

2011
GENERAL ENGLISH

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 150

Note: Attempt all the questions.

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: 20

One day while Galileo was aimlessly walling about in the streets of Pisa, he happened to stop in front of the great cathedral. He looked at the beautiful arches as though he were seeing them for the first time. He had passed them by often, but never really taken much notice of them. Almost without thinking he entered the cathedral, perhaps to look more closely at its magnificent interior, perhaps, to pray. We shall never know, but we do know that as he stepped into the calm, serene quiet of the church, he was unknowingly coming to the turning-point in his life.

Galileo sat down on a bench and looked around at the beautiful alter, the colourful mosaics and the marble pillars that had been brought from Greek and Roman ruins to build the cathedral hundreds of years ago. Suddenly, something moving caught his eye. Some workmen, who were making repairs in the building, had set the great lamp swinging.

Fascinated, Galileo rose and watched it. Strange ! It started swinging in a wide arc, but as the arc of its swing became smaller, its swinging became slower. He put the fingers of this right hand to the pulse on his left wrist, as he had been taught in medical school. To the regular beating of his pulse, he began timing the swinging of the lamp. Stranger still ! No matter what the size of the arc, the time it took for the lamp to make one complete wing was the same ! Even though, after a while, the swinging of the lamp slowed down considerably, it made no difference in the total time it took to cover the distance of the arc.

- (i) Which words tell us that Galileo had no special reason fro waling in the streets of Pisa?
- (ii) What did Galileo do after entering the church?
- (iii) How do we know that Galileo is not seeing the arches for the first time?

- (iv) Why did Galileo enter the cathedral?
- (v) What did Galileo observe Suddenly?
- (vi) What did Galileo notice about the lamp?
- (vii) How did he calculate the time of the swinging?
- (viii) Where did he learn this method of calculation?
- (ix) Which three words describe the atmosphere inside the church?
- (x) What was the discovery that Galileo made after observing the lamp?

2. Read the passage given below and make a précis of it in one-third its original length. Give an appropriate title for the passage. Use the special sheets for writing the précis.

15

Environmental pollution is, generally, the poisoning of the Earth's air, water and soil. Usually, pollution is caused by man. The fuels man burns for power give off poisonous water products into the air. His industries dump their water products into streams and his garbage befouls land and water. When large enough quantities of water pollute the environment, all living things can be harmed and even destroyed.

The word pollution comes from the Latin word "polluere" meaning to befoul or make unclean. It refers to both impurities and upsets in the natural environment. Until the twentieth century, pollution almost always involved air or water. But now other aspects of the environment are polluted as well. When large hoardings with advertisements mar the scenic beauty of a landscape, when pesticides enter the food chains of animals, and when loud noises disturb a neighbourhood's peace and quiet, pollution occurs.

What is considered pollution in one situation may be useful elsewhere, however. Organic wastes that pollute waterway, for instance, can be beneficial if used in a field as fertilizer. But in general pollution interferes with the environments' capacity to support different forms of life (190 words)

3. Read the sentences given below. Rearrange them in sequential order to form a meaningful and logical paragraph. 10

- (i) One day, after hunting down a buffalo and having a hearty meal, the lion was returning to his cave.
- (ii) "Please accept me as your servant."
- (iii) The jackal was indeed happy, as he never had to go in search of food in the dense forest.
- (iv) He met a jackal on the way, who came to him and said, "O king, you are the mightiest of all animals."
- (v) Soon, the starving jackal became fat and strong.
- (vi) Although he was strong he never troubled other animals without reason.
- (vii) From that day onwards, the jackal served the lion and in return always had a full meal from the leftovers.
- (viii) In ancient India, a huge lion lived in the forest of the Himalayan mountain ranges.
- (ix) The lion was kind and said, "As you wish, o jackal."
- (x) The jackal was smart because he knew he would not have to hunt any more, and would live on the leftovers of lions' meals.

