

BEST SELLER

For 2024 Exam

**OSWAAL BOOKS®**  
LEARNING MADE SIMPLE

# CBSE

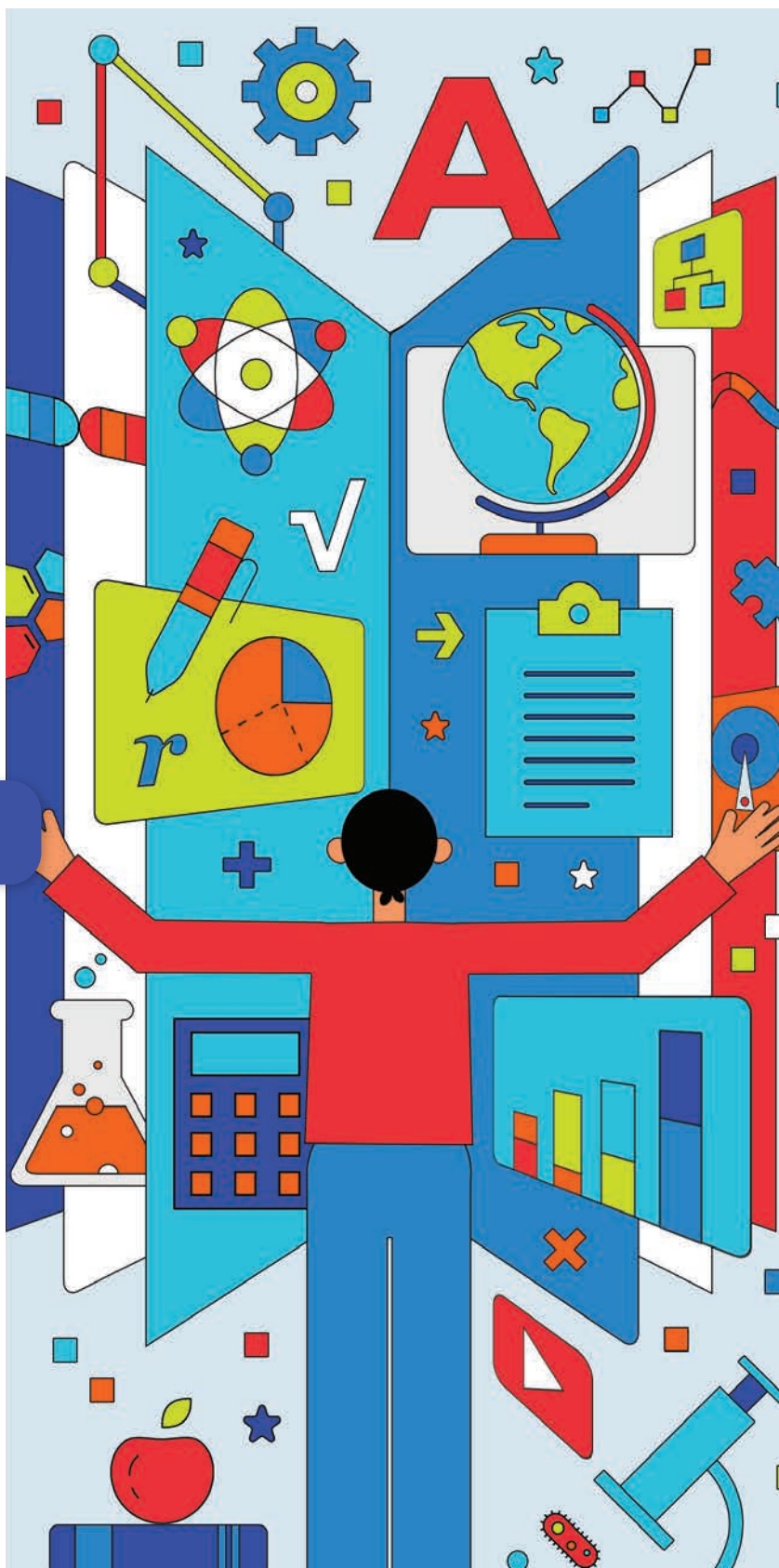
Chapterwise & Topicwise

# SOLVED PAPERS CLASS 12 QUESTION BANK ENGLISH CORE

(Flamingo, Vistas)

Get the #OswaalEdge

- 1** **100% Updated for 2023-24**  
with Latest Syllabus & Fully Solved Board Papers
- 2** **Crisp Revision**  
with Topic wise Revision Notes, Smart Mind Maps & Mnemonics
- 3** **Extensive Practice**  
with 3000+ Questions & Board Marking Scheme Answers
- 4** **Concept Clarity**  
with 1000+ Concepts & 50+ Concept Videos
- 5** **NEP 2020 Compliance**  
with Competency-based Questions





19<sup>th</sup> EDITION

YEAR 2023-24



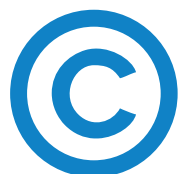
ISBN

"9789356349452"



**SYLLABUS  
COVERED**

**CENTRAL BOARD OF  
SECONDARY EDUCATION  
DELHI**



**COPYRIGHT  
RESERVED  
BY THE PUBLISHERS**

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, without written permission from the publishers. The author and publisher will gladly receive information enabling them to rectify any error or omission in subsequent editions.



**PUBLISHED BY**

**OSWAAL BOOKS &  
LEARNING PVT. LTD.**



1/11, Sahitya Kunj, M.G. Road,  
Agra - 282002, (UP) India



1/1, Cambourne Business Centre  
Cambridge, Cambridgeshire  
CB 236DP, United kingdom



0562-2857671



contact@oswaalbooks.com



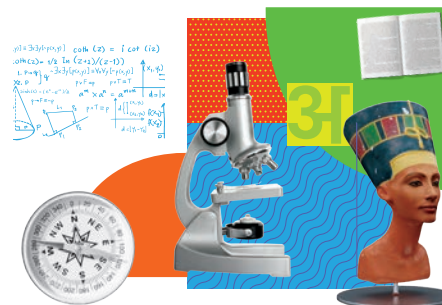
www.OswaalBooks.com

## DISCLAIMER

This book is published by Oswaal Books and Learning Pvt Ltd ("Publisher") and is intended solely for educational use, to enable students to practice for examinations/tests and reference. The contents of this book primarily comprise a collection of questions that have been sourced from previous examination papers. Any practice questions and/or notes included by the Publisher are formulated by placing reliance on previous question papers and are in keeping with the format/pattern/guidelines applicable to such papers.

The Publisher expressly disclaims any liability for the use of, or references to, any terms or terminology in the book, which may not be considered appropriate or may be considered offensive, in light of societal changes. Further, the contents of this book, including references to any persons, corporations, brands, political parties, incidents, historical events and/or terminology within the book, if any, are not intended to be offensive, and/or to hurt, insult or defame any person (whether living or dead), entity, gender, caste, religion, race, etc. and any interpretation to this effect is unintended and purely incidental. While we try to keep our publications as updated and accurate as possible, human error may creep in. We expressly disclaim liability for errors and/or omissions in the content, if any, and further disclaim any liability for any loss or damages in connection with the use of the book and reference to its contents".

# Contents



- **Latest CBSE Syllabus** 6 - 8
- **Sample Question Paper-2022 Fully Solved**  
(Issued by Board dated 16<sup>th</sup> Sep. 2022) 13 - 40
- **CBSE Solved Board Papers 2022 Term-II Examination**  
(Delhi & Outside Delhi Sets) 41 - 64  
(To download Solved paper for Term-I 2021-22 & Latest  
Topper's Answers 2020, scan the QR Code given on Page 64)

## Section - A Reading Skills Reading Comprehension

- |                              |         |
|------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Unseen Passages           | 1 - 33  |
| ◆ Self Assessment Paper - 01 | 34 - 37 |

## Section - B Creative Writing Skills Short Compositions (Notices, Advertisements, Posters)

- |                                 |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 2. Short And Long Writing Tasks | 38 - 122  |
| ◆ Self Assessment Paper - 02    | 123 - 123 |

## Section - C Literature Flamingo : Prose

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 1. The Last Lesson – Alphonse Daudet (1840 - 1897)        | 124 - 140 |
| 2. Lost Spring (Stories of Stolen Childhood) – Anees Jung | 141 - 156 |
| 3. Deep Water – William Douglas                           | 157 - 169 |
| 4. The Rattrap – Selma Lagerlof                           | 170 - 182 |
| 5. Indigo – Louis Fischer                                 | 183 - 194 |
| 6. Poets and Pancakes – Asokamitran                       | 195 - 206 |
| 7. The Interview  |           |
| ◆ Part-I– Christopher Silvester                           |           |
| ◆ Part-II– Umberto Eco                                    | 207 - 215 |
| 8. Going Places–A.R. Barton                               | 216 - 224 |

## Poetry

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 1. My Mother at Sixty-Six – Kamala Das    | 225 - 235 |
| 2. Keeping Quiet – Pablo Neruda           | 236 - 249 |
| 3. A Thing of Beauty – John Keats         | 250 - 261 |
| 4. A Roadside Stand – Robert Frost        | 262 - 269 |
| 5. Aunt Jennifer's Tigers – Adrienne Rich | 270 - 280 |

## Vistas : Supplementary Reader

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| 1. The Third level – Jack Finney                   | 281 - 292 |
| 2. The Tiger King – Kalki                          | 293 - 304 |
| 3. Journey to the End of the Earth – Tishani Doshi | 305 - 312 |
| 4. The Enemy – Pearl S. Buck                       | 313 - 323 |
| 5. On the Face of It – Susan Hill                  | 324 - 333 |
| 6. Memories of Childhood – Zitkala-Sa and Bama     | 334 - 342 |
| ◆ The Cutting of my Long Hair – Zitkala-Sa         |           |
| ◆ We Too are Human Beings – Bama                   |           |
| ◆ Self Assessment Paper - 03                       | 343 - 346 |
| ◆ Practice Paper - 01                              | 347 - 352 |
| ◆ Practice Paper - 02                              | 353 - 359 |



**GET YOUR CBSE 2023 SOLVED BOARD PAPER FREE!**

To get the fully solved CBSE Board Paper 2023 as well as other important CBSE updates throughout the year



**Scan the Code**

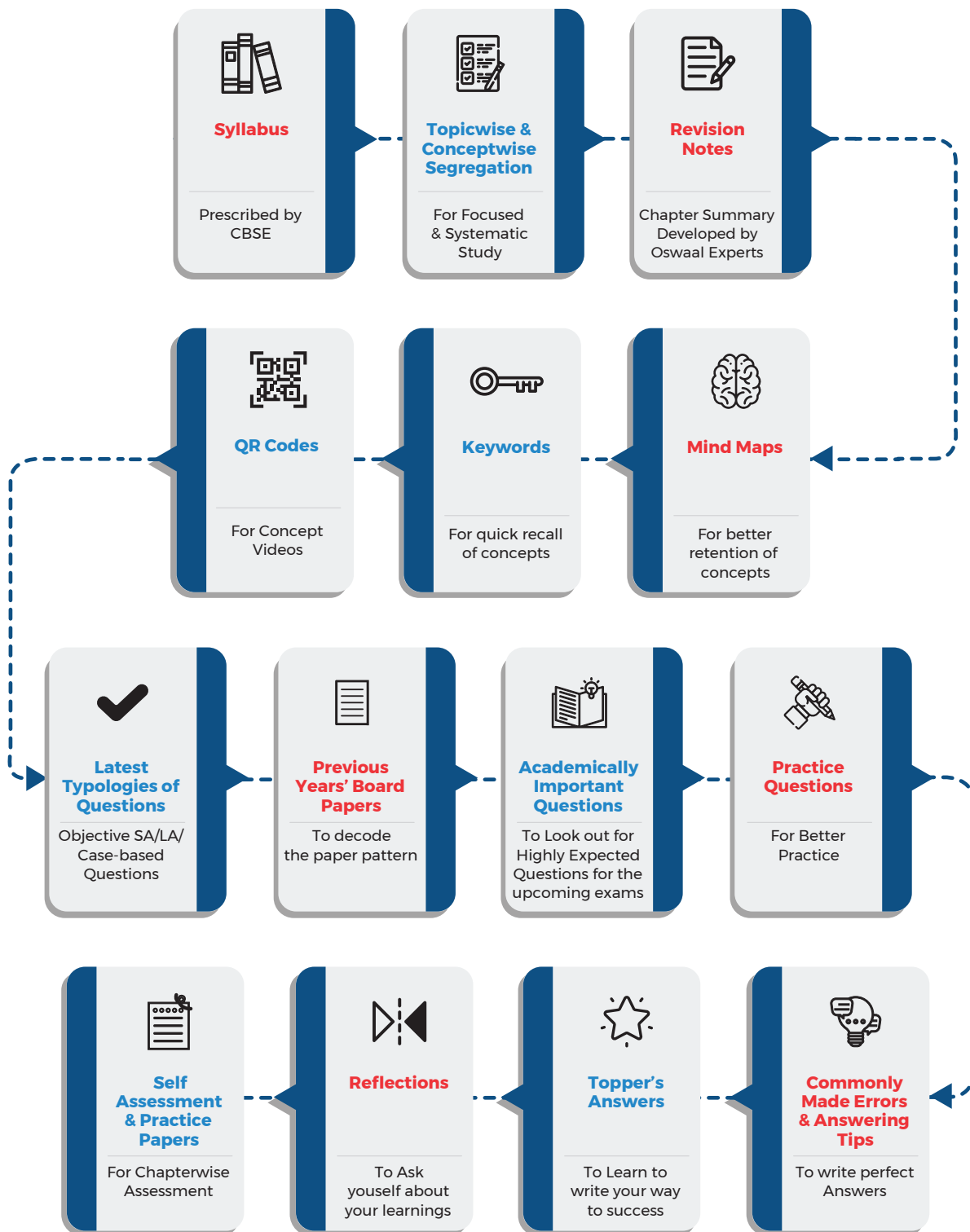




SCAN

# How to use this Book

## Chapter Navigation Tools



# What is on your wishlist for this Academic Year?

- Do better than the previous year
- Perfect every concept, every topic, and every question from the very beginning

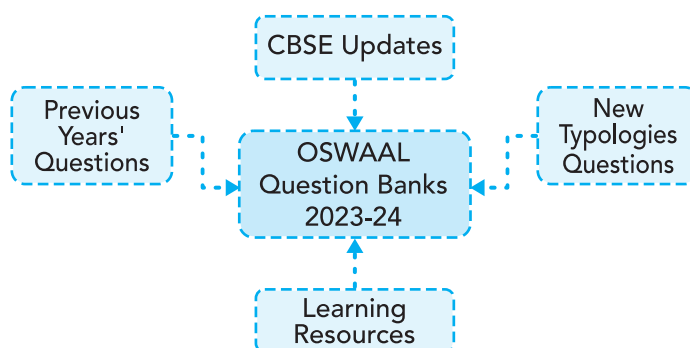
**You said it, we heard it!**

*Practice means to perform, repeatedly in the face of all obstacles, some act of vision, of faith, of desire. Practice is a means of inviting the perfection desired.*

**-Martha Graham**

**As we usher into a brand-new Academic Year 2023-24, Oswaal Books, with its all-new Question Banks, empowers you to perfect your learning, consistently!**

These Question Banks have been updated for 2023-24 with utmost care. They are a unique blend of all the **CBSE Board Updates, Previous Years' Questions**, and specially curated Questions as per the **Latest Typologies** along with best-in-class **Learning Resources**.



All these together will charge you with the much-needed confidence to face the boards and emerge champions. But what makes it so Unique?

1. **100% Updated** with Latest Syllabus & Fully Solved Board Papers
2. **Crisp Revision** with Topic wise Revision Notes, Smart Mind Maps & Mnemonics
3. **Extensive Practice** with 3000+ Questions & Board Marking Scheme Answers
4. **Concept Clarity** with 1000+concepts & 50 + Concept Videos
5. **NEP 2020 Compliance** with Competency -Based Questions

For those who are looking to ramp up their preparation and to 'PERFECT' every nuance of concepts studied, these Question Banks are a must in your Boards arsenal. This is the perfect time to start your exciting journey with these Question Banks and fill in learning gaps, throughout the year with utmost ease & confidence.

This Question Bank would not have been made possible without the valuable contributions of the esteemed members of the Oswaal Editorial Board-Authors, Editors, Subject matter experts, Proofreaders & DTP operators who worked day and night to bring this incredible book to you. We are also highly grateful to our dear students for all their valuable and impeccable inputs in the making of this one-of-a-kind exam preparation tool.

All the best Students!! Be the perfectionist that you are!

[Team Oswaal Books](#)

# Syllabus

## Latest Syllabus

### ENGLISH CORE (Code No. 301) CLASS–XII

#### Section A Reading Skills

##### Reading Comprehension through Unseen Passage 20 Marks

- I. One unseen passage to assess comprehension, interpretation and inference. Vocabulary and inference of meaning will also be assessed. The passage may be factual, descriptive or literary. (10 × 1=10 Marks)
- II. One unseen **case-based** passage with verbal/visual inputs like statistical data, charts etc. (10 × 1=10 Marks)

Note: The combined word limit for both the passages will be 700-750 words.  
Multiple Choice Questions / Objective Type Questions will be asked.

