

Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.

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

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

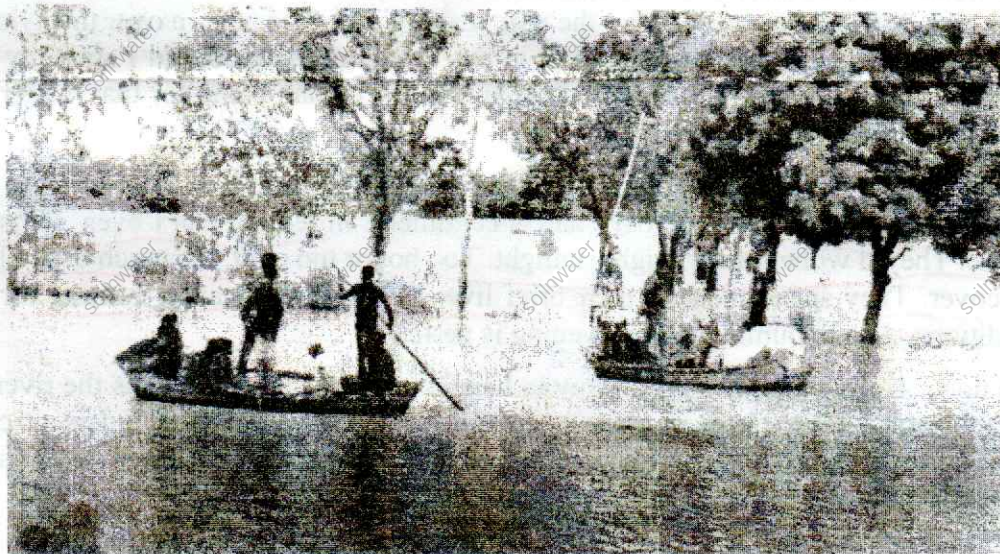
The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

Question 1. (Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question.)

Write a composition (250 - 300 words) on any **ONE** of the following:

[20]

- (i) Imagine a situation in which a fictional character from your favourite book or movie comes alive. Write an imaginary account of a day spent with the character.
- (ii) 'Teenagers today are more experienced or worldly-wise than their parents.' Express your views either **For** or **Against** this statement.
- (iii) While on a picnic you and your friends decide to go sailing. Unfortunately, your boat overturns, in a violent storm. However, all of you manage to swim to safety. Give details of the incident and narrate your experience that day.
- (iv) Write an original short story entitled: 'Time Heals Everything.'
- (v) Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of what it 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.)

[10]

Select any **ONE** of the following:

- (i) You have noticed many stray animals on the road during the busy hours of the day. These animals have caused traffic jams as well as accidents. You have written to the concerned authorities, but no action has been taken so far. Write a letter to the Editor of a leading daily newspaper, drawing the attention of the authorities to the problems faced by the people, requesting them to do the needful.

OR

- (ii) The main road leading to your locality has three open manholes, causing frequent accidents at night, especially during the rainy season. Write a letter to the Municipal Commissioner bringing the problem to his notice and urge him to take immediate action in this regard.

Question 3.

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

[20]

From the edge of a steep ridge, I peered down into the Redstone valley. Like many summer days in the north- west Alaska, the morning had begun bright and wind- swept, but now a dark cloud was drifting in from the east. I decided to move on. Camp was still three kilometres down the hill.

It had been eighteen years since I had first come to this vast untamed wilderness. Still there was a lure of the place- the chance to live, move and breathe. Settled in Ambler, a small village in the Kobuk valley, I had found life among the Inupiat Eskimos as rich and textured as the Arctic landscape around us. However, even a bright summer day could mean trouble.

As I slung my pack onto my shoulders, a big Arctic mosquito thudded against my cheek. There had been a few of them throughout the day, but it was early in the season. The ice had melted just two weeks before and I had scarcely noticed the mosquitoes. But now as I wound down the ridge, the last breeze faded, and they were on me. Rising in clouds from the Soggy Tundra, they pelted against my face. I looked for the repellant in my pack, but in vain.

I was flailing away, nailing five or six at a whack, but there were thousands mobbing me now. They were diving in nose first, piercing me right through my clothes, dozens at a time. Four hands wouldn't be enough. Years of Alaskan experience had taught me what to do in such a situation like this. I turned up my collar, tightened my pack straps and hurried.

When I saw my tent, I was still going strong. So were the mosquitoes. They trailed me in a whining veil. Each time I slowed down, the attack resumed. Pausing just long enough to unzip the screen door, I dived through to safety. It took me fifteen minutes to hunt down the hundred or so that entered the tent with me.

