

Series SKS/1/C

Code No. 28/1

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 **6** 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 (Elective)

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

General Instructions :

- Question Nos. 1 – 4 are compulsory.*
- Attempt either Question 5 or 6.*
- Your answers should be to the point. Stick to the given word limit.*

SECTION A — (Reading)

20

1. (a) Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow : 12

1 “If I was to be born again / I just wish for one thing / Be a small part of this magnificent game.” Big B recited these lines at the inauguration of the Indian Premier League (IPL) Season-5. The poem exalts cricket and lyrically expresses the passion we feel for the game. Cricket is more than religion : it tells us how to tide over life’s crisis besides entertaining us. It stirs up passions; it makes us deliriously happy when our team wins and reduces us to tears whenever it loses. It also inspires us to be optimistic till the last ball. It tells us that defeat is not the end of the game; that there will be another opportunity to bounce back; there will be another match to cheer for and keep alive the flame of hope for victory. Cricket is a metaphor for life. It could reveal to us the path to transcendence if only we are willing to see the signs.

2 In a 20-over match, there isn’t much time to think, either for the players or for the spectators. Players must stay focused and as a spectator, your concentration is fixed on the ball, its contact with the bat, and the result thereof. You live in the moment. Swami Parathsarathi says three things are of primary importance, if you wish to attain success in the game of cricket or in life : concentration, consistency and co-operation. You can concentrate only when the mind is with the action. It shouldn’t be in the past or future.

3 Besides concentration, consistency and co-operation, there is a fourth 'C' that completes the list – commitment. Unless we fully commit ourselves to what we do, we can't become successful in it. IITian and athlete Dinesh Ghodke, Director, Youth, Art of Living Foundation, says : "If you give your heart and soul to something and give your 100 per cent, there is no room for regrets." Day after day, a player has to think about his shots, how to face the ball and how to become a better player. That requires a certain amount of commitment. It's something that we can adopt in our lives and be fully committed to that one thing we really like doing.

4 The most intriguing thing about the game is that nothing lasts forever – neither fame nor records. Gradually players move away from the limelight into shadows of a glorious past. Life, too, is ever evolving, on the cusp of change, and everything we do is short-lived. Ultimately, all that remains with us is what we have learnt and how we have used it.

5 A cricket pitch is a fertile ground for rich stories that talk of grit and bravery, of last-minute dashes to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat. "The team that wins is the team that refuses to give up," says Neeladri Sharma, a young engineer. Similarly, life is also uncertain; you may plan something, but life has its ways of throwing a googly at you. In the end, it's the optimists who come out on the top, unfazed by setbacks.

They are the ones who march forward," he adds. Cricket is, therefore, a metaphor for life. Ghodke's advice is to play the game of life without the burden of getting somewhere so you can play your natural game and enjoy it too.

- (i) How does the game of cricket stir up passions ? 2
 - (ii) The author says that in a 20-over match you live in the moment. What does he mean by living in the moment ? 2
 - (iii) What are the three important things required for attaining success, according to Swami Parathsarathi ? 2
 - (iv) According to Ghodke, what is essential to ensure success ? 2
 - (v) In the game of cricket, which team ultimately wins ? 2
 - (vi) Cricket is termed as a metaphor for life. What lesson of life do we learn from it ? 2
- (b) Read the poem given below and answer the questions that follow : 8

My Inspiration

You have made me endless,
Such is your pleasure.
This frail vessel you
Empty again and again,
and fill it ever
with fresh life.

This little flute of a reed
you have carried over
hills and dales,
and have breathed
through it melodies
eternally new.

At the immortal touch
of your hands my little
heart loses its limits in
joy and gives birth to
utterance ineffable.

Your infinite gifts come
to me only on these very
small hands of mine.
Ages pass, and still you
pour, and still there is
room to fill.

Rabindranath Tagore

- (i) What is "this frail vessel" referred to here ? Why is it called frail ? 2
- (ii) Why is the "vessel" repeatedly filled ? 2
- (iii) Which figure of speech has been used in the second stanza of the poem ? 1
- (iv) What does the poet experience "at the immortal touch of your hands" ? 2
- (v) Which word in the last stanza means the same as "to flow freely in a continuous stream" ? 1

SECTION B — (Writing)

20

2. (a) Write an essay in 150 – 200 words on the following topic :

Students should not take part in politics

OR

How to promote tourism in the country

- (b) Cloudburst in Uttarakhand brought great destruction to life and property of the people. The area remained disconnected from the rest of the country for a number of days. Your school actively participated in providing relief to the affected people. Write a report on the incident in 150 – 200 words for your school magazine. You are Pulkit/Parul, Secretary, Uttarakhand Relief Committee, ABC School, New Delhi.

