

English Core - 2016

(Compulsory)

General Instructions :

- (i) This question paper contains 12 (Twelve) questions in 3 (three) Sections.
- (ii) All the answers must be correctly numbered as in the question paper.
- (iii) All the parts of a question must be written together.
- (iv) Strictly adhere to the word limit, if given, in each question.
- (v) Answers of the questions must be in the contexts of the instructions given therein.

Section-A (Marks-20)

(Reading Comprehension and Note Making)

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

One beautiful spring day a red rose blossomed in a forest. Many kinds of trees and plants grow there. As the rose looked around a palm tree nearby said, "What a beautiful floral ! I wish I was that lovely."

The rose felt very pleased. It turned its head and remarked. "It seems that I am the most beautiful flower in this forest". A sunflower raised its yellow head and asked. "Why do you say that? There are many beautiful plants in this forest. You are just one of them." The red rose proudly replied. "I see everyone looking at me and admiring me." The rose then looked at the cactus and said, "Look at that ugly plant. It is full of thorns." The palm tree said, "Red rose! What kind of talk is this? Who can say what beauty is? You have thorns too".

The proud red rose looked angrily at the tree and said. "I thought you had good taste! You do not know what beauty is at all. You cannot compare my thorns to that of the cactus". The rose tried to move its roots away from the cactus, but it could not.

As the days passed the red rose would look at the cactus and say insulting things like "this plant is useless", "how sorry I am to be his neighbour" and "it does not have a pleasant colour". The cactus never got angry or upset. It even tried to advise the rose by saying, "God created all of us for a purpose".

Spring passed and the weather became very hot. Life became difficult in the forest. There was no rain for a long time. The plants and animals needed water. The red rose plant began to wilt. The leaves on the trees began to dry up and fall one by one.

One day the red rose saw some beautiful small birds flying to the cactus. They sat on its thorny branches and sang happily. The birds stuck their beaks into the stem and then flew away refreshed.

This was puzzling and the red rose asked the palm tree what the birds were doing. The palm tree explained that the birds got water from the cactus. "Does it not hurt when they make holes?" asked the rose. "Yes, but the cactus does not like to see any birds suffer" replied the palm. The rose opened its eyes in wonder and asked if the cactus had water. "Yes, and you can also drink from it. The sparrow can bring water to you if you ask the cactus for help".

The red rose felt too ashamed for its past behaviour to ask the cactus for water. At last it could not bear the thirst and finally asked the cactus for help. The cactus agreed at once and the birds filled their beaks with water and watered the rose's roots. Thus

the rose learned a lesson and never judged anyone by their appearance again.

(a) What did the palm tree say about red rose?

Ans. The Palm tree admired the beauty of rose. He wished to be as lovely as rose.

(b) How did the red rose insult the cactus?

Ans. The red rose called cactus ugly which has thorns only. He said that cactus is useless which does not have a pleasant colour. He is sorry to be his neighbour.

(c) How did life become difficult in the forest?

Ans. After spring, the weather became very hot. Life became difficult in the forest as there was no rain for a long time.

(d) How did the cactus help the birds?

Ans. The cactus provided water to the birds.

(e) What lesson did the red rose learn?

Ans. He learnt that "we should never judge anyone by their appearance.

(f) Find words in the passage which mean the same as the following:

(i) good looking (1st para)

(ii) to be of no use (4th para).

Ans. (i) beautiful (b) Useless

Q.2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Carbon is one of the main elements in living things. There are carbon atoms in the tissues and organs which make up your body, there are carbon atoms in plants, there are carbon atoms in the carbon dioxide gas which animals breathe out and plants take in. Plant and animal waste are decomposed by bacteria. Some of these bacteria give out carbon dioxide gas when they respire.

Oil and natural gas were formed the remains of tiny sea creatures, and coal from plants which died many million years ago. They are known as fossil fuels and contain large amounts of carbon. When these fuels are burned, carbon atoms which were 'locked up' so long ago are released into the atmosphere in carbon dioxide gas.

Carbon atoms are used over and over again as they pass from the atmosphere into plants, sometimes into animals, and then back into the atmosphere again. This process is called the carbon cycle. Nowadays, people like to recycle materials rather than waste them. The carbon cycle is an example of natural recycling.

Unfortunately, human activity is upsetting the balance of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Burning fossil fuels puts more carbon dioxide into the air than plants can remove. Carbon dioxide has a similar effect to glass in a greenhouse- it lets in sunlight but traps the heat. Without this effect, the earth would be much colder than it is. But the extra carbon dioxide may be slowly warming the

earth and disturbing its weather systems. This is called global warming, or the greenhouse effect.

(a) Find seven important points in this passage and make notes. Use subheadings and headings. Give it a suitable title.

