

English

Practice Paper - I

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 100

SECTION I : LANGUAGE STUDY

Q. 1. (A) Do as directed.

[8 Marks]

- (1) Pick out an infinitive and use it in your own sentence.

The program is about to begin.

- (2) Write two compound words of your own. (Ans. : somehow, someone)

- (3) Say whether the underlined verb in the sentence is finite or non-finite.

The sun began to sink.

- (4) Make a meaningful sentence by using the given idiom.

Connect the dots (Ans. : You can connect the dots looking forward)

- (5) Punctuate the following :

Nouns are of different types common proper abstract concrete material.

- (6) Change the tense as instructed.

I started a company. (Present Continuous)

- (7) Choose the appropriate Adverb or Adjective form to fill in the gaps.

Life went out of him (gentle/gently)

- (8) Arrange the following words in alphabetical order.

inactivity, inadequacy, inactiveness, inadmissible, inadvertent, inadvisable

(B) Do as directed.

[8 Marks]

- (1) Change to indirect speech.

He asked me, "Is the world so poor that it cannot give me a toy and a book, instead of forcing me to take a gun or a tool ?"

- (2) Use the following word as a noun and as a verb : "Credit"

Ans. : You are smarter than I give you credit for. Just give me my credit card slip.

- (3) Rewrite the sentence by changing the voice.

My light sleep was suddenly disturbed by a jolt along the bed.

- (4) Rewrite the sentence beginning with, 'we.....'

These resources are being used.

(C) Do as directed.

[4 Marks]

- (1) Replace the modal auxiliary without changing the meaning.

We must be healthy in order to be happy.

- (2) Make complex.

Being clear about your goals can facilitate decision making.

SECTION II : TEXTUAL PASSAGES

Q. 2. (A) Read the following passage and do the activities.

[10 Marks]

We instinctively turn to outdoor activities and nature as a way of relaxing and enhancing our wellbeing. Nature soothes and nurtures. Nature fulfils and motivates. Nature whispers and commands.

Are you listening ?

When I do, it leaves me in complete awe.

We have a hibiscus plant in our garden. Every fortnight a flower blooms on it - big, bright and tender. Through the day it smiles with the sun and dances with the wind, but as evening approaches, it starts wilting. The morning after, it withers completely and by evening it falls and becomes one with the earth again. The flower comes to life only for a day, yet it does so in full splendour. What if we too lived our life, however short, to its fullest ?

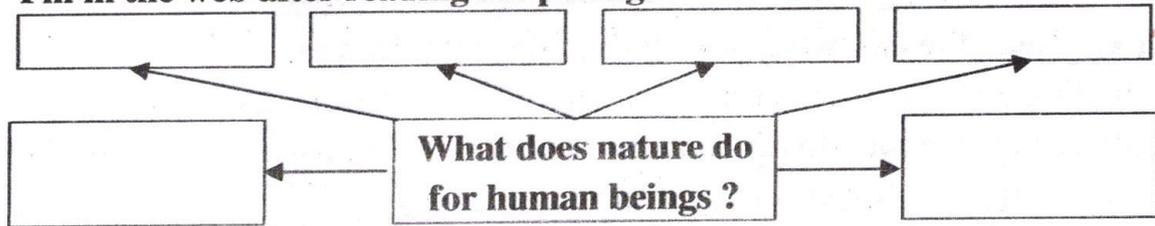
We went to a rocky beach and saw the spread of the majestic ocean and the rocks alongside, carved, sculpted and shaped by the water. Water is so gentle, rock so hard, yet, as the water flows over it every day, for years, the rock gives in. It takes the shape that the water commands. Our problems are so colossal and we are so small, yet if we persist...

We saw small bits of grass peeping through the small cracks in a concrete pavement. It left us thinking : however impossible things may look, there is always an opening...

We saw a tree bare of all leaves in the cold winter months. We thought its chapter was over. But three months passed, spring set in and the tree was back to its green majesty once again, full of leaves, flowers, birds and life. What if we too had the conviction that, however difficult things are right now, it will not remain so for ever. Remember, this too shall pass.

We saw an army of ants lugging a fly which was at least ten times the ant's size. The ants organized themselves around the fly, lifted it on frail feelers and carried it to quite a distance. Their teamwork and perseverance were impressive. What if we too are consistent, organized, focused... Spider webs are delicate, yet very strong. A rainbow colours the entire sky. Oysters take in a grain of sand they open up with a pearl. Innumerable stars shine across the infinite sky. Clouds take new shapes with every passing moment. The wind makes trees dance with unhindered passion. Water, without hint of ego, changes its form according to the dictates of the sun and the wind. When we see a caterpillar turn into a butterfly, a flower turn into a fruit, we experience the alchemy of nature... we touch it and become gold ourselves.

