

**CLASS: XII**  
**MID-TERM EXAMINATION 2023-24**  
**SUBJECT: ENGLISH (CORE)**  
**SET- B1/B2**  
**MARKING SCHEME/SOLUTIONS**

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

**General Instructions:**

1. This paper is divided into three sections: A, B and C. All the sections are **compulsory**.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.  
Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

**SECTION A – Reading**

**22**

**I . Read the passage given below:**

**12**

1. People, being what they are, get practical about creating their own currency as long as it is honoured. In Africa, sea shells were used until the 19th century as money. Gold practically useless, but known for its short supply and lasting quality, has been the most popular non-currency form of money and is a standard for central banks.
2. Now in the age of the internet and digital technologies, money is undergoing an exciting makeover with talk of virtual currencies, mobile wallets and software apps that pretty much do what gold has been doing for centuries and currency notes have been doing for a while. Technologies such as near-field communications are being used to make the mobile phone an instrument of payment without the customer having to sign a credit card voucher, thus making it more secure.
3. Software apps are generally being developed to substitute for money in various ways. Some companies like Starbucks allow ‘digital tipping’ of its baristas through a mobile app. Pre-paid cash cards are used as swipe instruments where customers do not need credit cards or bank accounts. The NextGen ATM machines will recognize your face through facial biometric technologies.
4. Bitcoin, the most popular virtual currency, started circulating in 2009. Its current market value has been estimated at around \$8 billion, with about 80,000 transactions occurring daily, according to reputable accounting firms. However, Washington’s Internal Revenue Service ruled that Bitcoin is not a currency but more like property — and thus subject to capital gains tax.

5. Meanwhile other virtual currencies are taking off — and influencing politics. In Iceland, which saw its banking system more or less wiped out, during the 2008 global financial crisis, there emerged the euro coin, a new currency, now estimated to be worth \$11.37 billion. This currency is aimed at fighting capital controls imposed by the Iceland government.
6. Cryptocurrencies are a very important milestone in this fight for liberty from political control. They bring the hope of a new era of free currencies immune to the meddling of politicians.
7. In addition, money is undergoing an exciting makeover through innovations galore. Telecom companies the world over, for instance, with support from their central banks are offering customers ‘mobile money’ as a service. Another innovation that is much talked about is the mobile wallet and companies are helping their customers carry the equivalent of cash in their handsets much like one carries a traveller’s cheque.
8. Thus more and more practical solutions are being spawned across the planet to focus not so much on money’s ‘store of value’ but as a medium of exchange.

**1. Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.**

- i. Select the most appropriate option that justifies the statement— (1)

*With mobile phone as an instrument of payment, paying bills has become more secure.*

- (a) Credit Card is the only practical mode of payment.
- (b) Everyone in India is computer and internet literate.
- (c) Digital learning in money is making transactions less fraudulent.
- (d) Gold is the best mode of payment.

**Ans i: (c) Digital learning in money is making transactions less fraudulent.**

- ii. What is the offer being made by telecom companies? (1)

- (a) They are not offering mobile money.
- (b) They are offering support from their respective central banks.
- (c) They are offering mobile money which has the support of their central banks.
- (d) They are offering central banking services.

**Ans ii : (c) They are offering mobile money which has the support of their central banks.**

- iii. How do we know that age of the internet and digital technologies has transformed the use of money? (40 words) (2)

**Ans iii: In the age of the internet and digital technologies, money is undergoing an exciting makeover. Virtual currencies, mobile wallets and software apps are doing what gold has been doing for centuries and currency notes have been doing for a while**

- iv. Complete the sentence based on your understanding of the passage. (1)

*Bitcoin is not a currency because the Internal revenue service, Washington, rules that \_\_\_\_.*

**Ans iv: it is more like property and thus subject to capital gains tax.**

**v. Select the most appropriate option to complete the sentence. (1)**

Central banks are encouraging their customers to switch to mobile wallets because \_\_\_\_.

- (a) it is equal to travellers' cheques
- (b) it allows travellers to carry cash in the same manner as travellers' cheques
- (c) it is an exchange in the form of travellers' cheques
- (d) it is a handset built for carrying money.

