



COMMON PRE-BOARD EXAMINATIONS 2022-2023
ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE (184)



Class: X
Date: 09/01/2023

Maximum Marks: 80
Maximum Time: 3 Hours

General Instructions:

1. 15-minute prior reading time allotted for question paper reading.
2. The Question Paper contains THREE sections: READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE.
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION A - READING SKILLS

20

I Read the passage given below.

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- 1 The other day I received an unusual very gratifying gift: I was given a tree or rather, I was given half-a-dozen trees which would be planted on my behalf. I had been invited to give a talk to an organization. After such events the speaker is usually given a token gift. Sometimes the gift is that of a pen, or something useful. Often, the gift is in the form of a plaque or a similar token. However well-meant, such gifts are destined to gather dust in forgotten corners. Which is why I was agreeably surprised to be given a scroll which attested that, on a designated plantain established for the purpose, trees would added in my name as part of the 'green' movement sponsored by the organization.
- 2 In an increasingly environment conscious world, the gift of a living tree or plant makes for a perfect present. The tradition of giving and receiving gifts has increasingly become a highly evolved marketing exercise. Apart from festivals like Diwali, Holi, Christmas, Eid and others, a whole new calendar of celebration events has been created to promote giving gifts: Mother's Day, Father's Day, Teacher's Day, Valentine's Day and so on.
What do you give people – friends, relatives, spouses, children, parents, employees, clients, well-wishers who more or less have everything or at least everything that you could afford to give them as a gift? Another box of chocolates? Another bottle of scent? Another shirt?
- 3 Thinking of unusual and pleasing presents which are also affordable is a full-time job - like wedding planners and planners of theme parties, present planners and professionals who select and make

up gift packages for you to give on occasions like marriages and corporate events, and doing increasingly good business.

However, the best planned gifts of mine and thine go often awry. How often particularly during the so called 'festive seasons' when gift giving and gift receiving reach epidemic proportions – have you had the embarrassing experience of getting back as a present a gift you yourself had given to someone who, having no use for it and not realizing that it was you who had gifted it, had unwittingly returned it to you?

- 4 This is true not only at the individual but also at the level of the state. Diplomatic protocol also demands exchange of gifts according to culture and civilization. Such tokens like the numbers of crudely made miniature Taj Mahals that India has presented into the reluctant hands of foreign guests must fill entire godowns across the globe.

How much more preferable is a living tree than a crude model of the Taj Mahal possibly made of marble from an unauthorized quarry? If the giving of tree saplings were to be institutionalized, it could lead to another green revolution in the lucrative and growing field of gift giving with a new, ecofriendly industry taking root in plantations and nurseries specially created for the purpose. People could feel good looking at the certificate that trees had been planted in their names. Next birthday, give someone you love a tree. One day, the two of you might sit under the shade of the same tree.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions briefly.

- i. What was the gift? Why was it so unusual and gratifying?
- ii. Select the option that corresponds to the following relation below.
I was given _____ trees.
a. half-a-dozen b. two dozen
c. a dozen d. eight dozen
- iii. Select the option that displays the correct synonym of the word 'satisfying'.
a. useful b. similar
c. gratifying d. designated
- iv. Why was the narrator agreeably surprised?
- v. What is a perfect present?
- vi. List 2 factors on which diplomatic protocols demand exchange of gifts.
- vii. What does the narrator mean by "However best planned, gifts of mine and thine go often awry"?

