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ENGLISH

Full Marks : 90

Pass Marks : 27

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

ALLOTMENT OF MARKS

Q. Nos. 1 and 2 [Section—A (Reading)]	= 20
Q. Nos. 3–5 [Section—B (Writing)]	= 20
Q. Nos. 6–8 [Section—C (Grammar)]	= 10
Q. Nos. 9–14 [Section—D (Textual Questions)]	= 40
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	Total = 90

SECTION—A

(Reading)

1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

King Bruce was a famous king of Scotland in Europe. He was a true patriot. He was very brave and courageous also. The ruler of England was very jealous of him. He raised a large army and invaded Scotland. Unluckily Bruce suffered a defeat and he had to run for life. So, the country of Scotland came under the English rule.

King Bruce made six brave attempts to free his country from the English yoke but all in vain. So, he was disappointed. He ran to a forest and hid himself in a cave. He was going to give up trying any more.

Suddenly the king's eyes fell on a spider hanging from a thread. It was trying to reach its cob-web. Every time it went up, it slipped down. But it kept trying again and again. It went on making effort after effort non-stop. Bruce counted nine brave attempts of the spider. Still it could not reach the cob-web.

The king was sure that the insect would now leave attempting any more. But he was in the wrong. Nine failures did not discourage the spider. It did not lose heart. After taking a little rest it started its tenth attempt. Step by step it went up. At first the king said, "Silly spider! Why doesn't it leave the attempt?"

But the king was surprised to see that this time the spider was just at the door-step of its cob-web. The king now watched it eagerly. Lo! A brave leap nestled it in its home.

“Bravo! Bravo!!” the king cried out in praise, “all honour to those who try. Surely, I too must try again to win my throne.”

So, Bruce raised an army once again. He invaded his enemy, the English king, with such a force that he won a grand victory. Scotland was free and Bruce was on his throne again.

Questions :

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|-----|-------|---|---|
| (a) | (i) | Who was King Bruce? | 1 |
| | (ii) | Where did King Bruce run and where did he hide himself? | 1 |
| | (iii) | Why had King Bruce to run away? | 1 |
| | (iv) | What did King Bruce observe in the cave? | 1 |
| | (v) | What did King Bruce say to the spider at first? | 2 |
| | (vi) | What did King Bruce say to the spider at the end? | 2 |
| | (vii) | How did King Bruce make Scotland free? | 2 |
- (b) Pick out the words from the passage that mean the following : 1×2=2
- | | |
|------|---|
| (i) | A person who loves his or her country |
| (ii) | Ready to face and endure danger or pain |

2. Read the following passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

1. Ratan Tata had dreamt of manufacturing the cheapest car in India and in the world for ₹ one lakh, which most people could afford. India is a country of

middle-class people and most aspire to have a car. Therefore, a car which would meet their budget was very much required. The car's design and features must be artistic, pleasing and people should get attracted to it and desire to buy it. To make this car, Ratan Tata had to be very careful about spending on the development of the car and this was the biggest challenge. This was where most of the internationally well-known global carmakers had given up.

2. Ratan Tata had often observed families riding on two-wheelers, the father driving, the elder child standing in front, the mother sitting behind, holding the younger child or the baby. After seeing this, he thought about a car which would be affordable, safe, sustainable in all weather conditions. He then started working on the Nano project with his team and has today made a cheap but luxurious car for the people. He has fulfilled not only his own dream, but also the dream of some people who could not afford a car for a long time.
3. Ratan Tata had a business opportunity, he dreamt well for the people and not only did he fulfill his own dream, but also fulfilled the dreams of others by creating the Nano. People will be inspired by the achievements of Ratan Tata and will come up with better ideas.

Questions :

- (a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it and add a suitable title to it. 5
- (b) Make a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. 3

(5)

SECTION—B

(Writing)

3. You are arranging an educational tour to Tezpur in the last week of May. Describe your preparations to your classmates in about 100 words.

6

OR

You are Ramesh/Rina. You were one of the volunteers who donated blood at the Blood Donation Camp organized by the Students' Union of your school/college. Write a description about your experience and feelings while donating blood (maximum 100 words).

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4. Write an article for your school/college magazine on the preventive measures for COVID-19 pandemic using the following points :

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(i) Clean your hands often

(ii) Maintain a safe distance

(iii) Wear a mask

(iv) Stay home if you feel unwell and immediately consult a doctor

OR

Write an article for your school/college magazine on the importance of cleanliness in the school/college campus.

