

**CBSE XII 2025**

**Chapter and Topic-Wise  
Solved Papers  
2011-2024**

**English Core**

(All Sets : Delhi & All India)

 **Career  
Launcher**

**Title** : CBSE Class XII : Chapter and Topic-wise Solved Papers 2011-2024:  
English Core (All Sets - Delhi & All India)

**Language** : English

**Editor's Name** : Amit Singh

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**Typeset & Published by :**

**Career Launcher Infrastructure (P) Ltd.**

A-45, Mohan Cooperative Industrial Area, Near Mohan Estate Metro Station, New Delhi - 110044

**Marketed by :**

**G.K. Publications (P) Ltd.**

Plot No. 63, Sector-27A, Near Sector - 28 Metro Station, Faridabad, Haryana-121003

**ISBN** : 978-93-56818-21-7

**Printer's Details** : Print in India, New Delhi.

For product information :

Visit [www.gkpublications.com](http://www.gkpublications.com) or email to [gkp@gkpublications.com](mailto:gkp@gkpublications.com)

# English

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# ▶ PREFACE

English is a compulsory but overlooked subject. Sadly, students often lose marks in other subjects because they struggle with English, which is the question paper medium. Your basic concepts of English need to be in place if you want to excel in the Board Examination. At Career Launcher, our goal is not only to help you maximize your scores in Class XII English Board Exam, but also to lay a strong foundation in the subject to help you get ahead in your college and professional career. The question paper pattern of Class XII English paper has kept students on their toes by throwing unexpected questions which require in-depth chapter reading and conceptual clarity. Bearing in mind this unpredictable nature of English Exam, we've come up with Chapter-wise Solved Papers for English for Class XII - to help you prepare better and face the Boards with confidence.

Exclusively designed for the students of CBSE Class XII by highly experienced teachers, the book provides solutions to all actual questions of English Board Exams conducted from 2011 to 2024. The solutions have been prepared exactly in coherence with the latest marking pattern; after a careful evaluation of previous year trends of the questions asked in Class XII Boards and actual solutions provided by CBSE.

The book follows a two-pronged approach to make your study more focused. The questions have been arranged Chapter-wise so that you can begin your preparation with the areas that demand more attention, followed by break-down as per the marking pattern. This division will equip you with the ability to gauge which questions require more emphasis and answer accordingly.

We hope the book provides the right exposure to Class XII students so that you not only ace your Boards but mold a better future for yourself. And as always, Career Launcher's school team is behind you with its experienced gurus to help your career take wings.

Let's face the Boards with more confidence!

Wishing you all the best,

**Team CL**

# Blueprint & Marks Distribution

Class 12<sup>th</sup> English 2024-25 Question Paper Design

Section	Competencies	Total marks
<b>Reading Skills</b>	Conceptual understanding, decoding, Analyzing, inferring, interpreting, appreciating, literary, conventions and vocabulary, summarizing and using appropriate format/s.	22
<b>Creative Writing Skills</b>	Conceptual Understanding, application of rules, Analysis, Reasoning, appropriacy of style and tone, using appropriate format and fluency, inference, analysis, evaluation and creativity.	18
<b>Literature Text Books and Supplementary Reading Texts</b>	Recalling, reasoning, critical thinking, appreciating literary convention, inference, analysis, creativity with fluency.	40
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>Internal Assessment</b>		<b>20</b>
	<b>Assessment of Listening and Speaking Skills</b>	
	• Listening	5
	• Speaking	5
	Project Work	10
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>

## SECTION A

### Reading Skills

#### Reading Comprehension through Unseen Passage

22 Marks

- I. One unseen passage to assess comprehension, interpretation and inference. Vocabulary and inference of meaning will also be assessed. The passage may be factual, descriptive or literary. (12x1 = 12 Marks)
- II. One unseen case-based passage with verbal/visual inputs like statistical data, charts etc. (10x1 = 10 Marks)

**Note:** The combined word limit for both the passages will be 700-750 words.

Multiple Choice Questions / Objective Type Questions will be asked.

## SECTION B

#### III. Creative Writing Skills

18 Marks

The section has Short and Long writing tasks.

- i. Notice up to 50 words. One out of the two given questions to be answered. (4 Marks: Format : 1 / Organisation of Ideas: 1/Content : 2 / Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar : 1 ).
- ii. Formal/Informal Invitation and Reply up to 50 words. One out of the two given questions to be answered. (4 Marks: Format : 1 / Organisation of Ideas: 1/Content : 2 / Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar :1 ).
- iii. Letters based on verbal/visual input, to be answered in approximately 120-150 words. Letter types include application for a job with bio data or resume. Letters to the editor (giving suggestions or opinion on issues of public interest) . One out of the two given questions to be answered . (5 Marks: Format : 1 / Organisation of Ideas: 1/Content : 2 / Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar :1 ).
- iv. Article/ Report Writing, descriptive and analytical in nature, based on verbal inputs, to be answered in 120-150 words. One out of the two given questions to be. (5 Marks: Format : 1 / Organisation of Ideas: 1/Content : 2 / Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar :1 ).

## SECTION C

### Literature Text Book and Supplementary Reading Text

This section will have variety of assessment items including Multiple Choice Questions, Objective Type Questions, Short Answer Type Questions and Long Answer Type Questions to assess comprehension, analysis, interpretation and extrapolation beyond the text.

#### IV. Reference to the Context

40 Marks

- i. One Poetry extract out of two from the book Flamingo to assess comprehension, interpretation, analysis and appreciation. (6x1=6 Marks)
- ii. One Prose extract out of two from the book Vistas to assess comprehension, interpretation, analysis and appreciation. (4x1=4 Marks)
- iii. One prose extract out of two from the book Flamingo to assess comprehension, interpretation and analysis. (6x1=6Marks)
- iv. Short answer type question (from Prose and Poetry from the book Flamingo), to be answered in 40-50 words. Questions should elicit inferential responses through critical thinking. Five questions out of the six given are to be answered. (5x2=10 Marks)
- v. Short answer type question, from Prose (Vistas), to be answered in 40 - 50 words. Questions should elicit inferential responses through critical thinking. Any 2 out of 3 questions to be done. (2x2=4 Marks)
- vi. One Long answer type question, from Prose/Poetry (Flamingo), to be answered in 120-150 words. Questions can be based on incident / theme / passage / extract / event as reference points to assess extrapolation beyond and across the text. The question will elicit analytical and evaluative response from student. Any 1 out of 2 questions to be done. (1x5=5 Marks)
- vii. One Long answer type question, based on the chapters from the book Vistas, to be answered in 120-150 words to assess global comprehension and extrapolation beyond the text. Questions to provide evaluative and analytical responses using incidents, events, themes as reference points. Any 1 out of 2 questions to be done. (1x5=5 Marks)

#### Prescribed Books

1. **Flamingo:** English Reader published by National Council of Education Research and Training, New Delhi

##### (Prose)

- The Last Lesson
- Lost Spring
- Deep Water
- The Rattrap
- Indigo
- Poets and Pancakes
- The Interview
- Going Places

(Poetry)

- My Mother at Sixty-Six
  - Keeping Quiet
  - A Thing of Beauty
  - A Roadside Stand
  - Aunt Jennifer's Tigers
2. **Vistas:** Supplementary Reader published by National Council of Education Research and Training, New Delhi
- The Third Level
  - The Tiger King
  - Journey to the end of the Earth
  - The Enemy
  - On the Face of It
  - Memories of Childhood
    - › The Cutting of My Long Hair
    - › We Too are Human Beings

**INTERNAL ASSESSMENT**

Assessment of Listening Skills - 5 Marks

Assessment of Speaking Skills - 5 Marks

Project Work - 10 Marks



SECTION **A** 

# Reading



# READING COMPREHENSION

## Summary

### Introduction:

A comprehension passage is a text set which is used to test the reader's ability to understand the meaning which is being forwarded through the text and the title of that particular passage. Comprehension should be understood using one's own critical thinking.

One should be familiar with the entire passage to answer the questions asked in the given comprehension as the questions asked in the passage are generally in chronological relationship with the passage. It basically means that the answer to question 1 should ideally be found earlier in the passage than questions 2.

### Types of Comprehension Passage:

- (i) **Factual Passages:** They contain some facts like historical facts or some achievements attained by somebody. It can also be the report or description of something. It can also contain some instruction regarding something.
- (ii) **Discursive Passages :** These passages are argumentative in nature as they often involve opinion.
- (iii) **Literary Passages:** These are usually taken from literary pieces.

### Tips to know:

**Here are some important points that should be followed while attempting an unfamiliar passage:**

- (i) The passage should be read quietly.
- (ii) To make out the correct sense the complete sentence should be read. It is important to get the main idea before reading the questions.
- (iii) One should not get nervous with the difficult words used in the passage.
- (iv) Answer to the given questions should be relevant and to the point and should be written in a complete sentence.
- (v) The section of the passage which contain the answer to the asked question should be read twice to draw the correct meaning.
- (vi) The answers should be written in own words as much as possible.

(vii) For answering the vocabulary questions, same parts of speech should be used as given in the question.

(viii) The order of the questions should be maintained.

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## PREVIOUS YEARS' EXAMINATION QUESTIONS

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

[DELHI & ALL INDIA 2011]

1. For many years now the Governments have been promising the eradication of child labour in hazardous industries in India. But the truth is that despite all the rhetoric no Government so far has succeeded in eradicating this evil, nor has any could ensure compulsory primary education for every Indian child. Between 60 and 100 million children are still at work instead of going to school and around 10 million are working in hazardous industries. India has the biggest child population of 380 million in the world; plus, the largest number of children who are forced to earn a living.
2. We have many laws that ban child labour in hazardous industries. Per the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986, the employment of children below the age of 14 in hazardous occupations has been strictly banned. But each state has different rules regarding the minimum age of employment. This makes implementation of these laws difficult.
3. Also, there is no ban on child labour in non-hazardous occupations. The act applies to the organised or factory sector and not the unorganized or informal sector where most children find employment as cleaners, servants, porters, waiters among other forms of unskilled work. Thus, child labour continues because of the implementation of the existing laws in lax.

4. There are industries, which have a special demand for child labour because of their nimble fingers, high level of concentration and capacity to work hard at abysmally low wages. The carpet industry in U.P. and Kashmir employs children to make hand-knotted carpets. There are 80,000 child workers in Jammu & Kashmir alone. In Kashmir because of the political unrest, children are forced to work while many schools are shut. Industries like gem cutting and polishing pottery and glass want to remain competitive by employing children.
5. The truth is that it is poverty which is pushing children into the brutish labour market. We have 260 million people below the poverty line in India, many of them are women. Poor and especially woman-headed families have no option but to push their little ones in this hard life in hostile conditions, with no human or labour rights.
6. There is a lobby which argues that there is nothing wrong with children working if the environment for work is conducive to learning new skills but studies have shown that the children are made to do boring, repetitive and tedious jobs and are not taught new skills as they grow older. In these hell-holes like the sweet shops of the old, there is no hope.
7. Children working in hazardous industries are prone to debilitating diseases which can cripple them for life. By sitting in cramped, damp and unhygienic spaces, their limbs become deformed for life. Inside matchstick, fireworks and glass industries they are victims of bronchial diseases and TB. Their mental and physical development is permanently impaired by long hours of work. Once trapped, they can't get out of this vicious circle of poverty. They remain uneducated and powerless. Finally, in later years, they too are compelled to send their own children to work. Child labour perpetuates its own nightmare.
8. If at all the Government was serious about granting children their rights, an intensive effort ought to have been made to implement the Supreme Court's Directive of 1997 which laid down punitive action against employers of child labour. Only compulsory primary education can eliminate child labour.
9. Surely, if 380 million children are given a better life and elementary education, India's human capital would be greatly enhanced. But that needs, as former President Abdul Kalam says, "a Second Vision".
- [12 marks]**
- (a) (i) On which two counts has the Government not succeeded so far in respect of children? **[2 marks]**
- (ii) What makes the implementation of child labour law difficult? **[2 marks]**
- (iii) Why do the industries prefer child labour? **[2 marks]**
- (iv) What are the adverse effects of hazardous industries on children? Give any two. **[2 marks]**
- (v) What does the Supreme Court's Directive of 1997 provide? **[1 mark]**
- (b) Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following: **[3 marks]**
- (i) risky/dangerous (para 1)
- (ii) very unfriendly (para 5)
2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: **[12 marks]**
- [DELHI & ALL INDIA 2012]**
1. While there is no denying that the world loves a winner, it is important that you recognize the signs of stress in your behaviour and be healthy enough to enjoy your success. Stress can strike anytime, in a fashion that may leave you unaware of its presence in your life. While a certain amount of pressure is necessary for performance, it is important to be able to recognise your individual limit. For instance, there are some individuals who accept competition in a healthy fashion. There are others who collapse into weeping wrecks before an exam or on comparing marks-sheets and finding that their friend has scored better.
2. Stress is a body reaction to any demands or changes in its internal and external environment. Whenever there is a change in the external environment such as temperature, pollutants, humidity and working conditions, it leads to stress. In these days of competition when a person makes up his mind to surpass what has been

- achieved by other, leading to an imbalance between demands and resources, it causes psycho-social stress. It is a part and parcel of everyday life.
3. Stress has a different meaning, depending on the stage of life you are in. The loss of a toy or a reprimand from the parents might create a stress shock in a child. An adolescent who fails an examination may feel as if everything has been lost and life has no further meaning. In an adult, the loss of his or her companion, job or profession failure may appear as if there is nothing more to be achieved.
  4. Such signs appear in the attitude and behaviour of the individual, as muscle tension in various parts of the body, palpitation and high blood pressure, indigestion and hyperacidity. Ultimately the result is self-destructive behaviour such as eating and drinking too much smoking excessively, relying on tranquillizers. There are other signs of stress such as trembling, shaking, nervous blinking, dryness of throat and mouth and difficulty in swallowing.
  5. The professional under stress behaves as if he is a perfectionist. It leads to depression, lethargy and weakness. Periodic mood shifts also indicate the stress status of the students, executives and professionals.
  6. In a study sponsored by World Health Organization and carried out by Harvard School of Public Health, the global burden of diseases and injury indicated that stress diseases and accidents are going to be the major killers in 2020.
  7. The heart disease and depression-both stress diseases-are going to rank first and second in 2020. Road traffic accidents are going to be the third largest killers. These accidents are also an indicator of psycho-social stress in a fast-moving society. Other stresses like ulcers, hypertension and sleeplessness have assumed epidemic proportions in modern societies.
  8. A person under stress reacts in different ways and the common ones are flight, fight and flee depending upon the nature of the stress and capabilities of the person. The three responses can be elegantly chosen to cope with the stress so that stress does not damage the system and become distressed.
  9. When a stress crosses the limit peculiar to an individual, it lowers his performance capacity. Frequent crossings of the limit may result in chronic fatigue in which a person feels lethargic disinterested and is not easily motivated to achieve anything. This may make the person mentally undecided, confused and accident prone as well. Sudden exposure to unnerving stress may also result in a loss of memory. Diet, massage, food supplements, herbal medicines, hobbies, relaxation techniques and dance movements are excellent stress busters.
    - (a) (i) What is stress? What factors lead to stress? [2 marks]
    - (ii) What are the signs by which a person can know that he is under stress? [2 marks]
    - (iii) What are the different diseases a person gets due to stress? [2 marks]
    - (iv) Give any two examples of stress busters. [1 mark]
    - (v) How does a person react under stress? [2 marks]
  - (b) Which words in the above passage mean the same as the following: [3 marks]
    - (i) fall down (para 1)
    - (ii) rebuke (para 3)
    - (iii) inactive (para 9)
3. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:
- [DELHI & ALL INDIA 2013]**
1. Air pollution is an issue which concerns us all alike. One can willingly choose or reject a food, a drink or a life comfort, but unfortunately, there is little choice for the air we breathe. All, what is there in the air is inhaled by one and all living in those surroundings.
  2. Air pollutant is defined as a substance which is present while normally it is not there or presents in an amount exceeding the normal concentrations. It could either be gaseous or a particulate matter. The important and harmful polluting gases are carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, ozone and oxides of sulphur and nitrogen. The common particulate pollutants are the dust of various

- inorganic or organic origins. Although we often talk of the outdoor air pollution caused by industrial and vehicular exhausts, the indoor pollution may prove to be as or a more important cause of health problems.
3. Recognition of air pollution is relatively recent. It is not uncommon to experience a feeling of 'suffocation' in a closed environment. It is often ascribed of the lack of oxygen. Fortunately, however, the composition of air is remarkably constant all over the world. There are about 7.9 per cent nitrogen and 21 per cent oxygen in the air-the other gases forming a very small fraction. It is true that carbon dioxide exhaled out of lungs may accumulate in a closed and over-crowded place. But such an increase is usually small and temporary unless the room is air-tight. Exposure to poisonous gases such as carbon monoxide may occur in a closed room, heated by burning coal inside. This may also prove to be fatal.
  4. What is more common in a poorly ventilated home is a vague constellation of symptoms described as the sick-building syndrome. It is characterized by a general feeling of malaise, head-ache, dizziness and irritation of mucous membranes. It may also be accompanied by nausea, itching, aches, pains and depression. Sick building syndrome is getting commoner in big cities with the small houses, which are generally over-furnished. Some of the important pollutants whose indoor concentrations exceed those of the outdoors include gases such as carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, oxides of nitrogen and organic substances like spores, formaldehydes, hydrocarbon aerosols and allergens. The sources are attributed to a variety of construction materials, insulations, furnishings, adhesives, cosmetics, house dust, fungi and other indoor products.
  5. By-products of fuel combustion are important in houses with indoor kitchens. It is not only the burning of dried dung and fuel-wood which is responsible but also kerosene and liquid petroleum gas. Oxides of both nitrogen and sulphur are released from their combustion.
  6. Smoking of tobacco in the closed environment is an important source of indoor pollution. It may not be high quantitatively, but significantly hazardous for health. It is because of the fact that there are over 3000 chemical constituents in tobacco smoke, which have been identified. These are harmful to human health.
  7. Micro-organisms and allergens are of special significance in the causation and spread of diseases. Most of the infective illnesses may involve more persons of a family living in common indoor environment. These include viral and bacterial diseases like tuberculosis.
  8. Besides infections, allergic and hypersensitivity disorders are spreading fast. Although asthma is the most common form of respiratory allergic disorders, pneumonia are not uncommon, but more persistent and serious. These are attributed to exposures to allergens from various fungi, moulds, hay and other organic materials. Indoor air ventilation systems; coolers, air-conditioners, dampness, decay, pet animals, production or handling of the causative items are responsible for these hypersensitivity-diseases.
  9. Obviously, the spectrum of pollution is very wide and our options are limited. Indoor pollution may be handled relatively easily by an individual. Moreover, the good work must start from one's own house.
- (a) (i) What is an air pollutant? [1 mark]
  - (ii) In what forms are the air pollutants present? [2 marks]
  - (iii) Why do we feel suffocated in a closed environment? [1 mark]
  - (iv) What is sick building syndrome? How is it increasing? [2 marks]
  - (v) How is indoor smoking hazardous? [1 mark]
  - (vi) How can one overcome the dangers of indoor air pollution? [2 marks]
  - (b) Find the words from the above passage which mean the same as the following: [3 marks]
    - (i) giddiness (para 4)
    - (ii) constant (para 8)
    - (iii) humidity (para,8)

4. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: [8 marks]

[DELHI & ALL INDIA 2013]

The term dietary fibres refer collectively to indigestible carbohydrates present in plant foods. The importance of these dietary fibres came into the picture when it was observed that the people having a diet rich in these fibres, had low incidence of coronary heart disease, irritable bowel syndrome, dental caries and gall stones.

The foodstuffs rich in these dietary fibres are cereals and grains, legumes, fruits with seeds, citrus fruits, carrots, cabbage, green leafy vegetables, apples, melons, peaches, pears etc.

These dietary fibres are not digested by the enzymes of the stomach and the small intestine whereas most of other carbohydrates like starch and sugar are digested and absorbed. The dietary fibres have the property of holding water and because of it, these get swollen and behave like a sponge as these pass through the gastrointestinal tract. The fibres add bulk to the diet and increase transit time in the gut. Some of these fibres may undergo fermentation in the colon. In recent years, it has been considered essential to have some amount of fibres in the diet. Their beneficial effects lie in preventing coronary heart disease, and decreasing cholesterol level. The fibres like gums and pectin are reported to decrease post-prandial (after meals) glucose level in blood. These types of dietary fibres are recommended for the management of certain types of diabetes. Recent studies have shown that the fenugreek (Methi) seeds, which contain 40 per cent Burn, are effective in decreasing blood glucose and cholesterol levels as compared to other gum containing vegetables.

Some dietary fibres increase transit time and decrease the time or release of ingested food in colon. The diet having less fibre is associated with colon cancer and the dietary fibres may play a role in decreasing the risk of it.

The dietary fibres hold water so that stools are soft, bulky and readily eliminated. Therefore, high fibre intake prevents or relieves constipation. The fibres increase motility of the small intestine and the colon and by decreasing the transit time there 'is less time for exposure of the mucosa to harmful toxic substances.

Therefore, there is a less desire to eat and the energy intake can be maintained within the range of requirement. This phenomenon helps in keeping a check on obesity. Another reason in helping to decrease obesity is that the high-fibre diets have somewhat lower coefficients of digestibility.

The dietary fibres may have some adverse effects on nutrition by binding some trace metals like calcium, magnesium, phosphorus, zinc and others and therefore preventing their proper absorption. This may pose a possibility of nutritional deficiency especially when diets contain marginal levels of mineral elements. This may become important constraints on increasing dietary fibres. It is suggested that an intake of 40 grams dietary fibres per day is desirable.

(Extracted from 'The Tribune')

- (a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it in recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Also, suggest a suitable title.
- (b) Write a summary of the above in about 80 words. [3 marks]
5. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow: [12 marks]

[DELHI & ALL INDIA 2014]

1. Too many parents these days can't say no. As a result, they find themselves raising, children, who respond greedily to the advertisements aimed right at them. Even getting what they want doesn't satisfy some kids; they only want more. Now, a growing number of psychologists, educators and parents think it's time to stop the madness and start teaching kids about what's really important: values like hard work, contentment, honesty and compassion. The struggle to set limits has never been tougher and the stakes have never been higher. One recent study of adults who were overindulged as children paint a discouraging picture of their future: when given too much too soon they grow up to be adults who have difficulty coping with life's disappointments. They also have distorted sense of entitlement that gets in the way of success in the workplace and in relationships.

2. Psychologists say that parents who overindulge their kids set them up to be more vulnerable to future anxiety and depression. Today's parents themselves raised on values of thrift and self-sacrifice, grew up in a culture where no was a household word. Today's kids want much more, partly because there is so much more to want. The oldest members of this generation were born in the late 1980s, just as pcs and video games were making them assault on the family room. They think of MP3 players and flat-screen TV as essential utilities, and they have developed strategies to get them. One survey of teenagers found that when they crave for something new most expect to ask nine times before their parents give in. By every measure, parents are shelling out record amounts. In the heat of this buying blitz, even parents who desperately need to say no find themselves reaching for their credit cards.
3. Today's parents aren't equipped to deal with the problem. Many of them, raised in the 1960s and '70s, swore they'd act differently from their parents and have closer relationships with their own children. Many even wear the same designer clothes as their kids and listen to the same music. And they work more hours; at the end of a long week, it's tempting to buy peace with 'yes' and not mar precious family time with conflict. Anxiety about future is another factor. How do well intentioned parents say no to all the sports gear and arts and language lessons they believe will help their kids thrive in an increasingly competitive world? Experts agree: too much love won't spoil a child. Too few limits will.
4. What parents need to find, is a balance between the advantages of an affluent society and the critical life lessons that come from waiting, saving and working hard to achieve goals. That search for balance must start early. Children need limits on their behaviour because they feel better and more secure when they live within a secured structure. Older children learn self-control by watching how others, especially parents act. Learning how to overcome challenges is essential to becoming a successful adult. Few parents ask kids to do chores. They

think their kids are already overburdened by social and academic pressures. Every individual can be of service to others, and life has meaning beyond one's own immediate happiness. That means parents are eager to teach values have to take a long, hard look at their own.

(a) Answer the following:

- (1) What values do parents and teachers want children to learn? [2 marks]
- (2) What are the results of giving the children too much too soon? [2 marks]
- (3) Why do today's children want more? [1 mark]
- (4) What is the balance which the parents need to have in today's world? [2 marks]
- (5) What is the necessity to set limits for children? [2 marks]

(b) Pick out words from the passage that mean the same as the following: [3 marks]

- (1) a feeling of satisfaction (para 1)
- (2) valuable (para 3)
- (3) important (para 4)

6. Read the passage given below carefully:

[12 marks]

[DELHI & ALL INDIA 2015]

1. For four days, I walked through the narrow lanes of the old city, enjoying the romance of being in a city where history still lives — in its cobblestone streets and in its people riding asses, carrying vine leaves and palm as they once did during the time of Christ.
2. This is Jerusalem, home to the sacred sites of Christianity, Islam and Judaism. This is the place that houses the church of the Holy Sepulchre, the place where Jesus was finally laid to rest. This is also the site of Christ's crucifixion, burial and resurrection.
3. Built by the Roman Emperor Constantine at the site of an earlier temple to Aphrodite, it is the most venerated Christian shrine in the world. And justifiably so. Here, within the church, are the last five stations of the cross, the 10th station where Jesus was stripped of his clothes, the 11th where he was nailed to the cross, the 12th where he died on the cross, the 13th where the body was removed from the cross, and the 14th, his tomb.

4. For all this weighty tradition, the approach and entrance to the church is non-descript. You have to ask for directions. Even to the devout Christian pilgrims walking along the Via Dolorosa – the Way of Sorrows – first nine stations look clueless. Then a courtyard appears, hemmed in by other buildings and a doorway to one side. This leads to a vast area of huge stone architecture.
5. Immediately inside the entrance is your first stop. It's the stone of anointing; this is the place, according to Greek tradition, where Christ was removed from the cross. The Roman Catholics, however, believe it to be the spot where Jesus' body was prepared for burial by Joseph.
6. What happened next? Jesus was buried. He was taken to a place outside the city of Jerusalem where other graves existed and there, he was buried in a cave. However, all that is long gone, destroyed by continued attacks and rebuilding; what remains is the massive — and impressive — Rotunda (a round building with a dome) that Emperor Constantine built. Under this, and right in the centre of the Rotunda, is the structure that contains the Holy Sepulchre.
7. "How do you know that this is Jesus' tomb?" I asked one of the pilgrims standing next to me. He was clueless, more interested, like the rest of them, in the novelty of it all and in photographing it, than in its history or tradition.
8. At the start of the first century, the place was a disused quarry outside the city walls. According to the gospels, Jesus' crucifixion occurred 'at a place outside the city walls with graves nearby.....'. Archaeologists have discovered tombs from that era, so the site is compatible with the biblical period.
9. The structure at the site is a marble tomb built over the original burial chamber. It has two rooms, and you enter four at a time into the first of these, the Chapel of the Angel. Here the angel is supposed to have sat on a stone to recount Christ's resurrection. A low door made of white marble, partly worn away by pilgrims' hands, leads to a smaller chamber inside. This is the 'room of the tomb', the place where Jesus was buried.
10. We entered in single file. On my right was a large marble slab that covered the Original rock bench on which the body of Jesus was

laid. A woman knelt and prayed. Her eyes were wet with tears. She pressed her face against the slab to hide them, but it only made it worse.

On the basis of your understanding of this passage answer the following questions with the help of given options: [4 marks]

- (a) How does Jerusalem still retain the charm of ancient era?
  - (i) There are narrow lanes
  - (ii) Roads are paved with cobblestones
  - (iii) People can be seen riding asses
  - (iv) All of the above
- (b) Holy Sepulchre is sacred to \_\_\_\_\_
  - (i) Christianity
  - (ii) Islam
  - (iii) Judaism
  - (iv) Both (i) and (iii)
- (c) Why does one have to constantly ask for directions to the church?
  - (i) Its lanes are narrow
  - (ii) Entrance to the church is nondescript
  - (iii) People are not tourist- friendly
  - (iv) Everyone is lost in enjoying the romance of the place
- (d) Where was Jesus buried?
  - (i) In a cave
  - (ii) At a place outside the city
  - (iii) In the Holy Sepulchre
  - (iv) Both (i) and (ii)

Answer the following questions briefly:

[6 marks]

- (e) What is the Greek belief about the 'stone of anointing'?
- (f) Why did Emperor Constantine build the Rotunda?
- (g) What is the general attitude of the pilgrims?
- (h) How is the site compatible with the biblical period?
- (i) Why did the pilgrims enter the room of the tomb in a single file?
- (j) Why did a woman 'try to hide her tears'?
- (k) Find words from the passage which mean the same as: [2 marks]
  - (i) A large grave (para 3)
  - (ii) Having no interesting features/dull (para 4)

7. Read the passage given below: [10 marks]

[DELHI & ALL INDIA 2015]

1. We often make all things around us the way we want them. Even during our pilgrimages we have begun to look for whatever makes our heart happy, gives comfort to our body and peace to the mind. It is as if external solutions will fulfil our needs, and we do not want to make any special efforts even in our spiritual search. Our mind is resourceful-it works to find shortcuts in simple and easy ways.
2. Even pilgrimages have been converted into tourism opportunities. Instead, we must awaken our conscience and souls and understand the truth. Let us not tamper with either our own nature or that of the Supreme.
3. All our cleverness is rendered ineffective when nature does a dance of destruction. Its fury can and will wash away all imperfections. Indian culture, based on Vedic treatises, assists in human evolution, but we are now using our entire energy in distorting these traditions according to our convenience instead of making efforts to make ourselves worthy of them.
4. The irony is that humans are not even aware of the complacent attitude they have allowed themselves to sink to. Nature is everyone's Amma and her fierce blows will sooner or later corner us and force us to understand this truth. Earlier, pilgrimages to places of spiritual significance were rituals that were undertaken when people became free from their worldly duties. Even now some seekers take up this pious religious journey as a path to peace and knowledge. Anyone travelling with this attitude feels and travels with only a few essential items that his body can carry. Pilgrims traditionally travelled light, on foot, eating light, dried chickpeas and fruits, or whatever was available. Pilgrims of olden days did not feel the need to stay in special AC bedrooms, or travel by luxury cars or indulge themselves with delicious food and savouries.
5. Pilgrims traditionally moved ahead, creating a feeling of belonging towards all, conveying a message of brotherhood among all they came across whether in small caves,

ashrams or local settlements. They received the blessings and congregations of yogis and mahatma's in return while conducting the dharma of their pilgrimage. A pilgrimage is like penance or sadhana to stay near nature and to experience a feeling of oneness with it, to keep the body healthy and fulfilled with the amount of food, while seeking freedom from attachments and yet remaining happy while staying away from relatives and associates.

6. This is how a pilgrimage should be rather than making it like a picnic by taking a large group along and living in comfort, packing in entertainment, and tampering with the environment. What is worse is giving a boost to the ego of having had a special darshan. Now alms are distributed, charity done while they brag about their spiritual experiences!
7. We must embark on our spiritual journey by first understanding the grace and significance of a pilgrimage and following it up with the prescribed rules and rituals-this is what translates into the ultimate and beautiful medium of spiritual evolution. There is no justification for tampering with nature.
8. A pilgrimage is symbolic of contemplation and meditation and acceptance, and is a metaphor for the constant growth or movement and love for nature that we should hold in our hearts.
9. This is the truth!

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage: answer the questions that follow with the help of given options: [2 marks]

- (a) How can a pilgrim keep his body healthy?
  - (i) By travelling light
  - (ii) By eating a small amount of food
  - (iii) By keeping free from attachments
  - (iv) Both (i) and (ii)
- (b) How do we satisfy our ego?
  - (i) By having a special darshan
  - (ii) By distributing alms
  - (iii) By treating it like a picnic
  - (iv) Both (i) and (ii)

Answer the following as briefly as possible:

[6 marks]

- (c) What change has taken place in our attitude towards pilgrimages?
- (d) What happens when pilgrimages are turned into picnics?
- (e) Why are we complacent in our spiritual efforts?
- (f) How does nature respond when we try to be clever with it?
- (g) In olden days with what attitude did people go on a pilgrimage?
- (h) What message does the passage convey to the pilgrims?
- (i) Find words from the Passage which mean the same as the following:

[2 marks]

- (i) made/turned (para 3)
- (ii) very satisfied (Para 4)

## 8. Title - Listening Verses Hearing

Read the passage given below: [12 marks]

**[DELHI & ALL INDIA 2016]**

1. Maharana Pratap ruled over Mewar only for 25 years. However, he accomplished so much grandeur during his reign that his glory surpassed the boundaries of countries and time turning him into an immortal personality. He along with his kingdom became a synonym for valor, sacrifice and patriotism. Mewar had been a leading Rajput kingdom even before Maharana Pratap occupied the throne' Kings of Mewar, with the cooperation of their nobles and subjects, had established such traditions in the kingdom, as augmented them magnificence despite the hurdles of having a smaller area under their command and less population. There did come a few thorny occasions where the flag of the kingdom seemed sliding down. Their flag once again heaved high in the sky thanks to the gallantry and brilliance of the People of Mewar.
2. The destiny of Mewar was good in the sense that barring a few kings, most of the rulers were competent and patriotic. This glorious tradition of the kingdom almost continued for 1500 years since its establishment, right from the reign of Bappa Rawal. In fact, only 60 Years before Maharana Pratap, Rana Sagna drove the kingdom to the pinnacle of fame. His reputation went beyond Rajasthan and reached Delhi. Two generations before him, Rana Kumbha had given a new status to the kingdom through victories and development work. During his reign, literature and art also progressed extraordinarily. Ratna himself was inclined towards writing and his works are read with reverence even today. The ambience of his kingdom was conducive to the creation of high-quality work of art and literature These accomplishments were the outcome of a longstanding tradition sustained by several generations.
3. The life of the people of Mewar must have been peaceful and prosperous during the Long span of time; otherwise such extraordinary accomplishment in these fields would not have been possible. This is reflected in their art and literature as well as their loving nature. They compensate for lack of admirable physique their firm but pleasant nature. The ambience of Mewar remains lovely thanks to the cheerful and liberal character of its people.
4. One may observe astonishing pieces of workmanship not only in the forts and palaces of Mewar but also in public utility buildings. Ruins of many structures which are still standing tall in their grandeur are testimony to the fact that Mewar was not only the land of the brave but also art flourished and creative pursuits of literature and artists did not suffer. Imagine, glorious the period must have been when the Vijaya Stambha which is the sample of our great ancient architecture even today, was constructed. In the same fort, Kirti Stambha is standing high, reflecting how liberal the then administration was which allowed people from other communities and kingdoms to come and carry out construction work. It is useless to indulge in the debate whether the Vijaya Stambha was constructed first or the Kirti Stambha. The fact is that both the capitals are standing side by side and reveal the proximity between the king and the subjects of Mewar.

5. The cycle of time does not remain the same. Whereas, the reign of Rana Sanga was crucial in raising the kingdom to the acme of glory, it also proved to be his nemesis. History took a turn. The fortune of Mewar the land of the brave, started waning. Rana tried to save the day with his acumen, which was running against the stream and the glorious traditions for sometimes.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage answer each of the questions given below with the help of the options that follow:

[4 marks]

- (a) Maharana Pratap becomes immortal because:
- he ruled Mewar for 25 years.
  - he added a lot of grandeur to Mewar.
  - of his valour, sacrifice and patriotism.
  - both (ii) and (iii).
- (b) Difficulties in the way of Mewar were:
- lack of cooperation of the nobility.
  - ancient traditions of the kingdom.
  - its small area and small population.
  - the poverty of the subjects
- (c) During thorny occasions:
- the flag of Mewar seemed to be lowered.
  - the flag of Mewar was hoisted high.
  - the people of Mewar showed gallantry.
  - most of the rulers heaved a sigh of relief.
- (d) Mewar was lucky because:
- all of its rulers were competent.
  - most of its people were competent.
  - most of its rulers were competent.
  - only a few of its people were incompetent.

Answer the following question briefly:

[6 marks]

- Who is the earliest king of Mewar mentioned in the passage?
- What was Rana Kumbha's contribution to the glory of Mewar?
- What does the writer find worth admiration in the people of Mewar?
- How could art and literature flourish in Mewar?
- How did the rulers show that they cared for their subjects?
- What does the erection of Vijaya Stambha and Kirti Stambha in the same fort signify?

- (k) Find words from the passage which mean the same as each of the following:

- surprising (para 4)
- evidence (para 4)

9. Read the passage given below: [10 marks]  
[DELHI & ALL INDIA 2016]

- To ensure its perpetuity, the ground is well held by the panther both in space and time. It enjoys a much wider distribution over the globe than its bigger cousins, and procreates sufficiently profusely to ensure its continuity for all time to come.
- There seems to be no breeding season of the panther, although its sawing and caterwauling is more frequently heard during winter and summer. The gestation period is about ninety to hundred days (ninety-two days). The litter normally consists of four cubs, rarely five. Of these, generally, two survive and not more than one reaches maturity I have never come across more than two cubs at the heels of the mother. Likewise, graziers in the forest have generally found only two cubs hidden away among rocks, hollows of trees, and other impossible places.
- Panther cubs are generally in evidence in March. They are born blind. This is a provision of nature against their drifting away from the place of safety in which they are lodged by their mother, and exposing themselves to the danger of there being devoured by hyenas, jackals, and other predators. They generally open their eyes in about three to four weeks.
- The mother alone rears its cubs in seclusion. It keeps them out of the reach of the impulsive and impatient male. As a matter of fact, the mother separates from the male soon after mating and forgets all about their tumultuous union. The story that the male often looks in to find out how the mother is progressing with her cubs has no foundation except in what we wish it should do at least.
- The mother carries its cubs about by holding them by the scruff of their neck in its mouth. It trains them to stalk, and teaches them how to deliver the bite of death to the prey. The cubs learn to treat all and sundry with suspicion at their mother's heels. Instinctively the cubs seek seclusion, keep to cover and protect their flanks by walking along the edge of the forest.

6. I have never had an opportunity to watch mother panther train its cubs. But in Pilibhit forests, I once saw a tigress giving some lessons to its little ones. I was sitting over its kill of Mala. As the sun set, the tigress materialized in the twilight behind my machan. For about an - hour, it scanned and surveyed the entire area looking and listening with the gravest concern. It even went to the road where my elephant was awaiting my signal. The mahout spotted it from a distance and drove the elephant away.
7. When darkness descended upon the scene and all was well and safe, the tigress called its cubs by emitting a low howl. The cubs, two in number and bigger than a full-grown cat, soon responded. They came trotting up to their mother and hurried straight to the kill in indecent haste. The mother spat at them-so furiously that they doubled back to its heels immediately. Thereafter, the mother and its cubs sat under cover about 50 feet (15 m) away from the kill to watch, wait to look and listen. After about half an hour's patient and fidget less vigil the mother seemed to say 'paid for'. At this signal, the cubs cautiously advanced covering their flanks, towards the kill. No longer did they make a beeline for it, as they had done before.
8. The mother sat watching its cubs eat, and mounted guard on them. She did not partake of the meals.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage complete the statements given below with the help of options that follow:

[2 marks]

- (a) To protect its cubs, the mother panther hides them:
- (i) among rocks.
  - (ii) in the branches of the trees.
  - (iii) behind the tree trunks.
  - (iv) at its heels.
- (b) The male panther:
- (i) is protective of its cubs.
  - (ii) trains its cubs.
  - (iii) watches the progress of the mother.
  - (iv) is impulsive and impatient.

Answer the following questions briefly:

[6 marks]

- (c) How many cubs does the mother panther rarely deliver?
- (d) What may happen if the panther cubs are not born blind?
- (e) Why did the mahouts drive his elephant away?
- (f) Why did the tigress spit at its cubs?
- (g) From the narrator's observation, what do we learn about the nature of the tigers?
- (h) Why does the panther not face the risk of extinction?
- (i) Find words from the passage which mean the same as each of the following:

[2 marks]

(a) moving aimlessly (para 3)

(b) came down/fell (para7)

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

[DELHI & ALL INDIA 2017]

1. We sit in the last row, bumped about but free of stares. The bus rolls out of the dull crossroads of the city, and we are soon in open countryside, with fields of sunflowers as far as the eye can see, their heads all facing us. Where there is no water, the land reverts to desert. While still on level ground we see in the distance the tall range of the Mount Bogda, abrupt like a shining prism laid horizontally on the desert surface. It is over 5,000 metres high, and the peaks are under permanent snow, in powerful contrast to the flat desert all around. Heaven Lake lies part of the way up this range, about 2,000 metres above sea level, at the foot of one of the higher snow-peaks.
2. As the bus climbs, the sky, brilliant before, grows overcast. I have brought nothing warm to wear: it is all down at the hotel in Urumqi. Rain begins to fall. The man behind me is eating overpoweringly smelly goat's cheese. The bus window leaks inhospitably but reveals a beautiful view. We have passed quickly from desert through arable land to pasture, and the ground is now green with grass, the slopes dark with pine. A few cattle drink from a clear stream flowing past moss-covered stones; it is a Constable landscape. The stream hanges into a white torrent, and as we climb higher I wished more and more that I had brought with me something

warmer than the pair of shorts that have served me so well in the desert. The stream (which, we are told, rises in Heaven Lake) disappears, and we continue our slow ascent. About noon, we arrive at Heaven Lake, and look for a place to stay at the foot, which is the resort area. We get a room in a small cottage, and I am happy to note that there are thick quilts on the beds.

3. Standing outside the cottage we survey our surroundings. Heaven Lake is long, sardine-shaped and fed by snowmelt from a stream at its head. The lake is an intense blue, surrounded on all sides by green mountain walls, dotted with distant sheep. At the head of the lake, beyond the delta of the inflowing stream, is a massive snow-capped peak which dominates the vista; it is part of a series of peaks that culminate, a little out of view, in Mount Bogda itself.
4. For those who live in the resort, there is a small mess-hall by the shore. We eat here sometimes and sometimes buy food from the vendors outside, who sell kabab and naan until the last bus leaves. The kababs, cooked on skewers over charcoal braziers, are particularly good; highly spiced and well-done. Horse's milk is available too from the local Kazakh herdsmen, but I decline this. I am so affected by the cold that Mr. Cao, the relaxed young man who runs the mess, lends me a spare pair of trousers, several sizes too large but more than comfortable. Once I am warm again, I feel a pre-dinner spurt of energy – dinner will be long in coming – and I ask him whether the lake is good for swimming in.
5. "Swimming?" Mr. Cao says. "You aren't thinking of swimming, are you?"
6. "I thought I might," I confess. "What's the water like?"
7. He doesn't answer me immediately, turning instead to examine some receipts with exaggerated interest. Mr. Cao, with great off-handedness, addresses the air. "People are often drowned here," he says. After a pause, he continues. "When was the last one?" This question is directed at the cook, who is preparing a tray of mantou (squat white steamed bread rolls), and who now

appears, wiping his doughy hand across his forehead. "Was it the Beijing athlete?" asks Mr. Cao.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, complete the statements given below with the help of options that follow:

- (a) One benefit of sitting in the last row of the bus was that:
  - (i) the narrator enjoyed the bumps.
  - (ii) no one stared at him.
  - (iii) he could see the sunflowers.
  - (iv) he avoided the dullness of the city.
- (b) The narrator was travelling to:
  - (i) Mount Bogda
  - (ii) Heaven Lake
  - (iii) a 2000 metre high snow peak
  - (iv) Urumqi
- (c) On reaching the destination the narrator felt relieved because:
  - (i) he had got away from the desert.
  - (ii) a difficult journey had come to an end.
  - (iii) he could watch the snow peak.
  - (iv) there were thick quilts on the bed.
- (d) Mount Bogda is compared to :
  - (i) a horizontal desert surface
  - (ii) a shining prism
  - (iii) a Constable landscape
  - (iv) the overcast sky

Answer the following questions briefly:

- (e) Which two things in the bus made the narrator feel uncomfortable?
- (f) What made the scene look like a Constable landscape?
- (g) What did he regret as the bus climbed higher?
- (h) Why did the narrator like to buy food from outside?
- (i) What is ironic about the pair of trousers lent by Mr Cao?
- (j) Why did Mr Cao not like the narrator to swim in the lake?
- (k) Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following:
  - (i) sellers (para 4)
  - (ii) increased (para 7)

11. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: [10 marks]

[DELHI & ALL INDIA 2017]

1. Thackeray reached Kittur along with a small British army force and a few of his officers. He thought that the very presence of the British on the outskirts of Kittur would terrorise the rulers and people of Kittur and that they would lay down their arms. He was quite confident that he would be able to crush the revolt in no time. He ordered that tents be erected on the eastern side for the fighting forces and a little away on the western slopes tents be put up for the family members of the officers who had accompanied them. During the afternoon and evening of 20th October, the British soldiers were busy making arrangements for these camps.
2. On the 21st morning, Thackeray sent his political assistants to Kittur fort to obtain a written assurance from all the important officers of Kittur rendering them answerable for the security of the treasury of Kittur. They, accordingly, met Sardar Gurusiddappa and other officers of Kittur and asked them to comply with the orders of Thackeray. They did not know that the people were in a defiant mood. The commanders of Kittur dismissed the agent's orders as no documents could be signed without sanction from Rani Chennamma.
3. Thackeray was enraged and sent for his commander of the Horse Artillery, which was about 100 strong, ordered him to rush his artillery into the fort and capture the commanders of the Desai's army. When the Horse Artillery stormed into the fort, Sardar Gurusiddappa, who had kept his men on full alert, promptly commanded his men to repel and chase them away. The Kittur forces made a bold front and overpowered the British soldiers.
4. In the meanwhile, the Desai's guards had shut the gates of the fort and the British Horse Artillery men, being completely overrun and routed, had to get out through the escape window. Rani's soldiers chased them out of the fort, killing a few of them until they retreated to their camps on the outskirts.
5. A few of the British had found refuge in some private residences, while some were hiding in their tents. The Kittur soldiers captured about forty persons and brought them to the palace. These included twelve children and a few women from the British officers' camp. When they were brought in the presence of the Rani, she ordered the soldiers to be imprisoned. For the women and children she had only gentleness, and admonished her soldiers for taking them into custody. At her orders, these women and children were taken inside the palace and given food and shelter. Rani came down from her throne, patted the children lovingly and told them that no harm would come to them.
6. She, then, sent a word through a messenger to Thackeray that the British women and children were safe and could be taken back any time. Seeing this noble gesture of the Rani, he was moved. He wanted to meet this gracious lady and talk to her. He even thought of trying to persuade her to enter into an agreement with the British to stop all hostilities in lieu of an inam (prize) of eleven villages. His offer was dismissed with a gesture of contempt. She had no wish to meet Thackeray. That night she called Sardar Gurusiddappa and other leading Sardars and after discussing all the issues came to the conclusion that there was no point in meeting Thackeray who had come with an army to threaten Kittur into submission to British sovereignty.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage complete the statements given below with the help of options that follow:

