1. Read the passage given below: (5 Marks)

A park created by a Maharaja, the Keoladeo Ghana National Park, 176 km. from Delhi and 55 km. west of Agra and the Taj Mahal, is perhaps the only habitat created by a Maharaja. Two kilometres away from Bharatpur town, the royal family of Bharatpur developed the area in the late 19th Century.

The Maharaja constructed small dams for water conservation, diverted water from a nearby irrigation canal and soon thousands of water birds descended. The Maharaja, wanting to celebrate his success, invited dignitaries of British and Princely India to shoot waterfowl.

The sandstone in the park records the exploitation of those days. The first recorded shoot was by Lord Curzon in 1902. In 1956, the habitat shooting reserve became a sanctuary but the shooting continued until 1964. The sanctuary was upgraded to a National Park in 1981 and renamed Keoladeo Ghana.

This 29 sq. km. fresh water shallow swamp of Keoladeo Ghana with kadam, babul (Acacia nilotica) - ber and ficus trees has a rich aquatic vegetation, 50 species of fish, five species of amphibians, 28 species of reptiles and more than 366 species of birds (which include 32 species
of birds of prey) and 27 species of animals like blackbuck, sambar, spotted deer, bluebull and 379 floral species.

The painted storks, like many other birds in Bharatpur during the monsoon, are local migrants. The highlight of the park is that it is the only known wintering area of the highly endangered central population of the Siberian cranes.

Migratory birds at the park start arriving in October for wintering. That wetlands help in maintaining the freshwater flow within river systems is a known fact. In Bharatpur, the shallow aquifiers of the Gangetic plain are recharged during the monsoon and from streams and wetlands in all seasons. According to a report by Wetlands International, one-third of the world's wetlands are located in Asia.

Complete the following sentences based on your reading of the passage in your own words:

a. The dams for water conservation served a dual purpose for the Maharaja because…………………………………..

b. The purpose of the sandstone in the park is to ……….

c. The National Park is full of ………………

d. In winter the Keoladeo Ghana is visited by the famous………………

f.. The word in the fourth paragraph that means ‘growing or living in or near water’ is……… .................

2. Read the passage given below and write the option that you consider the most appropriate in your answer sheets.

THE DISGUISE ARTISTS

Aesop prawns start life as colourless, almost transparent infants who drift with the tide. On reaching maturity, they drift inshore, reach out to grasp the first passing seaweed and, once established upon it, they proceed to colour themselves to blend with it. After a week, their colouring is complete and they are safe from the closest scrutiny.

Should disaster strike and their chosen home be destroyed, they first try to find a new home with the same colour scheme as the first. If this proves impossible, they philosophically settle for a different coloured home and restart their own colouring process. A week zips past --- and they change colour to merge beautifully with their new homes once again. Aesop prawns also take on the colours of the day. Regularly at nightfall, they change to a deep transparent blue, reverting to their chosen house-colour as the sea lightens at dawn.

Interestingly, the “decision” to adopt a particular colour is in no way an act of will on the part of the prawn. Scattered over its body surface are small pigment cells, each containing a central bag of colours (a reservoir of primary pigments: red, yellow and blue) with five branches extending from it. These pigment cells are influenced by the light that falls directly on them or enters through the prawn’s eyes. Different coloured lights activate the hormones that control the flow of
pigments. And after dark, red and yellow are withdrawn to make way for the nocturnal blue ‘night suit’ of the Aesop prawn. A system that provides the animal, at all times, with an enviable cloak of invisibility.

1. The unique feature of Aesop prawns is that………………..
   a. They blend with their surroundings
   b. they drift with the tide
   c. they grasp seaweeds
   d. they are transparent

2. When Aesop prawns are rendered homeless,……………………
   a. they change their colour
   b. they first look for a home of the same colour
   c. they cannot survive
   d. they become transparent

3. During the night Aesop prawns
   a. change to a deep blue colour
   b. take on their chosen house-colour
   c. become red, yellow and blue
   d. revert to light colours.

