

Part - I
ENGLISH

Maximum : 80 Scores

Time : 2½ Hours
Cool off time : 15 Minutes

General Instructions to Candidates :

- There is a 'Cool off time' of 15 minutes in addition to the writing time of 2½ hrs.
- You are neither allowed to write your answers nor to discuss anything with others during the 'cool off time'.
- Read the questions carefully before answering.
- All questions are compulsory and only internal choice is allowed.
- When you select a question, all the sub-questions must be answered from the same question itself.
- Electronic devices except nonprogrammable calculators are not allowed in the Examination Hall.

1. "There were white wires hanging down from their ears, or tucked into pockets, purses or jackets. The eyes were a little vacant. Each was in his or her own musical world...."

Looking at the i-Pod people, Andrew Sullivan commented like this in his essay, 'Is Society Dead'.

You would like to post a similar comment in your social networking site. Draft the comment about the new generation, who has become addicts of mobile phones and such gadgets. (2)

2. Read the following notice. Certain words are left blank. Complete the notice by supplying the correct form of the verbs given in brackets.

Notice

All students of Plus Two (ask) to return the library books on or before 28th February. Those who fail to return books (not give) admit cards for the Final Examination. (2)

- (Q. 3 to 5) : Read the following excerpt from the story, 'The Serang of Ranaganji' and answer the following questions.

"The huntress from Cheltenham swung round, bent her wit, her fascinations upon me. Where did you keep him during the entire voyage. Doctor dear? In a special cage?"

3. Who is referred to as 'huntress' here? (1)
4. Who does she speak about in the passage? (1)
5. What do you learn about the lady's character from this comment? (2)
6. On seeing his friends Ivan and Bourkin, Aliokin made the following comments. Report the dialogue.

'You cannot imagine how glad I am to see you, gentlemen', said Aliokin, coming after them into the hall. 'Pelagueya', he said to the maid, 'give my friends a change of clothes'. Then, walking to the bathing shed he asked, 'wouldn't you like to come to the bathing shed?' (3)

7. Bring out the message of the lines from the poem, 'If' by Rudyard Kipling.

"If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,

Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
 And stoop to build them up with worn-out tools
 ...you'll be a Man, my son!"

(3)

8. Most people believe that walking is a good physical exercise. They raise the following arguments to substantiate their view.

- Walking strengthens heart and reduces risk of heart disease and stroke.
- Walking helps lose weight as 75 calories of fat are burned by walking at 2mph for 30 minutes.
- Walking gives energy and a brisk walk is one of the best natural energizers around

But you support Max Beerbohm who objects walking for walking's sake. What arguments would you raise to contradict those who support walking? Write three points which explains why you hate walking.

(3)

9. Choose appropriate words from the box to complete the captain's briefing of a balloon journey.

After, while, although, along, probably, but

- (a)..... briefing a balloon journey which they were just about to start, the pilot said, 'there are no seats, forget seat belts, no emergency exits, no engines, no life jackets or oxygen masks; only a landing stance that one must take when told to do so. The destination is unknown,
- (b)..... an open field with no obstructions, somewhere on the outskirts of the town.
- (c)..... the take off is smooth and (d) you know it, you are floating in the air, rising steadily'.

(4)

10. Here is a time line of Albert Einstein's life. Go through it carefully and prepare his short profile.

- 1879 Born to Hermann Einstein and Pauline in Ulm, Germany.
- 1895 Joins High School
- 1896 Graduates from High School and enrolls at the ETH (the Federal Polytechnic School) in Zurich.
- 1900 Graduates from the ETH.
- 1905 Publishes, five groundbreaking papers, miracle year-introduces theory of relativity and another $E = mc^2$.
- 1912 Moves to Zurich, becomes Professor of Theoretical Physics at the ETH.
- 1915 General theory of relativity.
- 1917 Collapses from exhaustion, falls seriously ill.
- 1921 Nobel Prize in Physics.
- 1955 Dies of heart failure on April 18. (5)

11. Greta, in the story, 'Conceptual Fruit', reminds us that everything we do—every therapy, encouraging word, smile or care will make a difference in the life of differently abled children. What type of schooling, do you think, is good for such children—mainstream schools or special schools? Imagine that you want to communicate your views about this to the public. Draft an e-mail to the editor of a leading newspaper.

(Hints : Not enough adaptive and cognitive skills – fail to follow group instructions – requires greater attention and individual care – need support from allied health professionals) (4)

12. The passengers on board the ship, 'Titanic', were really moved by the heroism of the crew, who were duty-bound even at the face of death. Narrate the tragic end of the Titanic, from the point of view of one of the passengers who got escaped the wreck. (4)

13. "Then Jovis nudges me; he fears to frighten his happy, quiet passengers, for he knows full well that a storm is pursuing us", says Maupassant. Here we see the trait of an ideal leader in the captain. What other traits of the captain, as a good team leader, do you find in the story, 'The Trip of Le Horla'? Sketch the character of captain Jovis in about sixty words. (4)

(Q. 14 to 16) : Read the following passage and answer the questions given below.

