KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN AGRA REGION,
SAMPLE PAPER FOR SESSION ENDING EXAMINATION - 2020-21

English Core Class XI

Time:3hrs   MM: 80

General Instructions

1. **This paper is in two parts PART A - 40 MARKS Objective and Subjective and Part B - 40 marks**
2. **Both parts and all sections in Part A and Part B are compulsory**
3. **Separate instructions are given with each section and question. Read them carefully before attempting the question.**
4. **Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.**
5. **Number your answers according to the numbers given in the question paper.**
6. **In the objective answers, mention both, the number as well as the correct sentence.**

Part A Objective

Section A-- Reading   18 Marks

Q 1   **Read the passage given below**:   **10**

Adapted from The Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame (1908)

1. The Mole had been working very hard all the morning, spring cleaning his little home. First with brooms, then with dusters, then on ladders and steps and chairs, with a brush and a pail of whitewash, 'till he had dust in his throat and eyes, and splashes of whitewash all over his black fur, and an aching back and weary arms. Spring was moving in the air above and in the earth below and around him, penetrating even his dark and lowly little house with its spirit of divine discontent and longing. It was small wonder, then, that he suddenly flung down his brush on the floor, said "Bother!" and "O blow!" and also "Hang spring cleaning!" and bolted out of the house without even waiting to put on his coat. Something up above was calling him imperiously, and he made for the steep little tunnel which answered in his case to the graveled carriage-drive owned by animals whose residences are nearer to the sun and air. So he scraped and scratched and scrabbled and scrooged and then he scrooged again and scrabbled and scratched and scraped, working busily with

his little paws and muttering to himself, "Up we go! Up we go!" 'till at last, pop! His snout came out into the sunlight, and he found himself rolling in the warm grass of a great meadow.

2. "This is fine!" he said to himself. "This is better than whitewashing!" The sunshine struck hot on his fur, soft breezes caressed his heated brow, and after the seclusion of the cellarage he had lived in so long, the carol of happy birds fell on his dulled hearing almost like a shout. Jumping off all his four legs at once, in the joy of living and the delight of spring without its cleaning, he pursued his way across the meadow 'till he reached the hedge on the further side.

3. "Hold up!" said an elderly rabbit at the gap. "Sixpence for the privilege of passing by the private road!" He was bowled over in an instant by the impatient and contemptuous Mole, who trotted along the side of the hedge chaffing the other rabbits as they peeped hurriedly from their holes to see what the row was about. "Onion-sauce! Onion-sauce!" he remarked jeeringly, and was gone before they could think of a thoroughly satisfactory reply. Then they all started grumbling at each other. "How STUPID you are! Why didn't you tell him—" "Well, why YOU didn't say—" "You might have reminded him—" and so on, in the usual way; but, of course, it was then much too late, as is always the case.

Questions

Answer any ten of the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

1. *What had the Mole been doing all the morning?*
a. Sleeping in his burrow
b. Waiting for Spring
c. Dusting, cleaning & white-washing
d. All of the above

2. *In context, the word "contemptuous" most nearly means _____ (para 3)*
a. Scornful
b. Patient
c. Admiring
d. Confused

3. *Why did the Mole throw the brush on the floor?*
a. He was tired

b. His back was aching

c. His fur was smeared in paint

d. Irresistible Spring was calling him

4. ***"This is better than whitewashing!"*** *What is better than whitewashing for the Mole?*

a. The happy bird songs that fell on his ears

b. The sunshine that warmed his fur

c. The soft breeze that caressed his brow

d. All of the above

5. *Which of the following is closest in meaning to* ***'imperiously'?*** *(para 1)*

a. Modestly

b. Quietly

c. Timidly

d. Arrogantly

6. *Which of the following sentences uses the word* ***'row'*** *exactly as it has been used in the passage?* (para 3)

a. She is sitting in the front row

b. There is a row of earthen lamps on his doorstep

c. There is a row in the parliament about the new farm laws

d. They row their boats very cautiously

7. *Why did the elderly rabbit stop the Mole?*

a. The Mole was jumping on the grass & trampling it

b. The Mole was passing by a private road

c. The Mole was disturbing the rabbits

d. The Mole was roaming around instead of working

8. **It was then much too late, as is always the case**. *What were the rabbits late for?*

a. Grumbling at one another

b. Arguing with one another

c. Giving a firm reply to the Mole

d. Cheering the Mole

9. *Which of the following traits can be associated with the Mole on the basis of the extract?*

   (i)   Lively

   (ii)   Impatient

   (iii)   Witty

(iv)   Hard working

(v)   Vivacious

(vi)   Nature loving

(vii)   Arrogant

a. All except 'witty '

b. All except ' hard working'

c. All except ' vivacious'

d. All except ' arrogant'

