

Roll No.

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100057

Code No. 003

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

ENGLISH (Language and Literature)

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum marks : 80

Note :

- (i) Please check that this question paper contains 15 printed pages.
- (ii) Code number given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- (iii) Please check that this question paper contains 11 questions.
- (iv) Please write down the Serial Number of the question in the answer-book before attempting it.
- (v) 15 Minutes time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m to 10.30 a.m., the students will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.
- (vi) This question paper comprises three sections – A, B and C.

Section A – Reading	-	20 marks
Section B – Grammar and Creative Writing Skills	-	20 marks
Section C – Literature	-	40 marks
- (vii) All questions are compulsory.
- (viii) There is no overall choice in the question paper. However, an internal choice has been provided in Section B and Section C. Make your choices correctly.
- (ix) In addition to this, separate instructions are given with each section and question wherever necessary.
- (x) Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION - A
READING

20

10

1. Read the passage given below.

1. Have you walked into a room and felt angry or restless for no reason ? Today, awareness is being generated about the need to keep the outside environment clean. But we have not given attention to one aspect, and that is the environment within - the emotional impurity which we carry around. When there is so much negativity within, and we keep encouraging it without applying the detergent of knowledge to purify our minds, the polluted mind continues to create more pollution around.
2. The mind has both positive and negative thoughts. The key lies in the knowledge, awareness, and understanding of the nature of things - discerning what is positive or negative.
3. This awareness can significantly impact the quality of one's thoughts and vibrations. Negative feelings of hatred, anger, jealousy are the root cause of all misery in the world, whether they are economic, political, or social in nature. We need to attend to the mind that is at the root of pollution, whether physical or emotional. It's natural for a mind to become unhappy or to get negative thoughts from time to time. But we must learn to clear them away and come back to harmony immediately.
4. That is why practices like meditation, yoga and breathing techniques are available to us. Through them we can create positive, harmonious, and joyful vibrations within us and around.
5. Positive emotions make you more attuned to truth, bringing a gentle awareness and deep meditation. But the same emotions, when they are negative and hardened, ruin your mind and body. Emotions can be your enemy or your friend.
6. Each emotion is associated with a distinct sensation in the body. Often, we become engrossed in thoughts or feelings, and fail to notice these sensations. We make affirmations like : 'Oh! I will not do this. I will do this.' But, when the storm of emotion rises in us - we find ourselves lost.
How has the ocean become an ocean ? It has accepted the lowest. All rivers from mountain tops flow down to the ocean. The ocean is full. The humblest is the greatest. If you can willingly embrace a low point when you're not feeling well, you are the richest person on Earth.
7. When clouds of emotions are present, don't be afraid. Just go deep, observe, and you will see a lot of sensations rising. Some fears will come up. Fear is just a sensation in the body. Agree to it 'All right, let it be. I will dive into it today.' An amazing thing will happen within you, a phenomenon. If you try to fight with your feelings, they take a longer time to clear. There is only one way, 'Let go' or 'surrender' to the divine.

On the basis of your understanding of the given passage, answer the questions that follow :

- (i) The polluted mind continues to create more pollution when we do not apply the detergent of _____ to purify our minds. 1
(a) Ignorance (b) Emotions
(c) Knowledge (d) Happiness
- (ii) What is emphasized as the key to handling the mind's positive and negative thoughts? 1
(1) Emotional recreations (2) Knowledge
(3) Awareness (4) Understanding
(a) (1) and (2) (b) (1) and (3)
(c) (2), (3) and (4) (d) (2) and (4)
- (iii) According to the passage, what is the root cause of misery in the world? 1
(a) Lack of political awareness (b) Economic instability
(c) Negative feelings (d) Social inequalities
- (iv) Explain the impact of negative emotions, as mentioned in the passage. 2
- (v) The impact of positive emotions on truth and meditation is that, they : 1
(a) hinder truth and meditation.
(b) are irrelevant to truth and meditation.
(c) make you more attuned to truth, bringing gentle awareness for thoughtful thinking.
(d) distract from truth and meditation.
- (vi) How does the passage suggest dealing with negative feelings when they arise? 1
(a) Suppressing them (b) Fighting against them
(c) Letting go or surrendering (d) Expressing freely
- (vii) What is the antonym of 'engrossed' in the options given below : 1
(a) disengaged (b) enthralled
(c) immersed (d) absorbed
- (viii) How does the comparison of ocean and rivers relate to embracing low points in life, as discussed in the passage? 2