- (a) Thackeray was a/an:
  - (i) British tourist
  - (ii) army officer
  - (iii) adviser to Rani of Kittur
  - (iv) treasury officer
- (b) British women and children came to Kittur to:
  - (i) visit Kittur
  - (ii) enjoy life in tents
  - (iii) stay in the palace
  - (iv) give company to officers

Answer the following questions briefly:

- (c) Why did Thackeray come to Kittur?
- (d) Why did the Kittur officials refuse to give the desired assurance to Thackeray?
- (e) What happened to the Horse Artillery?
- (f) How do we know that the Rani was a noble queen?
- (g) How in your opinion would the British women have felt after meeting the Rani?
- (h) Why did the Rani refuse to meet Thackeray?
- (i) Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following:
  - i. entered forcibly (para 3)
  - ii. aggressive / refusing to obey (para 2)

12. Read the passage given below [12 Marks]  
[DELHI & ALL INDIA 2018]

1. When you grow up in a place where it rains five months a year, wise elders help you to get acquainted with the rain early. They teach you that it is ignorant to think that it is the same rain falling every day. Oh no, the rain is always doing different things at different times. There is rain that is gentle, and there is also rain that falls too hard and damages the crops. Hence, the prayer for the sweet rain that helps the crops to grow.
2. The monsoon in the Naga hills goes by the native name, khuthotei (which means the rice-growing season). It lasts from May to early or mid-October. The local residents firmly believe that Durga Puja in October announces the end of rain. After that, one might expect a couple of short winter showers, and the spring showers in March and April. Finally, comes the "big rain" in May; proper rainstorms accompanied by heat-stopping lightning the ear-splitting thunder. I have stood out in storms looking at lightning arc across dark skies, a light-and-sound show that can go on for hours.
3. This is the season when people use the word sezuo or suzu to refer to the week-long rains, when clothes don't dry and smell of mould, when fungus forms on the floor and when you can't see the moon or the stars because of the rainclouds. But you learn not to complain. Rain, after all, is the farmer's friend and brings food to the table. Rituals

and festivals centre around the agricultural rhythm of life, which is the occupation of about 70 percent of the population.

4. The wise learn to understand its ways. I grew up hearing my grandfather say, "It's very windy this year. We'll get good rain." If the windy season was short and weak, he worried there might not be enough rain for the crops. I learned the interconnectedness of the seasons from childhood, and marvelled at how the wind could bring rain. Another evening, many rainy seasons ago, my paternal aunt observed the new moon and worried, "Its legs are in the air, we're in for some heavy rain." She was right. That week, a storm cut off power lines and brought down trees and bamboos.
5. Eskimos boast of having a hundred names for snow. Norwegians in the north can describe all kinds of snow by an equal amount of names: pudder, powder snow, wet snow, slaps, extra wet snow, tight snowfall, dry snow, and at least 95 more categories of snow. Likewise, in India we have names and names for rain. Some are common, some are passing into history.
6. The rains are also called after flowering plants and people believe that the blossoming of those plants draws out rain. Once the monsoons set in, field work is carried out in earnest and the work of uprooting and transplanting paddy in flooded terrace fields is done. The months of hard labour and June, July and August. In August, as the phrougu plant begins to bloom, a rain will fall. This August rain, also called phrogu, is a sign that the time for cultivation is over. If any new grain seeds are sown, they may not sprout; even if they do sprout, they are not likely to bear grain. The rain acts as a kind of farmer's almanac.
7. The urban population of school-goers and office-goers naturally dislike the monsoon and its accompanying problems of landslides, muddy streets and periodic infections. For non-farmers, the month of September can be depressing, when the rainfall is incessant and the awareness persists that the monsoons will last out till October. One needs to have the heart of a farmer to remain grateful for the watery

days, and be able to observe — from what seems to the inexperienced as a continuous downpour — the many kinds of rain. Some of the commonly known rain-weeks are named after the plants that alternately bloom in August and September. The native belief is that the flowers draw out the rain.

8. Each rain period has a job to fulfil: October rain helps garlic bulbs to form, while kumunyo rain helps the rice bear grain.. Without it, the ears of rice cannot form properly. End October is the most beautiful month in the Naga hills, as the fields turn gold and wild sunflowers bloom over the slopes, all heralding the harvest. prayers go up for protecting the fields from storms, and the rains to retreat because the grain needs to stand in the sun and ripen. The cycle nears completion a few weeks before the harvest, and the rain does retreat so thoroughly from the reaped furrows that the earth quickly turns hard. The months of rain become a distant memory until it starts all over again.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, complete the statements given below with the help of options that follows:

[4 marks]

- (a) The rains are called after flowering plants because
- heavy rains kill plants
  - flowers grow in the rainy season
  - it is believed that the plants bring the rain
  - flowers grow all the year round
- (b) The rain is like a calendar for farmers because
- it tells them when to sow and when to harvest
  - it tells them the birthdays of their children
  - each month has a time for plantation
  - different kinds of rain tell different things
- (c) People who live in cities don't like rain because
- it brings mud and sickness with it
  - they are not bothered about the farmers

(iii) they don't like the plants that grow during the rain

(iv) going shopping becomes difficult

- (d) People pray asking the rain to retreat because

(i) the fungus and mould need to dry

(ii) children don't get a chance to play

(iii) the crops need the sun and heat to ripen

(iv) they like to pray

Answer the following questions briefly :

[6 marks]

- (e) Why do the elders want you to understand the rains in the Naga hills ?
- (f) What does Durga Puja mean to the farmers of the Naga hills?
- (g) What kind of rain is called sezuo?
- (h) What is the occupation of more than half the population of the Naga hills?
- (i) How is the heart of the farmer different from that of the city person?
- (j) When does rain become a memory in the minds of the people of the Naga hills?
- (k) Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following [2 marks]
- flowering (para 6)
  - nonstop (para 7)

13. Read the passage given below: [10 marks]

[DELHI 2018]

- Every morning Ravi gives his brain an extra boost. We're not talking about drinking strong cups of coffee or playing one of those mind-training video games advertised all over Facebook. "I jump onto my stationary bike and cycle for 45 minutes to work," says Ravi. "When I get to my desk, my brain is at peak activity for a few hours." After his mental focus comes to a halt later in the day, he starts it with another short spell of cycling to be able to run errands.
- Ride, work, ride, repeat. It's a scientifically proven system that describes some unexpected benefits of cycling. In a recent study in the Journal of Clinical and Diagnostic Research, scientists found that people scored higher on tests of memory, reasoning, and planning after 30 minutes of spinning on a stationary bike than they did before they rode the bike. They also completed the tests faster after pedalling.

3. Exercise is like a fertilizer for your brain. All those hours spent on exercising your muscles, create rich capillary beds not only in leg and hip muscles but also in our brain. More blood vessels in your brain and muscles mean more oxygen and nutrients to help them work. When you pedal, you also force more nerve cells to fire. The result: you double or triple the production of these cells — literally building your brain. You also release neurotransmitters (the messengers between your brain cells) so all those cells, new and old, can communicate with each other for better, faster functioning. That's a pretty profound benefit to cyclists.
4. This kind of growth is especially important with each passing birthday because as we age, our brains shrink and those connections weaken. Exercise restores and protects the brain cells. Neuroscientists say, "Adults who exercise display sharper memory skills, higher concentration levels, more fluid thinking, and greater problem-solving ability than those who are sedentary."
5. Cycling also elevates your mood, relieves anxiety, increases stress resistance, and even banishes the blues, "Exercise works in the same way as psychotherapy and antidepressants in the treatment of depression, maybe better," says Dr. Manjari. A recent study analyzing 26 years of research finds that even some exercise — as little as 20 to 30 minutes a day — can prevent depression over the long term.
6. Remember: although it's healthy, exercise itself is a stress, especially when you're just getting started or getting back into riding. When you first begin to exert yourself, your body releases a particular hormone to raise your heart rate, blood pressure, and blood glucose levels, says Meher Ahluwalia, PhD, a professor of integrative physiology. As you get fitter, it takes a longer, harder ride to trigger that same response.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, complete the statements given below with the help of options that follows:

[2 marks]

- (a) Ravi gets his brain to work at peak level by
- drinking three cups of coffee
  - playing games that need brain activity

- cycling on a stationary bike
  - taking tablets to pump up his brain.
- (b) When nerve cells work during exercise then
- the body experiences stress
  - the brain is strengthened by multiplying them
  - you start to lose your temper
  - your stationary cycle starts to beep

Answer the following questions briefly:

[6 marks]

- How does exercise help the brain?
- Why does Ravi do a circuit of 'ride, work, ride'?
- What is the work of neurotransmitters?
- What benefits other than greater brain activity does one get from cycling?
- Why is exercise so important for adults?
- How is exercise itself a stress?
- Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following: [2 marks]
  - manure (para 3)
  - inactive (para 4)

14. Read the passage given below: [8 marks]

[DELHI 2018]

Keeping cities clean is essential for keeping their residents healthy. Our health depends not just on personal hygiene and nutrition, but critically also on how clean we keep our cities and their surroundings. The spread of dengue and chikungunya are intimately linked to the deteriorating state of public health conditions in our cities.

The good news is that waste management to keep cities clean is now getting attention through the Swachh Bharat Mission. However, much of the attention begins and stops with the brooms and the dustbins, extending at most to the collection and transportation of the mixed waste to some distant or not so distant place, preferably out of sight.

The challenge of processing and treating the different streams of solid waste, and safe disposal of the residuals in scientific landfills, has received much less attention in municipal solid waste management than is expected from a health point of view.

One of the problems is that instead of focusing on waster management for health, we have got sidetracked into “waste for energy”. If only we were to being by not mixing the biodegradable component of solid waste (close to 60 percent of the total) in our cities with the dry waste, and instead use this stream of waste for composting and producing a gas called methane.

City compost from biodegradable waste provides an alternative to farmyard manure (like cow-dung). It provides an opportunity to simultaneously clean up our cities and help improve agricultural productivity and quality of the soil. Organic manure or compost plays a very important role as a supplement to chemical fertilisers in enriching the nutrient-deficient soils. City compost can be the new player in the field.

Benefits of compost on the farm are well-known. The water holding capacity of the soil which uses compost helps with drought-proofing, and the requirement of less water per crop is a welcome feature for a water-stressed future. By making the soil porous, use of compost also makes roots stronger and resistant to pests and decay. Farmers using compost, therefore, need less quantity of pesticides. There is also evidence to suggest that horticulture crops grown with compost have better flavour, size, colour and shelf-life.

City compost has the additional advantage of being weed-free unlike farmyard manure which brings with it the seeds of undigested grasses and requires a substantial additional labour cost for weeding as the crops grow. City compost is also rich in organic carbon, and our soils are short in this.

Farmers clearly recognize the value of city compost. If city waste was composted before making it available to the farmers for applying to the soil, cities would be cleaned up and the fields around them would be much more productive.

Quite apart from cleaning up the cities of biodegradable waste, this would be a major and sustainable contribution to improving the health of our soils without further damage by excessive chemical inputs. What a marvellous change from waste to health!

The good news is that some states are regularly laying plastic roads. Plastic roads will not only withstand future monsoon damage but will also solve a city’s problem of disposing of non-recyclable plastic. It is clear that if the mountains of waste from our cities were to be recycled into road construction material, it would tackle the problem of managing waster while freeing up scarce land.

(a) On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and subheadings. Use recognisable abbreviations wherever necessary (minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it.

[5 marks]

(b) Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words.

[3 marks]

15. Read the passage given below: [20 marks]

[DELHI 2019]

- All of Earth’s oceans share one thing in common: plastic pollution. Discarded plastic bags, cups, and bottles make their way into the sea. Today, it seems that no part of the ocean is safe from plastic trash. In recent years, oceanographers have searched in vain for a pristine marine environment. They have found plastic everywhere they have looked. “It is a common global problem, we can’t point to a single habitat or location with no plastic.”
- Plastic harms wildlife and introduces dangerous chemicals into marine ecosystems - communities of organisms interacting with their surroundings. Once plastic enters the environment, it lasts a long time. Scientists are working to prevent plastic pollution from entering the sea.
- When people litter, or when trash is not properly disposed of, things like plastic bags, bottles, straws, foam beverage cups get carried to the sea by winds and waterways. About 80 percent of ocean plastic originates on land. The rest comes from marine industries such as shipping and fishing.
- In 2015, engineer Jenna Jambeck at the University of Georgia and other researchers calculated that at least 8 million tons of plastic trash is swept into the ocean from coasts every year. That’s the equivalent of a full garbage truck of plastic being dumped into the sea every minute. If current trends

in plastic production and disposal continue, that figure will double by 2025. A report published by the World Economic Forum last year predicts that by 2050, ocean plastic will outweigh all the fish in the sea.

