

Time: 3 hours

General Instructions:-

1. This paper is divided into three sections. : A, B and C. All the questions are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION – A

(READING UNSEEN PASSAGES AND NOTE MAKING)

(30 marks)

1.

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

1. Wedding invitations make the first impression on the guests about the marriage. There was a time when creating the invitations was limited to choosing the design and the rest was left to the printer's discretion. But those traditional invitations, which merely listed the venue, timing and some wishes, are passé now. Apart from using technology, the young breed of couples ensures that they get as creative as possible.
2. From websites to presentations and emails, the World Wide Web has given the newlyweds the right platform to innovate on. Not only does it act as a perfect invitation platform for the guests but also gives them space to put up a whole profile of the groom and the bride. Talking about the benefits of email invitations, Niti Sharma who recently got married, shares, "My fiancé and I spent a lot of time thinking about the invitations. Coming from the creative field, we both wanted something different. Finally we settled for a presentation made by both of us. It included everything about us; how we met, how our relationship grew and how we finally convinced our parents for marriage. It earned us accolades from both family and friends."
3. Another innovation that is fast catching up is invitation through websites. Rubi Taj, Sr. Manager, HR and Operations, Wserve Technologies Pvt. Ltd., who has created many such websites, feels that making a website ensures having your own personal space on the Internet just for that special day. She adds, "Wedding websites are getting popular day by day. It is considered quite fashionable but is usually for a short time. Usually wedding websites include the story behind the wedding, pictures (pre- and post-wedding), testimonials by close friends and family. Some even publish their wedding card on their website. Even the map and location of the wedding are displayed on these websites which makes it easier for guests. The domain name itself is a very interesting thing as the name of the bride and groom is usually selected as the domain name and the website's url is printed on the wedding card at times so that friends and family can check their latest pictures (wedding and honeymoon) directly on their website. Even though we have so many options of doing the same through social networking sites, having your own wedding website has its own charm."
4. These relate to each phase of life and have a lot of pictures to update friends and family. Nitin Saini and Shweta Gehlot share their story, "We started our website a few months before our marriage. The idea was to have an online presence of ourselves and our marriage. Both of us have big and diverse friends groups and a number of them had never attended a North Indian wedding. So that was the start and we came up with this wedding site. We stepped into the world of married life in February 2009, and the fun is still going on. Our website has grown big enough to be more than just a marriage website as now it has all the pictures of our baby too. This is a one-stop place for family and friends to connect now."
5. While innovation is at its peak, there are some who prefer to stick to their privacy. Still they take the help of the net to invite their guests. Emails have fast become one of the common modes of inviting friends. The lack of formalities involved and the option of getting an immediate reply makes it convenient to estimate the number of guests. It was very difficult for us to personally go and invite all our friends and colleagues so we opted for emails. We got our wedding card scanned and mailed it to all the guests. The acknowledgments received helped to estimate the number of guests and make the arrangement accordingly," shares Ramya Kaushik, a marketing executive.
6. Indeed, creativity has limits and with Internet becoming an essential in everybody's life, marriage invitations have become a lot easy and innovative too.

1.1

On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given choices. -3 marks

a) Earlier wedding invitations were traditional because they.....

- i) Had no pictures on them
- ii) Had a presentation alongside
- iii) Listed the time, venue and some good wishes
- iv) Were sent on the Internet

b) Wedding websites are getting popular because.....

- i) They ensure a personal space on the Net
- ii) No wedding card needs to be made
- iii) The map of the wedding site remains secret
- iv) It can be made by computer users only

c) Those who prefer to stick to privacy when making wedding invitations....

- i) Use the mobile phones to invite people
- ii) Send out emails about the wedding
- iii) Go personally from house to house
- iv) Keep it a complete surprise.

1.2 Answer the following questions briefly:

-5 marks

a) Mention some of the highlights of the wedding card.

b) Why do some people have reservations about using wedding websites?

c) How can one locate wedding venue?

d) Why do some people prefer using wedding websites?

e) What ensures a personal space for you on the Internet?

1.3 Find words from the passage which mean the same as:

-3 marks

a) praise (para 2)

b) disparate (para 4)

c) appraisal (para 5)

2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the question that follow.

