

TEACHERS FORUM[®]



QUESTION BANK

(solved)

Based on CBSE previous years' question papers

Class X

ENGLISH

SUBJECT EXPERTS

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SECTION - A

READING

TYPE - 1

Read the passage given below and answer the questions / complete the sentences that follow :

1. **Sifting through the sands of time**

1. *When you're on the beach, you're stepping on ancient mountains, skeletons of marine animals, even tiny diamonds. Sand provides a mineral treasure-trove, a record of geology's earth-changing processes.*

2. Sand : as children we play on it and as adults we relax on it. It is something we complain about when it gets in our food, and praise when it's moulded into castles. But we don't often look at it. If we did, we would discover an account of a geological past and a history of marine life that goes back thousands and, in some cases, millions of years.

3. Sand covers not just sea-shores, but also ocean beds, deserts and mountains. It is one of the most common substances on Earth. And it is a major element in man-made items too - concrete is largely sand, while glass is made of little else.

4. What exactly is sand ? Well, it is larger than fine dust and smaller than shingle. Depending on its age and origin, a particular sand can consist of tiny pebbles or porous granules. Its grain may have the shape of stars or spirals, their edges jagged or smooth. They have come from the erosion of rocks, or from the skeletons of marine organisms which accumulate on the bottom of the oceans, or even from volcanic eruptions.

5. Colour is another clue to sand's origins. If it is dazzling white, its grains may be derived from nearby coral outcrops, from crystalline quartz rocks or from gypsum. On Pacific islands jet black sands form from volcanic minerals.

6. Usually, the older the granules, the finer they are and the smoother the edges. The fine, white beaches, for instance, are recycled from sandstone several hundred million years old. Perhaps they will be stone once more, in another few hundred million.

7. Sand is an irreplaceable industrial ingredient whose uses are legion : but it has one vital function you might never even notice. Sand cushions our land from the sea impact, and geologists say it often does a better job of protecting our shores than the most advanced coastal technology.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer any five questions from the six given below :

(i) How is sand a 'treasure-trove'?

(ii) How is sand both a pain and a pleasure ?

(iii) Name two man-made materials that contain sand.

(iv) List the different shapes of sand.

(v) What is the origin of white sand ?

(vi) In what ways are older granules different from recent granules ?

(2022)

Ans. (i) Treasure trove :

- rich collection of minerals provided by sand.

- a record of geological past/ earth's changing process.

(ii) Pain: When sand gets in food.

Pleasure: When moulded into castles.

(iii) Concrete and glass

(iv) Stars, spirals, their edges jagged or smooth

(v) Coral outcrops, crystalline quartz rocks or gypsum, erosion of rocks, volcanic eruption, marine organisms etc.

(vi) Older granules are finer and smoother around the edges.

2. (1) Milkha Singh, also known as The Flying Sikh, was an Indian track and field sprinter who was introduced to the sport while serving in the Indian Army. He is the only athlete to win gold in 400 metres at the Asian Games as well as the Commonwealth Games. He also won gold medals in the 1958 and 1962 Asian Games. He represented India in the 1956 Summer Olympics in Melbourne, the 1960 Summer Olympics in Rome and the 1964 Summer Olympics in Tokyo. He was awarded the Padma Shri, India's fourth-highest civilian honour, in recognition of his sporting achievements.

(2) The race for which Singh is best remembered is his fourth-place finish in the 400 metres final at the 1960 Olympic Games. He led the race till the 200 m mark before easing off, allowing others to pass him. Singh's fourth-place time of 45.73 seconds was the Indian national record for almost 40 years.

(3) From beginnings that saw him orphaned and displaced during the partition of India, Singh became a sporting icon in the country. In 2008, journalist Rohit Brijnath described Singh as "the finest athlete India has ever produced".

(4) He was disappointed with his debut performance at the 1956 Melbourne Olympics. "I returned to India, chastened by my poor performance in Melbourne. I had been so excited by the prospects of being part of the Indian Olympics team, but, hadn't realized how strong and professional the competition would be. My success in India had filled me with a false sense of pride and it was only when I was on the track that I saw how inconsequential my talents were when pitted against superbly fit and seasoned athletes. It was then that I understood what competition actually meant, and that if I wanted to succeed on the international arena, I must be prepared to test my mettle against the best athletes in the world.'

(5) Then he decided to make sprinting the sole focus of his life. 'Running had thus become my God, my religion and my beloved.' "My life during those two years was governed by strict rules and regulations and a self-imposed penance. Every morning I would rise at the crack of dawn, get into my sports kit and dash off to the track, where I would run two or three miles cross-country in the company of my coach."

(6) On how he pushed himself through the tough days of vigorous training. "I practiced so strenuously that often I was drained of all energy, and there were times when I would vomit blood or drop down unconscious through sheer exercise. My doctors and coaches warned me, asked me to slow down to maintain my health and equilibrium but my determination was too strong to give up. My only focus was to become the best athlete in the world. But then images of a packed stadium filled with cheering spectators, wildly applauding me as I crossed the finishing line, would flash across my mind and I would start again, encouraged by visions of victory.'

Based on your reading answer any five questions from the six given below :

- (i) What is Milkha Singh known as ? What realization did Milkha Singh have when he was on the track during the Melbourne Olympics ?
- (ii) List any two of Milkha Singh's achievements.
- (iii) What strict rules and regulations did Milkha Singh follow ?
- (iv) State two consequences of his hard and strenuous practice.
- (v) What motivated Milkha Singh to become the best athlete in the world ?
- (vi) Explain the phrase 'I would start again' in the last sentence. **(2022)**

Ans. (i) The Flying Sikh

- He realised how inconsequential his talents were against superbly fit and seasoned athletes

- realised what competition actually meant

- prepared to test his mettle if he wanted to succeed in international arena

- realised that his success in India had given him a false sense of pride

- disappointed with his debut performance.

(ii) - athlete to win gold at 400 mts at the Asian and Commonwealth Games

- won gold in the 1958 and/or 1962 Asian Games

- represented India in the 1956 Summer Olympics in Melbourne

- represented India in the 1960 Summer Olympics in Rome

- represented India in the 1964 Summer Olympics in Tokyo

- awarded Padma Shri

(iii) - for two years, woke up at dawn to run every morning two-three miles cross country

- did stretching exercises

- practiced strenuously

(iv) - vomit blood

- drained all energy

- looked pale

- drop down unconscious

- suffered ill health

- overstrained due to exercises

(v) - images of packed stadium filled with cheering spectators

- visions of victory

- self-determination

- never gave up in spite of his ill health

- crossing the finishing line

(vi) images of cheering spectators would motivate him / encourage him to begin again

3. Read the following passage carefully. **(2020)**

1. Caged behind thick glass, the most famous dancer in the world can easily be missed in the National Museum, Delhi. The Dancing Girl of Mohenjo-daro is that rare artefact that even school children are familiar with. Our school textbooks also communicate the wealth of our 5000-year heritage of art. You have to be alert to her existence there, amid terracotta animals to rediscover this bronze image.

2. Most of us have seen her only in photographs or sketches, therefore the impact of actually holding her is magnified a million times over. One discovers that the dancing girl has no feet. She is small, a little over 10 cm tall-the length of a human palm -but she surprises us with the power of great art - the ability to communicate across centuries.

3. A series of bangles -of shell or ivory or thin metal - clothe her left upper arm all the way down to her fingers. A necklace with three pendants bunched together and a few bangles above the elbow and wrist on the right hand display an almost modern art.

4. She speaks of the undaunted, ever hopeful human spirit. She reminds us that it is important to visit museums in our country to experience the impact that a work of art leaves on our senses, to find among all the riches one particular vision of beauty that speaks to us alone.

3.1 On the basis of your reading of the above passage, answer the following questions.

(a) The Dancing Girl belongs to

(i) Mohenjo-daro. (ii) Greek culture. (iii) Homo sapiens. (iv) Tibet.

(b) In the museum she's kept among

(i) dancing figures. (ii) bronze statues.

(iii) terracotta animals. (iv) books.

(c) Which information is not given in the passage?

(i) The girl is caged behind glass. (ii) She is a rare artefact.

(iii) School books communicate the wealth of our heritage.

(iv) She cannot be rediscovered as she's bronze.

- (d) 'Great Art' has power because
- (i) it appeals to us despite a passage of time.
 - (ii) it is small and can be understood.
 - (iii) it is seen in pictures and sketches.
 - (iv) it is magnified a million times.
- (e) The jewellery she wears
- (i) consists of bangles of shell or ivory or thin metal only.
 - (ii) is a necklace with two pendants.
 - (iii) Both (i) and (ii) are correct.
 - (iv) Neither (i) nor (ii) is correct.
- (f) She reminds us
- (i) of the never-say-die attitude of humans.
 - (ii) why museums in our country are exciting.
 - (iii) why she will make us come into money. .'
 - (iv) of dancing figures
- (g) The synonym of the word "among" in paragraph 1 is _____.
- (h) The size of the dancing girl is equal to the length of the human palm. (True/False)

- Ans.** (a) (i) Mohenjo - daro (b) (iii) Terracotta Animals
- (c) (iv) She cannot be rediscovered as she is bronze
- (d) (i) It appeals to us despite passage of time
- (e) (iv) neither i nor ii is correct
- (f) (ii) why museums in our country are exciting (g) amid (h) True

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

1. Keep your watch accurate. For some people, moving up the time on their watch will help them get up earlier. For others, they will remember that the time on the watch is wrong and will disregard it altogether. It may be helpful to set your watch just two minutes ahead instead of five or ten.
2. Keep a clock, phone, computer or anything that displays time in each room of your house. One of the easiest ways to run late is simply by not realising that the time is passing as quickly as it is.
3. Set all your clocks and watches to the same time. Don't be an optimist. Things usually take longer than what you'd expect, even without major delays. If you have a dinner appointment at 7:30 p.m., don't think you can work till 7 p.m., then take a bath,

dress and reach on time. Realistically, calculate the time you will take at each step and then add 10 minutes more to allow for unexpected delays, or you cannot get to your job in time.

4. Wake up when you are supposed to wake up. Don't hit the snooze button, keep on lying in bed, and watch TV at the very start of your day. Maybe try even setting your clock 10 minutes earlier than you need. If you have difficulty with this, move your alarm clock to somewhere away from your bed; that way, you have to get up to turn it off. Commit yourself to being 15 minutes early for everything. If you have to reach your place of work at 8:00, don't even tell yourself this. Just tell yourself (and everyone else who listens — but don't annoy them or make them think that they are late or early!) "I have to be at work at 7:45." If you do this, you will be on time even with little unforeseen delays. You will be on time even with a traffic jam.

4.1 Complete the following statements using words/phrases from the passage. Attempt any eight. **(2019)**

- (a) Some people believe that if _____ it will help them be earlier.
- (b) Many others know _____ they disregard it altogether.
- (c) Keep _____ in each room.
- (d) One of the things that can be done is _____ of five or ten minutes.
- (e) Many a time we do not realise that _____ .
- (f) Instead of pressing the snooze button _____ .
- (g) If you have difficulty in getting up _____ .
- (h) It is a good habit to _____ somewhere away from your bed.

Ans. (a) they move up the time on their watch

(b) that the time on the watch is wrong

(c) clock, phone ,computer or anything that displays time

(d) to set your watch just two minutes ahead instead

(e) time is moving / passing very quickly

(f) wake up when you are supposed to wake up

(g) keep the alarm clock away from your bed

(h) move the alarm clock

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

Hyderabad – The City of Nizams

(2019)

GOLCONDA FORT

1. In the 16th century, when Golconda was the capital of Qutb Shahi Kingdom, it is believed that a shepherd boy came across an idol on the hill. It was then that the

Kakatiya dynasty's ruler built the fort, which is 120 m high. After it was captured by Aurangzeb, the Mughal emperor, the fort fell into ruins.

2. The beautiful ruins of the fort have a story to tell. They make you wonder how the fort may have looked in its days of glory and grandeur. The fort also organises a sound and light show every day and the history of this fort is narrated in such an interesting manner that even a child can understand and enjoy it. The climb to the fort is a difficult one and unless you are physically fit, you should avoid the climb and relax in the gardens below. The view from the top is breathtaking.

CHARMINAR

3. The next place is Charminar. The literal meaning of the monument is 'four minarets'. There is a mosque on the second floor. It is said that when the state was hit by severe plague, Sultan Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah, the fifth ruler of the Qutb Shahi dynasty, prayed to end the plague and promised to build a mosque in the very place where he was praying. Thus, Charminar came into being !

4. The walk from the bottom to the top of the monument is a little frightening, owing to the narrowness of the pathway and the steepness of the steps. Once you reach the top, the view of the crowds moving below will surely lift your spirits.

5. Make sure you visit the nearby Laad Bazaar, where there are rows of shops selling the famous Hyderabad glass bangles and lac bangles.

SALAR JUNG MUSEUM

6. The Salar Jung Museum is the third largest museum in the country and boasts of owning the biggest one-man collection of antiques in the world. A visit to the Salar Jung Museum is a must even if you are not a fan of antique stuff. You can view the Nizam's collection of textiles, arms, metalware, ivory carvings, Indian bronzes and carpets.

7. The main attraction is definitely the Musical Clock, made by Cook and Kely of England. Inside the clock is a timekeeper. Every hour, he comes out and beats a gong as many times as the time indicates. Another attraction of the museum is the Veiled Rebecca, an amazing sculpture made by the Italian sculptor, Giovanni Maria Benzoni.

5.1 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the following questions : **(2019)**

- (a) What led to the construction of the Golconda Fort?
- (b) What led to the destruction of the Golconda Fort?
- (c) How is the interest in the Fort kept alive?
- (d) What does the word 'breathtaking' in para 2 mean?
- (e) Why did Quli Qutb Shah build a mosque?
- (f) How does one feel after reaching the top of Charminar?
- (g) What is unique about the Salar Jung Museum?
- (h) What else can one find in this museum apart from antiques?

- Ans.** (a) the finding of an idol on the hill by a shepherd boy
(b) the fort's capture by the Mughal emperor, Aurangzeb.
(c) (i) the sound and light show (ii) interesting narration of its history.
(d) awesome /amazing / magnificent
(e) pledged to build the mosque to end the plague
(f) delighted/elated/joyful
(g) owns the biggest one-man collection of antiques in the world.
(h) collection of textiles, arms, metalware, ivory carvings, Indian bronzes and carpets.

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

1. Cataract is the major cause of blindness, which is also caused by a damage to the cornea. It occurs more often in old age. As one starts growing old, the lens of the eye hardens, loses its transparency and becomes opaque. It obstructs the light rays from entering the eye.

2. The onset of cataract blurs the vision. Sometimes, the cataract patient sees multiple images instead of a single object image. Because of the gradual development of cataract, the afflicted person loses his/her vision and the world becomes dark to him/her.

3. The development of cataract is a complex process. However, the following factors can be attributed to its formation. Cataract generally develops in old age but sometimes, children are born with cataract because of hereditary defect. Eye injuries too, can cause cataract.

4. People exposed to sunrays for longer periods develop cataract earlier than others. Researchers opine that the smoke inhaled while smoking, carries substances internally damaging the eyes.

5. Ultraviolet radiation, invisible to the human eye, is linked to skin cancer. The victim loses vision and the world becomes dark to him.

6.1 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the following questions : **(2019)**

- (a) What is the major cause of blindness?
(b) When does cataract generally occur?
(c) Why does the lens of the eye become opaque in old age?
(d) How does one detect cataract in early stages?
(e) Give any two factors which are responsible for the formation of cataract.
(f) How does cataract affect its victim ultimately?

- (g) Which type of cancer is caused by ultraviolet radiation?
- (h) How is smoking responsible for the development of cataract?

- Ans.** (a) cataract (b) old age
(c) lens of the eye hardens and loses its transparency.
(d) vision becomes blurred / sees multiple images in place of one.
(e) eye injury / long exposure of sun rays / hereditary factors
(f) may lead to complete loss of vision (g) skin cancer
(h) smoke when inhaled carries a substance that damages eye and causes internal harm to the eye.

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

1. Once a man saw three masons along with some labourers constructing a temple. He observed the masons for three days and found that though the three of them were doing the same kind of work, there was a marked difference in their approach to their job.

2. He saw that the first mason reported for his work late, did his work halfheartedly and sluggishly, enjoyed a longer respite, frequently checked the time on his wristwatch and left the work before time.

3. The second mason was very punctual in arriving and leaving, and did his work methodically. The third mason, however, would come before time, take little rest in the interval and often worked overtime.

4. The man naturally got curious and wanted to know the three masons' outlook on their work. He asked them what they were doing. The first mason tapped his big belly with his hand and said, "I am earning food for myself." The second said, "I am constructing a building." The third mason looked at the huge building and said, "I am building the house of God."

7.1 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the following questions : **(2019)**

- (a) What were the three masons doing?
- (b) For how long did 'a man' observe them?
- (c) What made the man curious?
- (d) How did the first mason do his job?
- (e) What was the second mason's approach towards his job?
- (f) How did the third mason view his job?
- (g) With whom among these can you associate the phrase 'work is worship'?
- (h) Which word in the passage means 'working lazily' ? (para 2)

- Ans.** (a) constructing a temple (b) three days

- (c) the different approach of the three masons towards their job
- (d) reported late/ did his work half-heartedly and sluggishly/ enjoyed a longer respite/ left the work before time
- (e) punctual in arriving and leaving/ did his work methodically
- (f) as if he is building the house of God (g) the third mason (h) sluggishly

8. Read the passage given below :

(1) Tourists to Jammu and Kashmir have another attraction – a floating post office on the Dal Lake in Srinagar, the first in the country. 'Floating Post Office, Dal Lake' – claimed to be the only one such post office in the world – is built on an intricately carved maroon houseboat, fastened on the western edge of the Dal Lake.

(2) This post office lets you avail of all the regular postal services available in the country while being afloat. The seal used on everything posted from Floating Post Office is unique – along with the date and address, it bears the design of a boatman rowing a shikara on the Dal Lake. The special feature of this post office is that letters posted from here carry a special design which has the picturesque scenery of Dal Lake and Srinagar city. These pictures reach wherever these letters are posted to and hence promote Kashmir as a tourist destination across the world.

(3) This is actually a heritage post office that has existed since British times. It was called Nehru Park Post Office before 2011. But then the chief postmaster John Samuel renamed it as 'Floating Post Office'.

(4) The post office's houseboat has two small rooms – one serves as the office and the other a small museum that traces the philatelic history of the state postal department. It has a shop that sells postage stamps and other products.

(5) But for the locals, Floating Post office is more than an object of fascination. ` 1-2 crore is deposited per month in Floating Post Office by communities living in and around the Dal Lake. The lake has several islets that are home to more than 50,000 people.

(6) The greatest fear is the recurrence of 2014 like floods in which the houseboat had gone for a toss uncontrollably pushed by the flood. Rescue teams had to anchor it using special mechanism in a nearby highland. Then it was brought back on the Dal after the water receded. The biggest boon is that at no time of the year do you need a fan in this post-office !

8.1 Attempt any eight of the following questions on the basis of the passage you have read :

- (i) What is the location of the Floating Post Office in Srinagar ? **(2018)**
- (ii) What is special about the seal used in the post office ?
- (iii) How is the post office helpful in promoting tourism ?
- (iv) Who renamed the post office as 'Floating Post Office' ?
- (v) What are the two rooms of the post office used for ?

- (vi) How is the post office beneficial to the locals ?
- (vii) What is the greatest fear that the post office has ?
- (viii) How is the post office a big boon to the people ?
- (ix) Find the word from the passage which means the same as 'attraction'. (para 5)

- Ans.** (i) Dal Lake / Dal Lake in Srinagar / Houseboat on the western edge of Dal Lake;
- (ii) It bears the design of a boatman rowing a shikara on the Dal Lake it carries date and address
- (iii) Pictures on stamps attract tourists/ Pictures on stamps promote Kashmir/ tourism.
- (iv) John Samuel
- (v) One as office, the other a museum that traces the philatelic history of the state postal department / shop that sells postage stamps and other products
- (vi) Helps them deposit / save money/ helps them as a bank.
- (vii) Floods / recurrence of floods
- (viii) No fan at any time of the year needed / tourist attraction / source of income
- (ix) Fascination

9. Read the passage given below : **(2017)**

India is on the path of greatness. But where will this greatness come from ? Is it only the government of a country that can lead it to greatness ? Is it only the political leaders that can shape the future of a nation ? No. The true greatness of any nation lies in its people.

There is capability for greatness in every citizen of the land. For the true owners of our nation are its citizens. The government is only the guardian of the nation and is ready to serve the people of the country. This is what a true democracy should be like.

However, for a true democracy to succeed, the citizens have to play a larger role and fulfill their duties towards the nation. The most famous line from the US President John F Kennedy's inaugural address is, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country". What is this but a call for citizens to rise to the occasion and do their duty ? In a true democracy, people get the leaders they deserve. If we simply sit in our drawing rooms and debate the quality of leadership this country has, we will achieve nothing. We have to play an active role in creating a new type of leadership because it is we, the people, who own the nation.

We can achieve this kind of leadership firstly by educating the youth of the country which is of supreme importance. Second, parents need to teach their children the importance of obeying laws. Children need to learn and be encouraged to express their talents and skills and consider themselves as the real strength of their nation. We need to encourage new ideas and creativity.

Whether you start a small business, write an article, teach a child, shop at local stores, not pollute your environment, participate in cleanliness drives, create a work of art,

volunteer for some social cause or another similar effort, you are performing your duty as a citizen. You are contributing to the consciousness of the community development and this will begin the process of change. Considering that most young people spend most of their time at school or at work, it is also important for teachers and employers to inculcate a sense of duty in the hearts and minds of young people.

Answer the following questions briefly :

- (a) Where does the true greatness of any nation lie ?
- (b) What is the role of the government ?
- (c) What did the US President say in his inaugural address ?
- (d) How can a true democracy develop ?
- (e) How can we achieve good leadership ?
- (f) How can children consider themselves as the real strength of their nation ?
- (g) When do you perform your duty as a citizen ? Write any one activity.
- (h) Who should inculcate a sense of duty in the children ?

Ans. (a) in its people

(b) guardian of the nation / ready to serve the people of the country

(c) "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country"

(d) when people : (i) get the leaders they deserve (ii) play an active role in creating new type of leadership

(e) by educating the youth of the country / by teaching children the importance of obeying laws

(f) when given a chance to express their talents and skills / when we encourage in them new ideas and creativity

(g) start a small business/ write an article/ teach a child / shop at local stores / not pollute your environment / participate in cleanliness drive / create a work of art / volunteer for a social cause or another similar effort

(h) teachers and employers

10. Just by the use of colours you can balance your diet. All you need to do is to pay a little attention to the food you eat. Nutrition experts strongly recommend adding colours to your diet. Sweets and candy bars are generally colourful, but remember they do not contain natural colours and hence are not healthy. The key solution is a variety of naturally coloured foods. The deeper the colour, the greater the benefits. Getting more colours in your diet doesn't mean you have to drastically change your current eating habits.

Have a glass of juice in the morning. Keep a mix of dried fruits on hand for a quick snack. Grab an apple or banana on your way out. Include at least two vegetables in your dinner. Get into the habit of starting your dinner with a salad. Eat fruit for dessert. Always add greens to sandwiches.

Thanksgiving feast. In 1948 and 1950, anthropologist Herbert Dick and botanist Earle Smith discovered ears of popcorn in the Bat Cave of west central New Mexico. The ears measured from smaller than a penny to about 2 inches. They were determined to be about 5,600 years old.

Colonial housewives served popcorn with sugar and cream for breakfast. Some colonists used a cylinder of thin sheet-iron that revolved on an axle in front of the fireplace to make popped corn.

In 1885, Charles Cretors of Chicago, Illinois, invented the first popcorn machine. Street vendors were soon pushing steam or gas-powered poppers through fairs, parks, and public exhibitions.

Today much of the popcorn you buy at movies and fairs is popped in machines manufactured by the Cretors family.

Americans eat more than 17 billion quarts of popcorn a year, an average of 60 quarts per person per year. As the result of an elementary school project, popcorn became the official state snack food of Illinois. January 19 is National Popcorn Day, and October is National Popcorn Month.

- (a) Where are most popcorns grown? **(2016)**
 (b) Who discovered popcorn?
 (c) On which date is National Popcorn Day celebrated?
 (d) When did Hernando Cortes first see popcorn?
 (e) With what did colonial housewives serve popcorn for breakfast?
 (f) Who invented the first popcorn machine?
 (g) Which month is the National Popcorn month?.
 (h) Find the word from the passage which means 'of indigenous origin or growth.'

- Ans** (a) Nebraska and Indiana (b) Native Americans first discovered popcorn
 (c) January 19 (d) before the first popcorn machine was invented
 (e) with sugar and cream (f) Charles Cretors of Chicago, Illinois
 (g) October (h) Native

12. Perhaps the environmental crisis at hand has not yet touched your life, but the time is shortly to come. Recent NASA reports of a 60% loss of ozone over the Arctic provide an explanation for increased severity in the world's weather patterns which has only begun to affect us whether directly or indirectly. The social, political and economic implications are difficult to imagine as our ozone layer continues to thin, forests disappear and desertification is occurring at an alarming rate.

Today, almost 1 million acres of forest disappear each week. This alarming rate of deforestation is forcing many world economies to rethink their business and manufacturing practices. A seventy-foot tree cut for its lumber takes 65 years to replace. A seventy-foot bamboo cut for the market can be replaced in less than 3 months, and bamboo is officially recognized as the world's fastest growing plant.

Some species can grow 3 feet per day!

Driven by the constantly growing consumer demand for environmentally friendly products, bamboo is gaining momentum as a reliable source of high quality and durable green building material over traditional non-sustainable products. Bamboo is known to produce 30% more oxygen than a hardwood forest of comparable size, while preventing erosion, restoring soil, providing sweet edible shoots and removing toxins from contaminated soil. Ecologists tout bamboo as a logical, renewable source of building material. Many promote bamboo planting for erosion prevention, and to reverse the effects of global warming. Being a grass, bamboo regenerates without replanting after harvesting.

Traditional hardwood lumber trees such as oak, maple, and birch, take 40-50 years to regenerate. In the meantime, there is less oxygen produced, less carbon dioxide consumed, and more soil runoff in the spot where those trees were harvested- all producing negative environmental effects. Our planet is suffering from resource depletion, habitat loss, species extinction, and ecosystem pollution. The choice of bamboo as building material will greatly help reverse those negative trends.

- (a) According to NASA reports, there has been a loss of _____ ozone over the Arctic.
- (b) Use of bamboo is gaining momentum because _____.
- (c) The greatest advantage of bamboo is that it _____.
- (d) Traditional hardwood lumber trees _____.
- (e) 'More soil run off in the spot' means _____.
- (f) The antonym for the word 'reliable' is _____.
- (g) The problems troubling the earth are _____.
- (h) The author is promoting the use of _____ as a building material. **(2016)**

Ans. (a) 60%

- (b) people are conscious of preserving environment/ it is environmental friendly
- (c) regenerates easily/ grows fastest (d) take 40 - 50 years to regenerate
- (e) there is more soil erosion (f) undependable/ unreliable
- (g) resource, depletion, habitat loss, species extinction, pollution (any two)
- (h) bamboo

13. The little brown bird we see hopping boldly on city streets is the most widespread and most often in conflict with people. In fact, house sparrows are one of the most widespread animals on this planet. This is so because they are exceptionally good at taking advantage of the opportunities we supply.

Living in close quarters with us, house sparrows can get under our skin when they get into our houses and stores, crowd other birds at feeders or birdbaths, or simply hang around in large numbers in public places.

The common house sparrow, once seen everywhere in large numbers has become scarce in many areas, and this is causing concern not only to bird lovers but also to scientists. Formerly, miners used to carry canaries down into the mines with them. If the canaries showed signs of distress, it indicated that there were poisonous gases in the air, and the miners would immediately leave the mine. Increasing soil pollution has made it nearly impossible for these avian to survive on the worms or grains lying around. The pesticides have polluted the food chain making sparrows susceptible to slow poisoning or extinction in near future.

Today, if the sparrows are in distress, it could be a warning to human residents. The declining bird population could mean that air pollution levels in the metropolises are rising dangerously or since sparrows are grain eaters, it could indicate that the grains that the people are consuming contain higher dosages of pesticides than before. In some countries like Britain, the quality of the environment is graded according to the number of bird species found in the locality. The survival of sparrows is crucial not only to create a balance in food chain but also for bird lovers to cherish those happy days of their life and giving the next generations to relive such moments of childhood.

- (a) Canaries were used by miners _____.
- (b) If the sparrows are in distress _____.
- (c) The declining bird population could mean that the air pollution levels _____.
- (d) The grains that the people are consuming contain _____ than before.
- (e) In some countries like Britain the number of bird species found in the locality is used to show the quality of the _____.
- (f) The distress in canaries indicated _____.
- (g) The sparrows are one of the most widespread birds _____.
- (h) The word from the passage which means 'extreme anxiety sorrow' is _____.

Ans. (a) to detect poisonous gases (b) the residents must take it as a warning **(2016)**

(c) in the metropolises are rising dangerously

(d) higher dosages of pesticides (e) environment

(f) that there were poisonous gases in the air

(g) because they are extremely good at taking advantage of the opportunities we supply.

(h) distress

14. We've heard about the stock market and the wild price swings taking place. What are stocks some form of gambling? It seems that way because of the large amounts of money that people make and lose when trading stocks. Stocks are actually parts of a company. If you own stock in Walt Disney Corporation, you are part owner of that company. You own part of Disney World!

Companies that are divided into shares that people can buy and sell are called

2. Alongside these visible reasons for the decline of these birds is implementation of irrigation schemes, increased pesticide usage, livestock grazing and mining activities. Other threats arise from infrastructure development such as collision with vehicles, power lines and wind turbines. Studies by the Bombay natural history society and similar organizations on what contributes most to the decline of several bird species revealed that just like wetlands, forests also faced severe threat due to development pressures. Thus the destruction of forests in central India has led to the decline of forest owlet numbers. The destruction of forests in Western Ghats has also endangered several other species.

3. Some of the worst hit species are Himalayan Quail. Similarly, the pink headed duck which was found in plenty in the wetlands of India, Myanmar and Bangladesh was last spotted in 1949.

4. Once seen in plenty across the grasslands of India and Pakistan, the great Indian Bustard is now found only in very small patches. The Siberian crane an annual visitor from Siberia to the Keoladeo, bird sanctuary in Rajasthan in winter, makes news when it is sighted. Their numbers too have shown a decline. Similarly, other migratory birds from other parts of the world, which come to India during winter have declined.

5. The government has taken measures to check this decline by banning the veterinary use of diclofenac drugs that has caused a rapid population of the gypsy vulture. Conservation programmes to protect this vulture species have been initiated in Pinjore, Buxa and Rani. These are among the various schemes to protect the birds.

On the basis of your reading of the above passage answer the following questions :

(a) Which body has declared the list of critically endangered species of bird in India?

(b) What are some visible reasons, for the decline in bird population?

(c) What species of birds have been affected by the decline of forests?

(d) Which species is a winter visitor from Siberia?

(e) What are the findings of the Bombay Natural History Society?

(f) Which species was last spotted in India in 1949?

(g) What is the cause behind the decline of the gypsy vulture?

(h) Which word in Para 4 means the same as 'yearly'.

(2016)

Ans: (a) International Union for Conservation of Nature.

(b) Modification, fragmentation, loss and de-gradation of habitat.

(c) Forest owlet.

(d) Siberian Crane.

(e) They revealed that just like wetlands, forest also face threat due to development pressures.

(f) Pink headed Duck.

(g) Use of diclofenac drugs.

(h) annually

SELF ASSESSMENT TEST

1. It's becoming very dangerous to sit in the sun. If you have a fashionable suntan, it doesn't necessarily mean that you have lots of outdoor activities but it does mean that you're in the greater danger of getting skin cancer and cataract. The ozone layer, which protects us from the sun's dangerous ultraviolet rays, is progressively deteriorating.

The nations of the world came together to sign a global treaty, the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer. The agreement came into force in 1988 and the subsequent Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer became effective in 1989. Currently over 180 countries are parties to the Montreal Protocol. The parties to the Protocol decided on a timetable for countries to reduce and to end their production and consumption of eight major halocarbons. The Protocol also provides a ten-year delay in this timetable for those developing countries consuming less than 0.3 kilograms per capita.

In February 1992, a scientific report said that people in Canada, Northern Europe and Russia were in serious danger. In 1985, the news of destruction of the ozone layer in the South Pole alarmed people in the Southern Hemisphere. In Australia, there are now three times more cases of skin cancer than in the past. In New Zealand, teachers tell school children to wear hats and not to sit in the sun. What causes the destruction of the ozone layer? Mostly chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), Aerosol sprays, refrigerators, air conditioners, as well as industrial chemicals which, send chlorofluorocarbons into the atmosphere.

Governments are now trying very hard to ban the use of CFCs, but it will be expensive and difficult to do so. After the first ozone alarm in the Southern Hemisphere, ecologists all over the world asked governments to take strict measures immediately. Some governments did, but not soon enough. Other countries believe that they have other problems which are more important. Now stricter measures are going to be taken, but already a lot of damage has been done. (2016)

- (a) What is dangerous to the skin?
 - (b) Which global treaty was signed by the nations of the world?
 - (c) Which country is taking steps to deal with the problem?
 - (d) What may a fashionable suntan cause?
 - (e) What does the word 'deteriorating' in the passage mean?
 - (f) What did the parties to the Protocol decide on?
 - (g) Which countries are in serious danger as per 1992 report?
 - (h) Why are students told to wear hat and not to sit in the sun in New Zealand?
2. A chimpanzee is one of the great apes and the nearest in intelligence to man. Scientists have examined its mental capacities and sent it into space in anticipation of man. Chimpanzees need little description. Being apes and not monkeys, they have no tails. Their arms are longer than their legs and they normally run on all fours. They can also

walk upright with toes turned outwards. When erect they stand 3-5 ft high. The hair is long and coarse, black except for a white patch near the rump. The face, ears hands and feet are bared and except for the black face, the flesh is coloured.

Chimpanzees exhibit great concern for each other. When chimpanzees meet after having been apart they greet each other in a very human way by touching each other or even clasping hands. Chimpanzees have amazing social discipline. When a dominant male arrives, the rest of the chimpanzees hurry to pay respect to it. The dominant male is not allowed to wrest food from his inferiors. The members of a party also spend considerable amount of time grooming each other and themselves. Mothers go through the fur of their babies for any foreign particles, dirt, and ticks and they aid each other when they are injured.

Chimpanzees are the best tools users apart from man. Sticks 2-3 ft long are picked off the ground or broken from branches and pushed into nests, then withdrawn and the honey or insects licked off. Stones are used to crack nuts or as missiles to drive humans and baboons away from its food. Chimpanzees are not only tool users but also toolmakers. They make their own rods by stripping the leaves off a twig or tear shreds off a grass stem. Baby chimpanzees learn all this by observing the older chimpanzees making and using them. So man is not the only toolmaker, merely better at it than his relatives. **(2015)**

- (a) Chimpanzees are as _____ as men.
- (b) Chimpanzees greet each other by _____ each other
- (c) Like man, chimpanzees are _____.
- (d) Chimpanzees _____ tails.
- (e) Baby chimpanzees learn all by _____.
- (f) Chimpanzees have amazing_____
- (g) The dominant male chimpanzees is not allowed_____.
- (h) The word 'wrest' means _____.



TYPE - 2

1. Read the following excerpt from a Case Study.

J.K. Rowling - A Journey

The story of Joanne Kathleen Rowling's near magical rise to fame is almost as well known as the characters she creates.

Rowling was constantly writing and telling stories to her younger sister Dianne. "The first story I ever wrote down was about a rabbit called Rabbit." Rowling said in an interview. "He got the measles and was visited by his friends including a giant bee called Miss Bee. And ever since Rabbit and Miss Bee, I have always wanted to be a writer, though I rarely told anyone so.

However, my parents, both of whom come from impoverished backgrounds and neither of whom had been to college, took the view that my overactive imagination was an amusing personal quirk that would never pay a mortgage or secure a pension.

A writer from the age of six, with two unpublished novels in the drawer, she was stuck on a train when Harry walked into her mind fully formed. She spent the next five years constructing the plots of seven books, one for every year of his secondary school life.

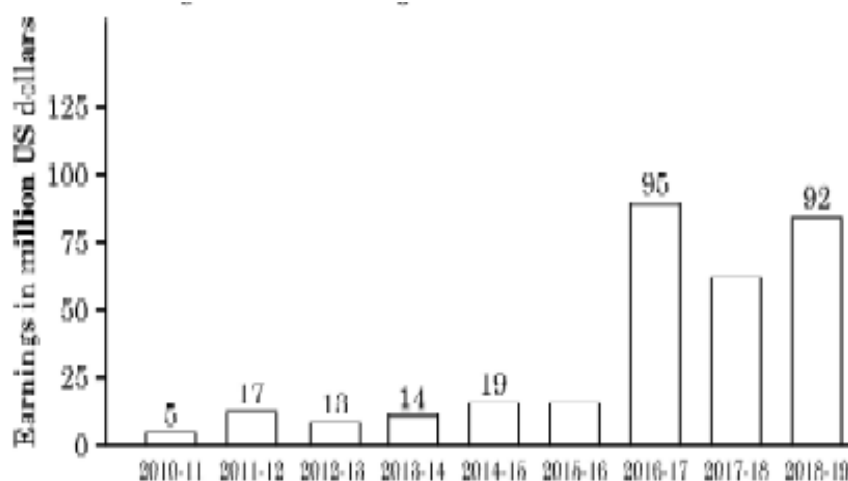
Rowling says she started writing the first book, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone, in Portugal, where she was teaching English.

At first nobody wanted to publish Harry Potter. She was told that plot was too complex. Refusing to compromise, she found a publisher.

In 1997 Rowling received her first royalty cheque. By book three, she had sky rocketed to the top of the publishing world. A row of zeroes appeared on the author's bank balance and her life was turned upside down. Day and night she had journalists knocking on the unanswered door of her flat.

Rowling's quality control has become legendary, as her obsession with accuracy. She's thrilled with Stephen Fry's taped version of the books and outraged that an Italian dust jacket showed Harry minus his glasses. "Don't they understand that the glasses are the clue to his vulnerability.

Annual earnings of J.K. Rowling from 2010 to 2019.



On the basis of your understanding of the passage answer any five of the six questions

given below.

- (i) Explain J.K. Rowling's 'near magical rise to fame'.
- (ii) What reason did the publishers give for rejecting Rowling's book ?
- (iii) What was the drawback of achieving fame ?
- (iv) Why was Rowling outraged with the Italian dust jacket ?
- (v) Find a word in the last para that means the same as 'insecure/helpless'.
- (vi) According to the graph, how many years did it take Rowling to become very successful ? **(2022)**

- Ans.** (i) By 1997, she got her cheque. After book 3, she skyrocketed to the top of the publishing world. Harry's character brought her fame.
- (ii) The plot was too complex, publishers would shy away from her books
- (iii) There was no privacy left and day and night journalists knocked at her door. her life turned upside down.
- (iv) The Italian dust jacket had shown Harry without his glasses. The glasses according to Rowling were a clue to his vulnerability
- (v) vulnerability / vulnerable
- (vi) After 6 years / After 2015-16 and onwards

2. Read the passage given below :

Extraction And Purification Of Drinking Water

1. Some consumers choose to purchase bottled drinking water, rather than relying on city tap water supplies. Bottled water has typically been extracted from underground sources. If water exists underground, but has no natural exit points, bottling companies may construct a water table well by drilling down to extract water from an unconfined aquifer. This is done when the Earth's natural water level - known as a water table - is much lower than the Earth's surface. In some cases, as with a valley or gully on a mountain, the level of the water table may be higher than the Earth's surface, and a natural spring can emerge. Bottling companies are permitted to extract this water from a hole drilled into the underground spring, but the composition of the water must be identical to that of the naturally surfacing variety nearby.

2. Artesian water is drawn from a confined aquifer, a deep underground cavity of porous rock that holds water and bears pressure from a confining layer above it. This water can be accessed if companies drill a vertical channel down into the confined aquifer. Due to the pressurised nature of this aquifer, water will often rise up from within it and form a flowing artesian well, which appears as an explosive fountain at the Earth's surface. However, this only occurs when the surface is lower than the natural water table. If the surface is not lower than the natural water table, it is still possible to draw artesian water by using an extraction pump.

3. Some bottled water is advertised as 'Purified', which means it has been subjected to a variety of cleansing processes. A common filtering procedure, known as reverse osmosis, involves the water being pressed through microscopic membranes that

prevent larger contaminants from passing through. The microscopic size of these holes is such that they can even obstruct germs, but they are most effective against undesirable materials such as salt, nitrates and lime scale. One disadvantage of reverse osmosis is that a lot of unusable water is generated as a by-product of the procedure; this must be thrown away.

4. For treating pathogens, an impressive newer option is ultraviolet (UV) light. Powerful UV light has natural antibacterial qualities, so this process simply requires water to be subjected to a sufficient strength of UV light as it passes through a treatment chamber. The light neutralises many harmful germs by removing their DNA, thereby impeding their ability to replicate. A particularly impressive quality of UV light is its ability to neutralise highly resistant viral agents such as hepatitis.

5. The overall effects of UV light treatment are variable, however, which leaves many municipal water treatment processes relying on chlorination. Its powerful and comprehensive antimicrobial effect notwithstanding, chlorination is also extremely inexpensive and remains the only antimicrobial treatment capable of ensuring water remains contaminant-free all the way through the pipes and to the taps of domestic homes. Many members of the public remain suspicious of water that has been treated with such a harsh chemical. Its ease of use and affordability has meant that chlorine often plays an important role in making tainted water supplies safe for consumption immediately after natural disasters have occurred.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer any five questions from the six given below :

(i) Under what conditions does a natural spring emerge ?

(ii) What is a confined aquifer ?

