

# CBSE EXAMINATION PAPER-2024

## ENGLISH

(Solved)

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 79

### General Instructions :

Read the following instructions carefully and follow them :

- i. This question paper contains **30 questions**. All questions are **compulsory**.
- ii. This question paper is divided into **10 sections**.
- iii. **Section A** – questions number **1 to 6** are case based questions
- iv. **Section B** – questions number **7 to 8** are unseen passage
- v. **Section C** – questions number **9 to 17** are short answer
- vi. **Section D** – questions number **18 to 18** are formal invitation
- vii. **Section E** – questions number **19 to 20** are notice
- viii. **Section F** – questions number **21 to 22** are letter
- ix. **Section G** – questions number **23 to 23** are job application
- x. **Section H** – questions number **24 to 24** are report
- xi. **Section I** – questions number **25 to 28** are long answer
- xii. **Section J** – questions number **29 to 30** are article
- xiii. There is no overall choice given in the question paper. However, an internal choice has been provided in few questions.
- xiv. Use of calculator is NOT allowed.

## Section A

## Question 1.

A thing of beauty is a joy forever

Its loveliness increases, it will never

Pass into nothingness; but will keep

A bower quiet for us, and a sleep

Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing.

(A Thing of Beauty)

(1)

Complete the following sentence appropriately:

A thing of beauty never passes into nothingness because it is \_\_\_\_\_.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** A thing of beauty never passes into nothingness because it is a source of joy and its loveliness increases with time.

**Key Points:** A thing of beauty brings everlasting joy -Its loveliness increases over time -It never fades into nothingness -It provides peacefulness and happiness

(2)

Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract?

(A) Beauty provides security and peace.

(B) Beauty lies in possession of expensive things.

(C) Beauty is synonymous with power and riches.

(D) Beauty lies in our rich heritage and palaces and temples.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The theme best represented in the given extract is (A) Beauty provides security and peace. The poem describes beauty as something that is eternal and comforting, providing peace like a quiet bower and sweet dreams, which symbolize security and tranquility.

**Key Points:** Beauty is eternal–Beauty provides comfort and peace–Extract talks about a quiet bower and sweet dreams as effects of beauty–The idea that beauty never fades and offers lasting joy

(3)

State whether the given statement is True or False with reference to the extract:

The quality of a thing ensures that its beauty lasts forever.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** True. According to the extract, the loveliness or beauty of a thing increases and never fades away, which means the quality or inherent beauty of a thing ensures that it lasts forever.

**Key Points:** The phrase 'A thing of beauty is a joy forever' –The extract states beauty's loveliness increases –Beauty does not pass into nothingness –The quality or beauty of a thing lasts forever

(4)

Based on the rhyme scheme in lines 3 and 4 of the given extract, which word will rhyme with them?

(A) please

(B) sweep

(C) help

(D) self

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The words in lines 3 and 4 are "keep" and "sleep" which rhyme with each other. Among the options, the word "sweep" (option B) rhymes with "keep" and "sleep".

**Key Points:** Lines 3 and 4 end with 'keep' and 'sleep'-They form a rhyme pair-The correct rhyming word must share the vowel and ending consonant sounds- 'sweep' rhymes correctly with 'keep' and 'sleep'

(5)

The use of the word health in the extract suggests that beautiful things will give us a happier and more wholesome life. It creates a powerful image of \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) rejuvenation
- (B) attachment
- (C) long life
- (D) eternity

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The use of the word 'health' in the extract creates a powerful image of (A) rejuvenation. It suggests that beautiful things refresh and renew us, leading to a happier and more wholesome life.

**Key Points:** Meaning of 'health' in context - It implies well-being and rejuvenation - Beautiful things lead to happiness and wholesomeness - The correct option is (A) rejuvenation

(6)

'Quiet bower' means a pleasant, shady, quiet place under trees in the woods. This creates a sense of \_\_\_\_\_.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The phrase 'quiet bower' creates a sense of peace and tranquility.

**Key Points:** quiet bower means pleasant, shady and quiet place - it symbolizes peace - it creates a sense of calm and tranquility

## Question 2.

Derry : I...there... I thought this was an empty place. I didn't know there was anybody here....

Mr. Lamb : That's all right. I'm here. What are you afraid of, boy ? That's all right.

Derry : I thought it was empty, an empty house.

Mr. Lamb : So it is. Since I'm out here in the garden. It is empty. Until I go back inside. In the meantime, I'm out here and likely to stop. A day like this. Beautiful day. Not a day to be indoors.

Derry: [Panic] I've got to go.

(On The Face Of It)

(1)

Derry was stammering because of:

(A) a speech defect.

(B) excitement.

(C) anger.

(D) fear.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** Derry was stammering because of fear.

**Key Points:** Derry expresses panic and fear in the passage - Mr. Lamb asks him what he is afraid of - Derry thought the place was empty, showing his fear of strangers - The dialogue indicates that Derry's stammering is caused by his fear rather than excitement, anger, or any speech defect.

(2)

Complete the sentence appropriately:

Derry insisted on going back because \_\_\_\_\_.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** Derry insisted on going back because he felt panic and was afraid to stay outside any longer.

**Key Points:** Derry felt panic–Derry was afraid to stay outside–Derry wanted to leave quickly

(3)

Mr. Lamb was trying to tell Derry that:

- (A) it was a matter of perception.
- (B) Derry could stay with him.
- (C) he spent all his days in the garden.
- (D) he was fond of company.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** Mr. Lamb was trying to tell Derry that the house was empty only because he was out in the garden. In reality, the house is full inside. It is a matter of perception, as Derry thought the house was empty but Mr. Lamb explained that it was only empty because he was outside. This shows that emptiness or fullness depends on how one perceives it.

**Key Points:** Mr. Lamb says house is empty only because he is out in the garden – House is actually full inside – Derry thought it was empty – Mr. Lamb shows it is a matter of perception

(4)

From the extract, one can infer that Mr. Lamb was a/an:

- (A) compassionate man.
- (B) mysterious character.
- (C) new neighbour.
- (D) unreasonable man.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The correct answer is (A) compassionate man. Mr. Lamb speaks kindly to Derry, assuring him that there is nothing to be afraid of and making him feel comfortable.

**Key Points:** Mr. Lamb reassures Derry—Mr. Lamb shows kindness and understanding—Mr. Lamb comforts the boy—Mr. Lamb does not scare Derry but calms his fear

### Question 3.

Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen,

Bright topaz denizens of a world of green.

They do not fear the men beneath the tree;

They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.