5. In today's world, plastic is everywhere. It's found in shoes, clothing, household items, electronics, and more. There are different types of plastics, but one thing they all have in common is that they're made of polymers - large molecules made up of repeating units. Their chemical structure gives them a lot of advantages: they're cheap and easy to manufacture, lightweight, water-resistant durable, and can be moulded into nearly any shape.
  6. Unfortunately, some of the properties that make plastics great for consumer goods also make them a problem pollutant. Plastic's durability comes in part from the fact that unlike paper or wood, it doesn't biodegrade, or break down naturally. Instead it just fragments, or breaks into tiny pieces over time. These tiny pieces, known as microplastic, can potentially stick around for hundreds or perhaps even thousands of years.
  7. Another problem with plastics is the other chemicals they contain, like dyes and flame retardants. When plastic isn't disposed of properly, these additives end up in the environment. Plastic also tends to absorb harmful chemicals from its surroundings. "It's like a sponge for persistent organic pollutants". These longlasting, toxic substances include pesticides and industrial chemicals. If plastic absorbs the chemicals, and marine organisms eat the plastic, they may be exposed to higher concentrations of these contaminants.
  8. One of the biggest impacts of plastic pollution is its effect on sea life. Seals, sea turtles, and even whales can become entangled in plastic netting. They can starve to death if the plastic restricts their ability to move or eat. Or the plastic can cut into the animals' skin, causing wounds that develop severe infections.
  9. Sea turtles eat plastic bags and soda-can rings, which resemble jellyfish, their favourite food. Seabirds eat bottle caps or chunks of foam cups. Plastic pieces may make an animal feel full, so it doesn't eat enough real food to get the nutrients it needs. Plastic can also block an animal's digestive system, making it unable to eat.
  10. Plastic and its associated pollutants can even make it into our own food supply. Scientists recently examined fish and shellfish bought at markets in California and Indonesia. They found plastic in the guts of more than a quarter of samples purchased at both locations. In organisms that people eat whole, such as sardines and oysters, that means we're eating plastic too. In larger fish, chemicals from plastic may seep into their muscles and other tissues that people consume.
  11. One way to keep the ocean cleaner and healthier is through cleanup efforts. A lot of plastic waste caught in ocean currents eventually washes up on beaches. Removing it can prevent it from blowing out to sea again. Beach clean-up is ocean clean-up.
  12. Cleanup efforts can't reach every corner of the ocean or track down every bit of microplastic. That means it's critical to cut down on the amount of plastic that reaches the sea in the first place. Scientists are working toward new materials that are safer for the environment. For example, Jambeck and her colleagues are currently testing a new polymer that breaks down more easily in seawater.
  13. "Individual actions make a big difference," says Jambeck. Disposing of plastic properly for recycling or trash collection is a key step. "And simple things like reusable water bottles, mugs, and bags really cut down on waste," she says. Skipping straws or using paper ones helps too. Ocean pollution can seem overwhelming, but it's something everyone can help address. This is a problem we can really do something about.
- (a) On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer each of the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option: [1 x 5 = 5]
- (i) Percentage of ocean plastic that originates from land is:
    - (a) 20%
    - (b) 50%
    - (c) 80%
    - (d) 25%

- (ii) In which year did Jenna Jambeck and other researchers calculate that at least 8 million tons of plastic trash is swept into ocean every year?
- (a) 2018  
(b) 2015  
(c) 2005  
(d) 2010
- (iii) Plastic is not biodegradable because it is made up of:
- (a) low atomic particles  
(b) tiny particles  
(c) strong big particles  
(d) large molecule polymers
- (iv) Sea turtles eat:
- (a) plastic bottles  
(b) plastic bags and soda-can rings  
(c) bottle caps  
(d) chunks of foam cups
- (v) Scientists bought fish and shell-fish for examination at markets in
- (a) China and Russia  
(b) Pakistan and Afghanistan  
(c) California and Indonesia  
(d) Australia and Brazil
- (b) Answer the following questions briefly :**  
[1 x 6 = 6]
- (i) Which articles made of plastic generally cause pollution in the sea?
- (ii) How does plastic in oceans harm marine ecosystems?
- (iii) How is microplastic formed?
- (iv) Why is plastic compared to a sponge?
- (v) What is the biggest impact of plastic pollution on sea life?
- (vi) How are scientists trying to reduce the plastic pollutants ?
- (c) Answer any three of the following questions in 25-30 words each:** [2 x 3 = 6]
- (i) How does plastic waste enter the oceans?
- (ii) How is it true to say that plastic is everywhere in today's world?
- (iii) Which property of plastic makes it a problem pollutant?
- (iv) What has scientist Jambeck suggested for having cleaner and healthier oceans?
- (d) Pick out the words/phrases from the passage which are similar in meaning to the following:** [1 x 3 = 3]
- (i) unsafe (para 2)  
(ii) rubbish/junk (as a noun) (para 3)  
(iii) shaped/formed (para 5)
- 16. Read the passage given below: [10 marks]**  
**[DELHI 2019]**
- Getting enough sleep is as important as taking time out to relax. A good night's sleep is essential for preserving the health of your brain and gives you the best chance to meet the coming day with a razor sharp mind. An average person needs about six to eight hour sleep a night - SIX to eight hour sleep a night - although it is also true that you need slightly less than this, as you grow older-another advantage of aging stress and sleep deprivation often feed on each other, since stress tends to make it harder for you to fall asleep at night and sleep deprivation in itself causes stress.
  - Eventually, too little sleep can dramatically interfere with the performance of your memory - something you obviously want to prevent. If you are not getting enough sleep, try going to bed 30 to 60 minutes earlier than your normal bed time for a few days. Lie down on the bed and try to relax by dissociating yourself from your daily routine work. This is normally enough to catch up on any sleep deprivation.
  - If, however, you suffer from insomnia you should seek the advice of your doctor. The chances are it is already affecting your ability to remember and recall information - and if you are struggling to improve your memory scores, this could be at the root of your problem. Prolonged periods of insufficient sleep can deplete your immune system, make you more accident prone and even cause depression - this can also reinforce a more negative outlook on life, which can contribute to your stress burden. The good news is that your memory and mood should automatically improve once you improve your sleep patterns. Tackle your sleep issues and everything else should fall into place.
  - Because stress management is so essential to maximize your brain power, if you are not in the habit of setting aside time to relax, make it a priority to do so. Even a

minute or two of deep breathing can start to work wonders. Often the best ideas and memories can come to you when you are in a state of relaxation as it is during these moments that your brain stores, processes and plays with the information it has received.

5. Meditation has long been part of religious and spiritual life, specially in Asia. Today, more and more people are adopting it in Western countries also, for its value in developing peace of mind and lowering stress. There is some evidence that regular meditation can have real sleep gain and health benefits particularly in terms of protecting your brain against aging.

(a) On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary - minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it. **[5 marks]**

(b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 100 words. **[5 marks]**

17. Read the following passage : **[8 marks]**

**[DELHI 2020]**

(1) How does television affect our lives? It can be very helpful to people who carefully choose the shows that they watch. Television can increase our knowledge of the outside world; there are high quality programmes that help us understand many fields of study, science, medicine, the different arts and so on. Moreover, television benefits very old people, who can't leave the house, as well as patients in hospitals. It also offers non-native speakers the advantages of daily informal language practice. They can increase their vocabulary and practice listening.

(2) On the other hand, there are several serious disadvantages of television, of course, it provides us with a pleasant way to relax and spend our free time, but in some countries people watch television for an average of six hours or more a day. Many children stare at the TV screen for more hours a day than they spend on anything else, including

studying and sleeping. It's clear that TV has a powerful influence on their lives and that its influence is often negative.

(3) Recent studies show that after only thirty seconds of television viewing, a person's brain 'relaxes' the same way that it does just before the person falls asleep. Another effect of television on the human brain is that it seems to cause poor concentration. Children who view a lot of television can often concentrate on a subject for only fifteen to twenty minutes. They can pay attention only for the amount of time between commercials.

(4) Another disadvantage is that television often causes people to become dissatisfied with their own lives. Real life does not seem so exciting to these people. To many people, television becomes more real than reality and their own lives seem boring. Also many people get upset or depressed when they can't solve problems in real life as quickly as television actors seem to.

(5) Before a child is fourteen years old, he or she views eleven thousand murders on the TV. He or she begins to believe that there is nothing strange about fights, killings and other kinds of violence. Many studies show that people become more violent after viewing certain programmes. They may even do the things that they see in a violent show.

(a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using Headings and Sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Supply a suitable title to it. **[4 marks]**

(b) Make a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. **[4 marks]**

**Directions (Q. 18 to 27) : Read the passage given below. [10 marks]**

**[DELHI Term I, 2022]**

1. What's the one thing that you associate with your college days? For me, it was consuming copious amounts of chai. A cup of tea was a panacea to all troubles and the companion to all joys. In this exclusive interview, we caught up with 65-year-old Deepak Garg, owner of Ganga Dhaba, a spot that every officer from National Academy of Administration has visited multiple times.

2. Deepak begins, "My family has been here for almost 90 years. It was my grandfather who first started working here as the supplier to the hotel that existed then." In 1964, when Deepak was all of eight, he lost his father and the responsibility of raising four children, fell on his mother.
3. "Our growing up years were a huge struggle. My mother used to teach home science at a local balwadi school, and which was also where my siblings and I studied," he says. In 1978, Deepak says that he started a food joint that he named Om Chinese restaurant. "In those days, there was a huge liking for Chinese food and hence the name and the choice of cuisine," he says.
4. For almost 17 years, things continued and then Deepak got a Public Call Office (PCO) installed for the Officer Trainees. The business did so well that soon he had installed more than ten telephones, with separate cabins, to allow them some privacy while they made and received their calls.
5. "The OTs who would talk on the PCO from here would always refer to the place as 'Ganga Dhaba'. It was because this place is so close to the Ganga hostel inside the academy, that slowly the name changed and it became Ganga Dhaba. "Since it was the OTs that gave us our identity, we decided to change the name and call it Ganga Dhaba," he says.
6. There have been instances when Deepak and his family members have learnt dishes from the OTs. He says, "So many dishes on our menu today are because some officer came in and decided to teach us how to make them".
7. We have seen two generations of officers, served the parents, who now as the parents come back to drop their children at the academy and tell us to take care of them. What more can we ask for? While the money we make is not great, the respect and the love we have accumulated over the years is what keeps us going," says Deepak, proudly (400 words)

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer any eight out of the ten questions by choosing the correct options :

18. What, according to the author, gave him solace during his bad times in his college days?
  - (a) Friends
  - (b) Family
  - (c) Tea
  - (d) Telephone
19. Read the following statements :
  - (i) Mr. Deepak named his food joint Om Chinese.
  - (ii) Chinese food was then popular among people.
  - (a) (ii) is the cause for (i)
  - (b) (i) is the cause for (ii)
  - (c) (i) is true and (ii) is false
  - (d) (i) is false and (ii) is true
20. 'Soon he had installed ten telephones.' In the light of the above statement select the option that lists the right inference.
  - (a) He was kind enough to do social service for the OTs.
  - (b) He was successful and flourishing in his business.
  - (c) He expanded his canteen to accommodate more people.
  - (d) He switched his business from canteen to telephone booths.
21. The gesture of changing the name of the food joint to 'Ganga Dhaba' speaks of Deepak's
  - (a) wavering mind
  - (b) tendency to change with times
  - (c) respect and tribute to OTs
  - (d) dogmatic approach
22. '..... his family members learnt dishes from OTs.' Choose the option that lists the inference with reference to the above statement.
  - (a) OTs were equally good connoisseurs of food.
  - (b) his family was mediocre in cooking.
  - (c) his family had close association and good rapport with OTs.
  - (d) his family wanted to learn more recipes to expand their business.
23. As per paragraph 7, select the option that sums up the personality of Deepak Garg.
  - (a) He is a struggler, lacks business acumen to make his business profitable.
  - (b) He is a very social and friendly person and enjoys good relationship with OTs.
  - (c) A responsible son who shared the burden of his family.
  - (d) A person who upholds dignity and esteem in life, not materialistic.

24. “.....OTs that gave us our identity.” He means to say
- His canteen was in the vicinity of OTs hostel.
  - The canteen was named after the OTs hostel.
  - It was OTs who helped his family to learn new recipes.
  - It was OTs who patronized his canteen business.

25. Choose the option that aptly defines Deepak Garg’s life story “from struggling childhood days to becoming a successful businessman”.
- Where there is a will, there is a way.
  - Make Ray while the Sun shines.
  - A good fire make a good cook.
  - Despair gives courage to a coward.

26. “..... many dishes on our menu today are because some officer came in and decided to teach us.”

Choose the option that rightly reflects the tone of the speaker.

- Ignorance
- Humility
- Pride
- Regret

27. “.....tell us to take care of them.”

Choose the option that lists the appropriate reason behind the statement.

- Parents make a request as they stay away from their children.
- Deepak Garg can take care as he stays close to the hostel.
- Parents trust and respect Deepak Garg’s hospitality.
- Parents pay Deepak Garg for the facilities he offers.

28. Read the passage given below : [8 marks]

[DELHI Term II, 2022]

- Very often, we did not take the first step towards a good cause because we say to ourselves, “The task is so big. What can I do alone?” So nothing gets done. There is much talk about environmental protection, air pollution and saving our forests. Do we really care ? If we do, here are a few things we can do to make our surroundings more pleasant.

- It is good to adopt a two-uses-attitude! By putting an article to a second use, we are giving it a longer lease of life and using up less raw material from nature. One of the worst things we do is the abuse of paper. The clean sides of envelopes can be used to write small notes, lists and reminders around the house. The more paper we use, the more trees will have to be cut down. For the same reason, we should avoid the use of paper napkins or paper plates. Cloth napkins are just as good, for they can be washed and used over and over again.
- Another area which need the most urgent attention is effective garbage disposal. People who are conscious about it follow rules and laws strictly. As a result, their neighbourhoods are clean and beautiful. Similarly, each one of us can contribute to a cleaner environment. All kitchen waste should be collected separately. Those of you who have green fingers can turn this into valuable manure. Dig a pit and put the kitchen waste into it. When the pit is a little over half full, cover it up with mud. Let nature do the rest. Within three or six months, we will have a good garden manure. It can also be done as a community project by digging a large pit in the colony. Do take help of all the members, for nothing succeeds like co-operation.
- A lot of people don’t care about the environment because they don’t understand the adverse effect that society has on it. It is important to convince people to care about the environment. The first step would be to convince people to change by providing simple alternative solutions and ways of doing things. The internet is a powerful tool and a group on social media of like-minded people can be formed. People can share environmental stories and issues, as well as pool in solutions and alternatives to educate one another. With the current state that our planet is in, it is imperative that people actively care about the environment and most importantly to act now.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer ANY EIGHT questions from the nine given below :

- Why don’t we take the first step towards a good cause ?

- (ii) What is a two-uses-attitude ?
- (iii) What can we do to avoid the abuse of paper ? (any two points)
- (iv) What is the result of an effective way of garbage disposal ?
- (v) What procedure can one adopt or kitchen waste ?
- (vi) How can making of garden manure be done as community project ?
- (vii) How long does it take to make good garden manure ?
- (viii) Select a suitable word from the passage which means - being concerned or interested. (Para 3)
- (ix) Pick out the word from the passage which means— completely necessary ? (Para 4)

**29. Read the passage given below : [10 marks]  
[DELHI 2023]**

- (1) When we think of the game of cricket, we come to the conclusion that it is primarily a game that depends on outstanding physical activities, good hand-eye co-ordination, speed, skill and strength. It provides entertainment and generates strong feelings of excitement. A good match of cricket or of any other game neither adds to the existing stock of human knowledge nor reveals any secret of existence. It does not carry any deep meaning but most people, particularly the lover of sports attach deep emotions and numerous meanings to it. Games are thought of as a metaphor for life. They are supposed to teach many lessons. In fact, more is said and written about a cricket match than about scientific findings or great philosophy.
- (2) This is because games, like a morality play, in which settings and rules are made by us, can easily make people test their fair and foul conduct, principles of reward and punishment, and emotions of joy and disappointment. They can make us experience the thrill of war without exposing us to its dangers. A man watching a cricket match on T.V. and munching popcorn is like a surrogate warrior. In fact, games provide us with a safe outlet for our aggressiveness. If games become aggressive, they lose the very purpose of providing entertainment and purging us of our aggressiveness. They can calm our impatience without creating any conflict.
- (3) Commentators, journalists, politicians and analysts can do a great favour to the competing teams by keeping the excitement within limits. The teams should play without being dominated by feelings of national honour and shame. Excellent performance of the players of both teams should be enjoyed and appreciated.
- Winning or losing in a game should not be taken seriously. A game is fun if it is played with true spirit of sportsmanship.
- Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below :
- (i) Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option :  
Most people conclude that cricket is primarily a game because \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) it is played as a match  
(b) it requires two teams  
(c) it includes physical activity  
(d) it depends only on skill and strength
  - (ii) Comment on the writer's reference to that cricket does not reveal any secret of existence.
  - (iii) List two responses which watching a game of cricket gives rise to.
  - (iv) Select the option that conveys the opposite of 'destroy' from words used in the passage.  
(a) reveals  
(b) experience  
(c) genet-ate  
(d) purging
  - (v) The writer would not agree with the given statements based on paragraph 2, EXCEPT  
(a) Rules of any game are made by people.  
(b) Watching a cricket match makes the viewer believe that he is fighting a battle?  
(c) It is necessary for a game to be aggressive in order to build excitement.  
(d) A game can test people's sense of fair judgement.

