality. Empowering women is not merely about giving them equal rights and opportunities; it is about dismantling the structures of oppression and creating a society where women can thrive, pursue their passions, and contribute fully to the progress and development of their communities.

As a social activist, I urge policymakers, community leaders and individuals alike to prioritise the empowerment of women as a cornerstone of social reform. This includes enacting policies that promote gender equality, providing access to education and economic opportunities, and challenging cultural norms that perpetuate gender-based discrimination and violence. By empowering women, we not only uplift individuals but also create a more just and equitable society for all. It is time to accelerate efforts towards women's empowerment and pave the way

for a brighter, more inclusive future for generations to come.

OR

- (b) Social satire in the two texts portrays two contrasting worlds that exist in society, as depicted in the poem "A Roadside Stand" and the text "Lost Spring."

In "A Roadside Stand", Robert Frost presents a scene where two worlds collide: the rural, rustic life of the farmer and the urban, consumerist culture symbolised by the passing motorists. The stand, manned by the farmer's children, stands as a testament to the struggle for survival in the face of economic hardship. The poem satirises the disparity between the simplicity and self-sufficiency of rural life and the materialism and excess of urban society. While the farmer and his family eke out a living from the land, the passing motorists are depicted as detached and indifferent, more concerned with their own desires and conveniences than the plight of those less fortunate. Frost's use of irony and wit highlights the stark divide between these two worlds and serves as a critique of modern society's values and priorities.

In contrast, "Lost Spring" by Anees Jung portrays the harsh realities faced by the underprivileged residents of Firozabad, a town known for its glass-blowing industry. The text exposes the exploitation of child labourers, particularly young girls like Saheb and Mukesh, who are forced to work in hazardous conditions to support their families. Through vivid imagery and poignant storytelling, Jung highlights the stark contrast between the glittering glass bangles produced in Firozabad and the bleak lives of the children who toil away in the factories. The text serves as a powerful indictment of the systemic poverty and social injustice that pervade Indian society, particularly in marginalised communities where children are robbed of their childhoods and denied access to education and opportunities for a better future.

In both "A Roadside Stand" and "Lost Spring," the authors use satire to critique societal norms and expose the disparities between the haves and the have-nots. While Frost's poem focuses on the divide between rural and urban life in America, Jung's text shines a spotlight on the plight of impoverished children in India. Despite the differences in setting and context, both works ultimately convey the same message: that society's priorities are often misguided, and that true progress can only be achieved when we confront and address the injustices that perpetuate inequality and suffering.

- 13.(a) Hello, dear students!

Believe in yourself. Nothing is impossible.

I stand before you today not as someone who merely preaches positivity, but as someone who has lived it. As someone who understands the challenges you face as differently abled individuals, I want to share with you the power of optimism and the importance of having a positive approach to life.

You see, I've been where you are. I've faced obstacles and limitations that seemed insurmountable at times. But I refused to let them define me. I refused to let them hold me back from achieving my dreams.

You are all capable of achieving greatness, regardless of any physical or mental barriers you may face. You have two arms, two legs, eyes, and ears—just like everyone else. And with those gifts, you can accomplish anything you set your mind to.

Optimism is not just a mindset; it's a tool—a tool that can help you overcome adversity, defy expectations, and reach new heights. It's about focusing on what you can do, rather than dwelling on what you can't. It's about finding the silver lining in every cloud and turning obstacles into opportunities.

Yes, there will be challenges along the way. There will be people who doubt you, who underestimate you, who try to bring you down. But remember, their doubts and limitations are not your own. You have the power to prove them wrong, to show the world what you're truly capable of.

So, my dear students, I urge you to embrace optimism. Embrace the belief that you are capable of greatness. Surround yourself with positivity, with people who lift you up and encourage you to be the best version of yourself. And most importantly, never lose sight of your dreams.

Together, let's defy the odds. Let's show the world that with optimism and determination, anything is possible.

Thank you.

OR

- (b) The noblest principle man should follow in his life is co-existence. It's a principle deeply rooted in the understanding that we are not the sole inhabitants of this planet; rather, we share it with countless other species, each playing a vital role in maintaining the delicate balance of nature. However, the tragic extinction of the tiger population in the forests of Pratibandapuram serves as a stark reminder of how mankind's dominance over nature can lead to devastating consequences.