(iii) What forms a flowing artesian well ?

(iv) Explain the term 'purified water'.

(v) How are pathogens treated ?

(vi) Why is municipal water treated by chlorination ?

(2022)

Ans. (i) When the water table is higher than the earth's surface a natural spring can emerge.

(ii) A deep underground cavity of porous rock that holds water. It bears pressure from confining layer above it.

(iii) Due to the pressurised nature of an aquifer, water will often rise up from within it and form a flowing artesian well.

(iv) Water that has gone through variety of cleansing processes.

(v) By ultraviolet (UV) light

(vi) It is extremely inexpensive and water remains contaminant free

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

(2020)

1. As the family finally sets off from home after many arguments, there is a moment of lull as the car takes off. "Alright, so where are we going for dinner now?" Asks the one at the driving wheel. What follows is a chaos as multiple voices make as many

suggestions.

2. By the time order is restored and a decision is arrived at, tempers have risen, feelings injured and there is at least one person grumbling.

3. Twenty years ago, you would step out of home, the decision of meal and venue already made with no arguments or opposition and everybody looked forward to the meal with equal enthusiasm. The decision was made by the head of the family and the others fell in line. Today every member of the family has a say in every decision which also promotes a sense of togetherness and bonding.

4 We empower our kids to take their own decisions from a very early age. We ask them the cuisine they prefer, the movie they want to see, the holiday they wish to go on and the subjects they wish to study.

5. It's a closely connected world out there where children consult and guide each other. A parent's well-meaning advice can sound like nothing more than unnecessary preaching. How then do we reach our children through all the conflicting views and make the voice of reason be heard? Children today question choices and prefer to go with the flow.

6. What then is the best path to take? I would say the most important thing one can do is to listen. Listen to your children and their silences. Ensure that you keep some time aside for them, insist that they share their stories with you. Step into their world. It is not as complicated as it sounds; just a daily half an hour of quality time would do the trick.

3.1 On the basis of your reading of the above passage, answer the following questions in 30 - 40 words each :

(a) Write one advantage and one disadvantage of allowing every family member to be a part of the decision-making process.

(b) In today's world, what are parents asking their kids?

(c) Which two pieces of advice does the writer give to the parents?

(d) The passage supports the parents. How far do you agree with the author's views ? Support your view with a reason.

3.2 On the basis of your reading of the above passage, answer the following:

(a) The synonym of 'hurt' as given in paragraph 2 is _____.

(b) The word which means the same as 'a style of method of cooking' in paragraph 4 is

(i) Cuisine (ii) gourmet (iii) gastric (iv) science

(c) The antonym of 'agreeable' as given in paragraph 5 is _____.

(d) The antonym of 'simple' as given in paragraph 6 is

(i) difficult (ii) complicated (iii) easy (iv) tricky

Ans. 3.1 (a) • Advantage –When everyone is suggesting, it promotes togetherness and

bonding.

- Disadvantage –Feelings are injured, tempers have risen

(b) They empower their kids to make decisions from a very early age.

(c) The parents should listen to their children’s silences and insist them that they share their stories and also give half an hour of quality time to the kids.

(d) Yes, the passage supports the parents and yes there comes a time when parents need to lessen the generation gap. The parents at last talk of child’s betterment only so one step can be taken by kids and one by the parents. There is no support and against in the parent/children relationship.

3.2 (a) injured (b) (i) cuisine (c) conflicting (d) (ii) complicated

4. 1. An epidemic of obesity or being overweight is affecting many countries in the world; more than 300 million people are obese or overweight. Obesity could be for a particular reason. In India, some people tend to be overweight because of their high calorie diet and lack of physical activities. In the United States, obesity is more prevalent in lower income groups. Obesity is now well recognised as a disease in its own right. Though obesity commonly means being overweight, it is defined as an excess amount of body weight that includes muscle, bone, fat and water. ‘Obesity’ specifically refers to an excess amount of body fat.

2. A certain amount of body fat is needed to store energy, keep warm and absorb the shocks. Usually men with more than 25% body fat and women with more than 35% body fat are regarded as obese. Obesity tends to run in families suggesting a genetic cause. Environmental factors include lifestyle behaviour such as what a person eats and his or her level of physical activity. So, one should choose more nutritious food which is low in fat, and become more active.

3. Then, there are psychological factors. Negative emotions such as boredom, sadness and anger are the main culprits. Then there is also ‘binge eating’ i.e. when people eat large amounts of food thinking that it is beyond their control how much they eat. Those with the most severe binge eating problem are also likely to have more symptoms of depression and low self-esteem.

4. Obesity is a health hazard giving rise to many serious medical conditions like type 2 diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure and stroke. Obesity is also linked to a higher rate of certain types of cancer. There are many ways of losing weight but exercise is the best as it is free from any type of harmful side effects.

4.1 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the following questions : **(2019)**

(a) What are the main reasons for obesity in India?

(b) Why do we need body fat?

(c) What are the symptoms of people with ‘binge eating problem’?

(d) Which are the most common negative emotions which lead to overeating?

4.2 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the following with

the help of the given options :

(a) Women having _____ body fat are regarded as obese. **(2019)**

(i) more than 35% (ii) more than 25%

(iii) less than 30% (iv) less than 25%

(b) Obesity can be defined as a/an _____ amount of body weight.

(i) less (ii) excess (iii) optimum (iv) balanced

(c) In the United States obesity is more prevalent among _____ people.

(i) high income (ii) homeless (iii) low income (iv) affluent

(d) Environmental factor refers to _____ behaviour.

(i) indecent (ii) decent (iii) lifestyle (iv) loud

Ans. 4.1 (a) high calorie diet, lack of physical activity/exercise.

(b) to store energy, keep warm, absorb the shocks

(c) depression, low self-esteem

(d) boredom, sadness, anger

4.2 (a) (i) more than 35% (b) (ii) excess

(c) (iii) low income (d) (iii) lifestyle

5. 1. Spread over an area of 11,570 acres, Kalesar Reserve Forest is the only one of its kind in Haryana. It is home to a wide range of wild flora and fauna including three elephants, a male tiger, 16 male and female leopards, 19 panthers and some other animals as well.

2. Spread on both sides of Yamunanagar – Paonta Sahib Road in Yamunanagar district, it was designated a national park through a government notification in December 2003. However, it is alleged, lack of sufficient funds is proving to be a hindrance in wildlife conservation in the national park. The Divisional Forest Officer revealed that it is the only forest in Haryana with a natural ‘sal’ tree belt.

3. As for the steps taken to ensure protection of wildlife and environment, it was disclosed that staff had been given weapons by the State Government to tackle the menace posed by poachers. The State had also set up two special environmental courts, one each at Kurukshetra and Faridabad, to deal with crimes related to poaching and illicit felling of trees from the area. Eight watering holes have been dug up across the forest area to ensure that wildlife does not stray into human habitats on its fringes in search of drinking water. Similarly, earthen dams have been constructed to conserve rainwater for the future use of wildlife.

4. It was disclosed that work to fence the area would be undertaken in the near future

and more steps taken to ensure that wild fauna does not face drinking water problem in their natural habitat in the reserve forest.

5.1 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the following questions : **(2019)**

- (a) What is unique about Kalesar Reserve Forest?
- (b) Which animals are found in Kalesar forest?
- (c) What is proving to be a hindrance to conserving wildlife in the national park?
- (d) What is done in the park for the conservation of water?

5.2 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the following with the help of the given options :

(a) Kalesar Reserve Forest was designated a national park through a government notification in _____ . **(2019)**

- (i) February, 2003 (ii) December, 2003 (iii) March, 2004 (iv) August, 2001

(b) _____ watering holes have been dug up across the forest area to stop wildlife from going astray in search of water.

- (i) Four (ii) Seven (iii) Eight (iv) Ten

(c) Which word in the passage means 'natural environment in which a particular species live'?

- (i) Habitat (ii) Flora (iii) Fauna (iv) Waterhole

(d) Which word in para 3 is a synonym of 'danger/risk'?

- (i) Disclosed (ii) Fringes (iii) Poaching (iv) Menace

Ans. 5.1 (a) wide range of animals, flora and fauna

(b) elephants, panthers, tigers, leopards

(c) lack of sufficient funds / poaching of animals / illicit felling of trees

(d) 8 watering holes dug up across forest, earthen dams constructed.

5.2 (a) (ii) December 2003 (b) (iii) Eight (c) (i) Habitat (d) (iv) Menace

6. **Go, Get Yourself a Hobby**

1. Do you have a hobby? Is there anything that you are passionate about? Something creative that you really like doing, or are deeply involved with? Something that grips you, makes you forget all else — even makes you forget to eat or sleep ? No, I am not talking about your job or your daily chores.

2. By developing a parallel line, other than that of your job, and following it like crazy,

you energise your life. It will keep you going even when all other activities have stopped.

3. It did not make much sense to me until I ran into a retired officer turned passionate writer. Let's call him Mr. X.

4. What was amazing was his appearance. He looked 10 years younger than his self-proclaimed 75 — dark grey hair, tall and robust. Well-preserved, as some would say. "I don't want to take much of your time, but just wanted to show you my work," he said. In his bag, he was carrying dozens of books that he had written after retirement. Short stories and novels in his mother tongue and in English, for children and adults.

5. Mr. X retired after putting in 30 years of service. But he did not retire from life. No way. "In fact, I lead a much busier life now — writing." "So writing is your hobby?" I asked him. "No, it is my only interest. While I was working, I did not have enough time to write. But now I work 10 – 12 hours a day writing, writing, writing."

6. "Why? Is that the way you support yourself?" "No, my writings don't pay me financially, but they fulfil me otherwise," he said. Mr. X lives on his savings, but he relies on his passion to take care of his mental and physical wellbeing. In fact, such is the energy and sense of satisfaction and contentment that he draws from his writing that he has managed to survive many upheavals in life. Thanks to his passion, retirement never became a sad phase of life for him; instead, it gave him a new lease of life, an opportunity to do that which he missed out on or had no time for earlier.

7. And his level of commitment was impressive. He does not want publicity nor is he interested in advertising himself. "It will take me away from my writing and pull me into the world of Internet. I would rather follow my passion," he says. Gathering his books, he was soon ready to leave — eager to go back to his passion. He left me with the motivation to seek one, too. Thank you Mr. X.

6.1 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the following questions : **(2019)**

(a) According to the passage, what is a hobby?

(b) According to the writer, what made Mr. X look 10 years younger?

(c) Was writing his livelihood ? Why/Why not?

(d) How did the retirement phase become a happy phase of his life?

6.2 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the following :

(a) Mr. X lives on his _____ . **(2019)**

(i) savings

(ii) profit from business

(iii) son's support

(iv) siblings' support

(b) Mr. X has managed to survive many _____ in life due to his obsession.

