

SECTION A

- Read the following passage and answer the questions: [2]
 

An old man with steel-rimmed spectacles and very dusty clothes sat by the side of the road. There was a pontoon bridge across the river and carts, trucks and men, women, and children were crossing it. The mule-drawn carts staggered up the steep bank from the bridge with soldiers helping to push against the spokes of the wheels. The trucks ground up and away heading out of it all. The peasants plodded along in the ankle-deep dust. But the old man sat there without moving. He was too tired to go any farther.

It was my business to cross the bridge explore the bridgehead beyond and find out to what point the enemy had advanced. I did this and returned over the bridge. There were not so many carts now and very few people on foot, but the old man was still there.

Questions:

(1) What was the work of narrator?  
**Ans: The work of the narrator is to look after the movement of the people and to find out to what point the enemy had advanced.**

(2) Give adjective form of: '*moving*', '*enemy*'.  
Who was crossing the bridge?  
**Ans: Carts, trucks and men, women and children were crossing the bridge.**
- Fill in the blanks with appropriate words given below: [2]
 

[*passenger*    *enough*    *simple*    *gone*]

He telegraphed to the shipping office at Rangoon and sure (3)**enough** her name was on the (4)**passenger** list of the ship that was now on its way to Singapore. But he was uneasy, she would have no difficulty in finding out that he had (5)**gone** to Bangkok and it was just as (6)**simple** for her to take the train as it had been for him.
- Answer the following questions. Each question carries 2 marks: [6]
 

(7) What effect did the aptitude test have on the author's schedule?  
**Ans: When the author was in the Army, he received an aptitude test and against a normal of 00, scored 160. There he thought himself to be very intelligent, but his intelligence did not help him anymore. The aptitude test did not have any effect on the author's schedule. The next day he was still a Buck Private (Kitchen Patrol) as his highest duty. He had to work as an assistant of the cook in the mess of army. He had to go to the car-mechanic to get his car repaired.**

(8) Mention Gandhiji's suggestions to Vinoba Bhave regarding diet.  
**Ans: In his letter to Vinoba Bhave, Babu appreciates him as a real son of him and also gives him a few suggestions to him related to his diet. He says that he doesn't see any need for changes in his (Vinoba's) diet just yet. He should not give up milk for the present. On the contrary he may increase the quantity of milk if necessary.**

(9) Where were the fascists advancing?  
**Ans: The *Old Man at the Bridge* portrays the forced war in Spain during 1936-39. The Spanish Fascists were trying to uproot the leftist government. It was Easter Sunday and the Fascists were advancing towards the Ebro. It was a grey overcast with a low ceiling so their planes were not up.**

SECTION - B

- Read and comprehend the following verses and answer the questions following it: [2]
 

*The People along the sand  
All turn and look one way.  
They turn their back on the land,  
They look at the sea all day.*

(10) According to the poet, where are the people and what are they doing?  
**Ans: In these verses, the poet observes that people are along the sand at the seashore. All turn and look one way toward the sea. They turn their back on the land and look at the sea all the day.**

(11) What is the location of this setup and why?  
**Ans: The location of this scene is seashore. As in the last line, it is noted they look at the sea all day.**
- Name and explain the figures of speech in the following lines: [2]
 

(12) *The land may vary more; But wherever the truth may be*  
**Ans: Alliteration-'m' is repeated in the words 'may' and 'more' and 'b'**

**Is repeated in 'but' and 'be'.**

**Synecdoche-'land' represents all the forms of the land.**

(13) **Throwing giant scorpion shadows; They searched for him.**

**Ans: Alliteration-'s' is repeated in 'scorpion', 'Shadows' and 'search'.**

**Hyperbole-Exaggeration in comparing the shadows with 'scorpion'.**

- Answer the following questions:

(14) Reflect on the theme of the poem '*Neither Out Far Nor In Deep*'.

**Ans: The poem is set at a sea side. The poet observes the people out on the beach on day just starrng curiously at the water. They ignore the land from which they come, and look at the ocean out of the sense of wonder. The people search For the truth and try to find out by looking out in the unchanging sea. But the fact is that the real source of truth is the land they have discarded and disregarded. They turn their back on the land what they can see are ships out on the ocean passing to an unknown destination.**

OR

Discuss and list rational versus irrational ideas in '*Night of the Scorpion*'.

