



Time : 3 Hours ]

[ Maximum Marks : 100

- Note : (i) This Question Paper consists of *two* Sections, viz., 'A' and 'B'.  
(ii) *All* the questions from Section 'A' are compulsory.  
(iii) Section 'B' has *two* options. Candidates are required to attempt questions from *one option* only.  
(iv) Marks are indicated against each question.

**SECTION-A**

1. Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow :

(a) Cricket, to use a 'cliche', is in my blood. My father was a good club cricketer in his days and a keen student of the game. Even now we have interesting discussions on various aspects of the game and I have found his advice invaluable in the development of my career. And I have had the privilege of having a cricketing mother, who helped me to take the first steps in the game I have come to love. My uncle, Madhav Mantri, who played for India in four 'official' tests, though not very successfully, was a force to reckon with in first class games.

(i) What did Gavaskar mean to say when he said, "Cricket is in my blood"?

(ii) How does Gavaskar pay tribute to his father in the development of his career?

(iii) In what way did Gavaskar pay tribute to his mother for his achievement in the field of cricket?

(iv) Find out the words from the extract which mean similar to—

(1) 'of great value';

(2) 'a powerful person'.

$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1$

**OR**

In the West, surveys have consistently shown that the public prefers wind and other renewable energy force over conventional sources of generation. Wind energy is free, renewable resource, so no matter how much is used today, there will still be the same supply in the future. Wind energy is also a source of clean, non-polluting electricity. Unlike conventional power plants, wind plants emit no air pollutants or greenhouse gases.

(i) What *two* reasons are given by public for their preference to wind energy form over conventional source of generation?

$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1$

(ii) What *two* flaws are pointed out by people with conventional power plants?

1

(iii) How can the shortage of energy in the future be faced with?

1

(iv) Which words in the extract mean similar to—

(1) 'to send out heat, gas, light, etc., into the air';

(2) 'a substance that pollutes water, air, etc.'?

$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1$

(b) Change is essential but continuity is also necessary. The future has to be built on the foundation laid in the past and in the present. To deny the past and break with it completely is to uproot ourselves and sapless, dry up. It was the virtue of Gandhiji to keep his feet firmly planted in the rich traditions of our race and our soil and, at the same time, to function on the revolutionary plain. Above all, he laid stress on truth and peaceful means. Thus he built on old foundations, and at the same time, oriented the structure towards the future.

(i) (1) What does the author want to suggest to the people of his country?

1

(2) Why does he (the author) think it is not only necessary but essential to have this attitude?

1

(ii) What was Gandhian approach to life? Mention *two* highlights of his philosophy.

(iii) Which words in the extract mean similar to—

(1) 'make someone weak or destroy something';

(2) 'a quality that someone has'?

$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1$

### OR

As might be expected, in the beginning it was tough for all of us, for mother and my father, for my three sisters, and my brother, and for me too. The illness had left me weak. The servants avoided me as though I were an evil eye personified. My father, who was a doctor in the public health service, was grateful that I had got prompt and good medical treatment, for delay would have affected my mind or endangered my life. But he, like the rest, had no hope. My sisters treated me with care, as though I were a fragile doll, and mother wept.

(i) How did the author's parents take his (the author's) illness?

(ii) Why did the author's sisters treat him during his illness?

(iii) Why did the author's father feel grateful? Give *one* reason.

(iv) Which words or expressions in the extract mean similar to—

(1) 'look at someone with suspicion';

(2) 'some other than already mentioned'?

$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1$

2. Answer any *three* of the following questions in about 30–40 words each :  $2 \times 3 = 6$

(a) What *two* facts related to Baldeo's place of work show that it was very dangerous place?

( *The Tiger in the Tunnel* )

(b) What fact related to Aradhana's life disturbed her? How did she convey it to others?

( *I Must Know the Truth* )

(c) What role did Bholi's teacher play in Bholi's life and way of thinking?  
( *Bholi* )

(d) What *two* qualities of Gerrard impress the readers most? Give reasons for your evaluation of Gerrard's character.  
( *If I were You* )

3. Answer any *one* of the following questions in about 60 words :

(a) What are Rahul's views about old education system followed during his grandparents' days? Why is he critical about the modern education system?

