

1. Read the following passage carefully.

- (1) Floods are not new to India and this sub-continent, but in recent years the problem has received much greater attention perhaps largely because it has led to much greater damage than in the Even though information on the impending occurrence of floods is now more accurate and certainly more timely, often there is very little time or support infrastructure in place by which damage can be minimised. This is particularly true in the case of flash floods resulting from sudden and excessively heavy rain.
- (2) In the case of India flooding is very much a function of the seasonal nature of our rainfall. The monsoons are spread over a short period during the year and often bring a concentrated volume of rain, which cannot be absorbed by the Earth and finds outlet only in the form of streams that join up with our major river systems. One major factor that could lead to a higher severity of flooding in the future is the danger of climate change which happens due to increased concentration of greenhouse gases. It could happen that the India subcontinent witnesses and suffers the effects of a significantly changed pattern of monsoons. One set of scientists has estimated that the monsoons could be shorter in duration, but far more intensive.
- (3) At the local level also human actions have heightened the danger of flood through the cutting of trees in the mountains as well as in the plains. In the case of India, the ecological damage through deforestation of the Himalayas has led to large-scale erosion of the mountain slopes and high levels of siltation. This leads to deposition of silt on the river beds in the plains and hence spill over of water whenever the volume in the river reaches a certain level. With siltation on the river beds, flooding occurs even at very shallow water levels. The vulnerability of the population has increased substantially because of population pressures, symbolised, for instance, by the stubborn and perhaps helpless settling of slum dwellers on the banks of the river Yamuna in Delhi, which is merely a trickle most of the year, but bursting its banks during the monsoons as has been the case this year.
- (4) Flood forecasting is critical to minimising the damage from floods. It is for this reason that the Central Water Commission has set up a network of forecasting stations, which cover the most important flood prone inter state rivers in the country. These stations produce forecasts that are used to alert the public to mobilise various official agencies so that they take both preventive as well as relief measures whenever required. However, even in cases where forecasts have been timely and generally accurate, people have often been reluctant to move away, because in most cases they lack the means and physical options for moving away from a danger zone to one that is relatively safe. In the case of flash floods, forecasts are difficult to make, and often the time available for relief is very short.

Answer the following questions based on the above passage.

- (i) What will be the most appropriate title for the passage?
- (ii) Complete the following with the correct option from the two given.

Deforestation of the Himalayas has led to.....

(A) large-scale erosions (B) physical movement of people

(iii) What is the result of deforestation of the Himalayas in India?

(iv) The worst hit people are the slum dwellers because

(a) they are stubborn and helpless. (b) they do not have means to move away quickly

(c) they have concentrated in large numbers. (d) they have settled on the banks of the rivers.

(v) State whether the following statement is True or False. Flash floods are caused by intermittent rains.

(vi) Which of the following things cause climate change?

(a) Increased concentration of greenhouse gases

(b) Explosion of nuclear devices

(c) Ecological damage caused by humans

(d) Significantly changed pattern of monsoons

(e) Ecological damage caused by humans

(vii) What structure was set up by the Central Water Commission? Why?

(viii) Fill in the blank with the correct option from those given.

..... word in the passage is the opposite of 'minor'.

(a) Greater (b) Maximum (c) Major (d) Heightened

2. Read the following passage carefully.













Coronaviruses were discovered in the 1960s. The name 'coronavirus' is derived from the Latin corona, meaning crown or halo. The new type of coronavirus outbreak came to light on 31st December, 2019, when China informed the World Health Organisation of a cluster of cases of pneumonia of an unknown cause in Wuhan city in Hubei Province. Subsequently the disease spread to more Provinces in China and to the rest of the world. The WHO has declared it a pandemic. The virus has been named SARS-CoV-2 and the disease is now called COVID-19.

Some of the symptoms of the coronavirus are fever, cough, runny nose, sore throat, headache and trouble breathing. These symptoms are very much like those people have with a cold or the flu. The virus can be more serious in some people, especially if they are sick or have a weak immune system, like the elderly people.

The virus appears to spread mainly from person to person. The transmission occurs when someone comes into contact with an infected person. For example, a cough, sneeze or handshake could cause transmission. There is no specific vaccine or medication to cure the disease, but generally, symptoms will go away on their own.

A set of preventive measures are usually followed in case someone gets infected. This includes keeping infected people in quarantine for a certain period, generally fourteen days. To protect yourself from the virus, here are six recommendations to follow Avoid contact with people who are already infected.

- Wash your hands well and regularly with soap and water or use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth if you haven't washed your hands.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that people touch a lot.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue.

Data of Top Six Countries (As on 25th August, 2020) Affected with Corona Virus		
Name	Cases-cumulative total	
Global	23,311,719	
 United States of America	5,612,163	
 Brazil	3,582,362	
 India	3,106,348	
 Russian Federation	961,493	
 South Africa	609,773	
 Peru	585,236	

Answer the following questions based on the above passage.

