Q1. Read the following passage carefully:

MY WATCH

My beautiful new watch had run eighteen months without losing or gaining, and without breaking any part of its machinery or stopping. I had come to believe it was unfailing in its judgements about the time of day; but at last, one night, I let it run down. I grieved about it as if it were a recognized messenger and forerunner of disaster. But soon I cheered up, set the watch by guess, and commanded my anxieties to depart. Next day I stepped into the chief jeweller’s to set it by the exact time, and the head of the establishment took it out of my hand and proceeded to set it for me. Then he said, “she is four minutes slow; regulator wants pushing up.” I tried to stop him, tried to make him understand that the watch kept perfect time. But no; all this human cabbage could see was that the watch was four minutes slow, and the regulator must be pushed up a little; and so, while I danced round him in anguish and begged him to let the watch alone, he calmly and cruelly did the shameful deed.

My watch began to gain. It gained faster and faster day by day. Within the week it sickened into a raging fever. At the end of two months it had left all the timepieces in the town far in the rear, and was a fraction over thirteen days ahead of the calendar. It was away into November enjoying the snow, while the October leaves were still changing colour. It hurried up house rent, bills payable, and such things, in so ruinous a way that I could not bear it.

I took it to the watchmaker to be regulated. He asked me if I had ever had it repaired. I said no, it had never needed any repairing. He looked a look of vicious happiness and eagerly opened the watch. Then he put a smell glass in his eye and peered into the machinery. He said it wanted cleaning and oiling, besides regulating and told me to come in a week. After being cleaned and oiled and
regulated, my watch slowed down. I began to be left by trains, I failed all appointments, I missed my dinners. I gradually drifted back into yesterday, then the day before, then into last week, and soon the knowledge came upon me that all alone I was lingering along in the week before last, and the world was out of sight.

I went to the watchmaker again. He took the watch all to pieces while I waited, and said he could mend it in three days. After this the watch averaged well, but nothing more. For half a day it would go very fast, and keep up such noises that I could not hear myself think for the disturbance; and as long as it continued like this, there was not a watch in the land that had any chance of keeping up with it. But the rest of the day it would keep on slowing down and fooling along until all the clocks it had left behind caught up again. So at last, at the end of twenty-four hours, it showed about the same time as all the others. It showed a fair average, and no man could say it had done more or less than its duty.

But a correct average is only a mild virtue in a watch, and I took the instrument to another watchmaker. He said something was broken. I said I was glad it was nothing more serious. He repaired it, but what the watch gained in one way it lost in another. It would run a while and then stop a while, and then run a while again, and so on, using its own discretion about the intervals.

Answer the following questions:

I  (a) After having run 18 months, Mark Twain's watch started __________.
    (b) According to the head of the establishment, Twain's watch was __________.
    (c) Besides regulating, the writer's watch required __________.
    (d) The difficulties the writer faced after his watch slowed down were that __________.
    (e) The erratic behaviour of the watch shattered __________.
    (f) The watchmaker looked viciously happy when __________.

II  Fill each of the blanks with one word only:

The writer believes that once a watch starts gaining or (a)_________it is next to (b)_________restore it to its original (c)_________. No watchmaker whatever the level of his (d)_________can be of much help in this regard.

III  Find words in the passage that mean the opposite of the following:
(a) gaining (b) vice

Q2. Read the following passage carefully: (5 marks)
The cross cultural spread of English is unprecedented in other ways. It is more
widely used than any of the other colonial languages like French, Portuguese or Spanish. It even has a wider use than some of the languages associated with international non-western religious traditions, like Arabic or Sanskrit. In countries like India and Nigeria English is used at all levels of society: in local English language newspapers and broadcasting, in public administration, in university education, in major industries, the courts and the civil service. Indeed with nearly 200 languages, India needs English to unify the country. Professor Lal a champion of Indian English who runs a well known writers’ workshop claims that in simple numerical terms, in a country of 840 million,” more Indians speak English and write English than in England itself. You know what Malcolm Muggeridge said: „The last Englishman left will be an Indian”.

