

Series SKS/1/C

Code No. 1/1/1

Roll No.

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Candidates must write the Code on the title page of the answer-book.

- Please check that this question paper contains 11 printed pages.
- Code number given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- Please check that this question paper contains 13 questions.
- **Please write down the Serial Number of the question before attempting it.**
- 15 minutes time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the students will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.

ENGLISH (Core)

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

General Instructions :

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

SECTION A — (Reading)

20

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

12

1 I have lived in Rishikesh for 15 years and have seen the shift in the mindset of India's younger generation. While they are patriotic, prepared to join any movement, march waving political flags, join Facebook groups, they are not, in most cases, convinced by India's culture. In fact, they ask questions that evidence their dissatisfaction with and disinterest in what we call culture, values and sanskaras. "Why can't we date before marriage ? Why do we live in a joint family ? I believe in God but not in temples or puja. Why can't my parents understand ?" They are turning from vegetarians to non-vegetarians, from teetotallers to drinkers, from obedient to rebellious young adults at alarming rates. And at the same time, parents say : "What's wrong with our children ? They are going astray."

2 My academic background is psychology from Stanford University; hence I am used to doing analysis. I came to India at the age of 25, having grown up in Los Angeles, in the heart of American upper class "modern" culture and was so filled with delight by the grace, the truth, the divinity, and the depth of traditional Indian culture that — despite protests from people back home — I stayed. I have seen both the worlds, up close — hip American culture where acceptance is based on how you look in a black mini-skirt; how many times a week you're seen drinking coffee past 2 a.m. in the local "hot spot"; how many drug-filled dens you visit on a Saturday night. And I have seen the results. Fifteen-year-olds killed in drunken driving accidents, night after night of sleeplessness stealing the minds of Ivy-League students, third marriages by 25, a country where the most commonly prescribed medicines are anti-depressants, anti-anxiety medication and sleeping pills.

- 3 There is much to be emulated about Western culture — its commitment to excellence and perfection, punctuality, reliability, fulfilment of promises, adherence to contracts, integrity and honesty — attributes which other countries like India would benefit by adopting. But, tragically, what is being adopted by metropolitan Indian youth is the illusion of (not real) sophistication, allure of glamour, myth of material enjoyment that is seeping into Indian culture.
- 4 India's culture, values, ethics and traditions form the foundation of a successful, meaningful and fulfilling life. If you ask a person in Los Angeles, stepping out of her Mercedes, "How are you?" Chances are you will get in reply a list of complaints — "My back is hurting; the housekeeper (maid) didn't show up; the store ran out of my favourite cereal; too much traffic on the road", Put the same question to an elderly Indian, and the chances are your question will be answered with "*Sub Bhagwan ki kripa hai.*" This is the fruit of culture : deep satisfaction despite ups and downs of daily life. Apparently, God's *kripa* seems to have showered abundantly more upon the LA woman. Yet, she needs a pill to go to sleep, a pill to wake up, a pill to make it through the day.
- 5 India's values have kept India strong and united despite thousands of years of invasions. They have kept their minds and hearts independent even when their country was colonised and oppressed.
- 6 However, today what is needed is a new vocabulary. The youth of today are being raised differently from those in previous generations. Information is at their finger-tips. Modern science and technology have rendered the inexplicable and impossible a decade ago, child's play today. We cannot expect them to accept "because I said so" or "because God made it that way."

- 7 Most middle-aged Indians today would never have dared disobey or question their parents. Therefore, their children's continuous chant of "why?" seems insolent and disrespectful. Today's youth have been raised to wonder, to question, to investigate, to discover.
- 8 Give them scientific, rational, pragmatic reasons to be vegetarian. Explain that the meat industry is the single largest contributor to world hunger as well as environmental destruction. India is the richest country in the world in its depth of culture, values, ethics and tradition. The values and ethics of centuries ago are just as valid and applicable today as then. We only have to explain them differently.

(adapted from The Speaking Tree)

- (a) (i) What shift does the writer see in the mindset of India's youth? 1
- (ii) What evidence does she give to prove this shift? 2
- (iii) How is she qualified to pass judgement on them? 2
- (iv) Describe the irony in the life of a typical rich American woman. 2
- (v) What argument does the author give in favour of being a vegetarian? 2
- (b) Which words in the above passage mean the same as the following? 3
- (i) show/prove (para 1)
- (ii) copied/imitated (para 3)
- (iii) base/basis (para 4)

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

8

Migraines are far more common than asthma or diabetes, but less than 2 per cent of the estimated 40 million people in India who suffer from these crushing headaches seek preventive treatment. Compared to men migraines are more common in women in their forties and fifties. Some studies indicate that as many as one in four women in this age group get migraines but the number of women seeking treatment is far rarer than men. At best, they take painkillers. Most, however, just live with the pain.

Given the wide range of treatments available, they need not suffer. "Most people dismiss migraine as a tension headache that does not need treatment, even though medicines are available that can reduce the frequency and severity of attack or even help prevent an acute attack," says an eminent physician. Even children get migraines, though these headaches are linked more to stress than any other cause.

Migraine usually begins as a dull ache in the head or neck and builds up to a throbbing pain on one side of the head. It usually lasts for several hours and the text book symptoms include nausea, vomiting, sensitivity to light, noise or smell, neck or shoulder pain or stiffness, visual disturbances {which usually precede pain in classic migraines}, compulsion to yawn, dry mouth or shivering. "Classic migraines occur in just 30 per cent patients as the rest have variations in symptoms that do not conform to text book description," says a senior physician. "In such cases, the doctor has to rule out other causes such as neurological disorders before reaching a diagnosis," he adds.

