

## Model Question English – 1

1. Complete each of the sentences which follow by choosing the correct answer from the alternatives given : 1 x 4 = 4

(i) "The young lady stepped close to the expert"

\_\_\_ The 'young lady' was

(a) Miss Bennet

(b) Miss Smith

(c) Miss Sullivan

(d) Miss Raby

**Ans:** (b) Miss Smith

(ii) The man who was sitting on the bench near the writer was a

(a) cotton merchant

(b) tobacco merchant

(c) hide merchant

(d) wheat merchant

**Ans:** (b) tobacco merchant

2. Answer the questions which follow (each in about 30 words) 3

"The idea originated with Ram Saran"

\_\_\_ What was the idea and how was it carried out ?

**Ans:** The 'idea' was to establish a school for the children of workmen and of the lowly-paid railway staff at Mokameh Ghat.

It was carried out by renting a hut for twenty odd students, appointing a master who had to tactfully overcome the initial hurdle of caste prejudices.

3. Answer the question which follow (in about 50 words) : 5

**Q.** What were the Christmas Day celebrations at Mokameh Ghat ?

**Ans:** The Christmas Day celebration was a big affair at Mokameh Ghat. On that day Ram Saran and his workmen would decorate the office with signal flags and flowers. Sharp at ten in the morning Ram Saran, colourfully attired, would fetch Corbett to the place. The programme would start with the garlanding of Corbett followed by a long speech of Ram Saran and a short one by Corbett. Subsequently, sweet would be distributed among the children. The celebration would conclude with the distribution of cash bonus to Ram Saran and his workmen.

**5. Answer the question which follow (in about 30 words) 3**

**Q.** How does Nature lead us to an unknown world ?

**Ans:** Nature, like a fond but strict mother, takes away our playthings (worldly ties and attachments) one by one and prepare us for our journey to an unknown world. She does so to give us eternal repose and peace.

**6. Answer the question which follow (in about 50 words) : 5**

**Q.** Bring out the significance of the title of the poem  
“Where The Mind Is Without Fear”.

**Ans:** The title of Rabindranath Tagore’s poem, ‘Where the Mind is Without Fear’ is also the first line of the poem and is one of the most significant sub-clauses which go to build up the poem. The ‘World of Freedom’, which Tagore envisions for his countrymen, can only be attained if we possess a fearless mind. Only a fearless mind can hold its head upright. So attain true freedom one has to have a mind which is ‘Without fear’. In this sense the title is very significant and has been an apt one.

**7. Answer the question which follow (in about 30 words) : 3**

**Q.** How was the convict treated in the prison ?

**Ans:** In the prison the convict was very badly treated. He was chained like a wild beast and whipped like a dog. He was given dirty inedible food to eat and was made to live in a filthy condition. He had to sleep on wooden planks. His name was taken away and he was called by a number.

**8. Answer the question which follow (in about 50 words) : 5**

**Q.** Sketch the character of Bishop.

**Ans:** The Bishop in Norman McKinnel’s one act play “The Bishop’s Candlesticks” is the embodiment of a true Christian. He has all the virtues which a bishop ought to have — he is selfless, kind, generous and charitable. He has a childlike innocence and does not understand any ‘dupe’. His absolute faith in God has made him fearless. The convict’s treats to kill him fail to unnerve him. He hates sin but loves sinners. The way he restores the convict’s faith in Christianity is remarkable. Even the convict recognizes his goodness towards the end of the play, “... but somehow I — I ... know you are good...” He is the most adorable

character in the play. No wonder person calls him the best man in the whole of France.

**9. Rewrite the sentences which follow as directed, without changing their meaning.** 2 x 5 = 10

i) Move him into the Sun. ( Change the voice)

**Ans:** Let him be moved into the Sun.

OR

You are asked to move him into the Sun.

ii) In many cases environmental plunder is an infringement of distributive justice (Use the verb form of 'infringement')

**Ans:** In many cases environmental plunder infringes upon distributive justice.

iii) 'Into that heaven of freedom let my country awake' (Turn into indirect)

**Ans:** The speaker prayed that his country should be awakened into the world of freedom.

iv) Nature deals with us and takes away our playthings one by one. (Turn into a simple sentence)

**Ans:** Nature deals with us taking away our playthings one by one.

v) All of this was very primitive. (Make it negative)

**Ans:** None of this was modern.

**B. Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles and prepositions :**  $\frac{1}{2} \times 6 = 3$

\_\_\_\_\_ me \_\_\_\_\_ young man \_\_\_\_\_ England who had recently joined \_\_\_\_\_ railway and who had been sent \_\_\_\_\_ me \_\_\_\_\_ study the system of work.

**Ans:** With me was a young man from England who had recently joined the railway and who had been sent to me to study the system of work.

**C. With each of the following wh-words, frame a question in such a way that the answer matches the given content :** 1 x 2 = 2

i) How :

Content : Work at the start had been very strenuous for us.

**Ans:** How was the work at the start for you all ?

ii) What :

Content : Environmental degradation has compromised many improvements.

**Ans:** What has environmental degradation done ?

**10. Write a letter within 120 words to the editor of an English daily about the importance of afforestation (the planting of trees)  
(cause of rainfall — prevention flood — balances O<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> — preservation of life on earth)** 10

**Ans :** 64/1 Biren Roy Road (East)  
Kolkata – 700008  
18 February 2009

The Editor  
The Statesman  
Kolkata – 700001.

Sir,

Unplanned urbanisation and indiscriminate felling of trees have destroyed the green cover of the earth and have made it what it is today — a jungle of concrete. This has posed a great threat to the environment and to our very existence. Trees play a vital role in maintaining the ecological balance and the way deforestation is going on at present, will have fatal consequences on ecology and the environment. Already we have started to feel the conditions throughout the world, frequent occurrence of natural calamities, changes in the cycle of seasons, global-warming, rising pollution — all these are directly or indirectly related to this large scale felling of trees. Some environmentalists fear that if we do not act now a catastrophe is imminent.

It is hightime that we take up afforestation programmes on a large scale to repair the damage that has already been done. Your esteemed column can play a great role in goading the Govt. to address the issue with all the seriousness that it deserves.

Yours truly  
A. K. Chakrabarti

**11. Write a summary of the passage which follows in about 100 words :** 10

The historian is a person whose questions are about the past. He is generally supposed to be a person whose question are exclusively about the past, about a past, namely, that is dead and gone, and in no sense at all living on into the present. This is a delusion. The historian cannot answer questions about the past

unless he has evidence about it. His evidence, if he has it, must be something existing here and now in his present world. If there were a past event which had left no trace of any kind in the present world it would be a past event for which now there was no evidence and nobody — no historian — could know nothing about it. The past which a historian studies is not a dead past but a past which in some sense is still living in the present. There are in history no beginnings and no endings. History books begin and end, but the events they describe do not.

**Ans:**

It is a delusion to think that the historian deal with the dead past which has no connection with the living present. The historian needs evidence which has its existence in the present world, otherwise he would not be able to know anything about it. So the historian study the past which is in some sense living. The events described in history books have a link with the present and therefore do not have an end.

## ENGLISH SAMPLE PAPER – 3

**Q.1. Complete each of the sentences which follow by choosing the correct answer from the alternative given :** **1×4=4**

- (i) The Mohammedan passenger on the upper deck of the steamer was actually a \_\_\_\_\_ . [(a) tobacco dealer (b) hide merchant]

**Ans. : tobacco dealer.**

- (ii) Standing on the bench, Swaminathan could observe four heads wearing \_\_\_\_\_ . [(a) red caps (b) fur caps]

**Ans. : red caps.**

- (iii) The doctor asked the Secretary to fill out a card for the patient for the \_\_\_\_\_ . [(a) Soaping room (b) Shaving room]

**Ans. : shaving room.**

- (iv) The type of problem of the Narmada Dam Project is \_\_\_\_\_ . [(a) distributional (b) financial]

**Ans. : distributional.**

**Q.2. Answer any two of the questions which follow (each in about 30 words) :** **3×2=6**

- (i) ‘These jars contain water ...’ Who are carrying these jars with them and why ? **1+2**

**Ans.:** There are four men carrying the jars. They are returning to their home in Nepal from a pilgrimage to Benares.

The jars contain water which the men have drawn from the Ganges at Benares. They will sell the water in their own and neighbouring villages on religious ceremonies.

- (ii) ‘Oh, Mani ! I beg a hundred pardons of you.’

– Why does the speaker beg hundred pardon of Mani ?

**Ans.:** The speaker, Swaminathan had promised Mani to bring lime pickles. So when Mani asked him for it he begged him ‘hundred pardons’ and told him of his inability to bring the pickles.

