

ENGLISH – 817 (DM) 2023

Time: 3 hours 15 mins

Max. Marks: 70

PART - A

Multiple Choice Questions

(Questions No. 1-3) Read the following passage carefully and choose the correct option to answer the questions that follow:

Work expands so as to fill the time available for its completion. The general recognition of this fact is shown in the proverbial phrase, "It is the busiest man who has time to spare." Thus, an elderly lady at leisure can spend the entire day writing a postcard to her niece. An hour will be spent in finding the postcard. another hunting for spectacles, half an hour to search for the address, an hour and a quarter in composition and twenty minutes in deciding whether or not to take an umbrella when going to the pillar box in the next street. The total effort that would occupy a busy man for three minutes, all told, may in this fashion leave another person completely exhausted after a day of doubt. anxiety and toil.

1. Who is the person likely to take more time to do work? 1
 (A) A busy man
 (B) A man of leisure
 (C) An elderly person
 (D) An exhausted person
2. What does the expression 'pillar box' stand for? 1
 (A) A box attached to the pillar
 (B) A box in the pillar
 (C) Box office
 (D) A pillar-type postbox
3. Which word in the passage is opposite to the word 'idle'? 1
 (A) busy
 (B) elderly
 (C) laborious
 (D) naughty

Solution:

1. (B) A man of leisure
2. (D) A pillar-type postbox
3. (A) busy

(Questions No. 4-8) Choose the correct option to answer the following questions:

1×5=5

4. We must help ____ poor.
 (A) a
 (B) the
 (C) an
 (D) None of the above
5. If you work hard, you ____ pass.

- (A) would
- (B) will
- (C) could
- (D) might

6. Rearrange the following word clusters to make a meaningful sentence:

the road / of / obey / we / rules / the / must

- (A) The rules of the road must we obey.
- (B) We obey the must rules of the road.
- (C) We must obey the rules of the road.
- (D) We must obey the road of the rules.

7. He bought a beautiful dress.

Identify the word 'beautiful'.

- (A) Verb
- (B) Preposition
- (C) Conjunction
- (D) Adjective

8. Which of the following words is misspelled?

- (A) Assistent
- (B) Honest
- (C) Country
- (D) Hungry

Solution:

- 4. (B) the
- 5. (B) will
- 6. (C) We must obey the rules of the road.
- 7. (D) Adjective
- 8. (A) Assistent

(Questions No. 9-10) Read the following passage carefully and choose the correct option to answer the questions that follow: 1×2=2

Immediately, Lencho went up to the window to ask for paper and ink. On the public writing-table, he started to write, with much wrinkling of his brow, caused by the effort he had to make to express his ideas. When he finished, he went to the window to buy a stamp which he licked and then affixed to the envelope with a blow of his fist. The moment the letter fell into the mailbox the postmaster went to open it. It said, "God: of the money that I asked for, only seventy pesos reached me. Send me the rest, since I need it very much."

9. The moment the letter fell into the mailbox, who went to open it ?

- (A) The postman
- (B) The postmaster
- (C) The clerk
- (D) None of the above

10. How much money did Lencho get?

- (A) Forty pesos
- (B) Fifty pesos

- (C) Seventy pesos
- (D) Eighty pesos

Solution:

- 9. (B) The postmaster
- 10. (C) Seventy pesos

(Questions No. 11-13) Choose the correct option to answer the following questions:

- 11. Where was Lencho's house situated? 1
 - (A) At the bottom of the hill
 - (B) At the top of a low hill
 - (C) At the top of a plateau
 - (D) In a city
- 12. What was Gautama Buddha's early name? 1
 - (A) Sidha
 - (B) Sadhu
 - (C) Siddhartha
 - (D) Sidharth
- 13. Which party did Mandela join? 1
 - (A) Indian National Congress
 - (B) African National Congress
 - (C) National African Party
 - (D) He did not join any party

Solution:

- 11. (B) At the top of a low hill
- 12. (C) Siddhartha
- 13. (B) African National Congress

(Questions No. 14-15) Read the given extract and choose the correct option to answer the following questions:

The way a crow

Shook down on me

The dust of snow

From a hemlock tree.

- 14. Who was sitting on the tree? 1
 - (A) Crow
 - (B) Parrot
 - (C) Sparrow
 - (D) Pigeon
- 15. Where was the poet standing? 1
 - (A) Under a neem tree
 - (B) Under a hemlock tree
 - (C) Under a peepal tree
 - (D) None of the above

Solution:

- 14. (A) Crow

15. (B) Under a hemlock tree

(Questions No. 16-20) Choose the correct option to answer the following questions:

16. What was Bholi's real name? 1

- (A) Priya
- (B) Geeta
- (C) Sulekha
- (D) Sita

17. Who was Tricky? 1

- (A) A cat
- (B) A monkey
- (C) A dog
- (D) A rabbit

18. What did Hari Singh want from Anil? 1

- (A) Work
- (B) Money
- (C) Home
- (D) Eatables

19. Ebright was born in: 1

- (A) Liverpool.
- (B) London.
- (C) Reading.
- (D) Oxford.

20. Matilda's husband was: 1

- (A) a minister.
- (B) a businessman.
- (C) an officer.
- (D) a petty clerk.

Solution:

16. (C) Sulekha

17. (C) A dog

18. (A) Work

19. (C) Reading

20. (D) a petty clerk

PART - B (Reading)

21. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

Most of the girls belonging to poor families do not go to school in rural areas. When asked, their parents would say that they want their daughters to be educated. They stay at home because their parents believe that the kind of education on offer is not appropriate for their daughters, or because they feel the risks are too great. Those risks are real. Girls are sexually harassed sometimes by their fellow students, or by

strangers as they walk down to school. These pressures are central to low enrolment and retention of girls. Poverty also plays its part. If their clothes are torn, girls from poor families will stay at home. In such cases, they are forced by the demands of modesty and propriety.

- (a) What role does poverty play in the education of girls? 2
 (b) Who are the persons who cause harassment to school-going girls? 2
 (c) What are the reasons why the parents do not send their daughters to school though they want them to be educated? 2
 (d) Which word in the passage means 'keep in place'? 1

Solution:

- (a) Poverty prevents girls from going to school as poor families cannot afford new clothes. Torn clothes force girls to stay at home due to modesty and propriety.
 (b) Girls are harassed by their fellow students or strangers while walking to school.
 (c) Parents do not send their daughters to school because they feel the education offered is inappropriate, or they fear the risks of sexual harassment and other safety concerns.
 (d) The word in the passage that means "keep in place" is "retention".

Writing

22. Write a letter to your friend inviting him/her to attend your sister's marriage. 4
 OR

Write an application to the Principal of your school complaining against insufficient supply of drinking water in your school.

Solution:

Letter to a Friend

House No 4A,
 208, Swarnadham,
 Hira Colony, Mumbai-400052
 23rd January, 2025

Dear Bhavesh,

I hope this letter finds you in the best of health and spirits. I am writing to share some exciting news and extend a warm invitation to you. My sister's marriage is scheduled to take place on 20th February, 2025 and we are all eagerly looking forward to this joyful occasion.

The wedding ceremony will be held at Rajeev Bhawan starting at 7.00 P.M. It would mean a lot to me and my family if you could join us to celebrate this special day.

Your presence will make the event even more memorable.

Please let me know if you can make it, and do not hesitate to reach out if you need any assistance with travel or accommodations. I truly hope to see you soon.

Looking forward to your reply.

With love,

Anant

23. Write an article on 'A Visit to a Zoo' in about 80 - 100 words. 6

(Hints: introduction, visit to the zoo, scene at the zoo, overall experience)

OR

Write a report on the 'Independence Day' celebrations in your school in about 80-100 words on the basis of the hints given below :

(Hints: decoration of school building, flag hoisting ceremony, singing of National Anthem, cultural programmes, Principal's speech, distribution of sweets)

Solution:

Report on 'Independence Day' Celebrations

Independence Day Celebrations at Government High School

On 15th August, our school celebrated Independence Day with great enthusiasm.

The school building was beautifully decorated with flags and colourful streamers.

The celebration began with the flag hoisting ceremony, led by our Principal. After

the flag was hoisted, all students stood in attention and sang the National Anthem in

unison. The cultural programmes followed, with students performing patriotic

songs and dances. Our Principal delivered an inspiring speech about the significance

of Independence Day. The day concluded with the distribution of sweets to all

students, leaving everyone filled with patriotic spirit.

Grammar

24. (a) Rewrite the following sentence by changing into indirect speech : 2

The teacher said to me, "Where are you going ?"

(b) Change the following into passive voice : 2

He always helps me.

(c) Punctuate the following : 2

the teacher said to me do not waste your time

(d) Translate the following into English: 4

भारत तेजी से उन्नति कर रहा है । यह एक प्रगतिशील देश है । जनसंख्या और बढ़ती कीमतें बड़ी समस्याएँ हैं । यदि हम इन्हें नियंत्रित कर लें, तो ह्याग देश महान बन सकता है ।

Solution:

(a) The teacher asked me where I was going.

(b) I am always helped by him.

(c) The teacher said to me, "Do not waste your time."

(d) India is progressing rapidly. It is a progressive country. Population and rising prices are major problems. If we can control them, our country can become great.

Literature

25. Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each: 3+3=6

(a) Why was Lencho angry when he received the letter?

OR

What, according to Mandela, is 'true freedom'?

(b) Why does Anne Frank think that paper has more patience than people?

OR

How do the people of Coorg differ from the Hindu mainstream?

Solution:

(a) Lencho was angry when he received the letter because the amount of money sent by the post office was not as much as he had requested. He believed that God would send him the full amount, and he felt that the post office employees had kept some of the money for themselves.

OR

According to Mandela, 'true freedom' is not just about the absence of oppression but also about the ability to live with dignity and respect. It is about having the freedom to pursue one's own happiness without fear or injustice.

(b) Anne Frank thinks that paper has more patience than people because paper does not judge or tire. It can hold all her thoughts and emotions without interruption, unlike people who may get impatient or react to her feelings.

OR

The people of Coorg differ from the Hindu mainstream in terms of their distinct culture, language, and customs. They follow their own traditions, such as martial practices, and are influenced by Christianity, unlike the majority of Hindus in India.

26. Answer any one of the following in about 60 words: 4

(a) Do you think Valli enjoyed her first bus ride? Give examples from the lesson to support your answer.

(b) Why was Kisa Gotami in so much grief? What did she learn in the end?

Solution:

(a) Yes, Valli enjoyed her first bus ride. She was filled with excitement and curiosity as she sat in the bus, observing the world outside. Despite her initial fear, she overcame it and enjoyed the new experience. For example, she was thrilled by the sight of the village and the townspeople. Her joy was evident when she asked the conductor to let her ride the bus again, as she had truly relished the adventure.

(b) Kisa Gotami was in immense grief because her young son had died. She was desperate and sought a remedy for her sorrow. After visiting many doctors, she was advised to find mustard seeds from a house that had never experienced death. Unable to find such a house, she realized that death is inevitable for everyone. In the end, she learned to accept the harsh reality of life and death.

27. Why does the poet hold with those who favour fire? 3

OR

Write four lines of any poem prescribed in your syllabus. (Do not copy the lines given in this question paper)

Solution:

The poet favors fire as it symbolizes passion, desire, and intensity, which can be destructive. In "Fire and Ice," fire represents overwhelming emotions like desire and greed, which, if unchecked, lead to destruction. The poet aligns with those who believe fire's consuming energy could end the world.

28. Write the central idea of any one of the following poems in about 40-50 words: 3

- (a) A Tiger in the Zoo
- (b) Dust of Snow
- (c) The Trees

Solution:

Central Idea of "A Tiger in the Zoo":

The poem "A Tiger in the Zoo" by Leslie Norris describes a tiger's confinement in a zoo. It highlights the stark contrast between the tiger's natural wildness and the limitations of its cage. The tiger's physical strength and majestic beauty are overshadowed by the frustration and helplessness it feels, symbolizing the loss of freedom and the cruelty of captivity.

29. Answer any one of the following in about 30-40 words: 3

- (a) Why was responsible for the poor condition of Tricki?
- (b) What were the reasons for Matilda's unhappiness?

Solution:

(a) The poor condition of Tricki, the dog, was caused by overfeeding. His owner, Mrs. Pumphrey, pampered him excessively with food and treats, leading to his obesity and poor health. The dog's condition worsened until the vet intervened to help him recover.

30. Answer any one of the following in about 60 words: 4

- (a) Give a character sketch of Matilda.
- (b) Describe the role of Bholi's teacher in her life.

Solution:

(b) Bholi's teacher played a crucial role in her life by helping her overcome her insecurities and poor self-image. Despite her stammer and her background, the teacher encouraged Bholi, educated her, and helped her gain confidence. She guided Bholi through difficult situations, enabling her to assert her independence and dignity, especially when Bholi refused an unhappy marriage.