10. *What made the Mole jump on four legs*?

a. Joy of living

b. Joy of spring

c. Joy of not cleaning

d. All of the above

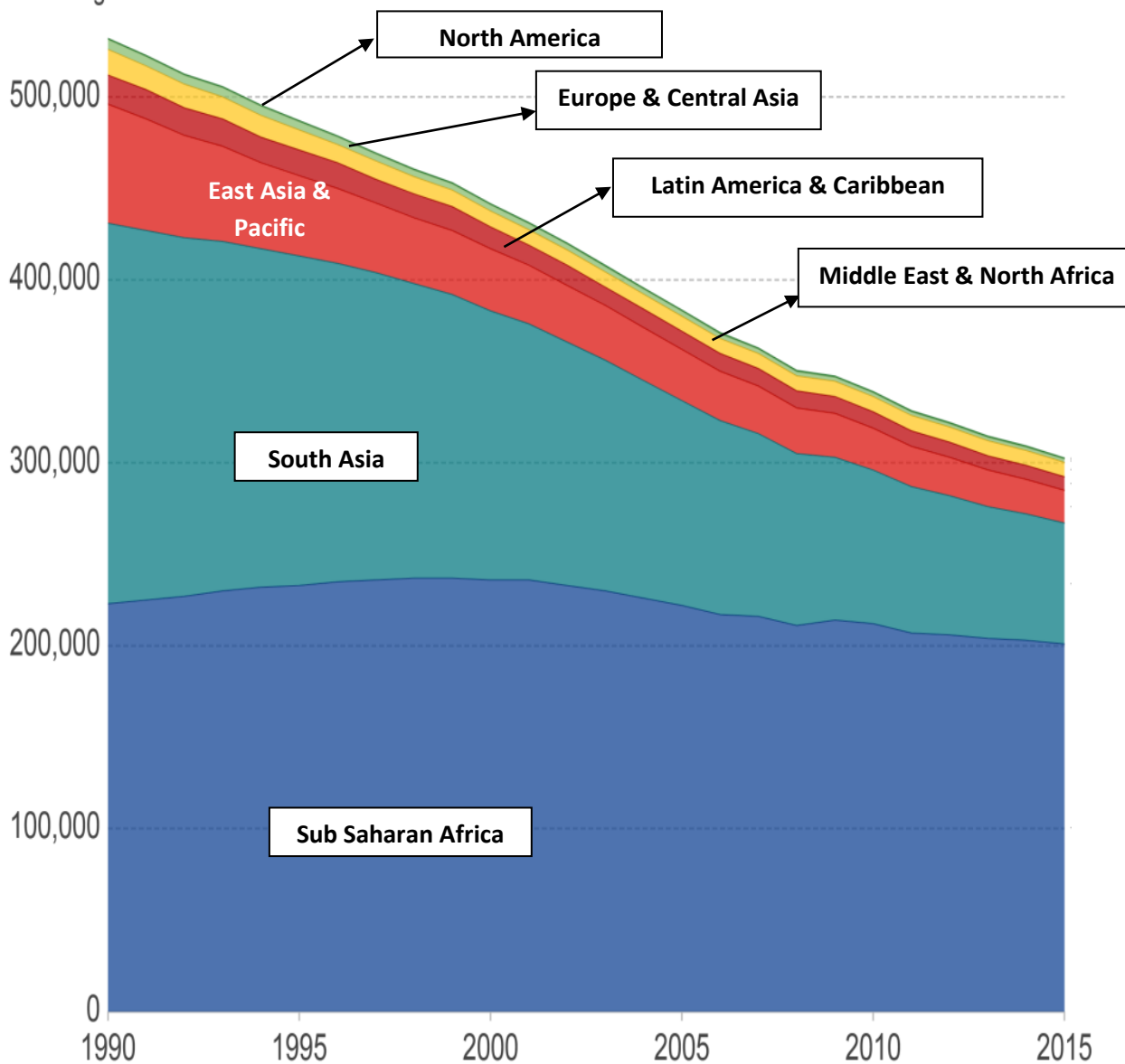11. *Which of the following words describes the elderly rabbit the best?*

a. Impish

b. Authoritative

c. Quarrelsome

d. Submissive

Read the passage given below & answer the questions:

Q 2   1. For most of our history, pregnancy and childbirth were dangerous for both baby and mother. If we look at long-term trends in maternal mortality – the likelihood a woman will die from pregnancy-related causes – we see that every 100th to 200th birth led to the mother's death.

Number of maternal deaths by region, 1990 to 2015

A maternal death refers to the death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and site of the pregnancy, from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management but not from accidental or incidental causes.