(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

(1) Which of the following are symbolised by the 'tigers' in the extract above ? I. masculine world II. feminine world III. world of bold, fearless creatures IV. world of beautiful handicrafts (A) I, II and III (B) II, III and IV (C) III and IV (D) I, III and IV

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The 'tigers' in the extract symbolise a world of bold, fearless creatures and a masculine world. They represent strength, bravery and freedom, which contrasts with Aunt Jennifer's own oppressed and restrained life.

**Key Points:** The tigers symbolize bold and fearless creatures—they are fearless and powerful—they represent the masculine world—the tigers contrast with Aunt Jennifer's suppressed life

(2) State whether the given statement is True or False. The creator of the tigers was fearless and assertive like the tigers.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** False. Aunt Jennifer, who created the tigers in her embroidery, is not fearless and assertive like the tigers. The tigers are described as proud and unafraid, but Aunt Jennifer herself struggles with fear and oppression, which is shown in the poem by her trembling hands and the heavy burden she carries.

**Key Points:** Aunt Jennifer created the tigers by embroidery - she is not fearless- Tigers are described as proud, unafraid, and confident- Aunt Jennifer's hands flutter and struggle to pull the needle suggesting her fear and weakness- The statement that the creator was fearless like the tigers is false

(3) Complete the following sentence. The use of the word 'topaz' suggests that the image of the tiger on the screen is \_\_\_\_\_.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The use of the word 'topaz' suggests that the image of the tiger on the screen is bright and radiant like the precious gemstone.

**Key Points:** The word 'topaz' refers to a bright, precious stone- The tigers are depicted as shining and beautiful- The image is vivid and lively- The word highlights the brightness and attractiveness of the tiger on the screen

(4) 'Tigers do not fear the men beneath the tree' because they are (A) tamed (B) in a cage (C) fearless (D) kings of the jungle

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The correct answer is (C) fearless. The poem depicts the tigers as bold and confident creatures who do not fear humans.

**Key Points:** The tigers are described as fearless- The poem shows the tigers prancing proudly- The phrase 'do not fear the men beneath the tree' highlights their bravery

(5) Based on the poem's rhyme scheme evident in lines 1 and 2, which of the following will rhyme ? mean, akin, cream

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The rhyme scheme in lines 1 and 2 is based on the ending sounds 'screen' and 'green' which rhyme with words like 'mean' and 'cream'. Therefore, among the options given, 'mean' and 'cream' will rhyme.

**Key Points:** Rhyme scheme is based on similar ending sounds - 'screen' and 'green' rhyme - 'mean' and 'cream' also rhyme - 'akin' does not rhyme with 'screen' or 'green'

(6) Chivalric certainty refers to which poetic device ? (A) Alliteration (B) Metaphor (C) Simile (D) Repetition

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The phrase 'chivalric certainty' is an example of alliteration because it repeats the initial consonant sound 'ch' in both words.

**Key Points:** Alliteration is the repetition of initial consonant sounds-The phrase 'chivalric certainty' repeats the 'ch' sound-'ch' sound in 'chivalric' and 'certainty' is an example of alliteration

#### Question 4.

Anyway, here's what happened at Grand Central. One night last summer I worked late at the office. I was in a hurry to get uptown to my apartment so I decided to take the subway from Grand Central because it's faster than the bus.

Now, I don't know why this should have happened to me. I'm just an ordinary guy named Charley, thirty-one years old, and I was wearing a tan gabardine suit and a straw hat with a fancy band; I passed a dozen men who looked just like me. (The Third Level)

(1) List any two details about how Charley was dressed up.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** Charley was wearing a tan gabardine suit and a straw hat with a fancy band.

**Key Points:** Tan gabardine suit-Straw hat with a fancy band

(2)

Charley decided to use the subway because it was :

- (A) quicker.
- (B) cheaper.
- (C) more fashionable.
- (D) safer.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** Charley decided to use the subway because it was quicker than the bus, and he was in a hurry to get uptown to his apartment.

**Key Points:** Charley worked late and was in a hurry - He chose the subway from Grand Central - Subway was faster than the bus - He wanted to reach his apartment quickly

(3)

Which time frame is represented through the kind of outfit mentioned in the extract?

- (A) pre world war era
- (B) the present times
- (C) the eighteenth century
- (D) in the future

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The time frame represented through the kind of outfit mentioned in the extract is the pre World War era. This is evident because the mentioned clothes like a tan gabardine suit and a straw hat with a fancy band were typical fashion styles of that time.

**Key Points:** Reference to 'tan gabardine suit and straw hat with a fancy band'- These items of clothing are characteristic of the pre World War era-Fashion style helps identify the time period

(4)

Complete the following sentence appropriately.

Landing at the third level was due to Charley's flight of .....

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** Landing at the third level was due to Charley's flight of imagination.

**Key Points:** Charley was hurrying to catch the subway- He took an unusual path leading him to the third level- The third level does not actually exist physically- It was a product of his imagination and confusion in Grand Central Station

**Question 5.** They have lived here for more than thirty years without an identity, without permits but with ration cards that get their names on voters lists and enable them to buy grain. Food is more important for survival than identity. If at the end of the day we can feed our families and go to bed without an aching stomach, we would rather live here than in the fields that gave us no grain, say a group of women in tattered saris when I asked them why they left their beautiful land of green fields and rivers. Wherever they find food, they pitch their tents. (Lost Spring)

(1) The ragpickers have been living there for \_\_\_\_\_ decades. (A) three (B) four (C) two (D) five

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The ragpickers have been living there for three decades.

**Key Points:** The passage mentions they have lived there for more than thirty years - which corresponds to three decades -This is directly stated in the passage-The best answer choice matching this duration is option (A) three decades.

(2) Why do these people have ration cards ?

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** These people have ration cards because, although they live without an official identity or permits, ration cards allow their names to be included on voters' lists and

enable them to buy grain. The ration card helps them get food, which is more important for their survival than having an official identity.

**Key Points:** People live without identity or permits - Ration cards include their names on voters' lists - Ration cards enable them to buy grain - Food is essential for survival

(3) The women had a/an \_\_\_\_\_ approach towards life. (A) idealistic (B) passive (C) indifferent (D) practical

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The women had a practical approach towards life as they prioritized feeding their families and survival over having identity or land. They chose to live where there was food rather than staying in their native fields that gave them nothing.

**Key Points:** The women prioritized food over identity - Their decision was based on survival needs - They chose to live wherever there was food - This shows their practical approach to life

(4) What does the term 'go to bed without an aching stomach' indicate?

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The term 'go to bed without an aching stomach' indicates the basic need of having enough food to eat. It means that if the families can feed themselves adequately and do not go hungry at night, they feel content and safe despite their hardships. For them, food and survival are more important than identity or other comforts.