- (iii) ‘You’ll have to go to the other chair’

– Who is the speaker ? Why does he suggest so ? **1+2**

**Ans.:** The shoe-shine boy is the speaker.

He suggests this because he is a left-handed and polishes left shoe only. As the patient offers his right shoe for polish, the boy asks him to go to the other chair.

(iv) Why does Kalahandi occasionally make headlines in newspapers ?

**Ans.:** Kalahandi is one of the districts in Orissa. It makes occasionally headlines in newspapers for excessive cases of starvation. The subsidence of the environmental source especially forests, has destroyed the traditional livelihoods of the people causing dreadful hunger and distress there.

**Q.3.** Answer any one of the questions which follow (in about 50 words) : 5×1=5

(i) “On this day custom ordained that I should remain in my house until ten o’clock”  
– What is the day referred to here ? What is said about the day ? Describe briefly.

**Ans.:** The day referred to here is the Christmas Day. The speaker Jim Corbett here gives a description of his life and his workmen at Mokameh Ghat on Christmas Day. These people did not observe any kind of holiday even on their festival barring Christmas. The Christmas was a very special day which they celebrated with great enthusiasm and pleasure. It was a tradition that on that day Corbett should remain in his house until ten o’clock and punctually at that time Ram Saran dressed in his best clothes and an enormous pink turban would conduct him to his office for the Christmas programme.

(ii) “It is hot in summer and cold in winter”

– What is the description about ? Briefly state what happened to the pupil who made such statement.

**Ans.:** This is the description of the Indian climate given by Swaminathan in response to his Geography teacher’s second question. The first question the teacher asked Swaminathan was what Lisbon is famous for. Swaminathan answered that it was the capital of Spain. The teacher was angry at this foolish answer and then he fired the second question about the Indian climate. Swaminathan could not answer correctly any of the two questions. So the teacher asked him to stand up on the bench by way of punishment.

(iii) Why did doctor Follicle hesitate a bit for applying shampoo to the patient ?

**Ans.:** Dr. Follicle was a hairologist. He showed a little bit reluctance for applying shampoo to the patient because in his opinion the patient needed a shave first. He advised the patient to wait for the shampoo till the shave was over. He opined that the patient’s constitution would stand an immediate shampoo. But he could not recommend it without testing his heart. He was afraid that very often a premature shampoo in cold weather caused a painful nasal trouble.

(iv) What are the three main reasons, as detected by the authors, for being concerned about environmental degradation in India ?

**Ans.:** The authors have identified three reasons causing serious environmental degradation in India. They have found that many of the improvements achieved by economic prosperity have been harmed by environmental degradation. The second point shows that the environmental decline hampered sustainable development. The third reason brings out that the environmental plunder infringes distributive justice and the basic rights of the underdogs.

**Q.4. Which of the following statements are True and which are False : 1×4=4**

- (i) The moon is isolated from the stars as its origin is different from that of the stars in the poem 'The Moon'.

**Ans.: True**

- (ii) In 'Where the Mind is without Fear' the word 'where' signifies an ideal place of bondage.

**Ans.: False**

- (iii) The poem 'Nature' is about the scenic beauties of nature.

**Ans.: False**

- (iv) In 'Futility' the old sun is kind because his presence helped life to sprout on earth.

**Ans.: True**

**Q.5. Answer any two of the questions which follow (each in about 30 words) : 3×2=6**

- (i) What for does the poet imagine the moon to be a 'shapeless mass' ?

**Ans.: The poet imagines the moon to be a 'shapeless mass' when there is a waning moon. In this course the moon loses its full round shape gradually over a period of time. It's shapeless because it is proceeding towards new moon phase and steadily losing its own round shape.**

- (ii) '... into the dreary deserts and of dead habit' – What is meant by 'dead habit' in the poem 'Where the Mind is Without Fear' ?

**Ans.: The poet Rabindranath Tagore presents a very noble idea of absolute freedom in his poem, "Where The Mind Is Without Fear". Here the poet refers to the age-old accumulated habits and customs as 'dead habit'. These habits and customs are unhealthy and irrational but they could not be discontinued because they are regarded as permanent and to be followed mechanically. The poet seeks freedom from such bonds.**

- (iii) "... takes away

**Our play things one by one."**

**– What do our playthings signify ? Who takes it away ?**

**Ans.: The playthings mentioned here are the objects and our worldly possessions to which people have a deep attachment. The poet presents uniformity between the child's playthings and the possessions of the people on earth. A child plays with his toys the whole day. But at the end of the day he has to leave them and go for rest. Similarly peoples have to leave his worldly possessions when death comes. The nature takes away everything and leads to death.**

- (iv) In what sense Owen has used the word 'futility' in his poem ?

**Ans.: Futility is an emotional war poem by Wilfred Owen. It is short, simple and heartbreaking. The poet finds war an ugly and dirty business. It is a senseless butchering of young soldiers. War brings pain and forces humanity to death and destruction. Futility means uselessness. The unwanted and unfortunate death of the soldiers cannot be restored by the sun being the creator of all living beings. Thus the life on the earth seems to be futile.**

**Q.6. Answer any one of the questions which follow (in about 50 words) :**

**5×1=5**

**(i) “Wandering companionless**

**Among the stars ...”**

**Why does the poet trace out the moon as companionless even though she is surrounded by stars ?**

**Ans.:** The poet P.B. Shelly presents the moon lonely and without any companion beside her in the sky, although it is surrounded by many stars. The poet is indicating the scientific truth that the moon originated from the planet, earth. But the stars co-existing in the sky did not generate from any planet. They are heavenly bodies of different origin. Thus the birth of the moon and the stars are different. Therefore, the moon being the only satellite of the Earth is isolated and is truly called ‘companionless’.

**(ii) “Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake”**

**– What is meant by ‘heaven of freedom’ ? State briefly what kind of freedom that Rabindranath prays for his countrymen to achieve ?**

**Ans.:** The great poet Rabindranath Tagore finds his country India in a state of ignorance, laziness, irrationality and narrow-mindedness. The heaven of freedom mentioned here suggests of fearlessness of the Indians from irrational customs, traditions, blind faith and dead habits. The falsehood, prejudice, believe in superstition, division of mankind in castes and creed have led Indians into a state of deep sleep. In sleep one is not aware of the real world. Consequently, he does not act or conduct to improve himself. The condition in India stands in this sorrowful state. So the poet prays to God to break this slumber of his country men and awaken them to the realization of true freedom which will lead them to progress and prosperity.

**(iii) What relationship does Longfellow show between Nature and man in his poem, ‘Nature’ ?**

**Ans.:** The poet H.W. Longfellow in his poem ‘Nature’ presents nature as a true loving mother. A mother cares for her child. The child getting tired after playing with its toys the whole day is led by the affectionate mother to bed. Similarly, nature too arranges for us to have rest in the eternal world at the end of our life-span. It takes away our treasured possessions one by one like the child’s playthings. We too refuse to give them just like the child but at the end we have to give up and go for an eternal sleep of death. Thus the poet has nicely depicted the bond of love and affection between man and nature.

**(iv) “O what fatuous sunbeams toil**

**To break earth’s sleep at all”**

**– Why does the poet consider the toil of the sunbeams to break earth’s sleep fatuous in the poem ‘Futility’ ?**

**Ans.:** Wilfred Owen is a war poet. He was an active soldier and was very much familiar with the horrors of war. The death and destruction of war has made him a pacifist. He expresses deep sympathy for the loss of young human lives.

The death of a young soldier in war could not be given a new life. The sun being the creator of life on earth itself is unable to bring back life to the dead. Hence, the sunbeams are called fatuous.

**Q.7. Complete each of the sentences which follow by choosing the correct answer from the alternatives given :** **1×4=4**

**(i) The name of the convict's wife is**

- (a) Jeanette**
- (b) Marie**
- (c) Mere Gringoire**

**Ans.: (a) Jeanette**

**(ii) "They are sold, madam"**

**Here they refers to**

- (a) the silver candlesticks**
- (b) furniture**
- (c) silver salt cellars**

**Ans.: (c) silver salt cellars**

**(iii) Persome, you may leave us, this gentleman will excuse you. Here 'this gentleman' refers to**

- (a) the convict**
- (b) sergeant**
- (c) bailiff**

**Ans.: (a) the convict**

**(iv) The convict was sentenced to**

- (a) twelve years in the prison hulks**
- (b) ten years in the prison hulks**
- (c) eleven years in the prison hulks**

**Ans.: (b) ten years in the prison hulks**

**Q.8. Answer any two of the questions which follow (each in about 30 words) :** **3×2=6**

**(i) Why did the Bishop sell his silver salt cellars ?**

**Ans.: Bishop sold the silver salt cellars to pay the rent of Mere Gringoire. She was very poor and could not pay her rent. The bailiff threatened to turn her out of the house if she does not pay the rent. So, she sought the help of the Bishop. The Bishop too had no money at hand. Consequently, the Bishop sold the salt-cellars for paying the rent.**

**(ii) What did the Bishop say to the gendarmes to save the convict from prison ?**

**Ans.: The Bishop told the sergeant that the convict was his friend. He further said that he had given him the candlesticks to him as a gift. The Bishop requested the sergeant to release him.**

**(iii) 'That is why they are left open'**

**– What does 'they' refer to ? Why are they left open ?**

**Ans.: They refers to the doors of the Bishop's house. They remain open for the people. A person in need may seek his help at any time. Again closing the door may cause inconvenience to the people.**

**(iv) 'There's gratitude for you !'**

**– Whose gratitude is challenged and why ?**

**Ans.: Marie, the maidservant of the Bishop's house is remarked as ungrateful by Bishop's sister Persome. Oneday on a cold winter night Bishop is away from home. Persome comes to know from Marie that Bishop has gone to see her ailing mother. At this Persome gets angry and calls her ungrateful for sending the Bishop out on such a cold night.**

**Q.9. Answer any one of the questions which follow (in about 50 words) :**

**5×1=5**

**(i) 'My punishment is just, but oh God, it is hard, it is very hard'**

**Whose punishment is referred to here ? What is the punishment ? Why is it very hard ?**

**Ans.: The Bishop himself is at the receiving end of the punishment. He considers the loss of the candlesticks, as a 'just punishment' for his strong love for them. There is a conflict within the Bishop's mind between his spirituality and materialism. The Bishop considers it a sin to have strong attachment to material objects like the candlesticks here. Again, on the other hand as a man of the world he cannot overcome the shock of losing the last gift from his mother. Thus, the Bishop has truthfully demonstrated his dilemma calling it 'hard' and 'very hard'.**

**(ii) Describe the thoughts of the convict just before he steals the candlesticks.**

**Ans.: The convict is in two minds before he steals the Bishop's candlesticks. He is very much allured to steal the beautiful silver candlesticks of the Bishop. His wicked instinct prevails upon him to grab the opportunity of the Bishop's absence. But his conscience disheartens him to do the inhumane act. He understands the kindness bestowed by the Bishop to him. He knows it that the candlesticks have been the last gift from the Bishop's mother to her son. But the evil in him argues that none cared for his own mother before sending him to jail. He also thinks of his jail-mates who would laugh at him for being a fool to miss this opportunity. So, he finally steals the candlesticks by giving in to his good feelings.**

**(iii) 'The Bishop's Candlesticks' is based on a famous novel by a famous foreign novelist. Name them. Briefly analyse how far the title of the play is significant.**

**Ans.: The play 'The Bishop's Candlesticks' by Norman Mckinnel is based on the famous french novel 'Les Miserables' written by Victor Hugo.**

**The title of the one-act play 'The Bishop's Candlesticks' is very significant and is in conformity with the play. The play moves round the silver candlesticks of the Bishop. These candlesticks influence the action of the play and also throw**

light on the various characters. The Bishop loves the candlesticks very much since it's the last gift from his mother. A convict who tiptoed into the Bishop's house was tempted by those costly candlesticks. At last he stole them. Later he is caught by the police. But the Bishop tells the police that the man was his friend and he has gifted him those candlesticks. Thus he saves the convict. The convict is greatly moved by this act of kindness from the Bishop. He is ashamed and mends his character. Finally, he was reformed into virtuous man. Hence, the candlesticks stand for God's blessings which could purify a devilish soul.

**Q.10.A. Rewrite the sentences which follow as directed, without changing their meaning :** **2×5=10**

- (i) They did not think of my mother. (Change the voice)  
Ans.: My mother was not thought of by them.
- (ii) I wish Persome would not lock the cuphoard. (Split into two simple sentences)  
Ans.: Persome would not lock the cupboard. It's my wish.
- (iii) 'Swaminathan, stand up' said the teacher. (Change into Indirect speech)  
Ans.: The teacher ordered Swaminathan to stand up.
- (iv) I was responsible for the running of the steamers. (Rewrite using noun form of 'responsible')  
Ans.: The running of steamers was my responsibility.
- (v) Always it woke him, even in France. (Turn into complex sentence)  
Ans.: It woke him always even when he was in France.

**B. Fill in the numbered blanks with appropriate articles and preposition :** **3**

- (i) This pleased Mani greatly \_\_\_\_\_ (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the first time that evening he laughed, and laughed heartily too. He shook Swaminathan and gave such \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_ affectionate twist \_\_\_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_\_\_ his ear that Swaminathan gave \_\_\_\_\_ (4) \_\_\_\_\_ long howl. And then he suddenly asked, 'Did you bring \_\_\_\_\_ (5) \_\_\_\_\_ thing that I wanted ?'

Ans.:(1) for  
(2) an  
(3) to  
(4) a  
(5) the

**C. With each of the following wh-words, frame a question in such a way that the answer matches the given content :** **1×2=2**

- (i) When :  
Content : Rajam shouldered his gun and fired a shot in the air.  
Mani was startled.

Ans.: When was Mani startled ?

(ii) What :

Content : I do not deal in hides.

I deal in tobacco.

Ans.: What do you deal in ?

**Q.11.(a) Write a letter within 120 words to the editor of an English daily expressing your concern at the price hike of everyday commodities. 10**

**[inflation shot to a 13 year high of 11.05%, Government taking measures to give middle class relief from high prices, urgent need to look into this problem]**

**Ans.:To,**

**The Editor,**

**The Telegraph,**

**Kolkata-700 001.**

**Sir,**

**I would like to put forward my bitterness concerning the soaring prices of the essential commodities through the columns of your esteemed daily.**

**The hike in the price of everyday commodities has been telling upon the life of the poor masses in general. They do not have enough income to manage their daily basic needs. The inflation has touched to a record of 13 year high at 11.5%. The price of rice, bread, dal, sugar, egg, fish and vegetables have increased alarmingly. The cost of newspaper has gone up too. In short the peoples are having a very tough time.**

**It's truly encouraging that our state govt. has taken some positive steps to control the market price of the most needed commodities. The people living below the poverty line are being provided some relief. They are getting rice, dal, sugar and kerosene oil etc. at a subsidized rate. But the problem is undoubtedly a burning national issue.**

**Therefore, I would like to draw the attention of the central govt. to take necessary measures to control inflation.**

**Thanking you,**

**Yours faithfully**

**Dated : 25th Feb., 2009**

**Sana Malik**

**33, Gora Chand Road, Kolkata-700 014**

**Mob. : 9831983123**

**OR**

**(b) Write a letter within 120 words to your friend describing the festival of your state you enjoy most. 10**

**[Name of the festival; when takes place; a brief description of the festival; your feelings]**

**Ans.:**

**46F, Gorachand Road  
Entally, Kolkata-700 014  
22/02/09**

**Dear Salik,**

**I am keeping well. How are you ? I received your letter a few days ago. I enjoyed your letter very much. I have shown it to some of my class friends. They loved your style of presenting your topic in the letter. In this letter I will give you a brief description of a famous festival of our state, West Bengal.**

**West Bengal is better known as a land of festivals. There are uncountable festivals since people of so many religions live here. The Durga Puja is the greatest Bengali festival. It is called the festival of the masses. It is celebrated for four days in the season of autumn. It brings a lot of joys to the people. The whole family gets together to celebrate the re-union and thus it strengthens the social bond. Every body makes a preparation in advance to meet the expenses involved in the festival. The new clothes, sweets, parties, and the Yagna are some of the special things associated with the festival. Every house serves delicious dishes to welcome the friends and relatives during the occasion.**

**I like puja the most since it's the festival when the members of our family stay together for a few days and have a good time.**

**I hope you have got a fair idea of the festival. Please plan for a visit to our place in this puja to have the thrilling experience. Rest is o.k.**

**Yours loving  
Michael**

- Q.12.(a) East Midnapore got inundated by the rain for several successive days. Write a report in about 150 words about the miserable condition of the flood victims – Lakhs of people wading through 20 to 30 km of neck-deep water in search of shelter; reluctantly having house; many got stranded leaving neither drinking water nor food ; rescue operation and distribution of food and drinking water by Government and NGOs.**

**10**

**Ans.:**

**Flood Ravages Midnapore**

**Midnapore (West Bengal), Feb, 21 ; Floods ravaged large areas in the southern districts of West Bengal causing loss to life and property and disrupting normal life. The incessant rain over the past few days have inundated several villages in East Midnapore. More than a lakh of people have been left homeless. Mud houses swept away and concrete houses are under water. People have to wade through 20 to 30 kms of neck deep water in search of shelter.**

**The situation has turned grave and people are facing problems related to drinking water and food.**

**Rescue operation have started and speed boats have been deployed in several areas. About 1200 camps have been set up in the affected areas where those**

rendered homeless are sheltered. The state govt. has been working on war footing to fight the situation. It has sought the use of air force helicopters to ensure drinking water and food supplies. Many NGOs have been working to help the victims.

*OR*

- (b) Write a summary of the passage which follows in about 100 words . 10

All desire success in life but few attain it. It will be found that the success of those who achieve it is due to their own initiative and exertion. On the other hand, the failure of the others is due to the fact that they did not exert themselves. They foolishly hope that something will turn up some day to their best advantage. These people more often than not come to grief. Again, to look for help from others betrays a lack of self-confidence. Help from others is most uncertain. It may or may not come.

Success does not come of itself. It does not fall from heaven. It is rather the reward of honest, sincere and devoted work. God in His eternal kindness has placed the key to success in our hands. We are only to seize it. Making the best use of the faculties with which we have been endowed is the only way to success. Nothing can below success on us – no idle dreaming, no wishful thinking bereft of the will and determination to achieve success. It is in this way through earnest efforts made that we can hope to receive the greatest blessing of God, that is, success in life.

Ans.: Success in life depends on one's effort to achieve it. An idle person cannot succeed in life if he leaves it to the heaven to help him since god helps those who help themselves. success demands honesty, sincerity, dedication and determination and those who have it is sure to strike the goal.

13. Read the passage below and answer the questions which below :

Those who say that at the time of Gurucharan's death his second wife was playing cards in the inner apartments are scandalmongers who would make a mountain of a molehill. In fact the lady of the house was seated with one knee folded under her resting her chin on the other, absorbed in eating watered rice with raw tamarind, green chillies and a hot prawn savoury. When she was called ou, she left a heap of well-chewed drumsticks, and an empty rice-bowl, saying displeasedly , I don't even, get the time to swallow, a couple of mouthfuls of rice.

Meanwhile, after the doctor left saying there was no more to be done, Gurucharan's younger brother Ramkanai sat down by his side and said gently, 'Dada, tell me if you want to make a will'. Gurucharan replied in a faint voice, 'Write it down as I speak'.

Ramkanai took pen and paper and made ready. Gurucharan said, 'I bequeath all my immovable and movable goods and property to my wedded wife, Shrimati Baradasundari'. Ramkanai wrote – but he wrote with reluctance. He had cherished the hope that his only son Nabadwip would inherit his childless uncle's wealth and property. Although the two brothers lived separately, this hope had led Nabadwip's mother to keep her son from any kind of employment, and to marry him off early. Moreover as if to spite her enemies – the

marriage had borne fruit. But despite all this Ramkanai wrote down the will and gave the pen to his brother to sign it. What Gurucharan wrote in a failing hand might have been his signature or just a few wavering strokes of the pen : it was hard to tell.

When his wife arrived, having finished her watered rice, Gurucharan's speech had failed. At this she began to weep. Those who had been deprived of the covert property, said, "Crocodile tears !" But we should not believe them.

Having heard the details of the will, Nabadwip's mother rushed in and began an uproar, saying, 'One's reason fails when one's dying. When he had such a treasure of a nephew.... !

[Adapted from Rabindranath Tagore, selected Short Stories]

(A) Complete each of the sentences which follow by choosing the correct answer from the alternatives given : 1×7=7

(i) Baradasundari was

- (a) first wife
- (b) second wife
- (c) nearest neighbour.

Ans.: (b) second wife

(ii) In the will Gurucharan gave his property to

- (a) Ramkanai
- (b) Nabadwip
- (c) Baradasundari.

Ans.: (c) Baradasundari

(iii) When Gurucharan was at his deathbed, Baradasundari was

- (a) playing cards
- (b) finishing her lunch
- (c) consulting with physician.

Ans.: (b) finishing her lunch

(iv) After hearing the will Nabadwip's mother

- (a) started shouting
- (b) made arrangement of the funeral process
- (c) was engaged in merry-making.

Ans.: (a) started shouting

(v) Nabadwip was Gurucharan's

- (a) only son
- (b) one of the nephews
- (c) only nephew.

Ans.: (c) only nephew

(vi) On being asked whether he would make a will, Gurucharan

- (a) rejected the proposal
- (b) appreciated the proposal
- (c) remained silent.

Ans.: (b) appreciated the proposal

**(vii) Having heard the intension of Gurucharan**

- (a) Ramkanai was happy**
- (b) Ramkanai was not at all happy**
- (c) Ramkanai called for Nabadwip.**

**Ans.: (b) Ramkanai was not at all happy**

**(B) Answer the questions which follow (each in about 20 words) : 2 × 4 = 8**

**(i) What was Baradasundari doing when her husband was at deathbed ?**

**Ans.: Baradasundari was eating watered rice at the time.**

**(ii) Why did Ramkanai write the will with reluctance ?**

**Ans.: Ramkanai was expecting the will in his son's favour to inherit his brother's property but his brother wanted to will it to his wife. So he wrote the will with reluctance.**

**(iii) How was the signature of Gurucharan on his will ?**

**Ans.: Gurucharan's signature on the will looked as an scribbling made with a pen.**

**(iv) Why was Nabadwip kept out from any kind of employment ?**

**Ans.: Nabadwip was kept out of any employment because his mother was very much sure to inherit the wealth and property of Ramkanai's brother. So she fancied her son as a man of wealth in near future.**

**(C) Re-arrange the sentences which follow in their proper order : 5**

- (i) Ramkanai wrote the will with reluctance**
- (ii) Ramkanai's wife did not allow her son to marry.**
- (iii) Gurucharan had no child to inherit his property.**
- (iv) Gurucharan wanted to make a will.**
- (v) Gurucharan requested his brother to write down his will.**

**Ans. iii – iv – v – i – ii**

## ENGLISH SAMPLE PAPER – 2

**Q.1. Complete each of the sentences which follow by choosing the correct answer from the alternatives given :** **1×4=4**

**(i) Crosthwaite was sent**

- (a) to assist Corbett in his work at Mokamech Ghat.**
- (b) supervise Corbett’s work at Mokameh Ghat**
- (c) to study the system of work at Mokameh Ghat.**

**Ans. : Crosthwaite was sent (c) to study the system of work at Mokameh Ghat.**

**(ii) On the reopening day Rajam sat on the**

- (a) first bench beside Mani**
- (b) last bench behind Mani**
- (c) last bench beside Mani**

**Ans. : On the reopening day Rajam sat on the last bench beside Mani .**

**(iii) “Your constitution would stand an immediate shampoo” – Here “stand” means**

- (a) accept**
- (b) tolerate**
- (c) support.**

**Ans. : “Your constitution would stand an immediate shampoo”**

**Here stand means ‘tolerate’**

**(iv) According to the authors, environmental degradation**

- (a) gives birth to various, social problems**
- (b) creates economic disparity among the people**
- (c) violates the principle of distributive justice**

**Ans.: According to the authors, environmental degradation (c)violates the principle of distributive justice.**

**Q.2. Answer any two of the questions which follow (each in about 30 words) :** **3×2=6**

**(i) What did Mani forbid Rajam to do for the proposed duel?**

**Ans.:Rajam and Mani were the two central characters in the story “Rajam and Mani” by R.K. Narayan.**

Since his first appearance in the same class where Mani was a student, Rajam gradually posed himself as a great rival for Mani.

Mani considered Rajam as 'a new menace' in his life. On one occasion, Mani invited Rajam to resolve their rivalry over a 'duel'. Rajam having readily accepted the challenge, Mani forbade Rajam to keep everything related to that decision for a duel out of his father's knowledge. Rajam's father was a police officer.

- (ii) How was the problem of caste prejudices' solved at Ram Saran's school?

Ans.: Jim Corbett and Ram Saran started a school at Mokameh Ghat for the sons of the workers and of the low paid railway staff. Ram Saran had passion for offering education and the undesirable distinction between higher and lower castes was the first stumbling block they faced. And Ram Saran solved this problem of making learners of high and low casters sitting together, by just turning the 'hut' into a 'shed' by removing the walls of the hut.

Q.3. Answer any one of the questions which follow (in about 50 words) : 5×1=5

- (i) What thought crossed Mani's mind as he waited for Rajam near Nallapa's Grove?

Ans.: It was so decided that Rajam would meet Mani at Nalappa's grove and end their rivalry over a hand to hand fight. Rajam posed to be a real menace for Mani as he, with his impressive debut appearance in the class, his academic excellence seemed to usurp Mani's exclusive position in the class. On the appointed day as Mani and Swaminathan were squatting on the sand near the grove, waiting for Rajam, Mani was seriously thinking of the out come of the fighting with Rajam. He was thinking what would happen if Rajam dies on the spot suffering the fatal stroke from Mani's club, and if his body thrown in the river is recovered. Mani felt alarmed to think that Rajam's ghost might appear and pull his hair at night. Such gloomy and ominous thinking crossed Mani's mind.

- (ii) Discuss any one of the ways which environmental plunder can cause harm to development.

Ans.: One of the several ways how environmental plunder can cause harm to development is the shocking usurpation of the basic rights of the under privileged in the society. As an instance the author refers to the environmental plunder caused by massive pollution, congestion, noise, tension and etc. The worst affected are the poor and vulnerable section in the society, namely, the pavement dwellers, street vendors. They are grossly deprived of the optimum environmental comfort and protection.

Q.4. Which of the following statements are True and which are False : 1×4=4

- (i) 'A white and shapeless mass' – This is said about the dying lady.

Ans.: False.

- (ii) As described in 'Nature' the mother's promise of more splendid toys gives the child great delight.

Ans.: False.

(iii) In the country of Tagore's dream there may be occasional deviations from the path of truth.

Ans.: False.

(iv) In the poem 'Futility' the subeams are said to be fatuous.

Ans.: True.

Q.5. Answer any two of the questions which follow (each in about 30 words) : 3×2=6

(i) What, according to the poet, is the cause of moon's paleness?

Ans.: Poet P.B. Shelley in his poem the Moon', has offered a personified presentation of the moon', an object of Nature. The moon in the poem appears pale and lack-lustre. According to the poet this paleness in the result of her long tiring wanderings across the sky. It could be that as the full moon rises in the glooming eastern horizon just after sunset it looks pale as the eastern sky has turned dusky.

(iv) Why does Wilfred Owen call the sun 'kind'?

Ans.: Poet Wilfred Owen calls the sun 'kind' in the poem 'Futility'. The Sun is kind to nature in general and had been kind to the poor soldier when he lived his normal life in his own home in England. The Sun is kind as it infuses life in the seeds and make them sprout. The Sun would also wake him up early in the morning and would inspire him to get busy with his farming activities.

Q.10.A. Rewrite the sentences which follow as directed, without changing their meaning : 2×5=10

(i) They took away my name. (Change into passive voice)

Ans.: My name was taken away by them.

(ii) Have you the courage to prove that you are a man?

asked Mani. (Change into indirect speech)

Ans.: Mani asked rather rudely if he had the courage to prove that he was a man.

(iii) 'Nature leads us gently. (Rewrite using the Noun form of 'gently')

Ans.: Nature leads us with gentleness.

(iv) Was it for this the clay grew tall? (Change into an assertive sentence)

Ans.: The clay (this human body) did not grow tall for this.

(v) It was my fault. I led him into temptation. (Join into a complex sentence)

Ans.: It was my fault that I led him into temptation.

B. Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles and preposition : 3

When suitable buildings had been erected, \_\_\_\_\_ additional seven masters employed, and the students increased \_\_\_\_\_ two hundred, the Govt. relieved us \_\_\_\_\_ our financial responsibilities.

Ans.: When suitable buildings had been erected, with additional seven masters employed, and the students increased to two hundred, the Govt. relieved us of our financial responsibilities.

C. With each of the following wh-words, frame a question in such a way that the answer matches the given context : 1×2=2

(i) Why :

Context : My mother was all the time in the Kitchen. I could not get it.

Ans.: why couldn't you get it?

(ii) Where :

Context : Meet me at the river

Meet me near Nallappa's Grove.

Ans.: Where should I meet you?

Q.11.(a) Write a letter within 120 words to the editor of a newspaper complaining about the high prices of everyday necessities. 10

[Points : prices of almost all articles of daily use rising high – poor and middle class people suffer much – the Govt. to take steps to check rise in prices]

Ans.:To,

The Editor,

'Letters to the editor column'

The Statesman, Kolkata-700 001.

Dear Sir,

I would like to draw the attention of the concerned authority to the problem detailed below through the widely read 'Letters the editor'-column of your publication.

The problem I am concentrating is the uncontrolled rise of prices of almost all articles of daily use. The financially weak and the middle class people are the worst sufferers. The prices of such edibles as rice, dal, vegetable oil, sugar and etc. have increased to such a height that they seemed to have gone beyond the purchasing capacity of average consumers, particularly, those who belong to the low and middle income group. Obviously, these people are feeling frustrated and this frustration may snowball into many other crises in social life.

Hope, the Government would take note of the matter and would take some drastic steps to check this untoward rise of prices of essential commodities.

Place :

Date :

Your Sincerely,

**Q.12.(a) Continuous torrential rain in Kolkata for about four hours on 3rd May, 2008, afternoon – water logging in many areas – disruption of traffic – buses diverted to other routes – persons coming home from offices suffered – most shops closed.**

**Write a report in about 150 words about the torrential rain in Kolkata and its effects. 10**

**Ans.:Torrential Rain in Kolkata :**

**Long-stretches water logged – Commuters in great trouble.**

**Kolkata, May 3, 2008 :Incessant torrential rain gripped the city metropolis for about four hours this afternoon, the 3rd of May, causing severe waterlogging of long stretches of arterial roads in North and East Kolkata.**

**As a result of this sustained heavy shower for hours traffic got stranded in many areas that remained underwater. Buses and vehicular traffic have been diverted to other routes; and large number of persons coming from offices or different business houses had to suffer a lot covering long distances on foot. As most shops dropped their shutters during peak business hours in the evening streets looked deserted. To add to the misery power-supply in many areas got badly disrupted. KMC sources briefed that though initially some drainage pumps did not work properly, the situation is now under control. Despite all such assurances from the municipal authorities, average commuters feel quite nervous to think how miserable would be the situation in near future.**

**OR**

**(b) Write a summary of the passage which follows in about 100 words : 10**

**If we would profit by our study we must be careful not only to select proper books, but also to persue them right. The same book will affect the readers differently according to the purpose with which they read it. The butterfly sits over the lower bed, gathering nothing, the spider collects poison from it; but bee finds and stores up honey. So the object for which we go to a book will determine the kind of fruit it will yield us. The same volume may be made to minister to instruction or to rational amusement or to a mere morbid love of excitement. The child takes off the lid of the tea kettle for sport, the housewife, for use but James Watt for science which ended in the invention of steam engine.**

**Ans.: Summary :**

**To make our study worth the effort we must fix our purpose of reading the books we would select. It is always the purpose or the objective that justifies an effort. While a child takes off the lid of a kettle for sport, or a housewife for some domestic use, James Watt did it as a scientific experiment to ascertain the force of steam that made the invention of a steam engine possible. (72 words)**

13. Read the passage below and answer the questions which follow :

Macbeth did not feel safe and comfortable now that he was particularly afraid of Banquo who, he knew, would think him guilty of the murder since he had been with him when they had met the witches. Besides, the witches had said that the kingdom would one day go to Banquo's family. This thought made angry, now that he himself was king. He felt he could not safely let him live and he determined to murder him also.

In order to kill Banquo, the new king Macbeth and his queen gave a great feast for the chief Nobles, to which they invited Banquo and his son as the most important guests. But Macbeth had secretly paid two men a large sum of money to murder Banquo and his son. Banquo went out riding with his son, and as they were returning in the evening, the two murderers attacked and killed Banquo. The son managed to escape. In later years some of his descendants became kings of Scotland and in spite of Macbeth, what the witches said to Banquo came true.

(A) Complete each of the sentences which follow by choosing the correct answer from the alternatives given : 1×7=7

(i) Macbeth was

- (a) a noble man
- (b) a man of talent
- (c) a sinful man.

Ans.: (c) a sinful man.

(ii) Macbeth had no peace of mind, as

- (a) he was hated by Banquo
- (b) he suffered from a sense of guilt
- (c) he was disliked by the chief nobles.

Ans.: (b) he suffered from a sense of guilt.

(iii) Macbeth was angry, because

- (a) Banquo spoke against him
- (b) the witches had predicted that his kingdom would one day pass into the hands of Banquo's descendants
- (c) Banquo did not support him.

