



General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

- (i) This Question Paper has 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.

SECTION – A

(READING SKILLS)

(22 Marks)

1. Read the passage given below :

12 M

- (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 energize negativity.
- Relentlessly energize 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 energize 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 recognizing 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 realizes 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 criticizes 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) Societal 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) Channelizing 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 :

10 M

- (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 :

1

The passage ends on a note that some people are resolved to _____.

(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 socializing 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 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.



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 of 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.

- cleanliness drive
- spreading awareness campaigns
- eco club activities in schools
- volunteer for cleanup
- workshops, seminars

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.

Impact

- decrease in face to face communication
- lack of engagement
- inability to converse and poor inter-personal skills

Suggestions

- improve conversational and communication skills
- personal interaction, develop collaborative skills
- outdoor sports and activities



OR

- (b) 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 :

- date, venue, time
- no. of participants
- performance followed by interactive session with spectators
- star actors
- response
- people's feedback/response

5

SECTION – C

LITERATURE

(40 Marks)

(TEXT BOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT)

7. Attempt ANY ONE of the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow :

- (a) The little old house was out with a little new shed
in front at the edge of the road where the traffic sped. 6 × 1 = 6

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 as 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.

1/4/12



- (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*)

$6 \times 1 = 6$

- (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 symbolize _____.
- (iv) State whether the statement given below is True or False :
"Find even the ivory needle hard to pull."
The above expression suggests that Aunt Jennifer is dying. *f*
- (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.

4 × 1 = 4

(Memories of Childhood)

- (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. $4 \times 1 = 4$

(Journey to the End of the Earth)

(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".

$6 \times 1 = 6$

(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

(The Last Lesson)



- (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 percent. "There he seemed adamant", writes Reverend J.Z. Hodge, a British missionary in Champaran, 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 percent, and to his amazement Mr. Gandhi took him at his words thus breaking the deadlock."

6 × 1 = 6

(Indigo)

- (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*)



2. 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.

Kalvi

(The Tiger King)

5