

Section – A Reading Skills (22 Marks)**Q1. Read the passage given below. (1 x 12 = 12)**

Did you know that there is a fibre that is as flexible and lightweight as nylon yet five times stronger than steel? Did you know that this fabric is resistant to temperatures higher than 500 degrees Fahrenheit? Did you know that a woman invented this fibre? This miraculous fabric is called Kevlar and it is used to make everything, from body armour to musical instruments.

The year was 1964. There were gasoline shortages due to conflict in the Middle East. A Polish-American chemist named Stephanie Louise Kwolek was working for DuPont an American chemical company. She and her group were trying to make a lightweight yet durable fibre to be used in tires.

Lighter tires would allow vehicles to get better gas mileage, but the tires had to be strong enough to resist the wear and tear of the road. They had been working on the problem for some time and had little success, until Kwolek had a breakthrough.

Kwolek and her group were synthesising or creating fibres to test during one of the steps in the process, Kwolek created a milky white solution by mixing two chemicals that were often used in the process. This solution was usually thrown away, but Kwolek convinced one of the technicians to help her test it. They were amazed to discover that the fabric that Kwolek had created was not only more durable than nylon, it was more durable than steel also. Kwolek had invented Kevlar.

Kevlar is a remarkable fabric known for its strength and durability. Since its invention, it has found its way into a wide variety of products. Kevlar is used in sporting equipment like bike tires, bowstrings, and tennis racquets. It is used in musical instruments like drum heads, reeds and speaker cones. It is also used in protective gears like motorcycle safety jackets, gloves and shoes. However, Kevlar is best known for its ability to stop bullets.

Richard Armellino created the first Kevlar bulletproof vest in 1975. It contained 15 layers of Kevlar, which could stop handgun and shotgun bullets. The vest also had a steel plate over the heart which made the vest strong enough to stop rifle rounds. Vests like Armellino's were quickly picked up by police forces and it is estimated that by 1990, half of all the police officers in America wore bullet proof vests daily.

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

(A) Choose the option that shows the various qualities of Kevlar.

(1) Flexible (2) Stiff (3) Strong (4) Hard (5) Heavy (6) Light

(a) (1), (3) and (6)

(b) (2), (4) and (5)

(c) (1), (2), (4) and (5)

(d) (1), (3) and (4) [1]

(B) What were Stephanie Louise Kwolek and her group trying to make? [2]

(C) Identify the quality that would help a vehicle to get a better gas mileage.

(a) Strong tires

(b) Steel body

(c) Hard metal disc brakes

(d) Light weight tires [1]

(D) What did Kwolek discover that shocked the technicians? [1]

(E) Does the following statement agree with the information given in the passage. Kevlar is best used to stop a bullet that is why; it is used to make body armours.

True-if the statement agrees with the information.

False-if the statement contradicts the information.

Not given-if there is no information on this. [1]

(F) In which of the following articles is Kevlar NOT used?

(a) Bullet proof vests

(b) Speaker cones

(c) Gloves

(d) Jewellery [1]

(G) Vests like Armellino's were quickly picked up by police forces. Why? [2]

(H) Kevlar is a remarkable fabric Choose the word that can SUBSTITUTE the underlined word.

(a) Low class

(b) Cheap

(c) Wonderful

(d) Strong [1]

(I) Which of the following words is NOT similar to 'breakthrough'?

(a) Discovery

(b) Advance

(c) Development

(d) Result [1]

(J) Which category of articles does Kevlar have no contribution in?

(a) Sporting equipment

(b) Protective gears

(c) Musical instruments

(d) Medical tools [1]

Q2. Read the passage given below. (1 x 10 = 10)

About 28 two-wheeler riders died daily on Indian roads in 2016 for not wearing helmets and others for not fastening their seat belts, according to an analysis of data shared by the states with transport ministry. The year was the deadliest with at least 31 people dying in every 100 road accidents.

It has steadily increased from 21.6 deaths per 100 accidents in 2005 to 29.1 in 2015. This is for the first time that police and transport departments in states have captured data on deaths caused due to people not wearing helmet. States have reported that one of every five bike occupants who died in crashes was not wearing a helmet and their total number was 10,135. UP accounted for most such fatalities (3,818), followed by Tamil Nadu (1,946) and Maharashtra (1,113).

A study by the United Nations last year had estimated that wearing an appropriate helmet improves chances of survival of bikers by 42%. The states have also provided data in deaths due to people not wearing the seatbelt of cars. A total of 5,638 people died on this account in 2016 with UP accounting for the most deaths (2,741).

Experts say the number of deaths due to people not wearing helmets and seatbelts could be more as the available data may not have captured the details in entirety. Two-wheelers remained the most unsafe mode of transport, not just for the riders but also posed maximum danger to others on the road. Crashes caused by

two-wheelers resulted in nearly 44,000 deaths while a total of 52,000 riders died in road accidents, which is nearly 35% of the total road deaths in 2016.