Source: World Health Organization (WHO)/UNICEF via the World Bank

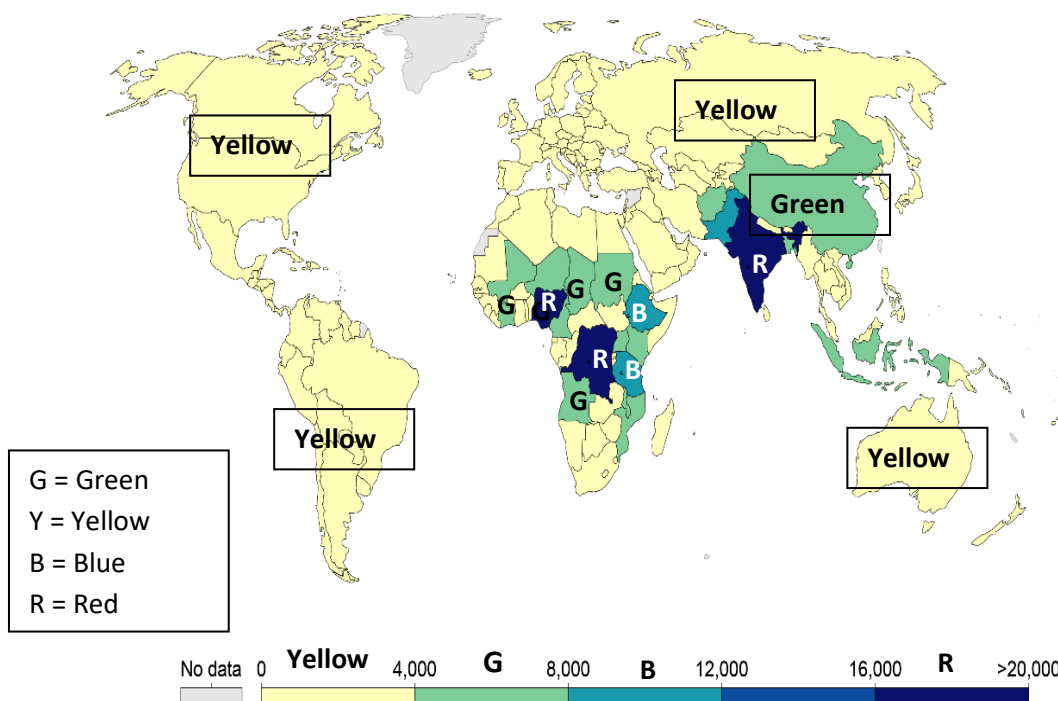OurWorldInData.org/maternal-mortality • CC

2. Improvements in healthcare, nutrition, and hygiene mean maternal deaths are much rarer today. But women are still dying from pregnancy-related causes that are preventable.

3. The World Health Organization estimates that more than 300,000 women died from pregnancy-related causes in 2015. That's 830 women every day. In the chart here we see global maternal deaths by region. Two-thirds – 201,000 – occurred in Sub-Saharan Africa. 22% – 66,000 – occurred in South Asia.

4. This is partly attributed to the fact that many more babies are born in Asia and Africa than in other

regions. But it is also largely the result of the much higher maternal mortality rates found in lower-income countries. Per birth, a woman in Nigeria is more than 200 times more likely to die in pregnancy or childbirth than a woman in Sweden.

5. The five countries with the highest number of maternal deaths in 2015 were: Nigeria (58,000); India (45,000); Democratic Republic of Congo (22,000); Ethiopia (11,000); and Pakistan (9,700).

Number of maternal deaths, 2015
The number of women who die from pregnancy-related causes.

G = Green
Y = Yellow
B = Blue
R = Red

Source: World Health Organization (WHO); UNICEF   OurWorldInData.org/maternal-mortality • CC BY
Note: A maternal death refers to the death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy. Included are deaths from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy but not from accidental or incidental causes.

Answer **any eight** of the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

(i)   What has the trend of maternal mortality in sub-Saharan Africa been as compared from 1990 to 2015?

   a. Significant rise
   b. Significant decline
   c. Slight decline
   d. Slight rise

(ii)   Which of the following will **not** qualify as a maternal death?

      a. Death within 42 days of termination of pregnancy
      b. Accidental or incidental death during pregnancy

c. Death due to any cause aggravated by pregnancy

d. Death during child birth

(iii)   Which of the following statements is **true** based on the passage?

