ENGLISH (Core)

[ For all Groups I, II, III ]

(Only for Fresh/School Candidates)

Time allowed: 3 hours] [ Maximum Marks: 80

• Please make sure that the printed pages in this question paper are 16 in number and it contains 14 questions.

• The Code No. on the top of the question paper should be written by the candidate on the front page of the answer-book.

• Before beginning to answer a question, its Serial Number must be written.

• Don’t leave blank page/pages in your answer-book.

• Except answer-book, no extra sheet will be given. Write to the point and do not strike the written answer.

• Candidates must write their Roll Number on the question paper.

• Before answering the questions, ensure that you have been supplied the correct and complete question paper, no claim in this regard, will be entertained after examination.
General Instructions:

(i) This question paper is divided into four Sections: A, B, C and D. All the sections are compulsory.

(ii) Attempt all the parts of a question together.

(iii) Stick to the word limit wherever prescribed.

SECTION – A

(Reading Skills) [ M. M. : 10]  

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

   The habit of reading is one of the greatest resources of mankind and we enjoy reading books that belong to us much more than if they are borrowed. A borrowed book is like a guest in the house, it must be treated with a certain considerate formality. You must see that it sustains no damage. It must not suffer while under your roof. You cannot leave it carelessly, you cannot mark it, you cannot turn down the pages, you cannot use it familiarly. And then, someday you ought to return it.
But your own books belong to you; you treat them with affectionate intimacy that doesn’t require formality. Books are for use, not for show. You should not be afraid to mark them or to place them on the table wide open and face down. A good reason for marking favourite passages in books is that this practice enables you to remember the significant ones, to refer to them quickly and years later you have the pleasure of going over the old ground and recalling both the intellectual journey and your own earlier self.

Everyone should begin collecting a private library in youth. One should have one's own bookshelves, which should not have doors, glass windows or keys. They should be free and accessible to the hand as well as to the eye. The knowledge that they are there in plain view is both stimulating and refreshing.

Questions:

(i) Which habit is responsible for the growth of mankind?
(ii) How are borrowed books different from books owned by us?

(iii) To whom is a borrowed book compared?

(iv) Why does the author think that marking a book is a good habit?

(v) Give the opposites of:
   
   (a) pleasure
   
   (b) begin

OR

Europe has her past. Europe's strength lies in its history. We in India must make up our minds that we cannot borrow other people's history and if we stifle our own we are committing suicide. When you borrow things that do not belong to your life, they only serve to crush your life. And therefore I believe that it does India no good to compete with Europe in its own field, we should follow our own destiny.

We must know for certain that there is a future before us who are rich in moral ideals and not in mere things. We must recognize that
it is providential that the West came to India. And yet some one must show East to the West and convince the West that the East has her own contribution to make to the history of civilization. India is no beggar of the West.

(Rabindranath Tagore)

**Questions :**

(i) What happens if we borrow other people's history?

(ii) Why should Indians not compete with Europeans?

(iii) What does the author suggest that the Indians should do?

(iv) Where does the future of Indians lie?

(v) Give the opposites of:

(a) borrow  
(b) before

2. Read the passage carefully and make notes on it. Supply a suitable title also:

On 30th November, 1986 Chamundeyi, a woman of Nahi-Kala village in Doon Valley, was collecting fodder in the forest when she heard trucks climbing up the mountain towards the
limestone quarry in the area. Since September, 1986 there had been a Chipko Camp on the road to the quarry set up by the village communities of Thano region to stop the mining operations which have created ecological havoc in the region. The trucks should not, therefore, have been there. The quarry workers had attacked the protesters, removed them from the blockade and driven the trucks through. Chamundeyi threw down her sickle, raced down the slope and stood in front of the climbing trucks, telling the drivers that they could go only over her dead body. After dragging her for a distance, they stopped and reversed.

In April, 1987 the people of Nahi-Kala were still protesting because the government had been tardy in taking action to close the mine although the lease had expired in 1982. The mining operations were also in total violation of the 1980 Forest Conservation Act. People's direct action to stop the mining was an outcome of the government's failure to implement its own laws.
3. Attempt any **twelve** of the following questions:

   \[ 1 \times 12 = 12 \]

(a) Use the correct form of the verb given in brackets (any **three**):

   (i) When the doctor arrived he realised that the patient .......... .  (die)

   (ii) We .......... to this city in 1987 and .......... here ever since.  (come, live)

   (iii) She .......... out at 10 o'clock and .......... not .......... yet.  (go, return)

   (iv) Ever since he .......... that accident he .......... with a limp.  (have, walk)

(b) Combine each of the following group of sentences:

   (i) Ben peeped into the room. His brothers were sleeping in the room.

   (ii) You cannot reach the fan. Stand on a stool.

   (iii) I would like to read the poem. My son wrote the poem for his school magazine.
(c) Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions:
(i) They stopped working ............. sunset.
(ii) The work must be finished ............. the end of the week.
(iii) Women's Day is ............. 8th March.

(d) Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles:
(i) I like to give ............. useful present.
(ii) We stayed at ............. hotel at the centre of the town.
(iii) The proposal was accepted by ............. unanimous vote.

(e) Change the voice:
(i) All the food has been eaten.
(ii) Mary was misplaced her bag.
(iii) All the guests signed the visitors book.

