

2025

ALTERNATIVE ENGLISH

Full Marks : 100

Pass Marks : 33

Time : Three Hours

Read carefully the direction given for each question.

The figures in the right margin indicate full marks for the questions.

Answer the questions in your own words as far as practicable.

SECTION – A
(READING)

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

It is common knowledge that there has been wide deforestation in recent years. According to conservative estimates, five million acres have been denuded of forests. This has brought about widespread climatic change all over the country-leading to recurring drought and other natural calamities. Erosion of top soil in the catchment areas has resulted in the tragedy of yearly flooding of our major rivers. And flood control measures have not been effective because those have been limited to superficial remedies like building embankments rather than rectifying the root cause by starting a vigorous afforestation drive. Deforestation of our hills, in particular, has led to soil erosion and landslides on unprecedented scale, threatening the survival of some of our popular hill stations.

The population increase has not spared the hills. In the towns more and more areas are being cleared to make room for houses and roads are being built in the fond hope of carrying the fruits of development to the hinterland. This is inevitable, of course, but it need not have been indiscriminately, without a thought to the

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negative consequences. As things are, the natural drainage of these areas has been upset and water seeping into bare earth has led to slipping and sinking of land. Piped water which is being introduced in hills townships without developing adequate drainage facilities has also added to the threat of rapid erosion, parts of Shimla have long been sinking and now the ancient pilgrim town of Joshinath, too, seems to be facing extinction.

- (a) Describe the extent of deforestation in India. 2
- (b) What has been the result of deforestation? 2
- (c) Why the flood control measures failed in our country? 2
- (d) How does population increase affect the hill? 2
- (e) How does the introduction of water pipes add to the threat of soil erosion in the hills? 2
- (f) Find out word(s) from the passage which has the same meaning with the following :
 - (i) Happening repeatedly 1
 - (ii) Thoughtlessly 1

2. *Read the following passage carefully and answer the question that follows in about 60 words.*

Receiving no reply from his parents, the child looked round for them, but in vain. This frightened him so much that he burst into tears and began to run about here and there wildly, shouting for them loudly. This continued for days. His voice became shrill and his clothes became muddy with dust and sweat.

What would you do at the situation if you were the child who lost his parents?

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SECTION – B
(WRITING SKILLS)

3. *Note : All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose only.*

- (a) You are Rabi/Rita, the Managing Director of Hotel Naini. You require a lady receptionist for your hotel. Draft an advertisement for the situation vacant column of a local daily stating your requirements regarding age, sex, qualification, experience etc. 4

Or

- (b) You are Nitish/ Neha, the founder of Kite Tutorial Center, Khumbong. You are planning to start a revision course for all subjects of class XII very soon. Draft an attractive poster to be displayed in different public places. Invent the necessary details. 4

4. (a) You are Medha/Reba, the student editor of Malika Higher Secondary School, Takyel. Your school recently organized the Annual School Week-2025. Students from different classes joined different activities. Write a report on the same to be published in your school magazine. Invent all necessary details to make a good report. 5

Or

- (b) You are Samjai/Sonakshi, a staff reporter of Morning Star Daily. You have witnessed the final football match in between CROU and IWSC Football Academy at Khuman Lampak Football Stadium. Write a news report to be published in your local daily. 5

5. *Amplify any one of the following topics :* 4

- (a) Where there is a will, there is a way.
(b) A man is known by the company he keeps.

6. (a) You are Sanahanbi/James, the games and sports secretary of IYF Club, Moirang. Write a letter to the honourable Sports Minister, Government of Manipur, requesting him to grant some sports items for your club with a view of strengthening and developing youths of Moirang. 5

Or

- (b) You are Debita of Lamlong, Imphal. You have a friend, Nandita, at Manipuri Basti, Guwahati, Assam. Write a letter to her asking for a good educational institution in Assam where you can continue your higher studies by living together with her. 5
7. Write an essay on anyone of the following topics in about 150 words. 7

- (a) Role of students in curbing pollution
(b) Fate of people under incompetent leaders
(c) Role of social media in the present world

8. (a) Change the voice of the following sentence :

Quinine tastes bitter. 1

- (b) Insert a suitable determiner in the following sentence and rewrite it.

He did not eat rice, but I ate some. 1

9. Four alternatives marked (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) are given for the following questions. Choose the best option from the alternatives given to answer the questions.

- (a) The school bellbefore I reached school. 1

(i) rang

(ii) had rung

(iii) has rung

(iv) had been ringing

- (b) Neither Kapil nor the other applicants fit for the post. 1
- (i) is (ii) was
(iii) are (iv) has
- (c) There aren't apples in the cupboard. There are a lot of mangoes. 1
- (i) any (ii) some
(iii) few (iv) little
- (d) God helps those who help themselves. 1
- (i) This is a simple sentence.
(ii) This is a compound sentence.
(iii) This is a complex sentence.
(iv) This is an adverb clause.
- (e) The cunning brown fox jumped over the high wall. 1
- (i) The underlined portion is a phrase.
(ii) The underlined portion is a clause.
(iii) The underlined portion is a sentence.
(iv) The underlined portion is a phrasal verb.
- (f) The appropriate question tag of "I shall go there,.....?" 1
- (i) Shall I? (ii) Will I?
(iii) Won't I? (iv) Shan't I?