4. Colour change of Aesop prawns is influenced by
   a. the will of the prawns
   b. the light that falls on their body and eyes
   c. the harmones that control the pigments
   d. the five branches of its colour bag

5. A word from the passage that means the same as ‘night like’ is………………..
   a. reverting
   b. pigment
   c. nocturnal
   d. cloak

3. Read the poem given below and write the option that you consider the most appropriate in your answer sheets: (5 Marks)

   Be the Best of Whatever You Are
   Douglas Malloch

   If you can’t be a pine on the top of the hill,
   Be a scrub in the valley — but be
   The best little scrub by the side of the rill;
   Be a bush if you can’t be a tree.
   If you can’t be a bush be a bit of the grass,
   And some highway happier make;
   If you can’t be a muskie then just be a bass—
   Be the liveliest bass in the lake!
We can’t all be captains, we’ve got to be crew,
There’s something for all of us here,
There’s big work to do, and there’s lesser to do,
And the task you must do is the near.
If you can’t be a highway then just be a trail,
If you can’t be the sun be a star;
It isn’t by size that you win or fail—
Be the best of whatever you are!

1. Being the best scrub tree is as good as being a………
   a. bush  
   b. pine  
   c. valley  
   d. grass

2. ’Be the liveliest bass in the lake!’ Here bass means………..
   a. water plant  
   b. edible fish  
   c. ship  
   d. sailor

3. We can’t all be captains, we’ve got to be crew means………..
   a. we can be the best wherever we are  
   b. we should be a part of the crowd  
   c. we should not be ambitious  
   d. we should also be willing to serve

4. The message of the poem is………..
   a. only the best is appreciated in life  
   b. if we fail the world will laugh at us  
   c. if we want to succeed in life, we must be strong  
   d. we must always be our best in anything we do

5. The tone of the poem is………………
   a. happy  
   b. sad  
   c. inspirational  
   d. educational

SECTION B
WRITING - 15 MARKS

4. Your brother, who is in a hostel, is very fond of eating outside. As a result, he keeps getting sick often. Write a letter telling him about the harmful effects of junk food and advising him to eat healthy food in 100 words. You are Arjun/ Arpita of C-8, Lawrence Road, Amritsar.

   OR (6 Marks)

   You come across the photograph given below and are upset about even the educated people
flouting rules. Write a letter to the editor of Hindustan Times, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, advocating the need to be law abiding citizens. (100 words)

5. You read the following article by a student in a magazine but you do not agree with the views expressed. Inspired by this, write a speech for your school assembly telling the students why schools must have a school uniform. (120 words)

Quite frankly I've had enough of uniforms. "Wear a tie.", "Button up your shirts." Seriously? If it's 46 degrees in the classroom and your school can't afford a cool environment, don't tell us to put our uniforms on. If it's 06 degrees, and we are freezing, don't tell us to take the sweaters off. We are stupid, so we must wear uniforms. Is that right? We are not smart enough to wear our own clothes? We must follow your stupid school rules just so the school rating goes up? I think school uniforms must be abolished.

OR

There have been a lot of thefts in your locality. Write a speech to be delivered at the community centre in your society on what precautions to take. Tell them, “A stitch in Time, Saves Nine.” (120 words)

6. It is Grandparents Day tomorrow. Your cousins and you want to give your grandparents a surprise. Plan a dialogue with your sister/ brother about what you could do to make them feel important and happy. (80 words)

OR

Complete this story in 80 words: ‘It was a quiet, cold and dark night, like it usually is in winters when all retire to bed early. Suddenly a shriek jerked the people in the building out of their beds. It was distinctly the voice of ………………..’

SECTION – C
GRAMMAR – 15 MARKS
7. Fill in the blanks choosing the most appropriate words from the given options. 

\[(\frac{1}{2} \times 6 = 3 \text{ Marks})\]

When Alexander and his men (a) …………………..the plain of Gaugamela, they found that the ground (b) ……………………… level. The Persian chariots stood in formation, ready to attack across that flat surface. Darius (c) ………………….. his scythed chariots to propel themselves forcefully into the Greek forces, with (d) ……………………… ripping at the flesh of both horses and men. The chariots began their rapid (e) ………………….. the army of Alexander the Great. The Greek general, (f) ………………….. a quick assessment of the situation, ordered the ranks of the Greek fighters to split apart.