1. Patachitra is a unique folk art tradition of Bengal where stories about gods and goddesses are painted on long scrolls using natural colours. The word 'patachitra' comes from the word 'patta' derived from the Sanskrit word meaning a piece of cloth. 'Chitra' refers to painting. The painters, known as patuas, or chitrakars, sing the stories from mythological sources, as they unfurl the scrolls. The distinguishing feature of the 'patachitra' is that the works done on cloth, are made using bold colours, definite lines and strokes framed to create a compositional effect.
2. In the olden times it was customary for patuas to travel from village to village singing and displaying the scrolls. The traveling party was confined to men only. The idea of women painting and selling scrolls or appearing at public forums singing and presenting the stories was neither appreciated nor supported. But that is long forgotten and today, women painters have made their foray into the field. Thus the heritage tradition has empowered these women. They are now leading their grass root enterprise and are the torchbearers of the tradition and have been showcasing their art form to audiences around the globe.
3. Not having forgotten the traditional ways, the women continue to cling on to their roots and for good reason. To convince the menfolk and others left in the village that their act of propagating the art was not a protest measure for the centuries of suppression, every November they trudge back to their roots in the village in time for the annual Patachitra festival. This unique festival in their villages, known as the 'Pot Maya' is a women's only initiative where women like Mamoni Chitrakar play a keen role. This young and promising pata painter hailing from Pingla in the west Midnapore district, started learning painting from her celebrated mother, Swarna Chitrakar.

[Type a quote from the document or the summary of an interesting point. You can position the text box anywhere in the document. Use the Text Box Tools tab to change the formatting of the pull quote text box.]

4. Her special subjects for painting are based on the age-old subjects of the Chitrakars. They depict the snake legend of Manasha Mangal across the river, heading for the abode of the god Manasa the snake god, as her husband had succumbed to a snakebite. This was the result of her father-in-law taunting the snake god and though the couple were living in an iron house, the god had managed to make his kill. Her pleadings bore fruit and the tale is now universally depicted and sung about, across the countryside. Besides traditional tales influenced by her seniors, Mamoni is branching out into fresh subjects besides the traditional ones. She is known to have effectively depicted contemporary themes and social issues like HIV, 9/11 and the Tsunami. Her art has even found admirers abroad as Mamoni has also taken them to Italy and elsewhere in Europe.

5. Women like her are also regarded as inspirations for others. One other painter of equally strong repute is Rupsona Chitrakar, who had started learning Patachitra painting ever since she was five years old. Her favourite style is the Santhal pata, regarded by many as the older form of the art. Taking her cue from the success of Mamoni's work, Rupsona too has stepped out of her traditional confines and has exhibited her skills at various fairs and melas in India, earning praise and economic independence in the bargain.

2.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given choices. -3 marks

(a) Patachitra is the traditional art of Bengal with stories painted into scrolls

- (i) using natural colours
- (ii) with natural plants found in the region
- (iii) using postermaking colours
- (iv) as mixed media and oil colours

(b) Mamoni likes to paint

- (i) her guru Swarn Devi's image
- (ii) the legends of village life
- (iii) contemporary subjects such as HIV
- (iv) images of the Taj Mahal

(c) The Pot Maya festival is

- (i) held in towns across Bengal in November
- (ii) a time of homecoming for the women
- (iii) a place to teach pata paintings
- (iv) a time to meet their families

2.2 Answer the following questions briefly.

- (a) What are the painters of patachitra called?
- (b) Where does Mamoni Chitrakar hail from?
- (c) To whom was the tradition originally confined?
- (d) What idea was frowned upon by the traditionalists?
- (e) What type of Patachitra painting does Rupsona Chitrakar paint?

2.3 Find the words from the passage which mean the same as:

- (a) open out (para 1)
- (b) authorize (para 2)
- (c) limits (para 5)

3. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

Our country is plagued by a number of social evils but the most acute one is of begging. A country that is a land of saints and seers, sadly is also a land of beggars with begging having become a profession. Though it is a matter of great shame, it is actually carried out as an art by the experts in the field.

If one goes out on the streets especially of those cities which are an abode of gods, one can find different types of beggars. Blind, lame, crippled, the young and the old, all kinds of them, who are professionals and have their own areas demarcated which no new beggar can intrude upon. A number of these beggars are forced into the act because they have lost their homes, while there are many, who are forced into it by the begging mafia. A number of physically able-bodied people also take to begging as it is an easy and quick way of making money. Many old people give up their homes and worldly life and become sadhus or fakirs and spend the last few years of their life totally dependent on the alms that they get from people. While many of these take to begging due to religious sanctions, a number of criminals carry out nefarious activities too, in the guise of sadhus or fakirs. This makes it difficult to distinguish between the genuine religious sadhus and the non-genuine ones.

Begging these days has become such a lucrative profession that there actually are organisations to train children in the 'art' of begging. Orphans and destitute are engaged in this act from childhood. After a time they become experts. This type of begging is indeed very harmful. It must be checked without any delay.

