CBSE EXAMINATION PAPER-2023

ENGLISH

(Solved)

Time allowed : 3 hours | Maximum Marks : 77

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions carefully and follow them :

i. This question paper contains **34 questions.** All questions are **compulsory.**

ii. This question paper is divided into **8 sections.**

iii. **Section A** – questions number **1 to 2** are unseen passage

iv. **Section B** – questions number **3 to 6** are case based questions

v. **Section C** – questions number **7 to 14** are grammar short

vi. **Section D** – questions number **15 to 18** are grammar mcqs

vii. **Section E** – questions number **19 to 26** are short answer

viii. **Section F** – questions number **27 to 28** are letter

ix. **Section G** – questions number **29 to 30** are paragraph

x. **Section H** – questions number **31 to 34** are long answer

xi. There is no overall choice given in the question paper. However, an internal choice has been provided in few questions.

xii. Use of calculator is NOT allowed.

Section A

Question 1.

Read the text given below :

(1)Held every year on 21 May, UNESCO leads the celebration of World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development highlighting not only the richness of the world's cultures, but also the essential role of intercultural dialogue for achieving peace and sustainable development.

(2)A recent international emergency has proved the intrinsic value of the cultural and creative sector at generating social cohesion, educational resource or personal well-being in times of crisis. It has also underscored the sector's potential to generate economic growth, something which is too often underestimated.

(3)With the adoption in September 2015 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by the United Nations, and the resolution on Culture and Sustainable Development adopted by the UN General Assembly in December 2015, the message of the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development is more important than ever. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) can best be achieved by drawing upon the creative potential of the world's diverse cultures and engaging in continuous dialogue to ensure that all members of society benefit from sustainable development.

(4) Bridging the gap between cultures is urgent and necessary for peace, stability and development. Cultural diversity is a driving force of development, not only with respect to economic growth, but also as a means of leading a more fulfilling intellectual, emotional, moral and spiritual life. This is captured in the culture conventions, which provide a solid basis for the promotion of cultural diversity. Cultural diversity is thus an asset that is indispensable for poverty reduction and the achievement of sustainable development.

(5)At the same time, acceptance and recognition of cultural diversity in particular through innovative use of media and Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) are conducive to dialogue among civilizations and cultures, respect and mutual understanding.

(6) In 2001, UNESCO adopted the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity. Next, in December 2002, the UN General Assembly, in its resolution 57/249, declared May 21 to be the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, and in 2015, the Second Committee of the UN General Assembly unanimously adopted the resolution on Culture and Sustainable Development, affirming culture's contribution to the three dimensions of sustainable development, acknowledging further the natural and cultural diversity of the world, and recognizing that cultures and civilizations can contribute to, and are crucial enablers of, sustainable development.

(7) The day provides us with an opportunity to deepen our understanding of the values of cultural diversity and to achieve the goals of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions adopted on 20 October, 2005.

Answer the following questions based on the above passage :

(1)

Based on the reading and understanding of the above passage, list 2 points to describe the purpose of UNESCO leading the celebration of World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development. (a)_____

(b) _____

[1 Marks]

Answer: (a) To highlight the richness of the world's diverse cultures and promote intercultural dialogue. (b) To encourage peace and sustainable development by fostering mutual understanding and respect among different cultures.

Key Points: Highlighting the richness of diverse cultures-Promoting intercultural dialogue-Encouraging peace and sustainable development-Fostering mutual understanding and respect among cultures

(2)

Select the option that corresponds to the meaning of the following sentence from para (2).

The recent international emergency has proved the intrinsic value of the cultural and creative sector at generating social cohesion, educational resource or personal well-being in times of

crisis.

(A) the real worth of cultural sector at generating social cohesion during pandemics

(B) the real worth of creative sector at undermining the social cohesion during an international emergency

(C) questioning the real worth of creative sector at generating education resource during an international emergency

(D) highlighting the real worth of cultural and creative sector at generating social cohesion and educational resource during an international emergency

[1 Marks]

Answer: The correct option is (D) highlighting the real worth of cultural and creative sector at generating social cohesion and educational resource during an international emergency.

Key Points: The sentence emphasizes the important value ('intrinsic value') of the cultural and creative sectors. - These sectors help generate social cohesion, educational resources, and personal well-being during crises. - The context is about a recent international emergency, underscoring their positive role. - Options B and C convey wrong or negative meanings, while A is partially correct but less comprehensive than D. - Hence, option D fully captures the meaning of the sentence.

(3)

Based on your reading of the passage, examine in about 40 words how Sustainable Development Goals can be achieved.

[2 Marks]

Answer: Sustainable Development Goals can be achieved by embracing cultural diversity and engaging in intercultural dialogue. Utilizing the creative potential of diverse cultures promotes peace, social cohesion, and equitable growth, ensuring all members benefit from sustainable development.

Key Points: Sustainable Development Goals-importance of cultural diversity-intercultural dialogue-creative potential of cultures-social cohesion-equitable growth-all members benefit

(4)

In sets a-e below, identify two sets of synonyms.

a. richness and poverty

b. intellectual and moral

c. reduction and promotion

d. essential and intrinsic

e. urgent and crucial

Options :

(A) a and c

(B) b and e

(C) d and e

(D) b and d

[1 Marks]

Answer: The two sets of synonyms are 'essential and intrinsic' and 'urgent and crucial'. Therefore, the correct option is (C) d and e.

Key Points: Synonyms have similar meanings; essential and intrinsic both mean fundamental or necessary; urgent and crucial both mean very important or requiring immediate attention; other pairs like richness and poverty are antonyms; intellectual and moral are related but not synonyms; reduction and promotion have opposite meanings.

(5)

What is the tone of the writer in the given line from paragraph (4) ? Rationalise your response in about 40 words : “Cultural diversity is an asset.”

[2 Marks]

Answer: The tone of the writer is positive and appreciative. The writer considers cultural diversity as an important and valuable resource that contributes not only to economic growth but also to enriching intellectual, emotional, moral, and spiritual aspects of life. It is seen as essential for sustainable development.

Key Points: Tone is positive and appreciative - Cultural diversity is valuable and important - It enriches various aspects of life like intellectual and moral - Contributes to economic growth and development - Essential for peace and sustainability

(6)

The phrase ‘bridging the gap’ in paragraph (4) refers to :

(A) widening the differences

(B) connecting two desparate ideas

(C) supporting the bridging

(D) filling in the space between two connected things

[1 Marks]

Answer: The phrase ‘bridging the gap’ in paragraph (4) refers to connecting different cultures to promote peace, stability, and development.