(i) joys

(ii) celebrations

(iii) reunions

(iv) upheavals

(c) The word which means 'very enthusiastic' in para 1 of the passage is

- (i) creative (ii) grip (iii) passionate (iv) forget

(d) The word which means 'active and energetic' in para 4 of the passage is

- (i) robust (ii) self-proclaimed (iii) well-preserved (iv) amazing

Ans. 6.1 (a) something that is passionate and creative that holds grip on one and makes him / her forget all else

(b) He was pursuing his passion, sense of satisfaction and contentment. He gains energy by following hobby.

(c) He lives on his savings and gets sense of fulfillment.

(d) It gave him new lease of life and an opportunity to do what he had missed.

6.2 (a) (i) savings (b) (iv) upheavals (c) (iii) passionate (d) (i) robust

7. 1. Music is perhaps the most popular and widely practised form of Fine Arts, transcending all kinds of cultural and linguistic barriers. Any form of fine art is difficult to master and almost impossible to perfect and music is no exception.

2. Nature, it is learnt, has blessed almost two-thirds of the human race with musical ability of some sort. Music has the power to bring out the deepest emotions. It can make one cry or bring a smile on one's face. In fact it is a magic medicine and many seek refuge in it when they are depressed or stressed. It is this intimacy that makes us listen to music or even hum or sing sometimes. This singing, or realistically speaking, expressing one's emotion musically sometimes takes a serious turn. This desire to show musical expression in public then becomes a serious business profession. And from here the musical journey begins.

3. This desire to sing before an audience is innocent and beautiful and indeed it is perfectly alright to have such a genuine desire. But it is also important to understand that singing is an intricate art — a highly refined one at that, which requires systematic, prolonged and strict training, to be acceptable. This is an aspect we forget in our keen desire to reach the stage and perform. It is almost like preparing a formal meal for some specially invited guests, without even having learnt and trained in the basics of cooking. This is why we have more noise and less music nowadays.

4. These days almost everyone sings and it does not stop here. Most of us want to become professional singers. Result : a complete disregard for and ignorance of the training part, as the need is never felt to go through one and the urge to get to the stage and perform overcomes even a little desire to learn, if any. If at all, somewhere along the way one feels the need to gain some knowledge and training, it leads to hurried shortcuts and half-hearted attempts, best described as 'Crash Courses'.

5. It is observed that those who have attained the so called partial success, suddenly feel that they lack the required knowledge and are not learned enough. But it is too late by then. It should be understood here that the stage or a performance brings in a different mindset within the artist. It is always recommended and rightly said, that while on stage, cover the mistakes and weaknesses if any, and get along. But the contrary is true when it comes to acquiring knowledge and during the learning

process. While under training, the student is expected to make mistakes but then rectify those mistakes under the supervision and guidance of the teacher. Therefore, it is good to make mistakes and then be corrected during the process of learning as this subsequently makes one flawless and educated. This is a different mindset. And these two mindsets discussed above, (those of a performer and that of a student) cannot co-exist.

7.1 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the following questions: **(2019)**

(a) The desire to sing in public overcomes the need to train. Elaborate.

(b) How can we say that music is a magic medicine ?

(c) What is best described as 'Crash Courses'?

(d) What should be the mindset of a student of music?

7.2 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the following :

(a) Almost _____ of human population is blessed with musical ability of some sort.

(i) two-thirds (ii) one-third (iii) half (iv) one-fifth

(b) Any form of _____ is difficult to master.

(i) visual art (ii) audio-visual art (iii) fine arts (iv) design art

(c) 'Transcending' in para 1 means

(i) drown under (ii) rise above (iii) surrender (iv) fail

(d) 'Refuge' in para 2 means

(i) shelter from rain (ii) shelter from storm

(iii) shelter from unhappiness (iv) shelter from sun

Ans. 7.1 (a) The desire to sing before audience is innocent. It is perfectly alright to have such a genuine desire. Music helps to bring out deep emotions and reduces stress. It is a highly refined art which requires systematic, prolonged and strict training.

(b) Music is a magic medicine because it can makes one cry or bring a smile on one's face. People seek refuge in it when depressed or stressed.

(c) Crash courses are hurried shortcuts and half-hearted attempts to gain some knowledge and training.

(d) The mindset of a student of music should be to make mistakes and rectify them under the supervision and guidance of the teacher while under training.

7.2 (a) (i) two-thirds (b) (iii) fine arts

(c) (ii) rise above (d) (iii) shelter from unhappiness

8. **Is money the key to happiness ?**

Money is of course very important for human beings to lead a decent and satisfying life, unlike animals and plants. Money defines the existence of human society as we cannot live without it. Money is an important exchange for food, shelter and clothing. Many people believe that money is the root of all evil. But contrary to that, I believe and agree that money is the key to human happiness. It became indispensable in our lives when humans began using money for exchange of goods and services instead of the barter trade which was popular hundreds of years ago. Humans work to earn an income that would enable them to bring food to the table, clothe themselves as well as indulge in pleasures that can be obtained only through money.

When we are able to afford goods and services, it inevitably grants us a lot of happiness, satisfaction and stability in our lives. In many poor countries such as Africa, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and others, millions live in misery due to extreme poverty. They are deprived of happiness, dignity and a sense of direction in their lives as they live from hand to mouth and their future is at best uncertain. Thus, it would be foolish to think that money causes distress, and is the root cause of immorality and evil behaviour. On the contrary, most of us earn an income through legal means which allows us to maintain a good standard of living. It enable us to travel for holidays and have access to good food, medical facilities, and a lifestyle that grants us much happiness and satiety. Many parents admit that they slog at work so that they could provide comfort and stability to their offspring. Money especially comes in handy when a family member is stricken with a disease and cash is needed for treatment.

Unhappiness results when we are denied the above. Many families struggle to make ends meet and the lack of money almost inevitably sows seeds of unhappiness. They are exposed to continuous bickering, quarrels and ultimately, misery. There are of course those, due to greed for more material wealth, resort to illegal means to become rich quickly. They commit robberies, murders and cheat to get ahead in lives. However, this does not grant them the happiness or the peace of mind. In the case of robbers and murders, the constant threat by the law enforcement authorities closing in on them, creates jitters and a life full of uncertainties and fear. Hence, money would always be looked at as the most or at least one of the most important keys to happiness. It has become a part of what defines us as human beings as it allows us to live a life of dignity, happiness and contentment.

(1) Answer the questions given below briefly :

- (a) What is the importance of money for human beings ?
- (b) When did money become indispensable ?
- (c) What does a good standard of living enable us to do ?
- (d) Why can't the robbers enjoy money they have stolen ?

(2) Choose the most appropriate meaning of the words from the options given below

- (a) Indispensable
 - (i) something that is not acceptable

- (ii) a situation that makes you feel embarrassed
- (iii) essential, too important to be without
- (iv) showing no interest
- (b) Barter
 - (i) to exchange goods, services for other goods or services
 - (ii) a dog with short legs
 - (iii) to hit hard many times
 - (iv) a tool used for beating things
- (c) Hand to mouth
 - (i) a handball strategy (ii) a disease
 - (iii) a way of providing first aid (iv) money you have is only for food and nothing else
- (d) Bickering
 - (i) to exchange goods (ii) to exchange words
 - (iii) to argue on small matters (iv) having an argumentative nature

Ans. (1) (a) helps us to lead a decent and satisfying life **(2017)**

(b) when humans started using money for exchange of goods and services

(c) enables us

- (i) to travel for holidays; (ii) to eat good food;
- (iii) get medical facilities (iv) enjoy happiness and satiety
- (d) (i) no happiness or peace of mind
- (ii) fear of law
- (iii) life full of uncertainties and fear

(2) (a) (iii) essential, too important to be without

(b) (i) to exchange goods, services for other goods or services

(c) (iv) money you have is only for food and nothing else

(d) (iii) to argue on small matters

9. Millions of tons of small waste from plastic bags, bottles and clothes in the world's oceans present a serious threat to human health and marine environment. This is the stark warning issued by the U.N. in a report on the most dangerous environmental problems facing the world today. Global plastic production has increased considerably in recent years nearly by 38%.

A poor waste management means when we have finished with our takeaway

containers, cigarette butts and party balloons, they are worn down into trillions of even smaller particles by the waves. Therefore, there is a growing presence of these micro plastics in the world's oceans.

It was estimated in 2010 that millions of tons of plastic was washed into the seas and has since shown up in the stomachs of whales, plankton and other marine life. Richard Thompson, professor of marine biology said that in laboratory experiments there is proof that micro plastic can cause harm to organisms.

More than a quarter of all fish now contain plastic, according to a recent study which analyzed the guts of fish sold in California. Scientists fear that chemicals in plastics and also chemicals which attach themselves to plastic in natural environment could cause poisoning and many disorders in marine life if consumed in huge quantities. Even humans could be adversely affected by the plastic. People could even be breathing in plastic micro particles suspended in the air with the risk of harmful effect on the lungs similar to car fumes.

Boyance Slat, a Dutch student has developed a technology that could sift dangerous plastic particles out of the ocean and sell them for profit or re-cycling. Richard Thompson recommended that people avoid using products with micro beads and to make sure they dispose of all plastic products in an appropriate way by re-cycling if possible. **(2017)**

(1) Answer the following questions briefly :

(a) What is the warning issued by the U.N. ?

(b) What do the scientists fear ?

(c) What is the single most harmful effect of plastic micro particles on humans ?

(d) What is Richard Thompson's advice ?

(2) Choose the meaning of each of the words given below with the help of options that follow :

(e) Stark (i) Serious (ii) Violent (iii) Unpleasant (iv) Angry

(f) Huge (i) Impressive (ii) Large (iii) Constant (iv) Standard

(g) Micro (i) Mechanical (ii) Dangerous (iii) Very small (iv) Tough

(h) Adversely (i) Negatively (ii) Clearly (iii) Poorly (iv) Surely

Ans. (1) (a) Millions of tons of waste from plastic bags, bottles and clothes in the oceans of the world present a serious threat to human health and marine environment.

(b) Chemicals in plastic and those which attach themselves to plastic in natural environment could cause poisoning and many disorders in marine life if consumed in huge quantities.

(c) Plastic micro particles suspended in the air can harm the lungs.

(d) to avoid using products with micro beads and arrange appropriate disposal of

plastic products by way of recycling, if possible

(2) (e) (i) serious (f) (ii) large (g) (iii) very small (h) (i) negatively

10. The 'Little Tramp', the unforgettable character Charlie Chaplin invented, was born purely by accident in 1915. While rushing to a film shoot in California, he grabbed clothes other people had left behind in the changing room. And when he emerged, he found he had created a personality everybody loved. A little guy in a bowler hat, a close – fitting jacket, a cane, outsize shoes and a brush – like moustache!