      a. Income is directly proportional to maternal mortality rate

      b. Income is inversely proportional to maternal mortality rate

      c. Income is a small factor of maternal mortality rate
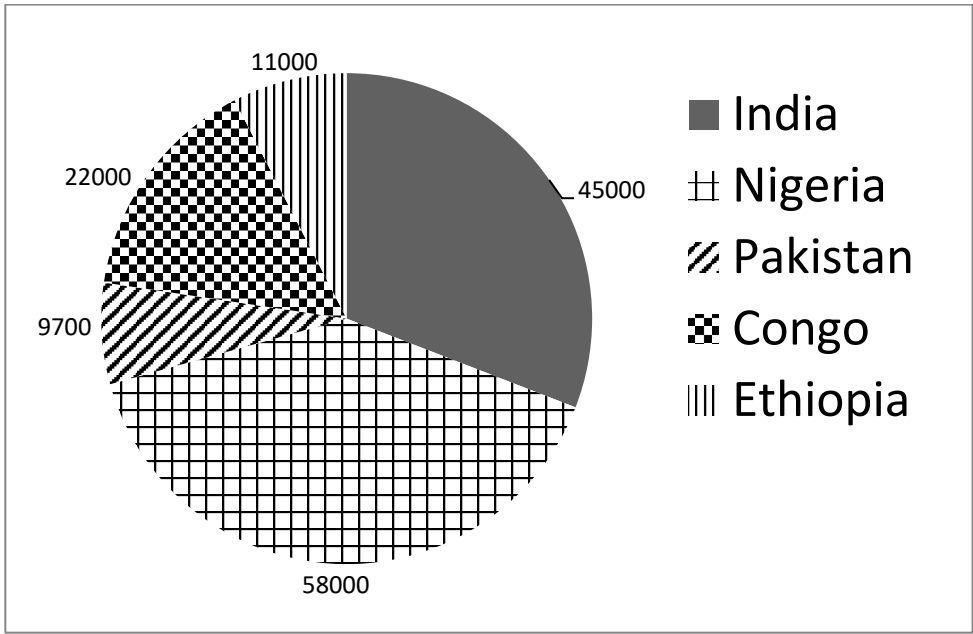
      d. Income & maternal mortality rate go parallel

(iv)   What is the tone of the author in the passage?

      a. Accusatory

      b. Critical
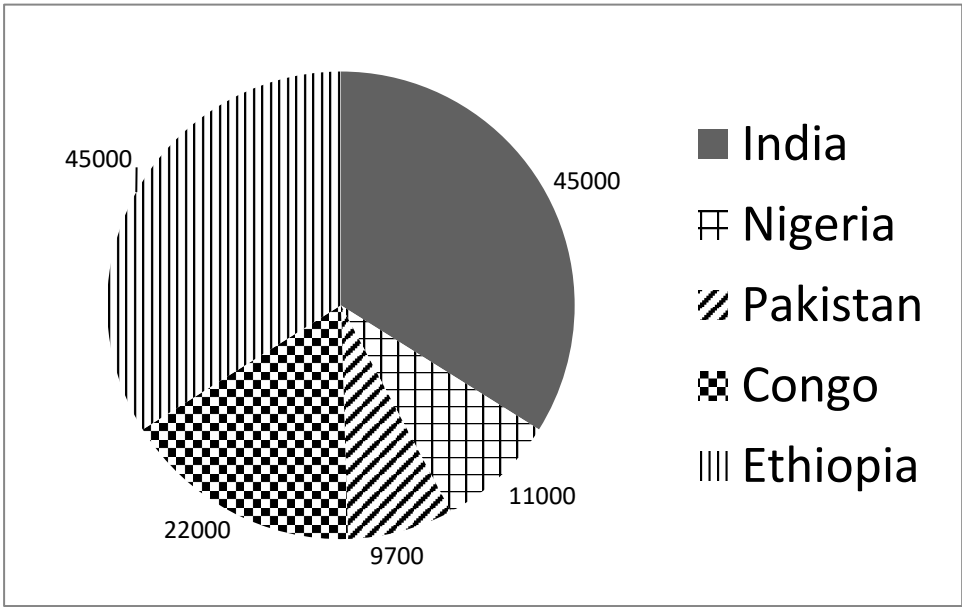
      c. Sarcastic

      d. Solemn

(v)   Which of the followings statements is (are) **not true**?

1. Nigeria registered the highest number of maternal deaths in 2015

2. 45000 women died daily in maternity in India in 2015

3. 660000 maternal deaths occurred in South Asia in 2015

      a. Only 3

      b. Only 2 & 3

      c. Only 2
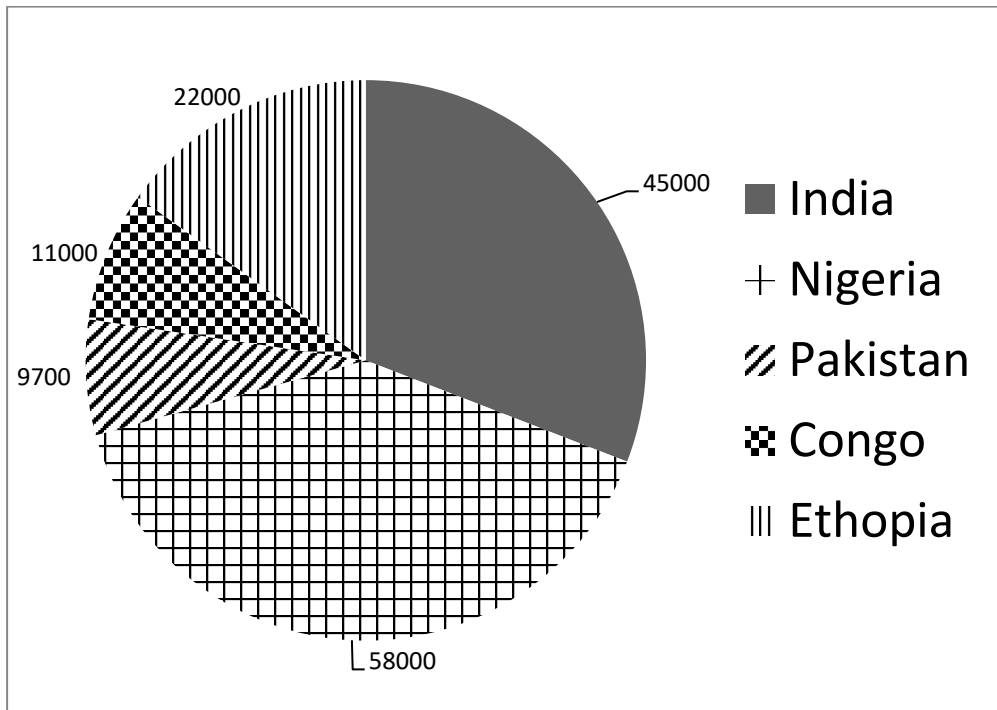
      d. No statement is wrong

(vi)   Which of the given pie charts rightly shows the number of maternal deaths in 2015 in different countries?
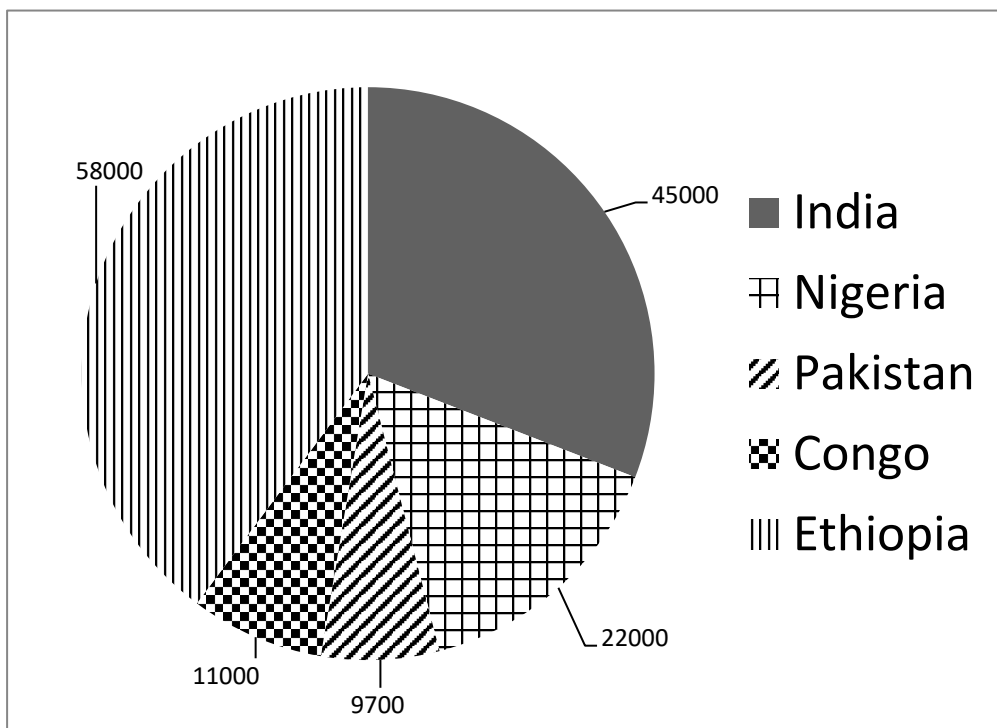
a.

b.

c.

d.

