

English, Paper I

Time: 2 hrs 45 mins

Marks: 40

Section-A (Reading Comprehension)

Q (1-7) Read the following passage.

Despite the risk of being bullied, his parents insisted Nick on attending mainstream school. 'It was the best decision they could have made for me,' adds Nick, who later achieved a degree in Financial Planning and Real Estate. 'It was very hard but it gave me independence.'

Nick, who was teased and bullied, had an electric wheel-chair for mobility, and a team of carers to help him.

'I was deeply depressed when I was eight years old,' he said. 'I went to my mum crying and told her I wanted to kill myself.'

'I felt cold and bitter. I hated God for doing this to me and was terrified of what would happen when my parents weren't there to look after me.'

'I could brush my own teeth with a wall mounted brush and wash my own hair with pump action soap, but there was so much that was impossible for me.'

(Attitude is Altitude)

Q.(1-4) Now answer the following questions. Each question has four choices. Choose the correct answer and write (A), (B), (C) or (D) in your answer booklet.

4×1=4

1. What type of text is the above passage?

- (A) Narration
- (B) Essay
- (C) Biography
- (D) Story

2. 'I felt cold and bitter. I hated

What does the underlined phrase mean?

- (A) Shivering
- (B) Upset
- (C) Joyful
- (D) Surprised

3. According to the given passage, at the age of eight, Nick was very depressed because

- (A) his father put him in a regular school.
- (B) he was a torso.
- (C) his parents helped him.
- (D) he was teased and bullied by his school mates.

4. It was very hard but ..

'It' refers to ...

- (A) The parent's decision about his schooling.
- (B) The electric wheel-chair.
- (C) The degree in Financial Planning and Real Estate.

(D) The wall mounted brush.

Q.(5-7) Answer the following questions in two or three sentences each.

3×2=6

5. Why did Nick hate God?

6. What were the items designed by Nick's parents to help him with his regular needs?

7. Nick's parents joined him in mainstream school. Do you support their decision? Justify your statement.

Solution:

1. (C) Biography

2. (B) Upset

3. (D) he was teased and bullied by his school mates.

4. (A) The parent's decision about his schooling.

5. Nick hated God because he was born without limbs and felt hopeless about his future. He was terrified of how he would manage when his parents were not there to take care of him.

6. Nick's parents designed a wall-mounted brush to help him brush his teeth and a pump-action soap dispenser so he could wash his hair independently.

7. Yes, I support their decision because it helped Nick become independent and strong. Despite difficulties, attending mainstream school prepared him to face challenges and achieve success in life.

Q.(8-12) Read the following passage.

The entire family was shattered by the calamity. The spirits of all the men were dampened like a cooking fire on which water has been poured.

In the morning, the village officers and witnesses visited the place to record the facts of the accident. 'Bayaji's death was the result of an accident due to a petromax flare-up', was their conclusion.

The house was burning before the house-warming ceremony was over and Bayaji was in ashes in the cemetery instead of enjoying the comforts of a retired life.

After the funeral, people returned hanging their heads. All of them were pained at heart to think that having come to celebrate the house-warming, they had the misfortune to attend the funeral of the host.

All were sitting in a sullen mood in the pandal when Bayaji's eldest son came out with three or four baskets, a spade, a pickaxe and a hoe. He outlined a square with the pickaxe and began to dig.

(The Storeyed House - II)

Q.(8-10) Now answer the following questions. Each question has four choices. Choose the correct answer and write (A), (B), (C) or (D) in your answer booklet.

3×1=3

8. 'Bayaji was in ashes in the cemetery instead of

The underlined word means

(A) Graveyard.

- (B) Cemented building.
 (C) Celebration.
 (D) Burnt house.
9. The eldest son came out with three or four baskets, a spade
- (A) to clean the ashes of the burnt house.
 (B) to reconstruct the house.
 (C) to dig a grave for his father.
 (D) to fight with their enemies.
10. 'They had the misfortune to attend.....
- The word misfortune refers to
- (A) Bayaji's retirement.
 (B) house-warming ceremony.
 (C) the fire accident.
 (D) the death of Bayaji.

