

Name : _____ Section : _____ Roll No: _____

General Instructions:

- i) The Question Paper contains **THREE** sections.
- ii) Section A : READING has 18 questions. Attempt a total of 14 questions, as per specific instructions for each question.
- iii) Section B : WRITING and GRAMMAR has 12 questions. Attempt a total of 10 questions, as per specific instruction for each question.
- iv) Section C : LITERATURE has 30 questions. Attempt 26 questions, as per specific instructions for each question.
- v) All questions carry equal marks.
- vi) There is no negative marking.

SECTION – A : READING

I. Read the following passage and answer the questions:

The novel coronavirus has given rise to a global pandemic that has destabilized most institutional settings. While we live in times when humankind possesses the most advanced science and technology, a virus invisible to the naked eye has massively disrupted our lives, economies, healthcare, and education systems worldwide.

Given the corona virus's current situation, some households have also had time to introspect on gender roles and stereotypes. For instance, women are expected to carry out household chores like cooking, cleaning, and looking after the family. With men sharing household chores responsibilities during the lockdown period, it gives hope that they will realize the burden that women have been bearing and will continue sharing such responsibilities.

This tough period also gave people some time to reflect on the importance of keeping themselves fit. With sufficient time in hand, people started investing their time learning new ways to exercise. Those who never exercised before, gave excuses of busy lives, too developed some new habits of Yoga, Pranayam and exercise during the lockdown period. These new habits and people's increased focus on their health, wellness and immunity will surely change the way we lead our lives even in future.

Nature too healed itself during the lockdown period. Restricted human movement led to better air quality, cleaner water bodies and joyful wildlife movements. Human beings, we hope, reflected during this time, how some of their unconscious activities cause disruption in nature and worked out ways to adopt environmental-friendly options for their activities in future.

This situation also affected the education sector to a great extent. It has forced us to shift from offline to online mode of teaching-learning process, almost immediately without prior preparation. It is giving us a peek into the reality ahead? Technology-enabled teaching is definitely the future we are looking towards, but it is important to identify key challenges for students and teachers in the current scenario. Once identified, academic leadership and the government can address these through innovations in the focused areas to minimize the effect of pandemic on the education of the students.

The current scenario has also affected our economies to the extent wherein many businessmen had to bear heavy losses in their businesses. The government and individuals need to take actions to mitigate risk and minimize transmission while maintaining social and economic activities. However, relaxed control measures, declining risk perception and the understandable desire to return to normalcy have led to reduced protective behavior and more social and workplace interactions, often in confined, close-contact settings, where the virus spreads really fast.

It is our responsibility that we take all necessary precautions through mask-wearing, physical distancing, and hand hygiene as part of daily life. It is highly important to make this new

behaviour part of our everyday habits. Travelling to new places, casual café visits with a large bunch of friends, spending our weekends in shopping, window-shopping and casual strolls, large gatherings in birthday parties and other celebrations; will require some modifications and patience to fit into "new normal" keeping all the safety norms in mind.

We are sure that regular communication from authorities, improved understanding of individual responsibility and, subsequently, a greater willingness to adopt infection prevention practices can be a stepping stone to a "new future".

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer **any eight questions** out of the ten questions that follow:

1. The outbreak of COVID-19 is called a pandemic because:
A) it has spread across the globe. B) it has spread across India.
C) it is invisible to naked eye.
D) it has disrupted many institutional settings.
2. According to the passage, the lockdown period made people introspect on gender roles and stereotypes because _____.
A) women started handling all the household responsibilities alone
B) men started handling all the household responsibilities alone
C) people talked about gender stereotypes during the lockdown period
D) men started sharing responsibilities related to household chores
3. Choose the option that is NOT TRUE: People, who never exercised before, started exercising during the lockdown period because _____.
A) they had sufficient time in hand
B) exercise was the only way to treat people from the novel corona virus
C) people learnt new ways to exercise their body
D) people understood the importance of health and wellness in the face of the pandemic
4. A positive change was seen in nature during lockdown period in terms of cleaner air and water bodies because _____.
A) there was less human movement due to lockdown
B) the virus helped in cleaning air and water
C) the government made extra efforts to clean air and water
D) people got together to clean water bodies
5. How did schools continue educating students during the pandemic?
A) Through offline mode of teaching. B) Through online mode of teaching.
C) By calling students to school on a weekly basis.
D) Students were asked to study at home themselves.
6. Which of the following has NOT led to reduced protective behaviours amongst people?
A) Relaxed control measures. B) Declining risk perception.
C) Physical distancing. D) Understandable desire to return to normalcy.
7. Which of the following is OPPOSITE in meaning to the word 'mitigate' as used in the passage?
A) Lessen B) Reduce C) Aggravate D) Weaken
8. Which of the following is NOT TRUE in the context of COVID appropriate behaviour?
A) Wearing a Mask. B) Being in crowded places.
C) Washing hands. D) Maintaining physical distancing.
9. Which of the following statements is NOT TRUE in the context of the passage?
A) People started introspecting on gender roles and stereotypes.
B) People started realizing the importance of keeping themselves fit.
C) There was a boom in the economy.
D) School started following Technology-enabled online teaching.

10. Select the option that makes the **correct** use of "disrupt".
- A) He is a popular leader so many union members _____ his decision.
 - B) Climate change could _____ the agricultural economy.
 - C) She wants to improve her relationship with her brother so she attempts to _____ with him.
 - D) It is important for him to _____ the odds in his favour, if he wants to be successful in his plan.

- II. Read the following passage and answer **ANY SIX OUT OF EIGHT** questions that follow:

The Professor who assigns value to Nature

By Tik Root

- 1 Colombia's Gulf of Morrosquillo is home to thousands of mangroves. Their roots are downward into salty seawater while their limbs climb upward – a mesmerizing entanglement of branches and leaves. But the mangroves must compete with hotels, resorts and other financial ventures in the tourist-dependent area, which spans 325 miles of Caribbean coastline. One study found that between 1960 and 2011, the mangrove population in Colombia dropped by more than half, largely due to human activities such as development or trash dumping. The burgeoning tourist destination of Rincon del Mar, for instance, is one of many towns along the gulf that was built on land cleared of the trees. And because there is no central garbage collection system, people's wrappers, bottles, bags and other refuse often end up in the mangroves that still stand. Such development projects also put more pressure on the mangroves, as well as the sea grasses, coral reefs and fisheries offshore.
 - 2 For Gretchen Daily, threats like these are also moments of opportunity. Daily is a professor of Biology at Stanford University and a pioneer in a field known as "natural capital." The term refers to the soil, air, water and other assets that nature has to offer. It is rooted in the idea that nature has a measurable value to humans and that protection efforts must go far beyond walled-off reserves and be broadly integrated into development practice and planning. She has spent more than 30 years developing the scientific underpinnings of natural capital and is the co-founder of the Natural Capital Project, which has grown to include a group of 250 partners around the world. The organization has integrated Science into its Cornerstone Computer Program to help governments and other stakeholders prioritize conservation.
 - 3 The Natural Capital Project/NCP put together a report for the Colombian government detailing that more than a third, or 118 miles, of the coastline had high exposure to flooding and coastal erosion. Protecting and restoring mangroves, the authors said, could help with that issue – especially along two specific stretches of the coast, including Rincon, where local activists say they've removed many tons of trash. Mangroves, the report highlighted, also nurture robust fisheries for local communities and sequester carbon at a rate two to four times greater than tropical rainforests. Left in their current state, the Morrosquillo mangroves will store 62 million tons of carbon by 2030 – the equivalent of taking 12 million cars off the road for a year – which could help the country toward its commitments under the Paris climate accord.
 - 4 The next step, he said, is to take the information to mayors and local officials to incorporate that value into their development plans for cities etc. Another "ideal situation" would be using mangroves instead of cement walls as barriers against rising sea levels fueled by climate change. For Daily, the work in Colombia has met all three of the criteria she uses when deciding whether to pursue a project: There must be a policy window that allows change; partners on the ground must be committed to that change; and the change must be scalable.
 - 5 The Natural Capital Project says it has now worked on some 1,700 projects around the world, and its open-source software has been downloaded in more than 185 countries. Daily's own scientific curiosity dates back to Middle school – or rather, she says, to her walks on the way to school.
11. The survival of mangroves is threatened by _____.
- A) sustainable development
 - B) lack of waste disposal measures
 - C) both a and b.
 - D) soil erosion