**Key Points:** It signifies having enough food to avoid hunger-Highlights the importance of food over identity-Shows survival as a priority for the families-Reflects their acceptance to live without identity if only they can feed their families

(5) In spite of the hardships, they are not willing to go back to their homeland because

-----.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** In spite of the hardships, they are not willing to go back to their homeland because they have no food or means of survival there. They prefer to stay where they can at least feed their families and survive, even if it means living without identity or proper shelter.

**Key Points:** They have no food in their homeland—food is more important for survival than identity—they want to feed their families and avoid hunger—their homeland's fields gave no grain—they prefer survival over comfort

(6) What do you infer about their lifestyle from the phrase 'pitch their tents'?

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The phrase 'pitch their tents' suggests that they live a nomadic and unsettled lifestyle. They move from place to place wherever they can find food and set up temporary shelters. Their homes are not permanent, indicating insecurity and instability in their lives. Survival and access to food are their priorities rather than having a fixed residence or identity.

**Key Points:** Nomadic lifestyle—Temporary shelters lacking permanence—Move wherever food is available—Focus on survival over stability—Reflects poverty and insecurity

**Question 6.** Their spontaneous demonstration, in thousands, around the courthouse was the beginning of their liberation from fear of the British. The officials felt powerless without Gandhi's cooperation. He helped them regulate the crowd. He was polite and friendly. He was giving them concrete proof that their might, hitherto dreaded and unquestioned, could be challenged by Indians. The government was baffled. The prosecutor requested the judge to postpone the trial. Apparently, the authorities wished to consult their superiors. (Indigo)

(1) The result of the demonstration was that.....

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The result of the demonstration was that the officials felt powerless without Gandhi's cooperation, leading to the postponement of the trial as the government wished to consult their superiors. Ultimately, the Lieutenant-Governor ordered the case to be dropped, marking the first triumph of civil disobedience in modern India.

**Key Points:** Officials felt powerless without Gandhi's cooperation-Demonstration showed Indians could challenge British authority-Trial was postponed by prosecutor-Government consulted superiors-Civil disobedience triumphed-Case was dropped by Lieutenant-Governor

(2)

Gandhi cooperated with the British by :

- (A) not going to the court.
- (B) remaining quiet when he was accused.
- (C) helping to manage the mob of people.
- (D) leaving Champaran for Delhi.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** Gandhi cooperated with the British by helping to manage the crowd outside the courthouse. He regulated the spontaneous demonstration in a polite and friendly manner, showing that the authority of the British could be challenged peacefully.

**Key Points:** Gandhi helped the officials regulate the crowd-Gandhi was polite and friendly in handling the situation-This cooperation showed a peaceful way to challenge British authority

(3) The statement Apparently, the authorities wished to consult their superiors' was indicative of the Britisher's.....

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The statement shows that the Britisher's were confused and afraid because they realized that the Indians, led by Gandhi, were starting to challenge their authority and they did not know how to handle the situation.

**Key Points: Britisher's confusion–Britisher's fear–Indians challenging British authority–Government's uncertainty about how to proceed**

(4)

With reference to the extract, the word 'baffled' most nearly means:

- (A) strengthened.
- (B) disgusted.
- (C) frightened.
- (D) confused.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The word 'baffled' most nearly means (D) confused.

**Key Points: The officials felt powerless and unclear about what to do–Gandhi's actions challenged their authority–The government was unsure and requested a delay–The word 'baffled' refers to confusion and inability to understand or act clearly.**

(5)

The participants of the spontaneous demonstration were :

- (A) Gandhi's lawyers.
- (B) people of Champaran.
- (C) Indigo landowners.
- (D) Indian soldiers.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The participants of the spontaneous demonstration were the people of Champaran.

**Key Points:** The demonstration was spontaneous and involved thousands of people–The people were around the courthouse showing their fearlessness against British rule–The context mentions it was the start of their liberation from fear of the British–There is no indication that Gandhi's lawyers, Indigo landowners, or Indian soldiers were involved–The people of Champaran are specifically referenced.

(6) Whose 'might' did this demonstration question?

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The demonstration questioned the might of the British authorities. The crowd's spontaneous gathering around the courthouse showed that the British, who were previously feared and considered powerful, could be challenged by Indians.

**Key Points:** British authorities–British might challenged–Indians' courage and unity–demonstration as a symbol of resistance

## Section B

### Question 7.

Read the following passage carefully :

(1) The term Artificial Intelligence spells a future in which this emerging technology will impact every aspect of human existence. In fact, little do we know, it has already crept into our lives, slowly, but surely. Look around you education, health care, industry, innovation, robots, robotic surgeries, transportation, home service it s already there. It will change the lifestyle of everyone from the technology industry to normal people.

(2) The past fifteen years have seen considerable AI advances in education. You enter school and AI takes your attendance using face recognition. Various applications are in wide use by educators and learners today. AI technologies assist teachers in the classroom. Learning at home is likely to expand significantly, along with learning based on virtual reality applications. Though quality education will always require active engagement by human teachers, AI promises to enhance education at all levels, especially by providing personalization at scale.

(3) The evolution of new technologies, mobile, and the Internet are changing lifestyles. Artificial intelligence is playing an important role in every sector such as banking, driving, education, e-commerce, electronics, robotics. Systems of artificial intelligence are aiming to stimulate execution and decision-making that is human-like. In targeted applications, substantial increases in the future uses of AI technologies, including more driverless cars, healthcare diagnostics and targeted treatments, and physical assistance for elder care can be expected. AI and robotics will also be applied across the globe in industries struggling such as agriculture, food processing and factories. They will facilitate delivery of online purchases through flying drones, self-driving trucks or robots.

(4) AI-based applications could improve health outcomes and quality of life for millions of people in the coming years prime applications include clinical decision support, patient monitoring and coaching, automated devices to assist in surgery or patient care, and management of healthcare systems. Recent successes, such as mining social media to infer possible health risks, machine learning to predict patients at risk, and robotics to support surgery have expanded a sense of possibility for AI in healthcare.

(5) People's future relationships with machines will become ever more personalized as AI systems learn to adapt to individual personalities, ambitions and goals. These AI applications will help monitor people's well-being, alert them to the impending risks, and deliver services when needed or wanted.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

(1)

**What is the connection between 'face recognition' in school education and AI?**

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** Face recognition in school education is an example of AI technology used to take attendance automatically. It helps in identifying students quickly and accurately without manual effort.