Q. (11-12) Answer the following questions in one or two sentences each.

2×1=2

11. What was the conclusion of the village officers and witnesses about the accident?
12. 'The accident was due to a petromax flare-up'. Do you agree with the statement? Support your answer.

Solution:

8. (A) Graveyard.
 9. (C) to dig a grave for his father.
 10. (D) the death of Bayaji.
 11. The village officers and witnesses concluded that the accident was caused by a petromax flare-up, which led to the fire.
 12. No, I do not agree. The accident was not due to a petromax flare-up but was likely caused by people who disliked Bayaji building a new house, suggesting foul play.

Section-B (Vocabulary and Grammar)

Q.(13-17) Read the passage given below. Five sentences in the passage are numbered from 13 to 17 at the beginning. Each of these sentences has an error. Correct them and rewrite the sentences in your answer booklet.

5×1=5

Abel : To Mrs. John Shorrocks who keeps the 'Ring-O-Bells'. (13) we've had it fix up a good while now, and I was keeping it for a pleasant surprise. (14) I felt I was a bit of a burden at you, so I found someone who'd think it a pleasure to look after me. (15) we shall be very glad seeing you at the ceremony. Till Monday, then. Twelve O'clock at St. Philip's Church. (16) It's a good thing that you brought bureau down-

stair, Amelia. (17) It'll be handier to carry it across to the 'Ring-O-Bells' on Monday.

Solution:

13. We've had it fixed up a good while now, and I was keeping it for a pleasant surprise.

14. I felt I was a bit of a burden to you, so I found someone who'd think it a pleasure to look after me.

15. We shall be very glad to see you at the ceremony. Till Monday, then. Twelve o'clock at St. Philip's Church.

16. It's a good thing that you brought the bureau downstairs, Amelia.

17. It'll be handier to carry it across to the 'Ring-O-Bells' on Monday.

Q.(18-22) Complete the following passage choosing the right words from those given in the box. Write the answers in your answer booklet.

5×0.5=2.5

interest, great, organization, rich, difficulty, films, associated.

Telugu audiences are proud of many _____ (18) producers, directors and artistes, Savitri is one such prestigious artiste. Ever since she was eight, she evinced _____ (19) in learning dance. Later she _____ (20) herself with the theatre. She formed a theatre _____ (21) as well. She had little _____ (22) in entering the film field.

Solution:

18. great

19. interest

20. associated

21. organization

22. difficulty

Q. (23-27) Some words/sentences in the following passage are underlined. Rewrite them as directed, in your answer booklet.

5×0.5=2.5

The conductor asked the passengers to get down and they all put their strong (23) together to push the bus. Have (24) gained this initial momentum, the bus started. Passengers clambered (25) up, jostling one another. The conductor rang the bell and the bus gradual (26) took on speed. It entered the village reluctantly (27) like a traunt child being dragged to school.

23. Write the appropriate form of the underlined word.

24. Replace the word with the correct form.

25. Write a synonym of the underlined word.

26. Replace the underlined word with the correct form.

27. Write the antonym of the underlined word.

Solution:

23. strength

24. Having

25. climbed

26. gradually
27. willingly

Section-C

Creative Writing (Discourse)

28. World famous Environmental Activist and Nobel Prize winner, Wangari Maathai is from Africa. As you know, she started the Green Belt Movement in the rural areas of Africa against deforestation. Recollect the information you've got from her interview to NHK Radio and write a description of her activities. You may include these points in your description.

10

- Problems identified.
- Causes for the problem.
- Motivation to men and women
- Transformations brought.
- Message spread to the world.

OR

In the article 'Rendezvous with Ray', Roberge talks about his friendship with Ray. Imagine that you are the reporter of 'The Times Magazine' who interviewed Roberge about their friendship. Recollect the information from the article you've read and write an interview script of 10-12 exchanges. You can focus on :

- How they met
- How long the friendship lasted.
- Qualities he observed in Ray.
- Depth of their relationship.

Solution:

Wangari Maathai and the Green Belt Movement

Wangari Maathai, a renowned environmental activist and Nobel Prize winner from Africa, founded the Green Belt Movement to combat deforestation in rural areas. She identified major environmental issues, such as deforestation, soil erosion, and water scarcity, which severely affected local communities. The root cause of these problems was excessive tree cutting for fuel and land clearance, leading to environmental degradation and poverty.