Ans. Title : A lesson to rose

1. Red rose
 - (a) Blossomed in forest.
 - (b) Palm tree admired his beauty.
2. Rose became pride
 - (a) Thinks he is most beautiful
3. Sunflower opposes
 - (a) many flowers are beautiful
4. Rose replies
 - (a) Everyone admires me
 - (b) Insulted the cactus
 - (i) Sorry to be his neighbour.
 - (ii) Cactus is useless.
5. Summer season arrives.
 - (a) no rain and high temperature
 - (b) Rose began to wilt.
6. Cactus helps birds
 - (a) he provided them water.
 - (b) The rose was puzzled.
 - (c) Rose also got water.
7. Rose felt too ashamed on past behaviour.
 - (a) Learnt a lesson

(b) Write a summary of the above passage.

Ans. Carbon : main element of life. Present in every unit of body. Carbon atoms is in all living thing. We breath it out, Fossil fuel also contains large amount of it. It makes a 'carbon cycle.' It is an example of natural recycling. We are upsetting it. Increase in carbon dioxide help in global warming.

Section-B

(Advanced writing skills)

(Marks : 35)

Q.3. You have lost your I.D. card in your school/college campus.

Write a notice for the notice board. (50 words)

Ans. Kendriya Vidyalaya, Ranchi
20th Feb, 2016

NOTICE

During the lunch break, I lost my school I.D. card in the school campus. The finder is requested to return the same to the undersigned. A treatise promised.

Manju Verma.

XII-B

Roll No. 101

Or

Q. You have an old mobile phone in good condition which you want to sell. Write an advertisement to be published in a newspaper.

Ans.

FOR SALE

A brand new 'Microsoft Lumia - 950' is available for sale. It is hardly used for two months. It has 1GB ram, 1GHz Dual core processor, Expandable memory upto 32 GB and rear camera 8MP and front camera 3.2 MP. It is still in the warranty period. Price negotiable upto 5000/-. Interested people can ring 9835197332.

Q.4. You attended your cousin's wedding recently. Describe the events which took place there.

Ans.

Cousin's Wedding

Last Tuesday, I attended one of my cousin's marriage ceremony at

her place. It was done with a great pomp and show great preparations were made a month before. The whole house was decorated. Many purchases were done. All the relatives were gathered.

The marriage party arrived at 7 p.m. The guests were welcomed with a marriage warranty. Garland offered as a token of love. The bridegroom came riding on a mare. The guests were served dinner. They left the place after dinner. The bridegroom and his relatives stayed for the holy ceremony. It was done by the pandit. The doli left early next morning the parting season was very heart touching.

Or

Q. Your college/school celebrated the Republic Day with songs and cultural event. Write a report to be published in the school/college magazine.

Ans. Republic Day Celebration

20th February, 2016

We celebrated Republic Day with great Pomp and show in our school campus. Our Principal along with the school staff and students attended the hoisting of the National flag. We sang national anthem and did march past to salute the national flag. Students sang songs and did cultural events. It was a grand occasions.

Q.5. You wish to do B.A./B.Sc./B.Com. from St. Stephen's College, Ranchi. Write a letter to the Principal asking for information regarding admission in the college.

Ans. The Principal
ABC college, Pandra

February 20, 2016

Sub : Asking for information related to admission.

Sir,

With due request I want to say that I have just passed my 12th examination with 89% marks. I want to take admission in your college in B.Sc.

I request you to please provide me proper information regarding admission in your college. I will be grateful to you for this great work.

Yours faithfully

Pappu Pandey

Or

Q. Write a letter to the Editor of Hindustan Times, Ranchi expressing your concern about deforestation in Jharkhand.

Ans. 3, Model Town

Dhanbad

February 18, 2016

The Editor

The Hindustan Times

Ranchi

Sir,

Through the columns of your esteemed paper. I want to draw the attention of the concerned authorities towards the effect of deforestation in Jharkhand. Trees are cut rapidly to fulfil our requirement. Actually forests are the pride of Jharkhand but now we are losing it. It results in increase in temperature, uneven climate and less rainfall. As forest is the lungs of our place, deforestation is one of the biggest cause of all types of pollution. I hope people will understand and think about it.

Yours faithfully

Pappu

Q.6. Write an article on 'Global Warming'.

Ans. Global Warming

Rise in temperature of Earth is called 'Global Warming. In today's modern age, we are cutting trees rapidly. Trees made balance between Oxygen and carbon Dioxide in environment. As the no of trees in decreasing the atmosphere is becoming unbalanced. Some gases like carbon Dioxide, Argon, Nitrous acid etc. absorb the sun's heat and make the earth's surface hotter. They are essential for us but in a limited amount. As these green house gases are increasing, the global temperature is also rising. Due to Global warming, the glaciers are melting. If all the glaciers melted then the whole earth will be sunk. It is really a major problem of for us.