“Safety of two-wheeler occupants is a big issue not just in India but for the entire South East Asian region where their share is the highest among all types of vehicles. But very little has been done for the safety of the occupants. Western solution won’t help us in making our roads safer. There has to be specific policy intervention to meet our requirements,” said road safety expert Rohit Baluja.

Based on your reading of the passage, answer of the following questions.

(A) According to an analysis of data shared by the states with transport ministry, what is the basic reason of deaths on roads?

- (1) Not fastening seat belts (2) Not wearing strong shoes (3) Not having road knowledge
(4) Not wearing helmets (5) Not knowing driving
(a) (1) and (5) (b) (2) and (4)
(c) (1) and (4) (d) (3) and (5) [1]

(B) As per the given statistical data in the passage, how will the graph show the fatal road accidents in the passing years?

- (a) Moving upwards (b) Moving downwards
(c) Moving linear (d) Moving haphazard [1]

(C) Which state has been accounted for most fatalities related to the bike crash? [1]

(D) What are the chances of survival for a person wearing an appropriate helmet? [1]

(E) What is the number of road casualties that happened due to not wearing helmets and seatbelts?

- (a) Millions (b) Billions (c) Thousand (d) Unspecified [1]

(F) Two-wheelers top the chart for the most risky category of vehicles for accidents. True/False. [1]

(G) What solutions need to be applied on Indian roads?

- (a) Western solution (b) Specific road policies
(c) Stopping two-wheelers (d) Managing traffic [1]

(H) Complete the sentence with correct information.

Crashes caused by two-wheelers resulted in nearly deaths while a total of riders died in road accidents. [1]

(I) Which year was the deadliest with at least 31 people dying in every 100 road accidents? [1]

(J) Choose an option that means the same as ‘accidents’.

- (a) occupant (b) unsafe (c) crashes (d) fastening [1]

Section – B **Creative Writing Skills (18 marks)**

Q3. Attempt ANY ONE of the following:

You are Adi/Aditi Singh, Students’ Union Advisor of St. Stephen’s School, Ranchi. Write a notice for the school elections in not more than 50 words to be displayed on the school notice board inviting nominations for the posts of President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Students’ Union. Invent necessary details.

OR

On behalf of the Principal of Haryana Rajya Bal Bhavan, Madhuban Kurukshetra, write a notice announcing the admission of orphan and destitute boys to the institute. Give details like age of applicants, facilities available and the contact number. [4]

Q4. Attempt ANY ONE of the following:

An invitation had been issued by Mr. Cherian, the HR Head of your company inviting you for the company picnic. As Joseph Vijayan, Asst. Manager, Operations, draft a reply in not more than 50 words, either consenting or declining to attend.

OR

Sunrise Global School, Agra is going to organize a one-act play competition in the school auditorium. You have decided to invite noted stage artiste, Nalini to grace the occasion. Draft a formal invitation for her in about 50 words. You are Karuna/Karan, Cultural Secretary. [4]

Q5. Attempt ANY ONE of the following:

You are a resident of Shivaji Nagar Delhi. You are troubled by the roadblocks and violent demonstration on pretext of protests against Government. Few people even lost jobs/lives as they could not reach their destination (work place/hospitals) on time. Write a letter to the editor of a national newspaper highlighting the problems faced by innocent civilians. Make an appeal to the concerned authorities to retrieve smooth transportation.

OR

You have read an advertisement in the newspaper, 'Hyderabad Times' for the post of software engineer in Telenox, Hyderabad. You believe that you possess the requisite qualifications, experience and your innovative ideas will prove an asset to the company. Write an application in 120-150 words emphasising your strong points and your suitability for the post. Also include your biodata. You are Alka/Ayan, 9/R, Romi Vihar, Hyderabad. [5]

Wanted a talented Software Engineer for Telenox, Hyderabad. The candidate must have a degree from a reputed college and minimum three years' experience in a software company. Contact, the HR manager, Telenox: 93235xxxxxx
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Q6. Attempt ANY ONE of the following:

You are concerned about the rise in kidnapping cases involving school children in Malaysia. Write an article for your school newsletter giving tips to your school mates on how to avoid being kidnapped.

Notes:

Do's

- inform parents of whereabouts
- be alert of surroundings
- remember important telephone numbers

Don'ts/Don's

- go anywhere alone
- give out personal information
- trust strangers

OR

You are Hina Aziz, student of Class XII-D and a member of the school magazine editorial board. Write a comprehensive report detailing the activities undertaken by students as part of the celebrations on Yoga Day. Include descriptions of the events, participation details, and the overall impact of these activities on the

school community. You may organise your report by following - Who - What – When – Where – Why – How [5]

Section – C
Literature (40 marks)

Q7. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY ONE of the two given questions: (1 x 6 = 6)

The polished traffic passed with a mind Ahead,
Or if ever aside a moment, then out of Sorts
At having the landscape marred with the artless paint
Of signs that with N turned wrong and S turned wrong

(A) Choose an option that states the complaint that the city people had with the roadside stand.