(a) (i) were reaching  (ii) reach
(iii) reached  (iv) have reached

(b) (i) had been made  (ii) is being made
(iii) is made  (iv) was made

(c) (i) has expected  (ii) did expect
(iii) had expected  (iv) expected

(d) (i) there carved blades  (ii) they're curved blades
(iii) their curved blades  (iv) they curving blades

(e) (i) drove to  (ii) drive toward
(iii) drives to  (iv) driven along

(f) (i) having made  (ii) have made
(iii) had to make  (iv) is having to make

8. Complete the headlines by choosing the correct answers from the options given below:  

(3 Marks)

(a) 12 injured as buses collide:
_________________________ at the K.N.P. junction yesterday.

(i) 12 persons were injured as two buses collided
(ii) 12 persons have been injured when two buses collided
(iii) 12 persons had been injured as two buses collided
(iv) 12 persons are injured as two buses collide

(b) Drive against Liquor Mafia launched
The police ______________________ engaged in smuggling of liquor to the state.

(i) has launched a drive against the mafia who have
(ii) have launched a drive against the mafia that is
(iii) had launched a drive against mafia that will be
(iv) had launched a drive against mafia who were

(c) China develops medical robot
A polytechnic university in China _________________ that can conduct surgeries.
(i) have developed a medical robot
(ii) has developed a medical robot
(iii) is developing a medical robot
(iv) will be developing a medical robot

9. The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each line against which a blank is given. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet against the correct blank number as given in the example. Remember to underline the word that you have supplied: (3 Marks)

Chocolate can make peoples happy. peoples – people (example)
Chocolate are also considered very good in health. One bar off chocolate have more protein than one banana. You might had heard people saying that chocolates spoils the teeth.

10. Look at the words and phrases below. Rearrange them to form meaningful sentences as shown in the example. (3 Marks)

Example: important / it / is / to observe / rules / traffic
It is important to observe traffic rules.

(a) not / children / below / of / the age / must / drive / eighteen years.
(b) protection / our / we / must / helmets / own / wear / for
(c) phones / must / used / not / mobile / be / driving / while

11. Read the comic strip and fill in the blanks in the passage given below by choosing the correct options. (3 Marks)

One morning while reading the paper, Raj told his wife (a)............................... His wife, Molly, said that she thought (b)................................. . Raj replied that (c)..............................
as the cashier had run away with Rs 5 million.

SECTION - D
TEXT BOOKS-35 MARKS

12. (a) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

My dear fellow... I’m so glad, and so on...Yes, indeed, and all that sort of thing. [Embraces and kisses Lomov] I’ve been hoping for it for a long time. It’s been my continual desire. [Sheds a tear] And I’ve always loved you, my angel, as if you were my own son. May God give you both — His help and His love and so on, and so much hope... What am I behaving in this idiotic way for? I’m off my balance with joy, absolutely off my balance! Oh, with all my soul...,

A. Who is the speaker of these lines?
B. What purpose did the speaker initially suspect the guest had for visiting?
C. Why was the speaker glad?
D. Why does the speaker’s joy not last long?

12. (b) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Her first journey — what careful, painstaking, elaborate plans she had had to make for it! She had thriftily saved whatever stray coins came her way, resisting every temptation to buy peppermints, toys, balloons, and the like, and finally she had saved a total of sixty paise. How difficult it had been, particularly that day at the village fair, but she had resolutely stifled a strong desire to ride the merry go- round, even though she had the money.

A. Who does ‘her’ refer to in the passage?
B. Where was her first journey made to?
C. Why had she resisted all temptations?
D. Find a word in the passage that means ‘with determination’.

13. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow by choosing
the most appropriate options from those given below. [Attempt any two]

(3x2=6 Marks)

a. It sits looking
over harbor and city
on silent haunches
and then moves on.

A. The ‘it’ in these lines is……………………………
   a. a tree
   b. the fog
   c. a cat
   d. the wind

B. “It” has been compared to a……………………..
   a. dog
   b. man
   c. cat
   d. night

C. The figure of speech used in these lines is……………………
   a. simile
   b. metaphor
   c. personification
   d. repetition

b. Pistol in his left hand, pistol in his right,
   And he held in his teeth a cutlass bright,
   His beard was black, one leg was wood;
   It was clear that the pirate meant no good.