- (vi) With reference to the passage, a spectator is compared to a 'surrogate warrior'. Choose the option that best describes this phrase :
- a spectator who is paid to watch.
  - a spectator who is in pain while watching the match.
  - a spectator who enjoys the match as an armchair soldier.
  - a spectator who makes judgement about reward and punishment.
- (vii) Why does the writer compare games to a morality play ?
- (viii) Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference with respect to the following :
- The writer says that games can calm our impatience without creating any conflict by \_\_\_\_\_.
- (ix) The writer advises the players that games should not become aggressive because \_\_\_\_\_.
- (x) Select the most suitable title for the above passage.
- Excellent Performance by Cricketers
  - The Benefits of Playing Cricket
  - Cricket – The King of Games
  - The True Spirit of Playing Games

## Unseen Passage

30. Read the passage given below : (12 Marks)

[DELHI 2020]

### Donated Organs and their Transportation

- Once an organ donor's family gives its consent and the organs are matched to a recipient, medical professionals are faced with the onerous challenge of transporting organs while ensuring that the harvested organ reaches its destination in the shortest possible time. This is done in order to preserve the harvested organs and involves the police and especially the traffic police department.
- The traditional method of transporting organs by road is referred to as a "green corridor". This process entails police escorting an ambulance, so as to move

around traffic - usually a specific traffic lane is chosen and all signals on the route stay green to ensure it to reach its destination in the shortest possible time. A 'green-corridor' is a route cleared and cordoned off by the traffic police to ensure the smooth and steady transportation of harvested organs, on most occasions, to those awaiting a life-saving transplant. Organs tend to have a very short preservation time, such as the heart which has to be harvested and transplanted within four hours or the lungs which can be preserved for only six hours once they are harvested.

- The first green corridor in India was created by Chennai Traffic Police in September 2008 when they accomplished their task of enabling an ambulance to reach its destination within 11 minutes during peak hour traffic. That organ saved a nine-year-old girl whose life depended on the transplant.
- Similarly, such green corridors have been created by traffic police of various cities such as Pune, Mumbai, Delhi NCR etc. Personnel are stationed at selected points to divert, control and clear the traffic giving way to the ambulance. Apart from this, a motorcade of police vehicles accompanies the ambulance ensuring that it does not face any problems. Delhi Traffic Police provided a green corridor from IGI Airport to Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences in Vasant Kunj for transportation of a liver. The distance of 14 kms was covered in 11 minutes.
- Experts point out the lack of a robust system to transport organs to super-specialty hospitals in least possible time. National Organ & Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO), the country's apex organ donation agency, is now framing a proposal to airlift cadaver organs and will send a report to the Union Health Ministry. "Cadaver organs have a short life and so transplant should be done within a few golden hours," Director (NOTTO) expressed, "Therefore, we are preparing a proposal for airlifting organs at any given moment."

- (6) Most states do not have enough well-trained experts to retrieve or perform transplant procedures. Also, there is an acute shortage of advanced healthcare facilities to carry out a transplant. So, it is referred to other big centres in metropolitan cities. Organs retrieved from Aurangabad, Indore, Surat, Pune are sent to Mumbai as these cities do not have super-specialty healthcare centres, informed officials.
- (7) "In India, about fifty thousand to one lakh patients are suffering from acute heart failure and need heart transplant at any point of time. In a private set-up, a heart transplant costs Rs. 15-20 lakhs, which is followed up by postoperative medication of about Rs. 30,000 per month lifelong."
- A. On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer any five of the following questions by choosing the most appropriate options :  $(1 \times 5 = 5)$
- (a) The first green corridor in India was created in:
- (i) New Delhi                      (ii) Chennai  
(iii) Mumbai                      (iv) Pune
- (b) The organization which is framing a proposal to airlift cadaver organs is :
- (i) Union Health Ministry  
(ii) Regional Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation  
(iii) National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation  
(iv) State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation
- (c) The onerous task the author is talking about in Para 1 is:
- (i) finding organ donors.  
(ii) finding doctors capable of performing transplants  
(iii) to carry the harvested organ in the shortest possible time,  
(iv) to arrange the requisite facilities for the transplant.
- (d) Most of the people do not go for the heart transplant as ;
- (i) it is very risky.  
(ii) it is very painful.  
(iii) it may cause death of the recipient.  
(iv) the cost is prohibitive.
- (e) Most states refer organ transplant cases to big hospitals because :
- (i) they don't have well trained experts.  
(ii) the patients don't trust local doctors.  
(iii) the state hospitals are very crowded.  
(iv) they don't have a pool of harvested organs.
- (f) Heart retrieved from a body is alive only for \_\_\_\_\_ hours.
- (i) two                                      (ii) three  
(iii) four                                      (iv) five
- B. Answer the following questions briefly :  $(1 \times 5 = 5)$
- (a) What is a 'green corridor' ?  
(b) Why is smooth transportation of the retrieved organ necessary ?  
(c) What opinion do you form of Chennai Police with regard to the transportation of the harvested heart ?  
(d) What does the author mean by 'a few golden hours' ?  
(e) How much does a heart transplant cost a patient in a private hospital ?
- C. Pick out the words from the passage which mean the same as the following :  $(1 \times 2 = 2)$
- (a) save (para 1)  
(b) achieved / carried out (para 3)

## Case Based Passage

Directions (31 to 36) : Read the passage given below : [DELHI Term I, 2022]

- Air pollution is a major threat to human health. The United Nations Environment Programme has estimated that, globally, 1.1 billion people breathe in unhealthy air. The World Health Organization (WHO) has estimated that urban air pollution is responsible for approximately 800,000 deaths and 4.6 million people lose their lives every year around the globe.
- Traffic and transportation problems, inadequate drainage facilities, lack of open spaces, carbon emission, and the accumulation of waste aggravate the problem. Air pollution is associated with increased risk of acute respiratory infections (ARI), the principal cause of infant and child mortality in developing countries.

3. Urban air quality in most mega cities has been found to be critical and Kolkata is no exception to this. An analysis of ambient air quality in Kolkata was done by applying the Exceedance Factor (EF) method, where the presence of listed pollutants' (RPM, SPM, NO<sub>2</sub>, and SO<sub>2</sub>) annual average concentration are classified into four different categories; namely critical, high, moderate, and low pollution. Out of a total of 17 ambient air quality monitoring stations operating in Kolkata, five fall under the critical category, and the remaining 12 locations fall under the high category of NO<sub>2</sub> concentration, while for RPM, four record critical, and 13 come under the high pollution category. The causes of high concentration of pollutants in the form of NO<sub>2</sub> and RPM have been identified in earlier studies as vehicular emission (51.4%), followed by industrial sources (24.5%) and dust particles (21.1%).
4. Later, a health assessment was undertaken with a structured questionnaire at some nearby dispensaries which fall under areas with different ambient air pollution levels. Three dispensaries have been surveyed with 100 participants. It shows that respondents with respiratory diseases (85.1%) have outnumbered waterborne diseases (14.9%) and include acute respiratory infections (ARI) (60%), chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases (COPD) (7.8%), upper track respiratory infection (UTRI) (1.2%), Influenza (12.7%), and acid-fast bacillus (AFB) (3.4%).
5. To live a healthy life and have better well-being, practising pollution-averting activities in one's day-to-day activities is needed. These pollution-averting practices can only be possible when awareness among the masses is generated that the air, they breathe outdoors, is not found to be safe.

#### Pollution in India

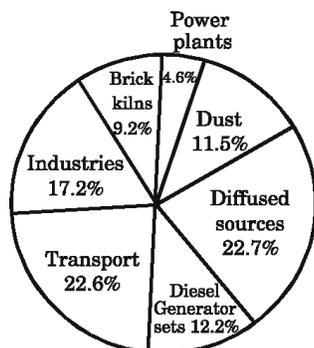


Fig. 1

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer any six out of the eight questions by choosing the correct options :

31. Select the option that highlights the main idea of the passage.
- To educate people about the threat of air pollution
  - To warn people of the threat of air pollution and educate them about the safety measures
  - To discuss the status of pollution in Kolkata and share the details of the study
  - To educate people on Exceedance Factor method and share the results of the study
32. Select the option that displays the correct 'cause and effect' relationship.
- | Cause                                  | Effect                      |
|--|-----------------------------|
| (a) Traffic and transportation problem | 4.6 million deaths          |
| (b) Lack of open spaces                | Mega cities                 |
| (c) Air pollution                      | Respiratory diseases        |
| (d) Air quality monitoring stations    | Emission of NO <sub>2</sub> |
33. Read the following statements :
- Air pollution kills 4.6 million people every year in India.
  - Air pollution is causing health hazards to more people than water pollution.
- (i) is true and (ii) is false
  - (i) is false and (ii) is true
  - (i) is true and is responsible for (ii)
  - Both (i) and (ii) are false
34. The author's opinion on the development of Mega cities is
- Cities face transportation problem due to heavy traffic.
  - Urbanization leads to deterioration of air quality.
  - Mega cities are the right spots to study air pollution.
  - Cities face the problem of congestion
35. Select the option that lists the author's recommendation to the people.
- He wants people to be aware that air pollution is a major threat.
  - He urges people are not to live in mega cities.

- iii. He advises people to follow pollution averting activities seriously.
- iv. He wants people to reduce vehicular emissions.

- (a) i & ii                      (b) ii & iii  
(c) i & iii                      (d) iii & iv

36. Select the option that displays the true statement as per fig. 1.

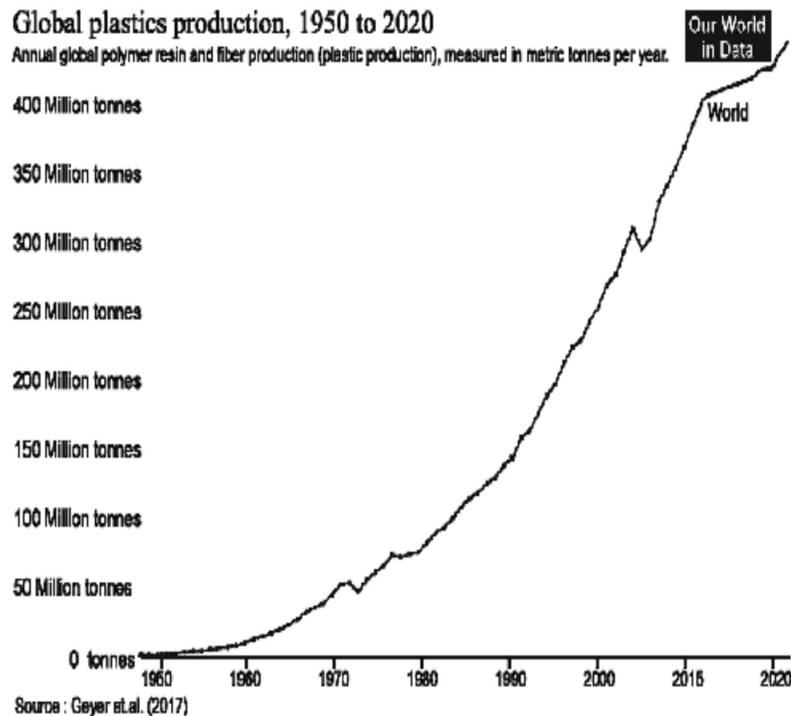
- (a) Dust and power plants are the causes for maximum pollution.
- (b) Pollution caused by transport is much more than the pollution caused by industries.
- (c) The use of diesel generator is responsible for more than 50% of air pollution.
- (d) Dust stands fourth in the list that causes air pollution.

37. Read the passage below :                      (1 × 6 = 6)

[DELHI Term II, 2022]

- Our history makes it evident that the Indian Plastics Industry made a vigorous beginning in 1957 but it took more than 30 years for it to pervade Indian lifestyles. In 1979, 'the market for plastics' was just being seeded by the state-owned Indian Petro-Chemicals and it was only in 1994 that plastic soft drink bottles became a visible source of annoyance.
- In the same year, people in other cities were concerned about the state of public sanitation and also urged regulatory bodies to ban the production, distribution and use of plastic bags. However the challenge was greater than it appeared at first.

3. The massive generation of plastic waste in India is due to rapid urbanisation, spread of retail chains, plastic packaging form grocery to food and vegetable products, to consumer items and cosmetics.) The projected high growth rates of GDP and continuing rapid urbanisation suggest that India's trajectory of plastic consumption and plastic waste is likely to increase.



4. According to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) report of 2018, India stands among few other countries like France, Mongolia and several African countries that have initiated total or partial national-level bans on plastics in their jurisdictions. On World Environment Day in 2018, India vowed to phase out single-use plastics by 2022, which gave a much needed impetus to bring this change.

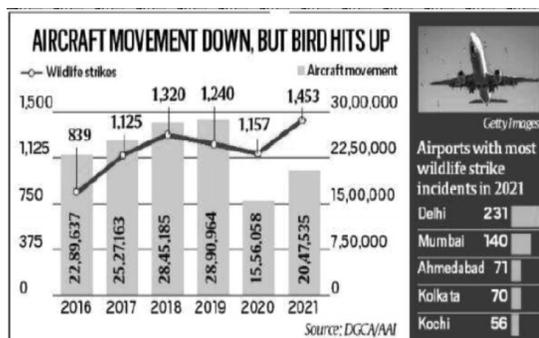
5. In this context, thereafter ten states (Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Odisha, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu) are currently sending their collected waste to cement plants for co-processing, twelve other states/UTs are using plastic waste for polymer bitumen road construction and still four other states are using the plastic waste for waste-to-energy plants and oil production. A world of greater possibilities has now opened up to initiate appropriate and concrete actions to build up the necessary institutions and systems before oceans turn, irreversibly into a thin soup of plastic.
6. However there is no one single masterstroke to counter the challenges witnessed by the staggering plastic waste management in the country. The time is now to formulate robust and inclusive National Action Plans and while doing so, the country will establish greater transparency to combat the plastic jeopardy in a more sustainable and holistic way.

Based on your understanding of the passage answer ANY SIX out of the seven questions given below :

- What does the writer mean by 'visible source of annoyance'?
- Why did people demand a ban on plastics ?
- What created a demand for plastics in India ?
- With reference to the graph write one conclusion that can be drawn about the production of plastics in 2019 (approximately).
- What does the upward trend of the graph indicate ?
- What does the line, oceans turning 'irreversibly into a thin soup of plastic', suggest ?
- What step must be taken to combat the challenges of plastic waste management ?  
What will be its impact ?

38. Read the following report and answer the questions by choosing the correct/most appropriate option : [1 × 10 = 10]

[DELHI 2023]



- (1) **How bird hits happen, why they are a concern?**

New Delhi June 20

At least two bird strike incidents happened on Sunday. Both aircrafts returned to their airport of origin and were, grounded for maintenance. An ABC aircraft, which took off from Guwahati towards Delhi, suffered damage to its left engine following a bird hit at 1600 feet. The pilots returned to Guwahati. The other strike happened on another flight from Patna to Delhi. The pilots of the aircraft suspected a bird strike during the take-off roll but continued to climb. Following the take off rotation, they were informed by the cabin crew of sparks emanating from the left engine. Subsequently, the pilots were also informed by air traffic control of smoke coming out of one of the engines. The pilots declared an emergency and returned to Patna.

