

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Max. Marks: 80

Time: 2 Hours

NOTE: 1. Please read the questions and marking scheme carefully before attempting the Paper.

2. Please do not exceed the word limit.

3. Attempt all 7 questions.

- Q. 1. Write an essay in about 600 words on **any one** of the following topics. 15
- (i) Education is the single most important factor in the development of a country. Do you agree?
 - (ii) Tsunami
 - (iii) 'A woman is heard only when she shouts.' Address the issue of safety of women today.
 - (iv) Television: Could you be without it? Discuss.
 - (v) Terrorism and its global implications.

- Q. 2. Write a précis of the following passage to **one-third** of its length. Please give a suitable title. 10

Great saints of the world have always preached that simple living and high thinking should be the golden principle of life. Most of the great men in the annals of history have practiced this principle and achieved greatness in all its glory. The importance of simple living has been emphasized by all spiritual thinkers. The advice is based on the fact that human wants are limitless once they are given a long rope. If psychologically encouraged, these wants multiply one after another. They make man a selfish slave to material acquisitions. They divert the attention of man from high thinking and bring him down to the narrow circle of worldly pursuits. They effect adversely his devotion and concentration to higher ideals of life which mostly include service of fellow human beings. Modern thinkers have come to feel that elaborate living is more conducive to the service of humanity than simple living. Mahatma Gandhi, Abraham Lincoln, Einstein and Bertrand Russell have proved that simple living is a better way of achieving greatness if it means service to society. These personalities led unsophisticated lives yet they became the idols of people. They emancipated the thinking and living of common people with their strong convictions of truth, love for human beings and good of society. They led the people to great achievements. (219 words)

- Q.3. Write a paragraph of about 150 words on **any one** of the following topics. 10
- (i) Union is strength.
 - (ii) A rotten apple spoils the barrel.
 - (iii) Justice delayed is justice denied.
 - (iv) An idle mind is the devil's workshop.
 - (v) A penny saved is a penny earned.

- Q. 4. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow

it.

(5x2= 10)

A short puff of wind extinguished the candle I was carrying. Laying it carefully down at my feet, so that I could easily find it again in the dark, I quickly went through my pockets to see if I still had the box of matches, which I had thoughtfully put there that morning, when I set out to explore the cave. But a thorough search revealed nothing with which to relight the candle and left me desperately trying to recall how the matches could have gone astray. I then remembered that half an hour before, I had taken a short rest and had eaten a bar of chocolate. While doing so, I had rested the candle on a convenient rock in order to leave my hands free to unwrap the chocolate, and, just as now, a breath of wind had made the candle flicker and finally go out. It was then that I had the occasion to use my matches and I could only suppose that I had thoughtlessly left the box on the rock where the candle had been standing. I reckoned that I must be about half a mile from the entrance and that the only thing for it was to grope my way again. About an hour later, bruised from frequent collisions with projecting rocks, I stumbled into the daylight. The first thing that I thought of was a cigarette. Instinctively, I drew out my lighter from my trouser pocket. It was only when I had it in my hand that I realized what a fool I had been.

- (i) Why did the writer take a box of matches with him?
- (ii) Where and when did he leave his matches behind?
- (iii) When did the candle go out and what did the writer do then?
- (iv) Why did he realize that he had been a fool?
- (v) Give suitable synonyms (similar meaning words) for the following:
reckoned, bruised, instinctively, astray.

Q. 5. Make meaningful sentences from the following idioms. Do **any five**. 10
twenty-four seven, go with the flow, beyond wildest dreams, easier said than done, under the weather, speak of the devil, caught in the crossfire, call it a day, through thick and thin.

Q. 6. Due to a sudden landslide and foul weather conditions, St. Paul's School, Almora has to be closed for a week. As the Principal of the school, draft a notice in about 50-70 words to be displayed on the main gate notice board. Include all relevant details. 10

OR

You are Manav/Mansi, the Cultural Secretary of your College, Kanwar B.D Singh College of Arts and Commerce, Alwar. A weeklong Cultural Festival was organized by your College. Write a report in 100-125 words for your College magazine. Invent the details.

Q. 7. Write a letter to the Editor of The Hindustan Times, Delhi about the frequent traffic jams in Delhi-NCR due to acute water logging during rains. State the various problems faced by the people and suggest ways of coping with it. You are Tanya Mehta, 786, Block A, New Friends Colony, Delhi. 15

OR

You are Mohan Patel, currently working as an executive with Mumbai Financial Ltd., Andheri West, Mumbai. You wish to apply for the post of an Assistant Manager (Finance) in Smith & Strauss Fincorp, 111 Global Towers, Whitefield, Bangalore. Write a formal application to them stating reasons for your eligibility for the post. Invent the details.