A. Who held the pistols?
   a. a child
   b. a dragon
   c. a pirate
   d. Belinda

B. What did the Dragon do to him ?
   a. became his friend
   b. scared him
   c. ate him
   d. screamed at him

C. What does the expression ‘the pirate meant no good’ convey?
   a. that he was fierce and cruel
   b. that he was brave and fearless
   c. that he was going to do some harm
   d. that he was not a good person
c. The leaves strain toward the glass
small twigs stiff with exertion
long-cramped boughs shuffling under the roof
like newly discharged patients
half-dazed, moving
to the clinic doors.

A. Why do the leaves strain toward the glass?
   a. to breathe
   b. to be with other trees
   c. to escape captivity
   d. to celebrate with animals

B. What are branches compared to?
   a. doctor’s clinic
   b. lazy persons
   c. little twigs
   d. patients

C. What is the figure of speech in ‘like newly discharged patients’?
   a. Metaphor
   b. personification
   c. simile
   d. onomatopoeia

14. Answer any three of the following questions in 40-50 words each. (2X3=6 Marks)

1. What was Valli’s favourite pastime?
2. What is the story about the Kodavu people’s descent?
3. When would the baker come everyday? Why did the children run to meet him?
4. After her son’s death, why does Kisa Gotami go from house to house? Why does she not get what she wants?

Q 15 Answer the following question in about 80 words. (5 Marks)

On what issues did Lomov and Natalya quarrel? What does their quarrel reveal about them?

OR

How did the Budha make Kisa Gotani understand the inevitability of death?

Q 16 Answer the following question in about 80 words.
How do the three nursery rhymes frighten Think Tank?

OR

Losing a necklace changed the Course of Loisel’s life. How did this happen?

17. Answer any two of the following questions in 40-50 words each.

   a. How did Bholi’s teacher play an important role in changing the course of her life?
   b. Mention any two of Ebrights’ contributions to the world of science.
   c. What was the lawyer’s first impression of Lutkins? Was he correct?
SECTION - A READING
15 Marks

Q 1  Objective: To identify the main points of the text.
Marking: 5 marks - 1 mark for each correct answer.
No penalty for spelling, punctuation or grammar mistakes.

ANSWERS:
a. it also attracted birds/ he could invite people to shoot water fowl
b. keep a record of the past exploits of the Maharaja
c. animal and plant life
d. Siberian Crane
e. aquatic

Q 2  Objective: To identify the main points of the text.
Marking: 5 marks - 1 mark for each correct answer.
No penalty for spelling, punctuation or grammar mistakes.

ANSWERS:
a. they blend with their surroundings
b. they first look for a home of the same colour
c. change to a deep blue colour
d. the light falls on their body and eyes
e. nocturnal

Q 3  Objective: To identify the main points of the text.
Marking: 5 marks - 1 mark for each correct answer.
No penalty for spelling, punctuation or grammar mistakes.

ANSWERS:
a. pine
b. edible fish
c. we should also be willing to serve
d. we must always be our best in anything we do
e. inspirational
SECTION – B WRITING
15 MARKS

Q 4 Objective: To use an appropriate style to write an informal letter.
Marking: 6 marks
Content: 3 marks
Fluency: 2 marks
Accuracy: 1 mark

Under content credit should be given for the candidate’s creativity in presenting ideas. However, some of the following points may be included.

Value Points:
- Greeting
- Enquiry about health
- Effect of junk food on health (leads to overweight, digestion problems etc.)
- Advice to eat healthy food (hostel food is balanced, hygienically prepared and nutritious)

OR

Objective: To use an appropriate style to write a letter to the Editor.
Marking: 6 marks
Content: 3 marks
Fluency: 2 marks
Accuracy: 1 mark

Under content credit should be given for the candidate’s creativity in presenting ideas. However, some of the following points may be included.

Value Points:
- The problem: people flouting laws
- Examples: - parking in No Parking areas
  - speeding and causing accidents
  - drunken driving
  - breaking pollution control guidelines
- Solution: - Stringent punishment to offenders
  - Creating public awareness
  - Equipping the Government machinery to check the menace

Q 5 Objective: To plan, organize and present ideas coherently in a speech.
Marking: 6 marks
Content: 3 marks
Fluency: 2 marks
Accuracy: 1 mark

Under content credit should be given for the candidate’s creativity in presenting ideas. However, some of the following points may be included.