12. Choose the correct statement:
 A) Daily coined the term "natural capital."
 B) NCP is dependent on changes in public policy.
 C) Columbia cannot meet the criteria.
 D) All of the above.
13. Conservation of mangroves aids in _____.
 A) preserving coastlines
 B) cubing floods
 C) capturing carbon
 D) all of the above.
14. The NCP's success requires _____.
 A) a policy that allows change
 B) cooperation of people around
 C) integration of people
 D) all of the above.
15. The terms "natural capital" / NCP, DO NOT refer to:
 A) Protection of eco-sensitive regions.
 B) Multi-pronged conservation efforts.
 C) The belief that nature is priceless.
 D) It's global impact/participation.
16. Daily's empirical temper originated:
 A) in her childhood.
 B) during mountain treks.
 C) during research expeditions.
 D) none of the above.
17. An antonym for "burgeoning" in Para 1 would be:
 A) Flourishing
 B) Dwindling
 C) Booming
 D) Blossoming
18. A synonym for "pioneer" in Para 2 would be:
 A) Secondary
 B) Following
 C) Colonial
 D) Fina

SECTION – B : GRAMMAR and WRITING

III. Answer **any five out of the six questions** by selecting the most appropriate option for each:

19. How _____ litres of milk do you want?
 A) many
 B) some
 C) much
 D) little
20. The number of girls in the class _____ very low today.
 A) are
 B) have
 C) is
 D) were
21. Neither the size nor the colour of the dress _____ right.
 A) is
 B) were
 C) have
 D) have been
22. After the release of Covid-19 vaccine, our economy _____ get a boom.
 A) shall
 B) will
 C) may
 D) should
23. Classical novels _____ source of Indian literature.
 A) shall be a very important
 B) was a very important
 C) has been a very important
 D) are a very important
24. Geeta said to her mother, "please give me some water."
 A) Geeta asked her mother to give her some water.
 B) Geeta told her mother to give me some water.
 C) Geeta requested her mother to give her some water.
 D) Geeta requested her mother give her some water.

WRITING

IV. Answer **any five** out of the six questions given:

25. The most appropriate way to write the opening part of a formal letter would be to _____.
 A) ask about the number of infected patients in the recipient's city
 B) inform the recipient why you are writing the letter
 C) discuss with the recipient if he is hale and hearty
 D) discuss how desperate you have been at this moment

Read the letter given below and fill the blanks with correct option:

The government has decided to cut countless trees in a large forest area in the outskirts of the city for its proposed 'Dream City Project'. However, it is facing stiff opposition from farmers whose agricultural land is being acquired. As Ratnakar, the resident of Gopalpur, complete the letter choosing the most appropriate options in questions 26 - 30.

Gopalpur

August 26, 2021

The Times of India
New Delhi

Sub: (26)_____.

Sir,

My request is to spare some space in your esteemed daily (27)_____. This project (28.)_____ as the authorities have taken a decision to chop down unlimited trees of the forest area to provide housing to 20,000 families. Not only this, a large area of agricultural land is also being acquired.

Isn't this project harming our environment?

We all depend on the forest and trees. But we have not learnt any lesson and (29)_____.