- (a) The artless paint of the roadside stand
- (b) Poor people asking for alms
- (c) No N and S sign boards
- (d) Unhygienic products [1]

(B) Identify the feeling that poor people have when the rich people complain about the roadside stand. [1]

(C) The poor people ‘marred’ the landscape. The term ‘marred’ means:

- (a) Damaged
- (b) Beautified
- (c) Lavished
- (d) Dignified [1]

(D) The road signs were turned wrong. This shows that the owner of the roadside stand was:

- (a) Smart
- (b) Clever
- (c) Illiterate
- (d) Urban [1]

(E) What does the poet mean by ‘polished’ traffic?

- (a) Urban
- (b) Rural
- (c) Destitute
- (d) Strong [1]

(F) Complete the given sentence with reference to the extract.

The urban people were towards the rural people. [1]

OR

Now we will count to twelve

and we will all keep still.

For once on the face of the Earth

let's not speak in any language,

let's stop for one second,

and not move our arms so much.

(A) Choose the word that can SUBSTITUTE the word ‘utter’.

- (a) count
- (b) keep
- (c) speak
- (d) arms [1]

(B) What does the expression ‘not move our arms’ mean?

- (a) Sit quietly
- (b) Not eat anything
- (c) Be inactive
- (d) Sit still without any movement [1]

(C) ‘The face of the Earth’ refers to [1]

(D) Identify the feeling that inactivity is going to obtain eventually. [1]

(E) According to the poet, what does ‘twelve’ signify?

- (a) hours of a clock
- (b) month of a year
- (c) 12 zodiac signs
- (d) all of the above [1]

(F) The title of the poem 'Keeping Quiet' suggests:

- (a) inactivity (b) noise (c) unhappiness (d) silence [1]

Q 8. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY ONE of the two given questions. (1 x 4 = 4)

I cried aloud, shaking my head all the while until I felt the cold blades of the scissors against my neck, and heard them gnaw off one of my thick braids. Then I lost my spirit. Since the day I was taken from my mother I had suffered extreme indignities. People had stared at me. I had been tossed about in the air like a wooden puppet. And now my long hair was shingled like a coward's! In my anguish I moaned for my mother, but no one came to comfort me. Not a soul reasoned quietly with me, as my own mother used to do; for now, I was only one of many little animals driven by a herder. (Memories of Childhood: The Cutting of My Long Hair)

I. Complete the following suitably.

Zitkala-Sa's description of her experience at the boarding school conveys a sense of abandonment through her portrayal of _____

II. List any one emotion that Zitkala-Sa experiences as her hair is being cut.

III. Select the suitable option to complete the following.

The metaphor of being 'tossed about in the air like a wooden puppet' contribute to the reader's understanding of Zitkala-Sa's feelings of being _____.

- A. forced to interact with others
- B. manipulated and controlled
- C. preached at and insulted
- D. made to exist like toy animals

VI In what ways does the imagery of her 'long hair shingled like a coward's' symbolise the erasure of Zitkala's cultural heritage and the imposition of Western norms?

OR

Six hundred and fifty million years ago, a giant amalgamated southern supercontinent Gondwana did indeed exist, centred roughly around the present- day Antarctica. Things were quite different then: humans hadn't arrived on the global scene, and the climate was much warmer, hosting a huge variety of flora and fauna. For 500 million years Gondwana thrived, but around the time when the dinosaurs were wiped out and the age of the mammals got under way, the landmass was forced to separate into countries, shaping the globe much as we know it today.

1. For how long did Gondwana thrive?

- A 600 Million years
- B 500 Million years
- C 400 Million years
- D 300 Million years

2. How was the world of Gondwana different from our own?

- A It was cooler
- B It was warmer
- C It was hotter
- D Both B and C

3. What does “Wipe out” mean as a phrasal verb?

- A Cleaned
- B Disappeared
- C Removed
- D All of these

4. Gondwana did indeed exist, centred roughly around the present- day _____.

- A Asia
- B Arctic
- C Africa
- D Antarctica

Q9. Read extracts given below and attempt ANY ONE of them by answering the questions: (1 x 6 = 6)

Gemini Studios was the favourite haunt of poets like S.D.S.Yogiar, Sangu Subramanyam, Krishna Sastry and Harindranath Chattopadhyaya. It had an excellent mess which supplied good coffee at all times of the day and for most part of the night Those were the days when Congress rule meant Prohibition and meeting over a cup of coffee was rather satisfying entertainment Barring the office boys and a couple of clerks, everybody else at the Studios radiated leisure, a pre-requisite for poetry. Most of them wore khadi and worshipped Gandhiji but beyond that they had not the faintest appreciation for political thought of any kind.