Complete the following statements by choosing the most appropriate option from the ones given below:

(1) The way English is spreading is _________.
   (a) normal
   (b) quite uncertain
   (c) absolutely unusual
   (d) unpredictable

(2) The use of English is _________.
   (a) as frequent as that of other colonial languages
   (b) less frequent than of other colonial languages
   (c) more frequent than that of other colonial languages
   (d) hardly as much as that of other colonial languages

(3) In India and Nigeria, English _________.
   (a) has a general use
   (b) is used only in the streets
   (c) is used by newspapers and the people who read it
   (d) in courts and civil service

(4) India _________.
   (a) has fewer English speakers than Great Britain
   (b) has 840 different languages
   (c) has more English speakers than Great Britain
Q3. Read the following poem carefully: (5 marks)

Did I Ever Stop?

Did I ever stop to make you smile
When your day was hard or your road was long?
When your light stopped shining for a while,
Did I sing for you a happy song?

Did I ever try to make you laugh
When your eyes held tears and you couldn’t speak?
When your world seemed almost torn in half,
Did I hold your hand or kiss your cheek?

Did I ever pause to hear your voice
When you needed just a moment’s ear?
When you’d lost your way or missed a choice,
Did I let you know that I was near?

Did I ever stop to say I care
When I didn’t seek to hear it to?
When you weren’t so sure that I’d be there,
Did I ever show my love for you?

Answer the following questions by selecting the most appropriate options from the ones given below:
(1) The poet seems to be addressing:
(a) someone who is feeling low.
(b) someone who is happy.
(c) someone who likes to play.
(d) someone who likes to sing.

(2) The poem is about:
(a) being compassionate to others.
(b) making others unhappy.
(c) one’s own selfish interests
(d) unimportant things like laughter

(3) The poet sings:
(a) a melancholy song.
(b) a happy song.
(c) a sad song
(d) an unhappy song

(4) Find the word from the text which means the same as “ripped”.
(a) pause (b) smile
(c) missed (d) torn

(5) The poet wants to know if he ever showed his ________ for the person addressed to?
(a) love (b) anger
(c) happiness (d) distrust

Section B
(Writing – 25 Marks)

Q4. You are Student Editor of the school magazine, 'Darpan'. Put up a notice on the school bulletin board requesting the students to contribute original and interesting reading material (articles, poems, travelogues) for the 2011 issue of the school magazine. Give all the necessary details (50 words)
Q5. You are a news reporter and have been given an opportunity to interview Saharsh, the youngest ever to crack the tough IIT - JEE test and also achieving the feat of topping it in his region. You are really amazed to know that he has received no formal education and had been tutored by his mother at home. Write four sets of dialogue between Saharsh and yourself.

(6 marks)

Q6. You forgot to invite a close friend of yours to a picnic you organized on your birthday. As a result he/she is annoyed with you. Write an email apologizing to your friend and explaining your position and requesting him/her to forgive you. Offer a special treat. (120 words)

(7 marks)

Q7. Drug abuse is a social evil which has ruined many lives and is gradually on the rise. The youth has been affected by it the most. Write an article in not more than 150 words about the ill-effects of drugs and why one must keep away from it.

(8 marks)

Section C
(Grammar – 20 Marks)

Q8. Complete the following passage by choosing the most appropriate options from the ones given below. Write the answer in your answer sheet:

He’s „King” of the world all right. Shah Rukh Khan, who (a) _______ for what he believes (b) _______ and he is grateful, above all, for the success and support he (c) _______ from his fans. He speaks about his controversies in a more (d) _______ fashion.

(a) (i) stood up

(ii) standing

(iii) stands in

(4 marks)
Q9. Given below is a conversation between Bina and her mother. Complete the dialogue by choosing the correct option from those given below:

Mother: (a) ________ dear? Your uncle and aunt are coming for dinner.

Bina: Mom you always make the same thing every time we have guests over. How about taking them out?

Mother: But (b) ________.

Bina: There are so many reasonably priced restaurants too.

Mother: I don’t think they (c) ________.

Bina: But everyone loves eating out.

Mother: What if I make Russian salad, cutlets and baked beans? And you can help me with the chopping.

Bina: I definitely can, if (d) ________.