#### Section B

##### III. Creative Writing Skills 20 Marks

- i. Notice up to 50 words. One out of the two given questions to be answered.(5 Marks: Format : 1 / Organisation of Ideas: 1/Content : 2 / Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar : 1 ).
- ii. Formal/Informal Invitation and Reply up to 50 words. One out of the two given questions to be answered. (5 Marks: Format : 1 / Organisation of Ideas: 1/Content : 2 / Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar :1 ).
- iii. Letters based on verbal/visual input, to be answered in approximately 120-150 words. Letter types include application for a job with bio data or resume. Letters to the editor (giving suggestions or opinion on issues of public interest) . One out of the two given questions to be answered . (5 Marks: Format : 1 / Organisation of Ideas: 1/Content : 2 / Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar :1 ).
- iv. Article/ Report Writing, descriptive and analytical in nature, based on verbal inputs, to be answered in 120-150 words. One out of the two given questions to be . (5 Marks: Format : 1 / Organisation of Ideas: 1/Content : 2 / Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar :1 ).

#### Section C

This section will have variety of assessment items including Multiple Choice Questions, Objective Type Questions, Short Answer Type Questions and Long Answer Type Questions to assess comprehension, analysis, interpretation and extrapolation beyond the text.

##### IV. Reference to the Context 40 Marks

- i. One Poetry extract out of two from the book **Flamingo** to assess comprehension, interpretation, analysis and appreciation. (6 × 1 = 6 Marks)
  - ii. One Prose extract out of two from the book **Vistas** to assess comprehension, interpretation, analysis and appreciation. (4 × 1 = 4 Marks)
  - iii. One prose extract out of two from the book **Flamingo** to assess comprehension, interpretation and analysis. (6 × 1 = 6 Marks)
- V. Short answer type question (**from Prose and Poetry from the book Flamingo**), out of four, to be answered in 40-50 words. Questions should elicit inferential responses through critical thinking. Five questions out of the six given are to be answered. (5 × 2 = 10 Marks)

# Syllabus

- VI. Short answer type question, from **Prose (Vistas)**, to be answered in 40-50 words. Questions should elicit inferential responses through critical thinking. Any 2 out of 3 questions to be done. **(2 × 2 = 4 Marks)**
- VII. One Long answer type question, from **Prose/Poetry (Flamingo)**, to be answered in 120-150 words. Questions can be based on incident / theme / passage / extract / event as reference points to assess extrapolation beyond and across the text. The question will elicit analytical and evaluative response from student. Any 1 out of 2 questions to be done. **(1 × 5 = 5 Marks)**
- VIII. One Long answer type question, based on the chapters from the book **Vistas**, to be answered in 120-150 words to assess global comprehension and extrapolation beyond the text. Questions to provide evaluative and analytical responses using incidents, events, themes as reference points. Any 1 out of 2 questions to be done. **(1 × 5 = 5 Marks)**

## Prescribed Books

1. **Flamingo:** English Reader published by National Council of Education Research and Training, New Delhi

### (Prose)

- The Last Lesson
- Lost Spring
- Deep Water
- The Rattrap
- Indigo
- Poets and Pancakes
- The Interview
- Going Places

### (Poetry)

- My Mother at Sixty-Six
- Keeping Quiet
- A Thing of Beauty
- A Roadside Stand
- Aunt Jennifer's Tigers

2. **Vistas:** Supplementary Reader published by National Council of Education Research and Training, New Delhi

- The Third Level
- The Tiger King
- Journey to the end of the Earth
- The Enemy
- On the Face of It
- Memories of Childhood
- The Cutting of My Long Hair
- We Too are Human Beings

## INTERNAL ASSESSMENT

Assessment of Listening Skills – 05 marks.

Assessment of Speaking Skills – 05 Marks

Project Work – 10 Marks



# Syllabus

## QUESTION PAPER DESIGN

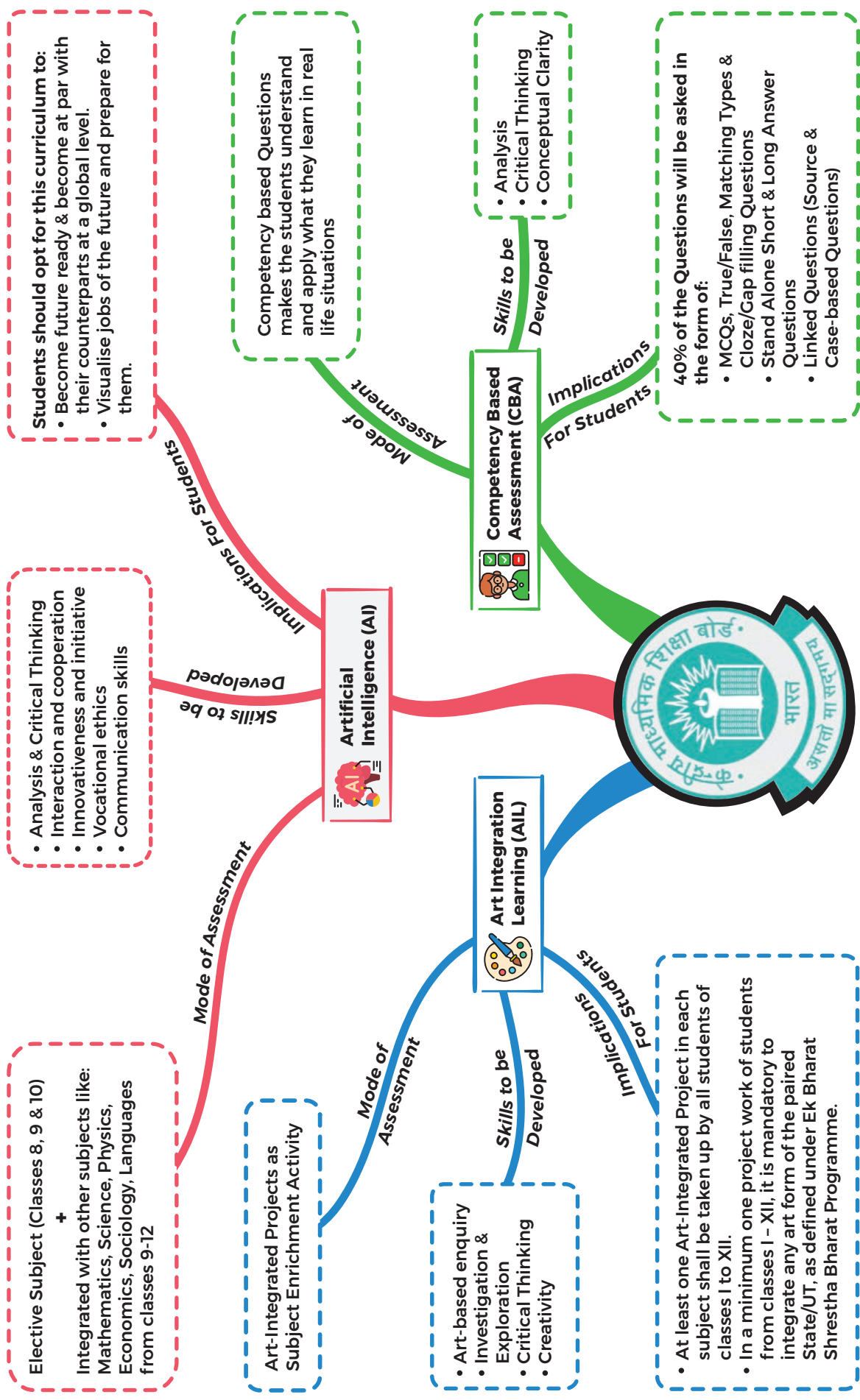
English Core (Code No. 301)

Class XII

Section	Competencies	Total marks
Reading Skills	Conceptual understanding, decoding, Analyzing, inferring, interpreting, appreciating, literary, conventions and vocabulary, summarizing and using appropriate format/s.	20
Creative Writing Skills	Conceptual Understanding, application of rules, Analysis, Reasoning, appropriacy of style and tone, using appropriate format and fluency, inference, analysis, evaluation and creativity.	20
Literature Textbooks and Supplementary Reading Text	Recalling, reasoning, critical thinking, appreciating literary convention, inference, analysis, creativity with fluency.	40
<b>Total</b>		<b>80</b>
	Assessment of Listening and Speaking Skills	20
	Internal Assessment	
	● Listening	5
	● Speaking	5
	● Project Work	10
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>100</b>



# NEP Derived Learning Resources Prescribed by CBSE for Year 2023-24



# Hear it from our Happy Readers!



## Good Book!

According to me, it is a brilliant book for CBSE students. It prepares students really well for the upcoming 2022-23 exams. Thankfully, Maths is no more a worry. Must buy!

Priyanka



All concepts have been explained with examples which simplifies the understanding of the concepts and makes practice very easy. It is worth the money.

Siddharth Gupta

This question bank is the best. It helps me to improve my skills and knowledge. My teacher recommended this book and it helps me a lot to increase my grades.

Avishake Kar



## Great Book

This is really a nice book. It helps my son a lot in studies. Many of his friends recommended Oswaal Question Bank to him, so we bought it. It is good and helpful.

Amrik Singh Gujral

Very good book for 12th class preparation. This book contains Previous Years' Questions which is very helpful in exams. It also includes VSAQs, SAQs and one mark questions for exam practice. One must read this book to achieve high percentile in exams.

Priya J.



## Outstanding Book!

It is really an outstanding book. With this question bank, we are able to get 90+ % in CBSE Board. It is really helpful.

Om Lingyat



## Fantastic book!

Along with Previous Years Questions & Board Marking scheme answers this book also includes new typology of questions: MCQs, Assertion-Reason, VSA ,SA , LA & case-based questions. Fantastic to study!!

Sumit

Aryan

## PART – A : READING COMPREHENSION

### CHAPTER

# 1

## UNSEEN PASSAGES



### Syllabus

(Two Passages)

- One unseen passage to assess comprehension, interpretation and inference.

Vocabulary and inference of meaning will also be assessed. The passage may be factual, descriptive or literary.

- One unseen case-based passage with verbal/visual inputs like statistical data, charts, etc.

Note : The combined word limit for both the passages will be 700-750 words.

Multiple Choice Questions / Objective Type Questions will be asked.

### In this chapter you will study

- The types of unseen passages and how to solve the questions based on them.



### Revision Notes

#### INTRODUCTION

- ▶ The word 'comprehension' means to fully understand the text using one's intellect. A comprehension passage is a text set for testing the reader's ability to comprehend (understand) the meaning being implied by the text and the theme of that particular passage. The students need to fully understand the text by using their intellect.
- ▶ Questions based on a passage generally appear as a chronological relationship with the passage. Usually, the first question has the answer in the initial paragraphs and so on, but if the answers are inferential, then the matter might have to be collected from various paragraphs and for this, one needs to be familiar with the entire passage.

#### TYPES OF COMPREHENSION PASSAGE:

- ▶ **Discursive Passages:** These kinds of passages involve an opinion. They have a logical flow and are argumentative or persuasive in nature. They may also include Literary Passages which are the extracts from a literary piece.
- ▶ **Case-based Factual Passages:** These passages convey vivid information about a particular subject. These passages report about an event or a new finding. They can also provide instructions or even descriptions of something. The complete information is conveyed through visual inputs, graphs or even reports.



### Mnemonics

**Concept:** technique to solve the passage:

**Mnemonic :** ROAST

**Interpretations:**

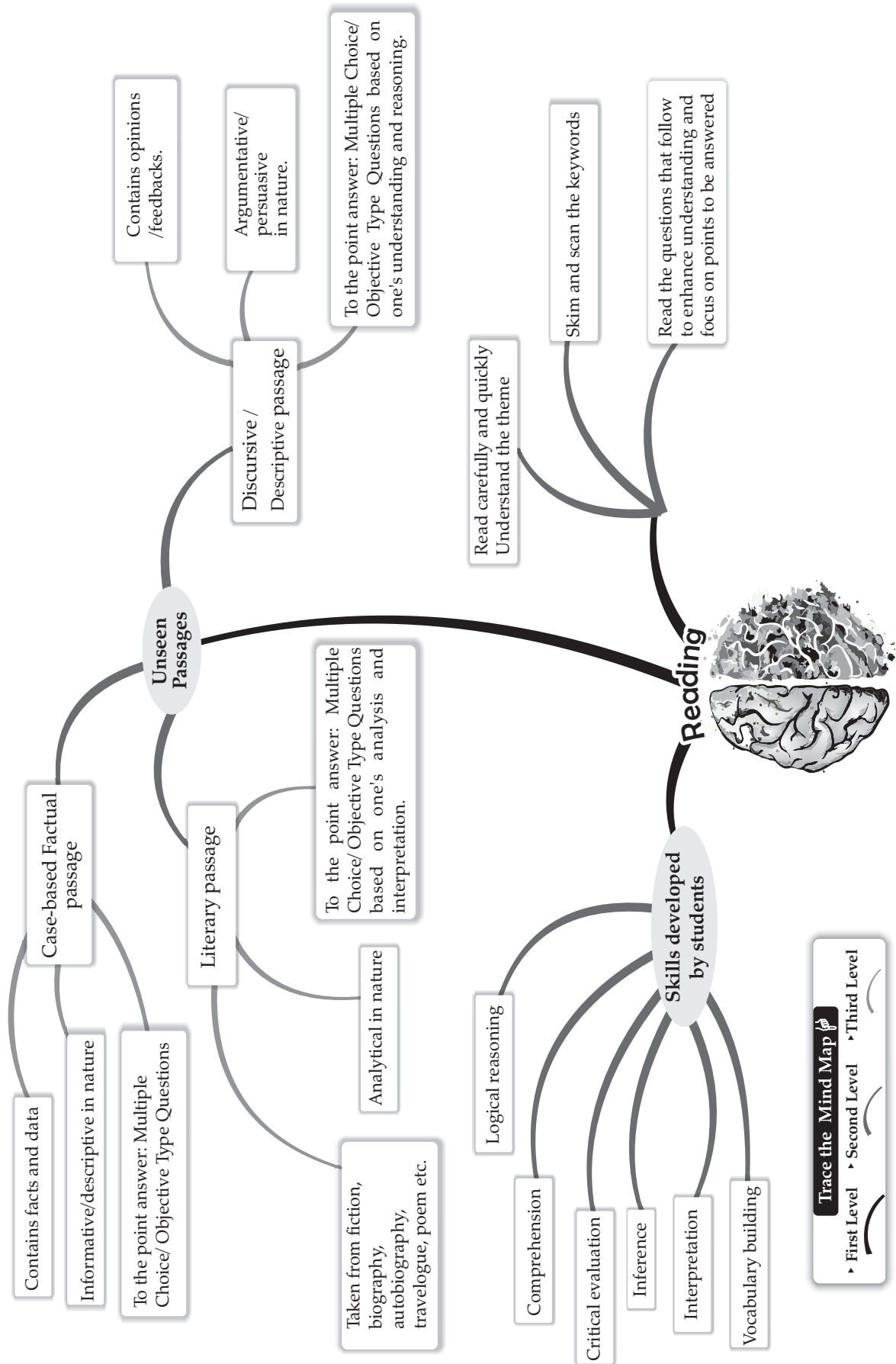
**R:** Read the passage silently.

**O:** Organise your understanding by getting hold of the theme.

**A:** Avoid distractors, examples or illustrations. Focus on the stem of the questions.

**S:** Spot the key words of the questions in the passage to identify the correct answer.

**T:** Trigger words, like 'but' or 'however', are used only to confuse. So avoid focusing on them.





## Fundamental Facts

- Read the entire sentence together to make out the sense or meaning.
- Infer the meaning of the difficult words through the context clues.
- Any option that is distracting you out of the passage is never the correct answer. The right answer is always based on the information given within the passage.
- Try to draw inferences from the given statistics rather than focussing on the numbers.



## OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTIONS

(1 mark each)

### I. Read the passage given below:

(1) What's the one thing that you associate with your college days? For me, it was consuming copious amounts of chai. A cup of tea was a panacea to all troubles and the companion to all joys. In this exclusive interview, we caught up with 65-year-old Deepak Garg, owner of Ganga Dhaba, a spot that every officer from National Academy of Administration has visited multiple times.

(2) Deepak begins, "My family has been here for almost 90 years. It was my grandfather who first started working here as the supplier to the hotel that existed then, "In 1964, when Deepak was all of eight, he lost his father and the responsibility of raising four children, fell on his mother.

(3) "Our growing up years were a huge struggle. My mother used to teach home-science at a local balwadi school, and which was also where my siblings and I studied," he says. In 1978, Deepak says that he started a food joint that he named Om Chinese Restaurant. "In those days, there was a huge liking for Chinese food and hence, the name and the choice of cuisine," he says.

(4) For almost 17 years, things continued and then Deepak got a Public Call Office (PCO) installed for the Officer Trainees. The business did so well that soon he had installed more than ten telephones, with separate cabins, to allow them some privacy while they made and received their calls.

(5) "The OTs who would talk on the PCO from here would always refer to the place as 'Ganga Dhaba'." It was because this place is so close to the Ganga hostel inside the academy, that slowly the name changed and it became Ganga Dhaba. "Since it was the OTs that gave us our identity, we decided to change the name and call it Ganga Dhaba," he says.

(6) There have been instances when Deepak and his family members have learnt dishes from the OTs. He says, "So many dishes on our menu today are because some officer came in and decided to teach us how to make them."

(7) "We have seen two generations of officers, served the parents, who now as the parents come back to drop their children at the academy and tell us to take care of them. What more can we ask for? While the money we make is not great, the respect and the love we have accumulated over the years is what keeps us going," says Deepak, proudly.