In the tale of "The Tiger King", we witness the unchecked ambition and arrogance of a ruler who sees nature as something to be conquered rather than respected. His relentless pursuit of hunting

and killing tigers, driven by a desire for power and glory, ultimately leads to the extinction of these majestic creatures in his kingdom. It's a sobering example of man's destructive impact on the natural world, as well as a testament to the need for a fundamental shift in our attitudes and actions towards the environment.

As members of the Eco Club, it is our responsibility to advocate for a different approach—a policy of "Live and Let Live." This principle calls for mutual respect and harmony between humans and nature, recognising the intrinsic value of all living beings and the interconnectedness of life on Earth. Instead of seeking to dominate or control nature, we must learn to coexist with it, fostering a relationship based on stewardship, conservation, and sustainability.

Embracing the policy of "Live and Let Live" requires us to make conscientious choices in our daily lives, whether it's reducing our carbon footprint, protecting wildlife habitats, or advocating for policies that promote environmental preservation. It means recognising the rights of other species to

exist and thrive alongside us, rather than viewing them as mere resources to be exploited for our own gain.

By following this policy, we not only safeguard the biodiversity and ecological integrity of our planet but also ensure a better future for generations to come. It's a vision of a world where humans and nature coexist in harmony, where the roar of the tiger still echoes through the forests of Pratibandapuram, and where the legacy we leave behind is one of reverence, not regret.

Let us, therefore, pledge to uphold the principle of "Live and Let Live" in all aspects of our lives, knowing that in doing so, we honour not only the natural world but also the inherent dignity and worth of every living being.

Together, let's strive to create a world where man and nature live in harmony, bound together by a shared reverence for life.

Thank you.

Outside Delhi Set-2

Code No. 1/4/2

Except the following all other Questions are from Set-2

SECTION-B

Creative Writing Skills

5. (a) Rainbow Nagar

Shaktiganj

March 22, 2024

The Director

R.J. Sports Academy

43, L.M. Square

Shaktiganj

Subject: Application for the post of basketball coach

Sir

With reference to your advertisement for the above mentioned post, I would like to apply for the same. I have completed my Master's Degree in basketball with a NIS diploma. I have already been working as a basketball coach at Mira Academy for sports for the past five years. Also, I have led my team to zonal and interstate levels. I am aptly qualified for the above mentioned post.

I am attaching my resume for your kind consideration. If given a chance, I would leave no stone unturned to prove my calibre. I would be extremely delighted to offer any extra information required by you.

Yours sincerely

Neeta

BIO-DATA

Name : Neeta
Father's name : Amar Chaudhary
Date of Birth : 25th September 1995
Permanent address : House No. 134, Rainbow Nagar, Shaktiganj
Contact no. : 98xxxxx123
Marital status : Unmarried
Educational qualification : Passed Senior Secondary School examination from Central School, Shaktiganj
 Master's degree in basketball from the university of Kanpur University
 NIS Diploma from Institute of sports and games, Kanpur
Professional experience : SAI coach of basketball in Mira Academy for sports for the past five years.
Skills : Patience, empathy, leadership qualities
References:
 1. Mr. Sumit Nath, Head coach, Mira Academy
 2. Mr. Amit Pal, Director, Mira Academy

If my particulars suit your job requirement, I would be happy to come for a personal interview.

Thanking you

Neeta/Neeraj

(b) 16, Rajnagar
 Ghaziabad
 22nd March 2024

The Editor
 The Daily News
 Ghaziabad

Subject: Need for workshops related to skill development

Sir

I am writing to express my heartfelt appreciation for the recent initiative taken by our local school in organising a two-day workshop titled 'Preparing Youth for the Road Ahead.' As a parent of a class 12 student, I believe such workshops play a crucial role in promoting awareness about skill development and creating future opportunities for our young minds.

The emphasis on vocational education, apprenticeships, and internships is particularly noteworthy. These avenues provide students with real-world exposure, enabling them to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application. Entrepreneurship, another key

aspect covered in the workshop, holds immense importance in today's economy.

I urge our educational authorities and institutions to organise more of these workshops regularly. Through these proactive measures, we can ensure that our youth is well-prepared to navigate the complexities of the modern world. These efforts will not only enhance their employment prospects but also contribute to the overall economic progress of our society.

