



Roll No.

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Candidates must write the Q.P. Code on the title page of the answer-book.



# ENGLISH

(Language and Literature)

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 80

## NOTE

- (I) Please check that this question paper contains **19** printed pages.
- (II) Q.P. Code given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- (III) Please check that this question paper contains **11** questions.
- (IV) Please write down the serial number of the question in the answer-book before attempting it.
- (V) 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the students will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.

## General Instructions :

Read the instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

- (i) This question paper comprises **11** questions. All questions are compulsory.
- (ii) The question paper contains **three** sections :
  - Section A – Reading Skills
  - Section B – Grammar and Creative Writing Skills
  - Section C – Literature
- (iii) Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

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Read the following passage carefully :

- 1 Floods are not new to India and this subcontinent, but in recent years the problem of flooding has received much greater attention, perhaps largely because it has led to greater damage now than it did in the past. Even though information on the impending occurrence of floods is now more accurate and certainly more timely, often there is very little time or support infrastructure in place by which damage can be minimised. This is particularly true in the case of flash floods resulting from sudden and excessive heavy rain.
- 2 In the case of India, flooding is very much related to the seasonal nature of our rainfall. The monsoons are spread over a short period during the year and often bring a concentrated volume of rain, which cannot be absorbed by the earth and finds an outlet only in the form of streams that join up with our major river systems. Flooding due to heavy rain is confined not only to the main rivers of the country, but also affects smaller tributaries and streams. Once these streams spill over their banks they could cause excessive harm, mainly because those living near the banks of these streams, particularly in mountain areas, do not have easy recourse to moving away quickly.
- 3 One major factor that could lead to a higher severity of flooding in the future is the danger of climate change. While the evidence of the nature of impacts, resulting from climate change on precipitation and flooding at the regional level, is not entirely clear, it could happen that the Indian subcontinent witnesses and suffers the effects of a significantly changed pattern of monsoons. One set of scientists has estimated that the monsoons could be shorter in duration but far more intensive; in other words, much greater precipitation would



take place in a much shorter period of time, thereby increasing the danger of floods. Climate change is the result of human actions through the increased concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, of which carbon dioxide is the most prominent.

- 4 At the local level also human actions have heightened the danger of floods through the cutting of trees in the mountains as well as in the plains. In case of India, the ecological damage through deforestation of the Himalayas has led to large-scale erosion of the mountain slopes and high levels of siltation. These lead to the deposition of silt on the riverbeds in the plains and hence spillover of water whenever the volume in the river reaches a certain level. With siltation on the riverbeds, flooding occurs even at very shallow water levels. The vulnerability of the population has increased substantially because of population pressures. An example is the stubborn and perhaps helpless settling of slum dwellers on the banks of the river Yamuna in Delhi, who become victims of flooding. What is a mere trickle most of the year, bursts its banks during the monsoons, as has been the case in recent years.
- 5 Flood forecasting is critical to minimising the damage from floods. It is for this reason that the Central Water Commission has set up a network of forecasting stations, which cover the most important flood-prone interstate rivers in the country. These stations produce forecasts that are used to alert the public and to mobilize various official agencies so that they take both preventive as well as relief measures, whenever required. However, even in cases where forecasts have been timely and generally accurate, people have often been reluctant to move away, because in most cases they lack the means and physical options for moving away from a danger zone to one that is relatively safe. In the case of flash floods, forecasts are difficult to make, and often the time available for relief is very short.



Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below : 10×1=10

- (i) The problem of floods has been considered more important recently because
- (a) floods have led to much greater damage now than in the past.
  - (b) floods are resulting in increased relocation.
  - (c) floods occur only during the monsoon season.
  - (d) of problems of frequent tornadoes and cyclones in the subcontinent.

- (ii) Specify the option that displays what the writer projects with reference to the following statement.

One major factor that could lead to higher severity of flooding in the future is the danger of climate change.

- (a) helplessness
  - (b) speculative
  - (c) denial
  - (d) conviction
- (iii) Complete the following with a phrase from paragraph 3 :

Opinion :	Reason
Some scientists estimate that shorter duration of monsoon season leads to more intensive rainfall.	

- (iv) The writer claims that flood forecasting is critical to minimising the damage from floods. State one reason for the claim.