Or,

Q. India is recognised as a modern 21st century economy yet many communities continue to marry children at a very young age. Write an article on the topic 'Child Marriage'.

Section-C

(Literature)

(Marks : 45)

Q.7. Read the following extract and answer the following questions:

... 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, and looked out ...

(a) Name the poem and the poet.

Ans. Poem : My Mother at sixty six

Poet : Kamla Das

(b) What did the poet realise? Why was she sad?

Ans. The poet realised that her mother was so old.

(c) Why did the poet look out?

Ans. The poet looked out as she doesn't want to see the pain in her mother's face.

Or,

**Q. Far from the gusty waves these children's faces
Like rootless weeds, their hair torn round their pallor :
The tall girl with her weighed-down head.**

(a) Name the poem and the poet.

Ans. Poem : An elementary school classroom in a slum.

Poet : Stephen Spender

(b) Whom does the poet call 'rootless weeds'?

Ans. The poet compares the faces of children of small areas with rootless weeds.

(c) How does the poet describe the tall girl?

Ans. The tall girl was looking pale. Due to the burden, her head was weighed down.

Q.8. Answer any three in 35 words each:

(a) What was the poet's childhood fear?

Ans. The fear of old age, decay and ultimate death.

(b) Why does Pablo Neruda want us to keep quiet?

Ans. The poet Pablo Neruda is of the opinion that most of our ills and troubles stem from the rush and hurry of our actions. The poet urges us not to do anything in haste and without considering all aspects of our actions and their consequences. Before doing anything we should do some introspection and soul-searching.

(c) According to Keats beauty will never pass into nothingness. How?

Ans. John Keats, a great humanitarian and romantic poet was a worshipper of the beautiful things of nature. He makes it clear right from the outset of the poem that a thing of beauty is a great

source of joy and happiness. Beauty never fades, its charm never diminishes but it goes on increasing with time. It never passes into nothingness. When we are deep in sorrows and sufferings, some shape of beauty removes away the pall of sadness and pours joy into our 'dark spirits'.

(d) Describe Aunt Jennifer's fingers.

Ans. Aunt Jennifer's hands are moving through her wool as she is weaving tiger on the panel. Her fingers are fluttering. Her fingers are so weak to pull even the wory needle.

Q.9. Answer any five in 35 words each :

(a) Why was M. Hamel wearing his best dress?

Ans. It was his last class. So M. Hamel wanted to teach everything that he knows. It was a special day for him. So, he dressed his best clothes.

(b) Who was Saheb? What did he do to earn money?

Ans. Saheb was a young boy who left his home long ago which was in green fields of Dhaka.

He was a ragpicker. He scrounges for gold in the garbage dumps.

(c) How did the old crofter earn thirty Kronors?

Ans. The old crofter had a cow who could give milk for creamery everyday. By selling this milk, he earned thirty knonors.

(d) Why was Gandhiji not allowed to draw water from Rajendra Prasad's well in Patna?

Ans. The servants of Rajendra Prasad took Gandhi for an untouchable. In those days untouchables were not allowed to draw water from the well belonging to upper castes. So they didn't allow Gandhi to draw water from the well lest some drops from his bucket should pollute the entire source.

(e) Who were Sophie and Jansie? What were the differences between them?

Ans. Sophie and Jansie were classmates and friends, still there were some stark (clear) differences between them that show up in the story. Sophie was dreamer while Jansie was a bit practical. After her schooling Sophie wanted to go to have a boutique. Jansie was doubtful about her plan because that required money which Sophie didn't have. Jansie told her it would take her a long time to save that much. Sophie said that she would be a manager then. Jansie retorted that they wouldn't make her manager straight off. Jansie dreamed to be an actress or a fashion designer. Sophie was dreaming to meet Danny Casey. Jansie had no such fancies. When Jansie told Sophie that the latter met Danny Casey, she got alarmed. Sophie suspected Geoff. She said that was a Geoff thing not a Jansie thing. In fact, shrewd Jansie had sensed that Sophie was in love with Danny Casey. When Geoff assured Sophie that he didn't tell anything to Jansie she (Sophie) breathed more easily.

(f) Why do most celebrity writers dislike being interviewed?

Ans. Since its invention a little over 130 years ago, the interview has become a common place of journalism. Today, almost everybody who is literate will have read an interview at some points in their lives, while from the other point of view, several thousand celebrities have been interviewed over the years, some of them repeatedly. So it is hardly surprising that opinions of the interview - of its functions, methods and merits - vary considerably.