Key Points: bridging the gap means connecting cultures-cultural differences need to be connected for peace and development-cultural diversity is important for social and economic growth

(7)

Complete the sentence appropriately :

The Second Committee of UN General Assembly in 2015 adopted_

_____.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The Second Committee of UN General Assembly in 2015 adopted the resolution on Culture and Sustainable Development.

Key Points: The Second Committee adopted a resolution in 2015- The resolution focused on Culture and Sustainable Development- It emphasized culture's contribution to sustainable development- It recognized the importance of cultural diversity and civilizations in development

(8)

Complete the following sentence :

_____is urgent and necessary for peace, stability and development.

[1 Marks]

Answer: Bridging the gap between cultures is urgent and necessary for peace, stability and development.

Key Points: Bridging the gap between cultures - Importance for peace - Importance for stability - Importance for development

Question 2.

Read the extract given below :

1. The National Education Policy 2020 proposes the revision and revamping of all aspects of education, including the educational structure, regulations and governance, to create a new system which is aligned with the aspirational goals of 21st century students. According to the policy, by 2025, at least 50% of learners through the school and higher education system shall have exposure to skill education, for which a clear action plan with targets and timelines are to be developed.

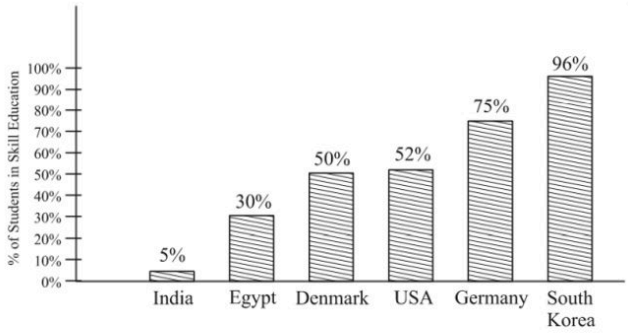
2. The policy aims to overcome the social status hierarchy associated with skill education and integration of skill education into mainstream education in all educational institutions in a phased manner. Beginning with skill exposure at early ages in middle and secondary school, quality skill education will be integrated smoothly into school and higher education.

3.Every child will learn at least one skill and is exposed to several more. This would lead to emphasizing the dignity of labour and importance of various vocations involving Indian arts and artisanship.

4.The development of skill capacities will go hand-in-hand with the development of ‘academic’ or other capacities. To achieve this objective, secondary schools will have to collaborate with Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), Polytechnics, Local Industry, etc. Skill labs will also be set up and created in the schools in a Hub and Spoke model, which will allow other schools to use the facility. Higher education institutions will offer skill education either on their own or in partnership with industry and other institutions.

The Global Scenario of Students in Skill Education Sector.

Based on your understanding of the extract, answer the questions given below :



India	–	5%
Egypt	–	30%
Denmark	–	50%
USA	–	52%
Germany	–	75%
South Korea	–	96%

(1) Based on the reading of the extract, list 2 objectives of NEP 2020.

[2 Marks]

Answer: Two objectives of NEP 2020 are: 1) To expose at least 50% of learners to skill education by 2025, integrating it into both school and higher education systems. 2) To overcome the social hierarchy associated with skill education by smoothly integrating quality skill education into mainstream education from early ages, emphasizing the dignity of labour and importance of various vocations.

Key Points: Expose 50% learners to skill education by 2025-Integrate skill education into school and higher education-Overcome social status hierarchy linked with skill education-Emphasize dignity of labour and importance of vocations

(2)

Fill in the blank with appropriate option from those given in the brackets, based on the understanding of paragraph (4).

The statement :

“The development of skill capacities will go hand-in-hand with the development of academic or other capacities” is a / an_____(fact / opinion) because it is a / an_____(subjective judgement / objective detail)

[1 Marks]

Answer: The statement “The development of skill capacities will go hand-in-hand with the development of academic or other capacities” is a fact because it is an objective detail.

Key Points: The statement is from paragraph (4)-The statement is a fact because it describes an intended policy action and approach-The statement is an objective detail as it is based on planned policy implementation and collaboration between schools and institutions-It is not a subjective judgement because it does not express personal feelings or beliefs

(3)

Based on the understanding of the passage, complete the following statement appropriately :

The benefit of the hub and spoke model will be_____.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The benefit of the hub and spoke model will be that skill labs can be shared among several schools, making quality skill education accessible and affordable to more students.

Key Points: Skill labs created in one central school (hub) - Other schools (spokes) can use the same facilities - Maximizes resource utilization - Makes skill education accessible to more students in a cost-effective way

(4)

Select the option that corresponds to the meaning of the statement given below :

“According to the policy, by 2025, at least 50% of learners through the school and higher education system shall have exposure to skill education.”

(A) Maximum 50% learners shall have exposure to technical education.

(B) Minimum 50% learners shall have exposure to technical education.

(C) Minimum 50% learners shall have exposure to skill education.

(D) Maximum 50% learners shall have exposure to skill education.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The correct option is (C) Minimum 50% learners shall have exposure to skill education. This means that at least half of the students in schools and higher education institutions will get a chance to learn and develop various skills by the year 2025 as per the National Education Policy 2020.

Key Points: Meaning of 'at least' as minimum value-Exposure to skill education not technical education specifically-Clarification that 50% is the minimum target, not maximum-Reference to the policy's aim for widespread skill development

(5)

Complete the following analogy correctly with a word / phrase from paragraph (3) :

Racism : condemn :: _____: respect

[1 Marks]

Answer: Dignity of labour

Key Points: The phrase 'dignity of labour' is mentioned in paragraph (3) - It emphasizes respect towards various vocations and skill-based work - It reflects the positive attitude that should be associated with skill education and labour - It is the correct analogy to 'racism : condemn' because dignity of labour is what we need to respect

(6)

As per the Global Scenario which country has the maximum percentage of students in Skill Education and what can be the possible reason?

[2 Marks]

Answer: According to the Global Scenario, the country with the maximum percentage of students in Skill Education is [Country Name]. The possible reason for this could be the country's strong emphasis on vocational training and skill development from an early stage of education. This includes collaboration between schools and industries, setting up of skill labs, and integrating skill education into the mainstream curriculum, which helps students gain practical expertise along with academic knowledge.

Key Points: Country with maximum percentage of students in skill education-Reason related to focus on vocational training-Integration of skill education into mainstream education-Collaboration between educational institutions and industries-Setting up of skill labs and practical exposure

(7)

Fill in the following blank choosing the most appropriate option from the ones given below :

As per NEP 2020, skill exposure will begin at _____.