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- (v) Even when the prediction is accurate, people do not evacuate the places where the warning is given.
- (a) True
  - (b) False
- (vi) Supply one point to justify the following :  
The worst hit people are slum dwellers.
- (vii) Based on your reading of the text, list two reasons why the writer says that in spite of timely forecasting people have suffered.
- (viii) The writer says that forecasts are difficult to make and time available is very short. Select the reason for it.
- (a) Flash floods
  - (b) Cyclonic rain
  - (c) Tornadoes
  - (d) Landslides
- (ix) What connect does the writer draw between tributaries and floods ? (Para 2)
- (x) Which of the following statements is/are false ?  
The vulnerability of the population has increased substantially because of population pressures symbolised by :
- I. People are superstitious.
  - II. Difficult to evacuate flood-affected areas.
- Select the correct option :
- (a) Only I
  - (b) Only II
  - (c) Both I and II
  - (d) None of the above

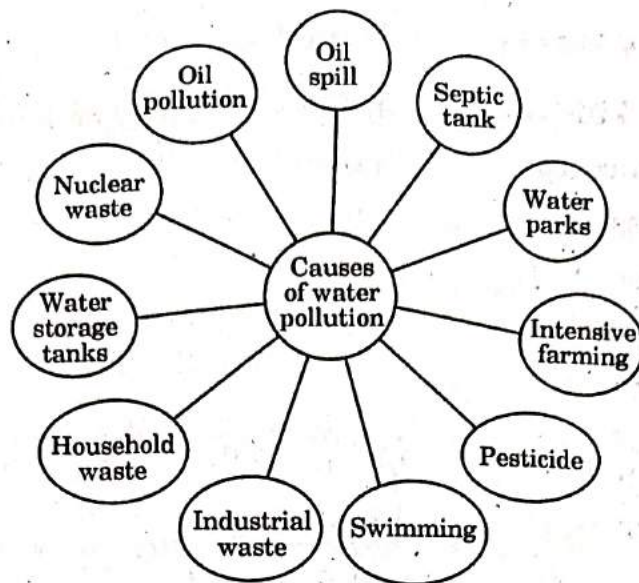


2. Read the following passage carefully :

- 1 Unsafe water kills more people each year than do war and all other forms of violence combined. Meanwhile, our drinkable water sources are finite : less than 1 percent of the Earth's freshwater is actually accessible to us. Without action, the challenges will only increase by 2050, when global demand for freshwater is expected to be one-third greater than it is now.
- 2 Water is uniquely vulnerable to pollution. Known as a "universal solvent", water is able to dissolve more substances than any other liquid on Earth. Water pollution is the release of substances into subsurface groundwater or into lakes, streams, rivers, estuaries, and oceans to the point where the substances interfere with beneficial use of the water or with the natural functioning of ecosystems. In addition to the release of substances, such as chemicals, trash, or microorganisms, water pollution may also include the release of energy, in the form of radioactivity or heat, into bodies of water. The key causatives of water pollution in India are urbanization, deforestation, industrial effluents and agricultural run-offs with the use of insecticides and pesticides. The other causes are social and religious offerings in water bodies and the use of detergents and fertilizers.
- 3 Water pollution can have disastrous consequences on the ecosystem. Furthermore, toxic chemicals can travel through the food chain and get into our bodies, causing diseases and death.
- 4 There is no single or simple answer to stop the water pollution crisis. However, there are many solutions to prevent water pollution, both in our daily lives and within industries: They are wastewater treatment, reducing plastic waste and water conservation. In addition to this, we must have water-efficient toilets, stormwater management and ozone wastewater treatment.

2/5/2





### Major Causes of Water Pollution

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below :

10×1=10

- (i) Infer one reason for the following, based on information in para 1. Less than 1 percent of the Earth's freshwater is actually accessible to us.
- (ii) Select the appropriate option to fill in the blank :  
Water is uniquely vulnerable to \_\_\_\_\_.
- season
  - pollution
  - water bodies
  - extreme weather conditions
- (iii) Complete the following analogy correctly with a word/phrase from paragraph 2 :  
vulnerable : resilient :: artificial : \_\_\_\_\_
- (Clue : just as resilient is the opposite of vulnerable, similarly the opposite of artificial is \_\_\_\_\_.)

(iv) Select the correct option to complete the following sentence :

Water pollution can have disastrous consequences on \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) the ecosystem
- (b) weather conditions
- (c) unexpected rainfall
- (d) flash floods

(v) From the chart, identify two causes of water pollution in our homes.

***For the Visually Impaired Candidates only in lieu of Q. No. 2 (v) :***

(v) Describe any three major causes of water pollution.

(vi) Fill in the blank by selecting the correct option :

One of the solutions of preventing water pollution is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) building industries near water bodies
- (b) water conservation and reducing plastic waste
- (c) avoiding swimming
- (d) reducing farming

(vii) Substitute the word 'causative' with one word similar in meaning in the following sentence :

The key causative of water pollution in India must be addressed.

(viii) According to the writer, water pollution is defined as \_\_\_\_\_.

(Para 2)

(ix) List one way in which religious rituals impact water bodies.

(x) Select the most suitable title for the passage from the following :

- (a) Water Pollution — A Concern
- (b) Unsafe Water — A Menace
- (c) Universal Solvent — Water
- (d) Global Concern — An Urgent Need

2/5/2







- (v) Complete the given narrative by filling in the blank with the correct option :

I was delighted when I \_\_\_\_\_ my junior school teacher.