(vii)   What, according to the author, **has reduced** the rate of maternal mortality in modern times?

    a. Healthcare, nutrition & hygiene

    b. Genes, nutrition & healthcare

    c. Awareness, alertness & quick help

    d. Nutrition, Regular check-up & care

(viii)   Which of the following will be the **most appropriate title** for this passage?

a. Women Health : Facts & Figures

b. Maternal Mortality: Facts & Figures

c. Causes of Maternal Mortality

d. History of Maternal Mortality

(ix) Which of the following sentences **does not use** the word **'aggravated'** exactly as it has been used in the passage?

a. Her carelessness has aggravated her injury

b. Covid-19 pandemic has aggravated the problem of unemployment in India

c. He is looking aggravated in his new costume

d. Lack of experience aggravated the problems for Indian cricket team

Q3 **Answer any four of the following by choosing the most appropriate option.**   **4**

Fill up the gaps:

Recently (a)……….young Indian side battled it out with the mighty Aussies on their own soil. (b) ………
did Australia know that their Gabba fortress (c) ………that badly by a bunch of gritty youngsters. Even
the experts, before the series, (d)…………….India off. They had predicted a 4-0 rout. Such brilliance by
(e) ……….Asian side (forget an Indian side) was unprecedented.

a. (i) an   (ii) a   (iii) X   (iv) the

b. (i) A little   (ii) Little   (iii) The little   (iv) Few

c. (i) would be breached (ii) would breach (iii) breached   (iv) will be breached

d. (i) had written   (ii) wrote   (iii) has written   (iv) written

e. (i) some   (ii) any   (iii) each   (iv) every

Q4 **Answer any four of the following by choosing the most appropriate option**:   **4**

You are required to rearrange these parts, which are labelled P, Q, R and S to produce the correct
sentence.

1. (P) for thousands of years

(Q) famous symbols of ancient civilizations

(R) Monuments have been created

(S) and they are often the most durable and

(A) SRQP   (B) QPRS   (C) PRSQ   (D) RPSQ

2. **(**P) is one of the most widely used indicators

   (Q) of ecosystems and their biodiversity

10

(R) for assessing the condition

(S) The conservation status of plants and animals

| (A) SPRQ | (B) SRQP | (C) QRPS | (D) PQRS |

3. (P) for a short time where a new, innovative, or much-improved product

(Q) The practice of 'price skimming'

(R) is launched onto a market

(S) involves charging a relatively high price

| (A) QSPR | (B) RSQP | (C) PRSQ | (D) RQSP |

4. (P) by an emperor named Shah Jahan

(Q) The Taj Mahal is a

(R) in memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal

(S) beautiful monument built in 1631

| (A) QPRS | (B) QSRP | (C) PQRS | (D) QSPR |

5. (P) was designed by the British architect George Wittet and

(Q) The Gateway of India

(R) in the year 1924

(S) was opened for general Public

| (A) QSPR | (B) QPSR | (C) PQSR | (D) SRQP |

Q5 **Read the extract & answer the questions given under it by choosing the most appropriate option: <u>Do</u>** **3**
<u>any one extract only</u>

A.

> *"Now she has been dead as many years as that girl lived*
> *And of this circumstance..."*

    (i)   What does **"dead as many years as that girl lived "** apprise us about the mother's death?

           a.   She lived for 12 years

           b.   The mother died at the age of 12

           c.   Her mother died when the poetess was a girl of 12

           d.   She died 12 years ago

    (ii)   What is the significance of '**now**'?

           a.   Now indicates the present time when she looks at the snapshot

           b.   Now emphasizes that her mother has been dead for 12 years. She was alive when they

looked at the photo together

    c. Now expresses the sense of loss the poetess feels when she looks at her mother's photo

    d. Now underlines the fact that her mother is no more. It shows a contrast between happy past & tragic present

(iii)   What does this '**circumstance**' refer to ?

    a. Her mother's death

    b. her mother's beach holiday

    c. her mother's laughter

    d. her mother's silence

B.

"And who art thou? said I to the soft-falling shower

Which, strange to tell, gave me an answer, as here translated:

I am the Poem of Earth, said the voice of the rain"

(i)   What is strange for the poet?

    a. The sound of the soft falling shower

    b. The comparison between the rain & the poem

    c. Language of the rain

    d. The fact that he received an answer from the soft-falling shower

(ii)   What is the **poetic device** in "I am the Poem of Earth"?

    a. Simile

    b. Metaphor

    c. Transferred epithet

    d. Alliteration

(iii)   What is extra-ordinary in the beginning of the poem?

    a. It begins with an apostrophe

    b. There is an element of mystery or magic

    c. The poem begins dramatically

    d. All of the above

Q6   **Read the extracts & answer the questions given under them by choosing the most appropriate**   **3+3**
option. <u>Do any TWO extracts only</u>

A

"It's that silly old bag from next door —Mrs Fitzgerald. You don't want her here, do you?"