- (2) **Why are bird strikes a concern?**

Bird strikes are among the most common threats to aircraft safety, and they typically occur during take-off or landing. Dozens of bird-strikes happen each day but some can be more dangerous than others. Typically, when birds collide with an aircraft's airframe, it is unlikely to cause significant problems for the pilots flying. But there are instances when the aircraft, engine ingests the birds. This can lead to a loss of thrust for the engine and cause maneuverability problems for the crew. In these cases, where a jet engine

ingests a bird, procedures would generally call for pilots to land the plane at the closest airport. While most airframe bird strikes are not, considered critical to air safety, if a collision cracks a window or a wind screen, pilots will look to land as early as possible.

(3) **How critical are bird strikes to air safety?**

Smaller planes would generally be more susceptible to the dangers of the dangers of bird strikes than larger ones.

However, given that bird strikes mostly happen during take-off and landing, these incidents could distract the pilots during what are highly critical phases of flights that demand the complete attention of the crew.

(4) **What causes bird-strikes?**

The presence of birds around an aircraft increases the chances of a bird strike. In the monsoon, as water puddles emerge on open grounds attracting insects to breed, the presence of birds increases. In some cases, bird hits also happen at higher altitudes when a plane is cruising. These are more dangerous than the low-altitude hits, given that they can cause rapid depressurization of cabins. Other reasons for bird activity around the air field could be presence of landfills or waste disposal sites that can attract a large number of birds.

(i) Does the following statement agree with the information give in paragraph 1.

When an airplane is hit by a bird or is suspected to have been hit, the passengers must be asked to get down at once.

Select from the following :

True : If the statement agrees with the information.

False : If the statement contradicts the information.

Not Given :If there is no information on this.

(ii) Select the option that display the most likely reason for Bird hits.

- (a) when the aircraft in overloaded
- (b) at the time of landing or taking off

(c) when the crew become negligent

(d) when the passengers become panicky

(iii) Complete the sentence appropriately with one word.

Smaller planes are generally more \_\_\_\_\_ than the larger ones.

(iv) Complete the sentence by selecting the most appropriate option :

When the window or the windscreen of the air plane is cracked due to a bird hit \_\_\_\_.

(a) the crew must rush to the cockpit.

(b) the pilot must land at the earliest airport.

(c) the pilot must inform the maintenance engineer.

(d) the pilot must get instructions from the aviation wing what should do in emergency.

(v) Based on the reading of the text, state a point to further the statement.

Dozens of bird hits take place every day \_\_\_\_.

(a) but only a few are dangerous.

(b) all of them are fatal.

(c) but after every bird hit it is imperative to land the aircraft.

(d) the pilot should ignore them.

(vi) Complete the sentence based on the following statement.

Complete attention of the crew is demanded during take off and landing.

We can say this because \_\_\_\_\_.

(vii) Complete the sentence appropriately with one/two words.

In cases where the aircraft engine infests the bird, it leads to the loss of thrust and causes problems in \_\_\_\_\_.

(viii) Which are the areas more prone to bird hits ?

(ix) Based on the reading of the text, state a point to challenge the given statement :

The area around air fields should be clear of any waste disposal sites.

- (x) Look at the graph. It shows that between 2016 and 2021, whereas air flights have come down, the bird-hits have gone up. This implies that the incidence of bird hits has
- decreased
  - increased
  - remained constant
  - been alarming



## Solutions

- Eradication of child labour and ensuring compulsory primary education for every Indian child, are the goals that no government has achieved so far. [2]
      - Different states have different rules regarding the minimum age of employment.
        - There is no ban on child labour in non-hazardous occupations.
        - The act does not apply to the unorganized sector as it only talks about the organised or factory sector.
        - Lack of effective implementation of the existing laws. [2]
      - Among several reasons for industries preference for child labour, it's their agile fingers, high level of concentration and capacity to work hard for extremely low wages. [2]
    - Prone to incapacitating diseases which can affect them for life.
      - Limbs get affected due to working in cramped and unhygienic places.
      - Mental and physical development is permanently impaired.
      - Stay uneducated and lacking overall growth. (any two). [2]
    - The Supreme Court's directive of 1997 allows punitive action against employers of child labour. [1]
  - Hazardous [1.5]
    - Hostile [1.5]
- Stress is a reaction of the body to any demands or changes in its internal and external environment. Factors such as the imbalance between demands and resources change in temperature, pollutants, humidity and working conditions lead to stress. [2]
  - The various signs that can be observed are:
    - Change in the attitude and behaviour [0.5]
    - Muscle tension [0.5]
    - Palpitation, high blood pressure, indigestion and hyperacidity. [0.5]
    - Depression, lethargy, a weakness for work. [0.5]
  - The different diseases caused by stress are:
    - Heart diseases [0.5]
    - Ulcers [0.5]
    - Insomnia [0.5]
    - Neurological depression [0.5]
    - Hypertension
    - Injuries due to accidents.
  - Relaxation techniques [1]
      - Dance movement [1]
    - Reaction to stress is peculiar to an individual [0.5]
      - It lowers his performance capacity [0.5]
      - Leads to Chronic fatigue [0.5]
      - Makes Disinterested. [0.5]
- Air pollutant is a substance which is present in the atmosphere in an amount exceeding its normal concentration. [1]
    - Air pollutant can either be gaseous (carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, ozone etc.) or it can be in the form of particulate matter (dust of various inorganic or organic origins). [2]
    - A feeling of suffocation occurs in a closed place due to the accumulation of carbon dioxide exhaled. This feeling may be compounded if the room is airtight. [1]
    - A group of symptoms in poorly ventilated homes characterised by a general feeling of sickness, headache, dizziness and irritation of mucous membranes is described as the sick building syndrome. [2]  
The syndrome is getting commoner in big cities with over furnished small houses.
  - Indoor smoking is an important source of indoor pollution as there are ore 3000 chemical constituents in tobacco smoke which are harmful to human health. [1]

- (vi) We can overcome the dangers of indoor air pollution by ensuring proper ventilation in our house. This way we will be able to get rid of increased concentrations of oxides of nitrogen and sulphur, carbon monoxide and other indoor pollutants. Care should also be taken to isolate persons with infective illness. [2]
- (b) (i) nausea [1]  
 (ii) persistent [1]  
 (iii) dampness [1]
4. (a) Dietary Fibres- Indigestible Carbohydrates.
1. Importance
    - 1.1 Essential ingredient of bal. diet.
      - (i) Suggested intake-40 gms. /day
    - 1.2 Contains gums & pectin
      - (i) PP Blood sugar levels
    - 1.3 Diet rich in fibres
      - (i) The ↓ incidence of CHD
      - (ii) Controls irritable bowel syndrome
      - (iii) ↓ Dental caries.
  2. Source
    - 2.1 Cereals & Grains
    - 2.2 Fruits
      - (i) Citrus fruits
      - (ii) Fruits with seeds
    - 2.3 Green leafy vegetables
  3. Physiological outcome
    - 3.1 Not digested by enzymes in the body
    - 3.2 Hold water
      - (i) gets swollen → relieves constipation
    - 3.3. Increases transit time in Gut
      - (i) ↓ risk of colon cancer
      - (ii) checks obesity
  4. Adverse effects
    - 4.1 Binds trace elements.
      - (i) Hampers absorption-nutritional deficiency.
- Abbreviations and symbols used.
1. bal - balance
  2. gms - grams
  3. & - and
  4. P. P. - Post-Prandial
  5. CHD. - Coronary Heart Disease
  6. ↓ -lower
  7. → -lead to
- (b) Summary
- Dietary fibres are indigestible carbohydrates which are essential ingredients of balanced diets with a suggested intake of 40 grams per day. Fibres are rich in gums and pectin that lower Post-Prandial Blood Sugar Levels. Diet rich in fibres lowers incidence of controls leading to irritable bowel syndrome and dental caries. The main source of it are cereals and grains, fruits both citrus and with seeds and green leafy vegetables. It is not digested by the enzymes in the body, holds water and increases transit time in the get there by relieving constipation checking obesity and lowering the risk of colon cancer. It binds trace elements that hamper their absorption leading to a nutritional deficiency which seems to be the only adverse effect.
5. (a)
- (1) Teachers and parents want children to learn values like hard work, contentment, honesty and compassion. [2]
  - (2) When children are given too much too soon, they grow up to be adults who have difficulty coping with life's disappointments. Such children may develop a distorted sense of entitlement that hampers their success in the workplace and in relationships. [2]
  - (3) Today's children want more because nowadays there is so much more to want. Moreover, they consider luxurious items as essential utilities. [1]
  - (4) In today's world, parents need to strike a balance between the advantages of an affluent society and the critical life lessons that come from waiting, saving and working hard to achieve goals. [2]
  - (5) There is a need to set limits for children because they feel better and more secure where they live within a secured structure. [2]
- (b) (1) Contentment [1]  
 (2) Precious [1]  
 (3) Essential [1]
6. (a) (iv) All of the above [1]  
 (b) (i) Christianity [1]  
 (c) (ii) Entrance to the church is nondescript [1]  
 (d) (iv) Both (i) and (ii) [1]  
 (e) According to the Greek belief, the stone of anointing is a place where Christ was removed from it. [1]

- (f) Emperor Constantine built Rotunda to safeguard the Holy Sepulchre and the remaining Structure round it. [1]
- (g) Pilgrims have a very casual attitude and completely unaware about the history and tradition. They are more into capturing pictures and appreciating the novelty of the church. [1]
- (h) According to the gospels, Jesus' Crucifixion occurred at a place outside the city walls with graves nearby and as the archaeologists have discovered tombs from the biblical era hence the site is compatible. [1]
- (i) 'Room of the tomb' is a very small place, hence the pilgrims entered into a single file. [1]
- (j) The women knelt down to pray to look at the large marble slab, hence became very sentimental to hide her tears. [1]
- (k) (i) Tomb [1]  
(ii) Non-descript. [1]
7. (a) (i) By travelling light [1]  
(b) (iv) Both (i) and (ii) [1]  
(c) Earlier pilgrimages were a penance to stay near nature and did not require luxury rooms and big cars to travel, now they have become more of a tourism opportunity where people go for a picnic. [1]  
(d) When pilgrimages turn into picnics, the entire significance of pilgrimage as a sadhana is lost. It becomes more of a social gathering a life of comfort and a boost to the ego, where pilgrims brag about charity and their special darshan. [1]  
(e) Pilgrimages are no more about travelling on foot and living in the ashrams with basic necessities, it has become a picnic with all the comfort ac rooms, travelling by car with a large group to have all the fun and entertainment. Hence, we are complacent in our spiritual efforts. [1]  
(f) We are ruining our bodies because of the extra comfort that we are adapting our bodies into. We are not making any efforts to make our body work and adjust in adverse conditions rather making it all the more tender. Nature is just like everyone's mother and would act destructively by affecting our health etc. sooner or later and force us to understand this truth. [1]
- (g) In olden day's pilgrimages were more of a sadhana to love people, stay close to nature, - understand it, stay healthy and eat healthy. It was also for seeking freedom from attachment' It was not to adhere to materialistic pleasure and live a luxurious life. [1]
- (h) It conveys that pilgrimages are a religious connotation and undertaken for ritualistic purposes, to understand the realities of life, to stay close to nature and should not be taken as a tourism opportunity where you gather a large group, enjoy amongst all the luxuries and make a life rest upon the only comfort. You shall learn to live in hardships and only basic things needed for survival.
- (i) (i) Evolution [1]  
(ii) complacent [1]
8. (a) (ii) he added a lot of grandeur to Mewar [1]  
(b) (iii) its small area and small population. [1]  
(c) (i) the flag of Mewar seemed to be lowered. [1]  
(d) (iii) most of its rulers were competent. [1]  
(e) Bappa Rawal was the earliest King or Mewar as mentioned in the passage. [1]  
(f) Rana Kumbha had given a new stature to the kingdom through victories and developmental work. During his reign, literature and art also progressed extraordinarily. [1]  
(g) The pleasant, loving and the cheerful nature of the people of Mewar is worthy of admiration according to the writer. [1]  
(h) The peaceful and prosperous life of the people of Mewar for a long span of time would have made the art and literature flourish in Mewar. [1]  
(i) The rulers were very liberal and allowed people from other communities and kingdoms to come and carry out construction work. [1]  
(j) The erection of Vijaya Stambha and Kirti Stambha in the same fort signifies the closeness between the King and the subjects of Mewar. [1]
- (k) (i) astonishing [1]  
(ii) testimony [1]
9. (a) (i) among rocks. [1]  
(b) (iv) is impulsive and impatient. [1]  
(c) The mother panther rarely delivers five cubs. [1]

- (d) If the panther cubs are not born blind, they might drift away from the place of safety. [1]
- (e) The 'Mahout' drives his elephant away as he wants him to be away from the sight of the panther. [1]
- (f) The tigress spits at its cubs, as they do not make a beeline to the kill and to make them come back to her heels. [1]
- (g) From the narrator's observation, the nature of the tigress is caring and loving towards her cubs. She even acts like a good teacher to her cubs. [1]
- (h) The panther does not face the risk of extinction because of the safety provided by the mother panther. It enjoys wider distribution [1]
- (i) (a) = drifting [1]  
(b) descended. [1]
10. (a) (ii) no one stared at him. [1]  
(b) (ii) Heaven Lake [1]  
(c) (iv) there were thick quilts on the bed. [1]  
(d) (ii) a shining prism [1]  
(e) The two things that made the narrator uncomfortable are the overpowering smell of the goat's cheese being eaten by the man sitting behind and the leaking of the bus windows. [1]  
(f) A few cattle drink at a clear stream flowing past moss-covered stones made the scene look like a Constable Landscape. [1]  
(g) As the bus climbed higher, the narrator regretted of not bringing anything warm to wear. [1]  
(h) The narrator liked to buy food from outside as kebabs, cooked on skewers over charcoal braziers were good, highly-spiced and well-done. [1]  
(i) The pair of trousers lent by Mr Cao are several sizes too large but more than comfortable. [1]  
(j) Mr Cao did not like the narrator to swim in the lake because many people drowned there. [1]  
(k) (i) vendors [1]  
(ii) exaggerated [1]
11. (a) (iv) treasury officer [1]  
(b) (iv) give company to officers [1]  
(c) Thackeray came to Kittur to terrorise the rulers and people of Kittur so that they would lay down their arms. [1]
- (d) Kittur officials refused to give the desired assurance to Thackeray as no documents could be signed without sanction from Rani Chennamma. [1]
- (e) When the Horse Artillery stormed into the fort, Sardar Gurusiddappa, who had kept his men on full alert, commanded his men to chase them away. The British Horse Artillerymen, being completely overrun and routed, had to get out through the escape window. [1]
- (f) The Kittur soldiers had captured forty persons, including twelve children and a few women. For the women and children, Rani had the only gentleness. She took them inside the palace and gave them food and shelter. [1]
- (g) The British women were touched by this gentle and noble gesture of the Rani. They would have felt safe and secured. [1]
- (h) The Rani refused to meet Thackeray because he had come with an army to threaten Kittur into submission to British sovereignty. [1]
- (i) (i) stormed [1]  
(ii) defiant [1]
12. (a) (iii) it is believed that the plants bring the rain. [1]  
(b) (i) it tells them when to sow and when to harvest [1]  
(c) (i) it brings mud and sickness with it [1]  
(d) (iii) the crops need the sun and the heat to ripen [1]  
(e) They want us to understand the rains because they are of various kinds and they are meaningful. They are necessary for the crops to grow. Besides, they serve as an almanac for the farmers. [1]  
(f) For them, Durga Puja means the end of rain. [1]  
(g) Sezuo refers to week-long rains when clothes don't dry, mould smells and there forms fungus on the floor. [1]  
(h) Farming is the occupation of more than half the population. [1]  
(i) Farmers love rain because they know it gives life to nature and human beings while city people dislike it because they don't want mud and sicknesses. [1]  
(j) At the end of October and after that, rain becomes a memory for the farmers as it is when it completes its cycle. [1]  
(k) (i) blossoming [1]  
(ii) Incessantly [1]