2. Read the passage given below.

1. From the triumph of Chandrayaan-3 to launching Aditya L1 Sun mission, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) achieved multiple feats in 2023.
2. The Space agency is now focusing on its next missions, including the launch of Chandrayaan-4 and testing the technologies that will be used in it. One of the experiments related to the next Moon mission is SPADEX.
3. Chandrayaan -4 mission aims to return lunar rock samples to Earth and is scheduled for launch in the latter part of this decade. For this mission, the spacecraft will be required to undertake an in-orbit docking, which will be a critical step in securely retrieving the samples.
4. To make this docking happen as planned, ISRO is working on SPADEX - a short form of Space Docking Experiment. It is a twin spacecraft mission to test technologies related to orbital rendezvous, docking, formation flying. The mission, the launch date of which is yet to be finalised, is said to cost Rs.124.47 crore.
5. The mission comprises two satellites weighing 200 kg each : a Chaser and a Target.
One satellite will attempt to dock into the other, marking significant advancements in human spaceflight, in-space satellite servicing, and other proximity operations.
6. It is scheduled for launch aboard the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre.
7. Apart from autonomous rendezvous and docking capabilities, the objective of the SPADEX mission is also to test controlling one spacecraft using the Altitude Control System of the other while in a docked configuration. It will also demonstrate formation flying techniques and conduct remote robotic arm operations.
8. The Government approved the project in 2017, initially backing it up by a funding of Rs. 10 crore.

Choose the correct option to answer the questions based on the above passage :

- (i) What does SPADEX stand for ? 1
(a) Space Docking Experiment
(b) Satellite Proximity Analysis Device
(c) Systematic Payload Docking Experiment
(d) Spacecraft Positioning Apparatus
- (ii) Which rocket will launch the SPADEX mission ? 1
(a) GSLV (b) PSLV
(c) Chandrayaan (d) Aditya L1
- (iii) What is the critical step in securely retrieving lunar rock samples in the Chandrayaan-4 mission ? 1
(a) In-orbit docking
(b) Formation flying
(c) Remote robotic arm operations
(d) Altitude Control System test
- (iv) _____ space centre will launch the Chandrayaan-4 mission ? 1
(a) Kennedy Space Centre
(b) Baikonur Cosmodrome
(c) Satish Dhawan Space Centre
(d) Jivquan Satellite Launch Centre
- (v) Apart from docking, what other capability will SPADEX demonstrate ? 1
(a) Interstellar travel (b) Remote robotic arm operations
(c) Planetary exploration (d) Atmospheric entry
- (vi) Name at least two objectives of the SPADEX mission, besides autonomous rendezvous and docking. 2
- (vii) Which word in the passage is similar in meaning to 'Feats' ? 1
(a) accomplishments (b) failures
(c) firmly (d) insignificance
- (viii) What is the primary goal of the mission involving two satellites weighing 200 kg each ? Also name the two satellites involved in the mission. 2

SECTION - B
(GRAMMAR AND CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS)

20

GRAMMAR

10

3. Attempt ANY TEN of the following questions.

(i) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option. 1

The athletes _____ follow a strict diet to maintain peak performance.

(a) can (b) must (c) might (d) could

(ii) Read the following conversation. Complete the sentence by reporting the reply correctly. 1

Reema: 'Have you seen the new movie everyone is talking about?'

Ravi: 'Yeah, it is incredible and it has created quite a stir around.'

Reema asked Ravi if he had seen the new movie everyone was talking about.

Ravi replied _____.

(iii) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line. 1

The meeting was cancelled due to bad weather effecting travel plans.

Options	Error	Correction
(a)	effecting	affecting
(b)	Weather	Whether
(c)	Plans	Planned
(d)	Was	Were

(iv) Select the correct option in the following sentence. 1

• A little / The little knowledge is a dangerous thing.

