

You will **not** be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.

This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.

The time given at the head of the Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

ATTEMPT ALL FIVE QUESTIONS.

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].

You are advised to spend not more than 30 minutes in answering **Question 1** and 20 minutes in answering **Question 2**.

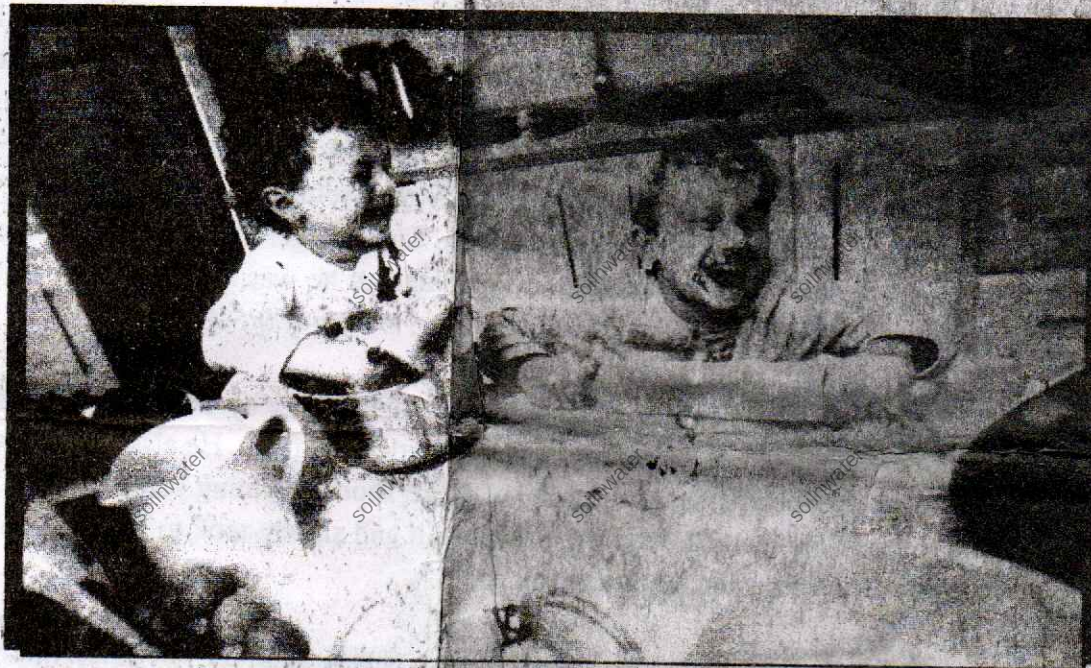
Question 1.

(Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question.)

Write a composition (300-350 words) on any **ONE** of the following:

[20]

- Write an original short story which illustrates the truth of the statement: 'Actions speak louder than words.'
- 'Participation in sports is a bane for academic success.' Express your views either **for** or **against** this statement.
- The testing times have taught us all that amidst pain, there is some joy. Describe your journey of the last two years, what all you saw and heard to realize that life is a blend of joys and sorrows.
- Narrate an incident when life had put you in an embarrassing situation. Give an account of how you dealt with that situation and the lesson you learnt from it.
- Study the picture given below. Write a story or an account of what the picture suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



Question 2.

(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.)

Select **any one** of the following:

[10]

- (a) A leading channel is organizing a dance audition, for its upcoming reality show, in your city next month. Write a letter to your cousin, who is an enthusiastic dancer but an introvert, asking him/her to register for the same and stressing upon the fact that how it is a good way for him/her to step out of his/her comfort zone.

OR

- (b) You have received a 'delivered' notification from a leading fashion app for one of your online orders, but it has not been delivered at your address. Write a letter to the Manager of the Grievance Cell of that app, complaining about the issue and requesting for a reimbursement.

Question 3.

- (a) Your school is organizing an essay writing competition on the occasion of International Women's Day. Write a notice to be displayed on the school notice board informing the students about the competition and inviting them to participate.
- (b) Write an email to a senior teacher (of English) of your school to judge the competition and to give away the prizes to the best three essays.

[5]

[5]

Question 4.

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

The story of Robinson Crusoe, few people know, is based on a real life incident. The son of a cobbler, Alexander Selkirk was a wayward young man, with little respect for authority. Abject conditions at sea and the cruelty of the captains made the sailors miserable in those days. It was not surprising that Alexander became rebellious and malevolent when he became a sailor.