Q.10. Answer the following question in about 125 words:

Write the story 'The Last Lesson' in your own words.

Ans. There was unusual atmosphere in school at Alsace on its last day. There was no bustle. It was all so still. There was no commotion. That day everything was as quiet as Sunday morning. M. Hamel was dressed in his best. Village people were sitting quietly at the back of the room. They had come to thank M. Hamel for his forty

years service to school and to pay their respect to the country that was not their any more. M. Hamel was heart-broken. Everything looked grave and solemn. M. Hamel was very serious in teaching his lessons and the students were very attentive in learning their lessons. A new love had dawn in them for learning their language. Every object of the school was moving in the eyes of M. Hamel where he had spent forty years of his life. He was sad at heart that he was leaving his school. He was hearing his sister moving about in the room above, packing their trunks. When the church-clock struck twelve, M. Hamel stood up, very pale, in his chair. Then he dismissed the school and asked the students they might go.

Or

Q. What happened to William Douglas at YMCA swimming when he was eleven years old?

Ans. When William Douglas was ten or eleven years old, he had decided to learn to swim. There was a pool at the Y.M.C.A. in Yakima that offered the opportunity to him to swim. The Yakima River was treacherous. Mother had warned him against it. But the Y.M.C.A. pool was safe. Douglas got a pair of water wings and went to the pool. He hated to walk naked in to it and show his skinny legs. But he subdued his pride and did it. However from the very beginning, he had an aversion to the water when he was in it. His aversion to water had started when he was three or four years old and father took him to the beach in California. His father and Douglas stood together in the surf. Douglas hung on to his father, yet the waves knocked him down and swept over him. He was buried in water. His breath was gone. He was frightened. Father laughed, but there was terror in his heart at the overpowering force of the waves. His introduction to the Y.M.C.A. pool revived unpleasant memories and stirred childish fear. But after a short while he gathered confidence. He paddled with his new water wings, watching the other boys and trying to learn by aping them. He did this two or three times on different days and was just beginning to feel at ease in the water. In his later attempts he tried to conquer his fear of water. He engaged an instructor and learnt to swim. Thus, he build himself a swimmer.

**Q.11. Answer the following questions is about 125 words:
How did Dr. Sadao Hoki help the American soldier?**

Ans. Dr. Sadao peered into the whiteman's wound with the bright surgeon's light fastened on his forehead. The bullet was still there. The patient was bleeding professely. He had lost much blood. However, Dr. Sadao continued his efforts. Then he felt the tip of his instrument struck against something hard, dangerously near the kidney. But his skilled finger worked wonder. He made a clean

and precise incision. The bullet was out in a few minutes. He gave him an injection and the white man's pulse grew stronger. Thus, Sadao succeeded in saving the life of the wounded prisoner of war.

Or

Q. How di Charley reach the third level?

Ans. The corridor he was in began angling left and slanting downward. But he kept on walking. All he could hear was the empty sound of his own footsteps and he didn't pass a soul. Then he heard that sort of hollow roar ahead that means open space and people talking. The tunnel turned sharp left. He went down a short-flight of stairs and came out on the third level at Grand Central Station.

Q.12. Answer any four in about 35 words each :

(a) What did the astrologer say when the Tiger king was born?

Ans. The astrologer predicted that one day, the boy have to die. The death would come for from the tiger. The hundredth tiger will be the cause of his death.

(b) Where did Charley want to go?

Ans. Charlie wanted to go to his apartment to go to his apartment to meet his wife. He decided to take subway from grand central but he reached third level.

(c) Why did Bama laugh when she saw the elder?

Ans. One day, Bama saw an elder coming from market. He was carrying a small packet by it's string without touching it. He gave it to the landlord. On seeing this incident, Bama laughed.

(d) Why was Zitkala Sa uncomfortable?

Ans. Zitkala-Sa reached the dining hall for the first time. She knew little about the table manner to that place. A small bell was sounded. Each one drew a chair from under the table. She also pulled her chair out and sat on it. To her embarrassment she was the only one seated there. All the other remained standing. She felt shy. A second bell was sounded. All were seated. A pale face women watched her keenly. The third bell was sounded. Everyone picked up his knife and fork and began eating. She began crying instead.

(e) Why were special arrangements made by the Examination Boards inside the prison?

Ans. Wily and crafty Evans was called 'Evans the Breaker' by the prison staff. He had earlier escaped three times from the prison throwing dust in the eyes of the prison staff. This time the prison authorities didn't want to give any chance to Evans to escape. Hence, all necessary precautions were taken and security arrangements were made for the smooth conduct of the examination as Evans was going to appear in an O-Level examination in his prison cell. The governor of the prison was so apprehensive about Evans that he decided to look after all the security arrangement himself.