**Ans v: (b) it allows travellers to carry cash in the same manner as travellers' cheques**

**vi. State, in about 40 words, different types of software mentioned in the above passage, that can substitute for money. (2)**

**Ans vi: To substitute for money, there is 'digital tipping' at food outlets like Baristas. Pre-paid cash cards are used as swipe instruments. The NextGen ATM machines are fitted with Biometric recognition devices so that the customer need not carry cash or credit cards.**

**vii. Identify the word in para 4 that means the same as – 'trustworthy and honourable' (1)**

**Ans: Reputable**

**viii. What does the writer mean by freedom for cryptocurrencies? (40 words) (2)**

**Ans vi: Freedom in terms of cryptocurrency means that the new era will free currency from political control and also make national currencies free from political interference.**

**ix. Select the option that summarises the impact of virtual currency across the globe: (1)**

- (a) They are taking off and influencing politics.
- (b) They are bringing in the era of free currency.
- (c) They are innovative and exciting.
- (d) All of the above

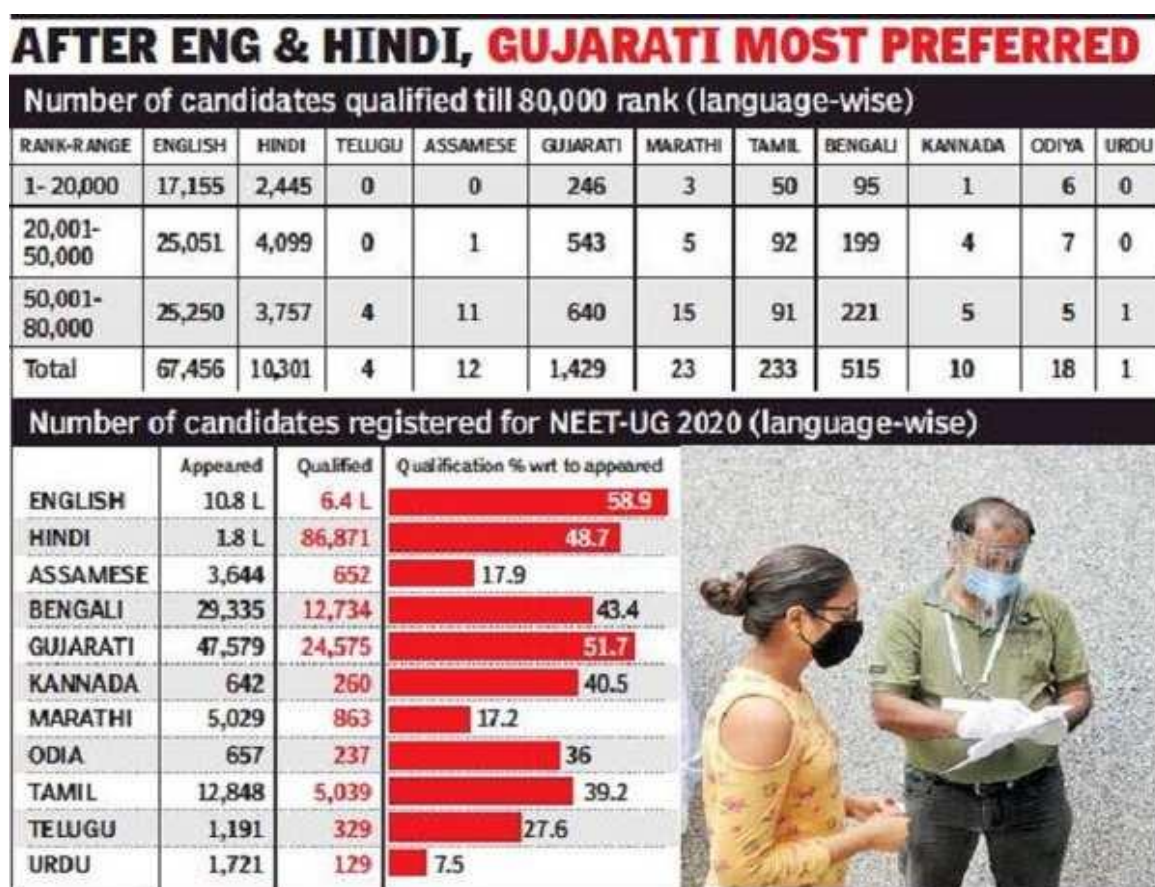
**Ans v: (d) All of the above**

## **2. Read the passage given below.**

**10**

1. While the Centre plans to offer JEE (Main) in regional languages too, results of NEET-UG 2020 reveal that of the nearly 7.7 lakh candidates who qualified, over 1.3 lakhs took the test in 10 Indian languages, with 25,701 such students among the top 1 lakh.

2. The healthy percentage of successful students in various languages shows that domain knowledge is not limited to those fluent in English. However, such students often face a major language hurdle as technical lessons are imparted in English. They should be given free English tuition to enable them to keep pace with the course. Efforts can also be made to publish technical books in other Indian languages.
3. Apart from English, NEET-UG is offered in 10 Indian languages—Hindi, Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Marathi, Odia, Tamil, Telugu, and Urdu. Experts say if these exams had not been conducted in regional languages, many candidates would have struggled to qualify as they may not have been comfortable in English.



