

General Instructions :

1. *Read the questions carefully.*
2. *Number the answers as given in the question paper.*
3. *Write in a neat and clear handwriting.*
4. *Write the answers in complete sentences.*

SECTION-A (READING)

- Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow : (5)

Alexander the Great, had won many battles. His desire was to conquer the world.

"Proceed to the Golden Bird," he ordered his brave generals. With Alexander's command, the generals consulted the map and the army turned towards India. It crossed the mighty Himalayas through the long terrain in the cold, entered the country and reached the river Sindhu.

Alexander fought with King Puru. King Puru was defeated and was made captive. Alexander was happy with the first victory. When Alexander's army was resting at night, he mounted his horse and moved on the streets. He saw the dark houses and the wailing women and children. Alexander felt no pity. Instead, he felt proud of himself.

Soon he moved towards the jungle and noticed a bonfire at a distance. He went closer and found some saints performing the 'yagya'. It was winter time. The wind was blowing and it was extremely cold. Alexander stood quietly behind a tree and observed that the saints wore no clothing on the upper parts of their bodies. He felt sorry for the saints and decided to do something. He went back to his tent and ordered his chief to bring thick woollen clothes and blankets. Heaps were loaded on horses and Alexander led them to the saints. Alexander went closer but the saints did not pay attention. Alexander dismounted and proceeded towards them. He introduced himself as the famous 'Alexander the Great'.

The saint looked up and asked coolly, "What do you want young man? What can I do for you?"

Alexander was taken aback. He paused and announced proudly, "I am Alexander the Great, I have conquered your Hindustan. I have brought woollens for you to cover your naked bodies." The saint threw a sharp glance at him and spoke, "Young man, so you are the famous Alexander who conquers countries by robbing them." He further said, "How can a robber be a giver?"

Alexander turned pale, not knowing what to say. The saint continued. "Well, my child, if you really want to conquer the world, first win the hearts of the people. As for us, we have renounced the world and we do not need anything." Alexander had never seen or heard things like this. The feeling of guilt made him sad. He saluted the saint and without uttering a word went back to his camp. He had made a decision. He released King Puru and put off his future plans to conquer other parts of India.

- (a) What command did Alexander give to the generals and why? (1)
- (b) What was Alexander's reaction on seeing the pathetic condition of women and children? (1)
- (c) Why did Alexander order his chief to gather woollens? (1)
- (d) Why did the saints refuse to take any help from Alexander? (2)
- (e) Complete the sentence : (1)

Alexander put off his future plans to conquer other parts of India because _____.

- (f) Find the words from the passage which mean the same as the following :

(i) formally give up (2x½=1)

(ii) a long high-pitched cry of grief

- Q2. Read the poem given below and answer the questions that follow : (6)

The Earth Day [22nd April]

Today is a special day, being observed as Earth day,
Praise her services, for her good health let us pray
Her birth is shrouded in never to be solved mystery.
No one can tell precisely or trace her past history.

From space she appears in stunning tri colour hue,
The clouds - white, ground - brown and ocean - blue,
Shouldering ever rising tons and tons of load,
Spins around, never grumbling her overload.

Circling round the sun in precision - it is astounding,
Ushering in day and night for our good and well being,
Very dutifully she revolves and revolves untiringly,
Never wanting to rest for we all may perish instantly.

Like mother's bosom, Earth feeds and nurtures us all,
Over millions of years; her services we proudly recall,
Our irresponsible acts crippled her, making her fallible,
To cause devastating quakes and hurricanes horrible.

We, the ingratitude humans inflicted her injury grievous,
Damaged her lungs by polluted air; her survival serious,
By felling trees indiscriminately, her limbs we cut cruelly,
Feeding toxic substances, dumping nuclear wastes liberally.

We poisoned her, her health deteriorating day by day,
How sad! Unawares, we are on our way to dooms day,
Let us resolve not to harm the planet Earth, our home,
Let us love our Earth, to make our home ever a sweet home.

- (a) Why does the poet call the Earth 'tricoloured'? (1)
- (b) Choose the expression that convey the idea that the Earth is always 'Duty Conscious'. (1)
- (c) What are the cruel acts of man on Earth that harm her? (2)
- (d) Why does the poet compare the earth to a mother? (1)
- (e) Find the words from the poem which mean the same as the following :
 - (i) covered
 - (ii) greatly surprising (2x½=1)

SECTION-B (WRITING)

- Q3. Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper on reckless driving and increasing cases of accidents in the city. (6)
- Q4. Apex Adventures, and Innerline Treks and Travels is organizing a five day trekking expedition for the students of class VIII of your school. You are Revati, Secretary of the Adventure Club of your school. Draft a notice in about fifty words announcing the expedition and inviting students to join it. Include relevant details like charges, parents' consent letter and last date of submitting the names. (4)
- Q5. Bhanu called up his mother from Bhopal. His mother was not at home. Bhanu's brother Shanu took the message. Write the message on behalf of Shanu in not more than 50 words. (4)

Bhanu - Hello! Bhanu here.

