

Details and Instructions

1. 15-minute prior reading time allotted for Q-paper reading.
2. The Question Paper contains FOUR sections-READING SKILLS, WRITING SKILLS, GRAMMAR and LITERATURE TEXTBOOK.
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION A : READING SKILLS**(22 marks)****Q1 Read the following passage carefully:****(12 Marks)**

- 1 With vast and growing numbers of Indians in the workforce emigrating to foreign lands, typically to North America, Western Europe, Australia or parts of Southeast Asia, many Indian families are now experimenting by either taking their elderly parents along with them, or, when that model fails owing to the loneliness of the elderly in a new country and their dependence on their children, they are sent back to India to face their uncertain twilight years more or less alone.
- 2 This trend has also accompanied the breakdown of the traditional Indian joint family system, with the result that a growing cohort of elderly Indians have to fend for themselves in old age homes far from any family connections.
- 3 Yet in some cases, the elderly refuse to cut their ties with India to accompany their children abroad in the first place. While senior communities in India were originally associated with charitable institutions and even with the rescue and rehabilitation of destitute among the elderly, those connotations appear to be transforming into the more luxury-focused retirement communities, at least for middle-class Indians.
- 4 Many opt for such homes offering specialist services for the care of the elderly because the costs of hiring private, full time workers can be prohibitive and also it can be an insurmountable task to effectively coordinate doctor visits and such. In the new class of senior citizen colonies, many of these facilities are taken care of under a single package. According to Mathew Cherian, CEO of HelpAge India, a large non-profit organisation working for senior citizens in the country, there are over 4,000 old age homes, of which at least 130 were designed as retirement communities geared towards the expectations and demands of the rising middle class and affluent NRIs.
- 5 Few years ago, Bayada Home Health Care, a U.S.-based home health care company acquired a stake in India Home Health Care, an Indian company. Bayada now offers a package specifically designed for Non-Resident Indians who have parents living in India. The packages aim at ensuring that the senior citizen's health condition is monitored and health issues are detected as early as possible and acted upon accordingly.
- 6 Yet the problem with all of these arrangements, helpful though they are to the elderly, is that depression brought on by loneliness can be a serious concern among residents at such communities. There is not enough love and care in these places. Phone calls, Skype conversations, and rushing to India when a parent falls sick are just not enough.

7 Thus, despite this growing sophistication of elderly care packages available on the market, old-fashioned social relationships with friends and neighbours may ultimately offer as much or more succour for the elderly whose children no longer reside in India.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage .

- (i) Which two challenges faced by the elderly are mainly discussed in the passage?
a) Lack of financial resources and loneliness
b) Coping with old age and selection of right medical package
c) Lack of financial resources and deteriorating health conditions
d) Loneliness and health issues 1
- (ii) Which quote summarises the writer's feelings about old age?
a) No one should be alone in their old age, he thought. But it is unavoidable.
- Ernest Hemingway
b) Growing old is mandatory, but growing up is optional. - Walt Disney
c) One day you will look back and see that all along you were blooming. -
Morgan Harper Nichols
d) We are always the same age inside. - Gertrude Stein 1
- (iii) How do people working abroad try to fulfil their responsibilities towards their parents?
2
- (iv) Complete the following with reference to the information provided in the passage.
In some cases, the elderly are not ready to leave India to accompany their children because _____.
1
- (v) Complete the following sentence appropriately:
Phone calls, Skype conversations, and rushing to India when a parent falls sick are just not enough as the parents still yearn for _____.
1
- (vi) What are the facilities offered by the modernised senior citizen colonies?
2
- (vii) Complete the following sentence appropriately:
Luxury-focused retirement communities are preferred over hiring private, full time nurses by many NRIs for their parents because _____.
1
- (viii) Which of the following suggestions would be more likely to improve the conditions of the elderly parents whose children work in a foreign land?
a) They should demand more money from their children.
b) They should ask their children to come back.
c) They should build up a network of social contacts.
d) They should frequently express their resentment. 1
- (ix) Find a word that means the same as a problem/situation that cannot be dealt successfully. (Para 3-4)
1

(x) Specifically designed housing options can help the elderly to cope with their old age in a better way

(a) True

(b) False.

1

Q2. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

(10Marks)

Read the following table displaying how different cities in the world are adapting to heat waves.

