

Q1. Write a composition in 250-300 words on any 'ONE' of the topics given below:

[15]

- A Day in an Adventure camp.
- The Scientific Discovery which has influenced you the most.
- Give your views either 'For' or 'Against' the statement, 'Influence of media in a democracy like India'
- A flood swept away an entire town leaving only the library and its strange secret behind. Write a story ending with -----all's well that ends well.
- Study the picture given below. Write a description or an account of what the picture suggests to you.



Q2. Write a letter to the Superintendent of Police of your area that your brother has not returned home from school, giving full particulars of the boy, his dress, etc.

[12]

OR

Write letter to the Editor of a newspaper, on the evils of child labour.

Q3. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

[25]

I told my mother that I was going on a silence retreat; her face froze in an expression of incredulity for a second, then she burst into laughter. I have been a chatterbox; I was even paid by a family friend to be quiet during a car ride. I am less chatty now. I didn't know what to expect when I parked my car at Abbey St. Benoit, a Benedictine monastery, which seemed to offer what I wanted. One of the **tenets** of the followers of St. Benedict is silence; another is hospitality. Sounded perfect. It looked perfect on the hilly western shore of a lake in Quebec, Canada. It is surrounded by woods, pastures and apple orchards, where the monks support themselves by making cheese and cider.

I needed the pastoral peace. I was nervous about trying out something completely out of the ordinary and worried I did not belong at a religious institution. I was assured that visitors not just on a religious journey, came to seek the answer to a question or simply to rest in a peaceful environment. I'd come to write about a silence retreat. I had reached in time for the evening meal. I soon found myself living up – in silence – with the other guests, who in age were as I guessed between 30 and 50, and the nuns who live there full time. Food is served in buffet-style at all meals, simple but home-cooked, a single main meal, one type of soup and salad. Music played softly in the background, which reminded me of the questions I had: how silent can it really be when other humans are around. Would an **inadvertent** escape of a few words or the sound of church bells or music during meals

taint the experience? How on earth would I occupy myself without conversation? With fewer distractions, would I spend too much time inside my head and discover something unpleasant? Or would I even be able to slow down the self-chatter long enough to uncover such things?

I often dreamt of such a weekend, often unburdened of domestic chores, free to indulge in meditation, yoga, walks, to read, write, even nap. This freedom left me anchorless. The first morning had me welcoming diversions of scheduled times: meals, prayers. I wanted to pick up some of the monks cheese. I kept glancing at my watch with ridiculous frequency.

In the normal past I was able to **ferret** out the roof of an issue by writing about what was bothering me. Usually I let problems go around and around in my head but there's something **therapeutic** about writing them out. Writing them down leaves you with energy to reflect upon them deeply – allowing you to be honest with yourself. By day 2, I came to the conclusion that complete silence would be possible only if one were 100% deaf, in a padded room with padded objects or in a coma.

It would have been quieter if I'd retreated to the family cottage by myself, but then I saw the beauty of being at the abbey: people seeking **solitude** together. There was only a smile or the tip of the hat to connect us.

It felt counterintuitive not to strike up a conversation when someone shared my table at mealtime; I had to consciously refrain my social behaviour. At the same time it was liberating not to feel compelled to make conversation.

When i left the abbey on a beautiful Sunday afternoon, I reflected that my silence retreat was less silent than I'd expected, that I needed more than a couple of days to unwind properly and that you can connect with strangers without using words.

(a) Give the meaning of the following words as used in the passage.

- i) Chores *task just duty regular work* ii) buffet-style *serving food. healthy from yourself* iii) therapeutic *a disease* iv) solitude *alone loneliness* v) compelled *forced to* [1X5=5]

(b) Answer the following questions.

- i) Why did her mother laugh when the author said where she was going?
ii) What were the means of earning for the monks?
iii) Why exactly had the author gone to the abbey?
iv) Describe the meals served.
v) What did the author realize at the end of the retreat?

(c) In not more than 60 words describe the authors stay at the abbey.

(d) Give a title to 3(C) and give a reason to justify your choice. *generous* [8]

[2]

SECTION B

Q4. Design an attractive poster on 'Save the Earth'. ☐ *Poster*

[4]

OR

You are launching / opening a new Departmental Store in your locality. Draft an advertisement for it. *Advertisement*

Q5. You are the Sports Prefect of your school. Draft a notice for your School's notice board on the upcoming Marathon organised by your school. Give all the necessary details for the same. *NOTICE*

[4]

OR

You witnessed a horrible road accident today. You were horrified. Write a diary entry recording your reactions and reflections about the accident. *DIARY ENTRY*

SECTION C

Q6. Do as Directed:

[1X8 = 8]

- i) He said to me, "Do you know the way?" (change into indirect speech) *asked me if I knew the way*
ii) She said to us, "Let us have some music." (change into indirect speech) *suggested to have some music*
iii) Give the order (change into passive voice) *let the order be put*
iv) Were the farmers ploughing the fields? (change into passive voice) *being ploughed by the farmers*
v) She is too proud to apologize. (remove 'too') *she is so proud that she won't will not*

- more valuable than most other metals
- vi) Radium is one of the most valuable metals. (change to comparative degree)
 - vii) He was not so wise as Solomon (change into Affirmative)
 - viii) He finished everything. (change into Negative)

He left nothing undone.

Nothing was left for him to finish

Q7. Place the adverb given in brackets in a suitable position in the sentences.

[½ X4=2]

- i) I knew the answer. (already)
- ii) This is a different problem. (quite)
- iii) You must check oil gauge before starting the vehicle. (always)
- iv) Do you live at the same address? (still)

Q8. Fill in the blank with the appropriate form of the verb given in the brackets.

[½ X6 = 3]

A certain man was in the habit of (1) wearing (wear) his raincoat back to front whenever he (2) rode (ride) his bicycle in the rain. He (3) said (say) that in this way he (4) was able to (be able to) keep dry. One day it (5) was raining (rain) when he (6) left (leave) home, so as usual he wore his raincoat with the buttons at the back.

Q9. Fill in the blank choosing the correct determiner.

[½ X4=2]

- i) There isn't any tea in the teapot.
- ii) Every man wishes to be happy.
- iii) A little knowledge is a dangerous thing.
- iv) You can take either side.

wearing
rode
said
was able to
was raining
left.