**Key Points: Face recognition uses AI technology-Automatic attendance in schools-Helps identify students quickly-Reduces manual work in attendance taking**

(2)

**Select the word that most appropriately defines Artificial Intelligence today.**

- (A) rewarding
- (B) universal
- (C) luxurious
- (D) temporary

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The word that most appropriately defines Artificial Intelligence today is (B) universal. This is because AI is already present and impacting many areas of our lives such as education, healthcare, industry, transportation, and home services, as mentioned in the passage.

**Key Points:** AI impacts many fields - education, healthcare, industry, transportation, and home services - AI is already present in daily life - AI's influence is widespread or universal, not limited or temporary

(3)

Share evidence from the text, in about 40 words, about how AI can support the field of education.

[2 Marks]

**Answer:** AI supports education by helping teachers take attendance through face recognition, assisting in classrooms, and enabling personalized learning at scale. It also promotes home learning and virtual reality applications, making education more accessible, interactive, and tailored to each student's needs.

**Key Points:** AI assists teachers in the classroom-AI takes attendance using face recognition-AI provides personalized learning opportunities-Learning from home with AI and virtual reality applications-AI enhances education at all levels

(4)

Which one of the following do you infer from paragraph 2?

- (A) School education will become a virtual engagement.
- (B) The teacher will be replaced by AI.

(C) Human teachers will play a passive role in the classroom.

(D) Human teachers are irreplaceable.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** From paragraph 2, it is clear that although AI technologies assist teachers in classrooms and aid learning, human teachers remain essential. Therefore, the correct inference is that human teachers are irreplaceable.

**Key Points:** AI assists but does not replace human teachers – Quality education requires active engagement by human teachers – AI helps enhance education by personalization – Human teachers play an active, essential role

(5)

With evidence from the text, explain about 40 words, two ways in which AI will help in the healthcare sector.

[2 Marks]

**Answer:** AI will improve healthcare by assisting in clinical decision support and patient monitoring. It also helps in surgeries through automated devices and managing healthcare systems, which can lead to better health outcomes and quality of life for many people.

**Key Points:** AI assists in clinical decision support–AI monitors patients and provides coaching–AI uses automated devices for surgeries–AI helps manage healthcare systems–AI improves health outcomes and quality of life

(6)

The phrase 'stimulate execution' in paragraph 3 nearly means:

(A) imitate creations

(B) strategise destructions

(C) shake inventions

(D) motivate implementation

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The phrase 'stimulate execution' in paragraph 3 nearly means 'motivate implementation'. It implies that AI systems aim to encourage or promote actions (execution) and decisions similar to human behavior.

**Key Points:** The phrase relates to encouraging or promoting action–The context is about AI aiming to perform tasks like humans–'stimulate' means motivate or encourage–'execution' means carrying out or implementing tasks–The closest meaning is 'motivate implementation'

(7) According to the passage, why does the author conclude that people's relationships with machines will become more personalized?

[2 Marks]

**Answer:** The author concludes that people's relationships with machines will become more personalized because AI systems are designed to learn and adapt to individual personalities, ambitions, and goals. These systems will help monitor people's well-being, alert them to potential risks, and provide services based on their personal needs and preferences.

**Key Points:** AI systems learn and adapt to individuals – AI personalizes interactions based on personality and goals – AI monitors well-being and alerts to risks – AI delivers services when needed or wanted

(8)

Complete the following statement:

AI will make the commercial supply chain smoother by \_\_\_\_\_.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** AI will make the commercial supply chain smoother by facilitating delivery of online purchases through flying drones, self-driving trucks, or robots.

**Key Points:** AI in supply chain – use of flying drones for delivery – use of self-driving trucks – use of robots for delivery – smoother and faster delivery process

(9)

Read the five headlines given below (I–V):

(I) AI will impact every aspect of our lives

(II) AI will be a boon to medical practitioners

(III) Social relationships will be controlled by AI

(IV) AI is a major reason for rising unemployment today

(V) Factory owners will not use AI for fear of its unpredictability.

Identify the option that displays the headline(s) that do not correspond with the passage:

(A) only V

(B) II and III

(C) IV and V

(D) III, IV and V

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The correct option is (D) III, IV and V. The passage does not say that social relationships will be controlled by AI (III). Also, it does not mention AI causing rising unemployment (IV), nor does it say factory owners will avoid AI because of unpredictability (V). On the other hand, the passage supports (I) AI impacting every aspect of our lives and (II) AI being a boon to medical practitioners.

**Key Points:** Headline I is true as AI impacts all aspects of life.–Headline II is supported by details about AI in healthcare.–Headline III is false; the passage mentions personalization but not control of social relationships.–Headline IV is not mentioned; no reference to unemployment due to AI.–Headline V is false, as industries are using AI widely, no fear mentioned.

### Question 8.

Read the following passage carefully :

(1) A recent survey conducted by an independent research firm sought to measure levels of happiness among youth aged 16–24 years in seven countries. The findings revealed

some intriguing insights into what makes today's youth happiest, as well as which factors influence their overall well-being. In India, an overwhelming majority of the youth reported feeling satisfied with their lives, with 87% rating of their overall happiness as 'high' or 'very high.' Financial security was identified as the primary source of happiness for 66%, followed by family support (89%), having a purpose in life (50%), and work or studies (40%). Unfortunately, 65% reported feeling stress related to academic performance or workload, while 25% reported feeling lonely. These figures point to a need for increased mental health support among India's youth.

(2) These surveys also revealed that family support is an important source of contentment for young people across countries. In Europe, 59% of respondents said that their families were a major source of happiness; in France this figure was 67%, and 63% in Germany. In North America, 64% rated family as an important factor for well-being in Canada, while 61% did so in the United States. Similarly, 89% of survey respondents in India named family support as a major contributor to their overall contentment level.

(3) It is clear that stress has a significant impact on the happiness of today's youth. The findings suggest that young people need better resources to manage their mental health and well-being. This may include access to counselling services, mindfulness activities and support groups to help them cope with challenging circumstances. It is also important to provide financial support so as to reduce some of the economic pressures.

(4) In India, 65% of youth surveyed reported feeling anxious about their academic performance or workload, while 25% felt lonely. These figures are especially significant given how important family support is for young people's overall contentment.

**(1) What are the two findings that the survey mentioned in paragraph 1 reveals?**

**Answer in about 40 words.**

[2 Marks]

**Answer:** The survey reveals that in India, 87% of youth feel highly happy with their lives. It also shows financial security and family support as the main sources of happiness, while many face stress due to academics and loneliness.

**Key Points: 87% youth in India feel high happiness—Financial security and family support are main happiness sources—Stress due to academic workload and loneliness is common**

(2)

Explain in about 40 words the statement "It is also important to provide financial support so as to reduce some of the economic pressures."