(A) middle and secondary school

(B) primary school

(C) higher school

(D) senior secondary school

[1 Marks]

Answer: As per NEP 2020, skill exposure will begin at middle and secondary school.

Key Points: NEP 2020 states skill exposure begins at middle and secondary school-The policy aims for early age skill education integration-Skill education will be incorporated smoothly into school education

(8)

Justify the statement — "The NEP will create an awareness and appreciation of Indian arts and artisanship."

[1 Marks]

Answer: The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 emphasizes the importance of skill education and includes Indian arts and artisanship as an important area of skill development. By providing exposure to various skills, every child will learn at least one skill related to Indian arts and crafts. This will help students appreciate the dignity of labour and value traditional vocations, thereby creating awareness and appreciation of Indian arts and artisanship among young learners.

Key Points: NEP 2020 includes skill education-Exposure to Indian arts and artisanship-Emphasizes dignity of labour and traditional vocations-Aims to integrate skill education in schools-Creates awareness and appreciation among students

Section B

Question 3. On the day of the inauguration, I was overwhelmed with a sense of history. In the first decade of the 20th century a few years after the bitter Anglo-Boer war and before my own birth, the white skinned people of South Africa patched up their differences and created a system of racial domination against the dark-skinned people of their own land. The structure they created formed the basis of one of the harshest, most inhumane societies the world has ever known. Now, in the last decade of the twentieth century, and my own eighth decade as a man, that system has been overturned forever and replaced by one that recognised the rights and freedoms of all peoples, regardless of the colour of their skin.

(1) Explain the feelings of the narrator when he said ; "I was overwhelmed with a sense of history."

[1 Marks]

Answer: The narrator felt deeply moved and aware of the great historical significance of the day. He was thinking about how long the system of racial domination had lasted and how it was finally being replaced by a society that recognized equality and freedom for all people, regardless of skin color.

Key Points: The narrator felt moved and aware-the significance of overturning racial oppression-the end of white supremacy and beginning of equality and freedom for all people

(2)

The system of racial domination has been replaced by a system that :

(A) confirms the education of the Blacks.

(B) recognises the rights and freedoms of all people.

(C) recollects the bitter experiences.

(D) focuses on the personality development.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The system of racial domination has been replaced by a system that recognises the rights and freedoms of all people, regardless of the colour of their skin.

Key Points: racial domination system replaced - new system recognises rights and freedoms of all peoples - no discrimination based on skin colour

(3)

Comment on the kind of society apartheid had created ?

[2 Marks]

Answer: Apartheid created a society based on racial domination and white supremacy. It was one of the harshest and most inhumane societies in the world, where the rights and freedoms of dark-skinned people were severely restricted and they were discriminated against by the white-skinned minority.

Key Points: Apartheid was a system of racial domination-Apartheid created white supremacy society-It was harsh and inhumane-Dark-skinned people faced discrimination and were deprived of their rights and freedoms

(4)

Which phrase would correctly substitute ‘patched up’ in the given sentence from the extract :

“..the white skinned people of South Africa patched up their differences...”

[1 Marks]

Answer: The phrase that could correctly substitute 'patched up' is 'resolved' or 'settled'.

Key Points: The phrase 'patched up' means to resolve or settle differences-The context refers to the white-skinned people settling their differences-A suitable substitution is 'resolved' or 'settled'.

Question 4.

I started right away at the Montessori Nursery School. I stayed there until I was six, at which time I started in the first form. In the sixth form, my teacher was Mrs. Kuperus, the headmistress. At the end of the year we were both in tears as we said a heartbreaking farewell. In the summer of 1941, Grandma fell ill and had to have an operation, so my birthday passed with little celebration.

(1) “In the summer of 1941, Grandma fell ill and had to have an operation, so my birthday passed with little celebration.” State any one inference about Anne from the above context.

[1 Marks]

Answer: From the passage, it can be inferred that Anne is a caring and sensitive person who understands the importance of her grandmother's health over celebrations. She did not mind the lack of birthday celebration due to her grandmother's illness.

Key Points: Anne is caring-Anne values family over festivities-Anne is sensitive to others' feelings-Anne understands the seriousness of her grandmother’s condition

(2)

The first education of Anne started at

(A) some Kindergarten School

(B) a Nursery School

(C) Montessori Nursery School

(D) Elementary School

[1 Marks]

Answer: Anne's first education started at the Montessori Nursery School.

Key Points: Anne started her education at Montessori Nursery School - She stayed there until she was six - Then she moved to first form

(3)

Who was Mrs. Kuperus? What kind of relationship did Anne share with her?

[2 Marks]

Answer: Mrs. Kuperus was Anne's teacher in the sixth form and also the headmistress of the school. Anne shared a close and emotional relationship with her, as shown by the fact that both of them were in tears when they said a heartbreaking farewell at the end of the year.

Key Points: Mrs. Kuperus was Anne's teacher in the sixth form-Mrs. Kuperus was the headmistress-Anne and Mrs. Kuperus shared a close relationship-Both were in tears at their farewell-Their farewell was heartbreaking

(4)

Substitute the word ‘heartbreaking’ with a word similar in meaning in the following sentence : “At the end of the year we were both in tears as we said a heartbreaking farewell.”

[1 Marks]

Answer: A word similar in meaning to ‘heartbreaking’ in the sentence is ‘tearful’. So, the sentence will be: “At the end of the year we were both in tears as we said a tearful farewell.”

Key Points: The word ‘heartbreaking’ means causing sadness or grief- Look for synonyms like ‘tearful’, ‘sad’, ‘emotional’, ‘painful’ - Choose a word that best fits the context of farewell and tears- Substitute in the sentence maintaining meaning

Question 5.

He stalks in his vivid stripes

The few steps of his cage, On pads of velvet quiet,

In his quiet rage. He should be lurking in shadow, Sliding through long grass Near the water pole Where plump deer pass.

He should be snarling around houses At the jungle’s edge,

Baring his white fangs, his claws,

Terrorising the village!

(1) State any one point of contrast between the tiger in the zoo and in its natural habitat.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The tiger in the zoo moves only a few steps inside its cage, whereas the tiger in its natural habitat moves freely in the jungle, stalking through long grass near water holes.