Before long, Chaplin found himself a star. That puzzled him, for he saw himself essentially as a shy British Music Hall comedian. He was the very first icon of the silver screen and is one of the most recognizable of Hollywood faces, even a hundred years after his first film.

The U.S. acknowledged him as its king of silent film comedy. Soon, so did crowds all over the world.

But life wasn't always a laugh for Charles Spencer Chaplin. Both his parents were Music Hall artists, who separated when Charlie was very young. His childhood was very sad, for his mother never earned enough to look after Charlie and his older brother, Sydney. Sometimes, Chaplin had to sleep on the streets and forage for food in the garbage.

Charlie took his first bow on stage when his mother made her last appearance. It happened when her voice broke during a song. Her son stepped on stage and sang a popular song. That's when a star was born.

Through all these years of success, Charlie never forgot his troubled childhood. It made him recall a Christmas when he was denied two oranges and his bag of sweets for breaking a rule at the orphanage he went to after his mother's death. It would have broken his heart, if the other children had not offered him a share of theirs. Spontaneously, the adult Chaplin gifted the orphanage with a motion picture machine and insisted that each child should have as many oranges and sweets as they pleased.

Chaplin wrote, directed, produced, edited, starred in, and composed the music for most of his films. He was a perfectionist, and his financial independence enabled him to spend years on the development and production of a picture. **(2016)**

- (a) Which unforgettable character did Charlie Chaplin invent?
 (b) Describe the personality created by Charlie, whom everybody loved.
 (c) What did Charlie see himself as?
 (d) Give two reasons to show that his early life was very sad.
 (e) What does the word 'to search for food' mean? (para 3)
 (i) stepped (ii) forage (iii) emerged (iv) orphanage
 (f) What is meant by the word 'invented'? (para 1)
 (i) created (ii) wrote (iii) struggled (iv) laughed

(g) Find the word in the passage opposite in meaning to 'bold'? (para 2)

(i) found (ii) shy (iii) silent (iv) puzzled

(h) Find the word opposite in meaning to 'failure'? (para 5)

(i) troubled (ii) share (iii) motion (iv) success

Ans. (a) The 'Little Tramp'.

(b) a little guy in a bowler hat, a close-fitting jacket , a cane outsize shoes etc.

(c) as a shy British Music Hall comedian

(d) his parents separated when he was young

his mother could not earn enough

had to sleep the street-forage for food

(e) forage (f) created (g) shy (h) success

11. Long, long ago, in a big forest, there were many trees. Among the cluster of trees, there was a very tall pine tree. He was so tall that he could talk to the stars in the sky. He could easily look over the heads of the other trees. One day late in the evening, the pine tree saw a ragged, skinny girl approaching him. He could see her only because of his height. The little girl was in tears. The pine tree bent as much as he could and asked her: "What is the matter? Why are you crying?"

The little girl, still sobbing, replied, "I was gathering flowers for a garland for goddess Durga, who I believe, would help my parents to overcome their poverty and I have lost my way". The pine tree said to the little girl, "It is late in the evening. It will not be possible for you to return to your house, which is at the other end of the forest. Sleep for the night at this place." The pine tree pointed out to an open cave like place under him. The little girl was frightened of wild animals. The girl quickly crept into the cave-like place. The pine tree was happy and pleased with himself. He stood like a soldier guarding the place. The little girl woke up in the morning and was amazed to see the pine tree standing guard outside the cave. Then her gaze travelled to the heap of the followers that she had gathered the previous night. The flowers lay withering on the ground. The pine tree understood what was going on in the girl's mind. He wrapped his branches around the nearby flower trees and shook them gently. The little girl's eyes brightened. But a great surprise awaited her. The pine tree brought out a bag full of gold coins which had been lying for years in the hole in its trunk and gave it to the girl. With teary eyes she thanked her benefactor and went away.

(a) Why was the little girl crying?

(b) Where did the pine tree want the little girl to sleep for the night?

(c) Why was the little girl disappointed when she looked at the flowers and what did the tree do to make her happy?

(d) What lesson does this short story teach us?

(e) What is meant by the word 'cluster '? (Para 1)

- (i) group (ii) team (iii) class (iv) party
- (f) What is meant by the word 'approaching'? (Para 1)
- (i) calling (ii) touching (iii) coming close (iv) running towards
- (g) What is meant by the word 'wild '? (Para 2)
- (i) cunning (ii) dirty (iii) unpolished (iv) dangerous
- (h) What is meant by the word 'withering'? (Para)
- (i) dead (ii) shrunk (iii) colourless (iv) unhappy **(2016)**

Ans. (a) it was late evening; she had lost her way

(b) an open cave like place under him; she would be safe under his watchful eyes

(c) the flowers lay withered; she could not make a garland; the tree shook the flower trees.

(d) We should be kind and earing; giving gives us joy; giving is an act of worship

(e) group (f) coming close (g) dangerous (h) shrunk

12. Justin was always prepared. His motto was, "Never throw anything out; you never know when it might come in handy. "His bedroom was full of bent tennis rackets, deflated basketballs, and games with missing pieces. His parents pleaded with him to clean out his room.

"What use is a fish tank with a hole in the bottom?" his father asked. But Justin simply smiled and repeated his motto, "Never throw anything out, you never know when it might come in handy." When Justin was away from home, he always carried his blue backpack. He liked to think of it as a smaller version of his bedroom—a place to store the many objects that he collected. It was so worn and stretched that it hardly resembled a backpack anymore. It was full of the kind of things that seemed unimportant, but when used with a little imagination, might come in handy. Justin had earned a reputation for figuring things out and getting people out of otherwise hopeless situations. Many of his classmates and neighbours sought him out when they needed help with a problem. On the first day of school, his friend Kenny, came looking for Justin. "Do you think you have something in your bag that could help me remember my locker combination?" he asked. "I lost the scrap of paper it was written on. I have science class in two minutes and if I'm late on the first day it'll make me look bad for the rest of the year." Kenny looked genuinely worried. . "Relax," Justin said, taking his backpack off and unzipping the top. "Remember how you borrowed my notebook in homeroom to write the combination down? Well, I know how we can recover what you wrote." He took the notebook and a soft lead pencil out of his bag. The page that Kenny had written on had left faint indentations on another page in the notebook. Justin held the pencil on its side and rubbed it lightly over the indentations. Slowly but surely the numbers of the locker combination appeared in white, set off by the grey pencil rubbings.

(a) Why was Justin's bedroom in a messy condition?

(b) What was the idea behind Justin's motto?

(c) In what sense was Justin's backpack a smaller version of his bedroom?

(d) How did Justin help Kenny get out of his difficulty?

(e) What is meant by the word 'handy'? (Para 1)

(i) useful (ii) good (iii) reliable (iv) profitable

(f) What is meant by the word 'motto'? (Para 2)

(i) feature (ii) principle (iii) (golden) rule (iv) belief

(g) What is meant by the word 'worn'? (Para 2)

(i) dusty (ii) ugly (iii) shabby (iv) tired

(h) What is meant by the word 'faint'? (Para 2)

(i) invisible (ii) unclear (iii) unconscious (iv) weak **(2016)**

Ans. (a) he stored in his bedroom all kinds of apparently unusable objects-deflated basket balls, games with missing pieces, old rackets etc

(b) you never know when a useless, unusable object might come in handy

(c) like his bedroom, he kept in his backpack all kinds of objects that appeared to be of no use

(d) alongwith other objects he had also kept his old notebook in which Kenny had scribbled his locker combination, the old notebook came in very handy

(e) useful (f) (golden) rule (g) shabby (h) weak

13. Tommy found a real book. It was a very old book. The pages were yellow and crinkly. It was awfully funny to read the words. They stood still, instead of moving on a screen.

Margie said, "What's it about?"

"School."

Margie made a face, "School? What's there to write about school? I hate school."

Tommy looked at her with superior eyes. "Because it's not our kind of school. This is the kind of school that they had hundreds of years ago. Centuries ago."

" Did they have a teacher?"

"Sure they had a teacher, but it wasn't a regular teacher. It was a man."

"A man?"

I wouldn't want a strange man in my house," said Margie.

Tommy screamed with laughter. " The teachers didn't live in the house. They had a special building, and all the kids went there."

"And all the kids learned the same thing?"

“Sure, if they were the same age.”

“But my mother says a teacher has to adjust to fit the mind of each boy and girl it teaches. Each kid has to be taught differently.”

“Just the same, they didn’t do it that way then.

Margie went into the school room with a sigh. She was thinking about the old schools they had when her grandfather’s grandfather was a boy. All the kids from the neighbourhood came. They laughed and shouted in the school room, and went home together at the end of the day. They learned the same things, so they could help one another with the home work. And they could talk about it. Their teachers were humans like she herself was. Unlike today’s teachers they were not available in the mall, nor could they be purchased online. Actually, our parents had no role in their ‘purchase’. They laughed with you, even scolded you when you did not understand them. You could not programme them though you could make individual regrets for a particular topic to be discussed again.

There was more of variety in life, more of sharing, and much more of social interaction. Margie wished she had been born a few hundred years ago. She would have lived a less neat, less tidy, less organized but much more enjoyable life.

(a) What according to Margie’s mother were the characteristics of a good teacher?

(b) Why did Tommy laugh at Margie’s remark about ‘man’ as a teacher?

(c) What did kids do at school in olden days?

(d) What kind of life Margie wished to lead?

(e) What is meant by the word ‘awfully’? (para 1)

(i) extremely (ii) happily (iii) eagerly (iv) sadly

(f) Which word in the passage mean the same as ‘rearranged/fixed’? (para 8)

(i) taught (ii) adjusted (iii) screamed (iv) differently

(g) Find the word opposite in meaning to ‘alone’? (para 9)

(i) another (ii) lonely (iii) together (iv) also

(h) Give the meaning of the word ‘tidy’.

(i) charming (ii) neat (iii) pretty (iv) decent **(2016)**

Ans. (a) can be adjusted to fit the mind of each boy and girl. Each kid has to be taught differently

(b) did not like a ‘man’ teacher to be living in her house-did not know ‘man’ teachers taught only at school

(c) learnt the same thing, came to the school and left the school together

(d) a less neat, less tidy, less organised but more enjoyable, more social interaction

(e) extremely (f) adjusted (g) together (h) neat

14. Imagine parking your car at a beautiful upland vantage point on a sparkling spring day. You open the boot and wear your flying suit and boots, then lift out your incredibly light flying machine in its carrying rucksack and trek off a few yards to where your friends are preparing to fly. After a few minutes spent inspecting your equipment, you don helmet and harness, look around, allow the wind to raise the canopy – and launch off into space. This is paragliding for novices and experienced pilots alike.