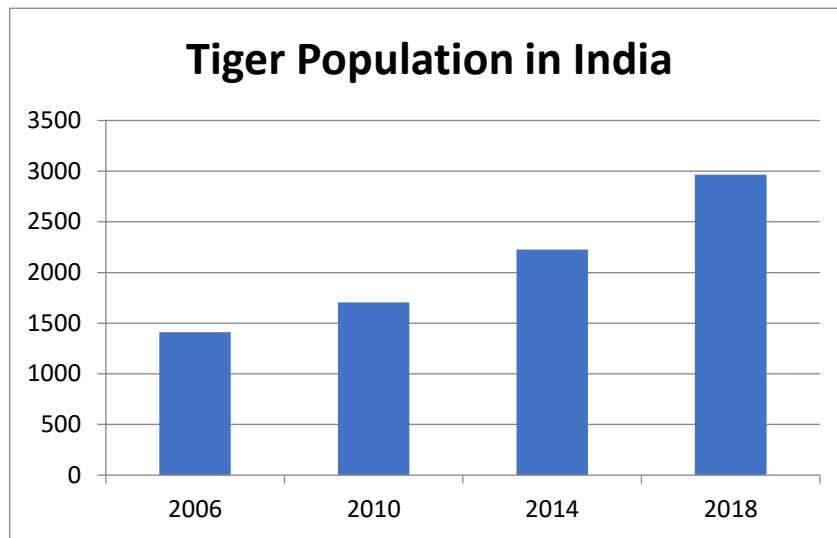
- viii. The writer says, "Thinking of unusual and pleasing gifts which are also affordable is a full-time job."
State the reason for this statement.
- ix. Supply 1 point to justify the following:
"If the giving of tree saplings were to be institutionalized, it could lead to another green revolution."
- x. What, according to the writer, can you give someone you love on the next birthday?
- | | |
|------------|-------------------|
| a. A dress | b. A tree sapling |
| c. A toy | d. A bicycle |

II Read the passage given below.

10

- 1 Here's good news for tiger conservationists, tiger authorities and wildlife lovers celebrating International Tiger Day. According to the latest census of 2018 released by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on International Tiger Day, India is home to 2,967 tigers. What makes this figure significant is that it is an increase by a third as compared to 2014 and more than double as compared to 2006. The latest census also reveals the states with the highest tiger population and those with the lowest, along with the economic value (pegged between 4200 crores to 16000 crores annually) of tiger reserves in the country.
- 2 The latest tiger census is very encouraging, and points to the successful strategies, methods and techniques being adopted and pursued by wildlife authorities and wildlife conservationists to protect the tiger.
- The tiger census 2018 was taken after a painstaking 15 months' work where the forest officials surveyed 3,81,400 sq km of forested habitats. During the same period, they also installed 26,760 camera traps, with wildlife biologists going through 35 million images of wildlife. Of this astounding number of images, 76,523 were those of tigers. It is estimated that almost 83% of the entire tiger population was represented in these images.
- 3 The figures are certainly a cause for enthusiasm, and a great deal of it was reflected in the address by the Prime Minister on International Tiger Day. In it, he also stressed on the need for striking a healthy balance between development and environment. Addressing the issue, he went on to say, "There is a very old debate – development or environment. Both sides present views as if they are mutually exclusive. In our policies, in our economics, we have to change conversation about conservation. I am confident that India will prosper both economically and environmentally. India

will build more roads and India will have cleaner rivers. India will have better train connectivity and also greater tree coverage.”



2010: India and 12 other countries sign agreement to double 2006 tiger population by 2022.

State-wise Tiger Population: Uttarakhand-442, Madhya Pradesh-526, Uttar Pradesh-173, Maharashtra-312, Assam-190, Karnataka-524, Kerala-190, Tamil Nadu-264

World Tiger Population: Russia-433, Indonesia-371, Malaysia-250, Nepal-198, Thailand-189, Bangladesh-106, Bhutan-103, Myanmar-85, Rest of the World- 14

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the correct option.