There is a famous expression in English : "Stop the world, I want to get off!" This expression refers to a feeling of panic, or stress 'Stress' means pressure or tension. It is one of the most common causes of health problems in modern life.

There are numerous physical effects of stress. Stress can affect the heart, the respiratory system and the stomach. Emotions are also easily affected by stress. Stress can make people angry, moody, or nervous. Long-term stress can lead to a variety of serious mental illnesses. Addictions often develop as a result of one's efforts to relieve stress.

It is obvious that stress is a serious problem. It attacks the body. It affects the emotions. Untreated, it may eventually result in mental illness. Stress has a great influence on the health and well-being of our bodies, our feelings, and our minds.

14. Which one of the following is NOT a common problem caused by stress?
 a) Physical problems
 b) Mental problems
 c) Anecdotal problems
 d) Emotional problems (1)
15. Choose the best answer to explain how alcoholism is caused by stress.
 a) Alcohol is used to relieve stress
 b) Alcohol is popular
 c) Alcohol is a chemical
 d) Alcohol is similar to medicine (1)
16. Why is it said that one should reduce stress and rest for sometime? (3)

17. Wordsworth's poem 'To Sleep' tells us how important it is to have a sound sleep in order to remain mentally and physically fit. But we know that getting a good night's sleep requires more than crawling into bed and closing your eyes. Write a short article on 'Sleep', in about seventy-five words, for your school magazine. (4)
18. Mr. Gupta, in the story, 'The Price of Flowers' attracts everybody's attention. Imagine that he visits your town for an official meeting of the civil service officers. He has consented to give you an appointment to interview him. Prepare five questions you would like to ask him. (5)
19. Certain highlights of a terrorist attack, sent by a reporter from abroad, are given below. Imagine that you are a journalist in the bureau. Develop the highlights into a news report to be published in your newspaper.

Terrorist attack in Paris

serial attack at six centres

chance for further attacks,
says terror group

128 killed, many casualties

mastermind of attack identified

police and force in action

NGOs also on rescue; nation pays homage

OR

OR

Natural Disasters usually creates havoc and misery. This year monsoon turns out be a bad omen for the poor residents of Kuttanad.

Certain highlights of the flood affected Kuttanad, sent by a reporter, are given below. Imagine that you are a journalist in the bureau. Develop the highlights into a news report to be published in your newspaper.

Kerala's rice bowl' hit by floods

2 killed over 2,000 homes damaged

50 per cent of the crops destroyed

sanitary facilities collapsed- roads washed away

electricity failed-lack of clean drinking water

rescue works in progress

(6)

20. "I shall work for an India in which... all communities shall live in perfect harmony.... This is the India of my dreams", says Mahatma Gandhi. How far has his dream been realized? Keeping in mind the relevance of Mahatma Gandhi's dreams in the present scenario, prepare an essay on the topic 'Importance of religious tolerance in national integration'.

OR

"I shall work for an India in which... there can be no room for the curse of intoxicating drinks and drugs.... This is the India of my dreams", says Mahatma Gandhi. How far has his dream been realized? Keeping in mind the relevance of Mahatma Gandhi's dreams in the present scenario, prepare an essay on the topic 'Increasing drug abuse-a menace of the day'.

(6)

21. The literary club of your school has decided to celebrate Dr. Kalam's birthday as World Students' Day. In connection with the celebrations, the club is conducting an oratory training programme for higher secondary students to develop their skill and eloquence in public speaking. You, being the secretary of the club, are asked to deliver a speech to motivate them. Draft the script of the speech you would like to deliver there in the light of your reading of the story, 'His First Flight'.

(8)

22. Read the poem Azure and Gold by Amy Lowell and prepare a note of appreciation.

Azure and Gold

by *Amy Lowell*

April had covered the hills
 With flickering yellows and reds,
 The sparkle and coolness of snow
 Was blown from the mountain beds.

Across a deep-sunken stream
 The pink of blossoming trees,
 And from windless appleblooms
 The humming of many bees.

The air was of rose and gold
 Arabesqued with the song of birds
 Who, swinging unseen under leaves,
 Made music more eager than words.

Blue-birds so blue, 't was a dream,
 An impossible, unconceived hue,
 The high sky of summer dropped down
 Some rapturous ocean to woo.

Such a colour, such infinite light!
 The heart of a fabulous gem,
 Many-faceted, brilliant and rare.
 Centre Stone of the earth's diadem!

Centre Stone of the Crown of the World,
 "Sincerity" graved on your youth!
 And your eyes hold the blue-bird flash,
 The sapphire shaft, which is truth.

(azure = bright blue colour; flicker = shine; arabesque = dancing posture; hue = colour; rapturous = joyous; woo = try to gain a woman's love; diadem = jeweled crown)

(8)