( *Father, Dear Father* )

(b) Dr. Benson picked up Private T. Evans on cold midnight and rushed to attend Mrs. Sorley in labour pains on that cold night. What qualities of a human being are observed in his behaviour by you?

( *A Case of Suspicion* )

4. Read the following extract from the prescribed poem and answer the questions that follow :

What is this life if full of care  
We have no time to stand and stare?  
No time to stand beneath the boughs  
And stare as long as sheep or cows.

(a) To what attitude of people towards nature does the poet hint?

(b) Pick up the lines that show people's lack of interest in nature's beauty and charm.

(c) What kind of life does the poet not like?

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveller, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth.

- (a) The poet calls the wood 'yellow'. Why does he call it 'yellow wood'? 1
- (b) "Long I stood." Why did the poet stand and look down ... as far as he could? What must have been his state of mind? 2
- (c) What was the poet's dilemma? Why had that dilemma occurred? 2

**5.** Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

Humans, it is said, are talking to animals. This is one way of saying that man is a social animal, possessing the faculty of speech. Conversation is an important part of our social life. It is indeed an activity that characterizes all mankind. Men and women everywhere spend a large part of their time in making conversation.

Some kinds of conversation seem to have no special purpose. "Nice weather", says a man as he passes you on street. "Oh, you are back. Nice to see you again", says another. Such conversations aim at breaking silence and producing a feeling in the speaker and the listener both belong to the same group.

Have you ever wondered what it is that makes you a good conversationalist?

It hardly needs saying that you must have something to say. This is possible only if you are yourself interested in people and event. You must be well-informed. Reading books and magazines is not so important to equip yourself with useful information. Your own experiences in life are important too, since they provide a store of material for your conversation. The information and the experiences must become a part of you. This means that you should think about what you read or experience. Even that is not enough. You should

not be like one of those tin cans which are stuffed full of things but will not yield their contents unless you hold them upside down and shake them vigorously. You must be able to bring your thoughts and ideas into your conversation naturally and at the right place and right time.

- (a) What fact discriminates humans from animals and says that they are social animals? 2
- (b) People can become effective conversationalist if they have something to say. How do people gather material to talk? What are such sources? 2
- (c) Why does the writer refer to a tin can? Will such people succeed in life as conversationalist? Yes or No? Give reasons to support your view. 2
- (d) Which words or expressions used in the passage mean similar to—
- (i) 'to move, bend or break because of pressure';
- (ii) 'to obtain oneself with the things that are needed for a particular purpose' ? 1+1=2

6. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

A sign of our times is the number of young people complaining about their weight. It is either too much or not enough, or all is okay except those hips or those arms. But even as more people flock to jogging parks and aerobics classes, they are not as healthy as they should be, say the nutritionists.

Health has never been a bigger concern than it is now. People are not eating in proportion to their lifestyle today. Many nutritionists feel that people's food habit remains same as before but they are leading a more sedentary life today. Staple diets that were consumed in days when people were more physically active, are eaten today with far less exertion.

In fact the one hour of jogging a person does doesn't always mean that he has added a new activity to his list. It could be a substitute for the amount of walking that was done before, after which he might get into a rickshaw and continue with his regular routine. Work for many urbanites is not manually demanding except for the certain section of the society.

So, if the kind of food one eats or the diet one follows is important, so is one's lifestyle. A labourer may eat three times what an executive does, but doesn't develop the latter's paunch. Meanwhile the weight-conscious executive doesn't realize that the extra cup of tea he has everyday or a handful of potato chips add one kilo to his weight in two months. The tea or chips contain 150 calories; in two months that works out to be around 8000 calories. Average it is seen that those people whose working hours are nine to five, they have normally a good diet eaten at regular intervals. According to the nutritionists, the weight is a product of one's energy output as well.

- (a) Nutritionists feel that people who complain of weight and who go for jogging or aerobics cannot be considered (i) — because they are unmindful of (ii) —. 1+1=2
- (b) The nutritionists suggest that (i) — because people haven't changed their (ii) —. 1+1=2
- (c) How is it that labourers eat more than what an executive eats yet develop paunch? 2
- (d) Which words used in the passage mean similar to—
- (i) 'the work which demands long sitting hours';
- (ii) 'basic type of food normally taken'? 1+1=2

7. Read the following passage and supply the required information in the table given below :

The present-day scenario of the Primary School Education is very bleak. It's time to think beyond the enrolment numbers. Over 3 lakhs children in the age group of 6 to 11 don't go to school at all. Every year there is an enrolment campaign but there is no effective policy for retaining the students. In one year MCD registered a record-breaking enrolment figures 1.1 lakhs against the usual 20000 students. Introduction of English as a subject in MCD schools is the reason for this quantum jump.