4. Welcoming the plans to offer JEE (Main) in regional languages, experts said this would help candidates who study in vernacular language at the senior secondary level. Educationist and CBSE ex-chief Ashok Ganguly said since admission to engineering colleges is based on one exam, students in vernacular medium shouldn't be deprived of a level-playing field.
5. "But these students will definitely find it difficult to appear in JEE (Advanced). It would be better to fix some state quotas for colleges like NITs and have their exam held separately with the option to appear in regional languages but for the national quota, the medium should only be English. In any case, a student from the vernacular medium will find it difficult to continue in IIT. So JEE (Advanced) must be continued in English medium."

**2. Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.**

- i. Do you think a good percentage of successful students in vernacular languages proves that it is beneficial for the candidates appearing for entrance exams? Support your answer with reference to the text.

(2)

**Ans: Yes, it is beneficial. The results of NEET-UG 2020 reveal that of the nearly 7.7 lakh candidates who qualified, over 1.3 lakhs took the test in 10 Indian languages, with 25,701 such students among the top 1 lakh.**

- ii. Select the option that displays the most likely reason for the students doing better in the vernacular medium in NEET exams according to the 2020 study.

(1)

- (a) NEET-UG is offered primarily in English.
- (b) NEET-UG is offered in ten Indian languages.
- (c) Many students are not comfortable with English.
- (d) After English, Hindi, Gujarati and Bengali are the most preferred languages.

**Ans: (b) NEET-UG is offered in ten Indian languages.**

- iii. The qualification percentage of students who appeared in Hindi in NEET 2020 is.....

(1)

**Ans: 48.7 %**

- iv. Complete the sentence based on the following statements.

(1)

To encourage students' participation in NEET-UG through regional languages, it is suggested that \_\_\_\_\_.

- 1. English should be abolished in NEET as a medium.
  - 2. Efforts should be made to publish technical books in regional languages.
  - 3. The regional candidates should be trained separately for the entrance exam.
  - 4. The regional candidates should be given free English tuition.
- (a) 1 and 3
  - (b) 2 and 4
  - (c) 1 and 2
  - (d) 1 and 4

**Ans: (b) 2 and 4**

- v. In the concluding sentence, in paragraph 4, the author talks of a '*level-playing field*.'

(1)

Select the most appropriate option that explains the meaning of the same:

- (a) collaboration amongst all.

- (b) equal opportunities for all.
- (c) regional medium for all.
- (d) international medium for all.

**Ans: (b) equal opportunities for all.**

- vi. The writer states-- But these students will definitely find it difficult to appear in JEE (Advanced) and thereafter. Give reasons to support the given statement.  
(2)

**Ans: Such students often face a major language hurdle as technical lessons in higher education institutes are imparted in English.**

- vii. Complete the sentence appropriately.  
(1)

*Two vernacular languages in which the candidates qualify the least are \_\_\_\_.*

**Ans: Urdu and Marathi**

- viii. As per the information in **paragraph 1**, state if the following statement is TRUE or FALSE.  
(1)

*The writer believes that the government is not on the right track in offering the medium of vernacular languages in engineering entrance exams.*

**Ans: FALSE**

## **SECTION B: CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (18 Marks)**

**3. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 50 words. (4)**

**A.** You are Sagar Sharma, the President of Youth Club, Delhi International School. You have planned to take a trekking trip for 15 days to Rohtang Pass next month. Write a Notice inviting club members to the trekking programme. Give all the necessary details.

**OR**

**B.** You are Sanjeev Verma, the president of the Malviya Nagar Residents Welfare Association, Block A. You are organising a 'New Year Party' in your area. Draft a notice informing the residents of your block about the same. Give all the necessary details.

**Ans- Notice –4 Marks**

**Format-1; Content-2; Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar-1**

**4. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 50 words. (4)**

**A.** You are a student of St. Anthony School, Gwalior. The school is holding its Scholar Badge Ceremony. Draft a formal invitation on behalf of the Principal, inviting the parents and dignitaries to attend the ceremony, to be held on 25 October 2023 at 5:00 p.m. Give all necessary information.

**OR**

**B.** Write a formal reply of acceptance to the invitation sent by Mrs and Mr M.K. Advani for a get-together organised by them on Baisakhi. You are Ajay Mujumdar.

**SET B2**

**4. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 50 words. (4)**

**A.** You are the Head Girl of Mata Gujri Devi School. The school is holding its Investiture Ceremony on 28 September 2023. Draft a formal invitation on behalf of the Principal, inviting the parents to attend the ceremony. Give all necessary information.