Ans.: (b) the witches had predicted that his kingdom would one day pass into the hands of Banquo's descendants

(iv) The two men hired by Macbeth

- (a) killed Banquo and his son
- (b) killed Banquo
- (c) could not kill Banquo as he managed to escape

Ans.: (b) killed Banquo.

**(v) The prediction of the witches about Banquo**

- (a) came true**
- (b) did not come true**
- (c) was partly true.**

**Ans.: (a) came true.**

**(vi) Macbeth and his queen gave a great feast for the chief nobles**

- (a) to entertain the guests**
- (b) to kill Banquo**
- (c) to satisfy themselves.**

**Ans.: (b) to kill Banquo.**

**(vii) Macbeth hired the murderers**

- (a) to kill Banquo and his son**
- (b) to kill Banquo only**
- (c) to kill Banquo's son**

**Ans.: (a) to kill Banquo and his son.**

**(B) Answer the questions which follow (each in about 20 words) : 2×4 = 8**

**(i) Why was Macbeth afraid of Banquo ?**

**Ans.: Macbeth was afraid of Banquo who, he thought, would think him guilty of the murder.**

**(ii) What was the prophecy of the witches ?**

**Ans.: The witches who Macbeth and Banquo had met, prophesied that the kingdom of Scotland would one day go to Banquo's family.**

**(iii) Why did Macbeth want to kill Banquo ?**

**Ans.: Macbeth was ambitious of possessing the throne of Scotland, and so he killed Banquo whom he thought as his contestant to the throne.**

**(iv) What happened in later years ?**

**Ans.: In later years some of Banquo's descendants became kings of Scotland and thus what the witches' prophecy came true.**

**(C) Re-arrange the sentences which follow in their proper order : 5**

**(i) His son fled away.**

**Ans.: The prediction of the witches that Banquo's descendants would be kings of Scotland made Macbeth unhappy (v)**

**(ii) So he engaged two men to do away with Banquo.**

**Ans.: He planned to kill Banquo (iii)**

**(iii) He planned to kill Banquo.**

**Ans.: So he engaged two men to do away with Banquo (ii)**

**(iv) Macbeth was king of Scotland.**

**Ans.: His son fled away (i)**

**(v) The prediction of the witches that Banquo's descendants would be kings of Scotland made Macbeth unhappy.**

**Ans.: Macbeth was king of Scotland (iv)**

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## Model Question English – 4

1. **Answer two questions in about 10 words.** 1 x 2 = 2

(i) 'But this is unfair' – What is unfair ?

**Ans:** The quoted remark is an extract from Rajam and Mani by R.K. Narayan.

As it was decided to be a hand to hand fight, Rajam's use of a gun was unfair to Mani, the speaker.

(ii) What is the first step in the process of proper shaving ?

Choose the correct alternatives and complete the sentences.

**Ans:** The first step in the process of proper shaving is the removal of the facial hair.

(iii) Passengers ferried at each trip was —

(a) 600 (b) 700 (c) 800 (d) 900

**Ans:** (b) 700.

(iv) "..... environmental plunder is an infringement ....." The word 'infringement' means

(a) insurgence (b) infiltration (c) violation (d) reduction

**Ans:** The word 'infringement' means (a) insurgence.

2. **Answer any two of the questions which follow (each in about 30 words)**

3 x 2 = 6

(i) 'They are an awful lot'

– Why does the speaker say this ?

**Ans:** The quoted speech is uttered by Swaminathan, a character of the story **Rajam and Mani**.

In this context, Swaminathan warns Mani, that Rajam is the son of a police superintendent. It is a friendly advice to Mani to keep out of

the way of policeman as Mani declares that he would crack the shoulders of Rajam with his club.

- (ii) "Something needs to be done"  
– What do the authors mean by it ?

**Ans:** The authors, Jean Dreze and Amartya Sen of **Consequences of Environment Plunder**, mean by the given remark that it becomes necessary to check the growth of air-pollution, especially from the motorised vehicles in Delhi. The rate of growth is more than 10 percent every year, which is much above WHO standards.

- (iii) 'My tan hid my blushes'  
– What made the author blush ?

**Ans:** The narrator, Jim Corbett, the author of **Life of Mokameh Ghat** blushed with shame as he had made a wrong assumption of the Mohameddan gentleman, the person sitting on the bench near them. He had incorrectly supposed that the gentleman did not know English, while giving an introduction regarding him.

- (iv) "...but only at a certain risk, which I hesitate to advise" – What is the risk which the speaker hesitates to advise ?

**Ans:** The speaker here, is the consultant, assisting Dr. Follicle in the work of shaving the hair of his patients. The risk suggested here is of snipping the hair about and around the ears, which considered to be a very delicate line of work, also involves hazards.

**3. Answer any one of the questions which follow (in about 50 words) :**

5 x 1 = 5

- (i) "One of my undertakings..."  
What was one of the speaker's undertakings ? How was it developed ?

**Ans:** The quoted extract is taken from the prose-price, **Life at Mokameh Ghat** by Jim Corbett.

One of the narrator's first undertakings, with a small savings, was to start a school for the sons of his workmen, and for the sons of the lower-paid railway staff.

Both the narrator and Ram Saran, who proposed the idea, rented a hut, installed a master, and the so-called Ram Saran's school initiated with twenty boys. The problems, which arose, like caste prejudices, were resolved. With the continuous support from Ram Saran, suitable buildings were erected and seven masters employed, as the strength of students rose to two hundred. The government, offering financial aid, raised the school to the status of a Middle school.

(ii) Narrate how a sick man was treated by a doctor in the old days.

**Ans:** According to Stephen Leacock, as presented in the amusing piece **Further Progress in Specialisation**, the treatment of a sick man in the old days, was quite different. The doctor looked at him to examine him, then told him what was diagnosed. He used to be given some medicine and instructed to go to bed. The patient used to follow the directions and either recovered or did not.

(iii) Describe the environment of the sand banks of river Sarayu after their friendship.

**Ans:** After the friendship between Rajam and Mani, the environment of the sand banks of the river Sarayu, appeared peaceful and serene. The mild rumbling of the river, the rustling of the peepul leaves and the dim light of the late evening, contributed towards an ideal ambience. The peaceful hearts of the friends created a resonance on the atmosphere and nature around.

(iv) How do Dreze and Sen point out that the pollution of air and decline of groundwater level are man made ?

**Ans:** Jean Dreze and Amartya Sen, justly blame man to be the cause of the pollution of air and decline of ground water level.

They assign the term 'disguised violence' to refer to the hidden process of perils and sufferings caused to common man at the cost of a minority.

In urban areas, a minority of car-owners cause massive pollution, congestion, noise, tension and accident at the expense of the

public. They have no interest to the damage caused to the impoverished and down-trodden.

Similarly, in rural areas, intensive groundwater exploitation by the privileged farmers, has deprived the majority of access to irrigation. Thus, only a few area making fortunes causing perils to others.

**4. Answer any two question :**

1 x 2 = 2

(i) Out of her chamber' – What is the chamber of the moon ?

**Ans:** In the poem 'The Moon', the poet P.B. Shelley refers to the clouds as the chamber of the moon behind which the moon lies unseen to the common eye.

(ii) "Still gazing at them..."

– What does 'them' refer to ?

Choose the correct alternatives –

**Ans:** The word 'them' in the quoted extract from the poem 'Nature' refers to the broken playthings of the little child who is reluctant to abandon them.

(iii) "...its way into the dreary desert"

The word 'dreary' means \_\_\_\_\_

(a) cheerful (b) dear (c) dark (dull)

**Ans:** The word 'dreary' means (d) dull.

(iv) The clays of a cold star are —

(a) earth's soil (b) human body (c) human life (d) none.

**Ans:** The clays of a cold star are (b) human body.

**5. Answer any two of the questions which follow (each in about 30 words)**

3 x 2 = 6

(i) "Stars that have a different birth"

— Why are the stars said to have a different birth ?

**Ans:** P.B. Shelley, in the poem **The Moon** blends poetic beauty with scientific truth. Stars are said to have a different birth in accordance to the concept of the planetary system in which the stars are all separate

Suns. Thus, each sun or star has its own family of planets and satellites.

- (ii) “How far the unknown transcends the what we know” — Explain the significance of the phrase “what we know”.

**Ans:** The phrase “what we know” is significant in the quoted line from the poem ‘Nature’ by H.W. Longfellow. It refers to the experiences and knowledge gained in our earthly life which are insufficient and incapable of explaining what lies beyond the earthly, physical life.

- (iii) “Where the mind is led forward by thee into ever — widening thought and action”

What do you mean by “ever–widening thought and action” ?