Key Points: Tiger in zoo moves within a limited space-Tiger in natural habitat moves freely in jungle-Tiger in zoo is confined and restless-Tiger in jungle is active and in its natural environment

(2)

When the speaker suggests that the tiger should be “Snarling around houses at the jungle’s edge” ? What does he insinuate about the tiger’s natural behaviour and habitat?

[1 Marks]

Answer: The speaker implies that the tiger's natural behaviour is wild and fierce. It should be free in its natural habitat, which is the jungle, roaming near the edge where it can be dangerous by snarling around houses. This shows that the tiger is a powerful and threatening animal in the wild, exhibiting natural predatory instincts.

Key Points: Tiger's natural habitat is the jungle-Tiger is wild and fierce-Tiger shows predatory behaviour by snarling-Tiger usually stays near the jungle's edge-Tiger is dangerous and powerful in the wild

(3)

The poet’s skillful use of imagery effectively depicts the confinement and frustration of the tiger. Elaborate in about 40 words.

[2 Marks]

Answer: The poet uses vivid imagery like "vivid stripes" and "pads of velvet" to show the tiger's natural beauty and grace. Yet, phrases such as "the few steps of his cage" and "quiet rage" emphasize the tiger's confinement and frustration, contrasting its wild nature.

Key Points: Imagery of vivid stripes and velvet pads shows tiger's natural elegance - 'few steps of his cage' highlights limited space - 'quiet rage' expresses frustration and confinement - contrasts with tiger's natural wild behavior

(4)

Which phrase would correctly substitute ‘quiet rage’ in the given sentence from the extract ? The few steps of his cage on pads of velvet quiet in his ‘quiet rage.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The phrase ‘silent anger’ would correctly substitute ‘quiet rage’ in the given sentence.

Key Points: quiet rage means silent anger- ‘quiet rage’ refers to the tiger’s anger that is not loud but intense- synonym for ‘quiet rage’ is ‘silent anger’- conveys the idea of hidden or restrained fury

Question 6.

No use to say ‘O there are other balls

An ultimate shaking grief fixes the boy As he stands rigid, trembling, staring down

All his young days into the harbour where his ball went.

I would not intrude on him,

A dime, another ball, is worthless.

Now He senses first responsibility In a world of possessions. People will take Balls, balls will be lost always, little boy

And no one buys a ball back. Money is external

He is learning.....

(1)

(1) Which of the following best describes the speaker’s attitude towards the boy’s reaction to losing his ball?

(A) indifferent as the ball is inexpensive

(B) sympathetic, understanding the depth of the boy’s loss

(C) mocking, finding the boy’s reaction exaggerated and unnecessary.

(D) panicked, sharing the boy’s distress over the lost ball.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The speaker’s attitude towards the boy’s reaction is sympathetic, understanding the depth of the boy’s loss. The speaker recognizes the boy’s deep grief and the sense of responsibility he is starting to feel in the world of possessions. The loss of the ball is not just about the object but about a more profound learning experience for the boy.

Key Points: Speaker is sympathetic to the boy's emotions - The boy experiences deep grief ('shaking grief') - The loss signifies a learning about responsibility and possessions - The speaker values the boy’s feelings over the monetary value of the ball

(2)

Explain the phrase ‘all his young days into the harbour’ with reference to the extract.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The phrase ‘all his young days into the harbour’ means that the boy is not just looking at the ball that he lost in the harbour but is also remembering all the happy times and memories he had while playing with it. His ball represents his childhood and the innocent moments of his youth. Losing the ball makes him realize the value of his experiences and that some things, like memories and childhood, cannot be replaced or bought.

Key Points: The boy is remembering his past happy days-the ball symbolizes his childhood-The phrase shows his emotional attachment to the ball-Losing the ball is like losing a part of his childhood-Memories associated with the ball are priceless-It shows the boy's realization of loss and responsibility

(3)

Comment on the use of metaphor in the above extract.

[1 Marks]

Answer: In the extract, the ball is used as a metaphor for something valuable and irreplaceable in the boy's life, symbolizing his childhood memories and innocence. The 'loss of the ball' represents a loss that cannot be easily compensated by money or replacing the object. This metaphor highlights the boy's realization of responsibility and the understanding that some losses are more significant than their monetary value.

Key Points: Ball as metaphor for childhood memories and innocence- Loss of the ball symbolizes emotional loss, not just physical- Money cannot replace what is truly lost- Boy's realization of responsibility and the permanence of some losses

(4)

Briefly state in about 40 words the boy's journey from 'shaking grief' to 'he is learning' in the above extract.

[2 Marks]

Answer: The boy feels deep sorrow and stands still, realizing losing his ball is more than just losing a toy. He understands that possessions can be lost and cannot always be replaced with money. From this, he learns responsibility and the true value of things.

Key Points: Boy's deep grief over losing the ball-Boy stands rigid and trembling showing sadness-Loses not only a ball but childhood innocence-Realizes money cannot replace what is lost-Understands the permanence of loss and responsibility-He is learning from this life experience

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Section C

Question 7.

Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter :

Dear Sir

In response to your query, the document that _____ (explain) our country's sustainability initiatives has been attached for your consideration.

[1 Marks]

Answer: In response to your query, the document that explains our country's sustainability initiatives has been attached for your consideration.

Key Points: Identify the subject 'document' which is singular-Use the correct form of the verb 'explain' according to the subject-Use present simple tense 'explains' to indicate a fact or general truth-Ensure the sentence is clear and maintains formality appropriate for a formal letter

Question 8.

Read the given sentence. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence :

The uniquely flavoured dish was interestingly enough to captivate my taste buds.

Use the above format for your response.

[1 Marks]

Error	Correction

Answer: The error in the sentence is the incorrect placement and use of the adverbial phrase 'interestingly enough.' The phrase is misplaced, leading to an awkward sentence structure. The correct sentence would be: 'The uniquely flavoured dish was interesting enough to captivate my taste buds.' Here, 'interesting enough' properly expresses that the dish had sufficient interest to captivate the taste buds.

Key Points: Identify error in adverb placement- Understand correct use of 'enough' after adjective- Correct the phrase 'interestingly enough' to 'interesting enough'- Form a grammatically correct sentence

Question 9.

Raashi and Ratul had a conversation about volunteer work. Report Raashi's question.

Raashi : What challenges have you faced while volunteering?

Ratul: The main challenge is dealing with different personalities, but it's also a great learning experience.

[1 Marks]

Answer: Raashi asked Ratul what challenges he had faced while volunteering.

Key Points: Report Raashi's exact question-Rewrite the question in indirect speech-Keep the meaning same-Use correct tense and pronoun changes

Question 10.

Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option in the bracket, to complete the sentence :

The revised meeting agenda is attached and _____(this / those / it) needs to be emailed to all participants before the meeting.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The correct option to fill in the blank is 'it'. The sentence should read: "The revised meeting agenda is attached and it needs to be emailed to all participants before the meeting." Here, the word 'agenda' is singular, so the singular pronoun 'it' is used to refer to the agenda. The options 'this' and 'those' are either demonstrative pronouns that do not fit the sentence structure or are plural, so they are not suitable here.

Key Points: Identify the noun 'agenda' as singular-Use singular pronoun 'it' to refer to singular noun-Understand the difference between 'this', 'those', and 'it'-Apply correct pronoun agreement with the noun

Question 11.

Identify the error and supply correction for the given sentence from an e-commerce website's return policy.

We offers a 30-day return policy on all unopened products purchased from our websites. Use the given format for your response :

[1 Marks]

Error	Correction

Answer: The error in the sentence is the incorrect use of the verb form "offers" with the plural subject "We." Since "We" is a plural pronoun, the correct form of the verb should be "offer" instead of "offers."

Additionally, the word "websites" should be singular "website" if referring to one website or remain plural only if there are multiple websites involved, but usually it is singular in return policies. Therefore, the corrected sentence should be: "We offer a 30-day return policy on all unopened products purchased from our website."

Key Points: Subject-verb agreement - 'We' requires 'offer' not 'offers'- Correction of 'websites' to 'website' for consistency - Proper verb form usage in official policy statements

Question 12.

Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the sentence from a public health campaign. The campaign's goal is to increase physical activity among the younger.

[1 Marks]

Option	Error	Correction
(A)	activity	activities
(B)	goal	goals
(C)	younger	youth
(D)	is	are

Answer: The error in the sentence is the incorrect use of the word "younger." The word "younger" is a comparative adjective and needs to be followed by a noun it compares with, but here it is used improperly. The correct term should be "the young" which refers to young people collectively. Therefore, the corrected sentence is: "The campaign's goal is to increase physical activity among the young." This correction ensures the sentence is grammatically correct and clear.

Key Points: Identify 'younger' as the error-Explain that 'younger' is comparative and improperly used-Replace 'younger' with 'the young' for correct usage-Provide the corrected sentence for clarity

Question 13.

Report the dialogue between a vendor and his customer, by completing the sentence :

Vendor : You look a little different today!

Customer : Yes, I just got a new haircut.

The vendor noticed that his customer’s appearance had changed and asked him about it. The customer admitted this, citing the fact that _____.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The vendor noticed that his customer's appearance had changed and asked him about it. The customer admitted this, citing the fact that he had just got a new haircut.

Key Points: Reporting speech involves changing present tense to past tense - Pronouns must be changed to fit the reported sentence - The sentence should be complete and convey the original meaning in indirect form

Question 14.

Identify the error and supply correction for the given sentence :

The public health campaign aimed in increase awareness of the risks associated with underage drinking.

Use the given format for your response :

[1 Marks]

Error	Correction

Answer: The error in the sentence is the use of the preposition "in" after the verb "aimed". The correct preposition to use with "aimed" in this context is "to". Also, "increase" should be in its base form after "to". The corrected sentence is: "The public health campaign aimed to increase awareness of the risks associated with underage drinking."

Key Points: Identify the incorrect preposition after "aimed"-Understand that "aimed" is followed by "to" plus the base form of the verb-In this case, "to increase" is correct-Form the correct sentence by replacing "aimed in increase" with "aimed to increase"

Section D

Question 15.

Read the dialogue between a librarian and a student. Librarian : Welcome back! It’s good to see you, young man! Student: Thanks! I was overloaded with assignments, so I have not visited the library this week. Based on the conversation above, report the dialogue between a librarian and a student by completing the sentence. The librarian greeted the student warmly, expressing pleasure at his visit. The student thanked her and explained that _____which had limited his recent visits to the library. Select the correct option from those given below :

[1 Marks]

(A) he is overloaded with assignments

(B) he has been overloaded with assignments

(C) he was overloaded with assignments

(D) he had been overloaded with assignments

Explanation:

The student originally said 'I was overloaded with assignments,' indicating a past condition that limited his visits to the library. To report this speech, we use the past perfect or past simple tense appropriately. Here, 'he was overloaded with assignments' correctly reflects the original past tense statement in reported speech. The other options either use incorrect tenses or do not match the original meaning accurately.

Question 16.

Complete the given narrative by filling in the blank with the correct option : The internship at the tech start up had _____ me excited about the potential of innovation and entrepreneurial spirit.

[1 Marks]

(A) to feel

(B) feels

(C) feeling

(D) felt

Explanation:

The correct option is "felt" because the sentence is in the past perfect tense ('had felt') to express a completed action or feeling in the past. The phrase "had felt me excited" correctly conveys that the internship caused the speaker to feel excited. The other options do not fit grammatically in this context.

Question 17. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence to update the result of the regional science fair : ‘We have exciting news to share! Our school _____ first place in the regional science fair.

[1 Marks]

(A) was awarded

(B) awarded

(C) had awarded

(D) has been awarded

Explanation: The sentence is providing recent news, so present perfect passive tense is appropriate here to indicate a recently completed action with current relevance. "Has been awarded" correctly conveys that the school received first place recently. Other options like "had awarded" (past perfect active), "awarded" (simple past active), and "was awarded" (simple past passive) do not fit the present context as well as "has been awarded."

Question 18. Complete the line from a song by filling the blank with the correct option : The morning dew captures your essence, The flowers and grass _____ your colour, The Sunrise embraces your arrival, As the dawn welcomes a new day.

[1 Marks]

(A) reflects

(B) reflect

(C) reflected

(D) shall reflect

Explanation: The sentence is in the present tense describing a general truth about the flowers and grass. Since the subject 'flowers and grass' is plural, the correct verb form is the base form 'reflect' to agree with the plural noun in present tense. The options 'reflected' is past tense, 'reflects' is singular present tense, and 'shall reflect' is future tense which does not fit the context. Therefore, 'reflect' is the correct choice.

Section E

Question 19.

Scientists contribute to make the world a better place. Griffin is an antithesis to this statement. Justify. (Footprints Without Feet)

[2 Marks]

Answer: In the story "Footprints Without Feet" by H.G. Wells, Griffin is portrayed as a scientist who does not make the world a better place. Instead of using his scientific knowledge for the benefit of society, Griffin uses his invention of invisibility for selfish and harmful purposes. His actions cause fear and chaos among people, as he commits crimes and escapes punishment. Unlike scientists who aim to improve life and help others, Griffin chooses to use his power irresponsibly and immorally. Therefore, he stands as an antithesis to the idea that scientists always contribute positively to the world.