- (a) ran away
- (b) ran into
- (c) ran down
- (d) ran in

- (vi) Fill in the blank by using that correct form of the word given in the bracket.

The film with its exciting soundtrack and classical music \_\_\_\_\_ (appeal) to the general audiences.

- (vii) Report the dialogue between the gatekeeper and the visitor by completing the sentence :

*Gatekeeper* : Whom do you want to meet ?

*Visitor* : I want to see the art and craft exhibition.

In response to the question about whom the visitor wanted to meet, the visitor replied \_\_\_\_\_.

- (viii) Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction :

The teacher had run after the boy to catch him before he fell into the ditch.

Use the given format for your response.

<i>Error</i>	<i>Correction</i>



- (ix) Radhika shared some information with Sant about her school trip. Report Sant's question.

What did you learn from the museum visit ?

- (x) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option.

My family \_\_\_\_\_ in the village since many years.

- (a) have been living
- (b) has been living
- (c) is living
- (d) was living

- (xi) Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between Shyam and Shivam.

*Shyam* : Have you seen this actor's latest film ?

*Shivam* : Yes, I have. The actor has done a marvellous job.

Shyam met his friend Shivam and they began talking. Shyam asked Shivam whether he had seen the actor's latest film. Shivam affirmed and said

- (a) that the actor has done a marvellous job.
- (b) that the actor had done a marvellous job.
- (c) that the actor has been doing a marvellous job.
- (d) that the actor could have done a marvellous job.

- (xii) Fill in the blank with the correct option :

There is something wonderful waiting \_\_\_\_\_ her when she reaches home.

- (a) of
- (b) about
- (c) for
- (d) inside



4. Attempt any **one** from (A) and (B) given below :

- (A) You are Preeti/Pramod residing at Green View Apartments, Pune. The rising prices of daily commodities have added to the problems of the common man who is finding it difficult to meet his daily needs. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily in 100 – 120 words voicing the problems you are facing because of this inflation and requesting the concerned authorities to look into the matter.

**OR**

- (B) You are Reema/Rajesh living at Mayur Colony, Mumbai. Write a letter of enquiry in 100 – 120 words to the Director of National Science Centre, Mumbai, to gather relevant information as you are interested in joining their Astronomy Club. Inquire about eligibility, activities, frequency of meetings and other details.

5. Attempt any **one** from (A) and (B) given below :

- (A) The table given below contains data related to the annual increase in the number of vehicles in major Indian cities (percentage data has been given). Write an analytical paragraph in 100 – 120 words interpreting the data.

*Annual Increase in the Number of Vehicles in Major Indian Cities  
(Percentage)*

City (in descending order of population)	Passengers			
	Private		Intermediate	
	Two Wheelers	Cars and Jeeps	Taxis	Three Wheelers
Mumbai	12.7	6.9	–	–
Kolkata	18.2	17.2	10.8	32.7
Delhi	18.7	19.4	3.6	18.2
Chennai	42.5	31.3	36.8	1.3

**OR**



- (B) The number of tigers, the biggest cats in the world, is gradually decreasing. Given below is a data which reveals the number of Royal Bengal Tigers in different countries. Write an analytical paragraph in 100 – 120 words interpreting the data.

S. No.	Name of country	Minimum	Maximum
1.	Bangladesh	300	460
2.	Bhutan	80	460
3.	China	30	35
4.	India	2500	3800
5.	Nepal	150	250

**SECTION C**  
**Literature**

**40 marks**

6. Attempt any **one** from (A) and (B) given below :

- (A) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow :  $5 \times 1 = 5$

To the assembled guests and the watching world, I said : Today, all of us do, by our presence here ..... confer glory and hope to newborn liberty. Out of the experience of an extraordinary human disaster that lasted too long, must be born a society of which all humanity will be proud. We who were outlaws not so long ago, have today been given the rare privilege to be host to the nations of the world on our own soil. We thank all our distinguished international guests for having come to take possession with the people of our country of what is after all, a common victory for justice, for peace, for human dignity.

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- (i) A society that \_\_\_\_\_ was born out of human disaster.
- (a) all humanity would be proud of
  - (b) was full of extraordinary human disaster
  - (c) was full of outlaws and fighters
  - (d) hosts nations on their soil
- (ii) The former outlaws were given the privilege of \_\_\_\_\_.
- (a) getting citizenship of their country
  - (b) participating in a trade conclave
  - (c) finalizing the foreign policy
  - (d) hosting the nations of the world on their soil
- (iii) The speaker was overwhelmed with the sense of \_\_\_\_\_.
- (a) gratitude
  - (b) achievement
  - (c) happiness
  - (d) charity
- (iv) State whether the following statement is *True* or *False* :  
The common victory was when South Africa did not become an independent nation.
- (v) The noun form of the word 'confer' is
- (a) conferring
  - (b) confident
  - (c) conference
  - (d) configuring

OR

(B) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow :  $5 \times 1 = 5$

*Think-Tank* : That's better Noodle, I wish to be placed in communication with our manned space probe to that ridiculous little planet we are going to put under our generous rulership. What do they call it, again ?