Shanu - Hey, Hello Bhanu! How are you there in Bhopal?

Bhanu - I'm fine. Where is mom?

Shanu - She has gone out for shopping with Pammi Aunty. Why, anything important?

- Bhanu - Yes, please tell her that I'm sending her a cheque of one thousand rupees. I've got it as a 1st Prize in an 'Essay Writing Competition' and I want to give it to her as a birthday gift.
- Shanu - Fine. I'll convey your message.
- Bhanu - Thanks.

SECTION-C (GRAMMAR)

Q6. Replace the incorrectly used prepositions with correct prepositions and write in the space provided: (4x½=2)

- (a) Hyderabad is famous of its pearls _____.
- (b) My grandma is known of her warmth and generosity _____.
- (c) Your sweater is similar with the one that I have _____.
- (d) Anoushka's poems were published on today's newspaper _____.

Q7. Rewrite the sentences given below as directed : (2)

- (a) A class camping trip has been arranged by the school. (Active Voice)
- (b) The students must carry the light bedding (Passive Voice)

Q8. Complete the following sentences by converting the given dialogue with reported speech. (2)

- (a) Rahul : Why are you upset?
- (b) Ravi : My mother is angry with me.
- (c) Rahul : What did you do to make her angry?
- (d) Ravi : I went to my friend's place without her permission.

Rahul asked Ravi (a) _____.

Ravi replied that his (b) _____.

Rahul further asked Ravi what (c) _____.

Ravi answered that (d) _____.

Q9. Rewrite the sentences using the words in the brackets without changing its meanings : (3x1=3)

- (a) Rohan is the tallest boy. (tall)
- (b) Manyata is more talented than her sister (as talented as)
- (c) Audio aid is not as interesting as visual aid (more)

Q10. Insert the given adverbs in the correct place and rewrite the sentences : (3)

- (a) Harry has been delaying his work. (lately)
- (b) My grandfather was tired to go upstairs. (too)
- (c) It took ten minutes to complete the assignment. (hardly)

Q11. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of verb given in brackets : (6x½=3)

As Madan (a) _____ (come) from his office, he (b) _____ (see) a dog being knocked down by a motorcycle. The driver (c) _____ (speed) away. The injured dog (d) _____ (breath) slowly. Madan (e) _____ (take) him to a vet near by. The vet (f) _____ (tell) him that the dog had a fracture.

Q12. Fill in the blanks with appropriate models : (3)

- (a) If you have completed your work you _____ go back home.
- (b) The boy _____ not adjust to the strict rules of the hostel.
- (c) She was _____ taking coffee after meals.

Q13. Fill in the blanks with suitable conjunctions : (4x½=2)

In 1502, the great explorer Christopher Columbus visited the West Indies in search of a sea route to India (a) _____ he was there, the natives told him of a mysterious channel leading into the Pacific Ocean. (b) _____ which ran across the present Panama Canal, joining North America (c) _____ South America. Columbus searched for this channel (d) _____ in vain.

SECTION-D (LITERATURE)

Q14. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follows : (3x1=3)

(A) "Why, Sir, I was just then about to observe,

Those hard-hearted tyrants no longer I'll serve."

- (a) Who is the speaker of the above lines?
- (b) Who does 'hard-hearted tyrants' refer to in these lines?
- (c) Why is the speaker not ready to serve them?

(B) "He told the teller that he didn't want anything, he was just waiting for a man he knew. Suddenly there was a scream or two from the women and a commotion."

(3x1=3)

- (a) Who is referred to as 'he' in the above lines?
- (b) Where was he standing when he spoke the above lines?
- (c) What was the reason of commotion?

Q15. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each : (2x2=4)

- (a) Why does the poet advise not to waste time in preparing for the battle?
- (b) Why did the youngest runner cry and how did the other runners react on hearing his scream?

Q16. Answer the following questions in brief : (2x2=4)

- (a) Why did Jimmy Valentine plan to gift his set of tools to his friend and what made him reuse them?
- (b) Bob and Jimmy Wells were well settled in their life. Who was more successful and why?

Q17. Answer the following question in 80-100 words : (5)

Ben Price had followed Jimmy all the way to Elmore to arrest him but he didn't do so. What made him change his mind?

OR

How and where did Bonku Babu meet Ang? What was the impact of this meeting on Bonku Babu's life?

Q18. Answer the following question in 30-40 words : (2)

Beppo went to the factory before being caught by the police. Why did he go there?

Q19. Answer the following question in 80-100 words : (4)

Holmes solved a baffled mystery of six Napoleons and caught the criminal. Describe the situation in your own words.

OR

Describe the game of musical chair. How did Mukul Sharma maintain the true spirit of sports?

Q20. Answer the following question in 30-40 words : (3)

Describe what the earth looked like when the time machine had come to rest.

Q21. Answer the following question in 80-100 words : (5)

What difficulties did the Traveller have to overcome before he could escape the Morlocks to return in time?

OR

Describe the Palace of Green Porcelain.