

MARCH 2019

Part-I

ENGLISH

Maximum : 80 Scores

General Instructions to Candidates :

- There is a 'Cool-off time' of 15 minutes in addition to the writing time.
- Use the 'Cool-off time' to get familiar with questions and to plan your answers.
- Read questions carefully before answering.
- Certain sections of questions have choice. Follow the choice regulations.

(Question Nos. 1 – 6) : Answer the questions as directed.**(14)**

Read the excerpt from 'When a Sapling is Planted' and answer the questions that follow :

'Later, they became aware of the widespread destruction of the ecosystems, especially through deforestation, Climatic instability and contamination of the soil and waters – all contributed to excruciating poverty and subsequent riots.'

- Who does the speaker refer to as 'they' ? **(1)**
- What was the main reason for the destruction of the ecosystem ? **(1)**
- Which word from the options given, can best replace the word 'excruciating' ? **(1)**
(a) Entertaining (b) Progressing (c) Agonising

- Here is a diary entry by Sudha Murty.
Fill in the blanks with appropriate similes or adjectives from the options given in brackets. **(3)**

Village days were memorable. Days were full of fun and frolic and we were all as (a) (dull/cheerful/sharp) as a lark. How I miss those days ! In Mumbai, everyone is as busy as a (b) (snail/sloth/bee) and women too, are no different. Girls who were regarded to be as (c) (sour/chill/sweet) as a rose have now transformed themselves into leaders, office and torch bearers.

- Imagine that you are invited for an interview for the post of chef at Taj Group of Hotels. Complete the interview suitably. **(4)**

Interviewer : (a) ?

You : I have specialized in Chinese and Continental dishes.

Interviewer : (b) ?

You : Yes, of course. I am comfortable with all types of delicacies.

Interviewer : (c) ?

You : I expect comfortable work atmosphere, fantastic team work and opportunities to develop.

Interviewer : Where do you see yourselves ten years from now ?

You : Ten years from now, I (d).

6. The passage given below contains a few errors. Edit the passage appropriately. (4)
- The main conflict in the story 'Amigo Brothers' is that off ambition. Both the friends wants to be champions. But only one of them can be the champ. So they decide to fight out it. In the end, they realize that they value there bonding more than their ambition.

Question Nos. 7 – 12) : Answer any 5 questions in not less than 60 words. Each carries 4 scores. (5 × 4 = 20)

7. Your class is conducting a debate on the topic 'PUNISHMENTS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR STUDENT DISCIPLINE'.
Write four arguments either favouring or opposing the topic.
8. Elaborate the idea conveyed in the lines given below :
'I am the pillars of the house;
The keystone of the arch am I
Take me away, and roof and wall
Would fall to ruin me utterly.'
9. The activities of the literary club of your school will be inaugurated by the cine artist and state award winner, Sri, Indrans. The one-act play, 'Post early for Christmas' will be staged on the day. Prepare a notice inviting all for the programme.
10. You have come to know that your close friend is having severe toothache. Frame four sets of suggestions you would make before him/her.
You may use expressions like :
I think you should ... / If I were you, I ... / Would you like ... / Perhaps you could ... / I'd like to suggest
11. Prepare a profile of Shaheen Mistri using the hints given below :
- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| Birth | : | 16 th March, 1971 |
| Place of birth | : | Mumbai |
| Academic Qualifications | : | B.A. degree (Sociology), M.A. in Sociology |
| Almamater | : | University of Mumbai, University of Manchester |
| Occupation | : | CEO, Teach for India |
| Famous as | : | Indian social activist and educator |
| Founder | : | Akansha Foundation, Teach for India |
| Awards won | : | Ashoka Fellow (2001)
Global Leader for Tomorrow (2002)
Asia Society 21 Leader (2006) |
| Authored | : | Redrawing India – The Teach for India Story (2014) |
12. Wangari Maathai says, 'Women are often the first to become aware of environmental damage ...'
Do you agree with her opinion ? Substantiate your answer.

(Question Nos. 13 - 19) : Answer any 5 questions in about 80 words. Each carries 6 scores. (5 × 6 = 30)

13. Read the following lines from the poem 'Rice'.
'I'll reach home in good time, at last
just as my mother drains the well - cooked rice.'
'This is better money - what good times !'
How is the expression 'good times' used in the above two contexts ? Substantiate your answer.
14. You have dreams of setting up a business of your own after studies. You are greatly inspired by Irfan Alam's views and ideas. Draft a letter of enquiry to SammaanN foundation asking for clarification of the doubts regarding financial investment of the organization, mode of operation, security of the members, etc.
15. After the competition at Tompkin's Square Park, the Amigo Brothers are interviewed.
Reporter : Has the bout affected your friendship ?
Felix : No, we both never take fighting into our hearts.
Reporter : So then, who among you must have won the fight ?
Antonio : We both are always winners. The question itself is unimportant.
How would you report the above conversation ?
16. As the secretary of the Anti-Narcotics Club in your school, you decide to write an article on the dangers of drug abuse to make aware of this growing menace among schoolmates. Prepare the article to be published in your school magazine.
17. A horegallu is essential in any journey. It is more so when people around us are too busy in their own worlds. You feel that it is necessary to post counsellors in schools so that students can reveal their fears and joys to them. Write a letter to the Minister of Education requesting him to take necessary steps in this regard.
18. Robert Baldwin in 'The Hour of Truth' stands as an epitome of honesty throughout the play. His decisions are never influenced by any financial offers. Prepare a character sketch of Robert Baldwin.
19. The story of Amigo Brothers is always heart warming. You want to share your appreciation of the story with your friend in Bengaluru. Draft an e-mail conveying the essence of the story so as to inspire your friend to read it at the earliest.

(Question Nos. 20 – 22) : Answer any 2 questions, each in about 140 words. Each carries 8 scores. (2 × 8 = 16)

20. Given below is a poster displayed at the Assembly Hall in connection with the International Women's Day celebrations conducted by the Souhrida Club of your school. As the convener of the programme, you are asked to give a detailed talk on 'EMPOWERING WOMEN – CHALLENGES AHEAD'.
Prepare the likely speech taking hints from the poster.



21. Read the poem given below. Compare and contrast it with 'Mending Wall' and attempt a critical appreciation.

NEIGHBOUR

Iain Crichton Smith

Build me a bridge over the stream
to my neighbour's house
where he is standing in dungarees*
in the fresh morning.

O ring of snowdrops
spread wherever you want
and you also blackbird
sing across the fences.

My neighbour, if the rain falls on you,
let it fall on me also
from the same black cloud
that does not recognize gates.

* dungarees : a garment consisting of trousers held up by straps over the shoulders.

22. In the light of reading excerpts from the lives of Irfan Alam and Shaheen Mistri, you arrive at the conclusion that 'Entrepreneurs are not made, they are born.' Our nation benefits from such enterprises too. Write an essay on the topic highlighting the merits of promoting entrepreneurship among the youth.

[HINTS : youth made responsible – dignity of labour – self confident – self reliance – hard work and commitment – job satisfaction – financial stability – creating employment opportunities – initiatives like kudumbasree, mango cabs, uber eats, flipkart, etc.]