(v) Identify the error and supply the correction for the following sentence in the given format. 1

The teacher handed the exam paper to John and I first.

error	correction

- (vi) Change the given narration to a dialogue form : 1
Sam asked the receptionist if it was possible to meet the doctor the next day. To this, the receptionist regretted and replied that the doctor was already occupied with his prior appointments.
- (vii) Complete the sentence by filling in the blank with the correct option. 1
Despite _____ challenges, she firmly believed that she could overcome any obstacle.
(a) a (b) an (c) the (d) all
- (viii) Supply the correct option to form a meaningful sentence. 1
The project's success _____ to myself and the dedicated team, as per the report.
(a) will be credited (b) was credited
(c) credited (d) have been credited
- (ix) Complete the sentence by filling the blank with the correct option. 1
Acknowledging small achievements _____ help you boost your child's confidence.
(a) needn't (b) will (c) ought to (d) should
- (x) Draft a question from the given statement. 1
We can create positive and joyful emotions with Meditation and Yoga.
- (xi) _____ Articles have been amended in the Constitution of India since Independence. 1
(a) Much (b) Many (c) More (d) Enough
- (xii) Choose the correct option and fill in the blank with correct form of the verb. 1
Slow and steady _____ the race.
(a) winning (b) win (c) wins (d) won

CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

10

4. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below :

5

A. Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper highlighting the problem and suggesting measures to check the rising incidents of Cyber Crime. You are Nitin/Neelam, a resident of Krishna Nagar, Bengaluru.

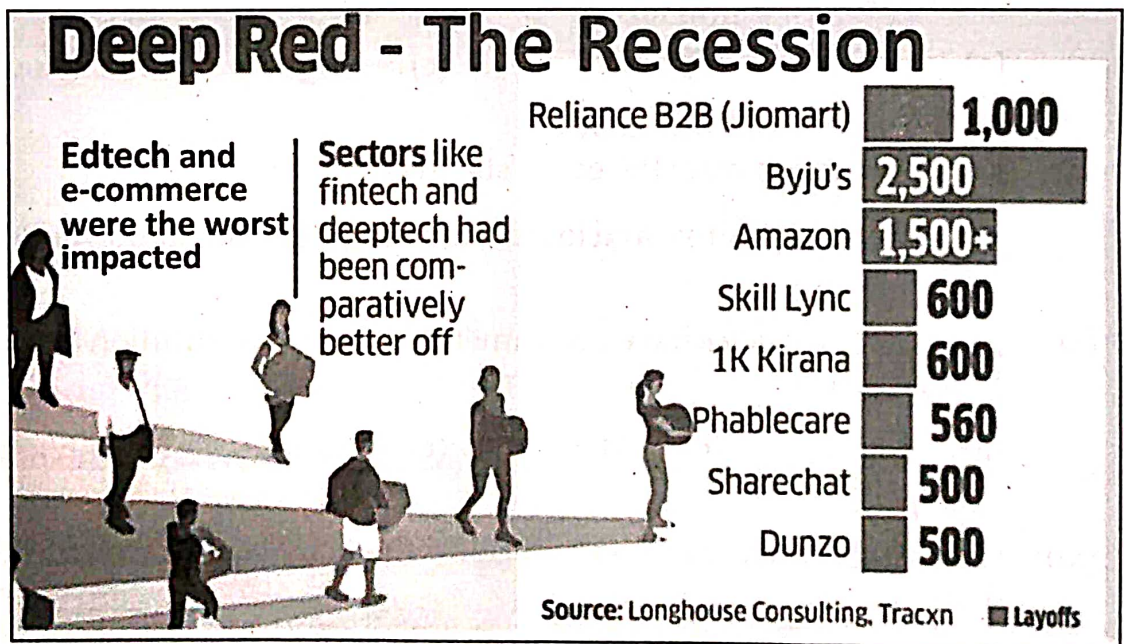
OR

B. Write a letter, as Sports captain of Spring Bells School, Shimla, to the Manager of Student Sports Enterprises, Shimla to complain about the defective sports equipments you received and requesting to replace them immediately.

5. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below :

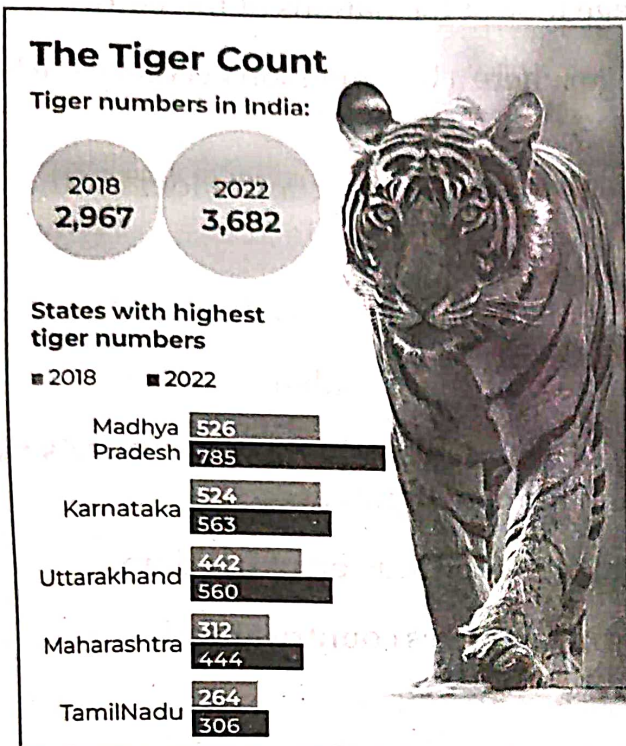
5

A. The following chart shows layoff by Indian startups of over 28000 employees in 2023. Analyse the given data in not more than 120 words.



OR

- B. The following chart shows India as a new home to 70% of world tigers due to Project Tiger. Using the information given in the chart below, analyse the given data in not more than 120 words.



SECTION - C

LITERATURE

40

6. Reference to the context :

Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two extracts given below :

A. We, who were outlaws not so long ago, have today been given the rare privilege to be host to the nations of the world on our own soil. We thank all our distinguished international guests for having come to take possession with the people of our country of what is, after all, a common victory for justice, for peace, for human dignity.

5

We have, at last, achieved our political emancipation. We pledge ourselves to liberate all our people from the continuing bondage of poverty, deprivation, suffering, gender and other discrimination.
(Nelson Mandela - Long Walk to Freedom)

- (i) What does the phrase 'rare privilege' mean here? 1
- (a) the opportunity of winning the first Olympic gold medal.
 - (b) the rare privilege to host the nations of the world.
 - (c) the rare privilege where a black person becomes the President of South Africa.
 - (d) the opportunity to meet the important leaders of the world.
- (ii) Why does Mandela thank the International leaders? 1
- (a) for helping him become the President.
 - (b) for gracing the occasion to celebrate his country's victory of justice, peace and human dignity.
 - (c) for bringing him out of the illusion of freedom.
 - (d) for helping him in taking his country ahead.
- (iii) Fill in the blank with **ONE WORD** only. 1
- The Blacks were considered _____ before being given the rare privilege to host the nations of the world on their soil.
- (iv) Pick the option that correctly captures the usage of the word 'host' as in the extract. 1
- (a) He was praised for his hospitality as the host of the party.
 - (b) We have never met such an irresponsible host.
 - (c) I met the host and complained of my friend's poor conduct.
 - (d) She is the best host I have ever seen.
- (v) Give a word similar in meaning to 'Liberation' from the passage. 1
- (a) deprivation
 - (b) privilege
 - (c) bondage
 - (d) emancipation

OR

B. The Buddha said, 'The life of mortals in this world is troubled and brief and combined with pain.' For there is not any means by which those that have been born can avoid dying; after reaching old age there is death ; of such a nature are living beings. As ripe fruits are early in danger of falling so mortals, when born, are always in danger of death. As all earthen vessels made by the potter end in being broken, so is the life of mortals. Both young and adult, both those who are fools and those who are wise, all fall into the power of death, all are subject to death. 5

(The Sermon at Benaras)

- (i) According to the Buddha, what is the nature of life? 1
- (a) joyful and eternal
 - (b) troubled and brief, combined with pain
 - (c) constant and unchanging
 - (d) fleeting and fulfilling
- (ii) Find from the extract the exact word for 'a human being subject to death'. 1
- (a) individual
 - (b) no man
 - (c) incarnation
 - (d) mortal
- (iii) Who does the Buddha suggest falls into the power of death in the passage? 1
- (iv) What metaphor does the Buddha use to underscore the transient nature of mortal life? 1
- (a) endless journey
 - (b) unbreakable bond
 - (c) mountains standing tall
 - (d) earthen vessels
- (v) Fill in the blank with ONE WORD only. 1
- Mortals are always in danger of death as _____ fruits are early in danger of falling.

