

2025
ENGLISH

Full marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

General instructions:

- i) *Approximately 15 minutes is allotted to read the question paper and revise the answers.*
- ii) *The question paper consists of 16 questions divided into 4 sections A,B,C &D.*
- iii) *Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct number in your answer sheet to indicate the option/s being attempted.*
- iv) *General and Internal choice has been provided in some questions.*

N.B: *Check that all pages of the question paper are complete as indicated on the top left side.*

SECTION-A (Literature)

1. Choose the correct option for the following questions: 4x1=4

- (a) “At last, my time was ended at this trade by which no man can support himself”.
What trade is the soldier referring to here?
 - (i) Shop boy
 - (ii) Floor polisher
 - (iii) Apprentice
 - (iv) Mason

- (b) Who is known as the ‘Mother of Revolution’ by her people?
 - (i) Ellen Johnson Sirleaf
 - (ii) Tawakkul Karman
 - (iii) Wangari Maathai
 - (iv) Leymah Roberta Gbowee

- (c) Select the options that list the qualities of Susan:
 - (i) Smart
 - (ii) Dainty
 - (iii) Strong willed
 - (iv) Dominant
 - (v) Courageous
 - (vi) Spriteful
 - A. (i) ,(v) ,(iii) and (ii)
 - B. (vi), (iv), (ii) and (v)
 - C. (i), (v), (vi) and (iv)
 - D. (iii), (i), (v) and (vi)

- (d) Ellen is assessed as having high Emotional Intelligence. This means she has
 - (i) Skills and abilities that help her understand people from another cultural heritage.
 - (ii) Skills and abilities that help her process, understand and regulate her emotions and those of others.
 - (iii) Skills and abilities to acquire different languages.
 - (iv) Skills and abilities to achieve top position always.

2. **Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:**

3x2=6

- (a) What did Hardimont promise to do for Jean-Victor after learning about his past life?
- (b) How did grandma's frog story inspire Susan?
- (c) What was the excuse Bill and Sam made up to convince the boy to go home?

3. **Answer the following questions in about 150 words:**

- a. 'A Voice for Freedom' explores the struggles faced by those who are silenced and oppressed. It advocates the desire for freedom and the importance of speaking out against oppression. Do you agree with the given statement? Elucidate.

Or

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- b. Define Emotional Intelligence. Explain the four factors of Emotional Intelligence.

4. **Choose the correct answer from the alternatives given:**

3x1=3

- a. In the sonnet, 'Let Me Not To The Marriage of True Minds' Shakespeare's notion of ideal love is juxtaposed with the problem of
 - (i) Instability
 - (ii) Unsteadiness
 - (iii) Unfaithfulness
 - (iv) Flux and change

- b. *Let not the man who is beast or who thinks he is God come near me.*

Identify the poetic device used in these lines.

- (i) Simile
- (ii) Personification
- (iii) Metaphor
- (iv) Alliteration

- c. *Ah! As the heart grows older*

It will come to such sights colder

By and by, nor spare a sigh...

Read the statements and then select the option that best describes the given statements.

Statement i: As we grow older, we are less likely to be sad.

Statement ii: As we grow older, we do not have time to sight.

Statement iii: We are accustomed to the sight of the falling leaves with the passage of time.

- A. Statement i is false, statement ii is true, statement iii cannot be inferred.
- B. Statement i and iii are true, statement ii cannot be inferred.
- C. Statement i cannot be inferred, statement ii is false, statement iii is true.
- D. Statement i and ii are false, statement iii is true.

5. **Read the lines from the poem and answer the following questions:**

- a. *.....are you grieving*

Over Goldengrove unleaving?

Leaves, like the things of man, you

With your fresh thoughts care for, can you?

- (i) Who is 'You' referred to here? 1
- (ii) Why is the person grieving? 1
- (iii) What does 'fresh thoughts' represent here? 1

Or

b. *Forward, The Light Brigade!*

Was there a man dismay'd?

Not tho' the soldier knew

Someone had blunder'd:

Theirs not to make reply,

Theirs not to reason why,

Theirs but to do and die:

- (i) What was the blunder? (1)
- (ii) What are they not to do? (1)
- (iii) What was the price paid for the blunder? (1)

6. Answer the following question in about 120 words:

a. Describe how the central idea of the poem 'Let Me Not To The Marriage Of True Minds' is presented through different images.

Or

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b. Louis MacNeice's poem 'Prayer Before Birth' paints a picture of a world devoid of love, compassion and remorse. Substantiate your answer with reasons.

7. a. *But here's a parchment with the seal of Caesar:*

I found in his chest, 'tis his will.