(i)   Who is the speaker?

    a. Mrs. Pearson

    b. Doris

    c. Cyril

    d. George

(ii)   Why did Mrs. Fitzgerald come to Mrs. Pearson's house?

    a. She is actually Mrs. Pearson in Mrs. Fitzgerald's body & wants to check if all is fine

    b. She wants to interfere in the personal affair of Pearsons

    c. She has come to play cards with Mrs. Pearson

    d. She has come to take tea & smoke

(iii)   Why does the speaker want Mrs. Fitzgerald to enter?

    a. They are having a row in the house

    b. They are busy at this time

    c. They all are going out to movies

    d. They all are about to retire to bed

B

FRANK: You sound a little bitter, Taplow.

TAPLOW: I am rather, sir.

FRANK: Kept in, eh?

TAPLOW: No, sir. Extra work.

FRANK: Extra work — on the last day of school?

(i)   Why has Taplow come to school?

    a. To meet Frank Hunter

    b. To play golf

    c. To do extra work for Frank Hunter

    d. To do extra work for Crocker Harris

(ii)   FRANK: Kept in, eh? What is the tone of Frank here?

    a. Sarcastic

    b. Critical

    c. Sympathetic

    d. Mocking

(iii)   TAPLOW: I am rather, sir. What does Taplow mean to say?

a. He is a little bitter

b. He is much bitter

c. He is not at all bitter

d. He is happy

C. *These shaggy monsters, blacker than the darkest night, usually wore bright red collars and barked furiously with massive jaws. They were completely fearless of our vehicle, shooting straight into our path, causing Tsetan to brake and swerve.*

    (i)   Name the chapter & the author?

           a. Birth by A J Cronin

           b. Silk Road by Nick Middleton

           c. Silk Road by A J Cronin

           d. The Address by Marga Minco

    (ii)   Who are the 'shaggy monsters'?

           a. Tibetan mastiffs

           b. Hairy Himalayan Horses

           c. Pet yaks with thick manes

           d. Donkeys maneuvering in tight formations

    (iii)   Where is Tsetan going & why?

           a. Towards Mount Kailash to do kora

           b. Towards Mount Kailash to drop the author

           c. Towards Tibet to buy Tibetan mastiffs

           d. Towards China to buy silk

Q7 Answer any five questions by choosing the most appropriate option: 5

    (i)   Why did the Armenian boys return the horse to John Byro?

          a. They were scared

          b. They were conscious stricken

          c. They were sick of the ill-tempered horse

          d. They had learnt horse-riding & didn't need it any longer

    (ii)   Which of the following was **not** a familiar thing identified by the narrator at 46, Marconi street?

a. Candle holder

b. Tea pot

c. Table cloth

d. Green knitted carpet

(iii)   What was the dilemma for Dr. Andrew in 'Birth'?

a. To save the mother first or the baby

b. To give the anesthetic or not

c. To try to resuscitate the lifeless baby or not

d. To stay till end or go home to sleep a little

(iv)   What is involved in the process of growing up according to 'Childhood'?

a. Development of critical thinking, originality & rationality

b. Development of hypocrisy

c. Development of malice

d. Strengthening of belief in Hell & Heaven

(v)   What was the opinion of Khushwant Singh's grandmother about music?

a. It was lewd

b. It was sublime

c. It was meant for gentlefolk

d. It was uplifting

(vi)   Which of the following is not a trait of the narrator in **'We are not Afraid ….Together'**?

a. Optimistic

b. Innovative

c. Determined

d. Pusillanimous

PART B : DESCRIPTIVE TYPE QUESTIONS

Q8 Read the passage given below:

1. Bitcoin is a digital currency created in January 2009 following the housing market crash. It follows the ideas set out in a whitepaper by the mysterious and pseudonymous Satoshi Nakamoto. The identity of the person or persons who created the technology is still a mystery. Bitcoin offers the promise of lower transaction fees than traditional online payment mechanisms and is operated by a decentralized authority, unlike government-issued currencies.

2. There are no physical bitcoins, only balances kept on a public ledger that everyone has transparent

15

access to, that – along with all Bitcoin transactions – is verified by a massive amount of computing power. Bitcoins are not issued or backed by any banks or governments, nor are individual bitcoins valuable as a commodity. Despite it not being legal tender, Bitcoin charts high on popularity, and has triggered the launch of hundreds of other virtual currencies collectively referred to as Altcoins.

3. Bitcoin is a collection of computers, or nodes, that all run Bitcoin's code and store its block chain. A block chain can be thought of as a collection of blocks. In each block is a collection of transactions. Because all these computers running the block chain have the same list of blocks and transactions and can transparently see these new blocks being filled with new Bitcoin transactions, no one can cheat the system. Anyone, whether they run a Bitcoin "node" or not, can see these transactions occurring live. In order to achieve a nefarious act, a bad actor would need to operate 51% of the computing power that makes up Bitcoin. Bitcoin has around 47,000 nodes as of May 2020 and this number is growing, making such an attack quite unlikely.

