

Time Duration: 3 hrs. Max. Marks: 80

General Instructions: The question paper is divided into four sections:

Section A – Reading (15 Marks)

Section B – Writing (20 Marks)

Section C – Grammar (15 Marks)

Section D – Literature + Value Based Question (25 + 5 = 30 Marks)

Section A – (Reading)

1. Read the following passage carefully.

“Mum!” I shouted. “Are you okay?” I saw her little tent shuddering in the gale and listened closely for her response. Her voice was almost casual, “Oh, yes, I’m fine” That’s my mother. It was the first night of our cycling trip through the interior of Iceland – a region so remote and inhospitable that for centuries, according to legend, it was abandoned. The weather was decidedly hurricane-like, but Mum wasn’t concerned. Months ago, I told her about my plan to pedal across Iceland. “It will be really difficult,” I said. “The roads are unpaved and often washed out, and the wind is blowing constantly – sometimes so hard that it pushes you off the road.” There was silence for a moment. Then she asked, “Can I come?” “Sure,” I replied. “But like the rest of us, you have to train to do two 160 kilometers a day back-to-back,” “Wow,” she said, “I could never do that,” I had more faith in my mother’s physical abilities than she did.

I’d seen her raise six children and put in long hours doing physical labour on our small farm.

“Sure you can,” I told her, “Start tomorrow.” What really concerned me was what I perceived to be her frustrating humility: I thought her too self-deprecating about her attractiveness just because she had not completed college. I felt she underestimated her attractiveness just because she was not the type to wear make-up or fancy clothes. As I had grown into adulthood, the life I’d chosen seemed light-years away from Mum’s quiet existence, still caring for her children and her children’s children. Sometimes, on a visit home, I’d describe some recent trip I’d taken, and her blue eyes would shine with interest. So, I couldn’t help thinking this trek might revitalise Mum, who had started to slow down in her 50s. It might spice up what I saw as her humdrum life. And it might be a boost to her tentative and retiring persona. Mum trained furiously, months in advance. As the trip roster was pared down to Mum, my good friend Allen and me, she stood as the most dedicated. Soon she was riding 80–100 kilometers per day, and was as strong a rider as Allen or I.

1.1 Based on your reading of the passage, complete the following sentences.

- (a) The narrator describes the roads across Iceland as
- (b) The narrator had faith in his mother’s physical abilities as
- (c) The training to take the adventure trip on cycle included
- (d) In his adulthood, the narrator realised that his life was
- (e) Descriptions of his trips always
- (f) The narrator was sure that the trip would
- (g) The narrator and his friend were sure about Mum’s preparation when

1.2 Find words from the passage that mean the same as the following.

- (a) noticed/become aware of
- (b) to give new life
- (c) hesitant/not certain

2. Read the following passage carefully. From the danger of losing one leg due to a knee injury to winning an Olympic bronze medal, Yogeshwar Dutt has come a long way. The freestyle wrestler's story is one of passion for the sport and his perseverance and solid determination in realising his dream. Thanks to him, Bhainswal Kalan, a village some 20 kilometers away from Sonapat in Haryana, has become very popular now. Yogeshwar has qualities of a champion, and virtues like humility, respect for others and extending a helping hand to the needy, which make him even more endearing. His dream of winning an Olympic medal was not fulfilled in Beijing in 2008. Going through the injuries was a difficult period for him. The Mittal Champions Trust helped him when he had the knee injury. His intense desire to win a medal worked as a healing agent to all his injuries, he trained hard and God listened to his prayers. After 2008, his sole target was the 2012 Olympics. He wanted to participate in more and more competitions, but he was pulled down by injuries in 2009 and that robbed him of nearly one year. After that, he could not reduce his weight too often to take part in various events. All the time the Olympics was there in his mind. Even when he was injured he thought of winning an Olympic medal. His back injury was a problem, but he got over it. His friends and family backed him a lot. His brother and friends shared his responsibilities and allowed him to focus on wrestling with a free mind.

Based on your reading of the passage, choose the right answers from the given options to complete the following sentences.