(CBSE Term 1 Set 4, 2021-22)

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the correct option:

(1×10=10)

**Q. 1. What, according to the author, gave him solace during his bad times in his college days?**

- (A) Friends                      (B) Family  
(C) Tea                              (D) Telephone

**Ans. Option (C) is correct.**

**Explanation:** Lines from the passage: "What's the one thing that you associate with your college days? For me, it was consuming copious amounts of chai. A cup of tea was a panacea to all troubles and the companion to all joys."

**Q. 2. What do you understand by the word 'panacea'?**

**Ans.** Something that will cure all problems and difficulties/a universal remedy.

**Q. 3. 'Soon he had installed ten telephones.' In the light of the above statement, select the option that lists the right inference.**

- (A) He was kind enough to do social service for the OTs.
- (B) He was successful and flourishing in his business.
- (C) He expanded his canteen to accommodate more people.
- (D) He switched his business from canteen to telephone booths.

**Ans. Option (B) is correct.**

*Explanation:* "The business did so well that soon he had installed more than ten telephones....."

**Q. 4. Explain the line 'our growing up years was a huge struggle.'**

**Ans.** The author's growing years were a struggle because his father passed away and his mother had to bring up four children so meeting expenses was difficult.

**Q. 5. "..... his family members learnt dishes from OTs." Choose the option that lists the inference with reference to the above statement.**

- (A) OTs were equally good connoisseurs of food.
- (B) His family was mediocre in cooking.
- (C) His family had close association and good rapport with OTs.
- (D) His family wanted to learn more recipes to expand their business.

**Ans. Option (C) is correct.**

*Explanation:* "...because some officer came in and decided to teach us how to make them." This shows feeling of acceptance and closeness.

## II. Read the passage given below:

(1) I got posted in Srinagar in the 1980s. Its rugged mountains, gushing rivers and vast meadows reminded me of the landscapes of my native place – the Jibhi Valley in Himachal Pradesh. Unlike Srinagar that saw numerous tourists, Jibhi Valley remained clouded in anonymity. That's when the seed of starting tourism in Jibhi was planted. I decided to leave my service in the Indian Army and follow the urge to return home.

(2) We had two houses – a family house and a traditional house, which we often rented out. I pleaded with my father to ask the tenant to vacate the house so that I could convert it into a guest house. When my family finally relented, I renovated the house keeping its originality intact, just adding windows for sunlight.

(3) I still remember the summer of 1992 when I put a signboard outside my first guest house in Jibhi Valley! The village residents, however, were sceptical about my success. My business kept growing but it took years for tourism to take off in Jibhi Valley. Things changed significantly after 2008 when the government launched a homestay scheme. People built homestays and with rapid tourism growth, the region changed rapidly. Villages turned into towns with many concrete buildings. Local businesses and tourists continued putting a burden on nature.

**Q. 6. How would you describe the personality of Deepak Garg?**

**Ans.** He is not materialistic and values human relationships over money.

**Q. 7. What do you think is the message of the story?**

**Ans.** It is a motivational story. It teaches us to work hard, stay humble and value human relationships.

**Q. 8. Choose the option that aptly defines Deepak Garg's life story "from struggling childhood days to becoming a successful businessman".**

- (A) Where there is a will, there is a way.
- (B) Make hay while the sun shines.
- (C) A good fire makes a good cook.
- (D) Despair gives courage to a coward.

**Ans. Option (A) is correct.**

*Explanation:* The willingness to work hard made him successful.

**Q. 9. .... many dishes on our menu today are because some officer came in and decided to teach us."**

**Choose the option that rightly reflects the tone of the speaker.**

- (A) Ignorance
- (B) Humility
- (C) Pride
- (D) Regret

**Ans. Option (B) is correct.**

*Explanation:* Humility means being humble and unpretentious, that is the reason, how he and his family learnt new dishes from the officers and he appreciated them.

**Q. 10. Why did officers from the National Academy visit Ganga Dhaba multiple times?**

**Ans.** The homely feeling of the Dhaba and they also added more dishes on the menu that some of the officers had taught them.

(4) Then, with the 2020-21 pandemic and lockdown, tourism came to a complete standstill in Jibhi Valley. Local people, who were employed at over a hundred homestays and guest houses, returned to their villages. Some went back to farming; some took up pottery and some got involved in government work schemes. Now, all ardently hope that normalcy and tourism will return to the valley soon. In a way, the pandemic has given us an opportunity to introspect, go back to our roots and look for sustainable solutions.

(5) For me, tourism has been my greatest teacher. It brought people from many countries and all states of India to my guest house. It gave me exposure to different cultures and countless opportunities to learn new things. Most people who stayed at my guest house became my regular clients and good friends. When I look back, I feel proud, yet humbled at the thought that I was not only able to fulfill my dream despite all the challenges, but also played a role in establishing tourism in the beautiful valley that I call home.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the correct options:

(1×10=10)

**Q. 1. Which line in the passage depicts that the author felt nostalgic?**

**Ans.** "Its rugged mountains, gushing rivers and vast meadows reminded me of the landscapes of my native place – the Jibhi Valley in Himachal Pradesh."

**Q. 2. Which word in the passage is an example of collocation of words?**

**Ans.** Clouded in anonymity and call home are examples of collocation of words.

**Q. 3. Select the option that suitably completes the given dialogue as per the context in paragraph II.**

**Father:** Are you sure that your plan would work?

**Writer:** I can't say (1) \_\_\_\_\_

**Father:** That's a lot of uncertainty, isn't it?

**Writer:** (2) \_\_\_\_\_,

**Father.** Please let's do this.

(A) (1) that I would be able to deal with the funding

(2) Well begun is half done

(B) (1) anything along those lines, as the competition is tough

(2) Think before you leap

(C) (1) that, because it's a question of profit and loss

(2) All's well that ends well

(D) (1) I'm sure, but I can say that I believe in myself

(2) Nothing venture nothing win

**Ans. Option (D) is correct.**

**Explanation:** His family didn't readily accept the offer but when they did, he kept the originality intact.

**Q. 4. Why do you feel people were sceptical about the author's success?**

**Ans.** Tourism was not a flourishing business in Jibhi valley, in fact The author's home was the first tourist home in Jibhi valley so people were sceptical about the author's business.

**Q. 5. Select the option that clearly indicates the situation before and after 2008, in Jibhi Valley.**

Before 2008	After 2008
(A) picturesque landscapes	construction sites and commerce
(B) zero tourism in the valley	sceptical villagers
(C) buildings and hotels	profitable ventures
(D) scenic surroundings	zero tourism in the valley

**Ans. Option (A) is correct.**

**Explanation:** It is mentioned in Para 3, "Things changed significantly after 2008 when the government launched a homestay scheme. People built homestays and with rapid tourism growth, the region changed rapidly. Villages turned into towns with many concrete buildings. Local businesses and tourists continued putting a burden on nature."

**Q. 6. How does the author form relationships through his tourism business?**

**Ans.** People who stayed at the author's homestay became his regular clients and good friends, thus the author built relationships through tourism.

**Q. 7. The writer mentions looking for sustainable solutions. He refers to the need for sustainable solutions because he realises that:**

(A) even though all natural ecosystems are essential pillars of resilience, we need to focus on using their resources to address the economic needs of mankind, as a priority.

- (B) the exposures to pandemics are a reality and a big threat to the countries across the world.
- (C) for an economic recovery to be durable and resilient, a return to 'business as usual' and environmentally destructive investment patterns and activities must be avoided.
- (D) there is an increasing urgency in the climate movement and the need for collaborative action for the future.

**Ans. Option (C) is correct.**

*Explanation:* Sustainability is being pro environmental.

**Q. 8. Select the option that lists the customer review for the writer's project.**

- (A) Beautiful accommodation in the lap of nature. Luxurious cottage with indoor pool and garden.
- (B) Comfortable and peaceful. Neat room with ample sunlight. Pleasant and warm host.
- (C) Enjoyed the sprawling suite on the fifth floor. Great view. Professional service.
- (D) Remote locale, good food and clean room. Would have loved more natural light, though.

**Ans. Option (B) is correct.**

*Explanation:* Option B is in accordance with the narrator's description of his own homestay as it was simple and didn't lack originality.

**Q. 9. What was the negative impact of the growth of tourism in Jibhi valley?**

**Ans.** The region changed rapidly. Villages turned into towns with many concrete buildings. Local businesses and tourists continued putting a burden on nature. This was the negative impact of the growth of tourism.

**Q. 10. The author says that "the Pandemic gave us an opportunity to introspect..." ,What life lessons has the Pandemic taught you?**

**Ans.** Resilience, patience and perseverance, Nature is mightier than us...(accept all logical answers)



### Commonly Made Error

- The students only refer to the lines of the passage for writing answers. Inferential questions are not attempted correctly.



### Answering Tip

- The students should practice inferential questions and try to read in between the lines.

### III. Read the passage given below:

(1) "Who doesn't know how to cook rice? Cooking rice hardly takes time," said my father. So, I challenged myself. I switched from news to YouTube and typed, "How to cook rice?" I took one and a half cups of rice. Since I didn't have access to a rice cooker, I put the rice in a big pot. Firstly, the rice has to be washed to get rid of dust and starch. I thought I won't be able to drain the rice and that it will fall out of the pot. I observed the chef as I swirled the rice around and used my dexterous hands to drain it, not once, not twice, but three times. I looked down at the sink and saw less than 50 grains that made their way out of the pot. Suffice to say, I was up to the mark.

(2) The video stated that the key to perfect rice is equal amounts of rice and water. I have heard that professionals don't need to measure everything; they just know what the right amount is. But as this was my first time in the kitchen, I decided to experiment by not measuring the water needed for boiling the rice. I wanted the rice to be firm when bitten, just like pasta. I don't enjoy the texture of mushy rice. It has to have that chutzpah; it has to resist my biting power just for a bit before disintegrating.

(3) After what seemed like 10 minutes, all the water disappeared. I went in to give it a good stir. To my surprise, some of the rice got stuck to the pot. I tried to scrape it off but to no avail. At the same time, there was a burning smell coming from it. I quickly turned the stove off. "What have you done to the kitchen?" My mother shouted while coming towards the kitchen. I managed to ward her off.

(4) Finally, when the time came to taste my creation, I was surprised! It wasn't bad at all. The rice had the desired consistency. Sure, a little more salt would've been better, but I just added that while eating. The experience was fairly rewarding and memorable. It taught me a new sense of respect for those who cook food on a regular basis at home or are engaged in gourmet creations professionally.

(SQP, 2020-21)

**Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option:**

(1×10=10)



**Q. 1. What did the father intend when he stated who doesn't know to cook rice?**

**Ans.** Father intended to show that cooking rice was very simple.

**Q. 2. "I switched from news to YouTube ..." Pick the option in which the meaning of 'switch(ed)' is NOT the same as it is in the passage.**

- (A) He switched on the radio to listen to the news while having dinner.  
 (B) "Forget these diet supplements and switch to yoga, if you want a true sense of well-being."  
 (C) Mom switched to reading fiction recently because she was bored with cook-books.  
 (D) The company will switch the trucks to other routes to bring down city pollution.

**Ans. Option (A) is correct.**

**Explanation:** Switch on the radio means to turn it on but in the passage switch on means change from one form to another.

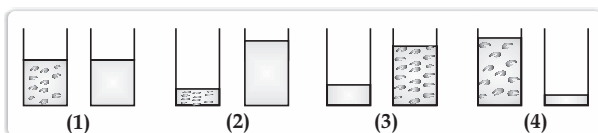
**Q. 3. The author felt he was upto the mark, do you feel the same? Why?**

**Ans.** I feel the author was upto the mark because while draining rice he only dropped 50 grains which was fine thus one can say he was upto the mark being a first timer.

**Q. 4. Which word in the passage means showing or having skill?**

**Ans.** The word dexterous means showing or having skill.

**Q. 5. Which option represents the correct ratio of water to rice for cooking 'perfect rice'?**



- (A) Image 1                      (B) Image 2  
 (C) Image 3                      (D) Image 4

**Ans. Option (A) is correct.**

**Explanation:** Correct measurement is equal proportion of both rice and water.

**Q. 6. Which action of the author shows that he was overconfident?**

**Ans.** The professional chefs do not measure the water needed for cooking rice, the author does the same showing that he was overconfident, since chefs are experienced professionals whereas the author was amateur.

**Q. 7. Which word in the passage means self-confident or audacity?**

**Ans.** The word 'Chutzpah' means extreme self-confidence or audacity.

**Q. 8. Pick the correct option.**

**Assertion (A) : The narrator was taken aback after looking at the condition of rice.**

**Reason (R) : The narrator could smell the delicious aroma of cooked rice.**

- (A) Both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion.  
 (B) Both assertion and reason are true, but reason is not the correct explanation of assertion.  
 (C) Assertion is true, but reason is false.  
 (D) Assertion is false, but reason is true.

**Ans. Option (C) is correct.**

**Explanation:** As the rice got stuck to the bottom of the pan, a burning smell came out of it.

**Q. 9. Pick the option that correctly lists the final feelings of the writer with reference to the cooking experience.**

1. frustrating                      2. amusing  
 3. satisfying                      4. disillusioning  
 5. exacting                      6. enlightening  
 (A) 1 and 4                      (B) 2 and 5  
 (C) 3 and 6                      (D) 1 and 3

**Ans. Option (C) is correct.**

**Explanation:** Satisfying due to a good first try and enlightening as he developed a new sense of respect for those who cook on a regular basis.

**Q. 10. The author states that cooking rice was a rewarding experience. State any experience when you felt the same.**

**Ans.** I was afraid of water, but my coach counselled me and trained me to swim, that was a rewarding experience.(similar answers to be accepted.)

**IV. Read the passage given below:**

[Delhi & Outside Delhi, 2020]

#### Donated Organs and Their Transportation

(1) Once an organ donor's family gives its consent and the organs are matched to a recipient, medical professionals are faced with the onerous challenge of transporting organs while ensuring that the harvested organ reaches its destination in the shortest possible time. This is done in order to preserve the harvested organs which involves the police, especially, the traffic police department.

(2) The traditional method of transporting organs by road is referred to as a “green corridor”. The first green corridor in India was created by Chennai Traffic Police in September 2008 when they accomplished their task of enabling an ambulance to reach its destination within 11 minutes during peak hour traffic. That organ saved a nine-year-old girl whose life depended on the transplant. Similarly, such green corridors have been created by traffic police of various cities such as Pune, Mumbai, Delhi NCR, etc.

(3) Experts point out the lack of a robust system to transport organs to super-speciality hospitals in least possible time. National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO), the country’s apex organ donation agency, is now framing a proposal to airlift cadaver organs and will send a report to the Union Health Ministry. “Cadaver organs have a short life and so transplant should be done within a few golden hours.” Director (NOTTO) expressed, “Therefore, we are preparing a proposal for airlifting organs at any given moment.”

(4) Most states do not have enough well-trained experts to retrieve or perform transplant procedures. Also, there is an acute shortage of advanced healthcare facilities to carry out a transplant. So, it is referred to other big centres in metropolitan cities. Organs retrieved from Aurangabad, Indore, Surat and Pune are sent to Mumbai as these cities do not have super-speciality healthcare centres, informed officials.

(5) “In India, about fifty thousand to one lakh patients are suffering from acute heart failure and need heart transplant at any point of time. In a private set-up, a heart transplant costs ₹ 15-20 lakhs, which is followed up by postoperative medication of about ₹30,000 per month lifelong.” Moreover, the risk factor is a great hindrance.

**Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option:** (1×10=10)

**Q. 1. The first green corridor in India was created in:** 

- (A) New Delhi                      (B) Chennai  
(C) Mumbai                        (D) Pune

**Ans. Option (B) is correct.**

**Q. 2. Why should transplant be done within a few golden hours?**

**Ans.** Cadaver organs have a short life so transplant should be done within a few golden hours.

**Q. 3. The onerous task that the author is talking about in Para 1 is :**

- (A) finding organ donors.  
(B) finding doctors capable of performing transplants.  
(C) to carry the harvested organ in the shortest possible time.  
(D) to arrange the requisite facilities for the transplant.

**Ans. Option (C) is correct.**

**Explanation:** It is mentioned in Para 1, that once an organ donor’s family gives the consent and the organs are matched to a recipient, medical professionals are faced with the onerous challenge of transporting organs while ensuring that the harvested organ reaches its destination in the shortest possible time.

**Q. 4. State the reason why most people do not go for heart transplant.**

**Ans.** In a private set-up, a heart transplant costs 15-20 lakhs, which is followed up by post-operative medication of about 30,000 per month lifelong. Thus, high cost prohibits people to go for heart transplant.

**Q. 5. Pick the correct option:**

**Assertion (A) : Most states refer organ transplant cases to big hospitals.**

**Reason (R) : They don’t have a pool of harvested organs.**

- (A) Both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion.  
(B) Both assertion and reason are true, but reason is not the correct explanation of assertion.  
(C) Assertion is true, but reason is false.  
(D) Assertion is false, but reason is true.

**Ans. Option (C) is correct.**

**Explanation:** The correct reason is that they don’t have well trained experts.

**Q. 6. For how many hours does the heart stay alive after being retrieved from a body?**

**Ans.** The heart stays alive for four hours after being retrieved from a body.

Q. 7. Apart from Chennai, where were other green corridors created?

- (A) Delhi NCR (B) Pune  
(C) Mumbai (D) All of the above

Q. 8. What task was accomplished by the Chennai traffic police?

Ans. The Chennai traffic police accomplished the task of enabling an ambulance to reach its destination within 11 minutes during peak hour traffic.