The problem of begging is a tricky one and it needs to be tackled from all sides. We all need to work towards eradicating this evil from our society. First of all, public opinion must be created against it. Indiscriminate alms – giving is neither good for the giver nor for the receiver. Instead it creates a number of social evils. Only those who are crippled or those who can not do anything on their own due to some physical ailment could be the ones who could be given help. The Government should start its own institutions where widows, orphans and other helpless people may find shelter. They should be given some vocational training so that they may earn their livelihood decently. The laws that have been passed should be enforced effectively and the guilty should be punished.

- a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. (Minimum 4) Supply a suitable title. - 5 marks
 b) Write a summary of the above in 80 words. - 3 marks

SECTION B (ADVANCED WRITING SKILLS)

(30 MARKS)

4. Due to severe heat wave conditions prevalent in the city, the schools have been closed down for a week. As Principal of D.A.V. School, Rohtak inform the students about the change in the schedule of First Term Examinations through a notice, in 50 words. -4 marks

OR

On the occasion of their 25th Wedding Anniversary Mr. and Mrs. P. Kumar wish to invite their colleagues, business partners and friends for a dinner. Frame the invitation.

5. You are Kamal / Kamalini Jain living in the busy Karol Bagh area. Of late, unauthorized parking in your area is causing a lot of inconvenience to the locals. Write a letter to the Police Commissioner complaining against this practice. -6 marks

OR

You are Ganesh/ Gunjan Mehta, a software engineer living at 21C, MIG Flats, Ashok Vihar. You read an advertisement seeking web designers for a private company – Definite Solutions, Greater Kailash – I. Apply for the post with complete bio data to the Personnel Manager of the company.

6. You have been going for morning walk in a nearby park. You observe that a number of people of all age groups come regularly to the park for jogging, meditation yoga and morning walk. Write an article in 200 words tracing the reasons behind this growing awareness among people towards the need of maintaining good health. -10 marks

*Blind
Beggars
Chand
Tachud*

7. You are Seema / Saurabh Kapoor, a student of class XII. Your school has recently launched a cleanliness drive with the caption, "Do not litter, let your city glitter." You have to address the students during the morning assembly to emphasize the importance of cleanliness in life. Prepare your speech in about 200 words. -10 marks

SECTION – C
(TEXTBOOK QUESTIONS)

(40 MARKS)

8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:-

But after the airport's
security check, standing a few yards
away, I looked again at her, wan, pale
as a late winter's moon and felt that old
familiar ache, my childhood's fear.

- a) Whose security check was done and why?
- b) Who looked wan and pale and why?
- c) Explain the figure of speech in the lines above.
- d) What was the poet's 'Childhood fear'?

- 4 marks

OR

And such too is the grandeur of the dooms
We have imagined for the mighty dead;
All lovely tales that we have heard or read;
An endless fountain of immortal drink,
Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink.

- a) Why is 'grandeur' associated with the 'mighty dead'?
- b) What does 'lovely tales' refer to?
- c) What does the image of 'endless fountain' convey?
- d) Name the poet and the poem?

9. Answer any four of the following questions:-

(3 x 4=12)

- a) What are the circumstances of the lives of the slum children? Who can, according to the poet, improve their condition and how?
- b) What makes human beings love life in spite of troubles and sufferings?
- c) How did the peddler return the hospitality shown by the crofter and the confidence reposed in him?
- d) How did Dr. Sadao Hoki overcome the danger of being accused of harbouring a criminal?
- e) Why was William Douglas determined to get over his fear of water?
- f) How was Champaran a turning point in Gandhi's life?

10. Answer the following in 125-150 words:

- a) How does the peddler redeem himself and finally change his ways?

-6 marks

OR

Why is adult's perspective different from that of a child? Answer with reference to the story "Should Wizard Hit Mommy"?

VALUE BASED QUESTIONS

11. When a people are enslaved, as long as they hold fast to their language, it is as if they had the key to their prison'. After reading 'The Last Lesson' what do you think about the Role and Importance of language in our lives? - 6 marks

LONG READING TEXT - NOVEL

12. The stranger is the model of science without humanity. He journeys from obsession to fanaticism. How is his invisibility causing him helplessness? Quote from the text his pathetic state of existence. - 6 marks

13. 'Change in attitude is always circumstantial'. In the light of the statement, narrate how soft, concerned and hospitable Mrs. Hall turned out to be furious and fiercer person in her behavior towards the stranger. - 6 marks

EM
A (10)