**Ans:** The phrase ‘ever–widening thought and action’ in Tagore’s poem ‘Where the Mind is Without Fear’ is quite relevant to the theme of the poem. The poet preaches that our minds, instead of being engulfed in prejudices and narrow superstitions, must be enriched by thoughts and actions, which are worthy and beneficial for the sake of the country.

- (iv) “—O what made fatuous sunbeams toil” — Why are sunbeams called fatuous ?

**Ans:** The quoted line is extracted from the poem ‘Futility’ composed by Wilfred Owen. The sunbeams are called ‘fatuous’ as they are incompetent to arouse the earth to support life and vitality. In other words, the soldier’s unwanted death at the prime stage of his life–time calls for the immediate healing action of nature, which seems passive.

**6. Answer any one of the questions which follow (in about 50 words) : 5x1 = 5**

- (i) Bring out Shelley’s imagery in the poem, ‘The Moon’.

**Ans:** ‘The Moon’ is a brilliant fusion of poetic craftsmanship and skilled imagery. The moon has been compared to two different persons in the two stanzas : a lean and senile body in the first stanza and a lonely and weary lady in quest of a companion.

The moon emerges from a thin veil of clouds which is represented as a pale woman who hides herself in a ‘ganzylveil’. Again,

the 'shapeless mass' of the moon is the image created to evoke the picture of the moon covered by a thin layer of clouds. The slow and blurred visibility brings to one's mind the image of the 'feeble wanderings of a senile lady.'

The poet, draws to focus, the singularity of the moon in the sky and evokes the image of lady, 'wandering companionless'. The poet that the moon and the stars are different geographical presence, is artistically highlighted as having 'a different birth'. The 'joyless eye' of the moon highlights the image of a young lady in search of her beloved as she finds herself in solitude in the vast open sky.

Thus Shelley accomplishes in the artistic delineation of fine and intricate imagery.

- (ii) "Where the mind is without fear" — What type of mental condition is required to attain ideal freedom as dreamt of by Rabindranath ?

**Ans:** According to Rabindranath Tagore, attainment of ideal freedom was definitely an arduous but the most dreamt of situation in our country, in the pre-independent India. One must possess a fearless mind with one's head held high in self-esteem. Knowledge gained by the countrymen ought to be free from prejudices. The world should not be compartmentalised through internal strifes and feuds. The mental make-up should be free from the superstitious, narrow and gloomy practices. The poet, finally, conceives of a situation, where the mind is guided by the Divine One to awaken ourselves from the errors of our commitments.

- (iii) Narrate in brief the philosophical view of life that Longfellow has presented in his poem, 'Nature'.

**Ans:** H.W. Longfellow has achieved in presenting in a subtle but bold manner, a philosophical undercurrent in the poem **Nature**. The poet presents the concept of the brevity of earthly life and the caressing touch of Nature upon mankind. Nature nurtures human life offering the material pleasures and attachments. Gradually, we are detached from the same earthly bindings by the imperceptible play of Nature. We are prepared to face the ultimatum of earthly life, being mentally and

physically exhausted. But surprisingly, in our preparatory stage to face the physical death, we remain ignorant about the psychic life or the journey hereafter to the vast sea of eternity after death.

(iv) “Gently its touch awoke him once”

How did the ‘touch’ awake the soldier at home ?

**Ans:** The quoted line is extracted from **Futility**, a composition of Wilfred Owen.

The ‘touch’ here refers to the rejuvenating and caressing touch of the sunbeams.

The ‘touch’ of the sunbeams awoke the soldier in his native land, in a pastoral countryside. The sun would awake him, at home, with the message of a prospect ahead of life. His commitments were expected on the fields where the seeds were yet to be sown for agriculture.

**7. Answer any four questions which follow (each in a complete sentence)**

1 x 4 = 4

(i) “It smells delicious” — What smells delicious ?

**Ans:** The quoted speech extracted from ‘The Bishop’s Candlesticks’ refers to the soup prepared by Persome, with the assistance of the maid–servant, Marie.

(ii) Who was Jeanette ?

**Ans:** Jeanette, in the play, The Bishop’s Candlesticks, is the wife of the convict, who intrudes into the Bishop’s house.

(iii) What number was given to the convict ?

**Ans:** The convict, a character in the play The Bishop’s Candlesticks was given the number 15728 in prison.

(iv) What did the convict steal ?

**Ans:** The convict, a character in The Bishop’s Candlesticks stole one of Bishop’s coveted possessions, a pair of silver candlesticks.

(v) “They caught me” — Who are ‘they’ referred to here ?

**Ans:** “They caught me” — In the given speech uttered by the convict from The Bishop’s Candlesticks, ‘they’ refers to the policemen.

(vi) "It is a very lonely path" — Which is a lonely path ?

**Ans:** "It is a very lonely path" — The speaker, the Bishop, in the play, *The Bishop's Candlesticks*, refers to the path through the woods at the back of his cottage. 'The lonely path' leads to Paris.

**8. Answer any two of the questions which follow (each in about 30 words)**

3 x 2 = 6

(i) "For the first time in thirty years."

— What does the speaker mean by this ?

**Ans:** The speaker, the Bishop, in the play *The Bishop Candlesticks* refers to the door and window of his house which having been left always open for the last thirty years, are shut for the first time. He does so on being insisted by the Convict.

(ii) "If people lie to me they are poorer, not I"

— How are the people poorer than the speaker ?

**Ans:** According to the Bishop, one of the central characters of the play. *The Bishop's Candlesticks*, the people are 'poorer' or inferior in spiritual upliftment, if they pose of be liars. The Bishop's generosity and a superior spiritual status is reflected here.

(iii) "They took away my name, they took away my soul, and they give me a devil in its place"

What does the speaker mean here ?

**Ans:** The speaker, the Convict in the play, *The Bishop's Candlesticks* refers to the hellish experience of prison-life through this utterance. He was compelled to surrender not only his identity but the virtuosity of his soul. In return he was gifted with the Satanic features of violence and ignoring.

(iv) "... you will soon have nothing left."

— What is the apprehension of the speaker ?

**Ans:** The speaker, Persome, a character in the play **Progress** apprehends the fact that the Bishop would soon become bankrupt by giving away his possessions to all. It seems a ridiculous affair to her.

9. Answer any one of the questions which follow (in about 50 words) :

5 x 1 = 5

- (i) Explain the significance of the salt-cellars episode in 'The Bishop's Candlesticks'.

**Ans:** The salt-cellars episode in the play. The Bishop's Candlesticks initiates with the setting of the table by Persome in assistance of Marie, the maid-servant. Marie appears quite embarrassed being unable to follow the mistress' order to lay them on the table. Persome is infuriated to learn that the salt-cellars were sold under the orders of the Bishop. He was compelled to do it for Mere Gringoire, who was bedridden and incompetent for work. She had to pay the rent to the bailiff, so she sent little Jean to Monseignour to ask for help.

The entire episode seems detestable to Persome who cannot accept the absence of the salt-cellars, gasping 'and now my beautiful — beautiful salt-cellars'.

- (ii) "It is a just punishment for me" — Why does the Bishop consider the loss of candlesticks to be his just punishment ?

**Ans:** The Bishop considers the loss of candlesticks to be his just punishment. He realises his materialistic affinity towards the salt-cellars which is quite unbecoming of a Bishop. A Bishop, a man of the religious world ought not to have inclination for his personal belongings. He expresses the sin committed by him.

- (iii) Describe in brief the Bishop's kitchen.

The kitchen of the Bishop's cottage, located thirty miles from Paris, is substantially furnished. The doors are set in and left and left-corner. There is a window at the right-corner. A fireplace is installed with a heavy mantelpiece down right. An oak-settle with cushions which the L.C. door may be observed. A table is placed in the window right corner with writing materials and crucifix. An eight-day clock is placed right of the windows. A kitchen dresser with a cupboard is placed at the left. An oak dining table is placed at the right corner; there are chairs, books

etc. On the mantelpiece are two very handsome candlesticks which seem incongruent with their surroundings.

**10.A. Rewrite the sentence which follow as directed, without changing their meaning :**

2 x 5 = 10

(i) I believe that charity begins at home. (Use the noun form of believe)

**Ans:** It is my belief that charity begins at home.

(ii) "Was it for this the clay grew tall ?" said the poet. (Change into indirect speech)

**Ans:** The poet asked if it was for that the clay had grown tall.

(iii) Where the mind is without fear (Omit, ;'without fear')

**Ans:** Where the mind is fearless.

(iv) The poor of India have no enmity against each other. (Begin : there is no.....)

