

**INSTRUCTIONS :**

1. THE QUESTION PAPER IS DIVIDED INTO THREE SECTIONS.  
[ SECTIONS A READING (20 MARKS), SECTIONS B WRITING & GRAMMAR (30 MARKS) AND SECTIONS C LITERATURE (30 MARKS) ] ALL QUESTIONS ARE COMPULSORY
2. YOU MAY ATTEMPT ANY SECTION AT A TIME.
3. ALL QUESTIONS OF THAT PARTICULAR SECTION MUST BE ATTEMPTED IN THE CORRECT ORDER.

**SECTION-A (READING : 20 MARKS)**

1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the following questions : (8 MARKS)
  - a. Benaras has always been a centre of learning and even in Buddha's days, it was old and known as such. It was in the Deer Park near Benaras that Buddha preached his first sermon; but Benaras does not appear to have been at any time anything like a university, such as existed then and later in other parts of India. There were numerous groups there, consisting of a teacher and his disciples, and often between rival groups, there was fierce debate and argument.
  - b. But in the north-west, near modern Peshawar, there was an ancient and famous university at Takshashila or Taxila. It was particularly noted for science, especially medicine and the arts, and people came here to be educated from distant parts of India. The *Jataka* stories are full of instances of sons of nobles and Brahmins travelling, unattended and unarmed, to Taxila to be educated. Probably, students also came from Central Asia and Afghanistan, as it was conveniently situated. It was considered an honour and a distinction to be a graduate of Taxila. Physicians who had studied in the school of medicine at Taxila were highly thought of, and it is related that whenever Buddha felt unwell, his admirers brought to him a famous physician, who had graduated from Taxila. Panini, the great grammarian of the sixth-seventh century BC is said to have studied here.
  - c. Taxila was thus a pre-Buddhist university and a seat to Brahminical learning. During the Buddhist period, it also became a centre of Buddhist scholarship and attracted Buddhist students from all over India and across the border. It was the headquarters of the north-western province of the Maurya Empire.

**A. Choose the correct option to complete the following sentences : (1× 4 = 4 MARKS)**

  - i. Benaras has always been a centre of \_\_\_\_\_  
a. culture                      b. traditions                      c. attraction                      d. learning
  - ii. In the \_\_\_\_\_, near modern Peshawar, there was an ancient and famous university  
a. south-east                      b. north-west                      c. north-east                      d. south-west
  - iii. \_\_\_\_\_ is the great grammarian of the sixth century BC.  
a. Panini                      b. Buddha                      c. Aryabhatta                      d. none of these
  - iv. It was the headquarters of the north-western province of the \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Mughal Empire                      b. Britishers                      c. Mauryan Empire                      d. Benaras

**B. Answer the following (1× 4 = 4 MARKS)**

  - i. What is Benaras known for?
  - ii. Where did Buddha preach his first sermon?
  - iii. Which was the headquarters of the north-western province of the Mauryan Empire?
  - iv. What did the admirers of Buddha do when he was unwell?

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

**(12 MARKS)**

- a. The habit of reading is one of the greatest resources of mankind; and we enjoy reading books that belong to us much more than if they are borrowed. A borrowed book is like a guest in the house; it must be treated with punctiliousness, with a certain considerate formality. You must see that it sustains no damage; it must not suffer while under your roof. You cannot leave it carelessly, you cannot mark it, you cannot turn down the pages, you cannot use it familiarly. And then, some day, although this is seldom done, you really ought to return it.
- b. But your own books belong to you; you treat them with that affectionate intimacy that annihilates formality. Books are for use, not for show; you should own no book that you are afraid to mark up, or afraid to place on the table, wide open and face down. A good reason for marking favorite passages in books is that this practice enables you to remember more easily the significant sayings, to refer to them quickly, and then in later years, it is like visiting a forest where you once blazed a trail.
- c. Everyone should begin collecting a private library in youth; the instinct of private property, which is fundamental in human beings, can here be cultivated with every advantage and no evils. One should have one's own bookshelves, which should not have doors, glass windows, or keys; they should be free and accessible to the hand as well as to the eye. The best of mural decorations is books; they are more varied in color and appearance than any wallpaper, they are more attractive in design, and they have the prime advantage of being separate personalities, so that if you sit alone in the room in the firelight, you are surrounded with intimate friends. The knowledge that they are there in plain view is both stimulating and refreshing. You do not have to read them all. Most of my indoor life is spent in a room containing six thousand books; and I have a stock answer to the invariable question that comes from strangers. "Have you read all of these books?" "Some of them twice." This reply is both true and unexpected.
- d. There are of course no friends like living, breathing, corporeal men and women; my devotion to reading has never made me a recluse. How could it? Books are of the people, by the people, for the people. Literature is the immortal part of history; it is the best and most enduring part of personality. But our book-friends have this advantage over living friends; you can enjoy the most truly aristocratic society in the world whenever you want it. The great dead are beyond our physical reach, and the great living are usually almost as inaccessible; as for our personal friends and acquaintances, we cannot always see them. They are asleep, or away on a journey. But in a private library, you can at any moment converse with Socrates or Shakespeare or Carlyle or Dumas or Dickens or Shaw or Barrie or Galsworthy. And there is no doubt that in these books you see these men at their best. They wrote for you. They 'laid themselves out,' they did their ultimate best to entertain you, to make a favorable impression. You are necessary to them as an audience is to an actor; only instead of seeing them masked, you look into their innermost heart of hearts.