Answer:

➤ **Lines from the poem: 'Night of the scorpion' that represent irrational ideas :**

- a) The peasants.....buzzed the name of God hundred times to paralyze the Evil one.**
- b) With every moment that the scorpion made his poison moved in mother's blood.**
- c) May the sins of your previous birth be burned away tonight.**
- d) May your suffering decrease the misfortune of the next birth.**
- e) May the poison purify your flesh of desire, and your spirit of ambition.**

➤ **Lines from the poem that represent rational ideas :**

- a) My father, sceptic, rationalist, trying every curse and blessing, powder, mixture, herb, hybrid.**
- b) He even poured a little paraffin upon the bitten toe and put a match to it.**

- Answer the following questions:

(15) Why is Eiffel called the father of modern steel construction?

**Answer: Monsieur Eiffel built some of the world's biggest bridges with daring techniques that revolutionized bridge design. Histechniques started the transition from the era of stone and wood to the modern era of steel and concrete. Most of the engineering principles were stemmedfrom the masterpieces build by Eiffel. Garonne Bridge, Maria-Pia bridge, Statue of Liberty, and the Eiffel tower that was named after him. Thus he is rightly called the father of modern steel construction.**

(16) What made breeze come back to the old building? (*Breeze in the Old Building*):

**Answer: For very long time, Breeze had been away from the old building. One day she flew inside and was greeted by friends. Her uncle Storm-Beaten asked her what brought her inside. She replied that it was terrible outside and that she almost suffocated herself to death with poison all around her. Her days were miserable outside. All her friends were in the building, and she has not met them for many years so she came there to see them all.**

### SECTION C

- Read the following passage and rectify the errors: (17-18)

To learn something new every day is a gift. You realize this **but - only**if your mind is open to the world and to the life **on - in** general.

- Identify the idioms in the given sentences and rewrite them using correct options:[2]

(19) I saw them all, but I could not pick him up. (identify, spot, see)

**I saw them all, but I could not spot him.**

(20) The project has a steep deadline, and I fear I will not succeed in it. (lose out on, break out on, punch out on)

**The project has a steep deadline, and I fear I will lose out on it.**

- Punctuate the following paragraph: (21-24)

(comma, semicolon, colon, full-stop, exclamation/question marks, apostrophe, quotes, double quotes, etc.)

**Kerala is a wonderful state, the atmosphere is pleasant and it always feel's warm there. the landscape has the following elements, coconut trees, beach's, sand, rivers and boats.**

**Kerala is a wonderful state. The atmosphere is pleasant and it always feels warm there. The landscape has the following elements: Coconut trees, beaches, sand, rivers and boats.**

- (25) Turn the following into reported speech:

Then the auto-repairman said smugly, I have been trying that on my customers today.

Did you catch many? I asked.

"Quite a few", he said, "But I knew for sure I'd catch you."

Ans: **The the auto-repairman said smugly that he had been trying that on his customers that day. I asked how many had he caught? He replied that he had caught quite a few, but he knew for sure that he would catch me.**

• Do as directed:

(26) None can avoid death. (make it interrogative)

**Who can avoid death?**

(27) I am not sure about his honesty. (make it affirmative)

**I am doubtful about his honesty.**

[2]

## SECTION D

• Paraphrase the following poem and answer the following questions:

[4]

*I remember, I remember,  
The house where I was born,  
The little window where the sun  
Came peeping in at morn;  
He never came a wink too soon,  
Nor brought too long a day,  
But now, I often wish the night  
Had borne my breath away*

Questions:

(28) What does the poet portray?

Ans: **The poet portrays a house where he was born.**

(29) What, according to the poet, always came in time?

Ans: **According to the poet, sun always came in time.**

(30) Identify the figure of speech: "He never came a wink too soon."

**Litotes: Negation is used by the poet to emphasize that the sun never came late.**

(31) What does the poet wish?

Ans: **The poet wish that he would die that night.**

(32) A seminar on environmental day is to be held in your school.

[3]

Prepare notes for the same.

- **Beginning of speech**
  - Address to people, according to their seniority, and then to the general public, here students.
  - Name, class
  - Purpose of our gathering
  - Purpose of this speech
- **Introduction to E.D.**
  - Reason to celebrate
    - solve env. issues
    - Other names
      - Eco Day
      - WED
  - Celebrated with lots of creative activities
  - Bring positive changes
  - Aim - protect the env. - keeping it safe and healthy
- **Ways of its celebration**
  - Globally
  - More than 100 countries
  - Cannot be solved individually
  - UNEP – run by United Nations
- **Annual celebration**
- **First time celebration**
  - 1973
  - Theme – "Only One Earth"
- **Focus of celebration**
  - Carbon neutrality
  - Forest management
  - Managing greenhouse effect
  - Biofuels - promoting
  - Hydropower – electricity
  - Solar
    - water heaters
    - Solar systems
  - Coral reefs – preservation
- **Ending**
  - What if we fail – pass to next generation
  - Goal
    - Clean, safe, undisturbed
    - Flora fauna
  - End salutation
    - Healthy environment, happy future!