**Ans:** There is no enmity among the poor of India.

(v) There is an aspect of what may be called disguised violence. (Split up the sentence)

**Ans:** There is an aspect. It may be called disguised violence.

**B. Fill in the numbered blanks with appropriate articles and prepositions : 3**

Crosthwaite listened  (i)  great interest  (ii)  all I had told him  (iii)  the passengers on  (iv)  lower deck, and he now asked me who  (v)  man was who was sitting  (vi)  the bench near us.

**Ans:** (i) with (ii) to (iii) about (iv) the (v) the (vi) on.

**C. With each of the following wh-words, frame a question in such a way that the answer matches the given content :**

1 x 2 = 2

(i) What :

Content : The lady is looking for an object. It should be worth her constancy.

**Ans:** What should be the worth of the object the lady is looking for ?

(ii) Where :

Content : One morning I was leaning over the upper deck of the steamer.

**Ans:** Where were you learning over one morning ?

**11.(a)** Write a letter within 120 words to the editor of an English daily responding to the appeal for help for the victims of flood in the several parts of W.B. 10

**Ans :** The Editor

The Telegraph

6, Prafulla Sarkar Street

Kolkata – 700001.

Sir,

In response to the appeal for aid to the flood–victims of West Bengal, as a sincere citizen, volunteer to extend my helping hand to the authority–in–charge.

I modestly request the authority to accept the aid, which would be forwarded in cash by cheque in favour of the authority in jurisdiction of your reputed daily.

I would be obliged if my humble aid is acknowledged by you and pray that the victims receive at least some relief from their intolerable plight.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

Rohit Sarkar

25.02.09

11, Garden High Road

Kolkata : 700012.

**OR**

**(b)** Write a letter within 120 words to your friend describing to him/her about the importance and future of vocational education.

**Ans:**

10B, R. L. Avenue

Kolkata – 700043

7<sup>th</sup> March, 2009

Dear Ishita,

It was indeed a pleasant surprise receiving your letter at a time drowned amidst the volumes of books always around me. But, on going through the contents, I could feel your anxiety regarding your future. I would like to assure

you that you can be benefited from vocational guidance which is offered in many institutions.

Well, my words may not be trusted, but I have seen my peers and others hankering for a guidance. In fact, the traditional and academic system of education does not offer any scope for the development of our skills in different areas like technical world, agriculture, craftsmanship etc. But there are institutes like the Industrial Technological Institute, Polytechnic Institute, Glass and Ceramic Institutes, The George Telegraph Institute where such education is imparted.

In fact, my dear friend, if we can equip ourselves with an additional diploma or a degree from such vocational institutions, our prospect of getting a worthy job becomes more ensured. Moreover, employers would prefer candidates with such additional qualifications apart from our experience and academic qualifications.

Well, the jasmine saplings that you had planted are now just beginning to bloom in my garden and I can feel your presence in them. Do convey my regards to dear aunt and uncle.

With lots of love,

Yours always,  
Soumi.

**12.(a)** Write a newspaper report on the Annual Prize giving ceremony of your school (within 150 words) 10

**Ans:**

A Precious Evening

Kolkata, 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2009 : The Annual Prize giving ceremony was an occasion of grandeur as usual at the Vidyasagar Vidyapith this year. The Mayor of Kolkata, having offered his precious presence was honoured as the Chief Guest, distributing prizes to the deserving students, students from different spheres like academics, sports, extra-curricular activities were given due recognition. A gala cultural concert was presented by the students of the higher secondary faculty. The toddlers of the primary level participated in recitation accompanied by dance and the secondary students ornamented the show with their excellent recital on instruments. The teachers and guardians, who graced the occasion left with a note of praise and applause for each and every event.

The administration, staff and students had all contributed to make the programme a grand success.

Soham Dutta (Cl.–XII)

Vidyasagar Vidyapith

**OR**

**(b)** Write a summary of the passage which follows in about 100 words :

There are two kinds of books, good books and bad books. I am not to assume that you are not acquainted with this plain and simple fact, but I may remind you that it is becoming a very important consideration in our day. And we have to cast aside together the idea people have, that if they are reading any books they are doing rather better than nothing at all. I must earnestly call that idea to question; I even venture to deny that. It would be much safer better for many a reader that he had no concern with books at all. There is a number, a frightfully increasing number of books that are decidedly not useful at all. But an ingenious reader will learn also that a certain number of books are written by a supremely noble kind of people, who are fit to occupy all your reading industry.

**Ans:** The narrator ventures to make a humble suggestion. According to him, books may be classified as good or bad. It is advisable not to read books at all rather than making an attempt to read a worthless book. In fact, certain books written by supremely noble class deserve the right to enter the reading industry. (Approx. 50 words)

**13. Read the passage below and answer the questions which follow :**

Ernest Rutherford was the son of a Scots emigrant to New Zealand. His father established the first flax mill in South Island. His mother was the first woman school teacher in New Zealand. They had 12 children of whom Ernest was the fourth. He was brought up in a real frontier atmosphere and it entered into the nature of the man. Life was hard, but it was adventurous. His education was in a state primary school from which children at the age of 13 could get grants of scholarships to secondary school and to the infant universities. Rutherford had no intention of following an academic career. He was no book worm. He was good in any rough-and-tumble and a keen football player, but he was good at Latin and he had passion for music and a mechanical mind. At Nelson College,

a state boarding school, he was an outstanding pupil, and because his masters expected it of him, he sat for a scholarship to Canterbury College and won it.

The college in these days was a very humble academic institution with seven professors and 150 students. Its science laboratory for both physics and chemistry — was a tin shack. But he was lucky with his teachers there. The physics professor was an eccentric by the academic standards of the day who appreciated originality more than precision. But he was counterbalanced by the mathematics professor, who was a strict pedant. The one gave Rutherford adventurous versatility of thought, the other gave him his discipline.

Rutherford, as a student, became fascinated by Hertz's work on radio waves and in the cloakroom of the college, where the students hung their gowns, he found a corner for his own private experiments. He could detect signals at a distance of two miles. He was then 23. He won a scholarship which took him to Britain and the Cavendish Laboratory at Cambridge.

**(A) Complete each of the sentences which follow by choosing the correct answers from the alternatives given :**

$$1 \times 7 = 7$$

(i) Rutherford's mother was a — (a) clerk (b) cook (c) social worker (d) school teacher.

**Ans:** Rutherford's mother was a school teacher. (d)

(ii) As a school-child Rutherford was most interested in —  
(a) an academic career (b) books (c) tough games and sports (d) scholarships.

**Ans:** As a school-child Rutherford was most interested in tough games and sports. (c)

(iii) Nelson College was a — (a) boarding school (b) big college (c) small college (d) new university.

**Ans:** Nelson College was a boarding school (a).

(iv) The science laboratory of Canterbury College looked like — (a) an ordinary laboratory (b) an old laboratory (c) a modern laboratory.

**Ans:** The science laboratory of Canterbury College looked like an old laboratory. (b)

(v) The cloakroom is the place where people — (a) dance (b) make radio waves (c) hang their clothes.

**Ans:** The cloakroom is the place where people hang their clothes. (c)

(vi) Rutherford could detect signals when he was only —

(a) 21 (b) 26 (c) 23.

**Ans:** Rutherford could detect signals when he was only 23. (c)

(vii) Cavendish Laboratory is situated at

(a) Britain (b) New Zealand (c) Cambridge (d) India.

**Ans:** Cavendish Laboratory is situated at Britain. (a)

**(B) Answer the questions which follow (each in about 20 words) :  $2 \times 4 = 8$**

(i) Where was Rutherford brought up ?

**Ans:** Rutherford was brought up at South Island in New Zealand.

(ii) How many students and professors were there at Canterbury College ?

**Ans:** There were seven professors and a hundred and fifty students at Canterbury College.

(iii) What was Rutherford's passion ?

**Ans:** Rutherford had a passion for music.

(iv) Why did Rutherford sit for to Canterbury College and what was the result ?

**Ans:** Rutherford sat for a scholarship at Canterbury College as his masters expected it.

The result was that he was successful in winning the scholarship.

**(C) Rearrange the sentences which follow in their proper order :**

(i) He was an outstanding pupil at Nelson College.

(ii) He got his education from a primary school.

(iii) Rutherford was the son of a scots emigrant to New Zealand.

(iv) He sat for a scholarship and won it.

(v) He sat for a scholarship and won it.

(vi) He was a football player.

**Ans:** (iii) Rutherford was the son of a scots emigrant to New Zealand.

(ii) He got his education from a primary school.

(v) He sat for a scholarship and won it.

(i) He was an outstanding pupil at Nelson College.

(iv) He sat for a scholarship and won it.