[2 Marks]

**Answer:** Providing financial support helps young people reduce economic stress, which is a major source of unhappiness. It ensures they can focus better on studies and personal growth without worrying about money, leading to improved mental well-being and happiness.

**Key Points:** Financial support reduces economic stress–Financial pressure affects youth happiness–Helping youth focus on studies and growth–Improves mental health and overall well-being

(3)

Write the following sources that provide happiness to today's youth in descending order:

- (a) purposefulness
- (b) financial status
- (c) family support
- (d) stress

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The sources of happiness to today's youth in descending order are: 1. Family support 2. Financial status 3. Purposefulness 4. Stress

**Key Points:** Family support is the highest source of happiness with 89% in India– Financial status comes next affecting 66%– Purposefulness contributes to happiness at 50%– Stress negatively affects happiness and is a factor to reduce well-being

(4)

Elaborate, giving data, the statement "Stress has a significant impact on the happiness of today's youth."

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** According to the survey, stress significantly affects the happiness of today's youth. In India, 65% of youth reported feeling anxious due to academic performance or workload, which shows a high level of stress among young people. Additionally, 25% of them felt lonely, which also contributes to their mental stress. These stress factors negatively impact their overall happiness and well-being, indicating the need for better mental health support to help young people manage such challenges.

**Key Points:** 65% of Indian youth feel stress related to academics - 25% feel lonely - Stress affects overall happiness negatively - Need for mental health support services

(5)

Which of the following factors, with reference to the passage, does not play a substantial role in the well-being of Indian youth?

- (A) Family support and strong ties
- (B) Social connection and technology
- (C) Books and literature
- (D) Economic stability

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** Option (C) Books and literature does not play a substantial role in the well-being of Indian youth according to the passage.

**Key Points:** The passage highlights family support, economic stability, and social connections as important for youth well-being - Books and literature is not mentioned as a factor - Family support is cited by 89% of Indian youth - Financial security impacts happiness - The passage emphasizes mental health and social support but not books or literature

(6)

State whether True or False with reference to the passage:

It is not necessary to provide financial support to the youth as only academic performance plays an upper hand in deciding stress level.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** False. According to the passage, financial support is necessary to help reduce economic pressures on the youth, and stress is not only caused by academic performance but also by financial insecurity.

**Key Points:** Financial support is important to reduce economic pressures–Stress is caused by multiple factors including academic workload and financial insecurity–Passage emphasizes the need for financial support and mental health resources

(7)

What are the top choices which are of maximum value to today's youth?

- (A) Collectivism
- (B) Social media
- (C) Individualistic society
- (D) Family ties

Options:

- (A) I and II
- (B) II and III
- (C) I and IV
- (D) II and IV

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The top choices that are of maximum value to today's youth are Collectivism and Family ties, which corresponds to option (C) I and IV.

**Key Points:** The passage indicates that family support is the most important source of happiness for youth in India (89%).–Collectivism relates to valuing family and community bonds.–Social media and Individualistic society are not

mentioned as top choices in the passage.-Hence, the correct choices are Collectivism and Family ties.

(8) The mental health of today's youth can be managed by resources like \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

[1 Marks]

**Answer:** The mental health of today's youth can be managed by resources like counselling services and mindfulness activities.

**Key Points: Counselling services-Mindfulness activities-Support groups**

## Section C

### Question 9.

What inference can you draw about Sophie's relationship with her father from the story 'Going Places'?

[2 Marks]

**Answer:** Sophie's relationship with her father in the story 'Going Places' appears to be distant and marked by a lack of understanding. Her father displays a stern and disdainful attitude, especially when Sophie tries to share her thoughts about meeting Danny Casey. This reaction makes Sophie feel uncomfortable and restrained, suggesting that her father is strict and not very supportive of her dreams and ambitions. The father's temperament seems unsympathetic, which likely causes Sophie to feel isolated and hesitant to express herself fully at home. Overall, their relationship reflects a typical generation gap where communication and emotional warmth are minimal.

### Question 10.

What confusion does the Dewan have when the Tiger King broaches the topic of his marriage?

(The Tiger King)

[2 Marks]

**Answer:** When the Tiger King brings up the topic of his marriage, the Dewan becomes confused because the King starts talking in a strange manner, mixing up literal and

figurative meanings. The Tiger King dismisses the idea of marrying a human woman and instead talks about marrying a tiger or even a gun. This bewildering statement leaves the Dewan perplexed as he tries to understand whether the King is serious or jesting. The confusion arises because the King's words are not straightforward, and the Dewan, as an advisor, struggles to comprehend his real intentions regarding marriage.

### Question 11.

" My Antarctic experience was full of such epiphanies," says Tishani Doshi. Which experience does she consider the best and why?

(Journey to the End of the Earth)

[2 Marks]

**Answer:** Tishani Doshi describes her Antarctic experience as being filled with many epiphanies, but the best occurred just short of the Antarctic Circle at 65 degrees. After a long journey of over 100 hours by car, airplane, and ship, her first emotion upon seeing Antarctica's vast white landscape and the uninterrupted blue horizon was one of relief. This intense feeling was followed by a profound sense of awe and wonder at the pristine beauty and harshness of the continent. Setting foot on Antarctica was a moment of deep realization about the planet's environment and its fragility. This experience stood out to her as it symbolized not only the physical challenge of reaching such a remote place but also the emotional and intellectual awakening to the planet's past, present, and future that Antarctica represents.

### Question 12.

Zitkala-Sa says, "Eating by formula wasn't the hardest trial in that first day." What does she mean by 'Eating by formula'? (Memories of Childhood)

[2 Marks]

**Answer:** In the story "Memories of Childhood" by Zitkala-Sa, the phrase "eating by formula" refers to the practice of eating food according to a strict schedule or method imposed on her at the boarding school. Instead of eating freely and according to her own hunger, Zitkala-Sa had to follow a rigid routine designed by the authorities to make her conform to their ways. This was part of the difficult adjustments she had to make in a new and unfamiliar environment. However, Zitkala-Sa says that this structured way of eating was not the hardest challenge she faced on her first day; the emotional struggles and cultural conflicts were tougher to handle. Thus, "eating by formula" symbolizes the control and suppression of her natural habits and culture in the school.

### Question 13.

We miss a thing when we are in fear of losing it. Substantiate this statement with two examples from "The Last Lesson," how the people in the story suddenly realised how

precious their language was to them.