13. (a) (iii) cycling on a stationary bike [1]  
 (b) (ii) the brain is strengthened by multiplying them [1]  
 (c) Exercise works like a fertilizer in our brain. More capillary beds are formed in our muscles and brain. It makes our body and mind healthier. [1]  
 (d) It makes him healthier, more energetic and sharper. [1]  
 (e) Neurotransmitters help the cells to communicate with each other for better, faster functioning. [1]  
 (f) Cycling also elevates our mood, relieves anxiety, increases stress resistance, and banishes the blues. [1]  
 (g) It's more important for adults because with every passing year our brain shrinks. Exercise restores and protects the brain cells. [1]  
 (h) It is itself a stress because it releases a particular hormone to raise our heartbeat, blood pressure and blood glucose. [1]  
 (i) (i) Fertilizer [1]  
 (ii) sedentary [1]
14. (a) Waste Management & Health
1. Clean Surroundings
    - (a) Personal hygiene not enough
    - (b) Clean surroundings necessary for health
    - (c) Dengue & chikangooniya are results of poor public health [1]
  2. Swachha Bharat
    - (a) Swacha Bharat- working in this direction
    - (b) Instead of waste management, it's focusing on waste for energy
    - (c) Has a long way to go [1]
  3. City Compost
    - (a) Lots of city compost from biodegradable waste
    - (b) City compost- an alternative to farmyard manure
    - (c) Will clean cities
    - (d) A powerful alternative to chemical fertilizers
    - (e) Makes soil porous, roots stronger
    - (f) Unlike farmyard manure, it's free from weed seeds [1]
  4. Efforts of some States
    - (a) States laying plastic roads
    - (b) Plastic roads- more enduring
    - (c) Plastic roads rid city of plastic waste [1]

## ABBREVIATIONS

1. necesry- necessary
  2. directn- direction
  3. Instd- instead
  4. mangmnt- management
  5. biodegrdbl- biodegradable
  6. altrntive- alternative
  7. powrfl- powerful
  8. fertilizrs- fertilizers
  9. Plstic- plastic [1]
- (b) Personal hygiene is not sufficient. To be truly healthy, we will have to keep the surroundings healthy. Epidemics like chikangooniya spread because of poor public health conditions. But it is pleasant to know that swachh Bharat campaign is working towards it. However, it has a long way to go. It should focus on waste management before it zeroes in on waste for energy.
- City compost is a great and more effective alternative to farmyard manure. It is free from the seeds of weeds. It helps the crops more. Doing this will rid our cities of waste material.
- Some states are laying plastic roads which are a welcome step as it rids the cities of plastic waste and the plastic roads are more enduring. [3]
15. (a) (i) (c) 80%. [1]  
 (ii) (b) 2015 [1]  
 (iii) (d) large molecule polymers. [1]  
 (iv) (b) plastic bags and soda-can rings. [1]  
 (v) (c) California and Indonesia. [1]
- (b) (i) Discarded plastic bags, cups and bottles are the plastic articles that generally cause pollution in the sea. [1]  
 (ii) Plastics in oceans last for a longer duration and hence introduce dangerous chemicals into marine ecosystem that results in harming the marine lives. [1]  
 (iii) Plastic doesn't biodegrade or break down naturally. Instead, it just fragments, or breaks into tiny pieces over time. This way microplastic is formed which can potentially stick around for hundreds or even thousands of years. [1]  
 (iv) Plastic is compared to sponge because a sponge has absorbing qualities. Similarly, plastic tends to absorb harmful chemicals from its surroundings. [1]

- (v) The biggest impact of plastic pollution on sea life is that it can make seals, turtles and even whales entangle in plastic netting. As a result, these animals can starve to death moreover, the plastic can cut into the animals' skin causing wounds that develop severe infections. [1]
- (vi) Scientists are trying on working towards new materials that are safer for the environment. They are testing a new polymer that breaks down more easily in seawater. [1]
- (c) (i) When people litter, or when trash is not properly disposed off, things like plastic bags, bottles, straws, foam beverage cups get carried away to the sea by winds and waterways. This is how plastic waste enters the ocean. [2]
- (ii) It is really true to say that plastic is everywhere in the world today as it can be found in basic accessories of life such as shoes, clothing, household items, electronics, etc. [2]
- (iii) The property of plastic which makes it a problem pollutant is that it doesn't biodegrade or break down naturally. Instead, it just fragments, or breaks into tiny pieces over time. These tiny pieces, known as microplastic, can potentially stick around for hundreds or perhaps even thousands of years. [2]
- (iv) Scientist Jambeck said that 'Individuals actions make a big difference'. She suggested that disposing off plastic properly for recycling or trash collection is a key step. And, simple things like reusable water bottles, mugs and bags, and banning the use of straws really cuts down on waste. These are the things suggested for having healthier oceans. [2]
- (d). (i) dumped [1]
- (ii) unfortunately [1]
- (iii) resemble [1]

## 16. (a) SLEEP AND ITS IMPORTANCE

### 1. NEED OF ENOUGH SLEEP

#### 1.1 Good Night's Sleep [Ess.]

1.1.1 Preserves brain health

1.1.2 meet the [nxt] day with positive attitude

1.2 Six to eight hours sleep a night

1.3 Less than six to eight in older age

1.4 Sleep [depr.] causes stress

### 2. SLEEP DEPRIVATION

2.1 [Perf.] of memory is affected

2.2 causes stress

2.3 lay in bed 30-60 min. than normal time

2.4 relax with no thoughts in mind

### 3. INSOMNIA

3.1 [Cnslt.] a doctor

3.2 Affects ability to remember

3.3 Depletes immune system, makes accident prone

3.4 depression, [neg.] outlook towards life.

### 4. STRESS MANAGEMENT

4.1 Essential for maximizing brain [pow.]

4.2 Make it priority to relax

4.3 minute or two of deep breathing

4.4 Best ideas and memories come during relaxation time.

### 5. MEDITATION

5.1 Meditation - A part of [rel.] and spiritual life.

5.2 Adopted in Western Countries

5.2.1 develops peace of mind, lowers stress

5.3 [Evid.] [reg.] meditation restores sleeping problems

5.4 protects brain against aging

#### Abbreviations:

Ess. - Essential

nxt - Next

pos. - positive

depr. - deprivation

Perf. - Performance

cnslt. - Consult

pow. - power

rel. - religious

Evid. - Evidence

reg. - regular

#### (b) Summary

There is a need for enough sleep. A good night's sleep is important as it preserves brain health and helps to meet the next

day with a positive attitude. Six to eight hours of sleep is required for an adult and, slightly less as one grows older. Sleep deprivation affects memory and causes stress. To get enough sleep, try to go to bed thirty to sixty minutes earlier than normal time, relax with no thoughts in mind. If suffering from insomnia, consult a doctor; it affects the ability to remember, depletes immune system, makes accident prone, causes depression and negative attitude towards life. Stress management is essential for maximising brain power, make it a priority to relax and practice deep breathing. The best ideas and memories come during relaxation time. Meditation is a part of religious and spiritual life. Western countries are adopting it as it develops peace of mind and reduces stress. There is evidence that regular meditation lowers sleep problems and protects brain against aging. [5]

17. (a) **Title – Pros and Cons of a Television**

Note Making —

Introduction

- Good for those who carefully choose the shows that they watch.
- Television has its own pros and cons.

**Advantages of Television**

- Increases knowledge about the world.
- benefits the elderly or patients to consume their time
- Shows diff. programmes based on study, medicine.
- offers non-native speakers the advantage of daily informal language practice.
- Enhances vocab.

**Disadvantages of Television**

- children watch TV for more than 6 hours
- Weakens concn.
- causes dissatisfaction in people's lives.
- kids only pay attention during commer.
- Children tend to believe that violence is common in society.
- Children become violent

**Abbreviations**

- vocab. – vocabulary
- diff. – difference
- concn – concentration
- comm. – commercial

[4]

(b) **Summary —**

Television has a two way impact in one's life. On one hand it is good for those who are careful enough to watch only what is productive. It also helps people to do their daily informal practice of language and increases vocabulary. On the other hand it also has a set of disadvantages. Children tend to watch television for long hours that impacts their concentration levels. Most of the time, the kids pay attention only during commercials. Looking at crime stories, children tend to believe that violence is a part of the society and this at times is reflected in their behaviour. [4]

18. (c) Lines from the passage: "What's the one thing that you associate with your college days? For me, it was consuming copious amounts of chai. A cup of tea was a panacea to all troubles and the companion to all joys." [1]
19. (a) "In those days, there was a huge liking for Chinese food and hence, the name and the choice of cuisine," he says. This line proves the answer. [1]
20. (b) "The business did so well that soon he had installed more than ten telephones...." [1]
21. (c) "Since it was the OTs that gave us our identity,....." [1]
22. (c) "...because some officer came in and decided to teach us how to make them." This shows feeling of acceptance and closeness. [1]
23. (d) "...While the money we make is not great, the respect and the love we have accumulated over the years is what keeps us going." [1]
24. (d) Patronized means supported. [1]
25. (a) The willingness to work hard made him successful. [1]
26. (b) Humilities means being humble and unpretentious, that is the reason, how he and his family learnt new dishes from the officers and he appreciate them. [1]
27. (c) Trust was built with the passage of time (serving two generations). [1]
28. **Any eight to be attempted.** [1 × 8 = 8]
- (i) We don't take the first step towards a good cause because we underestimate ourselves and think that such a big task cannot be done by us in isolation. [1]
- (ii) A two-uses-attitude is a technique in which an article is reused twice to give it a longer lease of life which ends up extracting less raw material from the nature. [1]

- (iii) To avoid abuse of paper, the clean side of envelopes can be used to write small notes, lists and reminders around the house. We should avoid the use of paper napkins or paper plates. [1]
- (iv) The result of an effective way of garbage disposal is clean and beautiful neighbourhoods. [1]
- (v) All the kitchen waste should be collected separately and then compost it to convert it into good garden manure. [1]
- (vi) The making of garden manure can be done as community project by digging a large pit in the colony where everyone can contribute to their share of kitchen waste. [1]
- (vii) It takes approximately three to six months to make good garden manure. [1]
- (viii) Conscious in Para 3 means being concerned or interested. [1]
- (ix) Imperative in Para 4 means completely necessary. [1]
29. (i) The correct option is (c) i.e. it includes physical activity. [1]
- (ii) In the text the author wants to convey that Cricket is a game bound within rules and usually does not go out of those rules. So, it does not carry any secrets. [1]
- (iii) Watching the game of Cricket gives rise to:  
 (a) Make us experience the thrill of war. [½]  
 (b) Calms our impatience without creating any conflict. [½]
- (iv) The correct option is (c) i.e. generate. [1]
- (v) The correct option is (b) i.e. watching a cricket match makes the viewer believe that he is fighting a battle. [1]
- (vi) The correct option is (c) i.e. a spectator who enjoys the match as an armchair soldier. [1]
- (vii) The writer aptly compares games to a morality play as the rules are made by us and thus can easily be tested for fair and foul conduct, principles of reward and punishment, and emotions of joy and disappointment by the people who are involved or engaged in them also show morality. [1]
- (viii) morality play [1]
- (ix) then they lose the purpose of providing entertainment and purging of aggressiveness. [1]
- (x) The correct option is (b) i.e. The Benefits of Playing Cricket. [1]
30. A. (a) (ii) Chennai [1]  
 (b) (iii) National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation [1]  
 (c) (iii) to carry the harvested organs in the shortest possible time. [1]  
 (d) (iv) the cost is prohibitive [1]  
 (e) (i) they don't have well trained experts [1]  
 (f) (iii) four hours [1]
- B. (a) The traditional method of transporting organs by road is referred to as green corridor. [1]  
 (b) Smooth transportation of the retrieved organ is necessary so as to help those who are awaiting a life saving transplant of an organ. Moreover, organs tend to have a very short preservation time. [1]  
 (c) The Chennai Traffic Police reached destination within 11 minutes during peak hours of traffic and save the life of a 9 year old girl. This reflects the dedicated attitude that the Chennai Traffic Police possess towards their duty. [1]  
 (d) Cadaver Organs have a short span of life and hence transplant should be done in a few golden hours only. Few golden hours refer to the limited time span that is taken to transport the organs. [1]  
 (e) The heart transplant costs about 15-20 lakh per operation and the post operative treatment and medicines costs Rs. 30,000 per month lifelong. [1]
- C. (a) Preserve [1]  
 (b) Accomplished [1]
31. (a) The passage deals with the issue of Air Pollution at the global level. [1]
32. (c) Air pollution leads to respiratory diseases. [1]
33. (b) (i) Air pollution kills 4.6 million people around the globe and not India. (ii) Para 4 clearly indicates that the respondents with respiratory diseases have outnumbered water borne diseases. [1]

34. (b) "Urban air quality in most mega cities has been found to be critical." [1]
35. (c) Information in Para 5. [1]
36. (b) Transport- 22.5% ; Industries 17.2% [1]
37. **Any six to be attempted.** [1 × 6 = 6]
- (i) Visible source of annoyance means that it was in 1994 that the plastic bottles emerged in such huge numbers that it became irritating for the common man. It was not much of botheration earlier. [1]
- (ii) People demanded a ban on plastics because they could understand the adverse effect of plastic on hygiene. So being concerned about the state of public sanitation, people urged the regulatory bodies to "ban the production, distribution and use of plastic bags. [1]
- (iii) Rapid urbanisation, spread of retail chains, plastic packaging from grocery to food and products, to consumer items and cosmetics etc. created a demand for plastics in India. [1]
- (iv) It suggests that there is a steady rise in the production of plastic in 2019. [1]
- (v) The upward trend of the graph indicates that India's trajectory of plastic consumption and plastic waste is likely to increase. [1]
- (vi) The line, oceans turning 'irreversibly into a thin soup of plastic', suggests the dark future with all the plastic waste floating on

the surface of the ocean water. It is termed as irreversible as it is almost an impossible task to clean the ocean water. [1]

- (vii) To combat the challenges of plastic waste management, the country must formulate robust and inclusive National Action Plans to regulate plastic waste.
- As a result, the oceans will be free from plastic and country will establish greater transparency to combat the plastic jeopardy in a more sustainable and holistic way. [1]
38. (i) Not Given [1]
- (ii) The correct option is (b) i.e. at the time of landing or taking off. [1]
- (iii) susceptible [1]
- (iv) The correct option is (b) i.e. the pilot must land at the earliest airport. [1]
- (v) The correct option is (a) i.e. but only few are dangerous. [1]
- (vi) these are highly critical phases of flying [1]
- (vii) maneuverability [1]
- (viii) Areas with presence of more bird activity [1]
- (ix) The presence of waste disposal sites around air field can attract a large number of birds. [1]
- (x) The correct option is (b) i.e. increased. [1]