- i. Which of the following would be the most appropriate heading for the above passage?
 - a. The Return of the Cats
 - b. The Roar of the Lion
 - c. The King Makes a Comeback
 - d. The Roar is Back
- ii. According to the 2018 survey, choose the statement which is true regarding the number of tigers in each state.
 - a. Madhya Pradesh competes closely with Karnataka for the first place.
 - b. Uttarakhand trails behind Karnataka by 100 tigers.
 - c. The combined tiger population of Kerala and Tamil Nadu is less than that of Uttarakhand.
 - d. Assam has more tigers as compared to Tamil Nadu.
- iii. India achieved its target of doubling its tiger population _____ years ahead of the target year.
- iv. The tiger population statistics of the world reveals that the tiger population of the top three states of India is _____ that of the whole world.
 - a. as much as
 - b. less than
 - c. equal to
 - d. more than

- v. Select the statement that is false.
- The economic value of tiger reserves runs to thousands of crores.
 - Madhya Pradesh has the highest tiger population.
 - Though home to the famous Bengal Tiger, West Bengal is not among India's top tiger states.
 - The total area of forested habitats in India is 3,81,400 sq km.
- vi. Among India's neighbouring countries, which country has the highest tiger population?
- vii. The census was the result of a 'painstaking effort'. Which of the following words can best replace 'painstaking' in the given context?
- agitated
 - random
 - clumsy
 - diligent
- viii. What is the 'old debate' that the Prime Minister refers to?
- ix. Which two states have the same number of tigers?
- x. Complete the analogy by selecting the most suitable word from the text.
excited: enthusiastic, important: _____
(Clue: Excited is synonymous with enthusiastic. Important is synonymous with _____)

III SECTION B – GRAMMAR 10

Attempt ANY TEN of the following questions. 10

- i. Read the conversation between an interviewer and a candidate. Complete the sentence by reporting the candidate's reply correctly.

Interviewer: What are your qualifications?

Candidate: I have done Hotel Management from the National Institute of Hotel Management.

Interviewer: Do you have any work experience?

Candidate: I have worked at a hotel reception for a year.

The interviewer asked the candidate what his qualifications were. The candidate replied that he had done Hotel Management from the National Institute of Hotel Management. When the interviewer asked him if he had any work experience, he replied that _____.

- ii. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option.

The thief _____ be punished.

- could
- should
- will
- used to

iii. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

The aim of the terrorists are to create fear and panic in the minds of the common people.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

iv. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option.

I was so absorbed _____ my book that I didn't notice the time.

- a. on b. at
c. in d. with

v. Complete the following sentence by filling in the blank with the correct form of the verb in the brackets.

Had I known that it was your birthday, I _____ (buy) you a gift.

vi. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option.

The train _____ (leave) before we reached the station.

- a. left b. has left
c. have left d. had left

vii. Transform the following sentence from direct speech into reported speech.

He said to us, "I cannot study if you shout."

viii. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line.

We should have an optimistic attitude towards life. The combination of initiative, confidence and determination is essential for scaling great heights in life.

Option No.	Error	Correction
(a)	Have	had
(b)	The	A
(c)	And	or
(d)	For	to

ix. Complete the given sentence, by filling in the blank with the correct option.

"The new Prime Minister said that he _____ the country on the path of peace and prosperity. He also promised to lower taxes and reduce inflation.

- a. would lead b. had led
c. will have led d. led

x. Read the conversation between Ankit and Atul. Complete the sentence by reporting Atul's reply correctly.

Ankit: Where are you going, Atul?

Atul: To the airport

Ankit: May I drop you there in my car?

Atul: Thanks a lot. It will be a great help to me.

Ankit asked Atul where he was going. Atul replied that he was going to the airport. Ankit further asked him if he might drop him there in his car. Atul thanked him and told him that _____

xi. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

Madhubani Painting is one of the many traditional Indian art form.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

xii. Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between Kokila and Miatreyee.

Kokila: Maitreyee, my new dress is very pretty.

Maitreyee: Will you show it to me?

Kokila: I will show it to you tomorrow when you come to my house. My father gave me it as a birthday gift.

Kokila told her friend Maitreyee that her new dress was very pretty. Maitreyee asked her if she would show it to her. Kokila replied that she would show it to her when she came to her house. Her father _____ as a birthday gift.