Yours sincerely

Mithun

Parent of class IV student

6. (a)

Nourishing Well-Being

By Shivani/Satish, Class XII B

In our fast-paced world, the rising concern of obesity among the youth demands our immediate attention. The digital era, characterised by addictive technology, sedentary lifestyles, and the consumption of sugary, highly processed foods, has led to adverse consequences for our well-being. As members of the school community, it is imperative that this issue and promote the significance of a healthy lifestyle and nutritious diet.

Persistent health issues, including diabetes, heart ailments, and joint complications, are frequently associated with obesity. Mental well-being is also affected, as individuals often experience reduced self-esteem and heightened stress levels, adding to the overall toll on both physical and mental health. Children suffer long-term consequences that lead to the destruction of their overall well-being..

Promoting an active lifestyle is essential, requiring us to incorporate physical activity into our daily routines. This can range from a morning jog, cycling to school, or engaging in sports, as regular exercise not only sustains physical health but also significantly enhances mental well-being. Awareness should be made on the school level, too, and parents must keep a check on their children's physical activities. Prioritising a well-balanced and nutritious diet is crucial, considering the fascination for fast food convenience. Opting for fresh fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and lean proteins over processed and sugary snacks can greatly contribute to overall health.

By embracing an active lifestyle, incorporating regular exercise, and making informed choices about our diet, we can collectively pave the way for a healthier and more vibrant future.

(b) Empowering Minds

By Radhika, Head of the Outreach Team, Class XII

22nd February 20XX

Agra

In our continuous commitment to community service, a dedicated team of 40 students from our school embarked on a transformative journey in the Shanti Nagar Slum on the morning of 22nd February. This initiative aimed to impart basic language and numerical skills, instil environmental cleanliness, and promote personal hygiene among the underprivileged children of the community.

Organised into teams, our group engaged the children in interactive sessions, integrating learning with enjoyable activities. Practical demonstrations and Nukkad Nataks covering topics such as handwashing, dental care, and overall cleanliness habits were organised.

The programme successfully reached 60 children from Shanti Nagar, spanning ages 6 to 14. As part of our dedication to fostering a love for learning, each child received a set of educational books. The joy and gratitude reflected in their eyes were immeasurable. Feedback from the attendees and their families was overwhelmingly positive.

This outreach programme was not merely an educational initiative but a meaningful exchange

of experiences and aspirations. As we endeavour to create a lasting impact, we are thankful for the opportunity to contribute to the comprehensive development of our community.

SECTION-C

Literature

(Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text)

(40 marks)

- 11.(i) The author exclaims that the existence of human beings for 12,000 years is insignificant compared to the earth's history. Human beings have increased their population number and have thus depleted the resources. They have only a negative contribution towards the environment. Man has created a ruckus, i.e., increasing human population, limited resources exerting pressure on land, melting ice caps, burning fossil fuels, depletion of the ozone layer and global warming. This has led to the addition of carbon dioxide.
- (ii) Charley has exchanged three hundred dollars for the old currency which was amounting to only two hundred dollars. The loss of money didn't bother him, as he believed that in Galesburg, everything would be cheaper, and one could manage with a small amount. Also, he wanted respite from the complexities of the modern world and Galesburg fascinated him.
- (iii) All the servants reacted in different manner but with one mindset that Dr. Sadao should not treat the American soldier. When Hana asked Yumi to wash his wounds, Yumi flatly refused to obey. She revolted at the idea of serving a white man. Hana herself washed the wound with a clean steaming towel. She was annoyed with Dr. Sadao for putting his family in danger. The old gardener was also not happy with Dr. Sadao for sheltering the enemy soldier. He felt that the soldier should die. If he was saved, the sea would take revenge. Equally disturbing was the reaction of the cook, who felt that Dr. Sadao was too proud of his skills, so he operated upon the soldier and saved him. The servants felt that they could not stay if Sadao hid that white man anymore in the house. People would think that they liked Americans. The servants grew more watchful daily.

12. (a) The Triumph of Peace

In a world filled with conflict, Pablo Neruda's statement, "Wars with gas, wars with fire, Victory with no survivors," emphasises the hollowness of triumphs that come at the cost of devastation. It states that wars are won on the foundation of destruction. This contemplation urges us to

explore other methods for resolving disputes. Mahatma Gandhi's influence on the Champaran sharecroppers provides a compelling example of how social change can be achieved through peaceful measures.