These headaches are caused in part by changes in the level of a body chemical called serotonin, which affects blood vessels. When serotonin levels are high, blood vessels constrict, and when serotonin levels fall, the blood vessels dilate, causing pain. Serotonin levels are influenced by lack of sleep, tension, too much sun, some foods such as spices, red wine and chocolates (migraine triggers), or more commonly in women, by changes in the levels of a particular hormone in the body.

Prevention works best and is possible if a person is able to identify triggers and avoid them. But trigger control is not enough. Mild or even moderate headaches may be satisfactorily removed or even prevented at times by using inexpensive painkillers like aspirin, paracetamol or ibuprofen. Severe and chronic headaches, however, usually require use of stronger medicines.

Before beginning treatment doctors recommend trying changes in lifestyle such as getting regular sleep and exercise, identifying and avoiding migraine triggers, and using relaxation techniques. "Medicines to prevent migraines are recommended if avoiding triggers is not possible and migraine occurs more than twice a month or if it is severe enough to interfere with your routine," says an eminent physician.

(a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes in points only, using abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply a suitable title. 5

(b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. 3

SECTION B — (Advanced Writing Skills)

35

3. You are Rani/Raj, Secretary Health Club, National Public School, Ramnagar. You find that after lunch break the school playground and verandahs are littered with wrappers, paper/polythene bags, etc. Write a notice in about 50 words advising students to refrain from doing so.

5

OR

As Principal, National Public School, Ramnagar, write a notice in about 50 words informing the students that with effect from 20th of January the school shall start at 9 am instead of 8 am. Give reasons for the change.

4. Last week National Public School, Ramnagar celebrated Holi, the festival of colours in a neat and orderly way. Write a report on the same for the school magazine in 100 – 125 words. You are Rani/Raj, Cultural Secretary.

10

OR

A group of members of the History Club of your school went to see the Taj. You were very impressed with the beauty of the monument. Write a factual description of the Taj in 100 – 125 words. You are Rani/Raj, a student of National Public School, Ramnagar.

5. During rainy season the roads around your school get broken and develop so many potholes. This leads to a lot of inconvenience to the staff and students of the school. Write a letter of complaint to the Municipal Commissioner, Ramnagar. You are the Principal, National Public School.

10

OR

Cases of drunken driving by the youth leading to casualties are on the rise in the metropolitan cities of India. You feel concerned. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily giving your views on the problem. Offer suggestions on how this evil can be curbed. You are Rani/Raj, 121 Bank Street, Ramnagar.

6. Write an article in 150 – 200 words on the topic, 'Importance of Educating the Girl Child'. Make use of the following clues :

10

- both the genders have equal interest in education
- both equally efficient in learning
- an educated woman educates the entire family
- family leads a healthy life
- an educated woman is not superstitious
- adds to the family income

OR

A recent health check-up in your school revealed that many among your classmates were suffering from weak eyesight. You feel concerned. Write a speech in 150 – 200 words to be delivered in the morning assembly on how to protect your eyesight. Make use of the following clues :

- reading in bad light
- bad posture
- wrong direction, from which light is coming
- excessive TV viewing
- regular washing of eyes
- eat more green vegetables
- enough sleep

SECTION C — (Text Books)

45

7. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow : 3

Surely, Shakespeare is wicked, the map a bad example,
With ships and sun and love tempting them to steal -
For lives that slyly turn in their cramped holes
From fog to endless night ?

- (i) Why is the map called a bad example ? 1
(ii) Where do the children spend their lives ? 1
(iii) What do 'fog' and 'endless night' stand for ? 1

OR

..... my childhood's fear
but all I said was, see you soon,
Amma,
all I did was smile and smile and
smile

- (i) Who is 'I' ? 1
(ii) What was 'my childhood's fear' ? 1
(iii) Why did the narrator smile repeatedly ? 1

8. Answer any *three* of the following questions in 30 - 40 words each : 2×3=6

- (a) Which sadness is Pablo Neruda referring to ?
(b) Describe any two things mentioned by Keats in 'A Thing of Beauty'
which cause suffering and pain.
(c) Why do people at the roadside stand ask for city money ?
(d) Why has Aunt Jennifer made 'prancing, proud and unafraid' tigers ?

9. Answer any *three* of the following questions in 30 – 40 words each : $2 \times 3 = 6$

- (a) Why did Franz think of running away from the school that morning ?
- (b) How did William Douglas's aversion to water begin ?
- (c) How is Mukesh's attitude towards life different from that of his family ?
- (d) What is unrealistic about Sophie's dreams of her future life ?

10. Answer the following in 125 – 150 words : 10

Eco's academic work has certain playful and personal quality about it. Comment.

OR

How does the peddler respond to the hospitality shown to him by the crofter ?

11. Attempt the following in about 100 words : 5

Our scriptures tell us that determination and perseverance are cardinal virtues of a good human being. Raj Kumar Shukla succeeded in taking Gandhiji to Champaran with the help of these two.

How can young students today use these two qualities to make successful careers for themselves ?

12. Answer the following in 125 – 150 words : 7

How does Charley make his description of the third level very realistic ?

OR

The same situation can be viewed through two different perspectives. How does 'Should Wizard Hit Mommy?' establish this point through the views of Jack and Jo ?

13. Answer the following questions in 30 – 40 words each :

2×4=8

- (a) When and why did the Maharaja decide to get married ?
- (b) How was Antarctica a chilling prospect for a South Indian, Tishani Doshi ?
- (c) How nearly had Dr. Sadao missed marrying Hana ?
- (d) As told by Mr. Lamb, why did a man lock himself up in his room and what happened to him ?