*Explanation:* In a private set-up, a heart transplant costs Rs. 15-20 lakhs.

Q. 9. Pick out the word/phrase from the passage which is similar in meaning to 'save' (Para 1).

- (A) Onerous (B) Preserve  
(C) Harvest (D) Retrieve

Ans. Option (B) is correct.

*Explanation:* Preserve means save.

Q. 10. What are the challenges faced to perform heart transplant?

Ans. Most states do not have enough well trained experts to retrieve or perform transplant procedures. Acute shortage of advanced healthcare facilities to carry out a transplant.

#### V. Read the passage given below:

(1) All of Earth's oceans share one thing in common "plastic pollution". When people litter, or when the trash is not properly disposed off, things like plastic bags, bottles, straws, foam and beverage cups get carried to the sea by winds and waterways. About 80 per cent of ocean plastic originates on land. The rest comes from marine industries such as shipping and fishing.

(2) In 2015, engineer Jenna Jambeck at the University of Georgia and other researchers calculated that at least 8 million tons of plastic trash are swept into the ocean from coasts every year. That's the equivalent of a full garbage truck of plastic being dumped into the sea every minute. If current trends in plastic production and disposal continue, that figure will double by 2025. A report published by the World Economic Forum last year predicts that by 2050, ocean plastic will outweigh all the fish in the sea.

(3) In today's world, plastic is everywhere. It's found in shoes, clothing, household items, electronics and more. There are different types of plastics, but one thing they all have in common is that they're made of polymers-large molecules made up of repeating units. Their chemical structure gives them a lot of advantages: they're cheap and easy to manufacture, lightweight, water-resistant, durable and can be moulded into nearly any shape.

(4) Sea turtles eat plastic bags and soda-can rings, which resemble jellyfish, their favourite food. Seabirds eat bottle caps or chunks of foam cups. Plastic pieces may make an animal feel full, so it doesn't eat enough real food to get the nutrients it needs. Plastic can also block an animal's digestive system, making it unable to eat.

(5) Plastic and its associated pollutants can even make it into our own food supply. Scientists recently examined fish and shellfish bought at markets in California and Indonesia. They found plastic in the guts of more than a quarter of samples purchased at both locations; in organisms that people eat whole, such as sardines and oysters, that means we're eating plastic too. In larger fishes, chemicals from plastic may seep into their muscles and other tissues that people consume.

(6) One way to keep the ocean cleaner and healthier is through clean-up efforts. A lot of plastic waste caught in ocean currents eventually washes up on beaches. Removing it prevents it from blowing out to sea again. Beach clean-up is ocean clean-up.

(7) Clean-up efforts can't reach every corner of the 'ocean or track down every bit of micro-plastic'. That means it's critical to cut down on the amount of plastic that reaches the sea in the first place. Scientists are working towards new materials that are safer for the environment. For example, Jambeck and her colleagues are currently testing a new polymer that breaks down more easily in seawater.

Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option: (1×10=10)

Q. 1. Percentage of ocean plastic that originates from land is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) 20% (B) 50%  
(C) 80% (D) 25%

Q. 2. What is plastic made up of?

Ans. Plastic is made up of large molecule polymers.

Q. 3. Scientists bought fish and shellfish for examination at markets in:

- (A) China and Russia  
(B) Pakistan and Afghanistan  
(C) California and Indonesia  
(D) Australia and Brazil

**Ans. Option (C) is correct.**

*Explanation:* Scientists recently examined fish and shellfish bought at markets in California and Indonesia.

**Q. 4. What advantages does plastic's chemical structure give?**

**Ans.** Plastic's chemical structure gives a lot of advantages: They're cheap and easy to manufacture, lightweight, water-resistant, durable and can be moulded into nearly any shape.



### Commonly Made Error

- ▶ Students may consider (D) as the correct answer as they may take this chemical absorption to be part of durability.



### Answering Tip

- ▶ It is important to know about the general properties of commonly used products.

**Q. 5. Which articles made of plastic generally cause pollution in the sea?**

- (A) Discarded plastic bags
- (B) Beverage cups
- (C) Soda can-rings
- (D) All of these

**Ans. Option (D) is correct.**

**Q. 6. Why doesn't an animal get enough nutrients?**

**Ans.** When an animal consumes plastic, it makes it feel full and it doesn't eat sufficient real food so it does not get enough nutrients.

**Q. 7. What is the biggest impact of plastic pollution on sea life?**

- (A) Plastic eating makes them feel full.
- (B) Plastic blocks the animal's digestive system.
- (C) Sea animals do not get enough nutrition.
- (D) All of these

**Ans. Option (D) is correct.**

*Explanation:* Plastic pieces may make an animal feel full, so it doesn't eat enough real food to get the nutrients it needs. Plastic can also block an animal's digestive system, making it unable to eat.

**Q. 8. How is a beach clean up. ocean clean-up?**

**Ans.** A lot of plastic waste caught in ocean currents eventually washes up on beaches. Removing it prevents it from blowing out to sea again. Thus beach clean up is ocean clean-up.

**Q. 9. What is one of the ways to clean up an ocean?**

- (A) The beach clean-up.
- (B) Ban of plastic items.
- (C) Prohibition of seabirds.
- (D) No food supply in surrounding area.

**Ans. Option (A) is correct.**

*Explanation:* Beach clean-up is ocean clean-up.

**Q. 10. How can plastic and its associate pollutants make it into our own food supply?**

**Ans.** Research found plastic in the guts of more than a quarter of fish samples when we eat fishes such as sardines and oysters, we eat plastic too.

**VI. Read the passage given below:**

[CBSE, Outside Delhi Set I, II, III, 2019]

(1) The sage of science, "Einstein", was sitting in a depressive and pensive mood one evening. His eyes were brimming with tears. The pain was evident from his face. He peeped out of the window of his room. The sun had set a few minutes back. The sky was filled with a reddish glow. At this sunset, he felt that it was humanity that had sunk into devilish darkness and the reddish glow in the sky was the blood of humanity spilling all over the sky from earth. With tired steps, he walked back to his chair and settled down. It was the 9<sup>th</sup> of August, 1945. Three days back, he had felt the same agony as if someone had torn him apart. He was deeply hurt and depressed when he heard on the radio that America had dropped an atom bomb on the Japanese city, Hiroshima. Today, within three days, another bomb was dropped on another city, Nagasaki and lakhs of people had been killed.

(2) He had heard that the blast released so much energy that it had paled all past destructions in comparison and death had played out a pitiable dance of destruction. The flames that broke out of the bomb were burning, melting and exploding buildings. Scared of the heat of the bomb, people had jumped into lakes and rivers, but the water was boiling and the people too were burnt and killed. The animals in the water were already boiled to death. Animals, trees, herbs, fragrant flowering plants were all turned into ashes. The atomic energy destruction had just not stopped there. It had entered the atmosphere there and had spread radiation that would affect people for generations to come and would also bring about destructive irreversible biological changes in animals and plants.

(3) As the news of the atomic attack reached Einstein, he became aware of the glaring horror of the abuse of atomic energy and his distress and restlessness knew no bounds. He could not control himself and picked up his violin to turn his mind on to other things. While playing the violin, he tried to dissolve in its sad notes, but couldn't. He was burning on the embers of destruction; his heart was filled with an ocean of agony and tears just continued streaming uncontrollably out of his eyes. Night had fallen. His daughter came up and asked him to eat something as he had not taken anything for the last four days. His voice was restrained and he said, "don't feel like eating."


(4) He could not sleep that night. Lying down, he was thinking how he had drawn the attention of the then American President Roosevelt towards the destructive powers of an atomic bomb. He had thought that this would be used to scare Hitler and put an end to the barbarism that Hitler was up to. However, Roosevelt kept him in the dark and made false promises. Eventually, he had abused Einstein's equation of  $E = mc^2$  that resulted in the destructive experiments. His actions had made science and scientists into murderers. Einstein kept on thinking for a long time. Eventually, he slipped into sleep. When he woke up at dawn, there was a new dawn in him too. The atomic threat had transformed his heart.

(5) The next day, he decided to disassociate himself from the scientific policy of the government and all governmental institutions. He decided to open educational institutions for children, adolescents and youth — institutions where along with science, spirituality will be compulsorily taught.

(6) To inaugurate this institution, he had invited two great philosophers, Bertrand Russell and Albert Schweitzer. Ten other great scientists who had won Nobel Prizes in different fields were also invited. They all saw a different Einstein, not a great scientist but a sage in him. The institution was opened by garlanding a photo of Mahatma Gandhi. While garlanding the Mahatma, he became emotional and said with a lump in his throat, "I bow down to the great man who fought for the independence of his country through non-violence. He could do so because he was a truthful man and true spiritualist."

(7) Those who teach science should be taught spirituality too. Without harmony between science and spirituality, the destruction would continue unabated. A few years after this institution was built, a Japanese delegation came to meet him. Einstein broke down in the meeting and said, "You can give me any punishment and I will accept it. Anyway, I have decided to lead my life in penitence." The Japanese were moved by his sincerity and forgot their grief.

**Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option:** (1×10=10)

**Q. 1. Which musical instrument did Einstein play when he was in grief?** 

- (A) Harmonium      (B) Guitar  
(C) Violin          (D) Flute

**Q. 2. How is Einstein's sadness described?**

**Ans.** Einstein was sitting in a depressive and pensive mood. His eyes were brimming with tears and the pain was evident from his face.

**Q. 3. Einstein said to the Japanese delegation,**

- (A) 'You can give me any punishment and I will accept it.'  
(B) 'I am not at fault.'  
(C) 'What could I do?'  
(D) 'The President didn't agree to my advice.'

**Ans. Option (A) is correct.**

**Explanation:** A few years after this institution was built, a Japanese delegation came to meet him. Einstein broke down in the meeting and

said, 'You can give me any punishment and I will accept it. Anyway, I have decided to lead my life in penitence'.

**Q. 4. What did Einstein do to show his displeasure over the atomic attack?**

**Ans.** Einstein disassociated himself from governmental institutions.

**Q. 5. The depressive mood of Einstein was compared to:**

- (A) Sunrise          (B) Sunset  
(C) Devilish darkness (D) Tired steps

**Ans. Option (B) is correct.**

**Explanation:** At this sunset, he felt that it was humanity that had sunk into devilish darkness and the reddish glow in the sky was the blood of humanity spilling all over the sky from earth.

**Q. 6. What would be the harmful effect of radiation?**

**Ans.** The radiation would affect people for generations to come and would also bring about destructive irreversible biological changes in animals and plants.

**Q. 7. Pick out the event after which Einstein could not control himself and tried to play instrument to divert his mind.**

- (A) After getting the news of atomic attack
- (B) By inventing sad notes
- (C) Over-barbarism of Hitler
- (D) When he was pained by false promises

**Ans. Option (A) is correct.**

*Explanation:* As the news of the atomic attack reached Einstein, he became aware of the glaring horror of the abuse of atomic energy and his distress and restlessness knew no bounds. He could not control himself and picked up his violin to turn his mind on to other things.

**Q. 8. How do you think spirituality would help science?**

**Ans.** Spiritualism would make those studying science into empathetic human beings and they would not think of harming their fellow human beings. (accept all valid answers)

**Q. 9. Which philosopher did Einstein invite to inaugurate the new institution?**

- (A) Bertrand Russell (B) Albert Schweitzer
- (C) Both (A) and (B) (D) Neither (A) nor (B)

**Ans. Option (C) is correct.**

*Explanation:* To inaugurate this institution, he had invited two great philosophers, Bertrand Russell and Albert Schweitzer.

**Q. 10. What did Einstein do after he became a changed man?**

**Ans.** Einstein dissociated himself from the scientific policy of the government and all governmental institutions. He decided to open educational institutions for children, adolescents and youth—where along with science, spirituality will be taught.

## VII. Read the passage given below:

[Delhi & Outside Delhi, 2018]

(1) When you grow up in a place where it rains for five months a year, wise elders help you to get acquainted with the rain early. They teach you that it is ignorance to think that it is the same rain falling every day. Oh no! the rain is always doing different things at different times. There is rain that is gentle and there is also rain that falls too hard and damages the crops. Hence, pray for the sweet rain that helps the crops to grow.

(2) The monsoon in the Naga Hills goes by the native name, Khuthotei (which means the rice-growing season). It lasts from May to early or mid-October. The local residents firmly believe that Durga Puja in October announces the end to rain. After that, one might expect a couple of short winter showers, and the spring showers in March and April. Finally, comes the 'big rain' in May; proper rainstorms accompanied by heart-stopping lightning and ear-splitting thunder. I have stood out in storms looking at lightning arc across the dark skies, a light-and-sound show that can go on for hours.

(3) This is the season when people use the word *sezuo* and *suzu* to refer to the week-long rains, when clothes don't dry and smell of mould, when fungus forms on the floor and when you can't see the moon or the stars.

(4) The rains are also called after flowering plants and people believe that the blossoming of those plants draws out rain. Once the monsoon sets in, field work is carried out in earnest and the work of uprooting and transplanting paddy in flooded fields is done. The months of hard labour are June, July and August. In August, as the phrogo plant begins to bloom, a rain will fall. This August rain, also called phrogo, is a sign that the time for cultivation is over. If any new grain seeds are sown, they may not sprout; even if they do sprout, they are not likely to bear grain. The rain acts as a kind of farmer's almanac.

(5) The urban population of school-goers and office-goers naturally dislikes the monsoon and its accompanying problems of landslides, muddy streets and periodic infections. For non-farmers, the month of September can be depressing, when the rainfall is incessant and the awareness persists that the monsoons will last out till October. One needs to have the heart of a farmer to remain grateful for the watery days, and be able to observe from what seems to the inexperienced as a continuous downpour—many kinds of rain. Some of the commonly known rain-weeks are named after the plants that alternately bloom in August and September. The native belief is that the flowers draw out the rain.

(6) Each rain period has a job to fulfil: October rain helps garlic bulbs to form, while kumunyo rain helps the rice bear grain. Without it, the ears of rice cannot form properly. End of October is the most beautiful month in the Naga

Hills, as the fields turn gold and wild sunflowers bloom over the slopes, all heralding the harvest. Prayers go up for protecting the fields from storms, and the rains to retreat because the grains need to stand in the sun and ripen. The cycle nears completion a few weeks before the harvest, and the rain does retreat so thoroughly from the reaped furrows that the earth quickly turns hard. The months of rain becomes a distant memory until it starts all over again.

**Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option:** (1×10=10)

**Q. 1. "There is rain that is gentle...."What does the other rain do?**

**Ans.** The two types of rain are the rain that falls too hard and damages the crops.

**Q. 2. The rain is like a calendar for farmers because:**

- (A) it tells them when to sow and when to harvest.
- (B) it tells them the birthdays of their children.
- (C) each month has a time for plantation.
- (D) different kinds of rains tell different things.

**Ans.** Option (A) is correct.

*Explanation:* The rain acts like an almanac for the farmers.

**Q. 3. Why does the urban population dislike rains?**

**Ans.** The urban population dislikes rains because of its accompanying problems of landslides, muddy-streets and periodic infection.

**Q. 4. People pray asking the rain to retreat because:**

- (A) the fungus and mould need to dry.
- (B) children don't get a chance to play.
- (C) the crops need the sun and heat to ripen.
- (D) they like to pray.

**Ans.** Option (C) is correct.

*Explanation:* Balance of everything is necessary.

**Q. 5. How is the big rain in Naga hills?**

**Ans.** Big rain is proper rainstorm accompanied by heart-stopping lightning and ear splitting thunder.

**Q. 6. What helps the crops to grow?**

- (A) Gentle rain.
- (B) Prayer for rain.

(C) Rain that falls too hard.

(D) Easy rain.

**Ans.** Option (A) is correct.

*Explanation:* Mentioned in Para 1, "pray for sweet rain as it helps the crops to grow." The rain will help, not the prayer.

**Q. 7. What is the native belief?**

**Ans.** The native belief is that flowers bring out rain.

**Q. 8. What kind of rain is called suzu?**

- (A) Winter monsoon
- (B) Summer rains
- (C) Week long rain
- (D) Short winter shower

**Q. 9. When can one see sunflowers blowing all over the Naga Hills?**

- (A) From May to October
- (B) In September-October
- (C) End of October
- (D) During the retreat of rain

**Ans.** Option (C) is correct.

*Explanation:* End of October is the most beautiful month in the Naga Hills, as the fields turn gold and wild sunflowers bloom over the slopes, all heralding the harvest.

**Q. 10. How does the rain act as the farmer's almanac?**

**Ans.** August rain is a sign that the time for cultivation is over. If any new grain seeds are sown, they may not sprout; even if they do sprout, they are not likely to bear grain. thus the rain acts as a kind of farmer's almanac.

**VIII. Read the passage given below :**

[Delhi I, II, III / OD Set-I, 2018]

(1) Every morning Ravi gives his brain an extra boost. We're not talking about drinking strong cups of coffee or playing one of those mind-training video games advertised all over Facebook. "I jump onto my stationary bike and cycle for 45 minutes to work," says Ravi. "When I get to my desk, my brain is at peak activity for a few hours." After his mental focus comes to a halt later in the day, he starts it with another short spell of cycling to be able to run errands.

(2) Ride, work, ride, repeat. It's a scientifically proven system that describes some unexpected benefits of cycling. In a recent study in the Journal of Clinical and Diagnostic Research, scientists found that people scored higher on tests of memory, reasoning, and planning after 30 minutes of spinning on a stationary bike than they did before they rode the bike. They also completed the tests faster after pedalling.

