



**SET-1**

**Series BVM/C**

**Code No. 1/1/1**

Roll No.

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

- Please check that this question paper contains **11** printed pages.
- Code number given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- Please check that this question paper contains **12** questions.
- **Please write down the Serial Number of the question before attempting it.**
- 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.

## ENGLISH (Core)

*Time allowed : 3 hours*

*Maximum Marks : 100*

### **General Instructions :**

- This paper is divided into three sections : A, B and C. All the sections are **compulsory**.*
- Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.*
- Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*
- You may attempt any section at a time.*





## SECTION A — (Reading)

30

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

20

- 1 So great is our passion for doing things for ourselves, that we are becoming increasingly less dependent on specialised labour. No one can plead ignorance of a subject any longer, for there are countless 'do-it-yourself' publications. Armed with the right tools and materials, newly-weds gaily embark on the task of decorating their own homes. Men of all ages spend hours of their leisure installing their own fire-places, laying out their own gardens, building garages and making furniture. Some really keen enthusiasts go so far as to make their own record players and radio transmitters. Shops cater for the 'do-it-yourself' craze not only by running special advisory services for novices but also by offering consumers bits and pieces which they can assemble at home. Such things provide an excellent outlet for pent up energies, but unfortunately, not all of us are born handymen.
- 2 Wives tend to believe that their husbands are infinitely resourceful and versatile. Even husbands who can hardly drive a nail in straight are supposed to be born electricians, carpenters, plumbers and mechanics. When lights fuse, furniture gets rickety, pipes get clogged, or vacuum cleaners fail to operate, wives automatically assume that their husbands will somehow put things right. The worst thing about the 'do-it-yourself' game is that sometimes husbands live under the delusion that they can do anything even when they have repeatedly been proven wrong. It is a question of pride as much as anything else.





3 Last spring my wife suggested that I call in a man to look at our lawn mower. It had broken down the previous summer, and though I promised to repair it, I had never got round to it. I wouldn't hear of the suggestion and said that I would fix it myself. One Saturday afternoon I hauled the machine into the garden and had a close look at it. I was not at all iffy about my skills and observed it as a professional technician would eye it. I moved all around the machine to analyse its every upgroove and bolt. After an hour's scrutiny, I decided to work hands-on on the machine. To me, overall the machine only needed a minor adjustment; a turn of screw here, a little tightening up there, a drop of oil and it would be as good as new. I did not waste more time in re-evaluating my decision-making skills and sat down to mend it out. Inevitably, the repair job was not quite so simple. The mower firmly refused to mow, so I decided to dismantle it. The garden was soon littered with chunks of metal which had once made up a lawn mower. But I was extremely pleased with myself. I had traced the cause of the trouble. One of the links in the chain that drives the wheels had broken.

4 But the mess all around me filled me with fear. For one moment my own decision of getting it repaired myself troubled me a lot. But the other moment, I despised it and moved ahead all full of confidence. I decided to go to the market to buy a new chain. But oops ! Whom and where to go to ? I wasn't very much aware of the market too. I quietly called up my servant. Quietly because I did not want to be laughed at, and in no way by my wife, I gathered the required information from him and got all set to go to the nearby market. I went into the hardware shop to get a new chain.





5 After buying a new chain I was faced with the difficult task of putting the parts together again. I was not surprised to find that the machine still refused to work even after I had reassembled it, for the simple reason that there were still bits of metal around which did not fit anywhere. I gave up in despair. The weeks passed and my wife got angry with me when grass grew and our house became surrounded by a jungle.

1.1 On the basis of your reading of the above passage, answer each of the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option from those that follow :

1×5=5

(a) The work of decorating their homes themselves is generally taken up by \_\_\_\_\_ .

- (i) middle-aged people
- (ii) senior citizens
- (iii) professionals
- (iv) newly-weds

(b) The author planned to fix the \_\_\_\_\_ himself.