**OR**

**B.** You are Abhinav Mandal, the captain of the school cricket team. You have received an invitation from the St. Agnus Public School, Pune to play a friendly cricket match at their playground. Respond to this invitation with a positive reply.

**Invitation & Reply–4 Marks**

**Format-1; Content-2; Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar-1**

**5. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 120-150 words. (5)**

The influence of friends can have both positive and negative impacts on the students. Using the cues given below, write a letter to the Editor of a national daily, discussing how we can make it peer influence more constructive and fruitful. You are Palak/ Priyank Rai, residing at A-37, Glory Apartments, Noida.

**Pros-**

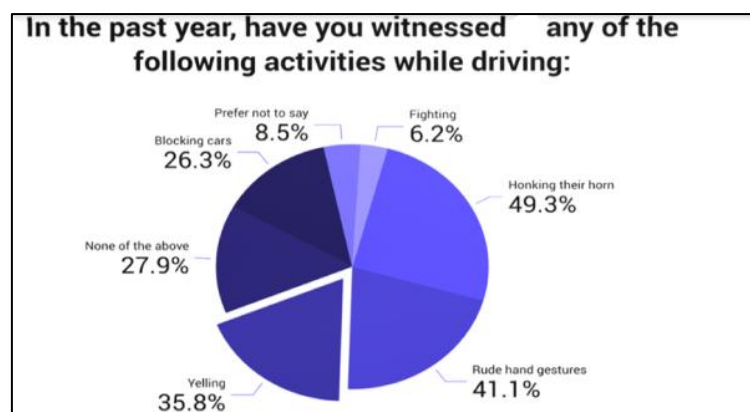
- Companion for life
- Sole support during adverse circumstances
- Boost Confidence and create a healthy environment

**Cons-**

- Can make everything appear negative
- Self-esteem affected
- Pressurises you to do things against your parent's will/culture

**OR**

You are perturbed to read about the rising cases of road rage in the National Capital. People become so aggressive and violent that an argument results in injuries or in some extreme cases, even death. Write a letter to the Editor of Hindustan Times to make the public aware of the need to curb such behaviour and to make roads safer for the people. You are Anvita/Anmol, a resident of Ashok Nagar, New Delhi.



**Ways to Avoid Road Rage**

- |                                      |                                |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| # Remove yourself from the situation | # Ignore if they're being rude |
| # Call for help if necessary         | # Apologize after a mistake    |

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR- 5 Marks**

**Format-1; Content-2 ; Organisation of ideas-1 ; Accuracy-1**

**6. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 120-150 words.**

**(5)**

**A.** A healthy environment is the utmost necessity of our life and the use of plastic bags certainly affects the quality of our life. Write an article on '*Plastic Bags--- a Curse of Modern Life*' to be published in a magazine. You may use the cues given below along with your own ideas. You are Raghav/ Rekha, a Social Activist.

- **Plastic bags—a threat to environment**
- **Most adverse effect on our health**
- **Cause of diseases/asthma/cancer, etc.**
- **Suggestions to remove plastic bags from our life**

**OR**

**B.** With a view to create awareness regarding health, Col. Dhyan Chand Public School organised 'Health Mela' in the school premises. Write a report on the 'Health Mela' for the school magazine. You are Neha/Nikhil, Secretary of the 'Mind and Soul Club' of the school. You may use the given cues:

- Various charts, models, and fitness equipments displayed.
- Lectures, debates, discussions, and plays organised.
- A workshop on low-calorie cooking organised.
- Benefits of being healthy discussed

**SET B2**

**B.** Your school organized a marathon to create awareness about pollution. Mentioning the number of participating cyclists carrying the placards and the details of the rally from the starting point to the end, write a report to be published in the school magazine. You are Ashnit/ Ashna the Head Boy/Head Girl of your school. You may use the given cues:

- Date and Location
- Partnership with environmental NGOs
- Impact of your event
- Coverage by News Reporters
- Presence of medical support, security personnel
- Volunteers' assistance
- Young children pledged to save Earth

**ARTICLE / MAGAZINE REPORT WRITING – 5 Marks**



**Format-1; Content-2 ; Organisation of ideas-1 ; Accuracy-1**

**SECTION C: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40)**

**7.** Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two extracts given.

**(6)**

**A.**

*Those who prepare green wars,  
Wars with gas, wars with fire,  
Victory with no survivors,  
Would put on clean clothes  
And walk about with their Brothers,  
In the shade doing nothing. (Keeping Quiet)*

**i.** Which figure/s of speech is/are used in the fourth line of the given extract?

- |                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. Simile       | 2. Hyperbole |
| 3. Alliteration | 4. Metaphor  |

Choose the most appropriate option.