Let but the commons hear this testament,

Which, pardon me, I do not mean to read-

And they would go and kiss dead Caesar's wounds,

And dip their napkins in his sacred blood,

Yea, beg a hair of him for memory

And, dying, mention it within their wills,

Bequeathing it as a rich legacy

Unto their issue.

- (a) What parchment does Antony reveal to the Roman citizens? 1
- (b) What influence does he claim it will have on the citizens if he reads it out? 2
- (c) How did the citizens react to this? 2

Or

b. Trace the progression of the citizen's reactions to Mark Antony's speech. (5)

8. **Answer any two of the following questions in about 150 words: 2x5=10**

- (a) Give the character sketch of Virginia Otis, highlighting the key aspects of her personality.
- (b) Comment on the supernatural elements in the Canterville Ghost.
- (c) Describe the meeting of the Canterville Ghost with his new found ghost friend .

SECTION –B (Reading)

9. 1. As per the famous Daniel Bell, ‘Technology like art, is the soaring exercise of human imagination’. It is also most difficult to imagine the world today without the internet and cellphones, but this has not always been the case. It has taken 30 years and four industrial revolutions to reach the world we live in today. Modern technology has become so advanced that it is on the brink of replacing human activities and human emotions. One such advanced form of technology includes AI or machine learning.
2. Artificial Intelligence is a part of technology that can process information and make decisions without human supervision .Researchers have been working hard on the technology for a very long time, but AI has now become an integral part of our everyday lives. Many useful characteristics such as navigation apps, video suggestions, facial recognition, and smart assistants are a by-product of artificial intelligence.
3. According to researchers, there are four broad classifications of AI. The first includes ‘Reactive Machine’ where these machines do not have any memory storage capacity but can process information and make situation- based decisions. These machine learning devices use algorithms and are frequently used in gaming software such as chess and ludo. It is very easy for such programs to think of a million permutations and combinations and reach the most suitable results that even the champions of the field have to take a bow in front of these programmes.
4. The second type of AI is called ‘Limited Memory’ technology and has taken the entire world by storm. Not only can such devices take situation-based decisions, but they also store previously analyzed data for future use. A good example of ‘limited memory’ technology is the video recommendation system on any video streaming platform like Youtube. Once the AI figures out the likes and dislikes of the user, it can make decisions on the user’s behalf and recommend shows and videos as per the user’s interest. The ‘limited memory’ technology has become an easy way to influence and manipulate the data in masses as they use the thought process of the person himself. Although this is a revolutionary feat, it has also made people more vulnerable and prone to wasteful online shopping and other unusual activities.
5. The third type of AI, which has not seen much progress yet, includes ‘Theory of Mind’. The idea is to develop a technology that can store and process data and have a human -like thought process that will allow the machine to make important decisions during a crisis. Scientists are working

continuously on this project and have come up with some humanoid robots, but the results have not been good enough to replace human work and services. However, we can hope in the future to have a lot of robot doing our work.

6. The fourth type of AI is the ‘self-awareness’ program which seems almost unachievable at this time. It refers to the knowledge of identifying oneself from given surroundings. A machine that would be self-aware would have its own emotions and its own thought process. If someday in the future, science is able to evolve to create ‘self-aware machines’, the human race could achieve immortality. And although this idea sounds difficult to believe, it has its supporters in many advanced scientists such as Stephen Hawking and Albert Einstein. These scientists believed that it was possible to store and replicate human consciousness.

7. AI has indeed made the world smaller and life more achievable. The distance that would take months to travel, years ago, now can be traversed in a matter of a few hours. There is no place on earth that humans cannot reach. AI has helped increase the duration of the entire human population by making health facilities cheaper and more accessible. But like every coin has two faces, AI technology has its pros and cons. We have become so addicted to our devices like mobile games, alexa and many more that we’ve replaced them for physical human interaction. Not only is AI taking away our social life, but it is also increasing health issues. Weaken eyesight, obesity, and cardiovascular issues are just common diseases resulting from the continuous use of technology sitting in one place .Thus, we must be reasonable with using any sort of technology.