In a world confronted with various complex challenges, the importance of peaceful approaches becomes evident. It fosters open dialogue, mutual understanding, and compromise, ultimately paving the way for lasting and sustainable solutions. The destruction leaves a long-term impact on the future generations. As conscientious citizens of the world, it is our duty to give precedence to peaceful methods when addressing conflicts. Gandhi's principles provide a timeless roadmap for resolving disputes and fostering harmonious coexistence.

In conclusion, the world calls for the wisdom to choose peace over conflict. Neruda's verses and Gandhi's legacy illuminate the path towards a more just and compassionate world.

OR

- (b) After conversing with M. Hamel, I was deeply impressed by the profound insights he shared regarding individual responsibility and nationalism. Hamel beautifully conveyed the importance of each person taking responsibility for preserving their language and cultural heritage. His impassioned words emphasised that it is the duty of every individual to cherish and pass on the richness of their heritage. Everyone should realise the importance of their language. Additionally, Hamel fervently discussed the significance of nationalism, highlighting how a strong sense of love for one's country should be instilled from an early age. Parents should put this feeling in their children so that their attachment to their language doesn't get broken even after they get older. He knows the emotional hold of a language over its users. He even discussed that during his last lesson in Alsace, he felt guilty for not getting enough opportunities to teach French to the students of a Primary school.

M. Hamel is devoted to his work and takes great pride in introducing his students to the French language and culture. He called French the most beautiful, logical and clearest language in the world. According to him, whenever the people of a particular nation are enslaved, as long as they are attached to their language, they have the key to their prison.

- 13.(a) To remain resilient during difficult times will undoubtedly propel us forward in life. This

sentiment holds true in the inspiring tale of Mr. Lamb from the play, "On the Face of It." Despite facing a physical handicap, Mr. Lamb exemplifies the power of resilience and determination. Despite his handicap, he has embraced the philosophy of taking things steadily, learning and adapting over the years. One should not give up in any situation, as when god gives an opportunity, he shows the way too. No one is born with a lesser will; the only thing needed is the motivation and will to do it. Mr. Lamb's resilience serves as a beacon of hope, reminding us that where there is a will, there is indeed a way. In the face of adversity, let us draw inspiration from Mr. Lamb's unwavering spirit. Let us cultivate resilience, determination and a steadfast approach towards achieving our goals. As we embark on our journey, let us embrace challenges as opportunities for growth and rise above obstacles with courage and conviction. Remember, like Mr. Lamb, we, too, can defy the odds and strive towards the path to success.

OR

- (b) In the present times, it is all too common to see people consumed by their professions, chasing after success and monetary gain, often at the expense of neglecting their children. This alarming trend reminds me of the Maharaja from the story "The Tiger King," who dedicated his entire time and energy to tiger hunting, leaving no room to spare for his own crown prince. As a professional counsellor, I urge working parents to prioritise spending quality time with their children, drawing insights from the narrative of "The Tiger King" to reinforce this viewpoint.

Spending time with children is not merely a luxury but a necessity that can profoundly impact their development and well-being. Children might take the wrong paths in their lives if not given the proper guidance. In the story, the Maharaja's neglect of his crown prince resulted in the prince feeling overlooked and unimportant, leading to feelings of inadequacy and insecurity. Similarly, when parents prioritise their careers over spending time with their children, it can result in emotional distances and strained relationships.

I encourage working parents to strike a balance between their professional responsibilities and their role as parents. This also increases the trust of children in their parents, and they are able to maintain friendly relationships. By prioritising time spent with their children, parents can nurture strong, resilient relationships and provide their children with the love, support, and guidance they need to thrive.

Outside Delhi Set-3

Code No. 1/4/3

Except the following all other Questions are from Set-1

SECTION-B

Creative Writing Skills

5. (a) J.P. Nagar
A.B. Puram
New Delhi

22 February 2024

The Manager
G.R.T. Hotel, 40
Rajendra Nagar, A.B. Puram
New Delhi

Subject: Application for the position of Chief Chef

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing in response to your advertisement for the position of Chief Chef in The Times of India dated 21 February 2024. I believe that my skills and professional background position me as a compelling candidate for this position.