10

SECTION C — (Applied Grammar)

10

3. (a) In the passage given below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and the word that comes after it in your answer sheet. Ensure that the word that forms your answer is underlined. The first one has been done as an example.

$$\frac{1}{2} \times 10 = 5$$

Living in city can

e.g. in a city

take a toll your

(a) _____

health. It make you

(b) _____

obese, depressed may

(c) _____

give potential life-threatening (d) _____
 diseases such cancer etc. A (e) _____
 number studies have shown (f) _____
 that babies born cities, (g) _____
 and children grow up in (h) _____
 them face battery of health (i) _____
 problems afflict both (j) _____
 their physical and mental well-being.

- (b) Read the dialogue given below and using the information complete the following paragraph in your own words : 1×5=5

“Who are you ?” asked the baby bird.

“I am an eagle,” said the big bird in a gruff voice.

“Oh, hello eagle uncle ! My papa and mama are not home. They have gone to get food for us,” said the baby bird excitedly. “You please wait, they will be returning any moment now.”

The baby bird asked the big bird (a) _____. The big bird
 replied in a gruff voice (b) _____. The baby bird innocently
 welcomed the eagle, and informed him that (c) _____ as they
 had gone to get food for them. The baby requested the eagle
 (d) _____ since the parents (e) _____.

SECTION D — (Text for Detailed Study)

40+10=50

4. (a) Choose any *two* of the following extracts given below and answer the questions that follow :

4×2=8

(I) She had come to Havana with them two weeks before and had left that morning for the market, driving a new car. Her name meant nothing to me when I read it in the newspaper, but I was intrigued by the snake ring and its emerald eyes. I could not find out, however, on which finger she wore it.

- (i) Who does the word 'them' refer to in the passage ? 1
(ii) Why was the author intrigued by the snake ring ? 2
(iii) Why did he want to find out on which finger she wore the ring ? 1

(II) Nowhere else could he have found the water which could fulfill his holy vow — no, not in any sacred stream. He said that Janaki bathed in such water as this, at the beginning of her forest exile, and that Guhak, the chandal, drew it for her. My heart has been dancing ever since, and night and day I hear those solemn tones — 'Give me water, give me water'.

- (i) Who is 'he' referred to here ? 1
(ii) What message did he convey to her through the example of Janaki and Guhak ? 2
(iii) How did Prakriti feel afterwards ? 1

(III) She told us
That we had the oldest blood
My brother and she and I
The oldest blood in the world
A blood thin and clear and fine

While in the veins of the always poor
And in the veins
Of the new-rich men
Flowed a blood thick as gruel
And muddy as a ditch.

- (i) Who is 'she' here ? 1
- (ii) What does the 'oldest blood' here mean ? 1
- (iii) What is her attitude towards 'the poor' and 'the new-rich' ? 2

(b) Answer any *two* of the following questions in about 100 words each : $6 \times 2 = 12$

- (i) In 'I Sell my Dreams', did the author believe in the prophetic ability of Frau Frieda ? Give reasons.
- (ii) Why does the author consider the novel superior to philosophy or science ?
- (iii) What makes the depiction of a crumbling village house so authentic in the poem ? Is this a common feature of most village houses in the context of rapid urbanization ? Is the poet speaking from actual experience ?

(c) Answer any *five* of the following questions in about 60 words each : $3 \times 5 = 15$

- (i) What are two contradictory patterns of behavior exhibited by Tao Ying ?
- (ii) According to Milton what is the best tribute that posterity has paid to Shakespeare ?
- (iii) What, according to Bergman, is the relationship between a film-maker and his audience ?

- (iv) How does the process of inquiry lead to true freedom ?
- (v) "Pity would be no more/If we did not make somebody poor."
Do you agree to the poet's statement that poor are made, not self-generated ? Give reasons.
- (vi) What are the pitfalls that the writer of science fiction mystery must guard against ?

(d) Answer the following question in about 100 words :

5

Millions of Jews were killed by Hitler's Nazis in the 1930s and 1940s in Germany. Many of the survivors including Dr. Solomon Margolin came to America. But the scars of the tragedy continued to exist in their minds. How is the message that the use of brutal authority brings not only destruction of life but also haunts the consciousness of the sufferers all their lives conveyed by the author through the character of Dr. Margolin ?

Note : Attempt *either* question no. 5 or 6.

5. (a) Answer *one* of the following in about 100 words.

6

Raja, the tiger, emerges as a living character with all its ego, love and hatred. Exemplify from the text.

OR

Draw the character-sketch of the Captain of the Circus.

(b) Answer *one* of the following in about 60 words :

4

How did the Captain of the circus advertise the Jubilee of his circus ? What techniques did he use to win over opposition ?

OR

When did Cine-Director, Madhusudan meet Jaggu for the first time ? What was Jaggu doing then ?

6. (a) Answer *one* of the following in about 100 words : 6

Margayya is motivated by his excessive lust for wealth which eventually brings about his downfall. Justify with reference to the text that you have read.

OR

“Dr. Pal’s actions are all the result of some sort of debauchery or foul play.” Do you agree with this statement ? Give a reasoned answer.

(b) Answer *one* of the following in about 60 words : 4

Describe Margayya’s search for the red lotus.

OR

What is the role of Meenakshi as a wife and mother ?