

Total No. of Printed Pages—16

X/25/E (NC)

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ENGLISH

(New Course)

(FOR REGULAR CANDIDATES)

Full Marks : 80

Pass Marks : 24

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

General Instructions :

- (i) Please check that this Question Paper contains **56** questions.
- (ii) 15 minutes time is given for the candidates to read the Question Paper. The Question Paper will be distributed 15 minutes before the scheduled time of the examination. In these 15 minutes, the candidates should only read the instructions and questions carefully and should not write answers on the Answer Sheet.
- (iii) The Question Paper contains 4 sections, **Section—A, B, C and D.**

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- (iv) **Section—A** contains Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ). Choose the most appropriate answer from the given options. The answers to this **Section** must be provided in the boxes provided in the Answer Sheet. Answers given anywhere else will not be counted for marking.
- (a) Questions **1** to **14** are from the English Reader and the Supplementary Reader.
 - (b) Questions **15–20** are from Grammar Section. Read the given instructions carefully before answering.
 - (c) Questions **21–30** are based on the passage given. Read the passage carefully before answering.
- (v) **Section—B** contains questions based on Reading Comprehension through **unseen passage** which is a Case-Based Factual Passage with Visual Input, Statistical Data or Chart. There are **10** questions. Each question carries *1* mark.
- (vi) **Section—C** contains Creative Writing questions.
- (vii) **Section—D** contains questions based on English Reader and Supplementary Reader.

SECTION—A

Multiple Choice Questions. Attempt **all** questions : $1 \times 30 = 30$
(Questions **1** to **14** are from the English Reader and the Supplementary Reader)

1. What is Lencho's purpose of writing his first letter to God?
- (A) To give answers
 - (B) To seek his help
 - (C) To show his gratitude
 - (D) To get in touch with the postmaster

(3)

2. Chubukov thought that Lomov wanted to borrow money because he seemed
- (A) repentant (B) mortified
(C) agitated (D) docile
3. The sight of _____ maddened the young seagull.
- (A) his siblings enjoying without him
(B) food
(C) his brother flying
(D) the sea in front of him
4. What was the name of the aeroplane that the pilot was flying?
- (A) Airbus (B) Boeing
(C) Apache (D) Dakota
5. Anne Frank was a German-born _____ girl.
- (A) Jewish (B) Christian
(C) French (D) Russian
6. Which river obtains its water from Coorg?
- (A) Narmada (B) Yamuna
(C) Tapi (D) Kaveri
7. Pranjol and Rajvir were students in a school in _____.
- (A) Assam (B) Delhi
(C) Dhekiabari (D) Marian

(4)

8. In the beginning, the Otter was ____.
- (A) friendly
 - (B) hostile
 - (C) sad
 - (D) aloof and indifferent
9. How does the fog come?
- (A) Slowly and silently
 - (B) Loud and fast
 - (C) Quickly
 - (D) Gently
10. The poet says, "Of a day I had rued". What is the meaning of 'rued'?
- (A) Destroyed
 - (B) Ruled
 - (C) Ruined
 - (D) Held in regret
11. Fire is a metaphor for
- (A) desire
 - (B) dislike
 - (C) distaste
 - (D) revulsion
12. The world, as mentioned in *The Ball Poem*, is one of ____.
- (A) funs
 - (B) friends
 - (C) balls
 - (D) possessions

(5)

13. Who is the narrator of the story, *A Triumph of Surgery*?

- (A) Mrs. Pumphrey
- (B) A veterinary surgeon
- (C) Tricki
- (D) A servant

14. How did the thief attempt at being friends with Anil?

- (A) By flattering him
- (B) By being friendly
- (C) By being modest
- (D) By introducing himself

(Questions **15** to **20** are from Grammar Section. Read the given instructions carefully before answering)

15. Fill in the blank with the correct determiner :

“ _____ book on the shelf is mine.”

- (A) Some
- (B) This
- (C) Any
- (D) These

16. Choose the appropriate tense for the sentence :

“She _____ a book when I called her.”

- (A) reads
- (B) read
- (C) was reading
- (D) has read

(7)

(Questions **21** to **30** are based on the passage given below. Read carefully, then choose the most appropriate options for the questions) :

Everybody wants to succeed in life. For some, success means achieving whatever they desire or dream. For many, it is name, fame and social position. Whatever be the meaning of success, it is success which makes a man popular.

All great men have been successful. They are remembered for their great achievements. It is certain that success comes to those who are sincere, hardworking, loyal and committed to their goals.

Success has been man's greatest motivation. It is very important for all. Success has a great effect on life. It brings pleasure and pride. It gives a sense of fulfilment. It means all-round development. Everybody hopes to be successful in life. But success smiles on those who have proper approach, planning, vision and stamina. Proper and timely application of all these elements is bound to bear fruit. One cannot be successful without cultivating these basic qualities. It is very difficult to set out on a journey without knowing one's goals and purposes. Clarity in objective is a must to succeed in life. A focused approach with proper planning is certain to bring success. Indecision and insincerity are big obstacles on the path to success.