- |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| (a) Only 3  | (b) 1 and 3 |
| (c) 3 and 4 | (d) Only 4  |

**Ans: (c) 3 and 4**

**ii.** Identify the phrase from the extract, that suggests the following.

*‘Those people who are involved in creating environmental conflicts’*

**Ans: *Those who prepare green wars***

**iii.** In the first three lines of the extract, the poet criticises..... kind of people.

- |                 |             |                  |              |
|-----------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|
| (a) Destructive | (b) Valiant | (c) Eco-friendly | (d) Peaceful |
|-----------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|

**Ans: (a) Destructive**

**iv.** Complete the following analogy correctly.

A Thing of Beauty: John Keats :: Keeping Quiet : \_\_\_\_\_.

**Ans: Pablo Neruda**

**v.** On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to 1 and 2 given below.

1. *The poem calls for change as much in the individual as in human society at large.*
2. *‘Green wars’ means to be calm and to plant more trees.*

- |                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (a) 1 is true but 2 is false. | (b) 2 is true but 1 is false. |
| (c) 2 can be inferred from 1. | (d) 2 is the reason of 1      |

**Ans: (a) 1 is true but 2 is false.**

**vi.** Fill in the blank with an appropriate word, with reference to the extract.

The irony in '...*victory with no survivors*' is that if no one is left to enjoy the glory of triumph, the victory is rendered \_\_\_\_\_.

**Ans: Useless/ Futile/Fruitless or any other synonym**

**OR**

**B.**

*And such too is the grandeur of the dooms,  
We have imagined for the mighty dead;  
All lovely tales that we have heard or read;  
An endless fountain of immortal drink,  
Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink. (A Thing of Beauty)*

**i.** Choose the option that displays the same poetic device as used in the second line of the extract.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| (a) O heavy lightness! Serious vanity! | (b) As sly as a fox.                         |
| (c) Do good, have good.                | (d) Life for me ain't been no crystal stair. |

**Ans: (a) O heavy lightness! Serious vanity! (Oxymoron)**

**ii.** What does the phrase 'the grandeur of the dooms' mean?

- (a) The glory and magnificence that the dead are entitled to due to their glorious deeds.
- (b) Those who have performed good in every situation of life.
- (c) Those who continue to live on among us through the stories and legends about their lives.
- (d) Owing to the noble lives they have lived.

**Ans: (a) The glory and magnificence that the dead are entitled to due to their glorious deeds.**

**iii.** 'Mighty dead' refers to men who have \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) heard and read the tales of the mighty.
- (b) died following powerful rulers.
- (c) become immortals after drinking the heavenly drink.
- (d) performed brave and noble deeds while they lived.

**Ans: (d) performed brave and noble deeds.**

**iv.** Complete the sentence.

'*An endless fountain of immortal drink*' here refers to \_\_\_\_\_

**Ans: beautiful things in our life falling from God's Heaven to Earth.**

**v.** On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below:

- 1. *The 'immortal drink' gives us immense joy and pleasure.*

2. *It also gives us immortality and power.*

- (a) 1 can be inferred from the extract but 2 cannot.
- (b) 2 can be inferred from the extract but 1 cannot.
- (c) Both 1 and 2 can be inferred from the extract.
- (d) 1 is the reason for 2 and can be inferred from the extract.

**Ans: (a) 1 can be inferred from the extract but 2 cannot.**

vi. Which of the following is an apt title for the extract?

- (a) Tales of Heroism
- (b) Bounty of Beautiful Things
- (c) Be Brave, Die Brave
- (d) Optimism Works

**Ans: (b) Bounty of Beautiful Things**

8. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two extracts given. (4)

*A. The Presidents of the New York Central and the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroads will swear on a stack of timetables that there are only two. But I say there are three because I've been on the third level of the Grand Central Station. Yes, I've taken the obvious step: I talked to a psychiatrist friend of mine, among others. I told him about the third level at Grand Central Station, and he said it was a waking dream wish fulfillment.*

i. ....“there are only two” ---What is referred to as ‘two’ in the above statement?

- (a) Towers
- (b) Blocks
- (c) Levels
- (d) Stations

**Ans: (c) Levels**

ii. Why does the speaker contradict everyone about the levels at the Grand Central Station.?

- (a) He feels that he is in a waking dream.
- (b) He is sure that there are only two levels at the Grand Central Station.
- (c) He is sure that there are three levels at the Grand Central Station.
- (d) He feels that he has never seen the third level.