Value Points:
- School uniform is necessary
- Helps in establishing equality, removing social and economic differences
• A symbol of the school
• Creates a sense of belonging and unity
• Contributes to discipline
• Gives a smart look to students

OR

Objective: To plan, organize and present ideas coherently in a speech.

Marking:
- Content: 3 marks
- Fluency: 2 marks
- Accuracy: 1 mark

Under content credit should be given for the candidate’s creativity in presenting ideas. However, some of the following points may be included.

Value Points:
• Recent thefts in the locality
• Increasing insecurity
• Precautions
  - inform police whenever the house remains locked
  - request for police night vigil
  - create awareness among residents about safety
  - police verification of servants and tenants
  - use of ID cards
  - volunteer groups for night beats
  - equip houses with safety devices
  - report suspects to the police

Q 6 Objective: To write a dialogue using informal language

Marking:
- Content: 2 marks
- Expression: 1 mark

Under content credit should be given for the candidate’s creativity in presenting ideas. However, some of the following points may be included.

Value Points:
• Grandparents Day-surprise gift to grandparents
• To make elders feel happy and wanted
• The planning (party, present etc.)
• Allocation of work and each will do and say

OR

Objective: To write a story using the trigger.

Marking:
- Content: 2 marks
- Expression: 1 mark

Using the beginning given, the student should be able to extend it into a story. Proper development of the theme, appropriate conclusion and effective use of characters should be given weightage.
Q7. Fill in the blanks. ½ mark each - 3 marks
   a. reached
   b. had been made
   c. had expected
   d. their curved blades
   e. drive toward
   f. having made

Q8. Sentence completion. 1 mark each - 3 marks
   a. 12 persons were injured as two buses collided
   b. have launched a drive against the mafia that is
   c. has developed a medical robot

Q9. Editing. ½ mark for each - 3 marks
   a. are – is
   b. in- for
   c. off- of
   d. have- has
   e. had- have
   f. spoils- spoil/ chocolates- chocolate

Q10. Rearrange the following. 1 mark each – 3 marks
   a. Children below the age of eighteen years must not drive
   b. We must wear helmets for our own protection
   c. Mobile phones must not be used while driving

Q11. Reported Speech. 1 mark each – 3 marks
   a. that the bank downtown was looking for a cashier
   b. that they had just hired a new one the previous week
   c. that was the one they were looking for
SECTION – D TEXT BOOKS
35 MARKS

Q12 (a). The Proposal
Objective: knowledge of the plot and characters
Marking: 1 mark for each correct answer

ANSWERS:
A. Chubukov
B. To borrow money
C. Because Lomov wanted to propose to Natalya
D. Because they start quarrelling over a piece of land

(b). Madam Rides the Bus
Objective: knowledge of the plot and characters
Marking: 1 mark for each correct answer

ANSWERS:
A. Valli/ Valliammai
B. To the nearest town
C. To save for a bus ticket
D. Resolutely

Q13. Option 1: Fog
Objective: to test the global and local comprehension of the poem
Marking: 1 mark for each correct answer

ANSWERS:
A. the fog
B. dog
C. personification

Option 2: The Tale of Custard the Dragon
Objective: to test the global and local comprehension of the poem
Marking: 1 mark for each correct answer

ANSWERS:
A. a pirate
B. ate him
C. that he was going to do some harm

Option 3: The Trees
Objective: to test the global and local comprehension of the poem
Marking: 1 mark for each correct answer

ANSWERS:
A. to escape captivity
B. patients
C. simile
Q14. 1 – Madam Rides the Bus  
**Objective:** knowledge of the plot and the main character  
**Marking:** 2 marks  
**Content:** Standing in the front doorway of her house and watching what was happening in the street outside.

2 - Coorg  
**Objective:** local comprehension of the text  
**Marking:** 2 marks  
**Content:** Greek or Arabic descent – intermarriage with Alexander’s soldiers when they settled in Coorg–another story –Arabic descent from the long, black coat with embroidered waist-belt worn by the Kodavus resembling kuffia worn by the Arabs.