To address this, Maathai motivated both men and women, especially rural women, to plant trees and restore the environment. She empowered them by educating them on sustainable development and self-reliance. As a result, millions of trees were planted, improving biodiversity and providing economic benefits to communities.

Through her efforts, she spread a global message on the importance of conservation, women's empowerment, and sustainable living. Her movement inspired many nations to adopt afforestation and environmental protection policies.

29. Siva Subramaniam Iyer invited Kalam for a meal. At first his wife was horrified, later she realised the ability of accepting everyone equally. Imagine yourself as Kalam and make a diary entry of your feeling after the incident.

5

Solution:

Diary Entry – A Memorable Experience

Date: 19th February

Today was a day I will never forget. My teacher, Siva Subramaniam Iyer, invited me for a meal at his home. However, his wife was horrified to see me, a Muslim boy, in her kitchen. She refused to serve me food. I felt uncomfortable but remained silent, respecting my teacher's kindness.

Despite her reluctance, Sir did something truly remarkable—he served me himself, treating me with warmth and respect. His actions spoke of equality and unity beyond religion. The next time I visited, his wife had changed. She served me food with her own hands, showing acceptance and understanding.

This incident made me realise that change is possible with patience and the right influence. It strengthened my belief in unity, respect, and breaking social barriers through love and education.

- A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

English, Paper II

Time: 2 hrs 45 mins

Marks: 40

Section-A (Reading Comprehension)

Q. (1-5) Read the following passage carefully.

With even the national capital not spared, Indian cities are plagued by a plethora of communicable diseases of late : dengue, bird flu, typhoid, chikungunya and swine flu. This is not a new trend.

In September 1994, pneumonic plague was reported in parts of Surat, Gujarat and hospitals were over-crowded with patients. Suspected cases totalled 1,061 between September 20 and 25, leading to mass panic. Around 25 percent of the population is said to have fled the city, carrying the disease with them to Delhi, Mumbai, Nashik and Kolkata. Surat's diamond processing localities, a high risk hotspot, were soon uninhabited. Air India flights landing in London were termed as "plague planes". With its open sewers and slums and soaking garbage due to monsoons, Surat was described as a "medieval horror show".

More recently, in May 2016, there were reports of bird flu in a poultry farm in Humnabad, Bidar district of Karnataka. The state's animal husbandary department swung into action, asking for the culling of nearly 1.5 lakh birds in the farm. While the outbreak has now subsided, such incidents remain surprisingly frequent and

worrying. Disease outbreak remains common in India, with debilitating consequences.

(1-3) Now answer the following questions. Each question has four choices. Choose the correct answer and write (A), (B), (C) or (D) in your answer booklet.

3×1=3

1. The passage is about
 - (A) making cities disease - free.
 - (B) havoc of natural calamities.
 - (C) out-break of diseases.
 - (D) sanitary conditions in India.
 2. The expression "plague planes" means
 - (A) recently manufactured planes by Air India.
 - (B) planes, which are imported from USA.
 - (C) a high-tech technology planes.
 - (D) planes which were carrying plague victims.
 3. Which of the following disease was not mentioned in the above passage?
 - (A) Chikungunya
 - (B) Swine flu
 - (C) Blood Cancer
 - (D) Plague
- (4-5) Answer the following questions in one or two sentences each.

2×1=2

4. Why was Surat described as a "medieval horror show"?
5. What do you mean by the term "Communicable diseases"?

Solution:

1. (C) out-break of diseases.
2. (D) planes which were carrying plague victims.
3. (C) Blood Cancer.
4. Surat was described as a "medieval horror show" because of its open sewers, slums, and garbage accumulation due to monsoons, which contributed to the spread of pneumonic plague.
5. Communicable diseases are infections that spread from one person to another through air, water, direct contact, or vectors like mosquitoes.

Q.(6-10) Read the following poem carefully.

Beloved mother nature full of purity,
 Fill my soul
 With the sweetest serenity.
 Embrace my body so little and poor.
 Embrace my heart so weak,
 Lead my spirit to a new door.
 Beloved my mother nature,
 Feed my existence with your light.
 Beloved mother nature,
 Feed my essence with your might.