- (i) electric motor
- (ii) lawn mower
- (iii) fan
- (iv) air fryer





- (c) Shops that cater to the 'do-it-yourself' craze provide \_\_\_\_\_ .
- (i) advisory services and record players
  - (ii) bits and pieces to assemble and build garages
  - (iii) advisory services and bits and pieces to assemble
  - (iv) outlet for people's pent up energy
- (d) First the writer thought that the unserviceable mower needed \_\_\_\_\_ .
- (i) to be laid out in the garden
  - (ii) a replacement of the old link in the chain
  - (iii) a tightening of some screws
  - (iv) dismantling of its parts
- (e) The writer could not buy a new chain for the lawn mower because \_\_\_\_\_ .
- (i) he did not know from where and how to buy it
  - (ii) he needed his servant to buy it
  - (iii) he needed to gather more information
  - (iv) there was no hardware shop in the vicinity

1.2 Answer the following questions briefly :

1×6=6

- (a) What do wives tend to believe about their husbands ?
- (b) Why do husbands think that they can do anything even when proved otherwise ?
- (c) What is the disadvantage of the 'do-it-yourself' game ?
- (d) Why did the author's wife get angry with him ?
- (e) Why did he enquire from the servant about the hardware store in confidence ?
- (f) Why was the author filled with fear ?





1.3 Answer **any three** of the following questions in 30 – 40 words each :  $2 \times 3 = 6$

- (a) According to the writer, why do people not rely so much on specialised labour nowadays ?
- (b) What are the most common jobs that people prefer to do in their leisure time ?
- (c) Why did the author change the chain of the lawn mower ? Why did it not work even after that ?
- (d) According to the author, what are the minor adjustments needed by a machine ?

1.4 Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following :  $1 \times 3 = 3$

- (a) free time (para 1)
- (b) very much (para 1)
- (c) break up (para 3)

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

10

Fasting is said to bring a host of benefits, provided it is done under medical supervision. Doctors explain how to go about it. Food is to the body what fuel is to a motor vehicle. It provides energy, helps repair and rejuvenates and confers many other benefits. A lot of research has been done and is being done on fasting. When one fasts, the digestive organs get rest and all body mechanisms are cleansed. While fasting, the natural process of toxin removal continues, while the entry of new toxins is reduced. The energy usually used for digestion is redirected to immune system and cell growth. Fasting helps you lose excess weight and water, flushes out toxins, helps you heal at greater speed, cleanses your liver, kidney and colon, purifies your blood, clears the eyes and tongue and cleanses the breath.





Another research says fasting, even occasionally, helps in de-toxification. Through fasting we restrict digestive activity and so energy is utilised to cleanse different systems. Fasting improves metabolism, sharpens the senses, calms the mind, improves general immunity, improves concentration and mental clarity. Fasting has tremendous benefits and impacts one at various planes; mental, emotional, physical and spiritual. Specifically it helps in de-toxification, repair and rejuvenation, gives rest to the gastro-intestinal system and promotes mobilisation of excess fat.

The crucial point to note is the difference between fasting and starvation. Research suggests there are other benefits of fasting. It slows down the aging process, stress resistance, increased insulin sensitivity and increases lifespan. On the other hand, starvation occurs when the body begins to use protein for fuel and may lead to death in some cases.

- 2.1 On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it in points only, using abbreviations wherever necessary (minimum four). Supply a suitable title. 5
- 2.2 Write a summary of the above passage in about 100 words. 5

**SECTION B — (Advanced Writing Skills) 30**

3. Prepare a poster advising people not to take alcoholic drinks, illustrating the dangers of consuming alcohol. Invent details. You are Rajan/Rajani. 4

**OR**

Write an advertisement to be published in a local newspaper 'Daily News' for the 'Lost and Found' column reporting the loss of your briefcase carrying important documents, while travelling by bus from Nehru Place to Rohini. You are Ramesh/Preeti, C – 5/8, Rohini Sector 7, New Delhi. (50 words)