- a. has given her it b. had given her it
c. gave her it d. have given her it

IV SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS 10

1 Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below. 5

A Two main parks in your locality have suffered from neglect on the part of the local authorities. They have virtually been taken over by undesirable elements. As a result, the residents have stopped going to the parks. Write a letter in 100-120 to the Editor of a local newspaper expressing your concern about the problems the neglect has created and suggest measures to reclaim the parks for children. You are Gautam/ Gomti, 2-Gobind Enclave, Meerut.

OR

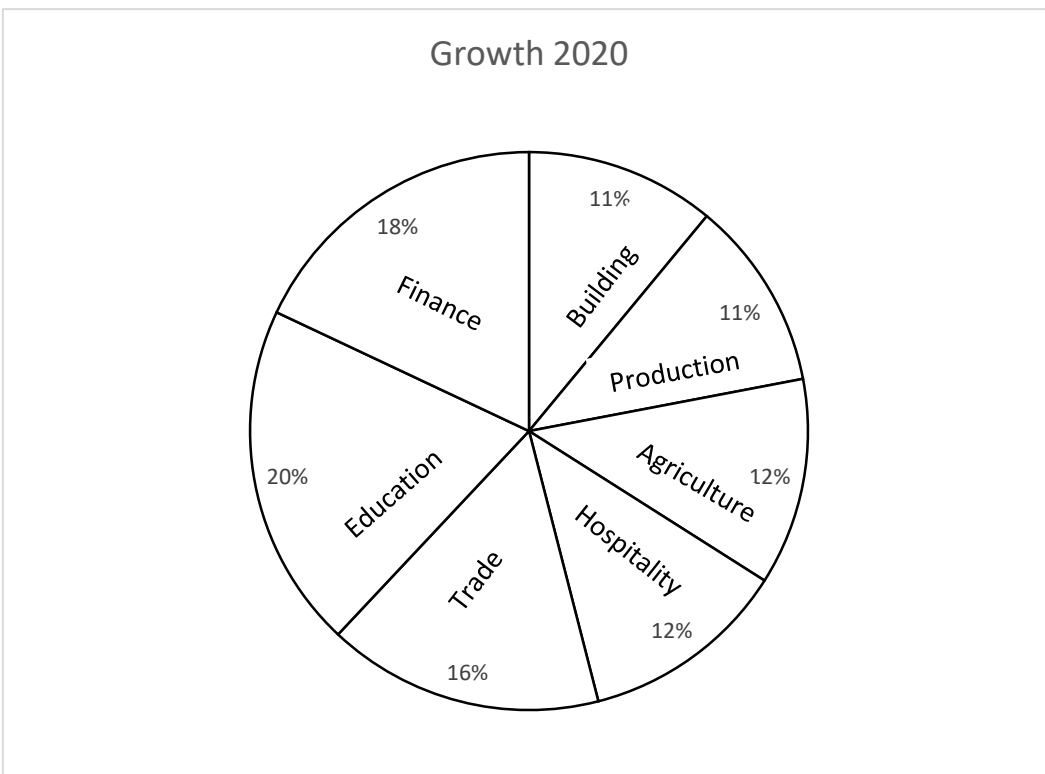
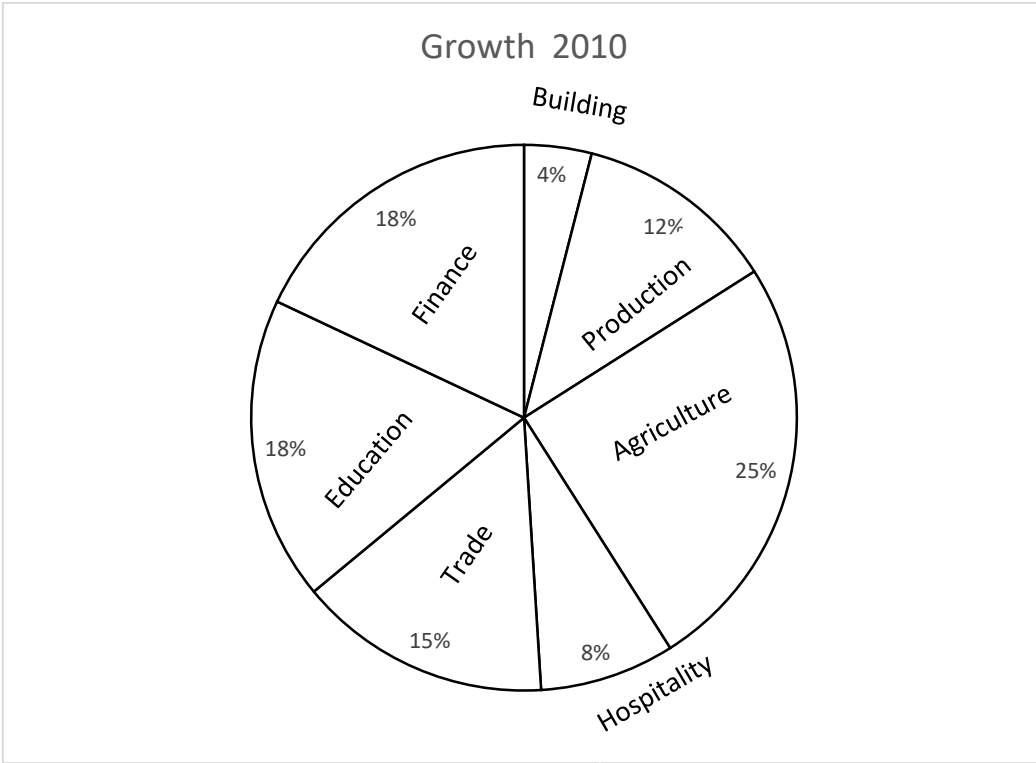
B You are Tanvi/Shirish of Safdarjung Development Area, New Delhi. You bought a flat at Ganpati Apartments, New Delhi. But within a period of two months, you started facing a lot of problems