**Ans: (c) He is sure that there are three levels at the Grand Central Station.**

iii. What did the speaker's psychiatrist friend say about his belief regarding the third level at Grand Central Station?

**Ans: The speaker's psychiatrist friend tries to convince the speaker that it is his waking dream wish fulfilment and he has not been to the third level.**

iv. According to the psychiatrist, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ can be the reasons behind the speaker's belief and living a waking dream wish fulfilment.

- 1. Excitement to see the third level
- 2. Modern-day anxieties
- 3. Persistent requests from his wife
- 4. Stressful times

- (i) 1 and 4                      (ii) 2 and 4  
(iii) 1 and 2                    (iv) 3 and 4

**Ans: (ii) 2 and 4**

**OR**

**B.** *She crouched close to the sleeping face of the young American. It was a piteously thin face she thought, and the lips were twisted. The man was suffering whether he knew it or not. Watching him, she wondered if the stories they heard sometimes of the sufferings of prisoners were true. They came like flickers of rumour, told by word of mouth and always contradicted.*

**i.** The above extract has been taken from \_\_\_\_\_

**Ans: The Enemy**

**ii.** Which word in the above extract is the synonym of 'confute'?

- (a) Twisted                      (b) contradict                      (c) Flicker                      (d) Rumour

**Ans: (b) contradict**

**iii.** The speaker expresses her feelings about the prisoner in the above extract. She is seemingly \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ by nature.

1. Sensitive
2. Compassionate
3. Frightened
4. Resentful

- (i) 2 and 4                      (ii) only 2  
(iii) 3 and 4                    (iv) 1 and 2

**Ans: (iv) 1 and 2**

**iv.** The wounded, who person came to the speaker's house belonged to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) the Japanese army                      (b) the Chinese force  
(c) the British army                      (d) U.S. Navy

**Ans: (d) U.S. Navy**

**9.** Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two extracts given. (6)

**A.** *Listening to them, I see two distinct worlds---one of the family, caught in a web of poverty, burdened by the stigma of caste in which they are born; the other a vicious circle of the sahu-kars, the middlemen, the policemen, the keepers of law, the bureaucrats and the politicians. Together they have imposed the baggage on the child that he cannot put down. Before he is aware, he accepts it as naturally as his father. To do anything else would mean to dare. When I sense a flash of it in Mukesh I am cheered. "I want to be a motor mechanic" he repeats.*

**i.** Who is being burdened under the baggage of two worlds?

- (a) The author                      (b) The middlemen  
(c) A young man                      (d) The Sahu-kars

**Ans: (c) A young man**

ii. The phrase 'stigma of caste' here refers to the \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) grief-stricken life of the bangle makers.
- (b) the untouchables living in Firozabad.
- (c) poor families living in the slums.
- (d) children unable to get proper food and clothes.

**Ans: (a) grief-stricken life of the bangle makers**

iii. Pick the option that means the same as 'vicious'.

- (a) Gentle
- (b) Accurate
- (c) Ruthless
- (d) Humane

**Ans: (c) Ruthless**

iv. Mukesh's dream, that he wanted to be a motor mechanic, suggests that \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) he is passionate about driving.
- (b) he is just like the other boys of Firozabad.
- (c) he thinks differently than the members of his family.
- (d) he has to work to earn his livelihood.

**Ans: (c) he thinks differently than the members of his family**

v. Who is the narrator of the given extract?

**Ans : Anees Jung**

vi. What is meant by the word 'baggage' here?

**Ans: It is used metaphorically to mean the burden of caste, poverty and other systemic socio-political inequalities.**

**OR**

**B.** *On Saturday they made their weekly pilgrimage to watch United. Sophie and her father and little Derek went down near the goal-Geoff as always, went with his mates higher up. United won two-nil and Casey drove in the second goal, a blend of innocence and Irish genies, going round the two big defenders on the edge of the penalty area, with her father screaming for him to pass, and beating the hesitant goalkeeper from dozen yards Sophie glowed with pride. Afterwards, Geoff was ecstatic.*

i. Their visit to the match was like 'a weekly pilgrimage'. It refers to \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) strong bond as a family
- (b) love for a fixed routine.
- (c) similar feelings of devotion
- (d) excitement for the match

**Ans. (c) similar feelings of devotion**

ii. Based on the following statements, choose the correct option.

Assertion: "Geoff, as always, went with his mates higher up"

Reason 1: Geoff was not very close to his family and lived in his own world.

Reason 2: Geoff was rude and indifferent towards everyone around him and didn't care about anyone at all.