I. Cities	Ahmedabad, Gujarat	Miami-Dade County, Florida	Vienna, Austria	Paris, France	Stuttgart, Germany
II. Plans	Implemented its heat action plan after a deadly heatwave in 2010.	One of the first to have Chief Heat Officer.	Launched a 'cool streets' initiative as well as a state-of-the-art cooling park.	Has created a network of 100 'cooling islands'.	The city, which sees very little wind, has created special spaces throughout the city.
III. Facilities Provided to Public	They have set up water supplies for the public, a cool roof initiative, early warning systems for vulnerable populations and training for healthcare professionals.	Initiatives planned include installing cool pavements and roofs, and creating tree canopies over pavements to increase shade cover. CHO Jane Gilbert told Bloomberg that officials moved to create a state-wide agreement with the local utility not to shut off power for a failure to pay bills when the temperature is above 35°C.	The streets will be permanently redesigned to be cooler, using tree planting, and replacing asphalt with surfaces that reflect less heat. Plus, they have mobile shade dispensers and stations offering drinking water and spray cooling.	These cooling islands have spaces such as parks and pools which are linked by walkways. Residents can locate them using a smartphone app.	In these special spaces, there are tree-laden roads that help clean the airflow throughout the city.

- (i) Identify the city which is likely to face the risk of receiving late payment of electricity bills, and support your choice with one reason. 1
- (ii) In which of the following cities, the administration is confident about the digital proficiency of its citizens? 1
 - a) Paris
 - b) Ahmedabad
 - c) Miami-Dade
 - d) Stuttgart
- (iii) Give two significant arguments to prove that Ahmedabad, Gujarat is more concerned about the health of its people. 2

- (iv) Select the correct option to fill the blank and complete the analogy:

Ahmedabad : Cool roof initiative : : Vienna : _____

- a) Chief Heat Officer
- b) Cooling islands
- c) Cool pavements
- d) Mobile shade dispenser 1
- (v) Based on the information given, why is Stuttgart the most likely to have an initiative named Ventilation Corridors? 2
- (vi) Complete the given sentence with the appropriate reason, with reference to the information given in the table.

We can infer that the network of cooling islands and pools have been linked by walkways because _____.

1

- (vii) Explain briefly why option (i) from the three options given below, showcases the real meaning of cool roof initiative.
 - a) Cool roof initiative refers to applying solar-reflective white paint to the exterior of homes, focussing on the roofs to mitigate the effects of temperature.
 - b) Cool roof initiative refers to installing air-conditioners on roofs to create a cool environment on the roofs.
 - c) Cool roof initiative refers to having a house near the parks and pools to make life a little more comfortable during summer. 1

- (viii) Select the option that correctly matches the place with the facilities/plans they offer to the public: 1

(A) Florida	(1) Stations offering spray cooling
(B) Austria	(2) Network of cooling islands
(C) Gujarat	(3) Installing cool pavements
	(4) Setting up water supplies for the public

- a) A - 2; B - 3; C - 4
- b) A - 1; B - 2; C - 3
- c) A - 3; B - 1; C - 4
- d) A - 4; B - 2; C - 1

SECTION B : WRITING SKILLS

(22 marks)

- Q3. You are Sonu/Seema of Class X of AVB School, Patparganj, New Delhi. You wish to participate in a Robotics Contest being organised by a Infocom Private Company. Write an e-mail to your Principal requesting him to nominate your name for the Class IX-X level, giving him the detail of the Robot that you want to display in the contest. 3
- Q4. Your father recently bought an electric car. You were amazed to see such a technology in car as you were only aware of CNG, petrol and diesel cars. Write a factual description of the electric car, in about 100 words. 4
- Q5. Your school has decided to take part in half marathon organised by an NGO in New Delhi. Write a letter to the Area Manager of the NGO requesting permission to participate in the half marathon on 28 April 2024 starting from National Stadium. Request the NGO to provide your school with 200 T-shirts for boys and girls aged 15-17 years. You are School Captain, Manish Mehta, Sarvodaya Vidyalaya, Saket. 7

OR

You have observed that modern lifestyles in cities have made people follow the principle late to sleep and late to rise instead of the other way round. As you understand the harm to a person's health due to this reason, Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily making people aware of the problems that arise. Use ideas from the MCB unit on Health and Medicine and your own ideas. You are Sameer/ Nisha of 121, Jilla Seva Sadan, Borivali East, Mumbai. (120 Words)

- Q6. India is a tourist's dream destination. Give your views on the tourism potential of India, in an article in about 150 words. You are Hari/Neha. You can take hints from the unit Travel and Tourism of the MCB. 8

places of worship - religious tourism - foreigners - places of historical interest - the rich - hill stations during summers - the sun-kissed beaches in winters - leisure tourism - medical tourism - world class hospitals

OR

Mumbai, the most populous city in India, is known for its beaches. Despite being surrounded by water, the people of Mumbai don't get to enjoy its beaches due to coastal pollution, piles of trash and sewage contamination which have made the beaches unsafe for visitors in recent years. Write an article, in about 150 words, on the topic: Marine Pollution: A Crisis in Mumbai's Beaches. You can take hints from the unit Environment of the MCB. You are Sahil Kumar.

