

ATTEMPT ALL QUESTIONS

Question 1.

(You are advised to spend not more than **30 minutes** on this question.)

Write a composition of about 250-300 words on **any one** of the following:

[20]

- Write an original story beginning with, "That one decision I made without thinking changed everything until....."
- You generally avoid public speaking, but one unexpected opportunity forced you to step on stage and speak your heart out. Describe that moment and its impact on your life.
- 'A robot teacher would be more beneficial than a human teacher.' Present your views either **FOR** or **AGAINST** the statement.
- Would you rather be a famous movie star, politician, or athlete and why?
- Study the given picture. Write a story or a description or an account of what the picture suggests to you. Your composition must be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it. There must be a clear connection between the picture and the composition.



Question 2.

(You are advised to spend not more than **20 minutes** on this question.)

Select **any one** of the following:

[8]

- Write a letter to a friend who is going through a tough time. Give him or her valuable suggestions to overcome the problem.

OR

- As a concerned citizen, write a letter to the Municipal Corporation of your city highlighting the urgent need for a footpath in your area. Explain the daily struggles pedestrians face due to the lack of a proper walking path and suggest suitable solutions to ensure their safety and convenience.

Question 3.

- Your school is hosting an Inter School Mask Making Competition. Write a notice to be put up on your school notice board informing the students of classes VI-VIII about the event.
- Write an email to the Principal of a neighbouring school, requesting him/her to send three students to participate in this event.

[3]

[3]

Question 4

[20]

Read carefully the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

Sita went to her grandfather and sat down beside him. "When you are hungry, tell me," she said, "and I will make the bread."

"Is your grandmother asleep?"

"Yes. But she will wake up soon. The pain is deep."

The old man stared across the river, at the dark green of the forest, at the leaden sky, and said, 'If she is not better by tomorrow, I will take her to the hospital in Shahganj. They will know how to make her well. You may be on your own for two or three days. You have been on your own before.' Sita nodded gravely—she had been alone before; but not in the middle of the rains with the river so high. But she knew that someone must stay behind. She wanted Grandmother to get well, and she knew that only Grandfather could take the small boat across the river when the current was so strong.

Sita was not afraid of being left alone but she did not like the look of the river. That evening it began to rain again. Big pellets of rain were scarring the surface of the river. But it was warm rain and Sita could move about in it. She was not afraid of getting wet, she rather liked it. In the previous month, when the monsoon shower had arrived, washing the dusty leaves of the tree and bringing up the good smell of the Earth, she had exulted in it, had run about shouting for joy. She was used to it now, even a little tired of the rain, but she did not mind getting wet. It was steamy indoors and her thin dress would soon dry in the heat from the kitchen fire.

She walked about barefooted, barelegged. She was very sure on her feet. Her toes had grown accustomed to gripping all kinds of rocks, slippery or sharp, and though thin, she was surprisingly strong with black hair streaming across her face, black eyes, slim brown arms and a scar on her thigh. When she was small, while visiting her mother's village, a hyena entered the house where she was sleeping, fastened on to her leg and tried to drag her away but her screams had roused the villagers and the hyena had run off.

She moved about in the pouring rain, chasing the hens into a shelter behind the hut. A harmless brown snake, flooded out of its hole, was moving across the open ground. Sita took a stick, picked the snake up with it, and dropped it behind a cluster of rocks. She had no quarrel with snakes. They kept down the rats and the frogs. She wondered how the rats had first come to the island—probably in someone's boat or in a sack of grain. She disliked the huge black scorpions who left their waterlogged dwellings and tried to take shelter in the hut. It was so easy to step on one and the sting could be very painful. She had been bitten by a scorpion the previous monsoon and for a day and night she had known fever and great pain. Sita had never killed living creatures but now, whenever she found a scorpion, she crushed it with a rock! When, finally, she went indoors, she was hungry. She ate some parched gram and warmed up some goat's milk.

Grandmother woke once and asked for water and Grandfather held the brass tumbler to her lips. The roof was leaking and a small puddle formed on the floor. Grandfather kept the kerosene lamps alight. They did not need the light but somehow it made them feel safer. It rained all night.