**A. Answer the following questions briefly.**

**(2 × 4 = 8 MARKS)**

- i. Why are book friends better than living friends?  
ii. What is the favoured book compared with and how should it be treated?  
iii. How one's private library should be?  
iv. How can one enjoy aristocratic society by reading books?

**B. Find the words from the passage which mean the same as the following. Choose the correct option.**

**(1 × 4 = 4 MARKS)**

- i. formal rules (para-1)  
a. resources                      b. formality                      c. borrowed                      d. seldom
- ii. important (para-2)  
a. significant                      b. blazed                      c. annihilates                      d. affectionate
- iii. Only for one person or group (para-3)  
a. accessible                      b. private                      c. intimate                      d. invariable
- iv. a person who lives solitary life (para-4)  
a. corporeal                      b. immortal                      c. recluse                      d. aristocratic

**SECTION-B (WRITING AND GRAMMAR : 30 MARKS)**

3. You are Simmi Sachdeva. On the occasion of World Environment Day, you want to urge the government to establish a 'Green Economy' to protect our environment. Write a letter to the editor, in about 100-150 words, highlighting the steps to be taken for the successful implementation of a green economy. (8 MARKS)

4. Write story with the help of the following story line, in about 150–200 words. (10 MARKS)

"He opened the factory door— peeped inside — some light — last shift over — could be thieves .....

5. Complete the following passage by choosing the most appropriate option from the ones given below : (1 × 4 = 4)

In the 1960s and 1970s, children in India (a) \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of time reading storybooks, comics and magazines. But the advent (b) \_\_\_\_\_ television in many Indian homes (c) \_\_\_\_\_ the situation. Nowadays, students (d) \_\_\_\_\_ very little time to reading.

- |                     |               |                    |                    |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| a. (i) spend        | (ii) spent    | (iii) are spending | (iv) were spending |
| b. (i) at           | (ii) in       | (iii) of           | (iv) with          |
| c. (i) changed      | (ii) changing | (iii) change       | (iv) has changed   |
| d. (i) are devoting | (ii) devote   | (iii) has devoted  | (iv) devoted       |

6. In the following passage one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and the word that comes after it. (1 × 4 = 4 MARKS)

It is the adult world that destroys

the intelligence sharp minds of

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

children and abilities. Like, the

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

constant rejection and quieting child

(c) \_\_\_\_\_

especially when she/he asks question

(d) \_\_\_\_\_

7. Rearrange the following words to make meaningful sentences. One has been done as an example. (1 × 4 = 4 MARKS)

- a. have / all of us / to / succumbed / it / almost
- b. its / a / new / marvel / buy / we / and / at / speed / phone
- c. use it / download / for a few / a ton of apps / and / we / months
- d. frustrated / the / slows down / phone / get / we / as

**SECTION-C (LITERATURE & SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT : 30 MARKS)**

8. Read any one of the following extracts and answer the questions that follow : (1 × 4 = 4)

Or if some time when roaming round,  
A noble wild beast greets you,  
With black stripes on a yellow ground,  
Just notice if he eats you.  
This simple rule may help you learn  
The Bengal Tiger to discern

- a. Name the poem and the poet.
- b. Who is the 'noble beast' here?
- c. What is the poet asking to notice?
- d. How does this beast look?

**OR**

Peggy was the most popular girl in school. She was pretty, she had many pretty clothes and her hair was curly. Maddie was her closest friend. The reason Peggy and Maddie noticed Wanda's absence was because Wanda had made them late to school. They had waited and waited for Wanda, to have some fun with her, and she just hadn't come.

- a. Who was the most popular girl in school?
- b. How is Peggy described in the above lines?
- c. Why did Peggy and Maddie notice Wanda's absence?
- d. Why were they waiting for Wanda?

**9. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each.**

**(2 × 5 = 10 MARKS)**

- a. For Robert Frost, what does 'fire' and 'ice' stand for?
- b. Why did Wanda Petronski sit on the last bench in the class?
- c. What did the pilot decide when he was struck in the huge clouds?
- d. Why did Hari Singh hid his real name?
- e. How did Ausable befool Max?

**10. Answer any one of the following questions in 100-150 words.**

**(8 MARKS)**

How was Wanda different from other girls? How did they treat her?

**OR**

In "The Ball Poem", the poet teaches the readers a philosophy of life. What is that philosophy? Explain.

**11. Answer any one of the following questions in 100-150 words.**

**(8 MARKS)**

Describe the scene of theft at Shotover Grange committed by Horace Danby.

**OR**

Griffin was a brilliant scientist but not a good human being. Explain.