I hold a Bachelor's Degree in Hotel Management from Gwalior University. Upon graduation, I gained valuable experience working as a Chef at Paradise Continental Hotel for 8 years. During this time, I developed expertise in managing kitchens, leading teams, and implementing creative food presentation methods.

I am a highly motivated individual with a passion for creating exceptional culinary experiences. I am excited to contribute my skills and commitment to elevate the dining experience at G.R.T. Hotel.

Enclosed is my bio-data for your perusal. I am available for an interview at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely

[Ujwal]

BIO-DATA

Name : Ujwal
Father's name : Amar Singh
Date of Birth : 28th September 1994
Permanent address : House no. 25, J.P. Nagar, A.B. Puram
Contact no. : 98xxxx1224
Marital status : Unmarried
Educational qualification : Passed Senior Secondary School examination from Central School, J.P. Nagar
 Bachelor's degree in Hotel Management from Arya University.
Professional experience : Chef at Paradise Continental Hotel for the past eight years.
Skills: Team Management, Kitchen Management, Food Plating.
References:
 1. Mr. Sumit Nath, Head Chef, Paradise Hotel
 2. Mr. Amit Pal, Director, Arya University

If my particulars suit your job requirement, I would be happy to come for a personal Interview.

Thanking you
Ujwal

(b) Rosewood Colony
Sagar Nagar
Delhi

22 February 2024

The Editor
Times of India
New Delhi

Subject: Excessive Food Wastage and Strategies for Improvement

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to express my deep concern about the alarming levels of food wastage witnessed in our society. From hotels and restaurants to lavish weddings and social gatherings, a staggering amount of perfectly edible food ends up in landfills.

The problem arises from various factors. Oversized servings piled onto plates often lead to untouched leftovers. Additionally, the tendency to order more than one can consume, contributes significantly to the issue. Most importantly, an underlying casual attitude towards food seems to be prevalent without considering the far-reaching consequences of this wastage.

To address this growing problem, I urge individuals and establishments to adopt several measures. Firstly, we must practice mindful ordering and consume food only as needed. Event organisers can streamline their menus, preparing fewer items in more precise quantities. Additionally, initiatives to donate unconsumed food to shelters or establish community food banks could prevent food from being needlessly discarded.

Let us commit to responsible food consumption. By making small changes, we can collectively reduce the shameful reality of food waste and ensure better use of precious resources.

Yours sincerely
Tanvi

6. (a) Selfie Safety: A Must-Have Guide for Youngsters
By Tanvi

The selfie craze has swept the world, but with it comes with hidden dangers. As a responsible youngster, it's important to prioritise safety and avoid taking risky selfies.

Firstly, stay away from danger zones. Don't pose near moving trains or other vehicles, no matter how tempting the shot may seem. Similarly, maintain a safe distance from wild animals — they're unpredictable and a selfie isn't worth risking your life.

Be aware of your surroundings. Avoid taking selfies near stairs, drop-offs, or unstable structures. A moment's distraction could lead to serious accidents. Finally, be mindful of what you share. Casual posting of selfies containing personal or location-specific information can pose a threat to your privacy and make you vulnerable to online predators.

Remember, a cool selfie is never worth jeopardising your well-being. Exercise caution, make smart choices, and let's transform the selfie trend into a safe and responsible one.

(B) Cooking Competition Brings Flavours To Preeti Nagar

By: Nishant Verma
President (RWA)

Preeti Nagar, 22 February 2024 – The Residents Welfare Association (RWA) of Preeti Nagar celebrated International Women's Day with a spirited cooking competition on 22 February 2024 at the society community centre. The event commenced at 9:00 a.m. and witnessed enthusiastic participation from over 125 residents.

A dazzling array of dishes, both Savoury and sweet, lined the tables. Contestants showcased their culinary skills, drawing inspiration from regional and international cuisines. Renowned chef Sanjay Kumar graciously judged the competition, offering valuable insights to the participants.

After careful deliberation, Mrs. Pramila Ghosh was awarded the first prize for her exceptional Karaikudi Curry. The event concluded with a celebratory high tea, where residents bonded over their shared passion for food. The competition successfully highlighted the diverse talents within the community and fostered a festive spirit.

SECTION-C

Literature

(Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text)

- 11.(i) The narrator expects the 'Students on Ice' programme to shape the future policymakers' perspectives on environmental issues and inspire them to take action to protect Antarctica and the planet.