[2 Marks]

**Answer:** In the story "The Last Lesson," the fear of losing their language made the people suddenly realize its preciousness. Firstly, the villagers, who initially took their French language for granted, become aware of its value only when they are told that the French language will no longer be taught as the Prussians have imposed German. This realization hits them hard as they understand that losing their language means losing a part of their identity and culture. Secondly, M. Hamel, the teacher, expresses his sorrow and regret for not teaching the language properly to the students earlier. He emphasizes how important it is to preserve one's mother tongue as it holds the key to freedom and cultural heritage. Thus, the story shows that fear of loss leads to the appreciation of the importance of what might have been ignored before.

#### Question 14.

What did the peddler say in his defence when it was clear that he was not the person the ironmaster thought him to be ? (The Rattrap)

[2 Marks]

**Answer:** When the ironmaster realized that the peddler was not the old acquaintance he had mistaken him for, the peddler explained his actions with honesty and humor. He confessed that he was a poor man who sold rattraps to make a living. He admitted that he initially allowed the ironmaster to think he was someone else because he hoped to get some money for his rattraps. However, he expressed gratitude for the kindness shown by the ironmaster and acknowledged how that kindness made him realize the goodness in people. The peddler's defence was humble and sincere, showing how kindness can change even the most suspicious person.

#### Question 15.

What does "The God That Failed" refer to? (Poets and Pancakes)

[2 Marks]

**Answer:** "The God That Failed" refers to the disillusionment with communism experienced by some intellectuals and writers who initially believed in its ideals but later realized its flaws and limitations. The phrase is associated with a collection of essays by various authors who had turned away from communism, seeing it as a failed ideology. In the context of the poem 'Poets and Pancakes,' it reflects the satirical perspective towards blind faith in any system or ideology that ultimately does not fulfill its promises. It symbolically points to the loss of belief in an ideal or 'god' that once inspired hope but eventually disappointed.

### Question 16.

What according to Umberto Eco is the belief that most journalists and publishers have?  
(The Interview)

[2 Marks]

**Answer:** According to Umberto Eco, most journalists and publishers believe that the role of journalism is to reveal secrets or uncover scandals, often expecting sensational news. He suggests that they think their job is to shock people and attract attention by focusing on rumors or gossip rather than deeper understanding. Eco criticizes this approach, implying that it oversimplifies complex realities and ignores the importance of true knowledge and thoughtful analysis.

### Question 17.

It is said that the 'Face is a mirror of one's emotions.' Why did the poet 'smile and smile'?  
(My Mother at Sixty-six)

[2 Marks]

**Answer:** In the poem "My Mother at Sixty-six," the poet says she 'smile and smile' despite feeling emotional and sad. The smile is a way to hide her true feelings of worry and fear about her mother's aging and mortality. The face reflects emotions, and the poet's repeated smiling shows her attempt to be strong and cheerful for her mother, even though inside she is troubled and heartbroken. It also reflects the bittersweet moment of parting and the affection she feels towards her mother.

## Section D

### Question 18.

You are the Student Head, Cultural Affairs Club at Newton Public School. The school is holding its annual function on Saturday, April 20th, 2024 at 11 am. The Honourable Education Minister, Dr. Shah has consented to be the Chief Guest. Design an invitation card to be sent to the parents and other invitees. Mention necessary details.

[4 Marks]

**Answer:**

### **Newton Public School**

### **Annual Function 2024**

You are cordially invited to the Annual  
Function of Newton Public School.

**Date:** Saturday, April 20th, 2024

**Time:** 11:00 A.M.

**Venue:** School Auditorium

We are honoured to welcome the Honourable Education Minister, **Dr. Shah** as our Chief Guest.

Please join us in celebrating the talents of our students and the spirit of our school.

*We look forward to your gracious presence.*

**Student Head,  
Cultural Affairs Club  
Newton Public School**

## Section E

### Question 19.

(a) To encourage students to participate in outdoor activities, your school has planned a 7-day trek to Rohtang Pass for students of classes VIII to X during the summer vacation. Write a notice for the school notice board giving all the necessary information. You are Raghav/Ragini, Secretary Trekking Club, Amar Bahadur School.

[4 Marks]

**Answer:**

**Amar Bahadur School**

**Notice**

Date: 1st May 2024

**7-Day Trek to Rohtang Pass for Classes VIII to X**

Dear Students,

To encourage participation in outdoor activities and promote physical fitness, the Trekking Club is organizing a 7-day trek to Rohtang Pass during this summer vacation. The trek is open to students of classes VIII to X.

## Details of the Trek:

- **Date:** 10th July to 16th July 2024
- **Venue:** Rohtang Pass, Himachal Pradesh
- **Eligibility:** Students of classes VIII, IX, and X
- **Registration:** Interested students should register with the Trekking Club by 10th June 2024.
- **Participation Fee:** Rs. 3000 (includes travel, food, and accommodation)
- **Contact:** For further information, please contact Raghav/Ragini, Secretary Treasurer Club, during school hours.

We encourage all eligible students to take part in this adventurous and healthy activity. Gear up for this exciting journey to explore the great outdoors!

Raghav/Ragini  
Secretary, Trekking Club  
Amar Bahadur School

## Question 20.

The problem of the resident parking of vehicles, often leading to minor scuffles, has become a source of growing concern. As Secretary of Goodwill Flats Welfare Association, Shripur, write a notice informing the residents about a meeting to discuss the problem and find an acceptable solution. Invent necessary details.

[4 Marks]

## Answer: NOTICE

It has been observed that the problem of resident parking in Goodwill Flats has led to frequent minor scuffles among residents, causing inconvenience to all.

To discuss and find an acceptable solution, a meeting of all residents is scheduled on Saturday, 10th February 2024, at 5:00 PM in the community hall of Goodwill Flats.

All residents are requested to attend the meeting without fail and contribute their suggestions towards resolving this issue amicably.

Secretary  
Goodwill Flats Welfare Association  
Shripur  
Date: 5th February 2024

**Question 21.** You are a renowned doctor and have been invited by your school alumni as Chief Guest to the Annual Graduation Ceremony of Green School on Sunday, March 24th, 2024. Write a letter to the President of the Alumni Association expressing your inability to attend due to a prior commitment. Also convey your congratulations to the graduating students.

[4 Marks]

**Answer:**

Dr. Arjun Mehta  
123, Rosewood Apartments,  
New Delhi - 110001  
March 15, 2024

To,  
The President,  
Alumni Association,  
Green School,  
New Delhi

Subject: Regret for Unable to Attend the Annual Graduation Ceremony

Dear Sir,

I am honoured to have received your invitation to be the Chief Guest at the Annual Graduation Ceremony of Green School scheduled on Sunday, March 24th, 2024. It would have been a privilege to join you and share this special moment with the students and faculty.