Developed from parachuting canopies, modern paragliders can be soared effortlessly on windward slopes, and flown across the country. It's the same freedom that hang-glider pilots enjoy, but a paraglider is more portable and a little easier to learn to fly. They are more hampered by strong winds than hang-gliders but are easier to land in small fields.

Paragliding is a great community. You'll often find championship winning pilots comparing notes with novices. Both know that their sport is perhaps the simplest and most intuitive way of flying yet devised. If you want to enjoy the challenges that only being truly at one with the elements can provide, book a training course today!

Many paraglider pilots strive to perfect their skills in cross-country flying. A summer sky filled with fluffy cumulus clouds provides abundant lifting currents which pilots use to gain altitude. Setting off on such a day, either towards a pre-selected goal or just drifting where the wind will take you is one of the most breathtaking experiences available. Most pilots will talk of the sense of freedom they feel when drifting from cloud to cloud, in almost total silence, watching the landscape unfold beneath them as they navigate across the sky.

It normally takes around ten days of flyable weather to train a would-be pilot to Club Pilot Level, the minimum standard required to fly unsupervised with a recreational club.

Your instructor will explain how the canopy is laid out, inflated and controlled by its brake lines. You'll then take it in turns with other members of your group to have your first short training hops down a gentle slope.

- (a) What equipment is required for paragliding?
- (b) What advantage does paragliding have over hang-gliding?
- (c) How do paragliders feel while flying across the sky?
- (d) What is the minimum standard required to fly unsupervised with a recreational club and how does one attain the acceptable level?
- (e) What is meant by the word 'sparkling'? (Para 1)
- (i) colorful (ii) blinking (iii) dazzling (iv) twinkling
- (f) What is meant by the word 'effortlessly'? (Para 2)
- (i) beautifully (ii) carefully (iii) easily (iv) immediately
- (g) What is meant by the word 'novices'? (Para 3)
- (i) admirers (ii) trainer (iii) spectators (iv) beginners

(h) What is meant by the word 'breathtaking'? (Para 6)

(i) charming (ii) exciting (iii) thrilling (iv) pleasing **(2016)**

Ans: (a) flying suit, boots, helmet, harness and canopy

(b) more portable, easier to learn to fly, easier to land in small fields.

(c) a sense of freedom when drifting from cloud to cloud in silence and watch the landscape unfold beneath them; great experience

(d) club Pilot level; ten days of flying experience

(e) twinkling (f) easily (g) beginners (h) thrilling

15.

Malnourishment in the United States

Malnourishment in the United States is caused mainly by the consumption of unhealthy, cheap foods that are low in nutrition and stuffed with calories and fat. This eventually leads to obesity. As surprising as it may seem, one of the factors affecting obesity is poverty. As a matter of fact, there can be no doubt that poverty and obesity are interconnected. Provided more attention is focused on this link, the health of the Americans can be improved.

According to the statistics, about two-thirds of all American adults and more than one-tenth of American children are either overweight or obese. One-tenth of families suffer from food insecurity, obesity, and hunger, which take place when access to nutritionally satisfactory and safe food is either restricted or unstable. At first glance it seems illogical that scarcity of food should result in overweight people. Nevertheless, children from families with low income are about 2.6 times as likely as children from rich families to get obese. It means that poor citizens are in some kind of unfavourable condition when it comes to obesity.

The reality is that not all American households have the financial capabilities to provide satisfactory housing, transportation, commodities, medical assistance, education, food, and clothing that all families need. Many families often have to buy less healthy cheaper foods instead of healthy but more expensive ones. Unfortunately, usually the most inexpensive options available to these people are foods with low nutritional value as to calorie content. That is why lower income families are at the highest disadvantage of malnutrition.

It has been revealed by a recent study that such health problems linked to obesity, like hypertension and diabetes, are more widespread among people with low income. Each year about \$70 billion is spent on health-care due to obesity. Obesity, the condition of an abnormal accumulation of body fat, has a negative effect on different body systems (psychological, pulmonary, gastrointestinal, renal, musculoskeletal, neurological, cardiovascular, and endocrine). Solving the obesity problem can save health care money which could be used for improvement of the living conditions of low income citizens by paying for their housing or college education, for instance.

15.1 On the basis of your reading of the above passage answer the questions given below

(a) What are the causes of malnutrition in the United States?

- (b) What ill effect can malnutrition bring in the lives of human beings?
- (c) How can the health care money be used for the benefit of _____ people?
- (d) Why do you think lower income families are at the highest disadvantage of malnutrition?

15.2 Answer the following questions by selecting the correct options :

(a) Find the word from the passage which means the same as unreasoning.

- (i) interconnected (ii) illogical (iii) unstable (iv) unfavourable

(b) Write the antonym of dissipation.

- (i) accumulation (ii) paving (iii) inexpensive (iv) restriction

(c) Find the word from the passage which means the same as concentrated.

- (i) focused (ii) assisted (iii) restricted (iv) improved

(d) Find the word from the passage which means the same as help.

- (i) content (ii) assistance (iii) scarcity (iv) satisfaction **(2016)**

Ans. 15.1 (a) Malnourishment in the United States is caused mainly by the consumption of unhealthy, cheap foods that are low in nutrition and stuffed with calories and fat.

(b) It can lead to Obesity and it has a negative effect on different body systems (psychological, pulmonary, gastrointestinal, renal, musculoskeletal, neurological, cardiovascular, and endocrine).

(c) It could be used for improvement of the living conditions of low income citizen by paying for housing or college education, for instance.

(d) Many families often have to buy less healthy but cheaper _____ foods instead of healthy but more expensive foods and the most inexpensive option available to these people are foods with low nutritional value as to calorie content. That is why lower income families are at the highest disadvantage of malnutrition.

15.2 (a) Illogical (b) Accumulation (c) Focused (d) Assistance

SELF ASSESSMENT TEST

- Our opportunities are great but let me warn you that when power outstrips ability, we will fall on evil days. We should develop competency and ability which would help us utilize the opportunities which are now open to us. From tomorrow morning – from midnight today – we cannot throw the blame on the Britishers. We have to assume the responsibility ourselves for what we do. A free India will be judged by the way in which it will serve the interests of the common man in the matters of food, clothing, shelter and social activities. Unless we root out corruption in high places and root out every trace of nepotism, love of power, profiteering and black marketing which have spoiled the good name of this country in recent times, we will not be able to raise the standards of efficiency in administration as well as in the production and distribution of the necessary goods of life.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru referred to the great contribution which this country will make to the promotion of world peace and the welfare of mankind. The chakra, the Asokan wheel, which is there in the flag embodies for us a great idea so dear to. Asoka, the greatest of our emperors. Look at the words of H.G.Wells about him 'Highnesses, Magnificences, Excellences, Serenities, Majesties. Among them all, he shines alone a star, Asoka the greatest of all monarchs.' He cut into rock his message for the healing of discords. If there are differences, the way in which you can solve them is by promoting concord. Concord is the only way by which we can get rid of differences. There is no other method which is open to us.

We are lucky in having for our leader, one who is a world citizen, who is essentially a humanist, who possesses a buoyant optimism and robust good sense in spite of the perversity of things and the hostility of human affairs. We believe that if India gains freedom, that freedom will be used not merely for the well-being of India but for Vishva Kalyana, world peace, the welfare of mankind. **(2016)**

Extract from a speech by Dr. S. Radhakrishnan

- (a) When do we fall on evil days?
 (b) How will a free India be judged?
 (c) What did Pandit Nehru refer to?
 (d) What will India use its freedom for?
 (e) What is meant by the word "to go much faster"? (para 5)
 (i) profiteering (ii) nepotism (iii) outstrip (iv) raise
 (f) Which word in the passage means 'favouritism'? (para 1)
 (i) consideration (ii) shelters promoting (iii) nepotism (iv) concern
 (g) Find the word opposite in meaning to 'production'? (para 1)
 (i) consumption (ii) distribution (iii) excess (iv) service
 (h) Find the word from the passage opposite in meaning to, 'war'? (para 2)
 (i) welfare (ii) peace (iii) healing (iv) monarch

2. For hundreds of years people have conveyed some message through the type of clothing they wore. Long ago people started wanting to stand out from the crowd and be different from other people by means of changing their clothes. Some examples of this standing out became very popular and were followed by more people. This was the moment when fashion appeared. Nowadays, fashion is sometimes defined as a "constantly changing trend, favoured for frivolous rather than practical, logical, or intellectual reasons". Nevertheless, it is necessary to say that at the present moment fashion has a deeper influence on the life of people and possesses more than just frivolous reasons for its existence. Clothing has become an integral part of self-realization of every person. The harmony attained by the combination of the inner world of a person and his "exterior" makes it very hard to say that fashion is just about looks. Clothing is basically a covering designed to be worn on a person's body. This

covering is a need, a necessity that is dictated by the norms of social conduct. This necessity brings a lot of variety into the lives of people and makes their image more complete. It is not about people serving fashion; it is about fashion being a slave of people.

The type of clothing completely depends on the person who is wearing it; therefore it becomes a reflection of his perception of himself, which leads us to the term - personal identity. Lately a lot is being heard about personal identity and its meaning in the life of every single person on the planet. The choice of clothing and accessories is as important as identification through the colour of hair, height, skin and gender. Clothing nowadays is a medium of information about the person wearing it. It is a cipher; a code that needs a decryption in order to understand what kind of person is underneath it. The present time offers a great variety of these ciphers and therefore gives people a large number of opportunities to reveal their identity. As every piece of clothing carries a strong message about its owner, every owner “nests” a certain value in it depending on his temperament, mindset or today’s mood. Therefore, the clothes of a person are a mean of communication with the outside world. It is a way of telling people about the “state” and the “status” of its owner.

2.1 On the basis of your reading of the above passage answer the questions given below

(a) How would you define fashion?

(b) How can clothes become a reflection of the person who is wearing them?

(c) How can the clothes of a person be a means of communication with the outside world?

(d) How can the choice of clothes and accessories be useful to someone?

2.2 Answer the following questions by selecting the correct options

(a) Find the word from the passage which means the same as having silly or unsuitable behaviour :

(i) identity (ii) frivolous (iii) status (iv) perception

(b) Write the antonym of disagreement.

(i) integral (ii) necessity (iii) harmony (iv) variety

(c) Find the word from the passage which means the same as natural predisposition.

(i) fashion (ii) identity (iii) decryption (iv) temperament

(d) Find the word from the passage which means the same as in vogue.

(i) clothing (ii) accessories (iii) fashion (iv) intellectual **(2016)**