- (a) Reason 1 and Reason 2 both can be inferred from the assertion.
- (b) Reason 1 can be inferred but Reason 2 cannot be inferred from the assertion.
- (c) Reason 1 cannot be inferred but Reason 2 can be inferred
- (d) Reason 1 and Reason 2 both cannot be inferred.

**Ans. (b) Reason 1 can be inferred but Reason 2 cannot be inferred from the assertion.**

**iii.** Sophie glowed with pride. Her pride is the result of \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) belonging to a region where everyone thought of Danny as a hero.
- (b) watching her father cheer and support Danny
- (c) the information she gathered from her brother about Danny.
- (d) being an avid fan and her sense of closeness with Danny.

**Ans. (d) being an avid fan and her sense of closeness with Danny.**

**iv.** Choose the option listing the situation in which one would be 'ecstatic' :

<b>OPTION 1</b>  Coming home and finding that there are 11 messages from your <u>Principal</u> in your email inbox.	<b>OPTION 2</b>  Going to an old age home and listening to them share stories from the past
<b>OPTION 3</b>  Going to a dog show and losing your pet there	<b>OPTION 4</b>  Being seated next to your favourite pop singer during a short flight there.

**Ans: Option 4**

**v.** The match on Saturday was witnessed by:

- (a) the whole family
- (b) only Sophie and her father
- (c) Geoff alone.
- (d) Sophie, father, Derek and Geoff

**Ans. (d) Sophie, father, Derek and Geoff**

**vi.** Name the author of the chapter, "Going Places".

- (a) Pearl S. Buck
- (b) William Douglas
- (c) Susan Hill
- (d) A.R. Barton

**Ans: d) A.R. Barton**

**10.** Answer **ANY FIVE** of the following six questions in about 40 to 50 words: **2x5=10**

- (i) What are the different connotations of the word 'garbage' to the children and adult ragpickers of Seema Puri?

**Ans. 'Garbage' or rag picking for adults is a means of survival. They continue scrounging in the hope of selling whatever they find while for children garbage is wrapped in wonder. It satisfies their sense of curiosity as they come across various new things in a heap of garbage, like a silver coin or a ten-rupee note.**

- (ii) What was Douglas's initial reaction on being thrown into the pool? (*Deep Water*)

**Ans: When Douglas was thrown into the deep water by a big boy he was frightened, but not out of his wits. He planned that when his feet would hit the bottom, he would make a big jump, come to the surface, lie flat on it, and paddle to the edge of the pool.**

- (iii) Why do you think Gandhi considered the Champaran episode to be a turning-point in his life? (*Indigo*)

**Ans: The Champaran event had solved various problems faced by the poor peasants. They were relieved from the landlords' exploitation. Thousands of people supported Gandhi. He believed that what he did was an ordinary thing. The British couldn't order him in his own country. Hence it was a turning point in his life.**

- (iv) What images does the mother's face bring to the mind of the poet? What is her reaction to it? (*My mother at sixty-six*)

**Ans. The poet's mother has become old and her ashened face is compared to that of a corpse. She is as pale as late winter's moon. The poet is filled with the fear of her approaching death and losing her.**

- (v) Why have the rural poor built a road-side stand? Why are they disappointed?

**Ans. The rural poor have built a roadside stand to sell their produce and other things. They hope that the rich city folk would stop while driving past the stand. They wait for hours but no one stops there to buy the stuff and thus they are left disappointed, depressed and poor as ever.**

- (vi) Why was Rudyard Kipling strongly against the idea of getting interviewed? (*The Interview*)

**Ans. According to Rudyard Kipling, interviews are immortal and he calls interviewing a 'crime' which should attract punishment just as any other crime. It is an extremely unpleasant experience and no man with self-respect would ask or consent to it**

### **SET B2**

- (iii) How did Gandhiji react after receiving the summons to appear in court the next day?

**Ans: Gandhiji received a summon to appear in court but disobeyed the order. He remained awake all night. He telegraphed Rajendra Prasad to come from Bihar with influential friends. He sent instructions to the ashram. He wired a full report to the Viceroy.**

(iv) Analyse the emotional turmoil that Kamala Das goes through in the poem "My Mother at Sixty-six".

**Ans. While sitting in the car Kamala Das was frightened to see the ashen face of her old mother. The fear of losing her mother overpowers her. There is also the feeling of guilt and helplessness as she has to leave her mother and go . At the airport, she smiles at her mother giving her hope and optimism.**

11. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions in about 40 to 50 words: 2x2=4

(i) Why did Charley go to the ticket window? What happened at the window when he paid the money? (*The Third Level*)

**Ans. Charley went to the ticket window to buy two tickets to Galesburg, Illinois. He paid the clerk the money for the tickets at which he stared at Charley in surprise. He told Charley that whatever he was paying was not money and warned him against trying to deceive him. Charley saw that the clerk had old-style and different-looking currency notes. He turned away and got out fast.**

(ii) Why did the Tiger King decide to get married?