Based on your reading of the passage, answer the following questions given below:

a. What is the primary characteristic of Artificial Intelligence (AI) that sets it apart from other technologies? **1**

- (i) Ability to learn and adapt
- (ii) Reliance on human supervision
- (iii) Lack of problem- solving capabilities
- (iv) Incapability of processing information

b. Which of the following is NOT a common application of AI in our daily lives? **1**

- (i) Navigation apps
- (ii) Video suggestions
- (iii) Manual labour
- (iv) Smart assistants

c. How do Reactive Machines make decisions? **1**

- (i) Based on past experience
- (ii) By analyzing future possibilities
- (iii) Intuitively
- (iv) Based on the current situation

d. What is Artificial Intelligence? **1**

e. What did scientists like Stephen Hawking and Albert Einstein believe? **1**

- f. Find a word in the passage which means the same as ‘duplicate’ . 1
- g. What are the pros and cons of AI technology? 2

10. **Read the following passage and prepare notes on the contents of the passage and summarize in about 80 words using the notes that you have made:**

4+3=7

Cholesterol is a waxy substance that is present in our body. It's an important component of our cell walls and other tissues, but it is thought to be harmful if in excess. It can lead to blockages caused by the plaque formation in the heart's arteries causing heart disease and heart attacks. Such blockages can also happen in arteries, in the legs or in the brain. Cholesterol is produced in the liver, and the amount produced is influenced by our genes. The food we consume, too, has effect on cholesterol levels. Fatty foods high in simple sugars such as cold drinks increase cholesterol levels. Lack of physical activity and exercise also leads to elevated levels.

We can reduce cholesterol levels by following a heart- healthy lifestyle, which include regular physical activity for at least 30 minutes daily and a diet high in fruits and vegetables and low in saturated sugar. Red yeast rice has been shown to be effective in lowering cholesterol. Include garlic and flaxseeds in your daily diet. Olive oil, canola oil or other oil rich in monounsaturated fatty acids can be used for cooking in order to reduce cholesterol through food.

The ill-effects of high cholesterol take time to show, and you may not realize until it's too late. Cholesterol, by itself is important because it insulates nerve cells and membranes. Being a fatty substance, it does not dissolve in the blood and is packaged into protein. There are ‘good’ HDL cholesterol and ‘bad’ LDL cholesterol. Bad cholesterol can stick to the smooth lining of the blood vessels, where it is absorbed, while HDL mops up excess bad cholesterol and removes it from blood vessels.

Exercise five days a week, whether you are overweight or underweight. Aerobic exercises like walking, cycling, swimming, slow jogging, dancing etc for 45 minutes, and aerobic exercises like weight training and sprinting, will help increase good and reduce bad cholesterol. In order to maximize your cardiovascular fitness, aerobic exercises should raise your heart rate to a certain level. This level is called your target zone. Always warm up, stretch and cool down- relax –before and after any workout to avoid injuries. All these contribute to a healthier and fitter life.

SECTION-C (Writing)

11. You are Daisy/ Max of 108, Green Cottage, Duncan Road Dimapur. You have lost your pet dog. Write a classified advertisement for the lost column of a local daily.

Or 4

Read the following paragraph and express your opinion in not more than 50 words on whether you agree or disagree with the ideas mentioned in it.

Computer games have been extremely popular for decades now and almost every household has at least one computer. However, it can be seen that playing these games causes social, educational and personal problems of several kinds both to youngsters and society. Firstly, young children who spend a great

deal of time in front of a monitor are not playing sport. As a result, they are mostly likely to be overweight and less healthy. In addition, addiction to games add to many problems such as the lack of interaction and social skills with their family and friends. If we wish children to grow up to become well-adjusted members of society, these games should be more tightly controlled.

- 12. You are Jack/ Marina, an academic counselor. You have been invited to Crestwood Higher Secondary School, Kiphire to give a speech to motivate the students on ‘Balancing academic and extra-curricular activities in today’s busy world’. Write the speech in about 150-200 words.

Or **5**

Write an article in about 150-200 words on the topic ‘Impact of Advertisement on the Younger Generation.’

- 13. You had made a prepaid purchase of a Rolex Oyster Perpetual watch from Flipkart. It’s been ten days after the expected date of arrival of the product but you still have not received it. On enquiring, Flipkart denies any responsibility as their record shows that it has been dispatched on time. Write a letter to the Manager, Blue Dart Express, Kohima inquiring about the parcel lost in transit. **6**

SECTION – D (Grammar)

- 14. **Rewrite the following as directed:** **3x1=3**
 - a. I _____ on my assignments for a while. (*Future Continuous Tense*)
 - b. They flew for five hours travelling to the U.S. (*Present Perfect Tense*)
 - c. My friend ordered a pizza for her younger sister. (*Past Perfect Tense*)

- 15. **Write the meaning of the following idioms and phrases and make sentences of your own:** **3x1=3**
 - a. Let the cat out of the bag
 - b. Cut and dried
 - c. Waste your breath

- 16. **Insert the blanks with correct modals:** **4x1=4**
 - a. It _____ be extremely difficult for a child to do this puzzle task.
 - b. Lima _____ speak in four languages fluently.
 - c. Peter _____ have helped his mother in preparing the dishes.
 - d. Did Tom _____ pay the fine?