- (a) A quality necessary for a champion is
- perseverance
 - determination
 - passion
 - each of the above
- (b) Yogeshwar Dutt lost almost a year in 2009 because of
- injuries
 - worship
 - loss of weight
 - the villagers
- (c) The problem that did not trouble Yogeshwar was injury.
- eye
 - knee
 - back
 - head
- (d) Even during his long and lonely stays abroad ... kept him motivated.
- his parents
 - the thought of the Olympic medal
 - his injuries
 - the thought of his responsibilities
- (e) Yogeshwar Dutt was able to give his best as
- he did not have to think of his responsibilities
 - he participated in the Olympic games

- iii. he was sure to get a medal
- iv. he had an intense desire to win a medal

3. Read the following passage carefully. We sat in silence in the dark of the night as the large head appeared from the large foliage. The female was young, healthy and alert. Seconds later, she walked confidently to the edge of a waterhole followed by not one, not two but three beautiful young cubs. Like works of art on display, all four tigers bent low at the waterhole that had been created for them and for the myriad creatures that shared their troubled kingdom. The Goshri tigers had come visiting and we watch them with rapt attention on our closed-circuit TV screens, in the conservation retreat of Harsh and Poonam Dhanwatey, a husband and wife team whose life had been dedicated to the protection of tigers in and around Maharashtra's Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve. Their son Nikhil carefully positioned the cameras and cabled them 40 metres from their conservation retreat, near the waterhole which had turned into a magnet for every conceivable animal found in the Tiger Reserve itself. We were making preparations to set up one of the first Community Conservation Reserves in Central India. Originally into business, the Dhanwateys changed tracks midstream by shutting down a thriving interior design business in response to just one meeting they had with Dr Ullas Karanth and Valmik Thapar, two of India's finest tiger people, in Nagpur. In their own words, "From admirers of wildlife, we become passionate defenders and we launched our non- governmental organisation called Tiger Research and Conservation Trust (TRACT)." The Dhanwateys lived for years in a small hut which was their field camp near the famous Tadoba Lake, and they discovered the secrets of the forest in the best way possible, by walking its trails, and generally learning all they could about the magical mix of life that comprised this tropical, dry deciduous forest.

Based on your reading of the passage, choose the right answers from the given options to complete the following sentences.

- (a) Before taking up the cause of tigers, the Dhanwateys were
- i. working in a non-governmental organisation
 - ii. in the textile business
 - iii. working with Dr Karanth
 - iv. managing an interior design business
- (b) The waterhole is referred to as a magnet because
- i. a magnet was placed there
 - ii. all the animals were attracted to it
 - iii. cameras had magnets
 - iv. water was not available
- (c) The narrator had gone to the Tiger Reserve to
- i. kill tigers
 - ii. set up a Tiger Reserve
 - iii. set up the first Community Conservation Reserve
 - iv. employ Nikhil in the Tiger Reserve
- (d) The meeting with Dr Ullas Karanth and Valmik Thapar changed the lives of
- i. Nikhil
 - ii. the Dhanwateys
 - iii. the narrator
 - iv. TRACT

- (e) The activities in which the champions of TRACT are not involved are
- i. killing of tigers in that area
 - ii. discovering the secrets of the forests
 - iii. walking the trails of tigers
 - iv. living in the deciduous forests

Section B Writing

4. Your school is celebrating grandparents' day next week. Write a notice in 50–60 words to put up on the school notice board informing students of the celebration and requesting them to be present with their grandparents. You are Samir/Suman, Head Boy/Head Girl ABC Sen. Sec. School, and Delhi.
5. You are Mahesh. You have been asked to meet the passport officer urgently to clarify certain details regarding the renewal of your passport. Write a message in 50–60 words for your mother who was not at home informing her of the matter and also telling her that you would be late in reaching home
6. Given below are details of an eminent environmentalist. Use the information to form a biographical sketch of Aruna Saxena in 80–100 words. 4 Aruna Saxena – born in 1978 – education – M.A. in Environmental Science – achievements – actively involved in Green Revolution Movement – won her worldwide recognition – published a collection of poems, 'Singing Birds' – awards – won the national award for creating environmental awareness – other interests – painting, writing poetry – position held – President of Rotary Club of Marwar in 2007, President of the Poetry Club in 2009
7. You are Sanchita/Sachin, 15, Mall Road, Delhi. Write a letter in 120–150 words to a friend telling him about the award ceremony for felicitating the toppers of your school.
8. Develop the following into a readable story in 120–150 words. 5 It was dark when we got down from the train. The place was totally strange to us. Gopi who had promised to be at the station was nowhere in sight
9. Students these days are not careful with their pocket money and spend it lavishly. Write a speech in 120–150 words to be delivered in the morning assembly about the importance of saving in one's life.