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

[2]

1. gravely

- (a) harmlessly
- (b) seriously
- (c) lightly

2. parched

- (a) dry
- (b) saturated
- (c) moist

(ii) Which word in the passage means the opposite of the word 'adored'?

[1]

- (a) exulted
- (b) disliked
- (c) roused

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

- wanted to get well / knew only if could take boat across river when the current was strong*
- (a) Why was Sita willing to stay alone? [2]
- (b) What had made Sita like the first monsoon shower? [2]
- (c) Why did Sita have a scar on her thigh? [2]
- (d) What was Sita's attitude towards scorpions and why? [2]
- (e) Why did they keep the lamps alight? [1]
- (iv) In not more than 50 words, describe Sita's attitude towards the creatures in her surroundings. [8]

Question 5.

(i) 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 correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space:

Example: (0) - are preserved

The ancient ruins _____ (0) (preserve) carefully by archaeologists for decades. Every year, a team of researchers arrive (1) (arrive) to study the site in detail. They examine (2) (examine) each artifact thoroughly and document (3) (document) their findings meticulously. In one of the chambers, they discovered (4) (discover) pottery that dated (5) (date) back to the 5th century. The team plans (6) (plan) to publish their research soon. *is planning X. had dis X*

ii) Fill in the blanks with appropriate words.

- (a) She has decided to give up smoking once and for all.
- (b) The thief managed to get away with the stolen jewellery.
- (c) Let's look into the matter and find a solution.
- (d) He is senior to me in the company.
- (e) The manager was disappointed with the team's performance.
- (f) The athlete persevered against all odds to win the race.

iii) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence using a suitable Conjunction:

1. He missed the train. He woke up late.

- a) He missed the train because he woke up late.
- b) Waking up late caused the train to miss him.
- c) Though he woke up late, he still will miss the train.
- d) He woke up late but misses the train.

2. She worked hard. She failed the test.

- a) Although she worked hard, she failed the test.
- b) She failed the test, so she did not work hard.
- c) Working hard failed her in the test.
- d) Failing the test will make her work hard.

3. The dog barked loudly. The thief ran away.

- a) The thief ran away because of loud barking.
- b) Although the thief ran away, the dog barked loudly.
- c) The dog barked loudly which made the thief run away.
- d) The thief runs away before the dog barks loudly.

(iv) Rewrite the following sentences, according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that are necessary, but do not change the meaning of the given sentence. Choose the correct option.

[7]

1. Nobody likes a liar. (Change into Affirmative Sentence)

- a) Everybody dislikes a liar.
- b) Everybody likes a liar.
- c) Liking a liar is not possible for anyone.
- d) Liars are disliked by nobody.

2. She was so tired that she could not walk. (Use: too...to)

- a) She was too tired to walk.
- b) She was too tired and could not walk.
- c) She was too tired to not walk.
- d) She was tired enough to walk.

3. This is the worst flood in the country. (Change into Positive Degree)

- a) This flood in the country is very bad.
- b) Very few floods are as bad as this in the country.
- c) This flood is worse than all other floods in the country.
- d) No other flood in the country is as bad as this.

4. As soon as the money fell, the students ran to pick it. (Begin: No sooner...)

- a) No sooner the money fell, the students ran to pick it.
- b) No sooner did the money fall than the students ran to pick it.
- c) No sooner had the money fallen when the students ran to pick it.
- d) No sooner did the students run to pick than the money fell.

5. The boy said, "I am learning French now." (Change into Indirect Speech)

- a) The boy said that he is learning French now.
- b) The boy said that he was learning French then.
- c) The boy said that he will be learning French now.
- d) The boy said that he was learning French now.

6. They will finish the work by tomorrow. (Change into Interrogative Sentence)

- a) Will they finish the work by tomorrow?
- b) Won't they finish the work by tomorrow?
- c) Will the work be finished by tomorrow by them?
- d) Will they not have the work finished by tomorrow?

7. He was too tired to play the piano. (Use: so...that)

- a) He was so tired that he could not play the piano.
- b) He was so tired that he could play the piano.
- c) He was so tired that he can not play the piano.
- d) He was so tired that he will play the piano.