> **Key Points: Griffin uses science selfishly-Griffin's invisibility causes fear and harm-Griffin commits crimes and escapes justice-Griffin's actions harm society-Contrasts with positive scientific contributions**

Question 20.

Why did Bholi's teacher feel like an artist admiring her masterpiece ? (Bholi).

[2 Marks]

Answer: Bholi's teacher felt like an artist admiring her masterpiece because she had witnessed Bholi's remarkable transformation. When Bholi first came to school, she was shy, awkward, and lacked confidence. However, under the guidance and encouragement of her teacher, Bholi grew into a confident and self-assured girl. The teacher saw her efforts and patience bearing fruit as Bholi answered questions confidently and stood up for herself. This change gave the teacher immense satisfaction, much like an artist feels proud and pleased when their artwork is completed beautifully.

> **Key Points: Teacher witnessed Bholi's transformation-Initial shyness and lack of confidence-Teacher's encouragement and support-Bholi became confident and self-assured-Teacher felt proud and satisfied, like an artist admiring her finished masterpiece**

Question 21.

What is the twist at the end of the story 'The Necklace' ? (The Necklace)

[2 Marks]

Answer: The twist at the end of the story 'The Necklace' reveals that the necklace Madame Loisel borrowed and later lost was not made of real diamonds but was a fake. Madame Loisel and her husband spend ten years working hard and sacrificing their comforts to repay the huge debt they incur

to replace the necklace, only to find out much later that the original necklace was worthless. This twist highlights the themes of vanity, pride, and the brutal irony of life.

Key Points: Madame Loisel borrows a necklace for a party - She loses the necklace - They buy a costly replacement and repay debts for years - At the end, they learn the original necklace was fake - The story shows irony and consequences of vanity and pride

Question 22.

'What mood of the poet is reflected in the poem 'Dust of Snow' initially ? What images are used by the poet to bring about the effect ? Comment.

[3 Marks]

Answer: Initially, the mood of the poet in the poem 'Dust of Snow' is gloomy and sad. The poet feels downhearted due to some unpleasant experience or thoughts. However, the mood changes when a crow shakes down a dust of snow from a hemlock tree onto him. The images used by the poet to describe this change include the 'dust of snow' falling unexpectedly, which symbolizes a small but beautiful moment in nature. The poet also mentions the hemlock tree and the crow, which create vivid natural imagery. These images of a small act of nature help in shifting the poet's mood from gloomy to happy and thankful. The poem portrays how even minor incidents in nature can have a positive and uplifting effect on a person's feelings.

Key Points: Initial mood is gloomy and sad-The crow shakes dust of snow from a hemlock tree-The dust of snow symbolizes a small, beautiful moment from nature-These images create a vivid scene of nature-The mood changes from sadness to happiness and gratitude-The poem highlights the uplifting power of nature's small acts

Question 23.

How far would you agree that one's positivity can bring in a spark of brightness even in adverse circumstances?

[3 Marks]

Answer: Positivity has the power to bring a spark of brightness even in the most adverse circumstances. When faced with challenges or difficulties, maintaining an optimistic attitude helps boost morale and provides the strength to endure hardships. For example, in the story, Bholi's teacher encouraged and motivated her despite social barriers, which helped Bholi overcome her difficulties. This shows how optimism acts like light in darkness, making hardships easier to bear. Positive thinking fosters hope, courage, and resilience, allowing individuals to find opportunities in difficulties rather than despair. Therefore, I strongly agree that one's positivity can bring brightness and inspire growth even amid tough times.

Key Points: Positivity boosts morale and helps endure stress-Optimism provides strength to face adversity-Bholi's teacher's encouragement as an example-Optimism creates hope and resilience-Positivity helps find opportunity in difficulties

Question 24.

'What makes Custard, the dragon look fearsome? Explain.

[3 Marks]

Answer: Custard, the dragon, looks fearsome because he has big sharp teeth that can scare anyone. Additionally, he has spikes on his back which make him appear dangerous and tough. The dragon also has scales underneath, adding to his intimidating appearance. These physical features make Custard look like a strong and fearsome creature, even though he is actually a coward. His looks contrast with his timid nature, making the story interesting and humorous.

Key Points: Big sharp teeth-Spikes on top of him-Scales underneath-Physical features make him look fearsome-Contrasts with his cowardly nature

Question 25.

Explain, why the speaker mentions God in the poem "For Anne Gregory".

[3 Marks]

Answer: In the poem "For Anne Gregory" by William Butler Yeats, the speaker mentions God to emphasize the connection between divine qualities and human virtues. The speaker highlights qualities such as Mercy, Pity, Peace, and Love, which are considered divine. By stating "Where Mercy, Love & Pity dwell, There God is dwelling too," the poem suggests that God resides in the presence of these virtues. This means that embodying these qualities reflects God's presence within human beings. Thus, mentioning God serves to show that true beauty and goodness come from inner virtues and spiritual qualities rather than external appearance.

Key Points: Mention of God symbolizes divine presence-Mercy, Pity, Peace, and Love are divine virtues-God dwells where these qualities exist-Divine qualities reflect true beauty-Beyond physical appearance-Spiritual connection between God and human virtues

Question 26.

What message might the Buddha's story hold for those who are in positions of power and privilege ?

[3 Marks]

Answer: The Buddha's story carries a powerful message for those in positions of power and privilege. It teaches that true greatness comes from humility, compassion, and recognizing the equality of all

human beings, regardless of caste, birth, or social status. The story of the sensitive girl condemned by birth to a lower caste, who gains dignity and self-worth through the humanity shown by a follower of the Buddha, highlights the importance of respecting everyone. It warns the powerful against arrogance and urges them to serve others with kindness, justice, and fairness. The message also reflects a protest against social hierarchies and promotes the idea that no one is superior by birth or status. Thus, those in privileged positions should use their power responsibly, treat every individual with respect, and work to reduce social inequalities, as exemplified by the Buddha's teachings on human equality and compassion.

Key Points: Message of humility and compassion-Equality of all human beings regardless of birth or caste-Importance of respecting and valuing others-Call for responsible use of power and privilege-Advocacy against social hierarchies and discrimination-Promotion of justice and fairness in society

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Section F

Question 27.