- (ii) Sadao's cold response to the thanks suggests a complex mix of emotions. He might feel conflicted due to his duty as a doctor to help the enemy soldier, yet apprehensive about the potential consequences of his actions. The coldness implies a desire to distance himself emotionally from the situation.
- (iii) Here are some pieces of evidence that support Louisa being a good wife to Charley:

Understanding: She listens patiently to Charley's seemingly delusional stories about the third level.

Supportive: While initially sceptical, she accepts his obsession and even helps him search for the third level later.

Protective: She tries to shield Charley from potential harm by discouraging his obsession initially.

12. (a) Evolving Through Mistakes: Lessons from Literature

The importance of learning from one's mistakes is a recurring theme in literature, evident in characters like Franz from "The Last Lesson" and the peddler from "The Rattrap". Both these characters initially demonstrate flawed behaviours: Franz neglects his studies, while the peddler succumbs to petty theft. However, both experience turning points that force them to confront their actions.

Franz, upon realising the loss of his native language, French, feels deep remorse. This motivates him to learn with newfound dedication. Similarly, the peddler, touched by Edla's kindness, is ashamed of his actions. He returns the stolen money, signalling a moral shift.

These stories illustrate that mistakes do not define a person. True evolution comes from acknowledging missteps, understanding their consequences, and taking action to improve. This process of self-reflection and change makes us more compassionate and responsible individuals. Mistakes, when embraced as opportunities for growth, can be the catalysts for positive transformation.

OR

- (b) Both 'Lost Spring' and 'Indigo' expose the stark realities of poverty and oppression perpetuated by societal apathy and exploitation by the powerful. Here's how:

Lost Spring

Apathy: Anees Jung portrays a society indifferent to the plight of children trapped in cycles of poverty. Child labour is normalised, and the children of Seemapuri and Firozabad are resigned to their fate as ragpickers and bangle-makers.

Exploitation: The children work in hazardous, unhealthy conditions for meagre wages. They are denied access to education and a chance to break free from poverty, exploited by middlemen and those who profit from their labour.

Indigo

Apathy: Louis Fischer showcases the indifference of British colonial officials towards the suffering of Indian peasants. They are unconcerned about the unjust sharecropping system, forcing farmers to grow indigo that ruins their land.

Exploitation: Farmers are trapped by oppressive contracts, cheated by landlords, and ruthlessly exploited for the profit of the colonisers. Their pleas for justice are ignored, and protests are violently suppressed.

Both stories highlight how those with power often use that power to perpetuate systems of exploitation while society turns a blind eye to the suffering of the marginalised.

13.(a) 22 February 2024, Thursday

9:30 p.m.

Dear Diary

I was so fortunate to be able to be decisive at the right moment. That day at Mr. Lamb's garden was a turning point. At first, I was consumed by my fears, my insecurities. Leaving that burnt, disfigured face behind seemed like the only way to exist. Then, hearing Mr. Lamb's kind words, witnessing his optimism... something shifted in me.

The urge to return overwhelmed everything else. I couldn't bear the thought of hiding away forever. That choice, walking back into the garden, has filled me with unexpected joy. Mr. Lamb didn't recoil at my appearance; he saw me as a person, with thoughts and dreams. His acceptance is a precious gift I wasn't sure I'd ever receive.

I'm finally letting go of the idea that I'm unlovable. It's a terrifying, exhilarating process. I don't know what lies ahead, but for the first time in a very long time, I feel a flicker of hope. Thank you, Mr. Lamb, for helping me find the courage to face the world again.

Derry

OR

(b) Importance of Humour in Life

Sense of humour helps us deal with the problems of life and improves one's mental and physical health.

A touch of light-heartedness can turn stressful situations into manageable ones. Take, for instance, the story of the Tiger King. His relentless pursuit of tigers and defiance of destiny created absurd and comical scenarios. While his obsession is dangerous, the humour within his actions reminds us not to take ourselves too seriously.

Laughter is a good medicine. It relieves tension, boosts our mood, and even strengthens our immune

system. A sense of humour makes us more resilient in the face of difficulties. Life is unpredictable, and finding the absurdity within challenges helps us cope with our problems. Humour fosters connection, diffuses tension, and ultimately makes life more joyful. If we can laugh at ourselves and our situations, the world seems a little less daunting.

