



**Series HMJ/C**

**SET-1**

**Code No. 1/C/1**

Roll No.

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Candidates must write the Code on the title page of the answer-book.

- Please check that this question paper contains **11** printed pages.
- Code number given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- Please check that this question paper contains **10** questions.
- Please write down the Serial Number of the question in the answer-book before attempting it.
- 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the students will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.



## **ENGLISH (Core)**



*Time allowed : 3 hours*

*Maximum Marks : 80*



## **General Instructions :**

*Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them.*

- (i) *The question paper comprises **three** sections — A, B and C.  
Section A — 20 Marks  
Section B — 30 Marks  
Section C — 30 Marks*
- (ii) *There are **10** questions in the question paper. **All** questions are compulsory.*
- (iii) *There is no overall choice. However, an internal choice has been provided in four questions in Section B and two questions in Section C. You have to attempt only one of the choices in such questions.*
- (iv) *In addition to this, separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.*
- (v) *Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*

### **SECTION A (Reading Skills)**

**20**

**1.** Read the following passage carefully :

**12**

1 For many years now, the governments have been promising the eradication of child labour in hazardous industries in India. But the truth is that despite all the rhetoric, no government so far has succeeded in eradicating this evil, nor has been able to ensure compulsory primary education for every Indian child. Between 60 and 100 million children are still at work instead of going to school, and around 10 million are working in hazardous industries. India has the biggest child population of 380 million in the world, plus the largest number of children who are forced to earn a living. We have many laws that ban child labour in hazardous industries. According to the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, the employment of children below the age of 14 years, in hazardous occupations, has been strictly banned. But each State has different rules regarding the minimum age of child employment. This makes implementation of these laws difficult.



- 2 Also, there is no ban on child labour in the non-hazardous occupations. The Act applies to the organised or factory sector and not the unorganised sector where most children find employment as cleaners, servants, porters, waiters, etc., among other forms of unskilled work. Thus, child labour continues because the implementation of the existing laws is lax. There are industries which have a special demand for child labour because of their nimble fingers, high level of concentration and capacity to work hard at abysmally low wages. The carpet industry in U.P. and Kashmir employs children to make hand-knitted carpets. Industries like gem-cutting and polishing, pottery and glass-making want to remain competitive by employing children. The truth is that it is poverty which is pushing children into the labour market. We have 260 million people below the poverty line in India, a large number of them are women. Poor and especially woman-headed families, have no option but to push their little ones into this hard life in hostile conditions, with no human or labour rights.
- 3 There is a lobby which argues that there is nothing wrong with children working as long as the environment for work is conducive to learning new skills, but studies have shown that the children are made to do boring, repetitive and tedious jobs and are not taught new skills as they grow older. In these hell-holes, like the sweet shops of the old, there is no hope. Children working in hazardous industries are prone to debilitating diseases which can cripple them for life. By sitting in cramped, damp and unhygienic spaces, their limbs become deformed for life. Inside matchstick, fireworks and glass industries, they are victims of bronchial diseases and T.B. Their mental and physical development is permanently impaired due to long hours of work. Once trapped they cannot get out of this vicious circle of poverty. They remain uneducated and powerless. Finally in the later years, they too are compelled to send their own children to work. Child labour perpetuates its own nightmare.



4 If at all the governments were serious about granting children their rights, an intensive effort ought to have been made to implement the directive of the Supreme Court which recommends punitive action against employers of child labour. Only compulsory primary education can eliminate this child labour. If 380 million children are given a better life and elementary education, India's human capital would be greatly enhanced. But that needs, 'a second vision', as said by former President, Sh. Abdul Kalam.

1.1 On the basis of your reading of the above passage, answer **any five** of the following questions by choosing the best answers from the given options :

1×5=5

- (a) Our Government promises to uproot
- (i) drug abuse.
  - (ii) dowry system.
  - (iii) child abuse.
  - (iv) child labour.
- (b) Work in hazardous industries is against
- (i) moral laws.
  - (ii) social norms.
  - (iii) Child Labour Act.
  - (iv) human resources.
- (c) In India, the number of children going to work instead of school is
- (i) 10 million.
  - (ii) 60 – 100 million.
  - (iii) 380 million.
  - (iv) 80,000.