3 - A baker from Goa  
**Objective:** local comprehension of the text  
**Marking:** 2 marks  
**Content:** the baker would come twice a day–once in the morning and then after emptying his basket. The children would run to meet him to choose bread-bangles.

4 – The Sermon at Benares  
**Objective:** local comprehension of the text  
**Marking:** 2 marks  
**Content:** Kisa Gotami goes from house to house asking for medicine for her son. She does not get what she wants because her son is dead.

Q15 Option – 1 The Proposal  
**Objective:** knowledge of plot and characters  
**Marking:** 5 marks  
**Content:**  
- Lomov and Natalya quarreled over ownership of Oxen Meadows and which dog was superior- Guess or Squeezer.  
- The quarrel reveals Lomov and Natalya are immature and materialistic.  
- They are inconsistent and frivolous.

Option – 2 The Sermon at Benares  
**Objective:** local comprehension  
**Marking:** 5 marks  
**Content:**  
- The Buddha asked Kisa Gotami to procure a handful of mustard seed from a house where no one had lost a child, husband, parent or friend.  
- Kisa Gotami went from house to house but she could not get the mustard seed because there was no house where people had not lost somebody.  
- At last she realized that death is common to all and it is inevitable. The Buddha told her the world is afflicted with death and decay and the wise therefore do not grieve.

**Note:**  
1. 3 marks for content – one mark for each value point  
2. 2 marks for expression as shown below:
Q 16 Option – 1 The Book that Saved the Earth
Objective: knowledge of plot and character
Marking: 4 marks
Content:
- The rhyme ‘Mistress Mary, quite contrary’ makes Think Tank think that the Earthlings have discovered how to combine agriculture and mining. He thinks that they can grow explosives.
- The rhyme ‘Hey diddle diddle!’ makes him conclude that the Earthlings have reached a high level of civilization; even their animals have musical culture and know space techniques.
- From the rhyme ‘Humpty Dumpty’ Think Tank concludes that it is his picture and the Earthlings are planning to invade Mars.

Note: 1. 3 marks for content – one mark for each value point
2. 1 mark for expression as shown below:
   a. 1 mark-Effective Organisation with very few errors.
   b. ½ mark-Some weaknesses in Organisation; fairly frequent language errors
   c. 0 mark-Poor Organisation; many language errors

Option – 2 The Necklace
Objective: knowledge of plot and character
Marking: 4 marks
Content:
- Loisel borrowed a necklace from her friend and wore it to a dance party
- When she and her husband returned from the dance, they realized that the necklace was lost
- They used all the money they had, borrowed more and got a new diamond necklace and returned it to Mme Forestier
- To pay back their debt they lived a miserable life and toiled for long hours. This struggle lasted for ten long years
- Finally Loisel learnt that the necklace was not worth over five hundred francs because it was not a real diamond necklace
- Thus the loss of a necklace ruined her life.

Note: 1. 3 marks for content – half mark for each value point
2. 1 mark for expression as shown below:
   a. 1 mark-Effective Organisation with very few errors.
   b. ½ mark-Some weaknesses in Organisation; fairly frequent language errors
   c. 0 mark-Poor Organisation; many language errors
Q 17 a. Bholi

**Objective:** knowledge of plot and character  
**Marking:** 3 marks  
**Content:**  
- Bholi’s teacher played an important role in changing the course of her life because  
  - she removed fear from her heart and made her speak like anyone else  
  - she gave her a book and encouraged her to read  
  - she made Bholi develop self confidence

b. The Making of a Scientist

**Objective:** to identify specific information  
**Marking:** 3 marks  
**Content:**  
- discovery of an unknown insect hormone  
- how the cell can read the blueprint of its DNA

c. The Hack Driver

**Objective:** knowledge of plot and character  
**Marking:** 3 marks  
**Content:**  
- when the lawyer saw Lutkins at New Mullion, he thought that Lutkins was a cheerful and friendly person who liked people. He also though that Lutkins was very kind and helpful  
- he was not correct in his judgment of Lutkins because he was duped by Lutkins  
- Lutkins took the young lawyer all over the village in search of Lutkins himself and he was making a fool of the young lawyer. The entire village and his mother were plotting with Lutkins in cheating the young lawyer.