There are daily reports in the newspaper of fatal accidents due to reckless driving and road rage. Write a letter to the Commissioner of Traffic Police in about 120 words suggesting the need to take stricter action against the offenders. Recommend the use of social media to launch awareness campaigns about the implications of irresponsible driving. You are Shantanu / Savita, living at B-108 Krishi Apartments.

[5 Marks]

Answer:

To,
The Commissioner of Traffic Police,
City Traffic Department,
[City Name].

Subject: Request for Stricter Action against Reckless Driving and Use of Social Media for Awareness.

Respected Sir/Madam,

I am Shantanu residing at B-108 Krishi Apartments. I write to express my concern over the rising number of fatal accidents caused by reckless driving and road rage, as frequently reported in newspapers. Such incidents endanger the lives of citizens and disturb public peace.

I earnestly request that strict punishments and fines be imposed on offenders to deter such dangerous

behavior. Moreover, social media platforms should be effectively utilized to launch awareness campaigns highlighting the consequences of irresponsible driving. These campaigns can educate and encourage responsible behavior among drivers, especially the youth.

Your cooperation in making our roads safer would be highly appreciated.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,
Shantanu
B-108 Krishi Apartments

Key Points: Address the letter to the Commissioner of Traffic Police- Express concern about fatal accidents caused by reckless driving and road rage- Suggest stricter action against traffic offenders to reduce accidents- Recommend using social media platforms for awareness campaigns- Emphasize educating the public about consequences of irresponsible driving- Mention your name and address as Shantanu at B-108 Krishi Apartments- Maintain a polite and formal tone.

Question 28.

A leading communication company 'Savera' is sponsoring a half marathon run in your city to raise funds for 'Koshish' an orphanage. You are Roshini/Roshan, school captain of Adarsh Vidyalaya. You are leading a batch of hundred students in the half marathon to be held in your city.

Write a letter to the editor of a national daily emphasizing the participation of school children in such programmes as part of voluntary community service. Highlight the benefits of participation in such activities.

[5 Marks]

Answer:

Adarsh Vidyalaya
City Name
Date

To
The Editor
National Daily
City

Subject: Importance of School Children Participating in Voluntary Community Service Activities

Respected Sir/Madam,

I am Roshan, the school captain of Adarsh Vidyalaya. I am honored to lead a group of hundred students participating in the half marathon organized by 'Savera' to raise funds for the orphanage ‘Koshish’ in our city. I would like to emphasize the significance of school children engaging in such voluntary community service activities.

Participation in events like this not only builds physical stamina and promotes a healthy lifestyle but also fosters a strong sense of social responsibility among young minds. It helps us understand the challenges faced by underprivileged sections of society, encourages empathy, and motivates us to contribute to their welfare actively. Taking part in community service enhances leadership qualities, teamwork, and discipline, which are essential life skills.

Moreover, when children come together for a noble cause, it inspires awareness in the community and amplifies the impact of charitable efforts. Such experiences prepare us to become responsible citizens who cherish humanity and work towards social betterment.

Therefore, I strongly advocate encouraging schoolchildren to participate in similar initiatives as it benefits individuals and society at large.

Thank you for considering my views.

Yours sincerely,
Roshan
School Captain
Adarsh Vidyalaya

Key Points: Mention the event and organizer- Role as school captain leading students- Importance of voluntary community service- Benefits like developing empathy, social responsibility, leadership, teamwork- Promotes health and physical fitness- Raises awareness for social causes- Encourages community involvement- Helps shape responsible citizens

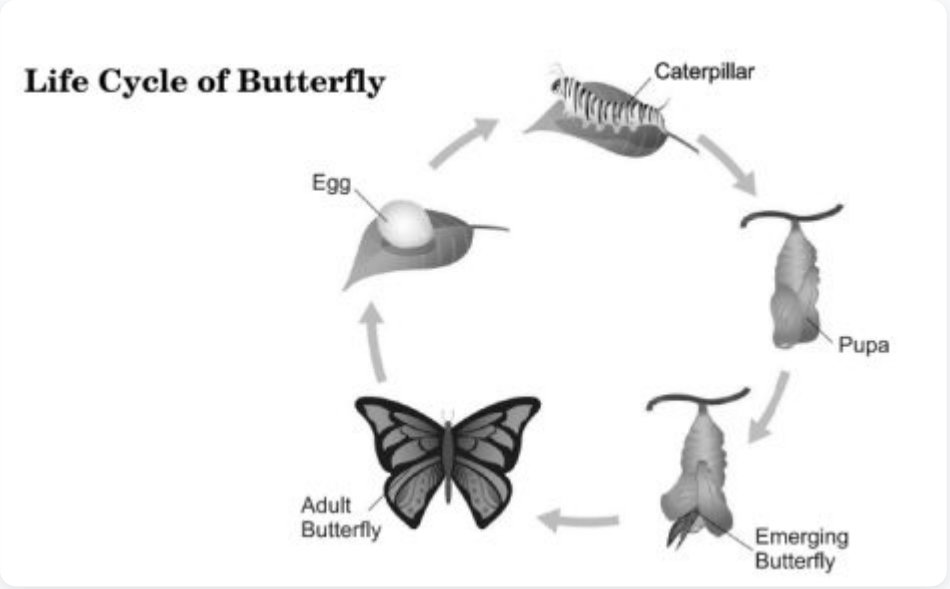
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Section G

Question 29.

The visual given shows the life cycle of a butterfly. Study the information carefully and then summarise it in the form of an analytical paragraph. Make comparisons and draw conclusions wherever applicable.

[5 Marks]



Answer: The life cycle of a butterfly consists of four distinct stages: egg, larva (caterpillar), pupa (chrysalis), and adult butterfly. Initially, the butterfly lays eggs on leaves, which hatch into caterpillars. The caterpillar stage involves intense feeding and growth, preparing it for metamorphosis. During the pupal stage, the caterpillar forms a chrysalis where it transforms into a butterfly. This transformation highlights the remarkable process of complete metamorphosis. Comparing these stages, the caterpillar stage is mainly for growth, while the adult butterfly stage focuses on reproduction and dispersal. This cycle not only ensures the continuation of the species but also plays a vital ecological role in pollination. Overall, the butterfly's life cycle is an excellent example of nature's complexity and adaptability.

Key Points: Four distinct stages: egg, larva, pupa, adult-Description of each stage and its function-Comparison between larva feeding stage and adult reproductive stage-Emphasis on metamorphosis process-Conclusion on ecological importance and species continuation

Question 30.