Marcondes Perera

(6-7) Now answer the following questions. Each question has four choices. Choose the correct answer and write (A); (B), (C) or (D) in your answer booklet.

2×1=2

6. Who is the speaker of this poem?

- (A) Mother
- (B) Father
- (C) Brother
- (D) Son/daughter

7. "Lead my spirit into a new door" means

- (A) taking him to neighbour's door.
- (B) make him to handle new situations / challenges.
- (C) make him happy always.
- (D) preventing him from bad company.

(8-10) Answer the following questions in one or two sentences each.

3×1=3

8. What is the central theme of the poem?

9. How is the mother's love described in the poem?

10. Do you like your mother? If yes, why?

Solution:

6. (D) Son/daughter

7. (B) Make him to handle new situations / challenges.

8. The central theme of the poem is a child's deep love and admiration for their mother, highlighting her guidance, care, and the role she plays in shaping their life.

9. The mother's love is described as nurturing, protective, and inspiring. She supports her child through challenges and helps them grow into a better person.

10. Yes, I love my mother because she cares for me, supports me in difficult times, and always encourages me to do my best.

Q.(11-15) Read the following passage carefully.

Civil engineering is one of the oldest - disciplines of engineering. It involves the design, construction and management of infrastructure, highways, railways, airports, harbours, bridges, tunnels, ensuring supply of high quality water among others, and hence the term is used in a very broad sense. It may not be an exaggeration to state that almost every major project has a contribution from civil engineer. The role of civil engineer has been continuously changing. Earlier, engineers would focus their efforts on production of site-plans, crank-out drawings, turn them over to contractors and pretty much be done with it. But things are much more sophisticated these days.

(11-13) Now answer the following questions. Each question has four choices.

Choose the correct answer and write (A), (B), (C) or (D) in your answer booklet.

3×1=3

11. According to the passage, the oldest discipline of engineering is:.

- (A) Mechanical Engineering.
- (B) Automobile Engineering.

- (C) Aeronautical Engineering.
 (D) Civil Engineering.
 12. Which one of the following is NOT involved in the civil engineering discipline?
 (A) Designing and construction of buildings & highways.
 (B) Ensuring supply of high quality water.
 (C) Management of infrastructure of airport
 (D) Dealing of computer related problems.
 13. The word "exaggeration" means
 (A) an overstatement.
 (B) an act of praise.
 (C) an unlawful situation.
 (D) an act of punishment.
 Q. (14-15) Answer the following questions in one or two sentences each.

2×1=2

14. What does the civil engineering discipline involve?
 15. What are the changes that took place now-a-days in the role of civil engineer?

Solution:

11. (D) Civil Engineering.
 12. (D) Dealing of computer related problems.
 13. (A) an overstatement.
 14. The civil engineering discipline involves designing, constructing, and maintaining infrastructure like buildings, roads, bridges, water supply systems, and airports.
 15. Nowadays, civil engineers use advanced technology, eco-friendly materials, and modern construction techniques to ensure sustainable development and efficient infrastructure management.

Section-B (Vocabulary and Grammar)

Q. (16-18) Read the following passage focusing on the parts that are underlined and numbered.

Oliver was frightened at the sight of so many gentlemen. (16) "What's your name boy?", said the gentleman in the high chair. "Boy listen to me, (17) You know, you're an orphan, I suppose ?", said the gentleman. "What's that, Sir ?", inquired poor Oliver. (18) Mr. Bumble caned Oliver.

Now, complete the following sentences and write them as directed in your answer booklet.

3×1=3

16. The gentleman in the high chair asked
17. You know you're an orphan (Add Question tag)
18. Oliver was (Passive voice)

Solution:

16. The gentleman in the high chair asked the boy what his name was.

17. You know you're an orphan, don't you?
 18. Oliver was caned by Mr. Bumble.

Q.(19-22) Complete the passage choosing the right words from those given below. Each blank is numbered and has four choices (A), (B), (C) and (D). Choose the correct answer and write (A), (B), (C) or (D) in your answer booklet.

4×0.5=2

Prashanth, a thirteen year old boy(19) missing(20) last Sunday. The boy is in blue trousers(21) pink T-shirt. He can speak Telugu, Hindi and English. He(22) fair complexion.