(3) Exercise is like fertilizer for your brain. All those hours, spent on exercising your muscles, create rich capillary beds not only in leg and hip muscles, but also in your brain. More blood vessels in your brain and muscles mean more oxygen and nutrients to help them work. When you pedal, you also force more nerve cells to fire. The result : you double or triple the production of these cells — literally building your brain. You also release neurotransmitters (the messengers between your brain cells), so all those cells, new and old, can communicate with each other for better, faster functioning. That's a pretty profound benefit for cyclists.

(4) This kind of growth is especially important with each passing birthday, because as we age, our brains shrink and those connections weaken. Exercise restores and protects the brain cells. Neuroscientists say, "Adults who exercise display sharper memory skills, higher concentration levels, more fluid thinking, and greater problem-solving ability than those who are sedentary."

(5) Cycling also elevates your mood, relieves anxiety, increases stress resistance, and even banishes the blues. "Exercise works in the same way as psychotherapy and antidepressants in the treatment of depression, maybe better," says Dr. Manjari. A recent study analyzing 26 years of research finds that even some exercise — as little as 20 to 30 minutes a day — can prevent depression over the long term.

(6) **Remember :** Although it's healthy, exercise itself is a stress, especially when you're just getting started or getting back into riding. When you first begin to exert yourself, your body releases a particular hormone to raise your heart rate, blood pressure, and blood glucose levels, says Meher Ahluwalia, PhD, a professor of integrative physiology. As you get fitter, it takes a longer, harder ride to trigger that same response.

**Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option:** (1×10=10)

**Q. 1. When nerve cells work during exercise then:**


- (A) the body experiences stress.
- (B) the brain is strengthened by multiplying them.
- (C) you start to lose your temper.
- (D) your stationary cycle starts to beep.

**Ans. Option (B) is correct.**

*Explanation:* When you pedal, you also force more nerve cells to fire. The result : you double or triple the production of these cells — literally building your brain.

**Q. 2. What does research show about the benefits of pedalling?**

**Ans.** After 30 minutes of pedalling, people scored higher on tests of memory, reasoning and planning.

**Q. 3. The more one pedals, more is \_\_\_\_\_.** 

- (A) production of nerve cells
- (B) harm to nerve cells
- (C) Both (A) and (B)
- (D) Neither (A) nor (B)

**Q. 4. How does Ravi give his mind an extra boost?**

**Ans.** Ravi cycles for 45 minutes and when he works on his desk, his brain is at peak activity for a few hours. After his mental focus comes to a halt later in the day, he starts it with another short spell of cycling to be able to run errands.

**Q. 5. What is the work of neurotransmitters?**

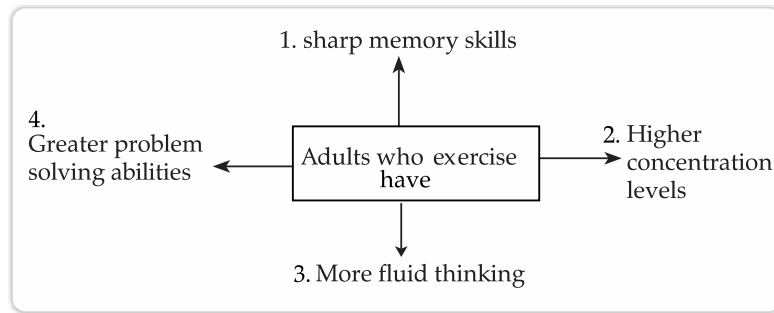
- (A) They are like messengers between brain at cells.
- (B) With the help of neurotransmitters, cells can communicate with each other.
- (C) It makes the functioning better and faster.
- (D) All of these

**Ans. Option (D) is correct.**

*Explanation:* You also release neurotransmitters (the messengers between your brain cells), so all those cells, new and old, can communicate with each other for better, faster functioning.



**Q. 6. Why is exercise so important for adults?**



- (A) Only 1 and 4      (B) 1, 2 and 3      (C) Only 2 and 3      (D) 1, 2, 3, 4

**Ans. Option (D) is correct.**

*Explanation:* Neuroscientists say, "Adults who exercise display sharper memory skills, higher concentration levels, more fluid thinking, and greater problem-solving ability than those who are sedentary."

**Q. 7. What happens as we age?**

**Ans.** As we age, our brain shrinks and the nerve cells connections weaken.

**Q. 8. To what medication is exercise compared to?**

**Ans.** Exercise is compared to psychotherapy and antidepressants

**Q. 9. Find word/phrase from the passage which means the opposite of 'abstain from functioning' (Para 6).**

- (A) Stress                      (B) Back into riding  
(C) Exert                        (D) Trigger

**Ans. Option (C) is correct.**

*Explanation:* Abstain means to move back or refrain while, exert means to release or move in front.

**Q. 10. Why is exercise itself a stress?**

**Ans.** When you first begin to exert yourself, your body releases a particular hormone to raise your heart rate, blood pressure, and blood glucose levels, as you get fitter, it takes a longer, harder ride to trigger that same response.

**IX. Read the passage given below :**

**AI**

Delhi Set I/II/III, Outside Delhi Set I/II/III, Foreign Set I/II/III, 2017]

(1) We sit in the last row, bumped about but free of stares. The bus rolls out of the dull crossroads of the city, and we are soon in open countryside with fields of sunflowers as far as the eye can see, their heads all facing us. Where there is no water, the land reverts to desert. While still on level ground, we see in the distance the tall range of the Mount Bogda, abrupt like a shining prism laid horizontally on the desert surface. It is over 5,000 metres high, and the peak is under permanent snow, in powerful contrast to the flat desert all around. Heaven Lake lies part of the way up this range, about 2,000 metres above sea level, at the foot of one of the higher snow-peaks.

(2) As the bus climbs, the sky, brilliant before, grows overcast. I have brought nothing warm to wear. It is all down at the hotel in Urumqi. Rain begins to fall. The man behind me is eating overpoweringly smelly goat's cheese. The bus window leaks inhospitably, but reveals a beautiful view. We have passed quickly from desert through arable land to pasture and the ground is now green with grass, the slopes dark with pine. A few cattle drink at a clear stream flowing past moss-covered stones; it is a constable landscape. The stream changes into a white torrent, and as we climb higher, I wish more and more that I had brought with me something warmer than just the pair of shorts that have served me so well in the desert. The stream (which, we are told, rises in Heaven Lake) disappears, and we continue our slow ascent. About noon, we arrive at Heaven Lake, and look for a place to stay at the foot, which is the resort area. We get a room in a small cottage, and I am happy to note that there are thick quilts on the beds.

(3) Standing outside the cottage, we survey our surroundings. Heaven Lake is long, sardine-shaped and fed by snow melt from a stream at its head. The lake is intense blue, surrounded on all sides by green mountain walls, dotted with distant sheep. At the head of the lake, beyond the delta of the inflowing stream, is a massive snow-capped peak which dominates the vista; it is part of a series of peaks that culminate, a little out of view, in Mount Bogda itself.

(4) For those who live in the resort, there is a small hall by the shore. We eat here sometimes, and sometimes buy food from the vendors outside, who sell kabab and naan until the last bus leaves. The kababs, cooked on skewers over charcoal braziers, are particularly good, highly spiced and well done. Horse's milk is available too from the local Kazakh herdsmen, but I decline this. I am so affected by the cold that Mr. Cao, the relaxed young man who runs the mess, lends me a spare pair of trousers, several sizes too large but more than comfortable.

**Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option:** (1×10=10)

**Q. 1. One benefit of sitting in the last row of the bus was that:**

- (A) the narrator enjoyed bumps.
- (B) no one stared at him.
- (C) he could see the sunflowers.
- (D) he avoided the dullness of the city.

**Ans. Option (B) is correct.**

*Explanation:* Mentioned in the first line of the passage, 'free of stares'.

**Q. 2. Why did the narrator feel relieved on reaching the destination?**

**Ans.** The author was feeling cold and didn't have any warm clothes so he was relieved on reaching the destination.

**Q. 3. Mount Bogda is compared to :**

- (A) a horizontal desert surface.
- (B) a shining prism.
- (C) a constable landscape.
- (D) the overcast sky.

**Q. 4. Which milk is available from the local herdsmen?**

**Ans.** Horse milk is available from the local herdsmen.

**Q. 5. The narrator was suffering from \_\_\_\_\_.**

- (A) fever
- (B) cough
- (C) cold
- (D) hunger

**Ans. Option (C) is correct.**

*Explanation:* He was feeling cold in absence of warm clothes.

**Q. 6. How did Mr. Cao help the narrator?**

**Ans.** Mr. Cao helped the narrator with a spare pair of trousers.

**Q. 7. Pick out the word/phrase which means same as 'upward movement' (Para 2).**

- (A) Overcast
- (B) Quickly
- (C) Ascent
- (D) Arable

**Ans. Option (C) is correct.**

*Explanation:* 'Ascent' means to move upwards.

**Q. 8. Which word in the passage means 'sellers'?**

**Ans.** 'Vendors' means sellers.

**Q. 9. What does the word 'pasture' (Para 2) mean in the passage?**

- (A) Grassland
- (B) Grass
- (C) Sheep walk
- (D) Running area

**Ans. Option (C) is correct.**

*Explanation:* 'Grassland' is an open area meant for grazing cattle. 'Pasture' is also grass for feeding the cattle.

**Q. 10. What is Heaven's Lake?**

**Ans.** Heaven's Lake is a long, sardine shaped, intense blue lake surrounded by green mountain walls.

**X. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:** [Delhi, Outside Delhi, All Sets (2017)]

(1) Thackeray reached Kittur along with a small British army force and a few of his officers and their family members. He thought that the very presence of the British on the outskirts of Kittur would terrorise the rulers and people of Kittur, and that they would lay down their arms. He was quite confident that he would be able to crush the revolt in no time. During the afternoon and evening of 20<sup>th</sup> October, the British soldiers were busy making arrangements for these camps.

(2) On morning of 21<sup>st</sup>, Thackeray sent his political assistant to Kittur Fort to obtain a written assurance from all the important officers of Kittur rendering them answerable for the security of the treasury of Kittur. They, accordingly, met Sardar Gurusiddappa and other officers of Kittur and asked them to comply with the orders of Thackeray. They did not know that the people were in a defiant mood. The commanders of Kittur dismissed the agent's orders as no documents could be signed without sanction from Rani Chennamma.

(3) Thackeray was enraged and sent for the commander of the Horse Artillery to capture the commanders of the Desai's army. When the Horse Artillery stormed into the fort, Sardar Gurusiddappa, who had kept his men on full alert, promptly commanded his men to repel and chase them away. The Kittur forces made a bold front and overpowered the British soldiers. In the meanwhile, the Desai's guards had shut the gates of the fort and the British Horse Artillery

men, being completely overrun and routed, had to get out through the escape window. Rani's soldiers chased them out of the fort, killing a few of them until they retreated to their camps on the outskirts.

(4) A few of the British soldiers had found refuge in some private residences, while some were hiding in their tents. The Kittur soldiers captured about forty persons and brought them to the palace. These included twelve children and a few women from the British officer's camp. When they were brought in the presence of the Rani, she ordered the soldiers to be imprisoned. For the women and children, she had only gentleness and admonished her soldiers for taking them into custody. At her orders, these women and children were taken inside the palace safely and given food and shelter. Rani came down from her throne, patted the children lovingly and told them that no harm would come to them.

(5) She, then, sent word through a messenger to Thackeray that the British women and children were safe and could be taken back any time. Seeing the noble gesture of the Rani, Thackeray was moved. He thought of trying to persuade her to enter into an agreement with the British to stop all hostilities in lieu of an inam (prize) of eleven villages. His offer was dismissed with a gesture of contempt. She had no wish to meet Thackeray. That night she called Sardar Gurusiddappa and other leading Sardars, and after discussing all the issues came to the conclusion that there was no point in meeting Thackeray who had come with an army to threaten Kittur into submission to British sovereignty.

**Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option:** (1×10=10)

**Q. 1. What was Thackeray confident of?**

**Ans.** Thackeray was confident of the British army crushing the Kittur revolt.

*Explanation:* When the Horse Artillery stormed into the fort, Sardar Gurusiddappa, who had kept his men on full alert, promptly commanded his men to repel and chase them away.

**Q. 2. Why did Thackeray come to Kittur?**

- (A) To crush the revolt
- (B) To terrorise the rulers
- (C) To extend helping hand to the people of Kittur
- (D) To make people and rulers lay down their arms.

**Q. 5. What proves that Rani Chennamma was a noble queen?**

**Ans.** Rani Chennamma was gentle towards the women and children. She admonished the soldiers for taking them into custody. They were taken into the palace safely and given food and shelter. This proves that the Rani was a noble queen.

**Q. 3. Why did the commanders of Kittur dismiss the agents orders?**

**Ans.** The commanders of Kittur dismissed the agents orders as no document could be signed without sanction from Rani Chennamma.

**Q. 6. How would the British women have felt after meeting the Rani?**

- (A) Inspired
- (B) Full of gratitude
- (C) Relieved and pleased
- (D) All of these

**Q. 4. What happened to the Horse Artillery?**

- (A) It couldn't storm into Sardar Gurusiddappa
- (B) Kittur forces restrained from bold attack.
- (C) When the Horse Artillery stormed into the fort, men were commanded to chase them away.
- (D) All of these

**Ans. Option (D) is correct.**

*Explanation:* Rani was noble and had a pleasing personality.

**Q. 7. Why did Rani Chennamma not meet Thackeray?**

**Ans.** Rani Chennamma did not meet Thackeray because he had come with an army to threaten Kittur into submission to British Sovereignty.

**Ans. Option (C) is correct.**

- Q. 8. Which of these words convey the meaning of 'captured'? (Para 3).**
- (A) To let off                      (B) To apprehend  
(C) To free                         (D) To throw
- Ans. Option (B) is correct.**  
*Explanation:* Apprehend means to capture or arrest for a crime.
- Q. 9. Which of the following sentences convey the meaning of 'issue' in the same manner as it is used in the above passage (Para 6)?**
- (A) She is expecting an issue.
- (B) Last night, she issued a statement, denying the allegations.  
(C) Staff will be issued new uniforms.  
(D) All are free to express their views on political issues.
- Ans. Option (D) is correct.**  
*Explanation:* "Issue" here means topic concerned.
- Q. 10. What enraged Thackeray?**
- Ans.** When the Commanders of Kittur refused to sign any document thus defying the British, this enraged Thackeray.



## CASE BASED PASSAGES



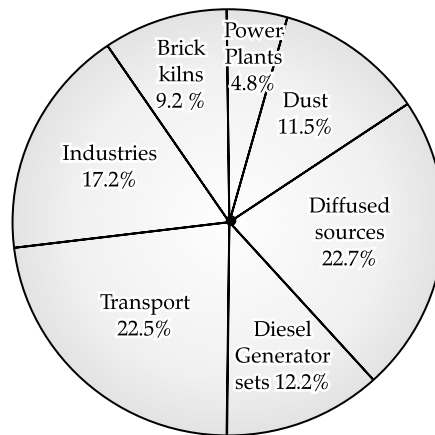
### Case based MCQs

#### I. Read the passage carefully:

[CBSE Term 1, Set 4, 2021-22]

- Air pollution is a major threat to human health. The United Nations Environment Programme has estimated that, globally, 1.1 billion people breathe in unhealthy air. The World Health Organization (WHO) has estimated that urban air pollution is responsible for approximately 800,000 deaths and 4.6 million people lose their lives every year around the globe.
- Traffic and transportation problems, inadequate drainage facilities, lack of open spaces, carbon emissions and the accumulation of waste aggravate the problem. Air pollution is associated with increased risk of acute respiratory infections (ARI), the principal cause of infant and child mortality in developing countries.
- Urban air quality in most mega cities has been found to be critical and Kolkata is no exception to this. An analysis of ambient air quality in Kolkata was done by applying the Exceedance Factor (EF) method, where the presence of listed pollutants' (RPM, SPM, NO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub>), annual average concentration are classified into four different categories; namely critical, high, moderate and low pollution. Out of a total of 17 ambient air quality monitoring stations operating in Kolkata, five fall under the critical category and the remaining 12 locations fall under the high category of NO<sub>2</sub>, concentration, while for RPM, four record critical and 13 come under the high pollution category. The causes of high concentration of pollutants in the form of NO<sub>2</sub> and RPM have been identified in earlier studies as vehicular emission (51.4%), followed by industrial sources (24.5%) and dust particles (21.1%).
- Later, a health assessment was undertaken with a structured questionnaire at some nearby dispensaries which fall under areas with different ambient air pollution levels. Three dispensaries have been surveyed with 100 participants. It shows that respondents with respiratory diseases (85.1%) have outnumbered waterborne diseases (14.9%) and include acute respiratory infections (ARI) (60%), chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases (COPD) (7.8%), upper track respiratory infection (UTRI) (1.2%), influenza (12.7%) and acid-fast bacillus (AFB) (3.4%).
- To live a healthy life and have better well-being, practising pollution averting activities in one's day-to-day activities is needed. These pollution-averting practices can only be possible when awareness among the masses is generated that the air, they breathe outdoors, is not found to be safe.