Study the table given below which shows the data on the hobbies of students during summer vacations. Write an analytical paragraph in about 120 words analyzing what hobbies do boys and girls choose in their summer vacations :

[5 Marks]

Hobbies	Boys	Girls
Singing	7%	25%
Photography	35%	5%
Playing	30%	16%
Dancing	13%	40%
Yoga	19%	15%

Answer:

Hobbies are activities that students enjoy during their free time, especially in summer vacations. Based on the data, boys and girls show different preferences in their hobbies. Boys mostly prefer outdoor or physically engaging activities such as playing sports or video games. On the other hand, girls tend to prefer creative hobbies like drawing, painting, or music. Some girls also enjoy indoor hobbies such as clay-modeling and stamp collecting. Both boys and girls participate in hobbies that develop their skills and keep them engaged, but their choices reflect varied interests and personal preferences. These hobbies help students refresh their minds and improve their talents during the vacation period.

Key Points: Definition of hobbies-Hobbies are free-time activities-Examples of hobbies include painting, music, stamp-collecting-Distinction between boys and girls hobbies-Boys prefer sports and video games-Girls prefer creative activities like drawing and music-Hobbies help in skill development and relaxation

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Section H

Question 31.

How did the lady in red manage to outsmart and out maneuver the other thief, Horace Danby, by robbing the safe without leaving a single fingerprint ? (A Question of Trust)

[6 Marks]

Answer: In the story "A Question of Trust," the lady in red cleverly outsmarted Horace Danby, a thief himself, by creating an elaborate deception. She managed to convince Horace that she was the wife of the house owner, thus gaining his trust. The lady used subtle hints and her confident demeanor to deceive Horace, who was meticulous yet gullible. Unlike Horace, who left fingerprints everywhere as he opened the safe without gloves, the lady took great care not to leave any fingerprints. She wore gloves while robbing the safe, ensuring that there was no evidence against her. While Horace was busy focusing on his plan and the jewels, he failed to suspect the lady’s true identity. Her skillful manipulation and the thoroughness of her planning helped her achieve the feat of robbing the safe cleanly and escaping arrest. This shows that sometimes, intelligence and deception can outmaneuver even the most careful criminals. The story also illustrates the theme that appearances can be deceptive, and trust is a risky gamble in the world of crime.

Key Points: The lady convincingly posed as the lady of the house - She used subtle ways to gain Horace's trust - Horace did not suspect because of her confident and believable behavior - The lady wore gloves while robbing, leaving no fingerprints -

Horace opened the safe without gloves, leaving fingerprints and getting caught - The lady's careful planning and deception outsmarted a meticulous thief

Question 32.

Hari Singh says — “He knew it but neither his lips nor his eyes showed anything.”

Anil successfully addressed the situation by not addressing it at all. Elaborate based on your reading of The Thief’s Story.

[6 Marks]

Answer: In 'The Thief’s Story,' Anil shows exceptional understanding and compassion towards Hari Singh, the thief. When Hari Singh steals from him, Anil does not react with anger or suspicion. Instead, he remains calm and unaffected—his lips say nothing, and his eyes betray no emotion. This composed response surprises Hari Singh and makes him reflect on himself. Anil’s kindness, exemplified when he offers Hari Singh a chance to learn reading and writing rather than punishing him, addresses the issue indirectly but effectively. By not confronting or punishing Hari Singh for the theft, Anil inspires trust and honesty, enabling Hari Singh to change. This approach contrasts with what most people might do—immediate punishment or reporting to the police. Anil’s gentle behavior encourages Hari Singh to return the stolen items secretly and reconsider his life choices. Thus, Anil’s silence and calmness become a powerful way of addressing the situation successfully without confrontation, which ultimately transforms Hari Singh.

Key Points: Anil's calm and composed reaction to theft - No anger or accusation shown- His lips and eyes show no reaction - This surprises Hari Singh - Anil offers learning instead of punishment - Inspires Hari Singh to return stolen things - Encourages honesty and transformation - Contrasts with usual reactions of punishment - Indirectly addresses problem with kindness and trust

Question 33.

In the chapter ‘A Baker from Goa’ the narrator talks about his childhood in Goa and his fond memories. In about 120 words write a presentation draft comparing the childhood of the narrator in ‘A Baker from Goa’ to that of Nelson Mandela.

You may begin this way :

Childhood memories remind us of the days gone by.....

Reference : A Baker from Goa and Nelson Mandela : Long Walk

[6 Marks]

Answer: Childhood memories remind us of the days gone by, filled with simple joys and valuable lessons. In ‘A Baker from Goa’, the narrator fondly recalls his childhood days when the baker was not

just a seller of bread but also a friend, companion, and guide. The traditional bread-making and the close-knit community reflect a peaceful and warm environment. On the other hand, Nelson Mandela's childhood in South Africa was marked by challenges under apartheid. Though both had different experiences, they shared strong influences from their surroundings which shaped their values and character. While the narrator's childhood in Goa was peaceful and nostalgic, Mandela's childhood was tougher but equally inspiring in teaching resilience and hope.

Key Points: Nostalgic memories of childhood in Goa-Bread baker as a friend and guide-Traditional bread-making and community warmth-Nelson Mandela's childhood under apartheid-Tough conditions for Mandela but with lessons of resilience-Comparison of peaceful and challenging childhoods-Impact of childhood on their values and character

Question 34.

Amanda from the poem 'Amanda' is a teenager like Anne Frank and lives in her fantasy world whereas Anne is a chatter box. What conversation will Anne Frank have with Amanda about different perspectives of life ? Write your answer in about 120 words.

[6 Marks]

Answer: Anne Frank and Amanda, though both teenagers, have very different ways of seeing life. Anne, a lively chatterbox, might tell Amanda that despite the hardships she faced, she found strength in expressing her thoughts and feelings openly. Anne would encourage Amanda to balance her fantasies with reality, suggesting that while imagination is beautiful, facing real-life challenges bravely is important too. Amanda, who lives in a world of dreams and wishes to escape her reality, could find inspiration from Anne's resilience. Anne might say that sharing one's thoughts with friends and family helps overcome loneliness. Their conversation would highlight that both fantasy and expression play important roles in coping with life's struggles, but embracing reality helps one grow stronger.

Key Points: Both teenagers with different outlooks - Amanda's fantasy world and Anne's outgoing nature-Anne's encouragement to use imagination and face reality bravely-Alice's resilience inspiring Amanda-Importance of expressing feelings and sharing thoughts-Life perspectives about coping with challenges and loneliness