1. Fill in the web after reading the passage.



2. Change to passive.

- (1) We saw a tree bare of all leaves in the cold winter months.
- (2) Clouds take new shape with every passing moment.

3. Find the words from the passage which mean the same.

- (1) Strong firm belief
- (2) Without disturbance
- (3) Mysterious power or magic that can change things
- (4) Constant efforts inspite of obstacle

4. Pick out from the passage two examples of each.

- (1) Concrete Nouns 
- (2) Abstract Nouns 

5. How should you deal with difficulties and problems ?

(B) Read the following passage and do the activities.

[10 Marks]

Once a certain king had an idea. If he always knew the right time to begin everything., if he knew who were the right people to listen to and who to avoid the most important thing to do, he would never fail in anything that he would undertake and above all, if he always knew what was the most undertake. Since he was convinced that he was right in thinking this way, he had a proclamation made in his kingdom. He would give a great reward to anyone who would teach him what the right time was for every action, who the most necessary people were, and how he might know the most important thing to do.

Many learned people came to the court but they all gave different answers. In reply to the first question, some said that to know the right time for every action, one must draw up in advance a table of days, months and years, and must live strictly according to it. Others declared that it was impossible to decide beforehand the right time for every action; but that, not letting oneself be absorbed in idle pastimes, one should always attend to all that was going on, and then do that was most essential. Yet others said that it was impossible for one man to decide correctly the right time for every action and that the king should, instead, have a council of wise people, who would help him to fix the proper time for everything.

Equally varied were the answers to the second question. Some said the people the king most needed were his councillors; others the priests; others the doctors while some said the warriors were the most necessary.

To the third question about what was the most important occupation, some replied that the most important thing in the world was science. Others said it was skill in warfare; and others, again, that it was religious worship. The king was convinced by none of these answers and gave the reward to none.

He decided, instead to go to a hermit who was widely renowned for his wisdom. The hermit lived in a small hut in a forest which he never left. He spoke only to common folk. So the king put on simple clothes and approaching the hermit's cell, dismounted his horse and left his bodyguard behind.

When the king arrived, the hermit was digging the ground in front of his hut. He greeted the king but went on digging. The hermit was frail and weak, and each time he struck the ground with the spade and turned over a little earth, he breathed heavily. The king went up to him and said, "I have come to you, wise hermit, to ask you to answer three questions—How can I learn to do the right thing at the right time ? Who are the people I most need, and to whom should I, therefore, pay most attention ? And what affairs are the most important and need my first attention ?"

1. State whether the following statements are True or False.

- (a) The people convinced the king to make a proclamation
- (b) The hermit spoke usually to everyone
- (c) The hermit was frail and weak
- (d) The king was convinced by some learned people in the court

2. From the passage find the collocations of the following.

- (a) time
- (b) important
- (c) frail and
- (d) widely

3. State the underlined verbs are Finite or Non-finite.

- (i) He decides to go to a hermit.
- (ii) The hermit was digging the ground.
- (iii) I have come to you, wise hermit.
- (iv) He gave the reward to none.

4. (i) The synonym of 'convinced' is
- (a) persuaded (b) happy
(c) unhappy (d) angry
- (ii) 'varied' means –
- (a) different (b) unnecessary
(c) unequal (d) unimportant
5. What is the right time according to you ?

SECTION III : POETRY

Q. 3. (A) Read the following extract and do the activities.

[5 Marks]

I think I could **turn** and live with animals, they are
so **placid** and **self-contain'd**
I stand and look at them long and long.
They do not sweat and whine about their condition,
They do not lie awake in the dark and weep for their sins,
They do not **make me sick** discussing their duty to God,
Not one is dissatisfied, not one is **demented** with
the **mania** of owning things.
Not one kneels to another, nor to his kind that
lived thousands of years ago,
Not one is **respectable** or unhappy over the whole earth.
So they show their relations to me and I accept them,
They bring me tokens of myself, they **evince**
them plainly in their possession
I wonder where they get those **tokens**,
Did I pass that way huge times ago and negligently drop them ?

1. Read the poem carefully and match the words with their meanings.

No.	Column A	No.	Column B
1.	whine	a.	show
2.	evince	b.	mental illness
3.	Mania	c.	complain in an annoying way
4.	negligent	d.	failing to take proper care

2. Identify the figures of speech in the following lines.

- (a) They bring me tokens of myself.
(b) I stand and look at them long and long.