A. Make notes on the above passage in points only using an appropriate format, indentation & minimum four abbreviations wherever necessary. Also supply a suitable heading.

B.   **Summarize the passage in about 50 words.**

5

3

Q9   Suppose you are Amit/Amita, head boy/girl of DAV Pulic School, Pune. Your school is organizing a   **3** two- day symposium on 'Life Post Covid-19' in which many eminent sociologists, professors & health experts will be invited as speakers. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words asking the students to attend the symposium.

OR

Suppose you are Varsha/Varun, the Training Head of Manali Public School, Manali. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words informing all about the upcoming workshop to train faculty members & students in Art-integrated Learning in collaboration with CBSE regional office, Shimla.

Q10   Suppose you are Ranjit/Ranjita, the in-charge of Cyber Cell, Police Station, Lajpat Nagar, Delhi. Draft   **3**

an attractive poster in not more than 50 words to spread awareness about cyber-crimes like phishing, identity theft & hacking. Also suggest some safety measures.

OR

Suppose you are Shekhar/Shruti, the Librarian of KV No 1, AFS, Agra. You have noticed a sharp decline in the number of books (other than textbooks) being borrowed by the senior students. Design a poster in not more than 50 words to underline the importance of reading for pleasure.

Q 11   Suppose you are Sudhir Garg, the manager of Brijwasi Sweets, Mathura. Write a letter in 120-150   **5** words to M/s Prateek Enterprises, Khari Bowli, Delhi placing a bulk order for designer sweets boxes, wrapping paper rolls, wax- coated disposable bowls & cups and paper plates as per the terms & conditions agreed upon.

OR

Suppose you are Aman Purohit, a student of SWG University. You have noticed that the behaviour of the gate-keepers at the main entrance of the university is not appropriate. Most often, they are authoritative & rude. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the Dean complaining against the same & demanding prompt action.

Q 12 It is the age of mobile & desktop applications (apps). Recently there has been a deluge of commercial   **5** advertisement films targeting children. Very often, children are lured & pester their parents to arrange coding classes for them. With an aim to apprise the students about the pros & cons of coding classes at a young age, your school is organizing a debate competition on **'Coding classes should be compulsory for all students from Class VI '**. Write yours views in favour of or against the motion. You can use the following input along with your own ideas

For
- Learn many skills like analysis & synthesis
- Training in Problem Solving skill
- Futuristic & job-oriented
- Sets them thinking , expands horizons , enhances creativity
  Against
- Kills the joy of childhood
- Complicated for children
- Unnecessary pressure
- Too much screen time

Animal rights activists aver that keeping animals caged in a zoo is cruel. On the other hand, there are many who are vocal for zoos. Write a speech in about 120-150 words to be delivered in the morning assembly on **'Zoo- Necessity or Evil'**. You can use the following input along with your own ideas:

- Humans don't have right to breed, capture & confine animals
- Animals in captivity suffer from boredom, stress & lack of freedom
- Zoos foster an appreciation for other species
- Zoos save endangered species , provide enriched habitat, rehabilitate wild life
- Conclusion: Necessity or evil?

Q 13 Answer any two (at least one each from prose & poetry) questions in about 30-40 words   **4**

    a. Critically analyse the art of Nek Chand on the basis of your reading of the chapter, ' Landscape of the Soul'

    b. In which context does Nani Palkiwala refer to article 48 A?

    c. "The goldfinch & the laburnum tree are mutually dependent". Elucidate

    d. Growing up is a journey through disillusionment. Discuss on the basis of Childhood by Markus Natten

Q 14 Answer any one question in about 40-50 words   **2**

    a. Shastri was a sensitive & touchy man. Quote an example from Ranga's Marriage to support the view.

    b. "Mr. Braun's eyes were cold & cold…" How far is the behaviour of Albert's history teacher justifiable?

Q 15 Sue & Jonathan, children of the narrator in **'We are not afraid….Together'** stood like rocks in testing times & infused hope & positivity in their parents. Discuss   **5**

OR

Critically examine the superstitious beliefs of the ancient Egyptians that come to fore in **Discovering Tut: The Saga Continues**. Compare them with common Indian superstitions prevalent today.

Q 16 **"Medicine is learnt by the bedside, not in the classroom".** How far is the statement true in context of   **5**
the story, 'Birth'?

<div align="center">OR</div>

Earnest Hemingway said, **"Never think that war, no matter how necessary, nor how justified, is not a crime"**. Analyze the tragic impact of war on the narrator on the basis of your reading, 'The Address'.

<div align="center">-----------------------------------END OF PAPER----------------------------------</div>