One should have the capability and resources to turn one's dreams into reality. Mere desire cannot bring you success. The next important thing is the eagerness, seriousness and urge to be successful. It is the driving force which decides the first step on the ladder of success.

One needs to pursue one's goals with all sincerity and passion. One should always be in high spirit. Lack of such spirit leads to an inferiority complex which is a big obstruction on the path to success. Time is also a deciding factor. Only the punctual and committed achieve success in life.

Hard labour is one of the basic requirements of success. Every success has a ratio of five percent inspiration and ninety-five percent perspiration. It is patience, persistence and perseverance which play a decisive role in achieving success. Failures are the pillars of success as they are our stepping-stones and we must get up and start again and remain motivated.

- 21.** What does success mean for some?
- (A) Success means living the dream
 - (B) Success means achieving whatever they desire or dream
 - (C) Success means dreaming and desiring
 - (D) Success means name, fame and social position
- 22.** What makes a man popular?
- (A) Wealth
 - (B) Success
 - (C) Social status
 - (D) Wealth and success
- 23.** What kind of people achieve success?
- (A) Those who are sincere, hardworking, loyal and committed
 - (B) Those who are intelligent and smart
 - (C) Those who are rich and wealthy
 - (D) Those who are competent

- 24.** Success has a great effect on life. It brings ____.
- (A) humility and honesty
 - (B) joy and happiness
 - (C) health and wealth
 - (D) pleasure and pride
- 25.** Where does lack of high spirit lead to?
- (A) Superiority complex
 - (B) Failure
 - (C) Inferiority complex
 - (D) Success
- 26.** What are the obstacles on the path to success?
- (A) Indecision and insincerity
 - (B) Decisiveness and sincerity
 - (C) Indecision
 - (D) Insincerity
- 27.** What is the driving force which decides the first step on the ladder of success?
- (A) Thirst and hunger for success
 - (B) The idea of becoming rich
 - (C) Competitive spirit
 - (D) Eagerness, seriousness and urge to be successful

(10)

- 28.** 'Inspiration' and 'Perspiration' mean the same as
- (A) encouragement and sweat
 - (B) depression and absorption
 - (C) reality and absorption
 - (D) hindrance and sweat
- 29.** How should a person pursue his goal?
- (A) With passion and competition
 - (B) With all sincerity and passion
 - (C) All day and night long
 - (D) With all his heart and soul
- 30.** "Continuing in a course of action without regard to discouragement, opposition or previous failure" means the same as
- (A) patience
 - (B) perspiration
 - (C) persistence
 - (D) perseverance

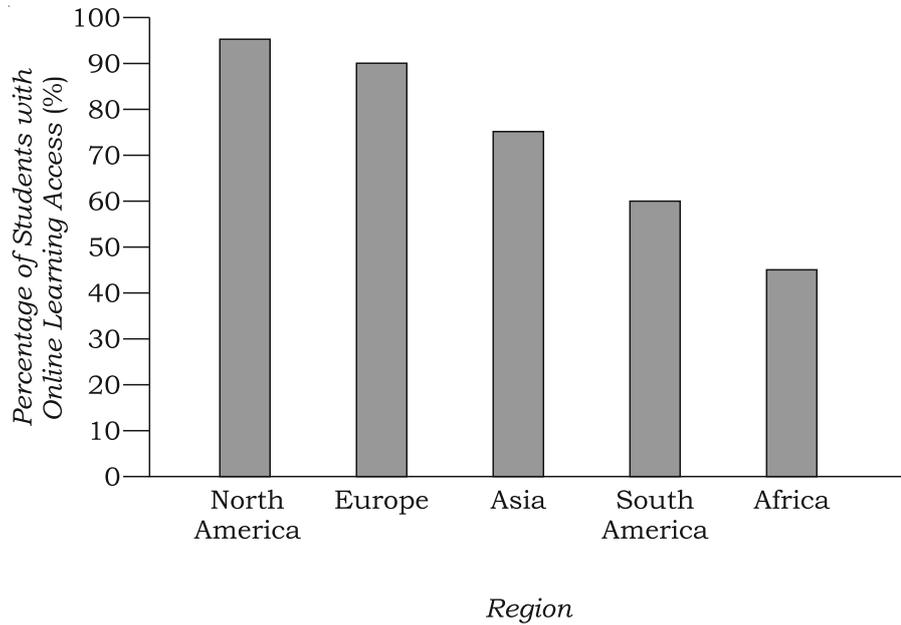
SECTION—B

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions after the passage : 1×10=10

The 2024 Global Education Access Report highlights disparities in educational access and digital learning tools across different regions. The accompanying chart provides a snapshot of the percentage of students with access to online learning platforms and the average

number of hours spent on digital learning per week in various regions.