Section - C Grammar

10. Choose the appropriate options from the ones given below to complete the following passage. Write the answers in your answer sheet against the correct blank numbers.

As a young boy I (a) to play on the ground near my home. At the (b)..... end of the ground was a library. I had often seen people walk in and out of it (c)..... books in their hands. One evening, I walked in and politely asked the librarian (d)..... a book.

- (a) (i) was (ii) used (iii) are (iv) had
- (b) (i) far (ii) near (iii) off (iv) hind
- (c) (i) carried (ii) carrying (iii) carries (iv) carry
- (d) (i) for (ii) him (iii) about (iv) to

11. Rearrange the following words/phrases to form meaningful sentences. The first one has been done for you.
 watching TV / on exercise / while you are / the following ways / The American Council / suggests / to exercise
 The American Council on exercise suggests the following ways to exercise while you are watching TV.

- (a) the remote / the channel / to change / get up / from the couch / instead of using
- (b) the room during / Walk up / the stairs / or around / and down / commercial breaks
- (c) a treadmill / use / you watch / while / you can / TV
- (d) resistance band / while watching / use a / television

12. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet against the correct blank number. Underline the correct word supplied by you. The first one has been done for you as an example.

	Incorrect	Correct
One morning I finished <u>one</u> business at the bank	one	some
and was returning in pick my motorbike which I had left	(a)	
in the parking lot outside. Suddenly he realised that I had	(b)	
lost the bike key. Upset I searched about it in the bank. A bank	(c)	
employee tried to help me find it, and in vain	(d)	

13. Study the notes given below and complete the paragraph that follows by filling in the blanks suitably.

NOTES –

- Octopush – underwater hockey game
- created by a group of English divers
- aim was to keep scuba diving club busy in winter
- each team – 8 players – battle for a lead puck with a pusher

Octopush (a) hockey game. It (b)..... a group of English divers. The game (c)..... keeping the local scuba club busy during the winter months. The original rules required 8 players (d)..... a lead puck with a small stick called pusher.

14. Read the conversation given below and complete the paragraph that follows.

Reena: I called you yesterday. Where were you?

Arya: I went to visit my grandmother. Why did you call?

Reena: I called to tell you that our results will be out next week.

Arya: Are you sure?

Reena: I saw the news in yesterday's newspaper.

Reena told Arya that (a)..... and asked her where she had been. Arya told her that (b)grandmother and enquired why she had called. Reena told her that she (c)results would be out next week. When Arya asked whether she was sure Reena told her (d)newspaper.

Section - D Literature

15.

(A) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow by choosing from the given alternatives. Stand in the desert. Near them, on the sand, Half sunk, a shattered visage lies, whose frown, And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command, Tell that its sculptor well those passions read

- (a) The person described here is
(i) P B Shelley (ii) Ozymandias (iii) the sculptor (iv) None of the above
- (b) The face expresses
(i) calmness (ii) anger (iii) indifference (iv) love
- (c) The word, 'visage' in the above lines means
(i) vision (ii) legs (iii) lips (iv) face

(B) Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. At least, that was what I thought then. Now I knew that Sebastian Shultz, the boy from the game, really did exist. I'd seen the proof in the newspaper.

- (a) What had Michael thought earlier?
(b) Why is Sebastian Shultz called 'the boy from the game'?
(c) What had Michael seen in the newspaper?

(C). Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. 'Shall Caesar send a lie? Have I in conquest stretch'd mine arm so far, to be afraid to tell graybeards the truth? Decius, go and tell them Caesar will not come'.

- (a) Why has Decius come to Caesar's place?
(b) What message does Caesar give him?
(c) Who are the 'Graybeards' referred to here?

16. Answer any four of the following questions in 50–60 words each.

- (a) Why had Michael and his father gone to the computer fair?
(b) Why does Lavinia feel that the Ouija Board would help her husband?
(c) How did the mariners reach the land of ice and snow?
(d) How does Brutus convince the Romans that Caesar deserved his death?

17. Patol Babu always remembered the words of his mentor that one has to accept whatever is offered and make the best of any opportunity. Write a letter to a friend telling him about the value of hard work and the art of putting in your best. Write the answer in 120–150 words.

18. Answer the following in 120–150 words. As the wedding guest, make a diary entry of your observations about the ancient mariner.

OR

What problems did Helen, the ghost, cause in John Hallock's life?