Pollution in India



Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option: (1×10=10)

**Q. 1. What is the main idea of the passage?**

**Ans.** The passage deals with the issue of Air pollution at the global level.

**Q. 2. Select the option that displays the correct 'cause and effect' relationship.**

- (A) **Cause:** Traffic and transportation problem  
**Effect:** 4.6 million deaths
- (B) **Cause:** Lack of open spaces:  
**Effect:** Mega cities
- (C) **Cause:** Air pollution  
**Effect:** Respiratory diseases
- (D) **Cause:** Air quality monitoring stations  
**Effect:** Emission of NO<sub>2</sub>

**Ans. Option (C) is correct.**

**Explanation:** Air pollution leads to respiratory diseases.

**Q. 3. How many people lose their lives due to Air pollution, across the globe, every year?**

**Ans.** Air pollution kills 4.6 million people around the globe and not in India.

**Q. 4. The author's opinion on the development of Mega cities is:**

- (A) Cities face transportation problems due to heavy traffic.
- (B) Urbanization leads to deterioration of air quality.
- (C) Mega cities are the right spots to study air pollution.
- (D) Cities face the problem of congestion.

**Ans. Option (B) is correct.**

**Explanation:** "Urban air quality in most mega cities has been found to be critical."

**Q. 5. What is the author's recommendation to the people?**

**Ans.** The author wants people to know that Air pollution is a serious threat and he advises people to follow pollution averting activities seriously.

**Q. 6. Select the option that displays the true statement as per the given figure.**

- (A) Dust and power plants are the causes for maximum pollution.
- (B) Pollution caused by transport is much more than the pollution caused by industries.
- (C) The use of diesel generator is responsible for more than 50% of air pollution.
- (D) Dust stands fourth in the list that causes air pollution.

**Ans. Option (B) is correct.**

**Explanation:** Transport- 22.5% ; Industries- 17.2%.

**Q. 7. Which word in the text means -of the area around, on all sides?**

**Ans.** Ambient means the area around.

**Q. 8. State the illnesses associated with Air pollution.**

**Ans.** Acute respiratory infections, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, upper track respiratory infection, influenza and acid-fast bacillus.

**Q. 9. To live a healthy life and have better well-being, practising \_\_\_\_\_ in one's day-to-day activities is needed.**

- (A) pollution averting activities
- (B) pollution disintegrating activities
- (C) pollution enhancing activities
- (D) All of these

**Ans. Option (A) is correct.**

**Q. 10. Which issues aggravate Air pollution problem?**

**Ans.** Traffic and transportation problems, inadequate drainage facilities, lack of open spaces, carbon emissions and the accumulation of waste aggravate the problem.

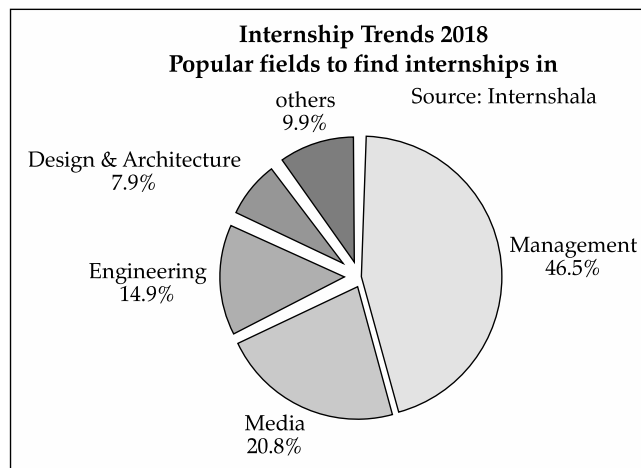


## II. Read the passage and answer the questions given below :

[SQP, 2020-2021]

(1) Over the last five years, more companies have been actively looking for intern profiles, according to a 2018-19 survey by an online internship and training platform. This survey reveals that India had 80% more internship applications — with 2.2 million applications received in 2018 compared to 1.27 million in the year before. The trend was partly due to more industries looking to have fresh minds and ideas on existing projects for better productivity. What was originally seen as a western concept, getting an internship before plunging into the job market, is fast gaining momentum at Indian workplaces.

(2) According to the survey data, India's National Capital Region has been the top provider of internships, with a total of 35% internship opportunities, followed by Mumbai and Bengaluru at 20% and 15%, respectively. This includes opportunities in startups, MNCs and even government entities. The survey also revealed popular fields to find internships in (Fig. 1). There has been growing awareness among the students about the intern profiles sought by hiring companies that often look for people with real-time experience in management than B- school masters.



(3) The stipend has been an important factor influencing the choice of internships. The survey data reveals that the average stipend offered to interns was recorded as Rs. 7000, while the maximum stipend went up to Rs. 5,000. According to statistics, a greater number of people considered virtual internships than in-office internships. Virtual internships got three times more applications than in-office, since a large chunk of students were the ones already enrolled in various courses, or preferred working from home.

(4) Internship portals have sprung up in the last three to four years and many of them already report healthy traffic per month. Reports suggest that on an average, an internship portal company has around 200,000-plus students and some 8,000 companies registered on it. It gets around two lakh visits online every month. The Managing Director of a leading executive search firm says that though these web platforms are working as an effective bridge between the industry and students, most established companies are still reluctant to take too many interns on board for obvious reasons.

Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option: (1×10=10)

**Q. 1. Select the correct inference with reference to the following:**

**Over the last five years, more companies have been actively looking for intern profiles...**

- (A) The past five years have seen active applications by interns to several companies.
- (B) The activity for intern profiling by the companies has reached a gradual downside over the past five years.

(C) There were lesser companies searching for intern profiles earlier, as compared to those in the recent five years.

(D) Several companies have initiated intern profiling five times a year in the recent past.

**Ans. Option (C) is correct.**

**Q. 2. What is the central idea of the passage?**

**Ans.** The central idea of the passage is 'Internships'

**Q. 3. Whose popularity is more compared to that of media internships?**

**Ans.** Management internships popularity is more than twice than that of media.

**Q. 4. Based on your reading of paragraphs II-III, select the appropriate counter- argument to the given argument.**

**Argument:** I don't think you'll be considered for an internship just because you've been the Student Editor and Head of Student Council.

(A) I think I have a fair chance because I'm applying for a virtual position than an in-office one.

(B) I have real-time experience in managing a team and many companies consider it more meritorious than a degree in Management.

(C) I know that my stipend might be on the lower side but I think that it's a good 'earn while you learn' opportunity.

(D) Lot of metro-cities have a good percentage of positions open and I think I should definitely take a chance.

**Ans. Option (B) is correct.**

**Explanation:** Being a Student Editor or the Head of Student Council calls for an experience and so does Option (B).

**Q. 5. Select the option that displays the correct cause-effect relationship.**

Cause	Effect
(A) Several students had academic courses to complete	Students applied for online internship
(B) A large chunk of students preferred in-office internships	Applications were three times more than for virtual internships
(C) A greater number	Several students

of students had courses to  
wanted to work complete  
from home

(D) Students applied for online internship An equal number of students applied for work-from-home

**Ans. Option (A) is correct.**

**Explanation:** Academic goals required time and so online internships were better option.

**Q. 6. What was the average stipend offered to interns?**

**Ans.** The average stipend offered to interns was 7,000 rupees.

**Q. 7. Which phrase in the passage means a balanced number of people visiting the site?**

**Ans.** healthy traffic

**Q. 8. Read the two statements given below and select the option that suitably explains them.**

(i) Established companies are reluctant to take too many interns on board.

(ii) Probability of interns leaving the company for a variety of reasons, is high.

(A) (i) is the problem and (ii) is the solution for (i).

(B) (i) is false, but (ii) correctly explains (i).

(C) (i) summarises (ii).

(D) (i) is true and (ii) is the reason for (i).

**Ans. Option (D) is correct.**

**Explanation:** 2 is correct reason for 1. It is the obvious reason.

**Q. 9. Which is the least popular field to find internships?**

**Ans.** Design and Architecture.

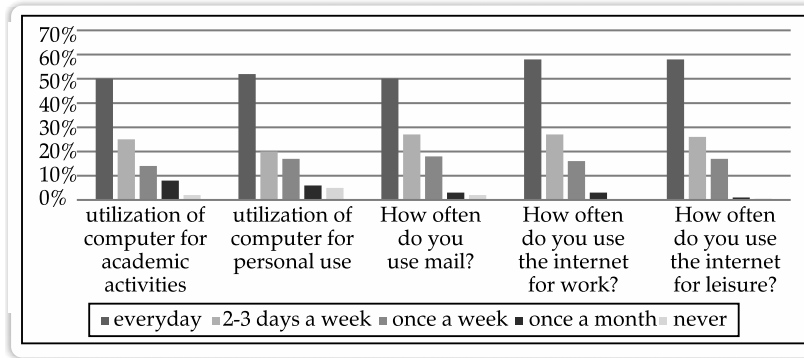
**Q. 10. "Most established companies are still reluctant to take too many interns on board for obvious reasons". What do you feel are the 'obvious reasons'?**

**Ans.** Being a new comer/fresher and inexperienced in the field, not knowing things that experienced employees know are the obvious reasons. (logical answers to be accepted).

**III. Read the passage and answer the questions given below :**

**AI** [SQP, 2020-2021]

(1) The present generation is well updated with the use of internet and computers. The rapid development in computer technology and increase in accessibility of the internet for academic purposes has changed the face of education for everyone associated with it. Let's look at the data arising out of a recent survey that was done to ascertain the time spent on utilisation of the computer and internet:



(2) At present, many schools and universities have been implementing internet-based learning, as it supplements the conventional teaching methods. The internet provides a wide variety of references and information to academics as well as scientific researchers. Students often turn to it to do their academic assignments and projects.

(3) However, research on Internet is very different from traditional library research and the differences can cause problems. The Internet is a tremendous resource, but it must be used carefully and critically.

(4) According to a 2018 Academic Student e-book Experience Survey, conducted by LJ's research department and sponsored by EBSCO, when reading for pleasure, almost 74% of respondents said they preferred print books for leisure whereas, 45% of respondents chose e-books rather than the printed versions, for research or assignments.

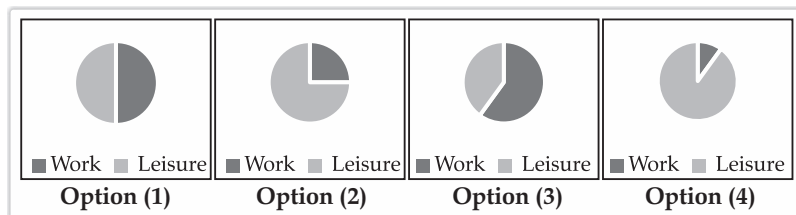
(5) When asked what e-book features make them their favourite for research, the respondents were clear. Having page numbers to use in citations, topped the list (75%); followed by the ability to resize text to fit a device's screen (67%); the ability to bookmark pages, highlight text, or take notes for later reference (60%); downloading the entire e-book (57%); and allowing content to be transferred between devices (43%) were the varied responses.

Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option: (1×10=10)

Q. 1. Which word in the passage means incredible?

Ans. tremendous

Q. 2. Based on the graphical chart in the passage, choose the option that correctly states the depiction of internet usage for work and for leisure, for once a month.



(A) Option (1)

(B) Option (2)

(C) Option (3)

(D) Option (4)

Ans. Option (C) is correct.

*Explanation:* Work is more than leisure.

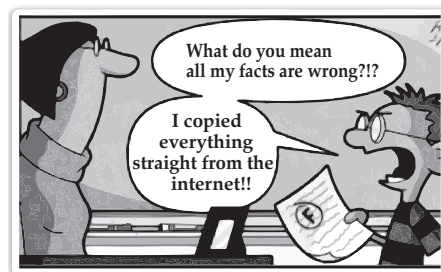
Q. 3. What supplements conventional teaching methods?

Ans. Internet-based learning supplements conventional teaching methods.

Q. 4. Which area does the graphical data list as the area of zero response from respondents?

Ans. Never using the internet for work and leisure.

Q. 5. In the cartoon, the student's reaction reveals that he is \_\_\_\_\_.



(A) indignant

(B) apologetic

(C) obedient

(D) inquisitive

Ans. Option (A) is correct.

*Explanation:* The student here is arrogant.



**Q. 6. How many respondents chose e-books rather than the printed versions?**

**Ans.** 45% of the respondents chose e-books rather than the printed versions.

**Q. 7. Arrange the given e-book features preferred for research from the least favourite to the most favourite—**

- (i) Downloading the entire e-book
- (ii) Choosing page numbers in citations
- (iii) Highlighting text
- (iv) Resizing text to fit screen

- (A) (i), (iii), (iv), (ii)    (B) (iii), (ii), (i), (iv)  
 (C) (ii), (iv), (iii), (i)    (D) (iv), (i), (ii), (iii)

**Q. 8. What is the reason for the transformation of education?**

**Ans.** The easy availability of the Internet has changed the face of education for everyone associated with it.

**Q. 9. In Para 2 'supplement' is a:**

- (A) Noun                      (B) Verb  
 (C) Adjective                (D) Conjunction

**Ans.** Option (B) is correct.

*Explanation:* To add an extra element or amount.

**Q. 10. Do you prefer Internet research or traditional library research?**

**Ans.** I prefer Internet research because it is faster and lot of content is available.

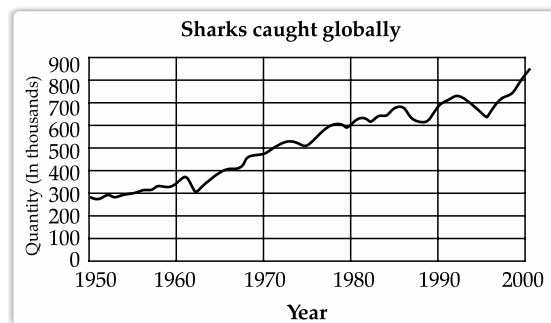
**Or**

I prefer the traditional library research because it is more authentic and gives an old school feeling. (all valid answers to be accepted)

**IV. Read the passage given below:**

**AI**

(1) Andy Dehart is a shark expert and TV presenter who lives in the United States of America. He has had a lifelong interest in sharks and is always trying to look for ways to educate the public about them. Many people think that sharks have little or no intelligence, but Andy points out that recent studies have shown that many shark species possess powerful problem-solving abilities and social skills. "Sharks do not want to attack humans," he asserts. "There is no shark species that eats humans as part of its regular diet. In most shark attack cases, the shark leaves after realising that it has mistakenly bitten a human and not its intended prey."



(2) In Andy's opinion, all shark fishing should be stopped until the shark populations have had time to grow again. We then need to do a better job of managing the fishing of sharks. However, even if the direct fishing of sharks is stopped, many will still be killed when they are caught up in the nets of boats fishing for other species of fish.

(3) When Andy was a boy, his father worked for a national oceanic organisation, and Andy travelled with him all over the Caribbean. He grew up by the coast and he has been connected with the sea for as long as he can remember. He also lived near one of the best aquariums in America. Andy then went on to build a career working with sharks in an aquarium environment. More recently, he has been involved with television and the making of programmes about the sharks.

(4) Andy and his wife had their first child two years ago. They were amused and amazed to see to what extent their work with animals has proved to be useful in bringing up their daughter. They know how to observe her behaviour and teach her how to do things by rewarding her.

(5) Andy loves sharks and is very passionate about their survival and protection. He feels extremely lucky to have had opportunities working at the National Aquarium and the television station which presents the Nature Channel. He never wastes a moment in either place that could be spent educating people about sharks. He does admit that it is probably not possible for everyone to love sharks as he does. However, he does hope to persuade people personally or through the media, to respect sharks and the critical role they play in our environment. His main objective is to keep spreading awareness that sharks are not dangerous man-eaters but essential creatures in our oceans, as they provide ecological balance and help to control other species.

**Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option: (1×10=10)**

**Q. 1. What proves that Sharks may be intelligent?**

**Ans.** The Sharks problem solving and social skills prove that sharks may be intelligent.

**Q. 2. Why does Andy believe that Sharks only attack humans by mistake?**

**Ans.** Sharks don't eat humans as a part of their diet, they leave after realising that they have mistakenly bitten a human.

**Q. 3. How did Andy's work help him and his wife when bringing up their daughter?**

(A) They knew how to teach her things by rewarding her.

(B) They taught her by reprimanding her.

(C) They taught her to observe behaviour of others.

(D) Connection of animals to the daughter's keenness.

**Ans. Option (A) is correct.**

*Explanation:* They knew how to observe her behaviour and teach her how to do things by rewarding her.

**Q. 4. According to the graph, how many sharks were caught in 1990?**

(A) 650,000 (B) 700,000

(C) 700 (D) 800

**Ans. Option (B) is correct.**

*Explanation:* The inference can be drawn from the given graph.

**Q. 5. How does Andy hope to educate people about sharks?**

**Ans.** Andy hopes to educate people through the media, his work at the National Aquarium and the nature channel.

**Q. 6. Which word in Para 5 means the opposite of 'safe'?**

(A) Critical (B) Objective

(C) Balance (D) None of these

**Ans. Option (A) is correct.**

*Explanation:* Critical means adverse or disapproving.

**Q. 7. Even after the ascending trend, in which year the number of sharks caught show maximum variation?**

(A) 1990-2000 (B) 1970-1980

(C) 1980-1990 (D) 1960-1970

**Ans. Option (A) is correct.**

*Explanation:* The inference can be drawn from the given graph. Variation between 720000-610000.

**Q. 8. How will sharks be killed even if fishing of sharks is stopped?**

**Ans.** Even if fishing of Sharks is stopped, many will still be killed when they are caught up in the nets of boats fishing for other species of fish.