However, I regret to inform you that I will not be able to attend the function due to a prior commitment. I have been invited to be the Chief Guest at an All India Girls' Athletic Meet on the same day, which is an important engagement that I cannot postpone.

Kindly convey my heartfelt congratulations to all the graduating students. I am proud to see them reach this important milestone, and I encourage them to think big, dream boldly, and continue striving to make their aspirations a reality. May they overcome challenges with determination and achieve great success in life.

Thank you again for your kind invitation. I look forward to joining you on future occasions.

Yours sincerely,  
Dr. Arjun Mehta

**Question 22.**

An increase in the number of vehicles on the road has increased instances of traffic snarls, road rage and accidents. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily showing your

concern and examining the reasons for such behaviour. Provide suggestions on how to manage the situation. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose the letter. You are Brinda/Bharat.

[5 Marks]

**Answer:**

From,  
Brinda/Bharat,  
123, Green Park,  
New Delhi - 110016.

Date: 15 June 2024

To,  
The Editor,  
The National Daily,  
New Delhi.

Subject: Concern over rising traffic snarls, road rage and accidents due to increased vehicles.

Respected Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my deep concern over the increasing number of vehicles on the roads, which has led to frequent traffic snarls, road rage incidents, and alarming accidents. The rapid growth in vehicle numbers, poor traffic management, lack of awareness about road safety, and irresponsible driving behaviour contribute largely to this worsening situation.

The growing population and urbanization have increased dependency on personal vehicles, causing congestion on roads. Moreover, impatience and aggressive behaviour among drivers, inadequate public transport facilities, and neglect of traffic rules have escalated tensions on the road.

To manage and improve this situation, stricter traffic regulations must be enforced along with hefty penalties for violations. Authorities should promote public transport and carpooling to reduce vehicle numbers. Creating better road infrastructure, educating people about road safety through campaigns, and encouraging a culture of patience and courtesy among drivers can also help.

In conclusion, it is imperative that both citizens and government work together to ensure safer and smoother travel, decreasing traffic snarls and accidents for the welfare of all.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,  
Brinda/Bharat

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## Section G

**Question 23.** You are Amar/Anita, a fresh MBA graduate from Singla Institute of Management, Khushbagh. You saw the given advertisement in a newspaper and wish to apply for the position advertised. Write a letter to India Helptel Company along with your bio-data, expressing your interest in the advertised post.

[5 Marks]

**Answer:**

**Amar (or Anita)**

123, Green Avenue,  
Khushbagh – 110001  
15 November 2005

The Manager,  
India Helptel Company,  
456, Industrial Area,  
New Delhi – 110016

Subject: Application for the post of Customer Support Executive

Sir/Madam,

I am a fresh MBA graduate from Singla Institute of Management, Khushbagh. I came across your advertisement in *The Hindu* dated 15 November 2005 regarding the vacancy for the post of Customer Support Executive. I am very interested in applying for the position as my academic background and management skills align well with the job requirements.

Enclosed with this letter is my bio-data highlighting my educational qualifications and skills. I am confident that my communication skills, customer handling ability, and eagerness to learn will make me a valuable addition to your team.

I look forward to an opportunity to discuss my candidature further and hope to contribute positively to India Helptel Company.

Thank you for considering my application.

Yours faithfully,  
Amar (or Anita)

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### Bio-data

**Name:** Amar (or Anita)

**Address:** 123, Green Avenue, Khushbagh – 110001

**Educational Qualification:** MBA from Singla Institute of Management, Khushbagh

**Contact Number:** 9876543210

**Email:** amar123@example.com

**Skills:** Customer Relationship Management, Communication Skills, Problem Solving, Computer Proficiency

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## Section H

**Question 24.** The senior residents of your colony have initiated a Reading Club for the children of a neighbourhood slum. As Ramesh/Ranjita, the local correspondent of the neighbourhood newsletter, write a report covering the project.

[5 Marks]

**Answer:**

### Reading Club Brings Joy and Learning to Slum Children

Recently, senior residents of our colony launched a Reading Club specifically for the children of a nearby slum. The initiative aims to encourage a love for reading and provide educational support to underprivileged children. Every afternoon, children gather in a community room where they read books, write, and engage in storytelling sessions. Many kids, who had limited access to books earlier, now eagerly participate, enjoying stories that inspire curiosity and imagination. Volunteers help the children by explaining stories and helping with difficult words, creating an encouraging learning atmosphere.

The club has also involved children in fun activities such as sharing their creative writings on the community bulletin board, fostering confidence and expression. Watching the children's progress has brought immense satisfaction to the senior residents. This project not only promotes literacy but also connects the children to a larger world beyond their daily lives, instilling hope and motivation for their future. Overall, the Reading Club has become a beacon of learning and joy in our neighbourhood.

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## Section I

### Question 25.

Imagine you are John Keats, the poet of 'A Thing of beauty.' What advice might you offer to Robert Frost, the poet of 'A Roadside Stand' in the context of his 'The sadness that lurks near the open window'? Pen down your advice in a letter to Frost on how to deal with sadness. You may begin this way:

Dear Robert,

I have recently read your poem 'A roadside Stand' and....

You may end this way :

Despite the fact that our lives are full of sorrow and suffering, the beautiful things around us give us the strength to endure the sadness of life.

Warmly

John Keats

[5 Marks]

### Answer:

Dear Robert,

I have recently read your poem 'A Roadside Stand' with great empathy and understanding. Your portrayal of the struggles faced by the poor and deprived amidst the harsh realities of life vividly brings out the sadness lurking near the open window of their existence. Your sincere sympathy towards human suffering deeply resonates with me.

As a poet who finds solace in the beauty of nature and the enduring charm of pleasant things, I would like to share with you some thoughts on coping with sadness. Life indeed has its share of sorrow and suffering, and it is our perception that shapes our endurance. In my poem '*A Thing of Beauty*', I celebrate the comforting and uplifting presence of beautiful things—the loveliness of nature, art, and simple joys that soothe the troubled soul. I believe that amidst hardship, focusing on the enduring beauty around us can provide strength and hope.

You have depicted nature's role poignantly, showing how the deprived yearn for relief, yet are often left wanting. While acknowledging these grim realities, one might also seek to embrace moments of grace and inspiration that life offers—like a 'dust of snow' that can change one's mood unexpectedly, as you have shown in other works. This contrast between sadness and beauty is essential for healing.

Let us remember that though life burdens us with struggles, the beautiful things that surround us serve as a refuge, helping us to bear and transcend sadness. I hope this advice offers you some comfort and encouragement as you continue to explore and express the complexities of human experience.

Despite the fact that our lives are full of sorrow and suffering, the beautiful things around us give us the strength to endure the sadness of life.