19. (A) was (B) has been (C) is (D) had
 20. (A) for (B) from (C) since (D) of
 21. (A) so (B) although (C) some (D) and
 22. (A) having (B) has (C) Has been (D) had been

Solution:

19. (A) was
 20. (C) since
 21. (D) and
 22. (B) has

Q. (23-28) Read the following passage and fill in the blanks choosing the correct words given in brackets.

Write the answers in your own booklet.

Once there was a very rich man. He was a miser. He(23) (ate/hate) cheap food for little money. He(24) (learnt/lent) money to small shopkeepers at a(25) (height/high) rate of interest. In this (26) (way/weigh) he earned a lot of money.

Every morning he went out to(27) (sea/see) the shopkeepers and came (28) (home/hope) at mid-day.

Solution:

23. ate
 24. lent
 25. high
 26. way
 27. see
 28. home

Q. (29-32) Complete the following passage with the right forms of words given in the brackets. Write the answers in the answer booklet.

4×0.5=2

Dolphins use their(29) (power) tails to move through the water. They also use their tails when(30) (hunt) fish, they hit fish up into the air. A dolphin(31) (slap) its tail in the water in the wild to warn other dolphins of danger. Their tail muscles are (32) (extreme) strong that they can walk on water.

Solution:

- 29. powerful
- 30. hunting
- 31. slaps
- 32. extremely

Section-C Creative Writing

Q.33. You are aware of the ill-effects caused by the pollution, particularly air pollution, and the unfair methods being used.

10

Vehicles are releasing Carbon monoxide, heavy vehicles are not properly conditioned. Garbage is thrown in open streets which releases poisonous gases. Deforestation methods are used everywhere which effect climatic conditions. Write a letter to the Director of Pollution Control Board, describing him how air pollution is affecting our lives. You may suggest possible solutions to solve this problem.

OR

You have come across the following on the grampanchayathi bulletin board or read in the newspapers.

Child marriages - a blot on our society.

Young children are facing many problems. They are not psychologically or physically matured. They don't know any thing about married life. But parents are forcing them to get married. This should be avoided and it is a social crime also. Now, write an essay on "Child marriages - a blot on our society." You may state the reasons and suggest possible solutions.

Solution:

Government High School, Begur
Bengaluru
19th February

To
The Director,
Pollution Control Board,
Bengaluru

Subject: Concerns Regarding Air Pollution and Its Adverse Effects

Respected Sir,

I am writing to express my deep concern about the rising levels of air pollution in our city. Vehicular emissions, especially from unconditioned heavy vehicles, are releasing dangerous pollutants like carbon monoxide. Additionally, the burning of

garbage in open areas is worsening the situation by releasing toxic gases. Deforestation is also contributing to deteriorating air quality and affecting climatic conditions.

Air pollution is severely impacting public health, leading to respiratory diseases, allergies, and other complications. The elderly and children are particularly vulnerable. Immediate measures must be taken to control pollution levels. Some possible solutions include:

- Strict emission norms and regular checks on vehicles.
- Promoting electric and CNG vehicles.
- Proper garbage disposal and waste management.
- Large-scale afforestation drives to improve air quality.
- Public awareness campaigns to encourage eco-friendly practices.

I sincerely urge you to take necessary action to combat this growing crisis. Looking forward to your response and hoping for a cleaner, healthier environment.

Yours sincerely,
Rohan Reddy

Q.34. Imagine that your school is organising "Annual day celebrations at your school."

Design an invitation card on behalf of your school. Include the necessary details. [Date and venue, Chief Guest, guest of honour, programme & vote of thanks]

5

Solution:

Government High School, Kalaburagi
Cordially Invites You to the

☀️ Annual Day Celebrations ☀️

📅 Date: 24th February

📍 Venue: School Auditorium, Government High School, Kalaburagi

🕒 Time: 11 a.m.

Chief Guest: K. Annamalai (S.P. Kalaburgi, IPS)

Guest of Honour: Mrs. Madhu Kishwar (Author and activist)

🎭 Programme Highlights:

Welcome Address

Cultural Performances

Prize Distribution

Chief Guest's Speech

Vote of Thanks

We would be delighted by your presence to celebrate this joyous occasion with us!

Principal & Staff
Government High School, Kalaburagi