A big problem being experienced is retention of the children. Mid-day meal meant to be a major incentive for retaining children in the primary schools is still not very effective. The importance of mid-day meal in retaining



schoolchildren is reflected in the remark of a teacher. He told that the students enquire before classes start whether biscuits will be distributed that day and if the answer is No, most of them don't turn up.

The rate of absenteeism is highest in MCD schools. The achievement scores of the learners in these schools is less by 10% to 15%. The children from the lower strata of society have to be dragged from their homes. Parents of such students are indifferent towards it.

The writer says that the present-day scenario of the primary schoolchildren is very bleak because of (i) — and (ii) —. Even mid-day meal has failed to serve as (iii) —. Enrolment campaign failed in spite of introduction of (iv) —.

1+1+1+1=4

8. Read the passage given below and write the summary of the passage in about 100 words :

Old people generally have a tendency to recount their past as if it was the best time of their life, but with this they also mean about the present. It seems that human beings cannot enjoy the present as wonderful. The present is always shown as if it is worse than the past.

This is normal considering that the passage of time makes one forget the everyday irritants of daily living of the past and one feels that the present problems are more because their proximity magnifies them. Generally Westerners seem happy with the present and just enjoy it believing that the present is better than the past. Some Indians believe that the present is better than the past. But most Indians think that the past was past and that it was the best, the present terrible and the future is bleak and so do not remain happy. Nearly all of us Indians seem to glorify our past. When we talk about culture and civilization the general consensus comes around that our past was better.

9. Fill in the blanks in the following passage with appropriate passive forms of the verbs given in brackets :

All the fruits (a) — (pluck) by the gardener before the trees (b) — (attack) by the monkeys. Some other delicious fruits (c) — (pack) in cartons by the gardeners for export.

10. Fill in the blanks in the following passage with appropriate forms of the verbs given in brackets :

My father (a) — (write) a useful book on English grammar. It (b) — (publish) by M/s. Rupa Publishers, Delhi. One of the units (c) — (deal) with present tense for future time reference. It is an interesting unit which (d) — (propagate) the new concept.

11. Combine the following pairs of sentences using the connectors given against each pair :

(a) (i) The lunch period was over.

(ii) We all rushed towards our classrooms.

( as soon as )

(b) (i) Avishkar should return the library books.

(ii) He will not be issued admit card.

( unless )

(c) (i) Sally had not cleared Pre-board examination.

(ii) She was allowed by the Principal to take the examination.

( although )

(d) (i) Our dog was buried near the Nizam-ud-din burial ground.

(ii) As per new rules of the MCD we couldn't have gone anywhere else.

( because )

12. Report the following conversation in indirect speech :
- Suman : How are you Veena after your high fever?
- Veena : I'm fine but feel awfully weak.
- Suman : Are you taking some fat-rich diet?
- Veena : No except fruits. I'm sure I'll regain my lost vitality.

13. Write a paragraph in about 100 words on any one of the following topics :

- (a) Books are my best friends. What efforts do I make to win 'their' friendship?
- (b) How I helped an old man when he was hurt by a biker?
- (c) Once I misbehaved with our school peon. I don't know why I did so?

14. Write a letter of complaint to the Manager, Charu Shoes, Madhubani, Delhi for supply of a defective piece of the shoe/sandal. Write the letter in a polite language. Also write what you want to compensate it.

15. The following passage has seven mistakes. One of them has been identified and the correction has been provided as an example. Spot the mistakes and provide the correction as shown below :

What one forgot is that even during the past their were war which was somehow destructive. It happens because of conflict most initiated becose of somones negative ambition to rool over others.

Sl. No.	ERROR	CORRECTION
1.	forgot	forgets
2.	.....	.....
3.	.....	.....
4.	.....	.....
5.	.....	.....
6.	.....	.....
7.	.....	.....