Warmly,  
John Keats

**Question 26.** Dr. Sadao is disturbed and in a dilemma since he has decided to help the enemy soldier. Describe his conflict and the challenges faced in the form of a diary entry. [5 Marks]

**Answer:** Dear Diary, Today has been the most troubling day of my life. An enemy soldier washed up near my home, severely injured. As a doctor, my first instinct was to help him, to save a life regardless of his identity. However, I find myself trapped between two duties – my oath as a healer and my loyalty to my country. If anyone discovers that I am sheltering an enemy, I could be arrested for treason. Our domestic staff is openly defiant, unwilling to assist with this secret. My wife Hana, however, supports me and understands the moral complexity of this situation, providing me courage. I sought advice from the General, who understands but advises extreme caution. Now, I realize I hold a certain power over him as well. This conflict burns within me: Should I continue to save this man and risk everything, or betray my medical ethics and hand him over? The fear of consequences and the urge to do what is right tear me apart. Yet, I must stay strong and decide what kind of man I want to be. Sadao

**Question 27.**

Create a comprehensive comparison of the themes present in 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers' and 'My Mother at Sixty-six'. Specifically discuss the different ways each poem addresses the concept of struggle and resilience.

[5 Marks]

**Answer:**

Both 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers' by Adrienne Rich and 'My Mother at Sixty-six' by Kamala Das explore themes of struggle and resilience, but they approach these concepts from different perspectives and settings. In 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers', the struggle is primarily centered around the oppressed life of Aunt Jennifer, who faces the constraints of a repressive marriage and societal norms. The poem portrays her courage and resilience through the imagery of the tigers she embroiders—bold, fearless creatures that symbolize strength, freedom, and defiance. Though Aunt Jennifer herself is powerless, symbolized by

her trembling hands struggling with the needle, the tigers she creates live an independent and vibrant life, representing her inner desire to break free from oppression.

On the other hand, 'My Mother at Sixty-six' deals with emotional and physical struggle brought by aging and the inevitability of loss. The poet expresses her inner turmoil and sadness as she observes her aging mother during a car journey. The poem highlights the fragile nature of human life and the emotional resilience required to face the reality of growing old. Unlike the external social struggle in 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers', the struggle in Kamala Das's poem is more personal and introspective, focusing on the fear of separation and the desire to protect loved ones.

While Aunt Jennifer's struggle is depicted through symbolism and metaphor reflecting societal oppression, Kamala Das's poem uses vivid imagery and emotions to present the struggle against time and ageing. Both poems celebrate resilience: Aunt Jennifer's through her artistic creation that lives beyond her own limitations, and the poet in 'My Mother at Sixty-six' through her acceptance and deep love despite the sadness. Together, they present varied facets of resilience—external versus internal, societal versus personal, physical versus emotional.

#### Question 28.

In the story 'The Third Level', reality and fantasy are interwoven. Justify.

[5 Marks]

**Answer:** In 'The Third Level' by Jack Finney, the boundaries between reality and fantasy blur, creating a compelling narrative. The story revolves around the protagonist, Charlie, who discovers a mysterious 'third level' at Grand Central Station that transports him to the year 1894, a time he perceives as simpler and calmer. This fantastical element contrasts sharply with the hustle and stress of present-day life, representing his desire to escape to a better past. The story skillfully interweaves the real world—Charlie's modern life, his psychiatrist, and his experiences in New York—with the fantasy of time travel and an alternate dimension. The 'third level' serves as a metaphor for longing and nostalgia, showing how imagination permeates reality. The incidents where the protagonist struggles to convince others about his discovery further highlight the clash between reality and fantasy. This blend not only makes the story surreal but also reveals human tendencies to seek refuge in dreams amid life's complexities. Hence, the story masterfully merges imaginative elements with realistic scenarios, illustrating the intricate relationship between reality and fantasy.

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## Section J

### Question 29.

India is emerging as one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world. Write an article on "India as a popular choice of Foreign Visitors". You are Leela/Laksh. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose the article.

[5 Marks]

**Answer:**

#### **India as a Popular Choice of Foreign Visitors**

India, known as Incredible India, has become one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world. This beautiful country is a land of rich heritage, diverse cultures, historic monuments, and breathtaking landscapes. Foreign visitors are attracted to India because of its unique blend of tradition and modernity.

India offers something for every kind of traveler. History lovers can explore magnificent forts, palaces, and temples, such as the Taj Mahal, Jaipur's palaces, and the ancient temples of South India. Nature enthusiasts enjoy the scenic beauty of the Himalayas, Kerala's backwaters, and the beaches of Goa. The vibrant festivals, colorful markets, and diverse cuisine showcase the cultural richness of the country.

Many tourists visit India to experience its spiritual side at places like Varanasi, Rishikesh, and Bodh Gaya. Ayurveda and yoga have also become important attractions for health and wellness tourism. The warmth and hospitality of Indian people leave a lasting impression on visitors, making them feel welcome and eager to explore more.

Moreover, improved infrastructure, availability of budget and luxury accommodations, and easy connectivity have made traveling in India comfortable for foreign tourists. Events such as cultural exhibitions, fairs, and travel festivals promote tourism further.

In conclusion, India's rich cultural heritage, natural beauty, and welcoming people make it a favored destination for tourists from all over the world. As the country continues to develop, it is sure to attract even more visitors in the years to come.

### Question 30.

The senior residents of your colony have initiated a Reading Club for the children of a neighbourhood slum. As Ramesh/Ranjita, the local correspondent of the neighbourhood newsletter, write a report covering the project. Support your ideas with the cues given below.

[5 Marks]

**Answer:**

## **Report on the Reading Club Initiative for Slum Children**

Recently, senior residents of our colony started a Reading Club aimed at the children residing in the nearby slum. The main objective of this initiative is to improve the reading habits and educational development of these underprivileged children. The club meets twice a week in the community hall where volunteers read stories, organize discussions, and encourage children to share their thoughts.

The activities have been highly appreciated by both children and their families. Many children enjoy hearing imaginative stories, like those involving funny exaggerations, which sparks their creativity. The club also encourages acts of kindness and sharing among the children, fostering not only literacy but also strong moral values.

To gather feedback and assess the impact of this initiative, an opinionnaire was circulated among the neighbourhood residents. The responses were mostly positive, highlighting improvement in children's enthusiasm for reading and better community interaction. Charts displaying interesting writings and art created by the children are exhibited on the notice board, motivating the participants further.

Overall, the Reading Club has proven to be a wonderful platform where children not only learn but also socialize creatively. Such community driven efforts are essential in building a brighter future for our children.

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