After I had cornered the last one, I took stock and tried to relax. My hands and legs were smeared with blood, and every centimeter of the exposed skin was punctured. Outside, the insistent wail was nearly deafening. Mosquitoes settled over the tent, making a strange pattern over the nylon mesh. Not until later that night, when a cold rain swept in and scattered the mob, did I stick my own itching nose outside again. Local legend has it that an animal, or human being for that matter, caught in one of these mosquito attacks, can be sucked dry.

Blood thirsty though they are, the big Arctic mosquitoes are frail creatures. These infamous 'Alaska state birds', averaging a little over half a centimetre in length, can't even withstand a substantial breeze. They'd wither under bright sunlight. Too hot or too cold, too much or too little rain, they run for cover. They spend most of their brief lives hiding under leaves, waiting for the right feeding conditions. A still, humid, cloudy evening is perfect.

The upper Kobuk Eskimos know how to handle mosquitoes. As soon as the river is cleared of ice, many Ambler people load up their boats and head for the chilly, windswept coast to spend the summer. Of course, they also fish and hunt seals but it's no coincidence that this annual migration sidesteps the worst mosquito season.

- (a) For each word given below choose the correct meaning (as used in the passage) from the options provided:

[3]

1. peered

- (i) frightened terribly
- (ii) looked closely
- (iii) control fully
- (iv) passed slowly

2. lure

- (i) attract
- (ii) steal
- (iii) tolerate
- (iv) Notify

3. legend

- (i) a typical bird
- (ii) a sea creature
- (iii) a kind of tree
- (iv) traditional story

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

1. Why did the author feel that he should move on? [1]
2. Where did the author come from? Why did he come to this particular place? [2]
3. Why did the author consider the arctic mosquitoes 'frail creatures'? [2]
4. According to the author, in which season was the mosquitoes' menace at its peak? *Late summer* [2]
5. Why was a 'still humid, cloudy evening' perfect? For whom? [2]
6. Why did the Ambler people head for the chill wind-swept coast? [2]

(c) In not more than fifty words of your own, describe how the mosquitoes came upon the author and how he managed to escape from them. [6]

Question 4. Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct verb form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. [$\frac{1}{2} \times 8 = 4$]

Example:

Christopher Columbus _____ (0)(return) from his famous voyage across the Atlantic.

Answer: (0) had returned

The king of Spain wished (1)(wish) to celebrate the great event and do honour to the man who had made (2)(make) himself a national hero. He did (3)(do) so by holding a banquet in honour of the explorer. To this banquet he had invited (4) (invite) many of the nobles of the king's court. Some of them were (5) (be) jealous of the success Columbus had achieved (6) (achieve). One of them sat next to Columbus. He turned towards Columbus and said, "Of course you are (7)(be) a brave man but anyone can take a ship and sail on and on till he reaches (8)(reach) land."

Question 5. Fill in the blanks using the appropriate **determiners**:

[$\frac{1}{2} \times 8 = 4$]

- (i) What kind of goals do you have in life?
- (ii) She is wearing a beautiful ring on her finger.
- (iii) I used to live in this house. a his - then
- (iv) She dropped me at the airport in the morning.
- (v) Have you got any idea about the damage you caused to her health?
- (vi) How many eggs do you want for breakfast?
- (vii) Philip owns many properties in France. a lot of some number a few few
- (viii) You can drink as much milk as you want.

Question 6. Rewrite the following sentences by placing the **adverbs** given in the brackets in its correct position:

[$\frac{1}{2} \times 6 = 3$]

- (i) We are often invited to parties at the weekends. (often)
- (ii) I know the answer. (already)
- (iii) The moon was bright to light the way. (enough)
- (iv) In the spring, there are flowers everywhere. (everywhere)
- (v) The rules of the game are quite simple. (quite)
- (vi) Did you go to school yesterday? (yesterday)

Question 7. Change the following sentences into **Passive Voice**:

[6]

- (i) We shall despatch the goods as early as possible. *The goods shall be despatched.*
- (ii) The teachers were discussing the examination results. *The ex. res. were being disc.*
- (iii) How can one ignore such a serious mistake? *How can such a serious mistake be ignored?*
- (iv) Let us forget the past. *Let the past be forg.*
- (v) Somebody steals all the red roses everyday. *Red roses are stolen by somebody.*
- (vi) Sell this bicycle off. *Let this bicycle be sold. / This bicycle should be sold off.*

Question 8. Punctuate the following:

[3]

Then margot turned and looked at the boy who shouted, "don't wait around here because you won't see anything."