(a) (i) What I should make for dinner tonight
    (ii) What should I make for dinner tonight

(b) (i) about
    (ii) in
    (iii) on
    (iv) for

(c) (i) has got
    (ii) got
    (iii) is getting
    (iv) will be getting

(d) (i) forgiven
    (ii) forgetful
    (iii) forgiving
    (iv) giving

(4 marks)
(iii) What should I make in dinner
(iv) What dinner can I make

(b) (i) going out will prove to be expensive
      (ii) a restaurant is expensive
      (iii) going in the restaurant can be expensive
      (iv) taking out would be expensive

(c) (i) would be going to eat out
      (ii) really would like to eat out
      (iii) can go out to eat
      (iv) would really like to eat out

(d) (i) you will be making such delicious dishes
     (ii) you will make so delicious dishes
     (iii) I will be eating such delicious dishes
     (iv) you are making such delicious dishes

Q10. Look at the words and phrases below. Rearrange them to form meaningful sentences. Write the correct sentences in your answer sheet. (4 marks)

extremely dry / are places / that are / deserts

Deserts are places that are extremely dry.

(a) the / in these places / less than / annual rainfall / is / 25 cm
(b) deserts / for / like Sahara / remain / years / dry
(c) burning hot / the day / such deserts / are / during
(d) the same / freezing cold / deserts / are / at night

Q11. The following passage has not been edited. There is ONE error in each of the first nine lines. Write the incorrect word and the correction as given in the example against the correct blank number in your answer sheets. Also underline the correct word you have supplied. (4 marks)

Eg. It was September and the rain were nearly over. rain rains

Maria was admired the garden. (a) __________________
The African marigolds was blooming. (b) __________
She hoped a coming winter wouldn’t be too severe (c) __________
because she found it increased difficult to (d) __________
bear the cold.
She was looking from the flowers (e) __________
very fond when her best friend, (f) __________
Miss Dolly, entered the garden. Now it (g) __________
would spend the evening enjoy together. (h) __________

Q12. Read the following conversation carefully and complete the passage by choosing the most appropriate options. (4 marks)

Mrs. Veena : Has your son finished his studies yet?

Mrs. Anuradha : No, Ananth is in his final year now. He will be able to complete his graduation by the end of this month, but do you know that he has already started his own computer consulting company?

Mrs. Veena : Good, he is really using what he's learnt.

Mrs. Veena asked Mrs. Anuradha If (a) _______ Mrs. Anuradha replied in the negative and told her that (b) _______ and he would be able to complete graduation by the end of that month. She asked Mrs. Veena (c) _____ his own computer consulting company. Mrs. Veena said that it was good that (d) _______

Section D
(Literature – 25 Marks)

Q13. A. Read the extract and answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate options. (3X3=9marks)

I took the one less travelled by,

And that has made all the difference.

(i) The speaker of the above extract is ________. (a) William Wordsworth (b) P.B. Shelley (c) John Keats (d) Robert Frost

(ii) The road in the poem stands for ________.
(a) a long tedious journey  
(b) challenges  
(c) choices in life  
(d) forward movement

(iii) The second line of the extract means _________.
(a) The speaker regrets his choice  
(b) The choice has changed life for the worse  
(c) The choice has made him what he is ___ a famous poet

B. Read the given extract and answer the following questions.
_I have decided I want to learn the Kannada alphabet from tomorrow onwards._

(a) Who does „i“ in the above line refer to?  
(b) Why did the speaker want to learn the Kannada alphabet  
(c) Which quality of the speaker is shown in the above line?

C. Read the given extract and answer the following questions.
Yep! It’s the land I want. I have to be near Paramount where I’m going to shoot some films.

(a) Who is the speaker of these lines?  
(b) What is the speaker’s purpose in buying the Villa?  
(c) What is the speaker’s profession?

Q14. Answer any FOUR of the following questions in about 30-40 words each  
(2x4=8 marks)
(1) Why did the grandmother want to be literate? What was the secret of her success?  
(2) How did Lord Ullin react to see his daughter in the grip of death?  
(3) What is your impression of Juliette?  
(4) „I make the netted sunbeam dance”. How does the brook make the netted sunbeam dance? Explain.  
(5) What guess does the poet make about the theme of the solitary reaper’s song?

Q15. Marcy writes a letter to her friend when Duke dies. Write the letter expressing your feelings in about 150 words.  
(8 marks)

OR
Explain how the song of the solitary reaper got embedded in the heart of William Wordsworth