**Ans: The Maharaja occupied the throne at the age of twenty. Since then he went on a tiger-hunting campaign. Within ten years, he killed seventy tigers. Soon tigers became extinct in his own state. So, he got married to a girl from a royal family whose state had a large tiger population.**

(iii) Antarctica is unlike any other place on Earth. Justify the statement. (*Journey to the end of the Earth*)

**Ans: Antarctica is the most pristine place on the earth as it is uninhabited. The expansive white landscape and uninterrupted blue horizon and its immensity and isolation create a wondrous effect on the narrator. It has a simple ecosystem and lack of biodiversity. One loses all earthly sense of perspective and time here.**

12. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 120 to 150 words: 5

A. What order had been received from Berlin that day? What effect did it have on life at school in Alsace? Discuss with reference to 'The Last Lesson'.

**An order had been received from Berlin that only German would be taught in the schools of Alsace and Lorraine. This order had far-reaching effects on life at school. M. Hamel, who had been teaching French at the village school for the last forty years would deliver his last lesson that day.**

**It was in honour of the last lesson that M. Hamel, the teacher had put on his best clothes. Old men of the village were sitting quietly at the back of the classroom. They were sad as well as sorry that they had not gone to school more often. They had come to thank the master for his forty years of faithful service and to show respect for the country that was theirs no more.**



The teacher addressed the students in a solemn and gentle tone. He asked them to be attentive and explained everything quite patiently. He appealed to them to preserve the French among them. During slavery, it would act as a key to their prison. He felt so overwhelmed by emotions, unable to speak he dismissed the class with a gesture.

**OR**

- B. 'The Rattrap' is a story of hope, which focuses on the need for compassion to resolve loneliness and change the lives of the less fortunate. Elucidate.

**Ans:** The story begins with the life of the peddler – poorly dressed, starving lonely, tramp, wandering from place to place, making small rattraps with material begged from stores or big firms. He begged and committed petty thefts-- scared of the police. Meeting with the crofter – the crofter's hospitality-- a fall out of loneliness. But the peddler unaffected, steals the 30 kronor.

Meeting with the iron master and his daughter Edla—a warm welcome with the hope of company soon turns to anger in the father on learning of his true identity. But Edla treats him like a true guest, offers good food, clothes and respect due to a regimental officer. Unexpected compassion shown by the daughter brings about a total transformation in the peddler – resolves to pull himself up, to live a life of respect and dignity. This is visible in his signing himself as Captain Von Stahle. ----a story of hope for a better tomorrow.

13. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 120 to 150 words: **5**

- A. "The Maharaja's servants were obedient and sincere." Do you find them truly earnest towards him or are they driven by fear when they obey him? Elucidate with reference to the story 'The Tiger King'.

**Ans :** The Maharaja's servants were obedient and sincere. But the majority of them feared Maharaja and tried to please him by obeying his instructions so that they could save their jobs or perhaps their lives. The astrologer was frightened of forecasting his death, but Maharaja had insisted that he speak freely.

Dewan, who should have counselled the king against killing the tigers, instead chose to support him in his marriage to a princess whose father's realm had a great number of tigers. He provided an old tiger to appease his Maharaja's demands because he was frightened of losing his job.

Similarly, the hunters elected not to alert him of the hundredth tiger's survival and instead killed it themselves for fear of losing their jobs. Even the shopkeeper who sold the king a cheap wooden toy tiger raised his price to avoid being fined under the emergency laws. As a result, the king's servants were motivated by fear rather than any genuine feelings for their ruler.

**OR**

- B. Dr Sadao actions in 'The Enemy' show him to be an individual who rises above the narrow prejudices of race and country. Justify.

**Dr Sadao was a renowned Japanese surgeon and scientist. On an ill-fated evening' during the war, an American soldier gets washed onto the shore near his house. Faced with the dilemma of saving the wounded enemy and surrendering the escaped prisoner to the authorities, he chooses the former. Medical ethics and his loyalty to his profession make him rise above the boundaries of race and nation.**

**Despite the unhelpful, rebellious attitude of the servants the doctor overcomes the many obstacles in this choice with the support of his wife Hana and his inner conviction. He is not disloyal to his country; makes an honest confession to the General after he saves the American. The self-absorbed General forgets to take the promised action.**

**Once again, the goodness in Sadao makes him help the American to safety, on the adjoining island. Human goodness triumphs over weak barriers of race and country.**

.....X.....X.....X.....