(g) She always scores good marks. She be very intelligent. 1

(i) Ought to

(ii) Need to

(iii) Must

(iv) May

(h) "A collection of girls" is called – 1

(i) A grove of girls

(ii) A bevy of girls

(iii) A bunch of girls

(iv) A flock of girls

SECTION – C

(PROSE)

10. Answer the following question in about 100-120 words.

(a) "Today medical science is still advancing, but it is becoming harder and harder to apply its results in practice."

What does Haldane feel about the possibility of complete extinction of diseases? 5

Or

(b) "Sometimes we read about past periods of history which seem to be better than ours, more cultured and civilized even, and this makes us doubt if our world is going forward or backward." Why does Nehru feel doubt if the world is going forward or backward? 5

11. Answer any two from the following questions in about 40 words each.

(a) Why does J.B. Priestley think that there are people among us who don't seem to belong to the human race? 3

(b) "Eat it quickly my child, otherwise..." What fear did Gafur have in feeding Mahesh? 3

(c) How did the king gain his enemy for a friend? 3

12. Answer any five from the following questions in about 30 words each :

- (a) Why did the king pretend to be an ordinary man when he went to the hermit? 2
- (b) Why did Gafur lose his power of speech at the cruel accusation of the priest? 2
- (c) Why did Gafur leave his village, Kashipur? 2
- (d) What thought cheers up Nehru's sad heart? 2
- (e) Why does J.B. Priestley think that the present age is a curious age? 2
- (f) Why does Haldane call scientific point of view God's eye view? 2

13. Answer the following questions in one phrase/sentence each.

- (a) Who is the most important person according to the hermit? 1
- (b) How long did Mahesh serve Gafur? 1

14. You are given a statement and a reason with four alternatives marked (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) for the following questions. Choose the best option from the alternatives based on the lessons.

(a) Statement : Nehru says that some animals are superior to man in certain ways.

Reason : The tests of civilizations like mutual co-operation and sacrifice for the good of the society are with them. 1

- (i) Both the statement and the reason are correct but the reason is not the correct reason of the statement.
- (ii) Both the statement and the reason are correct and the reason is the correct reason of the statement.
- (iii) The statement is correct but the reason is wrong.
- (iv) The statement is wrong but the reason is correct.

(b) Statement : J.B. Priestley calls demonstrations of students as Idiot Processions.

Reason : Students don't have any political enthusiasm but a frenzied delight in destruction. 1

- (i) The statement is right but the reason is wrong.
- (ii) The statement is wrong but the reason is right.
- (iii) Both the statement and the reason are right.
- (iv) Both the statement and the reason are wrong.

SECTION – D

(POETRY)

15. *Explain the following extract with reference to the context in about 100-120 words :*

(a) “Then can I drown an eye, unused to flow,
For precious friends hid in death's dateless night,
And weep afresh love's long-since cancell'd woe,
And moan the expense of many a vanish'd sight.” 5

Or

(b) “I loved to choose and see my path; but now
Lead Thou me on,
I loved the garish day, and spite of fears,
Pride ruled my will; remember not past years.” 5

16. *Answer any two from the following questions in about 40 words each.*

(a) How did the fate of the patriot change in a year? 3

- (b) How did the spider kill the moth in the poem, 'The Design'? 3
- (c) How does the poet pass his days of sorrow and joy according to his poem, 'The Silent Steps'? 3

17. Answer any five from the following questions in about 30 words each.

- (a) "Wilt thou forgive that sin where I begun," What does Donne mean by it? 2
- (b) How does the poet of 'Quite Life' want to die? 2
- (c) How, according to John Keats, is the life of a man in his declining years? 2
- (d) "I babble on the pebbles?" What does the poet mean by it? 2
- (e) How did the condemned patriot try to console himself before his execution? 2
- (f) How does Robert Frost describe the dead wings in his poem, 'Design'? 2

18. Answer the following questions in one phrase/sentence each.

- (a) When, according to Tagore, does God come to the devotees? 1
- (b) "Then can drown an eye." When does the poet shed tears? 1

19. You are given a statement and a reason with four alternatives marked (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) for the following questions. Choose the best option from the alternatives based on the lessons.

- (a) Assertion : Cardinal Newman prayed God to lead him on amid the encircling gloom.

Reason : He was far from home but lost in the darkness of ignorance.

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- (i) The statement is correct but the reason is wrong.
- (ii) The statement is wrong but the reason is correct.

(iii) Both the statement and the reason are wrong.

(iv) Both the statement and the reason are correct.

(b) Assertion : The brook said, "I chatter and chatter, as I flow to join the brimming river".

Reason : "For men may come and men may go, but I go on forever."

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(i) Both the statement and the reason are right.

(ii) Both the statement and the reason are wrong.

(iii) The statement is right but the reason is wrong.

(iv) The statement is wrong but the reason is right.