**Q. 9. Which word in the passage means having, showing, or caused by strong feelings or beliefs?**

**Ans.** Passionate

**Q. 10. Why are Sharks essential creatures in our oceans?**

**Ans.** Sharks are essential creatures because they provide ecological balance and help to control other species.

**V. Read the passage given below:**

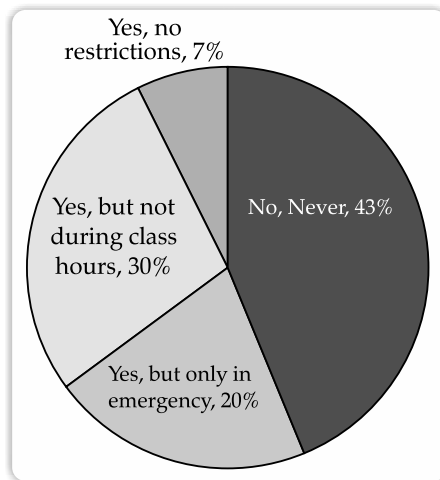
**AI**

(1) Human life changes constantly over time. Mobile phones were previously seen only among few high-class people and were considered as something lavish. Then slowly, even the average or the common men on the street, like a cobbler or vegetable vendor, could be seen having a cell-phone. In the world today, even young kids and school going children are found busily chatting away on their mobile phones. Now kids as young as seven and eight, too, have started owning a mobile phone. Welcome to the new age world!

(2) Studies recommend that mobile phones should only be given to children above sixteen years of age. Children below the age of sixteen should not be given mobile phones since their brain is too sensitive to withstand the effects of mobile radiation. Since the tissues in the brain and body are still developing, these radiations can cause cell damage. Due to the absorption of radiation, children can have severe health issues. Although, adults also get affected by these radiations, it will be more severe in children because of increased absorption of these radiation levels. Experts also believe there is a link between childhood cancer and mobile phone usage among children.

(3) A survey was conducted to get the views of the parents and teachers as to whether the children below sixteen years of age should be given mobiles or not was conducted. The responses received were formulated into a pie diagram as under:

Whether students should be given mobiles or not



Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option: (1×10=10)

Q. 1. What is the minimum age prescribed by the studies to give mobile phones to children?

Ans. The minimum age prescribed by the studies to give mobile phones to children is Sixteen.

Q. 2. Which of these diseases is linked to mobile phone usage?

- (A) Childhood obesity
- (B) Childhood retardation
- (C) Childhood cancer
- (D) All of these

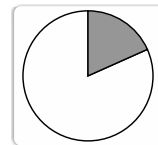
Ans. Option (C) is correct.

*Explanation:* Children below the age of sixteen should not be given mobile phones since their brain is too sensitive to withstand the effects of mobile radiation. Since the tissues in the brain and body are still developing, these radiations can cause cell damage. Due to the absorption of radiation, children can have severe health issues. Experts also believe there is a link between childhood cancer and mobile phone usage among children.

Q. 3. What percentage of parents and teachers are against giving mobile phones to students in any situation?

Ans. 43% of parents and teachers are against giving mobile phones to students in any situation.

Q. 4. Which of these categories is represented by this pictorial representation?



- (A) Yes, no restrictions
- (B) Yes, but not during class hours
- (C) Yes, but only in emergency
- (D) No, never

Ans. Option (C) is correct.

*Explanation:* 20%

Q. 5. Which word is the passage means 'extravagant'?

Ans. Lavish

Q. 6. State the word from the passage which means 'distracting'.

Ans. Absorbing

Q. 7. The word 'conducted' used in Para 3 here means:

- (A) Steered (B) Sold  
(C) Planned (D) Finalised

Ans. Option (A) is correct.

*Explanation:* Conducted means steered.

Q. 8. Why does the author say that life changes constantly?

Ans. Mobile phones were previously seen only in the hands of few high-class people but slowly even the common men on the street could be seen having a cell phone.

Q. 9. Mobile phones affect students' \_\_\_\_\_ the most.

- (A) heart (B) brain

- (C) kidney (D) lungs

Ans. Option (B) is correct.

*Explanation:* Children below the age of sixteen should not be given mobile phones since their brain is too sensitive to withstand the effects of mobile radiation.

Q. 10. According to you, what are the ill-effects of mobile usage?

Ans. Mobile usage can lead to addiction. It results in wastage of time and is a major distraction. Excessive usage results in health problems too. (all valid answers to be accepted)

#### VI. Read the passage given below:

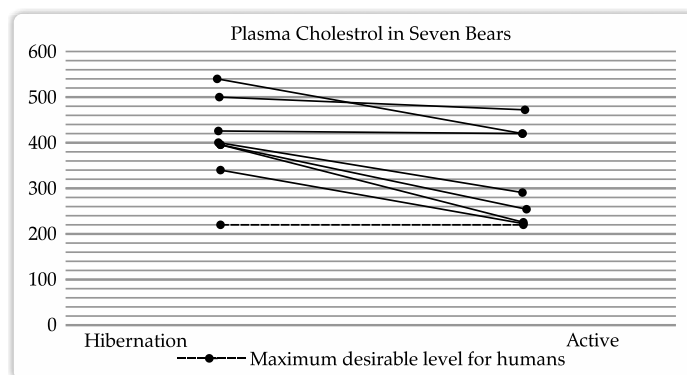
(1) Understanding how hibernators, including ground squirrels, marmots and bears, survive their long winter's naps may one day offer solutions for problems such as heart disease, osteoporosis and muscular dystrophy.

(2) Nearly everything about the way an animal's body works changes when it hibernates and preparations start weeks or months in advance. The first order of business is to fatten up.

(3) "Fat is where it's at for a hibernator," says Matthew Andrews, a molecular biologist at the University of Minnesota, Duluth, who studies 13-lined ground squirrels. "You bring your own lunch with you". Packing lunch is necessary because the animals go on the world's strictest diet during the winter, surviving entirely off their white fat. "They have their last supper in October; they don't eat again until March," Andrews says.

(4) Recent analysis revealed that Scandinavian brown bears spend the summer with plasma 69 cholesterol levels considered high for humans; those values then increase substantially for hibernation, Frobert and his colleagues reported. These "very, very fat" bears with high cholesterol also get zero exercise during hibernation. Lolling about in the den pinches off blood vessels, contributing to sluggish circulation. "That cocktail would not be advisable in humans," Frobert says. It's a recipe for hardened arteries, putting people at risk for heart attacks and strokes.

(5) Even healthy young adult humans can develop fatty streaks in their arteries that make the blood vessels less flexible, but the bears don't build up such artery-hardening 69 streaks. "Our bears, they had nothing," Frobert says. It's not yet clear how the bears keep their arteries flexible, but Fröbert hopes to find some protective molecule that could stave off hardened arteries in humans as well.



Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option: (1×10=10)

**Q. 1. To what problems can study of hibernators offer solutions?**

**Ans.** The study of hibernators can offer solutions to Osteoporosis, Heart disease and muscular dystrophy.

**Q. 2. How do animals survive during winters?**

- (A) Off their white fat
- (B) Hunting small animals
- (C) Eating plant leaves and fruits
- (D) Eating packed lunch

**Ans.** Option (A) is correct.

*Explanation:* The animals go on the world's strictest diet during the winter, surviving entirely off their white fat.

**Q. 3. What type of brown bears spend summer with high plasma cholesterol levels?**

**Ans.** Scandinavian brown bears spend summer with high plasma cholesterol levels.

**Q. 4. How much exercise is done by animals during hibernation?**

- (A) Zero
- (B) Less than average
- (C) Regular
- (D) More than average

**Q. 5. What is the recipe for hardened arteries?**

**Ans.** Lolling about in the den pinches off blood vessels contributing to sluggish circulation. This for humans would be a recipe for hardened arteries.

**Q. 6. Which statement about the effect of hibernation on the bears is best supported by the graph?**

- (A) Only one of the bears did not experience an appreciable change in its total plasma cholesterol level.

(B) Only one of the bears experienced a significant increase in its total plasma cholesterol level.

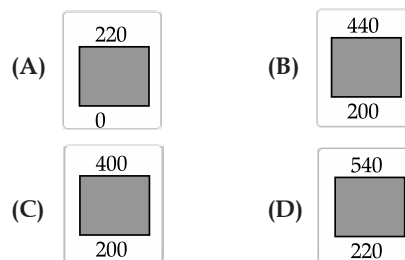
(C) All the bears achieved the desirable plasma cholesterol level for humans.

(D) The bear with the lowest total plasma cholesterol level in its active state had the highest total plasma cholesterol level during hibernation.

**Ans.** Option (A) is correct.

*Explanation:* To be inferred from the given line graph.

**Q. 7. What is the range of the cholesterol level as indicated by the graph?**



**Ans.** Option (D) is correct.

*Explanation:* To be inferred from the given line graph.

**Q. 8. What do marmots do in winter?**

**Ans.** Marmots hibernate in winter.

**Q. 9. How do animals prepare for hibernation?**

**Ans.** Animals accumulate fat and prepare for hibernation.

**Q. 10. What does Frobert hope to find?**

**Ans.** Frobert hopes to find some protective molecule that could stave off hardened arteries in humans.

## VII. Read the passage given below:

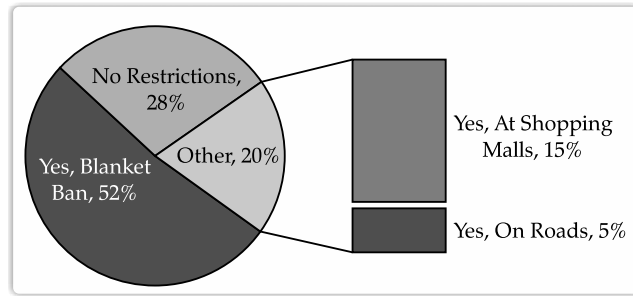
(1) Most of us know that smoking causes cancer, lung disease, heart disease, can shorten life by 10 years or more and can cost a smoker thousands of rupees a year. So, why are people still smoking? The answer, in a word, is addiction.

(2) Smoking is a hard habit to break because tobacco contains the very addictive chemical nicotine. The body and mind quickly get used to the nicotine in cigarettes. Soon, a person needs to have it just to feel normal.

(3) People start smoking for different reasons. Some think it looks cool. Others start because their family members or friends smoke. Almost all adult tobacco users started before they were 18 years old. Most never expected to become addicted.

(4) Many of the chemicals in cigarettes, like nicotine and cyanide, are poisons that can kill in high doses. The body is smart. It goes on the defence when it's being poisoned. First time smokers often feel pain or burning in their throat and lungs, and some even cough vigorously the first few times when they try tobacco. Over time, smoking leads to health problems such as heart disease, stroke, lung damage and many types of cancer — including lung, throat, stomach, and bladder cancer.

(5) A survey was conducted to collect views of the people whether smoking should be allowed or not in public places. The results of the responses received have been depicted in the form of pie chart here.



Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option: (1×10=10)

**Q. 1.** What are the diseases caused by smoking?

**Ans.** Heart disease, lung disease and cancer is caused by smoking.

**Q. 2.** What is the basic reason for continuing smoking even after knowing its harmful effects?

- (A) Looking cool
- (B) Keeping pace with the society
- (C) Addiction
- (D) None of these

**Ans.** Option (C) is correct.

*Explanation:* Most never expected to become addicted.

**Q. 3.** What happens to first time smokers?

**Q. 4.** What did people not expect would happen?

**Ans.** People did not expect to become addicted to smoking.

**Q. 5.** From the given pictorial representation, choose the option that correctly states the percentage of persons who are of the view that smoking should not be allowed on roads.

- (A) Option 1 (B) Option 2
- (C) Option 3 (D) Option 4

**Ans.** Option (A) is correct.

*Explanation:* 5%



### Commonly Made Error

- Students take approximation and write wrong answers.



### Answering Tip

- Try to infer the exact number by studying the graph properly.

**Q. 6.** From the given pictorial representation, choose the option that correctly states the percentage of persons who say that smoking should have a blanket ban as compared to those supporting no restrictions on smoking.

- (A) 20% : 100%
- (B) 20% : 52%
- (C) 52% : 28%
- (D) 28% : 52%

**Ans.** Option (C) is correct.

**Q. 7.** Why is the body smart ?

**Ans.** The body is smart because it goes on the defence when it's being poisoned. The fatal effects of smoking are only seen over time.

**Q. 8.** \_\_\_\_\_ contains an addictive substance called nicotine.

- (A) Liquor
- (B) Coffee
- (C) Tobacco
- (D) Fruit juice

**Ans.** Option (C) is correct.

*Explanation:* Tobacco contains the very addictive chemical-nicotine.

**Q. 9.** \_\_\_\_\_ are the poisons that can kill in high doses.

- (A) Nicotine
- (B) Cyanide
- (C) Both A & B
- (D) None of these

**Ans.** Option (C) is correct.

*Explanation:* Many of the chemicals in cigarettes, like nicotine and cyanide, are poisons that can kill in high doses.

**Q. 10.** What are the consequences of smoking?

**Ans.** Smoking causes cancer, lung disease, heart disease, can shorten life by 10 years or more and can cost a smoker thousands of rupees a year.



**VIII. Read the passage given below:**

(1) Royal Bengal Tiger is the largest, fiercest, and powerful member of the Big Cat family in India. Royal Bengal Tigers, also known as Indian Tiger and Bengal Tiger, constitute a large population of the tiger family in the world. It is the National Animal of India and is found mostly in India, China, Bhutan, Bangladesh, and Burma.

(2) The biological name of this Big Cat is *Panthera Tigris*, which comes under the Felidae family under Mammalia category.

(3) No two Bengal tigers look alike! Every Bengal Tiger has a unique stripe pattern. Their colour ranges from yellow to light orange, with stripes from dark brown to black. Some of the Bengal Tigers are white in colour. The tail is orange in colour with black rings. Unlike the other white tigers that have blue eyes, Bengal tigers have yellow irises. They live for 10 to 15 years.

(4) Being fierce in nature, Royal Bengal Tigers are not much friendly in nature and live a solitary life, except in winters when they can be seen in a group of 3 or 4. Bengal tigers are fast runners and good swimmers. Tigers attack their prey in a stealth mode. They are usually spotted in swamps, mangroves, and grasslands.

(5) Royal Bengal Tigers have very sharp memories; they never forget the faces. Their memory is sharper than humans and other animals.

(6) We can find the largest population of Royal Bengal Tigers in India. As per the latest tiger census report 2017, there are 3,786 Royal Bengal tigers in India. India has more than 75% of the total tiger population in the world. Along with India, neighbouring countries to India holds a somewhat decent population of Royal Bengal Tiger in the world. The latest census of the tigers in India and neighbouring countries are shown in the table.

S. No.	Name of country	Minimum	Maximum
1.	Bangladesh	300	460
2.	Bhutan	80	460
3.	China	30	35
4.	India	2500	3800
5.	Nepal	150	250

(7) To know about the latest tiger population is always government's concern, as they want to save this majestic animal from getting extinct. India has lost 97% of its Royal Bengal Tiger population in the last century. The main reason is hunting, poaching, urbanization, habitat loss and illegal wildlife trade. Poaching means to illegally trade the tiger made products like tiger skin, tiger made jewellery, etc. These skin and jewellery are sold for millions in the international market. Poaching has reduced the number of tigers to just 3,800 from 1,00,000 in the starting of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option:** (1×10=10)

**Q. 1. The biological name of Bengal Tiger is *Panthera* \_\_\_\_\_.**

- (A) Tiger                      (B) Tigress  
(C) Tigris                      (D) Tigers



**Q. 2. State some qualities of Bengal Tigers.**



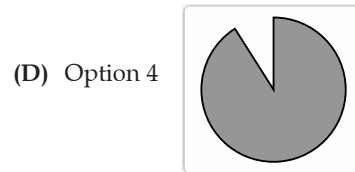
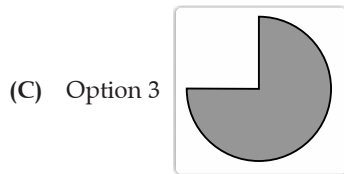
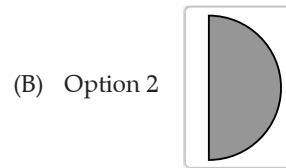
**Q. 3. What did you know about the Royal Bengal Tiger memories?**

**Ans.** Royal Bengal Tigers have very sharp memories, they never forget the faces.

**Q. 4. Where can Royal Bengal Tigers be spotted?**

**Ans.** Royal Bengal Tigers can be spotted in swamps, mangroves, and grasslands.

**Q. 5.** From the given pictorial representation, choose the option that correctly states the approximate percentage of total tigers in the world which are found in India.



**Ans.** Option (C) is correct.

*Explanation:* Mentioned in Para 6, more than 75%.

**Q. 6.** Which pair of countries has approximately same number of maximum tigers?

- (A) Nepal and Bangladesh  
 (B) Bhutan and Bangladesh  
 (C) China and Nepal  
 (D) Bangladesh and India

**Ans.** Option (B) is correct.

*Explanation:* Both have 460.

**Q. 7.** What are the reasons for reduction in the population of the Tigers?

**Ans.** The main reason is hunting, poaching, urbanization, habitat loss and illegal wildlife trade.

**Q. 8.** In which of these neighbouring countries of India, the Royal Bengal Tiger is not found?

- (A) China                      (B) Bangladesh

- (C) Bhutan                      (D) Sri Lanka

**Ans.** Option (D) is correct.

*Explanation:* It can be inferred from the table.