3. At times, especially when you are frustrated, you wish you were an animal and not a human being. Which animal you would chose to transform to and give reasons for your choice in 3 to 4 lines.

(B) Read the following poem and write an appreciation of it with the help of the given points in paragraph format. [10 Marks]

1. Title
2. Poet
3. Theme/Central idea
4. Rhyme Scheme
5. Figures of Speech
6. Special features (Type of poem, imagery, etc)
7. Favourite line/lines
8. Why I like/don't like the poem.

When God at first made Man,
Having a glass of blessings standing by;
Let us (said He) "pour on him all we can:"
Let the worlds **riches**, which **dispersed** lie,
Contract into a **span**.

So strength first made a way;
Then beauty flow'd, then wisdom, honour, pleasure:
When almost all was out, God made a stay,
Perceiving that alone of all His treasures
Rest in the bottom lay.

For if I should (said He)
Bestow this **jewel** also on my creature,
He would **adore** my gifts instead of me,
And rest in Nature, not the God of Nature.

So both should losers be.

Yet let him keep the rest,
But keep them with **repining restlessness**:
Let him be rich and **weary**, that at last,
If goodness lead him not, yet weariness
May **toss** him to my breast.

SECTION IV : NON-TEXTUAL PASSAGES

Q. 4. (A) On the basis of your reading of the passage answer the questions.

[10 Marks]

Lincoln was born in a very poor family but he had grim determination to move forward and improve his circumstances. Once he learnt, that a retired judge lived in a village on the opposite bank of a river. This judge had a very useful collection of law books. Lincoln decided to see him. He started rowing a boat to the other bank. It was extremely cold and the river was icy. He had hardly crossed upto the middle of the river when his boat was wrecked having collided with an iceberg. Lincoln was a brave man. He did not lose courage and swam in the icy waters and reached the house of that retired judge. Incidentally, at that time the judge did not have domestic help. So Lincoln had to do his household work. He had to bring wood from the forest and draw water from the well. What did he get in return for his services ? He did not ask for anything except the permission to read the books in the judge's library. The judge was happy to allow this. It was because of this will power and determination that Lincoln became the central figure in the national life of America and occupied the highest post in the land. He became its President. How true is the axiom that a man can achieve anything if he has the will power and determination.

1. Choose the correct alternative and complete the sentences.

(1) Lincoln to reach the village of a retired judge.

(rowed the boat and swam the river, walked over the bridge on the river, drove over the bridge on the river)

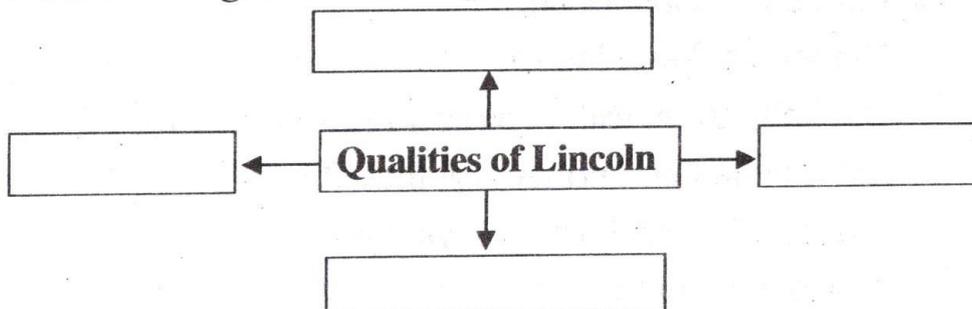
(2) Lincoln became the of America.

(Finance Minister, Law Minister, President)

3. Write one word from the passage for 'violent impact'.

4. Frame a sentence of your own with the word 'determination'.

2. Fill in the web diagram with the qualities of Lincoln.



3. **What hardships did Lincoln overcome to get access to the judge's library ?**

4. (i) The judge was very happy to allow this. (Rewrite using 'so that')

(ii) Lincoln was born in a poor family but he had grim determination to move forward and improve his circumstances.

(Begin with 'Though' and rewrite)

5. **What role do you think does 'will power' and 'determination' play in the life of a student ? Illustrate.**

(B) Read the following passage and write the summary of it. Suggest a suitable title. [? Marks]

Style is a way of writing, a manner of expressing one's thoughts and feelings in words. The matter remaining the same, the manner may change. It may be high sounding, or simple and yet emotional or a plain, brief statement without feelings. The same fact may have different effects on the reader because of variations in style.