In 1704, he was Sailing Master on a ship; when it anchored for repairs near the desolate island of Juan Fernandez about 650 kilometers west of Chile. They were looking for gold, which they often got by plundering other ships. In the days that followed, Alexander hatched a conspiracy. He *instigated* the other sailors to leave the ship and remain on the island. They would declare a mutiny. Perhaps, Alexander reasoned, that the Captain would accept their demands if he believed that his men would refuse to sail otherwise. Unfortunately for Alexander, the crew played the Judas. The Captain, getting to know of Alexander's part in the planned mutiny, left him behind on the island as he was a bad influence on the men. He was provided with a few necessities, among them, a copy of the Bible.

Alexander, *marooned* on an island populated only by wild cats and goats, became adept at hunting and his food soon comprised fish, turtles and meat. He also made clothes with goat skin. Although a cobbler's son, he could not make shoes. Running barefoot after goats had hardened the soles of his feet. He read the Bible again and slowly took to reading it aloud. He spoke and sang to the 20 cats and learnt to milk goats.

Once, during his stay on the island, a Spanish ship anchored near the island and the crew rowed in. Alexander was petrified and hid in the thick foliage. In those days Spain and England were at daggers drawn. Fortunately the Spaniards left after a brief rest.

In February 1709, two English ships sailed in to collect fresh water and shoot goats. Alexander rushed to them for succor. He looked strange with his *unkempt* hair, beard and goat skin clothes. His rescuers understood him with great difficulty. His speech had changed a great deal. His vocabulary had shrunk and he had to grope for words. They did, however, manage to understand his story finally.

Alexander took a job as a sailor on one of the ships and reached London in 1711. He returned home with a large fortune. However, he ran out of his fortune in two years and had to return to sea. Alexander's adventure became well-known.

Eight years later, Daniel Defoe gave the story a new shape with many twists, calling it *The Adventures of Robinson Crusoe*. It was now the story of a man who was shipwrecked on an island and lived alone for an unbelievable twenty eight years.

(a) Give the meaning of the following words as used in the passage: One word answers or short phrases will be accepted. [3]

- (i) instigated
- (ii) marooned
- (iii) unkempt

(b) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words.

- (i) Why did Alexander become reckless and malevolent when he became a sailor? [2]
- (ii) What was the conspiracy hatched by Alexander and why did he do so? [2]
- (iii) What major change had Alexander's personality undergone by 1709? [2]
- (iv) Why was Alexander petrified when the Spanish ship anchored near the island? [1]
- (v) Mention two points of difference between Alexander's actual story and Defoe's version. [2]

(c) In not more than 50 words, give an account of Alexander's adventure on the island. [8]

Question 4.

(a) Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in the brackets. Do not copy the passage, but write in a correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. [4]

Example: (0) carrying

Some years ago, a seven-year-old boy was at home when a stranger (0).....(carry) a black bag (1) (call) at his house. Someone in the house was ill. The stranger (2)(examine) the patient and said something to the boy's mother. She listened attentively, obviously much (3) (impress), then took her purse and gave him ten dollars. The visit (4)..... (last) only a few minutes; but the (5).....(visit) was treated with respect and (6)(give) ten dollars. After the stranger (7).....(go), the boy asked the mother, "Who was that man?"

"That (8).....(be) the doctor, dear," she replied.

Whereupon the boy exclaimed, "When I grow up, I'm going to be a doctor."

(b) Fill in the blanks with an appropriate word:

- (i) How many of us will agree _____ this proposal?
- (ii) The grandfather impressed _____ the children the need to be punctual.
- (iii) The little girl ran _____ the road to buy chocolates from the shop.
- (iv) While returning from work last night, I saw a building _____ fire.
- (v) My younger brothers always quarrel _____ toys.
- (vi) I prefer singing _____ dancing.
- (vii) Mr. Gupta is devoid _____ kindness.
- (viii) A miser always hankers _____ money.

(c) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence **without using 'and', 'but' or 'so'**:

[4]

- (i) He reached Mumbai. He visited his ailing friend.
- (ii) The rain stopped. We did not go to the club.
- (iii) Maria is beautiful. Maria is intelligent.
- (iv) Mr. Joe is a doctor. He lives on the fifth floor of this building.

(d) Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of the sentence.

[8]

- (i) Ronie was too tall to hide under the table.
(Use: so _____ that)
- (ii) Priya is one of the best swimmers of our batch.
(Use: better)
- (iii) Although my sister was annoyed, she kept quiet.
(Begin: Despite _____)
- (iv) As soon as the sun rises, my uncle starts practicing yoga.
(Use: No sooner _____)
- (v) My mother said to me, 'Let us go to the market.'
(Change into indirect speech)
- (vi) Neha likes to play basketball.
(Change into a question tag)
- (vii) He will work for you only if you pay him a good salary.
(Begin: Unless _____)
- (viii) My family is making preparations for my birthday party.
(End : _____ my family.)