(A) Select the phrase that means the same as ‘mess’ in this extract:

- (a) a messy place where people eat
- (b) a condition of disorder and confusion
- (c) a large public room for meals
- (d) a place for people to make a mess [1]

(B) Choose the reason that states the reason behind people going to Gemini Studios’ mess.

- (a) Because they could get good coffee day and night.
- (b) Because they could not get good coffee elsewhere.
- (c) Because they wanted to meet filmmakers.
- (d) Because they could see the film stars. [1]

(C) Choose the option that means the same as ‘Prohibition’ in this extract.

- (a) wearing khadi was banned.
- (b) gathering of people was banned.
- (c) That drinking coffee was banned.
- (d) That drinking alcohol was banned. [1]

(D) What were the political thoughts of the people at Gemini Studios?

They were interested. [1]

(E) Which word can SUBSTITUTE the word ‘faintest’?

- (a) Slightest
- (b) Strongest
- (c) Strangest
- (d) Fastest [1]

(F) The word 'pre-requisite' mean:

- (a) Needed to understand the basic steps of a process
- (b) Needed as a prior condition for something else
- (c) Not needed to make a thing/process complete
- (d) Not needed in the process of making or after [1]

OR

The experience had a deep meaning for me, as only those who have known stark terror and conquered it can appreciate. . In death there is peace. There is terror only in the fear of death, as Roosevelt knew when he said, "All we have to fear is fear itself" Because I had experienced both the sensation of dying and the terror that fear of it can produce, the will to live somehow grew in intensity. At last I felt released – free to walk the trails and climb the peaks and to brush aside fear.

(A) Identify the figure of speech in the phrase, "All we have to fear is fear itself." [1]

(B) Identify the type of sentence. "In death there is peace."

- (a) Assertive sentence
- (b) Interrogative sentence
- (c) Imperative sentence
- (d) Exclamatory sentence [1]

(C) The narrator said, "At last I felt released."

This means that the narrator felt [1]

(D) The narrator says, "The experience had a deep meaning for me," because the narrator

- (a) Faced his fear and feared it.
- (b) Encountered his fear and dominated it.
- (c) Confronted his fear and released it.
- (d) Detected his fear and encouraged it. [1]

(E) The narrator conquered his stark terror. Which terror is he talking about?

- (a) Hiking
- (b) Drowning
- (c) Claustrophobia
- (d) Monophobia [1]

(F) List the correct synonym of the word, 'brush' in context with the extract. [1]

Q10. Attempt ANY FIVE out of the six questions given below, in 40-50 words each. (5 x 2 = 10)

(A) Who was Hauser? How did his recitation of alphabets made others feel like laughing and crying at the same time? [2]

(B) How is Mukesh different from his peers? [2]

(C) 'Life provides many charms yet it too causes suffering and pain'. Expound with reference to the statement based on your reading of the poem 'A Thing of Beauty'. [2]

(D) How is total inactivity on Earth in winter months still has life? [2]

(E) Explain why the ironmaster saw the stranger lying close to the furnace in a very strange way. [2]

(F) The misery of the poor tenants made Gandhi want to help them. What was the misery of the peasants of Champaran? [2]

Q11. Attempt ANY TWO out of the three questions given below, in 40-50 words each: (2 x 2 = 4)

- (A) Narrate briefly the 'Journey to the end of the Earth' that was done by Tishani Doshi. [2]
- (B) Interpret the significance of both literal and metaphorical journeys in the story, 'The Third Level.' [2]
- (C) How did the domestic servants of the Sadaos strongly react to the American's presence in the house? [2]

Q12. Answer ANY ONE of the questions given below.

Analyse the poems, A Roadside Stand and Aunt Jennifer's Tigers for the theme of inequality and its impact on the bearers.

OR
How do the characters of Sophie from 'Going Places' and Subbu from 'Poets and Pancakes' compare and contrast in terms of their aspirations, constraints, and the pursuit of their dreams? [5]

Q13. Attempt ANY ONE of the following questions in 120-150 words.

Imagine you are the narrator writing to your parents back home telling them about your experience in Antarctica and how it is similar to that back home in some ways.

Antarctica

02 August XX

Dear mom,

it is- so different here. I can't post this letter but I write to capture these amazing moments I am spending here. Antarctica is

OR
There are moments in life when we have to make hard choices between our roles as private individuals and as citizens with a sense of national loyalty. Discuss with reference to the story 'The Enemy'.