like seepage in the walls and the ceiling, leaking sanitary fittings, lift getting stalled, etc. Write a letter of complaint to the Works Manager, ABC Builders, New Delhi, in 100-120 words.

1 Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.

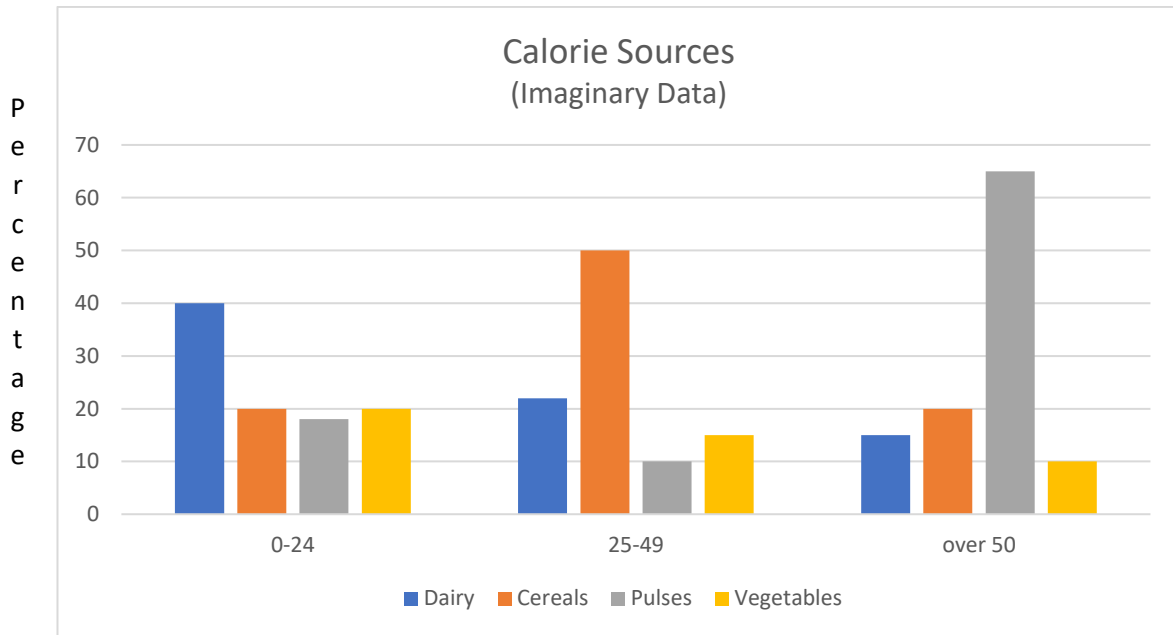
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A Write an analytical paragraph in 100-120 words based on the pie charts showing the percentage of growth in different sectors in India from the year 2010 to 2020.



OR

B The following chart shows the calorie sources people of Delhi at different age periods. Analyze the chart in 100-120 words.



SECTION C - LITERATURE

40

V Reference to the Context

10

1 Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.

5

1. A A few minutes later we all lifted our eyes in awe as a spectacular array of South African jets, helicopters and troop carriers roared in perfect formation over the Union Buildings. It was not only a display of pinpoint precision and military force, but a demonstration of the military's loyalty to democracy, to a new government that had been freely and fairly elected. Only moments before, the highest generals of the South African defence and police, their chests bedecked with ribbons and medals from days gone by, saluted me and pledged their loyalty. I was not unmindful of the fact that not so many years before they would not have saluted but arrested me. Finally, a chevron of impala jets left a smoke trail of the black, red, green, blue and gold of the new South African flag.

The day was symbolized for me by the playing of our two national anthems, and the vision of whites singing 'Nkosi Sikelel – iAfrika' and blacks singing 'Die Stem', the old anthem of the Republic. Although that day neither group knew the lyrics of the anthem they once despised, they would soon know the words by heart.

(Long Walk to Freedom)

- i. How did the military display their loyalty to democracy, to a new government that had been freely and fairly elected?
 - a. with an array of South African jets, helicopters and troop carriers
 - b. with lots of bouquets of flowers from all the nations
 - c. with an array of vehicles, boats and troop carriers
 - d. with bows from citizens
- ii. The new government of South Africa had been _____ elected.
- iii. Which national anthems were sung on that auspicious day?
- iv. Why were the chests of the South African defence and police bedecked with ribbons and medals?
 - a. to promote the use of ribbons
 - b. to create fear in the minds of the citizens
 - c. to celebrate the anniversary of the existing government
 - d. to celebrate their loyalty to democracy and the new government
- v. Note down the colours that grace the South African flag.
 - A. black
 - B. red
 - C. white
 - D. green
 - E. blue
 - F. gold
 - G. yellow
 - a. B, C, D and F
 - b. A, B, D, E and F
 - c. A, B, C, D and E
 - d. A, C, E, F and G

1.B The two boys started in surprise at the fresh muddy imprints of a pair of bare feet. What was a barefooted man doing on the steps of a house in the middle of London? And where was the man? As they gazed, a remarkable sight met their eyes. A fresh footmark appeared from nowhere! Further footprints followed, one after another, descending the steps and progressing down the street. The boys followed, fascinated, until the muddy impressions became fainter and fainter, and at last disappeared altogether.

(Footprints without Feet)

- i. Infer the reason for the following, based on the information in the extract.
The boys were surprised to see the footprints of a barefooted man in London.

- ii. Complete the analogy by selecting the most suitable word from the text.
 partitioned: divided, vanished: _____
 (Clue: To partition means to divide, similarly to vanish means to _____)
- iii. Pick the option that best describes how the boys are feeling based on the extract.
- enchanted, curious, puzzled
 - shocked, curious, puzzled
 - repulsed, curious, captivated
 - enchanted, repulsed, curious
- iv. The boys felt that the footprints were _____
- seen due to some magic trick.
 - a figment of imagination.
 - of a man who was invisible.
 - those of a mysterious man.
- v. Pick the option that lists the correct direction of the footprints on the stairs, as noticed by the boys.