6

(6)

5. You are Ashish/Asha. You are planning to spend your summer vacation in Assam Bhawan, Kolkata. Write a letter to the Manager of Assam Bhawan (Russell Street, Middleton Row, Park Street, Kolkata-700071) requesting him to reserve a room for you. 8

OR

Write a letter to the Editor of 'The Assam Tribune' drawing attention of the authorities concerned to the problem of waterlogging and poor drainage system in your locality. 8

SECTION—C

(Grammar)

6. (a) Fill in the blanks with suitable determiners (any three) : 1×3=3

- (i) She made _____ mistakes while writing.
(much/many)
- (ii) I have _____ friends in this city.
(few/a few/the few)
- (iii) She has barely _____ beautiful dress.
(some/any)
- (iv) _____ care could have prevented the accident.
(Little/A little)
- (v) The Ganges is _____ holy river. (a/an)
- (vi) The gardener waters _____ plants every day.
(this/that/these)

(b) Rewrite any *three* of the following sentences with the correct form of verb given in the brackets : $1 \times 3 = 3$

- (i) It (rain) now, we can't go out.
- (ii) She (read) a book when I visited her.
- (iii) People (shout) when fire broke out last night.
- (iv) We (go) to watch a football match today afternoon.
- (v) An apple a day (keep) the doctor away.
- (vi) The other employees had already left the office but John (still work) there.

7. Correct any *two* of the following : $1 \times 2 = 2$

- (a) The honesty is the best policy.
- (b) She invited my husband and myself.
- (c) She is one of the tallest girl in the class.
- (d) Give me the scissor.

8. Rewrite the following sentences as directed (any *two*) : $1 \times 2 = 2$

- (a) He works like a donkey all day long.
(Change into negative-interrogative)

- (b) John admitted his guilt.
(Change into complex sentence)
- (c) He liked what I suggested.
(Change into simple sentence)
- (d) Being innocent, he never thought of running away.
(Change into compound sentence)

SECTION—D

(Textual Questions)

9. Read any of the stanzas given below and answer the questions that follow :

(a) And who art thou? Said I to the soft-falling shower,
Which, strange to tell, gave me an answer, as
I am the Poem of Earth, said the voice of the rain,
Eternal I rise impalpable out of the land and
Upward to heaven, whence, vaguely form'd, altogether
changed, and yet the same,

- (i) To whom the question is asked? 1
- (ii) Who is the Poem of Earth? 1
- (iii) Who rises eternally? 1
- (iv) To where does it rise? 1
- (v) Write a brief summary of the above stanza. 4

OR

(b) When did my childhood go?

Was it the time I realized that adults were not
All they seemed to be,
They talked of love and preached of love,
But did not act so lovingly,
Was that the day!

- (i) Where do these lines occur? 1
- (ii) When does the poet think that he lost his
childhood? 1
- (iii) What do the adults talk of? 1
- (iv) Do the adults act lovingly? 1
- (v) What does the speaker think about the adults? 4

10. Answer any *two* of the following questions : 3×2=6

- (a) What does rain do to the earth, as has been said by
the voice of the rain?
- (b) What is the 'laboured ease of loss' in the poem,
A Photograph?
- (c) Briefly evaluate the poet's attitude towards life as seen
in the last stanza of the poem, *A Photograph*.
- (d) Why does the poet say that his childhood "went to
some forgotten place"?
- (e) What does the phrase 'strange to tell' mean in the
poem, *The Voice of the Rain*?

11. Answer any *five* of the following questions :

2×5=10

- (a) How did the author's grandmother look?
- (b) How did the author's grandfather look in his portrait?
- (c) How did the author's grandmother prepare to take him to the village school?
- (d) Why did the author's grandmother not like his city school?
- (e) What do the earth's vital signs reveal?
- (f) Why is it said that "forests precede mankind; deserts follow"?
- (g) How can population explosion be controlled?
- (h) What are the things that Verrier Elwin loves about Assam?
- (i) What does Verrier Elwin like about the people of Kenya and Tanganyika?
- (j) What does Verrier Elwin say about the art of personal decoration of the people of Assam?

12. (a) "Industry has a most crucial role to play in this new Era of Responsibility." Elaborate this view.

OR

(b) Describe how the author's grandmother fed the sparrows in the afternoon.

6

6

13. Answer any *one* of the following questions :

6

- (a) How do you distinguish between information gathering and insight formation from your reading of *Albert Einstein at School*?
- (b) "The school system often curbs individual talents." Discuss this matter from your reading of *Albert Einstein at School*.
- (c) What do you understand about Einstein's nature from his conversations with his History Teacher, his Mathematics Teacher, and his Head Teacher?

14. Answer any *two* of the following questions in brief : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- (a) Why did Mr. Braun scold young Einstein?
- (b) Why did Albert see no point in learning dates and facts from History books?
- (c) What was Mathematics Teacher Koch's opinion about Albert?
- (d) Who was Yuri? How did he help Albert?
