

Roll No. :

No. of Printed Pages : 04

Name :

117

2026
English

316 (CB)

Time : 3 Hours, 15 Minutes

Maximum Marks : 100

General Instructions -

- i) First **15 minutes** are allotted to the candidates for reading the question paper.
- ii) This question paper is divided into four sections : A, B, C and D.
- iii) All questions from all the sections are **compulsory**.
- iv) Marks are indicated against each question.

Section - A (Reading)

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

The old Turkish and the other races, who inhabited Afghanistan and parts of Central Asia before the advent of Islam, were largely Buddhists and earlier still, during the period of the Epics, Hindus. The frontier area was one of the principal centres of old Indian culture and it abounds still with ruins of monuments and monasteries and, specially, of the great University of Taxila, which was at the height of its fame two thousand years ago, attracting students from all over India as well as different parts of Asia. Changes of religion made a difference but could not change entirely the mental backgrounds which the people of those areas had developed.

- a) What religious groups inhabited Afghanistan before the advent of Islam? **(3)**
- b) What is meant by the phrase 'the period of the Epics'? **(3)**
- c) What was Taxila famous for? **(3)**
- d) What has been common to the people of Afghanistan and parts of Central Asia despite their different religions? **(3)**

- e) i) Which word in the passage means 'arrival' or 'coming'? (1)
ii) Give the antonym of 'attracting'. (1)
iii) Rewrite the underlined segment after replacing the word 'abounds' with another similar meaning word. (1)

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(2)

Section - B (Writing)

2. Write an article on any one of the following topics in about 100-150 words : (10)

- a) Terrorism - a Threat to Mankind.
b) How can we solve the problem of the shortage of Electric Power in our Country?
c) Role of Women in the society these days.

3. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily showing your concern over increasing 'Price Rise'. (10)

OR

Write a letter to the Principal of your college to complain against the shortage of books in your college library.

Section - C (Grammar)

4. Choose the correct option to answer the following questions : (5 × 2 = 10)

- a) Which of the following underlined words is a synonym of 'frank'?
i) Ramu is a shameless person.
ii) My cousin is not foolish.
iii) You do not seem wide spoken.
iv) He is candid when he speaks.

- b) Which of the following is a pair of antonyms?

i) Good – Nice

ii) Bad – Worst

iii) Worse – Better

iv) Best – Superior

c) 'A bone of contention' means :

i) Quarrelsome

ii) A disturbing person

iii) Reason of quarrel

iv) With a reason

d) One who takes the bright side of a thing is :

i) Brighten

ii) Foreteller

iii) Optimist

iv) Pessimist

e) Which of the following sentences is **correct**?

i) There is a number of books in the library.

ii) Many sheep are grazing in the fields.

iii) The news of his death is true.

iv) Thousands of rupees was spent.

5. Change / Combine / Correct as directed :

a) **Change any one of the following into indirect speech : (2)**

i) He said to me, "What did you do yesterday?"

ii) She said to her friend, "Please, help me today."

b) **Combine any one of the following as directed : (2)**

i) I am so tired. I cannot run. (Into a Complex Sentence)

ii) This question is very difficult. I cannot solve it. (Into a Simple Sentence)

c) **Change any one of the following as directed : (2)**

i) He did not help the poor man. (Into Passive Voice)

ii) Their glory can never fade. (Interrogative Sentence)

d) **Correct any one of the following sentences : (2)**

- i) Rich men should help the poor.
- ii) I prefer a pen than a pencil.

e) **Use any one of the following pairs of words in your sentences to make the difference in their meanings clear : (1+1=2)**

i) Umpire – empire

(ii) Fair – fare

6. Translate the following passage into English : (5)

मुंशी प्रेमचंद एक महान साहित्यकार हुए हैं। उनका जन्म एक छोटे गाँव के एक साधारण परिवार में हुआ था। फिर भी वे पूरे विश्व में प्रसिद्ध हुए। हिन्दी तथा उर्दू दोनों भाषाओं पर उनका समान अधिकार था। कहानियाँ तथा उपन्यास लिखने में वे कुशल थे। उनकी कहानियों में भारतीय समाज का सजीव चित्रण मिलता है। उनकी रचनाओं का संसार की अधिकांश भाषाओं में अनुवाद हुआ है। उन्हें उपन्यास -- सम्राट कहा जाता है। कम पढ़े लिखे लोग भी उनकी पुस्तकें रुचि के साथ पढ़ते हैं।

Section - D (Literature)

7. Answer the following questions in about 40 words each : (4 + 4 = 8)

- a) What was the importance of garbage for children in Seemapuri?

OR

Why did M. Hamel declare that the lesson which he was going to teach on that fateful day was to be the last lesson?

- b) Who was the rattrap seller? How did he make rattraps?

OR

Why did Gandhiji chide the lawyers of Muzaffarpur?

8. Answer any one of the following in about 80 words : (7)

- a) What did Douglas decide to overcome his fear of water?
- b) Describe the life of people working in the glass bangle industry.

9. Read the following extract carefully and answer the questions that follow : (3 × 2 = 6)

Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen,
Bright topaz denizens of a world of green.
They do not fear the men beneath the tree;
They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.

- a) How do Jennifer's tigers behave?
- b) Why do the tigers not fear the men beneath the tree?
- c) How do the tigers pace?

10. Write the central idea of any one of the following poems : (4)

- a) A Thing of Beauty
- b) Keeping Quiet
- c) My Mother at Sixty-six

11. Answer the following questions in about 40 words each : (4 + 4 = 8)

- a) Who was Hana? How did she meet Dr. Sadao?

OR

Why was the programme 'Students on Ice' so successful?

- b) What was the third level? Where was it situated?

OR

Why did the Tiger king decide to marry?

12. Answer any one of the following questions in about 80 words : (7)

- a) Why did the king kill the hundredth tiger?
- b) Why is Antarctica the place to go if we want to study the earth's past, present and future?