*Noodle* : Earth, your Intelligence.

*Think-Tank* : Earth, — of course. You see how insignificant the place is ? But first something important. My mirror. I wish to consult my mirror.



- (i) Think-Tank wants to communicate with the \_\_\_\_\_ .
- (a) People of Earth
  - (b) Scientists on Earth
  - (c) Environmentalists on Earth
  - (d) Martians on Earth
- (ii) Complete the analogy by selecting the suitable word from the passage.  
read : learn :: explore : \_\_\_\_\_
- (iii) Your Intelligence refers to
- (a) Earth
  - (b) Noodle
  - (c) Little Planet
  - (d) Think-Tank
- (iv) What does Think-Tank want to do ?
- (v) Fill in the blank with one word only.  
Think-Tank is a \_\_\_\_\_ of the Martian team.

7. Attempt any **one** from (A) and (B) given below :

(A) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow :  $5 \times 1 = 5$

What is the boy now, who has lost his ball,  
What, what is he to do ? I saw it go  
Merrily bouncing, down the street and then  
Merrily over — there it is in the water !  
No use to say 'O there are other balls' :  
(The Ball Poem)



- (i) What does the expression 'what, what is he to do' denote ?
- (a) Loss of the ball
  - (b) ask the poet for another ball
  - (c) boy's grief over the loss of the ball
  - (d) go down the street
- (ii) State whether the following statement is *True* or *False* :
- The poet was delighted to watch the ball bouncing down the street into the water.
- (iii) The poet repeats the word 'what' in order to \_\_\_\_\_.
- (iv) There is no use to say 'O there are other balls' indicates that the poet feels that it would be \_\_\_\_\_ to console the boy.
- (a) helpful
  - (b) futile
  - (c) easy
  - (d) shameful
- (v) 'What is the boy now, who has lost his ball.'
- Which feeling is expressed in this line ?
- (a) regret
  - (b) cheer
  - (c) despair
  - (d) thrill

OR

2/5/2



(B) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow :  $5 \times 1 = 5$

But the dragon was a coward, and she called him Custard.

Custard the dragon had big sharp teeth,

And spikes on top of him and scales underneath

Mouth like a fireplace, chimney for a nose,

And realio, trulio daggers on his toes.

(i) Complete the analogy by selecting the suitable word from the extract.

sharp : blunt :: above : \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) Which one of the following is *not* a feature of the Dragon ?

(a) big sharp teeth

(b) spikes on the top

(c) brave as a lion

(d) could release fire from the mouth

(iii) What effect does the poet want to create by the simile 'mouth like a fireplace' ?

(a) emphasis

(b) compassion

(c) rhyme

(d) pathos

(iv) Complete the sentence appropriately.

It is clear that 'Metaphor' is the poetic device used for 'chimney for a nose' because \_\_\_\_\_. (Clue : explain how metaphor applies here)

(v) State whether the following statement is *True* or *False* based on the given extract :

Custard's formidable appearance was a true reflection of his courage.



8. Answer any **four** of the following questions in about 40 – 50 words each : 4×3=12

- (a) 'Family played a vital role in the first flight of the young seagull.' Give examples to substantiate the above statement.
- (b) Why did Pranjol not share Rajvir's excitement at seeing the tea gardens ?
- (c) What stopped Valli from going to the stall to have a drink ? What do we learn about Valli from this ?
- (d) How would the tiger behave in the forest ? (A Tiger in the Zoo)
- (e) What is the colour of the woman's hair ? Why will she change the colour of her hair ?

9. Answer any **two** of the following questions in about 40 – 50 words each : 2×3=6

- (a) Describe Max as a secret agent.
- (b) What does the phrase 'honour among thieves' mean ? Why does Horace get angry at this phrase ?
- (c) What does the thief say about the different reactions of the people when they are robbed ?

10. Answer any **one** of the following questions in about 100 – 120 words each :

- (a) Forgiveness is the foundation of a cordial relationship. Do you agree ? How is this message conveyed in the play 'The Proposal' ?

**OR**

- (b) Why did Kisa Gotami meet the Buddha ? How did Buddha change her life ?

2/5/2

11. Answer any *one* of the following questions in about 100 – 120 words each :

6

(a) 'Education is considered the most important tool for empowering women in society. It plays an important role in social and cultural development.' Prove the above statements in the light of the story 'Bholi'.

**OR**

(b) Matilda's over-ambitiousness was the cause of her destruction. Justify.