(i)



(ii)



(iii)



(iv)

- option (i)
- option (ii)
- option (iii)
- option (iv)

2 Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.

5

2.A Never shall a young man
 Thrown into despair
 By those great honey-coloured
 Ramparts at your ear,
 Love you for yourself alone
 And not your yellow hair.

(For Anne Gregory)

- i. What is the poet's tone in the extract?
- thoughtful
 - authoritative
 - agitated

- 4. insulting
 - 5. argumentative
 - a. 1, 4
 - b. 3, 5
 - c. 2, 4
 - d. 1, 5
- ii. What does the speaker mean by 'ramparts'?
- iii. What does the speaker mean when he says, "Love you for yourself alone"?
- a. love one for what one is.
 - b. love one for one's external beauty
 - c. not to love at all
 - d. None of the above
- iv. Complete the analogy by selecting the most suitable word from the text.
 delight: joy, misery: _____
 (Clue: Delight is synonymous with joy, misery is synonymous with _____)
- v. Select the sentence in which the word 'thrown' is used in the same manner as in line 10 of the extract.
- a. She had thrown the paper.
 - b. He took the pen that had been thrown away by someone.
 - c. Geeta was thrown in to sadness.
 - d. They were thrown out of the school.

OR

2.B All night the roots work
 to disengage themselves from the cracks
 in the veranda floor.
 the leaves strain toward the glass
 small twigs stiff with exertion
 long-cramped boughs shuffling under the roof
 like newly disengaged patients
 half-dazed, moving
 moving to the clinic doors

(The Trees)

- i. What is 'stiff' in the extract?
- a. leaves
 - b. twigs

- c. trees d. boughs
- ii. The poet has used a poetic device in the given lines. What effect does she wish to create by its use?
- the leaves strain toward the glass
 small twigs stiff with exertion
- a. emphasis b. comparison
c. rhyme d. humour
- iii. State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE.
Trees were moving toward the clinic doors.
- iv. If the roots don't work, it is _____
- a. unnatural b. scary
c. magical d. legendary
- v. Whom does the poet compare the leaves to when she says, "the leaves strain toward the glass"?

VI Answer ANY FOUR of the following questions in about 40-50 words.

12

- i. What does Anne write in the diary about herself and her sister?
(From the Diary of Anne Frank)
- ii. Why did the postmaster send money to Lencho? Why did he sign the letter 'God'?
(A Letter to God)
- iii. What makes Chubukov misunderstand the purpose of Lomov's visit?
(The Proposal)
- iv. With what does the poet compare the fog?
(Fog)
- v. How did Valli develop a longing for the bus ride?
(Madam Rides the Bus)

VII Answer ANY TWO of the following questions in about 40-50 words.

6

- i. Why did Horace Danby feel sure of his success in that year's robbery?
(A Question of Trust)
- ii. Do you think Mr. Loisel had an enjoyable evening at the ball?
(The Necklace)
- iii. What does Noodle tell Think-Tank about the books?
(The Book that Saved the Earth)

VIII Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in about 100-120 words.

6

- i. In what way did the Buddha change Kisa Gotami's understanding of life? what did Kisa learn from the Buddha?

(The Sermon at Benares)

OR

- ii. Traditions, heritage, values and practices are the roots that nourish us.' Explain with reference to 'A Baker from Goa'.

(Glimpses of India – A Baker from Goa)

IX Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in about 100-120 words.

6

- i. Bholi's real name was Sulekha. Why do you think she is called Sulekha only in the last but one paragraph of the story?

(Bholi)

OR

- ii. Love, human sympathy and education can transform even a thief. How could Anil bring such a change in Hari Singh?

(The Thief's Story)