- (33) You are Arun/Aruna Chaudhry. Write an indented letter to State Bank of India [3] informing that you have lost a cheque-book and request them to issue a new one.

**ArunChaudhry**  
51, Parth Society  
AV Road  
Anand – 388001

The Manager,  
State Bank of India Anand Main Branch  
AV Road,  
Anand - 388001

Respected Sir,

**Subject : Cheque book request.**

I am having a salary account in the main branch here at your State Bank of India Anand Branch. I have come close to using the last 2-3 cheques as of now. I would like to upgrade myself for a new cheque book. Kindly make arrangement that I receive the same via post to my doorstep as soon as possible.

Thanking you,

Yours Faithfully,

Arun Chaudhry.

#### SECTION E

- (34) Write a report on "An Inter-Class Singing Competition" arranged in your school. [4]  
Anand, January 21, 2019 : About a month ago, we heard about a singing competition that was to be held in our school. The grand day for competition was declared as January 2. So many students from class 1 to 12 participated in it. There were classifications of groups according to the participants age and standards. Several of our class students with nice singing talent registered for their entry too. There were 2 judges invited for the event. They were reputed personality in music industry. Before the day, all the participants were busy practicing in respected classes. At last, the much awaited event started at around 1 o'clock in the afternoon. After the opening ceremony, the primary section kids started singing and then followed the middle standards and at last 10th-12th. Most of the students sang with their beautiful voices. One of the judge sang a song in his wonderful voice and the other gave a brief speech on encouraging students to learn music. Then they gave results of the winners group wise. The singing competition was a grand success, and we enjoyed a lot on this day.
- (35) Write an essay on any one of the following topics in about 250 words: [6]  
WONDERS OF SCIENCE:  
[Science as gift, electricity, etc. – communication – medical advancements – limitations – conclusion]

The modern age is the age of Science. It is progressing in every field of life. It is the greatest boon and blessing to mankind. It has made our life easier and comfortable. It is our lifeline. Science is playing an important part in our daily life. It has magic power. It has changed the lifestyle man. We can say that science it is our good servant and we cannot live without it. Science has given us many things that were impossible for us. There are many wonders of science such as electricity, television, computer etc.

Electricity is the greatest invention of science. It has brought the revolution in man's life. It serves us many ways. It lights our houses, Road and offices. It gives us cool and warm air. It runs our machines, factories, and workshops. Without electricity, our life is a burden.

Science has given us many fastest means of transport buses, cars and airplane have made our travels easier and more comfortable now a day scientists have reached on the moon and another planet by the space shuttle. With the help of telephone, wireless, telegraphy, fax Email, and internet the world shrunk into a small village. Now -a- days mobile has changed the lifestyle of a man

If we can say that science is our faithful servant. It has created a new society. It has given us scientific outlook. It is the back boon of our progress. Today we can live without it. Man is the called the master of the world because of science, so it should be used for benefit of mankind.

OR

**IMPORTANCE OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE:  
[international stand – universality – commerce – knowledge base –  
importance in our country – conclusion**

**The importance of English cannot be underestimated. In today's era, English is universal language. It is a boon to the world as it serves as a standard language in international communications. So much of business and commerce is possible today through this medium. It has become the favourite language of not only the businessmen but all people who need to communicate internationally.**

**English has the largest knowledge base compared to any other language in the world. That is to say, if you know English, you have access to any and everything in the world to fill up your minds with knowledge. English has come to stay as one of our own languages. There are scores of writers writing in English. There are many Indians who have achieved international acclaim by writing novels in English.**

**In our nation there are many languages, but English is the unifying language in India. E.g. the mother tongue of the Punjabis is different that of the Tamils, and English only becomes the standard of communication. Many of us Indians know English. We study English in our schools and colleges. In the technical institutions, in the engineering colleges and in the medical colleges, English is the medium of instruction. So far there are no regional language textbooks for the engineering and medical colleges.**

**English as an international language has benefited us in many ways and it is undoubted that with our knowledge of English we are able to seek employment outside our country and earn well.**