- (i) What does the word 'Pandemic' mean in the passage?
- A disease prevalent over a city
 - A disease prevalent over a state
 - A disease prevalent over a whole country of the world
 - A disease prevalent over a few cities
- (ii) Select the option that is true for the Assertion and Reason given below.

Assertion Virus can be more serious in people.

Reason Some people have weak immune system.

- (a) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, and the Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion.
- (b) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, and the Reason is not the correct explanation of the Assertion.
- (c) The Assertion is true, but the Reason is false.
- (d) The Assertion is false, but the Reason is true.

(iii) Which word in Paragraph 1 is the synonym of 'collection'?

(iv) Where was the first case of this virus reported?

(v) Read the prompt and select the correct option in the bracket to fill in the blank.

According to the graph,had more than 3200k cases of COVID-19 on 25th August, 2020. (Brazil/India/Peru)

(vi) List two of the symptoms of the virus.

(vii) Complete the sentence suitably.

The new type of coronavirus outbreak came to light on 31st December, 2019, when China informed the World Health Organisation of a cluster of cases of

(viii) From what you know about the disease now, briefly explain the present scenario in terms of the spread of the virus and vaccines of COVID-19?

Section B Grammar and Creative Writing Skills (20 Marks)

Grammar

3. Complete any ten of the following twelve tasks, as directed.

(i) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket.

Scientists.....(develop) novel skin sensors that allow mobile devices to be controlled from any point of the body.

(ii) Identify the error and supply correction for these sentences.

Commonwealth gold medalist Heena Kumari used to watch her uncle repair all kinds of guns in her neighbourhood and develop a fancy for it.

Use the given format for your response.

Error –

Correction –

(iii) Report the following sentence.

Mandira said, “I need extra luggage to carry my shoes”.

(iv) Complete the given sentence by filling the blank.

The teacher said to the girls, “Have you done your assignment”?

The teacher the girls if they.....their assignment.

(v) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence.

The place was spacious with.....room for relaxation surrounded by restaurants.

- (a) lots of (b) no (c) a (d) any

(vi) Identify the error and supply correction for these sentences.

As a pastor, he worked to human betterment, irrespective of colour or creed. He believed in a word of the lord and implements his virtues like kindness on his daily activities.

Use the given format for your response.

Error –

Correction –

(vii) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction.

On 14th April, 1912, Titanic collides with an iceberg and sank, 1,503 people out of 2,208 died in this incident. This incident was later found to be caused by negligence of the company as they failed to follow safety and health procedures,

Options	Error	Correction
(a)	sank	sunk
(b)	out of	ok
(c)	caused by	caused of

(d)	collides	collided
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(viii) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence.

Well, if your pocket's empty, you all your money.

(a) Must have spent (b) should have spent (c) could spend (d) had to spend

(ix) Read the following conversation carefully.

Ravi Are you going to Singapore as part of the exchange programme?

Sunil Yes, I am. Are you also going?

Select the option to complete the reporting of the above dialogue.

Ravi asked Sunil as part of the exchange programme. Sunil replied that he was and asked if Ravi was also going.

(a) If he were going to Singapore (b) if he is going to Singapore
(c) if he was going to Singapore (d) if he would be going to Singapore

(x) Convert the below sentence into reported speech.

My mother said, "I will update my aadhar card details within three days"

(xi) Complete the given sentence, by filling the blank with the correct option.

Some time ago, an interesting discoveryby archaeologists on the Aegean Island of Kea.

(a) had to be made (b) was made
(b) has been made (d) is made

(xii) Identify the error and supply correction for these sentences.

Diseases like cancer are life-threatening but can be managed if the symptom are identified early. Early detection allows doctors to access the situation better and suggest the best course of treatment. However if cancer is detected at later stages, then even doctors become helpless.

Use the given format for your response.

Error –

Correction –

4. Attempt any one from (A) and (B) given below.

(A) Your class teacher is leaving the school and moving to another country. The next school day is their last school day. You made a card for them. Describe the card in 100-200 words.

(B) You recently visited the Children's Park, a favourite place for all children, in your city. Write a description of the park.

5. Attempt any one from (A) and (B) given below. (5)

(A) Write a story in 100-120 words with the help of the following outline.

- Veeru and Karim — young Keralites
- School organising camp near a forest in Ponnudi
- Went out to explore forest — lost the way
- Loud noise heard the sound of an animal
- A large elephant — came towards them
- A balloon — started blowing — big balloon
- Hit hard with hand — 'bang-bang'
- Trumpeted angrily — elephant turned away saved

(B) You are Sushant, a student of Class IX-A. Your elder brother has shifted to some other city due to his new job. As a result you miss him a lot. Taking ideas from the clues given below, write a diary entry in 100-120 words.

- Elder brother shifted to other city
- Miss him a lot
- Good for his future
- Will return after his probation period

6. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (A) or (B). (5)

(A) Prashant found that a large number of children had been orphaned. He brought them together and put up a polythene sheet shelter for them. Women were mobilised to look after them, while the men secured food and materials for the shelter. As the weeks passed, Prashant was quick to recognise that the women and children were sinking deeper and deeper in their grief.

- (i) Which word does 'Sinking' not correspond to?
 - (a) Submerging (b) Ascending
 - (c) Dropping (d) Fading
- (ii) Why have a large number of children been orphaned?
- (iii) Fill in the blank with the correct word from the bracket.

Cheerful : Exultant :: : Organise (Mobilise/Sinking)

- (iv) Write three adjectives to describe Prashant and his character.
- (v) State whether the following statement is Fact or Opinion.

I think Prashant wanted to grab attention from the villagers.

(B) On the whole, the small society of Rameshwaram was very rigid in terms of segregation of different social groups. However, my science teacher Sivasubramania Iyer, though an orthodox Brahmin with very conservative wife, was something of a rebel. He did his best to break social barriers so that people from varying backgrounds could mingle easily. He used to spend hours with me and would say, "Kalam, I want you to develop so that you are on par with the highly educated people of the big cities".

- (i) Which background did Sivasubramania Iyer belong to?
 - (a) Orthodox Brahmin (b) Brahmin
 - (c) Modern Brahmin (d) Jain Brahmin
- (ii) How was Kalam's teacher different from others?
- (iii) Fill in the blank with the correct word from the bracket.

Discrimination : :: Orthodox : Conservative (Segregation/Barriers)

(iv) How was the society of Rameshwaram as a whole?

(v) State whether the following statement is Fact or Opinion.

I think Kalam's teacher wanted to eliminate the social barriers for the benefit of the next generation.

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, (A) or (B). (5)

(A) It takes much time to kill a tree,
Not a simple jab of the knife
Will do it. It has grown
slowly consuming the earth
Rising out of it, feeding
Upon its crust, absorbing
Years of sunlight, air, water,
And out if its leprous hide
Sprouting leaves.

(i) What is the meaning of the word 'jab' in the above extract?

(ii) Fill in the blank with one word.

The poet says 'It has grown slowly consuming the Earth' to indicate that trees are grown by taking from the Earth.

(iii) What is the tree to be symbolic of according to the poet? (iv) What is the rhyme scheme of the given lines?

- (a) No rhyme scheme (b) ababcbcd
(c) ababbcc (d) None of these

(iv) Find words from the given extract that rhyme with

Strife

Confide

(B) Frail crumbling houses, crumbling doors, crumbling rafters,
Crumbling wood, crumbling bodies, crumbling lives

Crumbling hearts—

The wind god winnows and crushes them all.

- (i) Why is the word 'crumbling' repeated in the extract?
- (ii) Complete the following suitably.
"The wind god winnows and crushes them all" indicates that.....
- (iii) How does the poet describe the wind?
- (iv) Which word in the extract does not indicate 'destruction'?
- (a) Crumbling (b) Crushes (c) Frail (d) Winnows
- (v) Complete the following analogy.

Squash : : Direct : Blunt

8. Answer any four of the following five questions in 40-50 words each. (4×3=12)

- (i) How did the County Inspector improve Margie's performance in Geography?
- (ii) Why was the lady cursed to become a woodpecker in the story 'A Legend of the Northland'?
- (iii) "Our hells of fire and dust outrage the innocence of air." Explain.
- (iv) What does Gerrard tell about his life when the intruder asks him to sit down and have a nice talk?
- (v) How can the tree get back to its former size in 'On Killing a Tree'?

9. Answer any two of the following three questions in 40-50 words each. (2×3=12)

- (i) What dream does Behrman have? Does it come true?
- (ii) Why did the people choose the guru and disciple as the king and minister?
- (iii) Why was the bird unable to sleep peacefully the first night in the story 'The Happy

Prince’?

10. Answer any one of the following two questions in 100-120 words each. (6)

- (i) “At the age of two and a half, Einstein still wasn’t talking. When he finally learnt to speak, he uttered everything twice. Einstein did not know what to do with other children.

From the above lines how can it be justified that Einstein was an unusual child with no indication of his potential greatness?

- (ii) “It is the attitude towards the goal and not the money that matters.” Do you agree? How did Sharapova prove it?

11. Answer any one of the following two questions in 100-120 words each. (6)

- (i) What is Mahendra’s role in the relationship between him and Iswaran? How does this relationship influence the events of the story?

- (ii) By nature and from childhood only human beings have dual or ambiguous attitudes to react differently in different situations. Keeping in mind the lesson ‘The Lost Child’, support the given statement.