16. Read the following passage and make notes, in points only, on it. Use the appropriate heading and subheadings. Also use recognizable abbreviations :

The Government's decision to ban professional blood donors from donating blood will have an adverse effect on women. It is generally seen that when a woman needs blood, the family members are discouraged from donating their own blood for various reasons.

During 22 years of our medical practice, we have yet to come across a single husband or father-in-law, who voluntarily offered to donate blood for the woman in question. Even the exaggerated threat of impending danger to her life would not help. In a few cases where the husband was somehow coerced to donate blood, his mother would invariably force him to change his mind saying that she was going to die, why should he want to kill himself. Other members of the in-laws' family will also discourage the husband to come forward and donate his blood. The doctor's information that the husband's life would not be affected in anyway is not given any importance.

So is the condition of daughters too. Since quite a few the adolescents are invariably malnourished and generally anaemic, whenever they have any prolonged illness or bleeding disorders common to women their condition deteriorates very fast. While many a parent don't mind borrowing and spending on hospitalization of their son, they definitely grudge spending what they consider a fortune on their daughters' treatment. Had their parents cared in the beginning, these unfortunate girls/mothers wouldn't have become a part of statistics of maternal mortality.

This may not be true of the elite families but it is definitely true of the areas where middle-class people live.

## SECTION-B

- Note : (i) Attempt any *one* of the given options.  
(ii) *All* the questions should be attempted from the *same* option.

### OPTION-I

( E.S.P. FOR RECEPTIONISTS )

17. What *four* qualities are essential in an effective receptionist? Give an example of each quality. 4
18. What *four* documents should an effective receptionist have? 2
19. A receptionist is required to attend inhouse or client's telephone calls. How would an ineffective receptionist pronounce the following telephone numbers? Use the correct pause mark at the appropriate places : 2

22241513; 9873121769

20. Read the following dialogue between a receptionist and a caller :

Telephone bell rings ...

Receptionist (R) : Gujarat Iron, good morning. Who's on the line, please?

Caller (C) : Good morning. This is Rajesh, PA to Mr. Bhalla, MD, Sheel Iron, Paharganj, Delhi. We are one of bulk buyers of the scrap.

Receptionist (R) : Welcome Mr. Rajesh. What can I do for you?

Caller (C) : Our MD is keen to visit your stock of the scrap and see to ensure the quality and variety of the scrap you deal in. He feels it will help our Director Supplies to ask for specific type of scrap.

If agreed, will 25th of this month suit you? Please confirm, if possible now only. It will save time.

Receptionist (R) : Mr. Rajesh. I'll have to request our MD or Director Supplies. Unfortunately both of them on tour till 7th of this month. I've noted your enquiry and leave the message on the desks of both of them.

Could I note down your contact number for future communication?

Caller (C) : Sure. It is 9981377160. I'll make a call on 7th.

Receptionist (R) : Let me repeat the number. 9981377160, you need not. I'm sending a mail to both of them to save time.

Thank you Mr. Rajesh for calling. Visit our website [www.gujaratiron.com](http://www.gujaratiron.com)

Caller (C) : Thank you, Mam.

Analyze the dialogue and answer the following questions :

- (a) Write *four* steps the receptionist had taken from the time she received the call. 2
- (b) How would the receptionist have repeated the caller's number? 1
- (c) What additional information had the receptionist given though not asked for? 1

**21.** What pieces of information should a receptionist have readily available? Give any *three*. 3

17. You meet one of your old friends. How will you greet the friend and introduce one of your new colleagues? 2
18. In what *two* ways are office memos different from any official letters? 2
19. You have received an interview letter from M/s. Jagdish Stationery Stores, Kitab Ghar, Gwalior for face-to-face interview for the post of Promoter (Sales). How will you prepare for it? 2
20. Your company has been informed by the Regional Depot of Haryana at Ambala about the sudden fall in quarterly sale of your company's prestigious product, 'Executive Desk Diary'. You were deputed to survey the market to find out the reason for that fall. Submit your report to your Director, Sales. 5
21. Prepare your CV to be sent to Delhi Leather Shoe Company, Agra for the post of Regional Manager of the company in response to their advertisement in the Hindustan Times, 27th August. 4

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