4. You are Rani/Rama. You are interested in joining NCC. Write a letter to your parents from your school hostel seeking their permission to participate in a guidance camp organized at the district level.
Write an application for the post of a Communicative English Instructor at XYZ Global School, ABC City.

5. Write a paragraph on one of the following:
   (i) Girls Education
   (ii) Education & Skill Development
   (iii) Environment Friendly Power
   (iv) Big Fat Indian Wedding

SECTION – C

(A) Main Reader [ Prose ]

6. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:
   All afternoon the usual line of tourists from around the world had descended into the cramped, rock cut tomb some 26 feet underground to pay their respects. They gazed at the murals on the walls of the burial chamber and peered at Tut’s gilded face, the most striking feature of his mummy-shaped outer Coffin lid. Some visitors read from guide-books in a whisper. Others stood silently, perhaps
pondering Tut's untimely death in his late teens or wondering with a shiver if the pharaoh's curse—death or misfortune falling upon those who disturbed him—was really true.

Questions: $1 \times 5 = 5$

(i) Where is King Tut's tomb situated?

(ii) Which line in the passage suggests that Tut's tomb is a popular tourist destination?

(iii) When was King Tut's reign?

(iv) What is the most striking feature of King Tut's coffin?

(v) What is believed to be the pharaoh's curse?

OR

One cannot recall any movement in world history which has gripped the imagination of the entire human race so completely and so rapidly as the Green Movement which started nearly twenty-five years ago. In 1972 the world's first nation-wide Green party was founded in
New Zealand. Since then, the movement has not looked back.

We have shifted – one hopes irrevocably – from the mechanistic view to a holistic and ecological view of the world. It is a shift in human perceptions as revolutionary as that introduced by Copernicus who taught mankind in the sixteenth century that the earth and other planets revolved round the sun. For the first time in human history, there is a growing worldwide consciousness that the earth itself is a living organism – an enormous being of which we are parts. It has its own metabolic needs and vital processes which need to be respected and preserved.

The earth’s vital signs reveal a patient in declining health. We have begun to realize our ethical obligations to be good stewards of the planet and responsible trustees of the legacy to future generations.

**Questions:**

1. When and where was Green Movement started?

2. What shift in perspective was made by the Green Movement?
(iii) What revolutionary idea was given by Copernicus?

(iv) In the passage the earth has been compared to whom?

(v) What are the ethical obligations of the present generation?

7. Answer in about 80-100 words:

Describe the author’s experiences during his Kora to Mount Kailash. (Silk Road)

OR

Compare and contrast the Chinese view of art with the European view.

8. Answer any three of the following in about 30 words each:

(i) Why was King Tut’s demise a big event?

(ii) What was the tale about the painter Wu Daozi?

(iii) What is sustainable development?

(iv) What do you gather about Crocker Harris from the play?
9. Answer any three of the following in a sentence:

   \( 1 \times 3 = 3 \)

   (i) How do you know that Khuswant Singh's grandmother was a religious person?

   (ii) Who are 'We' in "We're Not Afraid to Die .... if we can all be together"?

   (iii) When was King Tut's tomb discovered?

   (iv) What are Yin & Yang?

   (Landscape of the Soul)

   **SECTION – C**

   **(B) Main Reader [ Poetry ]** [ M. M. : 12]

10. Read the stanza carefully and answer the questions that follow:

   \[
   I \text{ descend to lave the droughts, atomies}
   \text{dust layers of the globe,}
   \]

   \[
   \text{And all that in them without me were}
   \text{seeds only, latent, unborn;}
   \]

   \[
   \text{And forever, by day and night, I}
   \text{give back life to my own origin,}
   \]

   \[
   \text{And make pure and beautify it.}
   \]

   **Questions:**

   \( 1 \times 5 = 5 \)

   (i) Name the poem and the poet.

   (ii) Who is 'I' in the poem?
(iii) Who all are bathed by the rain?
(iv) What is the rain’s own origin?
(v) Give opposites of:
   (a) descend         (b) pure

**OR**

*When did my childhood go?*

*Was it the day I ceased to be eleven,
Was it the time I realized that Hell and Heaven,*

*Could not be found in Geography*

*And therefore could not be.*

**Questions:**

(i) Name the poem and the poet.

(ii) Do you think that one grows up at a particular age?

(iii) What is suggested when the poet says that Hell & Heaven are not geographical locations?

(iv) What inference does the poet draw when he realizes that Heaven and Hell are not geographical locations?

(v) What is the poet’s feeling towards childhood?
11. What is the central idea of the poem 'A Photograph'?  

OR  
How is the father's helplessness brought out in the poem 'Father to Son'?  

12. Answer any **three** of the following:  

(i) The three stanzas of the poem 'Photograph' depict three different phases. What are they?  
(ii) Who enlivens the Laburnum top?  
(iii) Who is the Poem of Earth?  
(iv) Where does the poet think his childhood go away to?  

SECTION – D  
(Supplementary Reader)  

13. Answer the following in about **80-100** words:  

What is the theme of the play 'Mother's Day'?  

OR  
Give a character sketch of Mourad.  
(The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse)
14. Answer any two of the following in about 30-40 words each:

(i) Why didn't the author want to return to 'The Address'?

(ii) Comment on the influence of English language and way of life on Indians as reflected in the story Ranga's Marriage.

(iii) What type of Education did Einstein recommend – information gathering or insight formation? How?

(iv) Who was the closest that Kashmir had to a national poet? Why didn't he want to be called a nationalist poet?