**Q. 9.** How can we identify a particular Bengal Tiger?

- (A) By its name              (B) By its stripes  
 (C) By its colour              (D) By its body structure

**Ans.** Option (B) is correct.

*Explanation:* No two Bengal tigers look alike! Every Bengal Tiger has a unique stripe pattern.

**Q. 10.** How has India lost 7% of its Royal Bengal Tiger population?

**Ans.** India has lost 7% of its Royal Bengal Tiger population due to hunting, poaching, urbanization, habitat loss and illegal wildlife trade.

**IX. Read the passage given below:**

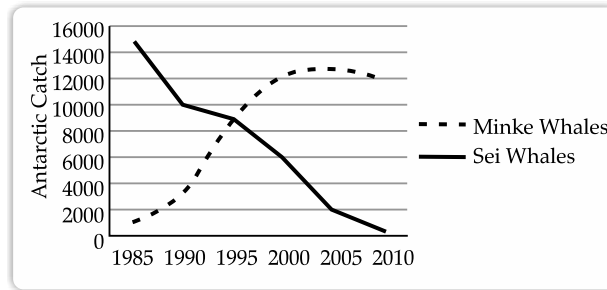
(1) Whaling is the hunting of whales for food and oil. Whaling was once conducted around the world by seafaring nations in pursuit of the giant animals that seemed as limitless as the oceans in which they swam. However, since the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, when whale population began to drop catastrophically, whaling has been conducted on a very limited scale. It is now the subject of great scrutiny, both by formal regulatory bodies and by non-governmental organizations.

(2) Whaling has been documented in many sources—from Neolithic cave art to present-day annual reports of the International Whaling Commission. Prehistoric inhabitants of far northern coastal regions, lacking adequate agriculture, developed successful whaling techniques using Stone Age weapons. By the time the Inuit (Eskimo) of eastern and western North America were first encountered by Europeans, they had already mastered whale hunting, and many Inuit methods were used as recently as 1900. For the Inuit, a captured whale supplied food, fuel, and light; sinews provided cordage, and bones were used for tools and construction. Not until the 20<sup>th</sup> century, when floating factory ships came into use, did other civilizations succeed in the same efficient use of the whole carcass. Elsewhere, from the first intensive hunting of whales in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, little more than blubber and baleen was used, and the remainder of the animal was discarded. Each successive discovery of new whaling grounds resulted in the near disappearance of a particular species. The efficiency of modern hunting methods hastened this trend.

(3) International whaling developed in stages that were determined by changing demand, diminishing stocks, and advancing technology. A lengthy primitive stage eventually led to commercial whaling; new markets and technical and chemical advances then produced modern whaling, which led to virtual extinction of the quarry and a return to a primitive stage. The commercial stages were dominated overwhelmingly by northern Europeans and Americans—first the Dutch, then the British and Americans, and finally the Norwegians and British. Only at the very end, when Europeans no longer found the trade profitable, did they surrender the remaining whales to the Russians and Japanese.



(4) The graph below shows number of two common types of whales in Antarctica between 1985 and 2010.

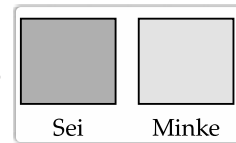


Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option: (1×10=10)

Q. 1. When did the whale populations start dropping largely?

- (A) Beginning of 19<sup>th</sup> century
- (B) Mid 20<sup>th</sup> century
- (C) Early 21<sup>st</sup> century
- (D) Just recently

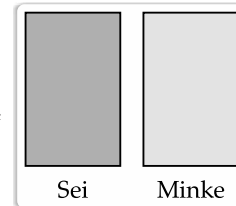
(C) Option 3



Q. 2. Who once conducted whaling?

Ans. Whaling was once conducted around the world by seafaring nations in pursuit of the giant animals that seemed as limitless as the oceans in which they swam.

(D) Option 4



Q. 3. Who are Inuits?

- (A) The whales predominantly found in Antarctica
- (B) The people predominantly found in Antarctica
- (C) The people living in cold areas of eastern and western North America
- (D) The people living in cold areas of Siberian desert in Russia

Ans. Option (A) is correct.

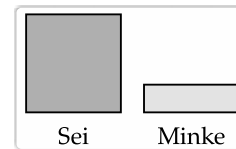
Explanation: Sei- 10000, Minke- 4000.

Q. 6. Which of these pictorials represent the correct relationship between hunting of Minke whales and Sei whales in 1995?

Ans. Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: By the time the Inuit (Eskimo) of eastern and western North America were first encountered by Europeans, they had already mastered whale hunting

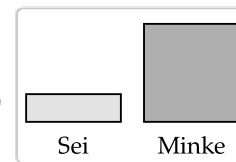
(A) Option 1



Q. 4. Why is whaling now conducted on a limited scale?

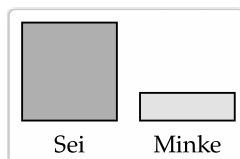
Ans. Since the mid 20th century, whale population began to drop drastically so whaling is now conducted on a limited scale.

(B) Option 2



Q. 5. Which of these pictorials represents the correct relationship between hunting of Minke whales and Sei whales in 1990?

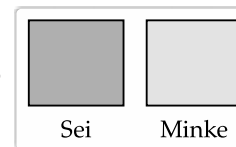
(A) Option 1



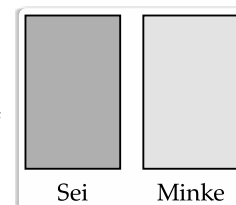
(B) Option 2



(C) Option 3



(D) Option 4



Ans. Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: Both equal at 9000.

**Q. 7. What determined International whaling?**

**Ans.** International whaling developed in stages that were determined by changing demand, diminishing stocks and advancing technology.



### Commonly Made Error

- ▶ Students take approximation and write wrong answers.



### Answering Tip

- ▶ Try to infer the exact number by studying the graph properly.

**Q. 8. Which word in the passage means careful and detailed examination?**

**Ans.** The word scrutiny means careful and detailed examination.

**Q. 9. 'Giant animals seemed as limitless as the oceans in which they swam.' Identify the figure of speech.**

- (A) Metaphor                      (B) Hyperbole  
(C) Simile                          (D) Both B & C

**Ans. Option (D) is correct.**

*Explanation:* Hyperbole-exaggeration; Simile-comparison using as... as.

**Q. 10. What did a captured whale supply for the Inuit?**

**Ans.** A captured whale supplied food, fuel and light, sinews provided cordage, and bones were used for tools and construction for the Inuit.



## Solutions for Objective Type Questions

**IV. Ans. 1. Option (B) is correct.**

*Explanation:* The first green corridor in India was created by Chennai Traffic Police in September 2008 when they accomplished their task of enabling an ambulance to reach its destination within 11 minutes during peak hour traffic. That organ saved a nine-year-old girl whose life depended on the transplant.

**Ans. 7. Option (D) is correct.**

*Explanation:* Such green corridors have been created by traffic police of various cities such as Pune, Mumbai, Delhi NCR, etc.

**V. Ans. 1. Option (C) is correct.**

*Explanation:* About 80 per cent of ocean plastic originates on land.

**Ans. 5. Option (D) is correct.**

*Explanation:* Sea turtles eat plastic bags and soda-cans, which resemble jellyfish, their favourite food. Seabirds eat bottle caps or chunks of foam cups. So these plastic articles can be called sea pollutants.

**VI. Ans. 1. Option (C) is correct.**

*Explanation:* He could not control himself and picked up his violin to turn his mind on to other things. While playing the violin, he tried to dissolve in its sad notes, but couldn't.

**VII. Ans. 8. Option (C) is correct.**

*Explanation:* People use the word sezuo and suzu to refer to the week-long rains.

**VIII. Ans. 3. Option (A) is correct.**

*Explanation:* Mentioned in Para 3. When you pedal, you also force more nerve cells to fire. The result: you double or triple the production of these cells.

**IX. Ans. 3. Option (B) is correct.**

*Explanation:* We see in the distance the tall range of the Mount Bogda, abrupt like a shining prism laid horizontally on the desert surface.

**Ans. 4. Option (A) is correct.**

*Explanation:* It is mentioned in the last para that 'horse' milk is available from local herdsman.

**X. Ans. 2. Option (C) is correct.**

*Explanation:* Mentioned in Para 1. "He thought that the very presence of the British on the outskirts of Kittur would terrorise the rules and people of Kittur, and that they would lay down their arms. He was quite confident that he would be able to crush the revolt in no time.

**III. Ans. 7. Option (A) is correct.**

*Explanation:* Having page numbers to use in citations, topped the list (75%); followed by the ability to resize text to fit a device's screen (67%); the ability to bookmark pages, highlight text, or take notes for later reference (60%); downloading the entire e-book (57%); and allowing content to be transferred between devices (43%) were the varied responses.

**VI. Ans. 4. Option (A) is correct.**

*Explanation:* Bears with high cholesterol also get zero exercise during hibernation.



## Solutions for Case Based MCQs Questions

VII. **Ans. 3.** First time smokers feel pain or burning in their throat and lungs, and some even cough vigorously the first few times when they try tobacco.

VIII. **Ans. 1. Option (C) is correct.**

*Explanation:* The biological name of this Big cat is *Panthera Tigris*, which comes under the felidae family under Mammalia category.

**Ans. 2.** Bengal Tigers are fast runners and good swimmers. They attack in stealth mode.

IX. **Ans. 1. Option (B) is correct.**

*Explanation:* Since the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, whale population began to drop catastrophically.



## REFLECTIONS

- (a) Were you able to assess comprehension and answer the questions based on it?
- (b) Were you able to differentiate between Discursive and Case based factual passages?





## SELF ASSESSMENT PAPER - 01

**Maximum Time: 1 hour**

**MM: 20**

### READING

#### I. Read the passage given below :

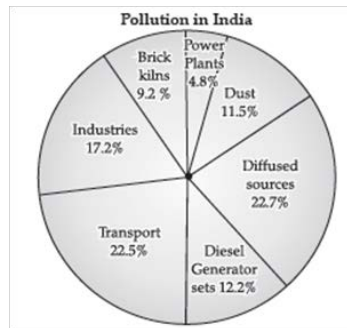
1. If one early June morning, you are suddenly stopped in your walk by a ringing 'pip-piu-pie-pee-piu-piu' call coming from the trees in your park or garden, you will feel your heart suddenly lifted. Look around and you may see two large, handsome, black-and-white birds with long coattails chasing each other among the trees. They are pied cuckoos, that have come from Africa, and are said to announce the arrival of the greatest show on earth-the Indian monsoon. Be assured, the curtains will rise in a month or so.
2. To get a proper view of the onset of the monsoons, you really need to be stationed on the coastline of India or up in the hills. The grand show of grey clouds approaches like an airborne army, preceded by cool breezes, filling the air with electric charge so that you feel very happy. Spear of lighting flickers in the sky and the sound of thunder makes you feel excited. And then, it pours. The cracked earth without any green cover sucks down the flood of water, and then Mother Nature goes mad. Seeds scattered or buried like grains of sand of pebbles in the ground suddenly come to life. Shoots of plants rocket skywards, roots plunge into the soft, spongy earth sucking up water and nutrients. It's a hint the grasshoppers have been waiting for. And bugs, beetles, caterpillars, centipedes, etc. emerge in their billions, feasting on the fresh green plants in the fields (to the annoyance of many a farmers) as also on each other.
3. There are miracles and there is music too: singing golden frogs appearing in large numbers in rain filled ditch, taking part in a group song that bollywood would have envied. They vanish the very next day. They'd been waiting patiently all through the blistering summer, deep underground, conserving whatever moisture they had soaked up. Fireflies wink through the trees in the hills, sending their greenish signals to one another in codes as precise as any we may use for our most secret messages.
4. All this is what the birds have been waiting for. Most birds have spent the spring and summer courting and now it's time to settle down. Baby birds need a lot of high protein at frequent intervals, which the rich supply of insect life so happily provides: caterpillars are eaten up in millions, as are furry moths, earthworms slurped down like noodles, spiky dragonflies beaten to bits to soften them up into baby food. The long-legged storks and herons get busy with fishing. As for the big guys like lions and tigers in the jungles: they too had it relatively easy during the summer when their thirsty prey came to the water-holes. Now, with water easily available, in streams and ponds all over, they need to work harder for their meals. But yes, this is, perhaps, compensated by the arrival of baby deer, and fawns are sweet and soft, not very experienced in the merciless ways of the lions and tigers, even if they may seem more like a snack than a main course meal. The animals get a rest from us, parks and sanctuaries too close down, not so much out of kindness as because the roads become impassable.
5. And then, just as you are beginning to get tired of the green mould on your shoes, belts and bags, and of all the snuffles and snuffles that the rains also bring (bacteria and viruses also love this season), the clouds begin to disperse and float away in large armies. But before this happens, at least once, do go out in the midst of a downpour, raise your face to the heavens and dance and sing and celebrate this, the greatest show on earth.

Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer of the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option:

- Q.1. Who announces the arrival of the Indian monsoon?
- Q.2. Baby birds benefit from the rains because:
- (A) The mummy bird cannot fly in the rain.
  - (B) They need a lot of noodles.
  - (C) The rain brings a lot of insects which they eat.
  - (D) They like wet nests.
- Q.3. What are the grey clouds preceded by?
- Q.4. The green moulds that grows on leather comes.
- (A) from the creepy insects that come with the rain
  - (B) because grass becomes very green during the rainy season
  - (C) because of the moisture in the air during the rainy season
  - (D) from fluffy clouds in the sky
- Q.5. Why did the Lions and tigers have an easy life during summer?
- Q.6. With the rain, we find:
- (A) that most of the birds court
  - (B) that the clouds begin to disperse
  - (C) parks and sanctuaries close down
  - (D) clean shoes, belts and bags
- Q.7. How are the insects consumed by birds?
- Q.8. What is the most awaited time for birds?
- (A) summer
  - (B) winter
  - (C) spring
  - (D) rainy season
- Q.9. Pick out the word or phrase from the passage which means the same as 'declare' (used in Para 1).
- (A) ringing
  - (B) announce
  - (C) arrival
  - (D) call
- Q. 10. How is the greatest show-The Indian monsoon described?

II. Read the passage given below :

1. Air pollution is a major threat to human health. The United Nations Environment Programme has estimated that, globally, 1.1 billion people breathe in unhealthy air. The World Health Organization (WHO) has estimated that urban air pollution is responsible for approximately 800,000 deaths and 4.6 million people lose their lives every year around the globe.
2. Traffic and transportation problems, inadequate drainage facilities, lack of open spaces, carbon emissions and the accumulation of waste aggravate the problem. Air pollution is associated with increased risk of acute respiratory infections (ARI), the principal cause of infant and child mortality in developing countries.
3. Urban air quality in most mega cities has been found to be critical and Kolkata is no exception to this. An analysis of ambient air quality in Kolkata was done by applying the Exceedance Factor (EF) method, where the presence of listed pollutants' (RPM, SPM, NO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub>) annual average concentration are classified into four different categories; namely critical, high, moderate and low pollution. Out of a total of 17 ambient air quality monitoring stations operating in Kolkata, five fall under the critical category and the remaining 12 locations fall under the high category of NO<sub>2</sub>, concentration, while for RPM, four record critical and 13 come under the high pollution category. The causes of high concentration of pollutants in the form of NO<sub>2</sub> and RPM have been identified in earlier studies as vehicular emission (51.4%), followed by industrial sources (24.5%) and dust particles (21.1%).



4. Later, a health assessment was undertaken with a structured questionnaire at some nearby dispensaries which fall under areas with different ambient air pollution levels. Three dispensaries have been surveyed with 100 participants. It shows that respondents with respiratory diseases (85.1%) have outnumbered waterborne diseases (14.9%) and include acute respiratory infections (ARI) (60%), chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases (COPD) (7.8%), upper track respiratory infection (UTRI) (1.2%), Influenza (12.7%) and acid-fast bacillus (AFB) (3.4%).
5. To live a healthy life and have better well-being, practising pollution averting activities in one's day-to-day activities is needed. These pollution-averting practices can only be possible when awareness among the masses is generated that the air, they breathe outdoors, is not found to be safe.

**Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer of the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option:**

**Q.1. Select the option that highlights the main idea of the passage.**

- (A) To educate people about the threat of air pollution.
- (B) To warn people about the threat of air pollution and educate them about the safety measures.
- (C) To discuss the status of pollution in Kolkata and share the details of the study.
- (D) To educate people on the Exceedance Factor method and share the results of the study.

**Q.2. Select the option that displays the correct 'cause and effect' relationship.**

- (A) **Cause:** Traffic and transportation problem  
**Effect:** 4.6 million deaths
- (B) **Cause:** Lack of open spaces  
**Effect:** Mega cities
- (C) **Cause:** Air pollution  
**Effect:** Respiratory diseases
- (D) **Cause:** Air quality monitoring stations  
**Effect:** Effect Emission of NO<sub>2</sub>

**Q.3. Read the following statements:**

- (i) Air pollution kills 4.6 million people every year in India.
  - (ii) Air pollution is causing health hazards to more people than water pollution.
- (A) (i) is true and (ii) is false.
  - (B) (i) is false and (ii) is true.
  - (C) (i) is true and is responsible for (ii).
  - (D) Both (i) and (ii) are false.

**Q.4. The author's opinion on the development of Mega cities is:**

- (A) Cities face transportation problems due to heavy traffic.
- (B) Urbanization leads to deterioration of air quality.
- (C) Mega cities are the right spots to study air pollution.
- (D) Cities face the problem of congestion.