7. Attempt ANY ONE of the extracts given below.

A. My head is full of whispers
Which tomorrow will be silent.
Listen. The glass is breaking.
The trees are stumbling forward
Into the night. Winds rush to meet them.
The moon is broken like a mirror,
Its pieces flash now in the crown
Of the tallest Oak.

(The Trees) _____

- (i) What do the first two lines of the stanza reveal about the poet? 1
- (a) sympathetic state of mind
(b) engulfed with sorrow and distress
(c) optimism and craving for freedom
(d) pessimism and dependence
- (ii) What does the 'breaking of glass' signify? 1
- (iii) Which poetic device has been used in the line - The moon is broken like a mirror. 1
- (a) simile (b) metaphor
(c) anaphora (d) enjambment
- (iv) Find a word from the stanza that means the same as 'shine'. 1
- (a) whisper (b) rush
(c) stumbling (d) flash
- (v) Oak tree is described as the tallest which means : 1
- (a) They have defended the patriarchy and are now ruling the space.
(b) Only the tallest have right to survive.
(c) The forest lacks its beauty without oak tree.
(d) Women have not regretted being the supreme creature of the society.

OR

B. Did you finish your homework, Amanda? 5

Did you tidy your room, Amanda?

I thought I told you to clean your shoes, Amanda!

(I am an orphan, roaming the street.

I pattern soft dust with my hushed, bare feet.

The silence is golden, the freedom is sweet).

(Amanda !)

(i) Complete the sentence appropriately. 1

It is clear that Anaphora is the poetic device used for 'Did you finish your homework..... your room' because _____.

(ii) Which poetic device has the poet used in the following line? 1

'I pattern soft dust with my hushed, bare feet'.

(a) emphasis (b) rhyme

(c) transferred epithet (d) inference

(iii) State whether the following statement is True or False. 1

In 'silence is golden', silence is said to be a precious commodity.

(iv) What would Amanda do if she were an orphan? 1

(v) The tone of the mother in the given stanza is - 1

(a) authoritative (b) derogatory

(c) delightful (d) submissive

8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following questions in 30-40 words each : 4x3=12
- (i) What was an Indian legend about the discovery of tea ? 3
 - (ii) How are 'Fire' and 'Ice' similar to each other even though the two have contradictory traits ? 3
 - (iii) What was Valli's favourite pastime ? How did she live her dream ? 3
 - (iv) Why does the poet say, 'Balls will be lost forever' ? 3
 - (v) 'Conquer the fear and venture forth; and we realise that we were born with wings.' Justify the quote with reference to 'His First Flight'. 3

9. Answer ANY TWO of the following questions in 30-40 words each : 2x3=6
- (i) Elaborate on the quality of the book that saved the planet Earth. 3
 - (ii) Fowler was disappointed to see Ausable. Validate the statement. 3
 - (iii) Griffin's unlawful activities devalue his scientific discovery. What are some of the values that he should have developed ? 3

10. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in 100-120 words : 1x6=6
- (i) Nelson Mandela mentions about the twin obligation, of which the first one is to the family, parents, wife and children. How is this first obligation well proved by the mother seagull in the story 'His First Flight' ? 6

OR

- (ii) You were lucky enough to meet and befriend a 'Coorgi' during your visit to Coorg. You start a conversation about their lifestyle and rich landscape of the place. Develop a conversation. You may begin like this : 6

You: Coorg is really the Heaven on Earth.

Coorgi: Yes. Indeed. It has enchanting landscape, rich culture and unique traditions.

11. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in 100-120 words : 1x6=6

(i) 'Cut your coat according to your clothes'. Justify the quote with reference to 'The Necklace!' 6

OR

(ii) Anil could have simply handed Hari Singh to the police and taught him a good lesson but he chose to keep quiet. Why do you think he did so ? Elaborate it on the basis of your understanding of 'The Thief's Story'. 6

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