Some people think that style, or what they might call 'good style' or 'literary style', is something that can be added to plain thought or a plain statement of facts, as icing can be put on a cake. A student once said to me, "I have written my report, but I have brought it to you to put some style into it." I could not put style into it. It was already written in a certain style, though it may not have been a very good style. I could have rewritten it in a different style. Then it would have been my arrangement of facts, my choice of words, and my style. As a man thinks and feels, so he will write. If his thoughts are muddled, his style is bound to be muddled. If his thoughts are clear and sharp, his writing will reflect this.

There is another common use of the word 'style'. You may have been told at some time by a history teacher when he returned your essay, "Your facts are quite correct but your style is poor". He probably meant by this that your facts are not arranged in a logical sequence of apt and agreeable words. In this sense, 'style' is often used to mean good, clear English. Raymond Clapman states, "Bad writing is caused not so much by mistakes in grammar as by weakness in style." Weakness in style here means clumsiness in expression, lack of precision and accuracy, and anything that hinders the writer from conveying his meaning clearly to the reader.

Style in this sense means 'Clean English.' I choose this term because it seems the best way of describing English that is clear and does its job of conveying meaning clearly to the reader. It has nothing to do, of course, with decency or

indecenty. The most common weakness of all writers of English, whether in England or outside it, is the lack of cleanness in the use of the language. All writers of English, even those without the faintest trace of literary ambition, should try to keep their English as clean as they can. Words are the tools of thought. If they become rusty and dirty, and lose their sharp points, thinking itself becomes less efficient. Man needs language for the control of his environment, and, the cleaner his language, the better his control, it is well to remember that it is our duty to civilization to keep our language as clean and sharp as we can.

SECTION V : WRITING SKILL

Q. 5. (A) Letter writing.

[5 Marks]

Read the following information and write a letter as per the guidelines.

Good News ! Good ! Good News !

Konkan Tours and Travels, Ratnagiri is arranging a visit to Ganpatipule for school children in vacation.

- A very beautiful tourist place in Ratnagiri
- Famous for Ganesha Temple and beautiful beaches.
- Surrounded by evergreen hills.
- Peaceful and scenic beautiful place.
- HURRY UP ! For booking your seat and more information contact the Manager,

Mr. Vaibhav More

OR

Call 9867801110

Your classmates want to visit Ganpatipule and nearby picnic spots after getting over your SSC examination. You are the Head boy/girl of your class. Write a letter to the Manager do get details of the tour.

(B) Dialogue Writing

[5 Marks]

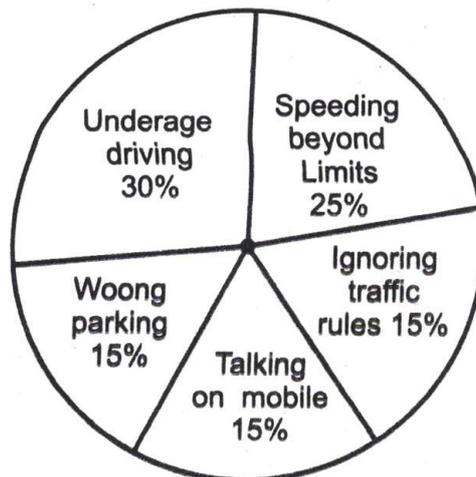
You have to prepare a Project Report based on a recent project on "Cultural Heritage of India". Develop a dialogue between you and your teacher Mr. Vaidya about it with the help of the following points. Imagine about the responses given by the teacher.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Topic | • Nature of Report |
| • No. of pages | • No. of words |
| • Details of the project | • No. of participants |
| • Contribution of each individual | • Your overall experience |

Q. 6. (A) Information Transfer

[5 Marks]

Observe the following pie chart and prepare a write up of about 100 words describing the causes of 'Increasing Road Accidents.'



(B) Speech writing

[5 Marks]

On the occasion of World Environment Day your school has organized a one-day seminar. You are one of the speakers. Write a speech, how, we as human beings polluting the environment by our activities. Take the help of the following points.

- Awareness
- Over use of plastic
- Go Green
- Save Land, Water, Air
- Small deeds, big results.

SECTION VI : CREATIVE WRITING

Q. 7. (A) Expand the theme

[5 Marks]

Expand any one of the following ideas into two paragraphs.

- "Today's wastage is tomorrow's shortage."
- "Beauty is more than skin deep."

(B) Developing a story

[5 Marks]

Develop a story in about 80-100 words with the following ending. Give a suitable title.

..... and this is how they all met each other after 10 long years.