The outskirts of our city is heaven on earth. It is all because of greenery, forest and trees.

Trees are the greatest gifts of God to us. They are (30.)_____.

They also attract dark clouds to shower rain. Trees also check soil erosion.

I appeal to the authorities not to convert a heaven into a hell. They must consider their decision and save the forest area.

Yours truly
Ratnakar

26. Write a suitable subject for the given letter.
- The government has decided to cut countless trees.
 - Countless trees in a large forest area in the outskirts of the city.
 - 'Dream City Project' a threat to forest.
 - 'Dream City Project' a boon to our city.
27. My request is to spare some space in your esteemed daily _____.
- to raise my voice in favour of the proposed 'Dream City Project'
 - to speak for the proposed 'Dream City Project'
 - to raise my voice against the proposed 'Dream City Project'
 - is not this project harming our environment?
28. This project _____ as the authorities have taken a decision to chop down unlimited trees of the forest area.
- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| A) is a great step towards advancement | B) is a boon to the city |
| C) is the greatest gift to us | D) is a major threat to forest |
29. But we have not learnt any lesson and _____.
- | | |
|--|--|
| A) we are willingly putting our feet in mine | B) we all depend on the forest and trees |
| C) they all depend on the forest and trees | |
| D) they are willingly putting their feet in mine | |
30. They are _____.
- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| A) to cut and make shopping malls | |
| B) environment friendly and they supply oxygen in plenty | |
| C) attract dark clouds to shower rain | D) there to harm the environment |

46. One word that describes Wanda is:
 A) Self assured B) Convinced C) Assertive D) Ingenious
47. What had Peggy and Madeline started doing?
 A) Started to appreciate Wanda. B) Started to make fun of Wanda.
 C) Just be themselves. D) Started to sit in the last row.
48. Where did Wanda usually sit in the class?
 A) Next to the last seat in the last row. B) Front seat front row.
 C) Middle seat in last row. D) On the floor.
49. What was peculiar about that corner of the room where Wanda sat?
 A) The rough boys sat there. B) Art loving people sat there.
 C) Both A and B. D) None of the above.
50. Find a word in the passage whose opposite is 'frequently'.
 A) Contrary B) Rarely C) Roar D) Usually
- IX. Attempt the following:
51. Why did Lencho look satisfied in the beginning of the chapter "A letter to God"?
 A) As he was wishing for rain. B) As he hoped for hail to stop.
 C) As he saw his field of ripe corn. D) As he was with his wife.
52. The Poet of "Dust of snow" is _____.
 A) Liam O' Flaherty B) Leslie Noris
 C) John Berryman D) Robert Frost
53. Why did a monstrous terror seize the seagull?
 A) As he was hungry. B) As he was scared of flying.
 C) As he wanted to be with his parents. D) As his siblings were flying.
54. Why did the aeroplane jump and twist in the air? (Two Stories about Flying)
 A) As it has no fuel. B) As there were clouds.
 C) As he was alone. D) As he was following another aeroplane.
55. Why does Anne think she was lonely?
 A) She had no friends. B) She had no real friends.
 C) She was all alone. D) She was an introvert.
56. What describes a 'tiger' in a jungle?
 A) Locked in a concrete cell. B) His strength behind bars.
 C) Ignoring visitors. D) Baring his white fangs.
57. How did Anil react to the first meal cooked by the thief?
 A) He ate it. B) He told that it was terrible.
 C) He told the thief to go now. D) He gives it to a stray dog.
58. Why did Griffin go to Drury Lane?
 A) As he was feeling cold. B) As he wanted to sleep somewhere.
 C) To avoid the attack of the people. D) To try the stock of a theatrical company.
59. The literary device used in 'and saved some part' is _____.
 A) Anaphora B) Alliteration C) Metaphor D) Allusion
60. Where did the girls wait for Wanda?
 A) Bakers Street B) Boggins Heights
 C) Boggins Street D) Oliver Street