4. Correct any ten of the following sentences: 20

- (i) I would like to leave a message for Mr. Paul.
- (ii) My father, Mr. Alam Khan had been gone Mumbai yesterday.
- (iii) Could you help me, please?
- (iv) There are the tallest buildings than this in Bengaluru.
- (v) Did you ever go to Srisailem?
- (vi) The weather will be warm here always.
- (vii) Kavitha is having a new mobile phone.
- (viii) Two of our friends selected to play in the cricket team.
- (ix) He knows many famous actors.
- (x) Dogs can be easily trained.
- (xi) One of her daughters is a singer.

5. Give synonyms of any ten of the following:

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- (i) arrive
- (ii) heavy
- (iii) tiny
- (iv) speak
- (v) clean
- (vi) answer
- (vii) delete
- (viii) costly
- (ix) delay
- (x) huge
- (xi) happy
- (xii) quick

6. Given antonyms of any ten of the following

10

- (i) old
- (ii) alive
- (iii) inside
- (iv) busy
- (v) easy
- (vi) early
- (vii) wrong
- (viii) useless
- (ix) dark
- (x) fat
- (xi) brave
- (xii) noisy

7. Fill in the blanks in any ten of the following sentences using suitable articles/prepositions/conjunctions:

10

- (i) We made a hole in the paper _____ put it into the box.

- (ii) Making dolls is one of _____ oldest craft of the world.
- (iii) He looked like _____ average Indian student in his jeans and T-shirt.
- (iv) They lived _____ simple life.
- (v) Boiling water gives _____ water vapour in the form of steam.
- (vi) Ruhul worked very hard _____ did not get more marks than Vani.
- (vii) Vidya saw _____ taxi coming towards her at great speed.
- (viii) I'm so sad that my lamp is broken _____ bits.'
- (ix) How many hours will this train take _____ here to Pune?
- (x) _____ we had a holiday I went to my office to collect some papers.
- (xi) Sridhar _____ Shabir joined the college football team.
- (xii) We could not eat the cake _____ there were ants in it.

8. Write the correct spelling of any ten of the following :

10

- (i) recieved
- (ii) advirtisemint
- (iii) pychology
- (iv) benifit
- (v) comunication
- (vi) sistemeticaly
- (vii) encyklopedia
- (viii) acheivment
- (ix) mystireus
- (x) dessapearing
- (xi) fourbiden
- (xii) admmition

9. Make sentences with five of the following pairs of words clearly bringing out the difference in meaning between the two words. Choose any five of the pairs. 10

- (i) mind (as verb) - mind (as noun)
- (ii) wind (as verb) - wind (as noun)
- (iii) fast (as noun) - fast (as adverb)
- (iv) red - read

- (v) waste - waist
- (vi) here - here
- (vii) present (as noun) – present (as verb)

10. Give appropriate one-word substitutes for any five of the following expressions: 5

- (i) to change from one language to another
- (ii) returning sound
- (iii) that which can be seen
- (iv) of the nation
- (v) one who cannot read and write
- (vi) that which cannot be eaten
- (vii) state in which no sounds are heard

11. Use any ten of the following idiomatic expressions in sentences of your own making the meaning clear:

- (i) to stab in the back
- (ii) at the eleventh hour
- (iii) all of a sudden
- (iv) to call back
- (v) as feather in one's cap
- (vi) raining cats and dogs
- (vii) shed crocodiles tears
- (viii) hand in glove
- (ix) better late than never
- (x) butter someone up
- (xi) sour grapes
- (xii) to split hairs

12. Insert appropriate punctuation marks in the following sentences:

5

The teacher said you children over there can you hear me what are you doing are you listening to me

13. In the sentences given below some words are underlined. Identify the parts of speech of the underlined words : 5

- (i) “Do you like coffee?” No, I don’t like it.
- (ii) Seeing a policeman, the cyclist sopped.
- (iii) It was a cloudy and cold day.
- (iv) The traveler showed the inspector his ticket.
- (v) My new pen broke when it fell out of my bag.

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