SECTION C : GRAMMAR

(10 marks)

- Q7. Complete the tasks A-C , as directed.

- A. Fill in the blanks (a)-(c) with the appropriate option from those in the brackets.

Gauri was only eight years old, but (a) _____ (a/the/an) mountain of family responsibilities had already (b) _____ (descend/descending/descended) (c) _____ (over/on/above) her head as both her parents were dead. 3

B The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction in the space provided against the correct blank number: 4

		Error	Correction
One morning, I finished one business at the bank	e.g.	one	some
and was returning in pick up my motorbike which had left	(a)	_____	_____
in the parking lot outside. Suddenly, he realised that I had	(b)	_____	_____
lost the bike key. Upset, I searched about it in the bank. A	(c)	_____	_____
bank employee tried to help me find it and in vain.	(d)	_____	_____

C Do as directed.

1. Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases in the given dialogue to create a meaningful sentence. 1

Linda will go to London day after tomorrow. There the air is rarefied. It is not advisable to exert for the first 24 hours.

common/for/or two/breathlessness/is/a day

2. Read the conversation given below. Based on your reading, fill in the blanks appropriately. 2

Doctor: I hope you can read.

Patient: You may think it is funny but I can't.

Doctor: Then why should I treat your eyes?

Patient: I believe illiterates too need eyes to see.

The doctor told the patient that he hoped he could read. The patient said that (a)_____. The doctor asked then why he should treat his eyes. The patient replied (b) _____.

SECTION D : LITERATURE TEXTBOOK

(26 marks)

Q8. Read the given excerpts and answer the questions briefly, for ANY TWO excerpts, of the three, given. 4+4

A Read the extract carefully and answer the questions:

How foolish do your fears seem now, Calpurnia!

I am ashamed I did yield to them.

Give me my robe, for I will go.

A. What can be inferred about the speaker's attitude towards the listener?

B. Explain 'I am ashamed I did yield to them'.

C. What prompted Caesar to go where he wanted to go?

D. Why is the listener in fear?

B Read the extract carefully and answer the questions that follow:

And immediately I regretted it.

I thought how paltry, how vulgar, what a mean act!

I despised myself and the voices of my accursed human education.

- A. What **is** the tone of the speaker?
- B. Which **act** of 'his' the speaker calls mean?
- C. What **does** he mean by accursed human education?
- D. Why **did** the poet despise himself?

C Read the extract carefully and answer the questions that follow:

When the **resistance** movement began secretly to form, they were among the first to join. When the war was over and we had peace at last, they came back to their beloved **sister**.

- A. The **word** _____ in the extract is an antonym of war.
- B. Why **did** they join the resistance movement?
- C. What **do** we know about the boys' nature through the above lines?
- D. How **did** they take care of their sister?

Q9 Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in about 30- 40 words each **2x5=10**

- (i) How **does** the poem 'The frog and the nightingale shed light on the various traits of humans?
- (ii) How **did** the other mariners behave towards the Ancient Mariner at first? How many **times** did they change their mind about the Ancient Mariner? What does this **tell** us about their character?
- (iii) Ali **had** lost the zeal to do anything else except to come to the post-office and wait for his name to be announced. Comment.
- (iv) What did Mrs Shultz say at a press conference? Did that miracle happen?
- (v) What does Calpurnia dream about Caesar? How does Decius Brutus interpret the dream?
- (vi) How **does** the ghost undermine the narrator's faith in his ability to write ghost stories?

Q10 Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 150 words. 8

- A) In a **world** that is supposed to be chiefly swayed by hunger and by love, Mrs. Packletide was an exception; her movements and motives were largely guided by her dislike of Loona Bimberton. It's Mrs. Packletide's vanity that made her enact the tiger-hunting drama. Write a letter to your friend telling him the **superficiality** and **hollowness** of those who always try to belittle others by showing off.

OR

- B 'Cowards die many times before their deaths; The valiant never taste of death but **once**. Of all the wonders that I yet have heard. It seems to me most strange that **men** should fear. Seeing that death, a necessary end Will come when it will come.'

It is **true** that a coward dies many times as he sacrifices himself, his respect and his **wishes** many times. But brave people live a life of dignity and die only once. Inspired by this discussion, write a letter to your cousin discussing the value of **bravery** in life. You are Kriti.