Chart : Educational Access and Digital Learning (2024)



<i>Region</i>	<i>Percentage of Students with Online Learning Access (%)</i>	<i>Average Weekly Digital Learning Time (Hours)</i>
North America	95	12
Europe	90	10
Asia	75	8
South America	60	6
Africa	45	4

31. What percentage of students in North America has access to online learning platforms?

(12)

32. Which region has the highest average weekly digital learning time?
33. How many hours per week do students in South America spend on digital learning on average?
34. What is the percentage of students with online learning access in Africa?
35. What is the average weekly digital learning time for students in Europe?
36. Which region has the lowest average weekly digital time?
37. What percentage of students in Asia has access to online learning platforms?
38. How many hours do students in Europe spend on digital learning weekly?
39. What percentage of students in South America has access to online learning?
40. Which region has the second highest average weekly digital learning time?

(13)

SECTION—C

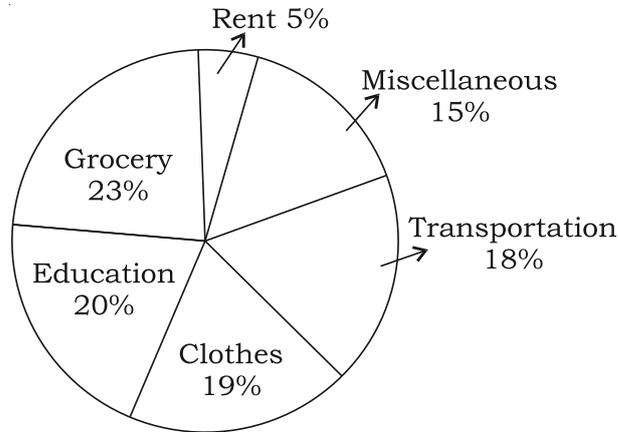
(Creative Writing Skill)

Answer any **two** :

8×2=16

- 41.** You are Meena/Madhav of 1/117, Kailash Colony, Mathura. You are preparing for your Class X Board examination, but due to frequent electricity cuts, it is becoming difficult for you to concentrate. Write a letter to the Chairman of your local Electricity Board stating the problem. (100 words)
- 42.** India is a land of diversity. This makes us feel proud of the number of festivals we enjoy. Write an article in about 150 words on 'Festivals of India'. You are Sam/Sandra.
- 43.** The given pie chart represents the amount of money spent by a family on different items in a month. Write an analytical paragraph using the information given in the chart. (100–120 words)

Distribution of Household Income



(14)

SECTION—D

(Reader and Supplementary Reader)

Questions **44–49** are Short Answer-type Questions. Answer any **three** : 2×3=6

- 44.** What 'twin obligations' does Mandela mention?
- 45.** Why was Lencho's soul filled with sorrow?
- 46.** How does the tiger act inside the cage?
- 47.** Why does Amanda seem moody most of the time?
- 48.** Why did Hari Singh feel bad after stealing Anil's money?
- 49.** Why was Bholi sent to school?

Questions **50–53** are Long Answer-type Questions. Answer any **two** : 5×2=10

- 50.** What lesson on death and suffering did the Buddha teach Kisa Gotami in the chapter, *The Sermon at Benares*?
- 51.** How did Valli plan to go on her first bus ride?

(15)

52. What message does Adrienne Rich want to convey through the poem, *The Trees*?

53. Physical beauty is not permanent but inner beauty is. Justify on the basis of your understanding of the poem, *For Anne Gregory*.

Answer any **two** questions from **54–56** : 4×2=8

54. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow : 1×4=4

“All I can think about when I’m with friends is having a good time. I can’t bring myself to talk about anything but ordinary everyday things. We don’t seem to be able to get any closer, and that’s the problem. Maybe it’s my fault that we don’t confide in each other. In any case that is how things are, and unfortunately they’re not liable to change. This is why I’ve started the diary.”

(a) What is Anne’s view on friends?

(b) What is Anne’s fault?

(c) What does “unfortunately they’re not liable to change” mean?

(d) Why did Anne think she could confide more in her diary than in people?

55. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow :

1×4=4

“The pirate gaped at Belinda’s dragon,
And gulped some grog from his pocket flagon,
He fired two bullets, but they didn’t hit,
And Custard gobbled him every bit.”

- (a) What did the pirate gulp?
- (b) How did the pirate attack Custard?
- (c) What did the dragon do to the pirate?
- (d) Which word in the given extract means the same as swallowed?

56. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow :

1×4=4

“He was silent, stupefied, in dismay, at the sight of his wife weeping. He stammered, “What is the matter? What is the matter?” By a violent effort, she had controlled her vexation and responded in a calm voice, wiping her moist cheeks, “Nothing. Only I have no dress and consequently I cannot go to this affair” She reflected for some seconds thinking of a sum that she could ask for without refusal and a frightened exclamation from the economical clerk.”

- (a) What does ‘economical clerk’ indicate?
- (b) How did M. Loisel feel at the sight of his wife weeping?
- (c) Why was Matilda crying?
- (d) Give one word for “a state of being annoyed, frustrated or worried”.

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