- (d) Industrialists prefer to employ children because they
- (i) are the only bread winners.
  - (ii) need more care.
  - (iii) demand less wages.
  - (iv) lack training in skills.
- (e) The carpet industry employs children because they
- (i) have nimble fingers.
  - (ii) need money for their education.
  - (iii) like to be financially independent.
  - (iv) are good designers.
- (f) The health of child workers suffers because
- (i) they are paid meagre wages.
  - (ii) employers do not give them good food.
  - (iii) they work under unhealthy conditions.
  - (iv) they are completely careless.

1.2 Answer the following questions briefly :

*1×5=5*

- (a) Which two promises have not been fulfilled by the Government as yet ?
- (b) What does the Child Labour Act, 1986 state ?
- (c) Why do the woman-headed families have to send their wards to work ?
- (d) Why is child labour preferred in certain industries ?
- (e) Why is child labour banned only in hazardous industries ?

1.3 Find words from the passage which mean the same as

*1×2=2*

- (a) dangerous/unsafe (para 1)
- (b) helpful (para 3)



2. Read the following passage carefully :

- 1 The Earth is the fifth largest of the planets in the solar system. It is smaller than the four giant planets i.e., Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune, but larger than the three other rocky planets, Mercury, Mars and Venus. Almost 71 percent of the Earth's surface is covered with water, and most of that is in the oceans. About a fifth of the Earth's atmosphere consists of oxygen, produced by plants.
- 2 While the Earth orbits the Sun, the planet is simultaneously spinning on an imaginary line called an axis that runs from the North Pole to the South Pole. It takes the Earth 23·934 hours to complete a rotation on its axis and 365·26 days to complete an orbit around the Sun.
- 3 The Earth's axis of rotation is tilted in relation to the ecliptic plane, an imaginary surface through the planet's orbit around the Sun. This means the Northern and Southern hemispheres will sometimes point toward or away from the Sun depending on the time of year, and this changes the amount of light the hemispheres receive, resulting in different seasons.
- 4 The Earth's orbit is not a perfect circle, but rather an oval-shaped ellipse, similar to the orbits of all the other planets. Our planet is a bit closer to the Sun in early January and farther away in July, although this variation has a much smaller effect than the heating and cooling caused by the tilt of the Earth's axis.
- 5 According to scientists, the Earth was formed at the same time as the Sun and other planets, some 4·6 billion years ago, when the solar system coalesced from a giant, rotating cloud of gas and dust known as the 'solar nebula'. As the nebula collapsed because of its gravity, it spun faster and flattened into a disk. Most of the material was pulled towards the centre to form the Sun. Other particles within the disk collided and stuck together to form ever-larger bodies, including the Earth.



6 The Earth's magnetic field is generated by currents flowing in the Earth's outer core. The magnetic poles are always on the move, with the magnetic North Pole accelerating its northward motion to 40 km annually since tracking began in the 1830s. It will likely exit North America and reach Siberia in a matter of decades.

(a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations (minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Supply a suitable title to it. 4

(b) Make a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. 4

**SECTION B**  
**(Writing Skills)**

**30**

3. You are Abhinav/Aarti. You have planned a two-week course to help the children of your Group Housing Society, Vikas Sadan, Agra to acquire spoken communication skills in English. Prepare a notice in not more than 50 words for the society's notice-board, stating the objective of the course, its timings, venue and other necessary details. Request the children of the society to join the course as it will be very useful and interesting. 4

**OR**

The Principal, Sunrise Global School, Shimla requires a receptionist for her school. Draft a suitable advertisement in not more than 50 words stating necessary qualifications, proficiency in the use of computer and a good command of spoken English. Attractive salary. Apply before the 20<sup>th</sup> of September. 4



4. The initiative of the Prime Minister of India to turn Gandhi Jayanti into Cleanliness Day was welcomed by one and all. Many celebrities have also become part of this drive. Write a letter to the editor of a local daily appreciating this drive, emphasising the need to maintain clean surroundings and thereby feel proud of a clean nation. You are Rajesh/Rajni of B-5/147, Swadesh Vihar, Delhi. (120 – 150 words) 6

**OR**

You are R. Kanta of 92 BPL Colony, Kochi. You want to do a course in nursing. Write a letter to the Registrar, College of Nursing, Thiruvanthapuram, describing your present qualification, percentage of marks, age, etc. Ask for the courses you are eligible to pursue, procedure for admission, fee structure, any scholarship available, hostel facilities, etc. (120 – 150 words) 6

5. You are Mohan/Mohini of XII Standard, Vikas Bharti School, Delhi. Recently you read in a newspaper about an incident in which a child tried to imitate the stunts shown on television and sustained serious injuries. Write an article on the hazards of unsupervised television viewing by kids and how parents should guide them in this matter. (150 – 200 words) 10

**OR**

Recently, during the State Health Minister's visit to the local civil hospital, you accompanied him as a reporter. You found that the children's ward was very neat and clean and the hospital was very well maintained. Imagine all possible details and write a report on the visit, to be published in your newspaper. (150 – 200 words) 10





6. You are Rakhi/Rajesh and you feel disturbed at the growing trend of violence among the youth nowadays. Write a speech to be delivered in the school assembly on the topic, 'Growing violence among the teens'. Give suggestions on how to curb this trend. (150 – 200 words) 10

**OR**

Write a debate either for **or** against the motion, "The Internet has proved to be a boon for the students". You are Rahul/Rohini. (150 – 200 words) 10

### **SECTION C**

**(Literature : Text Books)**

**30**

7. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow : 4+4=8

(a) ... I saw my mother,  
beside me,  
doze, open mouthed, her face  
ashen like that  
of a corpse and realised with  
pain  
that she was as old as she  
looked but soon  
put that thought away, ... ..

- (i) Who is 'I' ? 1
- (ii) What worried 'I' when 'I' looked at his/her mother ? 1
- (iii) Why was the realisation painful ? 1
- (iv) Name the figure of speech used in : 'she was as old as she looked'. 1



(b) Film-making must have been and was so easy with a man like Subbu around and if ever there was a man who gave direction and definition to Gemini Studios during its golden years, it was Subbu. Subbu had a separate identity as a poet and though he was certainly capable of more complex and higher forms, he deliberately chose to address his poetry to the masses.

- (i) What was Subbu's contribution to Gemini Studios ? 1
- (ii) What separate identity did Subbu have ? 1
- (iii) How did Subbu use his capability ? 1
- (iv) What does the writer mean by 'during its golden years' ? 1

8. Answer **any five** of the following questions in 30 – 40 words each : 2×5=10

- (a) What makes the city of Firozabad famous ?
- (b) Why did Rudyard Kipling refuse to be interviewed ?
- (c) What surprises awaited Franz as he entered the classroom ?
- (d) How did Aunt Jennifer face the ordeals in her life ?
- (e) What message do you get from the story, 'Should Wizard Hit Mommy' ?
- (f) What is the impact of burning of fossil fuels ?

(Journey to the End of the Earth)

- (g) Why does Derek (Derry) not like being with people ?

(On The Face Of It)

9. Answer the following question in 120 – 150 words : 6

What is the misadventure that William Douglas speaks about ? What were the series of emotions and fears that Douglas experienced when he was thrown into the pool ?

**OR**

“Sophie's dreams and disappointments are all in her mind.” Justify the statement.



10. Answer the following question in 120 – 150 words :

6

Evans' escape came about not only because of his own smartness but also because of the mistakes of the prison staff. Describe.

**OR**

Though Zitkala-Sa and Bama come from two vastly different cultures, yet they are united in a common bond. What is this bond and how do they overcome their hurdles ?