4. You are Arun Bhasin of C/5, Patel Nagar, New Delhi. You have seen an advertisement in a newspaper for the post of accountant in Fine Prints Pvt. Ltd., Sector 18, Noida. Write an application (including your biodata) for the above post. (120 – 150 words)

6

**OR**

You are Arun/Arana, a resident of Ankur Vihar, New Delhi. There are no street lights on the main road leading to this colony. The road gets so dark at night that the possibility of any mishap cannot be ruled out. Write a letter to the Editor, Daily News, New Dehli, drawing attention of the concerned authorities to this problem. (120 – 150 words)

5. In a seminar on pollution you are required to participate in a debate. Give your views either in favour of or against the motion : ‘Only Individuals are responsible for Environmental Pollution.’ (150 – 200 words)

10

**OR**

You are Ramesh/Reena of Class XII. You are disturbed to see the poor plight of girls in society as they are not given equal rights and privileges. You decide to give a speech in the school assembly making suggestions as to how to improve their position in society. (150 – 200 words)

6. You are a newspaper reporter. You have come to know about the leakage of chlorine gas from one of the plants in a factory just outside your city. Write a report on the incident, its cause and the loss incurred.

(150 – 200 words) 10

**OR**

A sedentary lifestyle gives birth to a number of health problems. Write an article in 150 – 200 words for your school magazine on the importance of daily exercise.







**SECTION C — (Literature : Textbooks and Long Reading Text) 40**

7. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow briefly : 1×4=4

I saw my mother,  
beside me  
doze, open mouthed, her face  
ashen like that  
of a corpse and realised with  
pain  
that she was as old as she  
looked but soon  
put that thought away, ...

- (a) What did the poet notice about her mother ?  
(b) What were her feelings ?  
(c) Why did the poet put 'that thought' away ?  
(d) Identify the figure of speech used in the expression : 'her face ashen like that of a corpse'.

**OR**

Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool  
Find even the ivory needle hard to pull  
The massive weight of uncle's wedding band  
Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.

- (a) Why are Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool ?  
(b) What is Aunt Jennifer doing that she finds very hard to do ?  
(c) Why does the wedding band seem too heavy ?  
(d) What impression do you form of Aunt Jennifer from the extract ?





8. Answer **any four** of the following questions in 30 – 40 words each :  $3 \times 4 = 12$
- (a) Mention any two long-term consequences of the drowning incident for Douglas.
  - (b) What does the poem 'An Elementary Classroom in a Slum' tell us about the children ?
  - (c) Describe the irony in Saheb's name.
  - (d) How does the Governor convince the Secretary that Evans deserves to take the O-level German examination ?
  - (e) Why did the General not send Dr. Sadao to the war front where he was most needed ?
  - (f) How does Jo want the story to end and why ? (Should Wizard Hit Mommy ?)
9. Answer **any one** of the following questions in 120 – 150 words : 6
- (a) How did Mahatma Gandhi help the Champaran peasants ?
  - (b) How are Jansie and Sophie different from each other ?
  - (c) How did Franz's feelings about M. Hamel and school change ?
10. Answer **any one** of the following questions in 120 – 150 words : 6
- (a) What impression do you form of Dr. Sadao as a man and as a surgeon after reading 'The Enemy' ?
  - (b) How did Mr. Lamb change Derry's life ?
  - (c) How did Zitkala-Sa fight against oppression ?
11. Answer **any one** of the following questions in 120 – 150 words : 6
- (a) Describe the encounter between Colonel Adye and Griffin. (The Invisible Man)
  - (b) Describe the tragic end of Griffin.
  - (c) How did the people of Raveloe react to Silas on his arrival ?
  - (d) How did Eppie arrive at Silas' Cottage ?





12. Answer **any one** of the following questions in 120 – 150 words :

6

- (a) Write a pen-portrait of Dr. Kemp.
- (b) At the end of 'The Invisible Man', Marvel proves to be most successful. Comment.
- (c) Eppie proves to be real gold in Silas Marner's life. Comment.
- (d) How do Willian Dane's deceit and Sarah's desertion affect Silas Marner ?



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