

Section – A

READING COMPREHENSION (SEEN)

1. Read the following paragraph and answer the questions that follow:

The young man threw the hammer and the chisel to the ground and cried “I’m leaving you, father, I’m leaving you and your work. Look what it has brought us.” He spread out his arms, looked at the small, congested dark room, the slabs of stone and marble stacked up in one corner, the cot covered with heaps of used clothes, the paint of white-washed walls had come off. “Look what it has brought us-nothing, nothing!” the young man repeated in anger, “This kind of work just doesn’t pay.”

The old man stared at his son. His voice, though trembling, hadn’t lost its usual gentleness. “It is not the money alone that matters, son. It is the service, our service to God.”

“Father”, the young man cried impatiently, “times have changed. The stone mason’s work has changed too. You can’t live carving sculptures for temples only. You have to mass produce like all the other people in Agra. Come on, father!”

The lines around the old man’s mouth tightened. “No my son”, he answered with determination. “No, this is the work I have learnt from my father and he had learnt it from his. We have kept up this tradition for hundreds of years. And I had hoped you would continue our work.”

“No, father”, the young man replied. “Father, there is so much more money in ashtrays and plates for tourists.”

- A. Write the correct alternative to complete the following sentences:

1×5=5

(i) The young man threw _____.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| (a) the hammer and the chisel | (b) the chisel |
| (c) the hammer | (d) the tong |

(ii) The young man threatened his father to leave _____.

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| (a) him | (b) his friend |
| (c) him and his work | (d) his uncle |

(iii) The young man was angry as this kind of work _____.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) does not pay | (b) does not go places |
| (c) does demand perserverance | (d) does invite hooligans |

(iv) The young man said to his father _____.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| (a) times have changed along with
the stone mason’s work | (b) times have not changed |
| (c) stone mason’s work has not changed | (d) nothing has undergone any change |

(v) The father held the view that his son _____.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| (a) would continue his work | (b) would choose a different profession |
| (c) would go abroad to work | (d) would leave the town |

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B. Complete the following sentences with information from the text:

1×3=3

(a) Look what it has brought us _____.

(b) The father came up to defend his profession, saying _____

_____.

(c) The son suggests _____.

C. State whether the following statements are True or False. Write “T” for True and “F” for False statements. Provide sentences/phrases/words in support of your answer: 2×2=4

(a) The old man said that it was not money that mattered but it was a kind of special service.

☐

Supporting statement: _____

(b) The young man said that there was more money in some other work.

☐

Supporting statement: _____

2. Read the lines of the poem and answer the questions that follow:

My country! In thy day of glory past
A beauteous halo circled round thy brow.
And worshipped as a deity thou wast.
Where is that glory, where that reverence now?
Thy eagle pinion is chained down at last,
And grovelling in the lowly dust art thou
Thy minstrel hath no wreath to weave for thee
Save and sad story of thy misery!
Well – let me dive into the depths of time.

A. Write the correct alternative to complete the following sentences:

1×4=4

(i) The poet is talking about his country in its _____.

(a) present times

(b) long past

(c) future days

(d) days of glory past

(ii) In those times, its brow was circled round by _____.

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| (a) a beauteous halo | (b) an orb |
| (c) sunshine | (d) fire ring |

(iii) He asks about the loss of the past _____.

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| (a) glory and reverence | (b) glory and lustre |
| (c) sheen and brilliance | (d) glory and charm |

(iv) He wants to take a dive into the _____.

- | | |
|-----------|--------------------|
| (a) water | (b) pond |
| (c) sea | (d) depths of time |

B. Answer the following questions:

2×2=4

(a) With which bird does the poet compare his country?

Ans:

(b) What did the minstrel weave for India in the past years?

Ans:

READING COMPREHENSION (UNSEEN)

3. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Corona virus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly-discovered Corona virus. COVID-19 affects different people in different ways. Most infected people will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. Older people and those with underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease and cancer are most likely to develop serious illness. While the most common symptoms are fever, dry

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cough, tiredness, the less common symptoms are aches, sore throat, diarrhoea, conjunctivitis, headache, loss of taste or smell, a rash on skin or discolouration of fingers or toes.

The best way to prevent and slow down transmission is to be well-informed about the disease and how it spreads. Frequently and thoroughly clean your hands with alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water.

Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth. Corona virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person speaks, coughs or sneezes. So it's important to wear masks, cover our mouth and nose with our bent elbow or tissue when we cough or sneeze. Maintain at least 1 metre (3 feet) distance between yourself and others and avoid going to crowded places. Stay home and isolate yourself even with minor symptoms until you recover. Under any situation, we should not be panicked.

A. Choose the correct alternative to complete the following sentences:

1×6=6

(i) Most people infected with Corona virus:

- (a) recover easily ☐
- (b) die ☐
- (c) need special treatment ☐
- (d) become seriously ill ☐

(ii) Corona virus primarily spreads through

- (a) water ☐
- (b) food ☐
- (c) soil ☐
- (d) droplets from an infected person ☐

(iii) We should not

- (a) create awareness ☐
- (b) maintain distance ☐
- (c) create panic ☐
- (d) be well-informed ☐

(iv) Corona virus is a/an

(a) hereditary disease

☐

(b) psychological disease

☐

(c) deficiency disease

☐

(d) infectious disease

☐

(v) The minimum distance to be maintained between two persons is

(a) 3 metres

☐

(b) 2 metres

☐

(c) 1 metre

☐

(d) All of them

☐

(vi) The best way to prevent the infection is

(a) isolation

☐

(b) hospitalization

☐

(c) taking medicine

☐

(d) becoming intimate

☐

B. State whether the following statements are 'True' or 'False'. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False in the boxes on the right hand side. Provide sentence(s)/phrase(s)/word(s) from the passage in support of your answers: (1+1)×3=6

(a) COVID-19 is a non-infectious disease and cannot affect people.

☐

Supporting statement: _____

(b) Loss of taste or smell is one of the most common symptoms of Corona virus.

☐

Supporting statement: _____

(c) The fatal virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or nasal discharge from an infected person while coughing or sneezing and speaking.

☐

Supporting statement: _____

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C. Answer the following questions:

2×4=8

(a) Why are older people most likely to develop serious illness?

Ans:

(b) What is the best way to prevent and slow down transmission?

Ans:

(c) What are the symptoms of the most infected people?

Ans:

(d) How will the infected person take precautionary measures from spreading the disease?

Ans:

Section – B

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY

4. Use appropriate forms of the verb given in the brackets:

1×3=3

When Mr. Gupta _____ (return/returned/was returning) home he noticed at once that thieves _____ (enter/have entered/had entered) his house during his absence. The local police station _____ (was informing/was informed/had informed) immediately.

5. Do as directed:

A. Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles and prepositions: 1×3=3

James Watt was a Scottish inventor who created _____ world's first efficient steam engine.
He later manufactured these _____ Birmingham, England _____ much success.

B. (i) The trainer said, "Why is everybody late today?" (*Change the narration*) 1

Ans:

(ii) The teacher delivered a lecture to a group of students. (*Change the voice*) 1

Ans:

(iii) Aditri runs faster than any other girl in her class. (*Rewrite using the positive degree of "faster"*) 1

Ans:

C. Choose the correct phrasal verbs from the list given below to replace the words underlined. Write the correct phrasal verbs in the boxes on the right-hand side, changing the form where necessary. There is one extra phrasal verb in the list. 1×3=3

(i) They started their journey early in the morning.

(ii) I cannot understand what you are saying.

(iii) The man abandoned evil company.

[List:]

6. Given below are the meanings of four words which you will find in the passage in Question no. 3. Find out the words and write them in the appropriate boxes on the right-hand side: 2×4=8

(a) Separate from others

(b) Connected with breathing

(c) Something that comes out from inside

(d) Fatigue

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Section – C

WRITING

7. Write a letter (in about 100 words) to your friend living in another state stating your experience about the recent floods in some of the districts of West Bengal. 10

Ans:

8. Write a paragraph (in about 100 words) on your “Visit to a place of historical interest”. You may use the following points: 10

[Points: name of the place – persons who accompanied you – time of visit – conveyance availed – things you saw/liked – your feelings]

Ans:

9. Write a newspaper report in about 120 words on the uncontrolled use of loudspeakers and sound-boxes during different programmes and festival. You may use the following points: 10

[Points: Loudspeakers and sound-boxes used day-in, day-out – government norms violated frequently – aged persons, patients, students suffer the worst – permanent remedy needed]

Ans: