



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KBIR

Subject: ENGLISH CORE (301)

SAMPLE PAPER - 2024

Duration: 3Hrs

TOTAL MARKS: 80

General Instructions:

1. 15-minute prior reading time allotted for Q-paper reading.
2. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, WRITING and LITERATURE.
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number in your answer sheet to indicate the option/s being attempted.

SECTION A- READING

22

I **Read the passage given below:**

12

Wi-Fi: Threat to Health

(1) It is popularly believed that wireless technology was created in the year 1880, when Alexander Graham Bell and Charles Sumner Tainter invented the telephone. In that moment they changed the very course of human civilization. Today you would be hard-pressed to find an adult (or even a child) who does not have access to mobile technology.

(2) Wireless communication is the transfer of information or power between two or more points that are not connected by an electrical conductor. The most common wireless technologies use radio waves. With radio waves, distances can be short, such as a few meters for Bluetooth, or as far as millions of kilometers for deep-space radio communications. It encompasses various types of fixed, mobile, and portable applications, including two-way radios, cellular telephones, personal digital assistants (PDAs), and wireless networking. In fact, all our Wi-Fi devices also emit radio waves.

(3) Wireless networks are gaining popularity due to their convenience. This ease of connectivity comes at a price. On-going research has identified that signals from a wireless network are potentially dangerous to humans. The constant proximity to wireless signals can cause headaches, insomnia, cardiac arrest and other health issues. Researchers have established that Wi-Fi network signals predominantly affect the lower half of the human body and can trigger liver and pancreatic cancer.

(4) In 2011, the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer classified wireless radiations from cell phones, baby monitors, tablets, cell towers, radar, Wi-Fi etc. as Class 2B carcinogens. This Class 2B carcinogen classification applies to appliances with an operating frequency ranging from 30 kHz to 300 GHz. This means all

this while, as we were scrolling through online entertainment, we have been sitting on a ticking time bomb.

(5) With the rapid growth of mobile phone devices in the market, technology has developed in such a way that it has ended up creating a horrifying situation for the human body. The normal biological systems of the human body have not developed in any way to adapt to or protect against harmful radio waves.

(6) This has led to a rise in serious ailments such as diseases of brain like cancer, brain tumors, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease and so on. Not to forget the short - term effects like hormone disruption, loss of concentration, impairment of cognitive function, behavioral problems, attention deficit; and long-term effects like DNA damage, male infertility.

(7) For children, the wireless devices have even more grave consequences because they have thinner bony skulls, more aqueous bodies/brains, higher rate of cell turnover and, hence their neural systems are not completely developed. Beyond physical impairments, children are also vulnerable to stunted socio-emotional, cognitive and behavioral development.

(8) Given the ubiquity of technology in today's society and the importance of this issue for policy and practice, it is essential to understand the impacts of technology use on the developing brains and bodies of children in the 21st century in order to guide policy delineating safe and effective use. Parents and guardians should be discerning when it comes to guidelines and research, while governments and groups with policy influence should be cautious of prescribing policy without exploring the evidence base in a holistic and thorough manner.

(9) International exposure guidelines have been developed to provide protection against established effects from radio frequency fields by the International Commission on Nonionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP, 1998) and the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE, 2005). It is up to national authorities to adopt these international standards to protect their citizens against adverse levels of radio wave exposure. They should restrict access to areas where exposure limits may be exceeded.

(10) France has banned all wireless devices, including cell phones from all public schools starting September 2018, and California Public Health is actively educating their public regarding risk of harm from wireless radiation. Even in India, several eminent scientists have begun a crusade to caution the Government against the roll-out of 5G technology based services in the country. We can make smarter choices about the way we use technology by making changes in our everyday usage patterns. For instance, adults carrying cell phones (and other wireless devices) can either turn off the device or convert device to 'airplane mode' when servicing or interacting with children and pregnant mothers.

(12) Precautionary measures for adults include increasing the distance, duration and frequency of wireless device use; reducing multiple device use; and reducing exposure to high wireless radiation areas. By making minor modifications to our daily routines and habits, we can try and minimize the harmful effects of wireless technology.

- 1.1 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions below: 12
- (A) When the author mentions that the invention of wireless technology changed the very course of human civilization, it means that the invention has: 1
- (a) changed the lifestyle of people
 - (b) changed the science on which technology is created
 - (c) created adverse health issues
 - (d) made humans more cautious and informed beings
- (B) “We can make smarter choices about the way we use technology everyday usage of patterns.” Pick the option in which the meaning of ‘patterns’ is NOT the same as it is in the passage. 1
- (a) By the time the police caught up to Sanders, they knew even more about his patterns and practices.
 - (b) Silk scarfs in contrasting shades and embroidered patterns enhance this busy, but feminine look.
 - (c) Over time, female textile entrepreneurs developed certain patterns in their business plans which made them very rich.
 - (d) The nutrition researchers studied everyday breakfast patterns of the citizens of Washington
- (C) Based on your understanding of the passage, choose the option that lists the correct sequence of the information delivered to the reader about wireless technology. 1
- (I) Such as diseases of brain like cancer, brain tumors, Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease and so on.
 - (II) It is up to national authorities to adopt these international standards to protect their citizens against adverse levels of radio wave exposure.
 - (III) Radio waves are the most commonly used wireless technology.
 - (IV) We can make smarter choices about the way we use technology by making changes in our everyday usage patterns.
 - (V) The ease of connectivity is very convenient but causes health issues to humans.
 - (VI) Wireless technology was invented by Graham Bell and Sumner Tainter in the year 1880.
- (a) (III), (VI), (V), (I), (II), (IV)
 - (b) (III), (VI), (V), (I), (IV), (II)
 - (c) (VI), (III), (V), (I), (IV), (II)
 - (d) (VI), (III), (V), (I), (II), (IV)
- (D) Author says that given the ubiquity of technology in today’s society, it is essential to understand the impacts of technology on developing brains. ‘Ubiquity’ means, being 1
- (a) Somewhere
 - (b) Rare
 - (c) Everywhere
 - (d) Nowhere
- (E) Choose the option that best captures the central idea of the passage from the following: 1
- (a) The invention of wireless technology changed the very course of human civilization.
 - (b) With the rapid growth of mobile phone devices in the market, technology has

developed in such a way that it has ended up creating a horrifying situation for the human body.

(c) With wireless technology being ubiquitous, health issues have increased but by making minor modifications to our daily routines and habits, we can try and minimise the harmful effects of it.

(d) Many countries have banned the use of wireless technology. Even in India, several eminent scientists have begun a crusade to caution the Government against the roll-out of 5G technology-based services in the country.

(F) How can we make smarter choices about the way we use technology? 2

(G) According to the passage, the fact that wireless technology is one of the most conveniently and universally used invention, however potentially very dangerous to human life; shows that wireless technology is 1

- (a) favourable but unhealthy
- (b) advantageous but risky
- (c) beneficial but unthreatening
- (d) accessible but hazardous

(H) Pick the option showing the CORRECT use of the word 'discerning'. 1

- (a) Most chefs have very discerning sense of taste.
- (b) In the judiciary, discerning critical judgements are based on the evidences.
- (c) His championship was perhaps not the most discerning, but it was honest.
- (d) He made very discerning decision when the question of buying a new house arose.

(I) Pick the option which correctly states what DOES NOT happen due to wireless technology? 1

- (a) Medical issues
- (b) Easy accessibility
- (c) Health benefits
- (d) High radiations

(J) The precautionary measures recommended by the author are 1

- (a) Impractical and unreasonable
- (b) Practical and easily adaptable
- (c) Practical with little modifications in daily routine
- (d) Practical with no modifications in daily routine

(K) Pick the option that CORRECTLY lists the final feelings of the author with reference to the use of wireless technology. 1

- (I) Mindful
- (II) Frustrated
- (III) Aware
- (IV) Cautious
- (V) Scared
- (VI) Annoyed

- (a) (I) and (V)
- (b) (IV) and (V)

- (c) (I) and (III)
- (d) (III) and (VI)

II Read the passage given below:

10

(1) I have often thought, it would be a blessing if each human being was stricken blind and deaf for a few days at some time during his adult life. Darkness would make him more appreciative of sight; silence would teach him the joy of sound. (2) Now and then, I have tested my seeing friends to discover what they see. Recently, I asked a friend, who had just returned from a long walk in the woods, what she has observed. "Nothing in particular," she replied. How was it possible, I asked myself, to walk for an hour through the woods and see nothing worthy of note?

(3) I, who cannot see, find hundreds of things to interest me through mere touch. I feel the delicate symmetry of a leaf. I pass my hands lovingly about the smooth skin of a silver birch or the rough, shaggy bark of a pine. In spring, I touch the branches of trees hopefully in search of a bud, the first sign of awakening nature after her winter's sleep. Occasionally, if I am fortunate and place my hand gently on a small tree, I feel the happy quiver of a bird in full song.

(4) At times my heart cries out with longing to see all these things. If I can get so much pleasure from mere touch, how much more beauty must be revealed by sight. I have imagined what I would like to see, if I were given the use of my eyes, say, just for a few days. I would want to see the people, whose kindness, and gentleness, and companionship has made my life worth living.

Helen Teller Timeline

June 27, 1880: Helen Keller is born in Tuscumbia, Alabama. Her father's name is Captain Arthur Henley Keller and her mother is Kate Adams Keller.

February 1882: After being struck by illness, Helen loses both her sight and hearing. No one is sure exactly what disease she had, but some people think it was scarlet fever.

March 3, 1887: Anne Sullivan comes to the Keller home and begins teaching Helen letters by signing into her hand. (manual sign language)

April 15, 1887: Anne makes the 'miracle' breakthrough, teaching Helen that everything has a name by spelling W-A-T-E-R into her hand as water flows over her palm.

Fall 1889: Helen goes to Perkins Institution for the Blind in Boston, her first formal education.

September 1900: Helen becomes a member of the freshmen class of 1904 at Radcliff College.

1902: with the help of an editor Helen writes *The Story of my Life*.

June 28, 1904: Helen becomes the first deaf-blind individual to earn a college degree, graduating with honors from Radcliff.

Spring 1909: Helen joins the Suffragist movement, demanding the right to vote for women.

October 1924: Helen and Anne begin their work the American Foundation for the Blind.

April 1930: Helen, Anne and Polly Thompson travel abroad for the first time, visiting Scotland, Ireland and England for over six months. This trip is only the beginning of Helen's travels overseas- she would eventually visit 37 countries.

October 1936: Anne Sullivan dies.

January 1943: Helen visits blind, deaf and disabled soldiers of World War II in military

hospitals around the country.

September 1964: President Lyndon Johnson gives Helen the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor.

June 1, 1968: Helen Keller dies in her sleep.

- 2.1 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer **any ten** questions from the eleven given below: 1*10=10
- A) When the narrator said that, it would be a blessing if each human being was stricken blind and deaf for a few days at some time during his adult life; the narrator intended-
- (a) Human beings to experience the absence of sensory organs.
(b) Human beings to respect the presence of sensory organs.
(c) Human beings to be grateful of their experiences through sensory organs.
(d) Human beings to feel the pain of people with the absence of sensory organs.
- (B) Pick the option that lists statements that are NOT TRUE according to the passage and the timeline. 1
- (I) Despite of losing her ability to see and hear, Hellen Keller observed things minutely.
(II) Anne Sullivan was the one who introduced Hellen Keller to Indian Sign Language.
(III) Often Hellen Keller desired the ability to see and hear.
(IV) Hellen Keller received her first formal education in the year 1887.
- (a) (III) and (IV)
(b) (I) and (III)
(c) (I) and (II)
(d) (II) and (IV)
- (C) The word 'longing' used in paragraph 4, means _____. 1
- (D) Looking at Helen Kellers's achievements and works in the year 1904, 1924 and 1943, it can be said that she 1
- (a) Worked for people with disability
(b) Acknowledged people with disabilities
(c) Encouraged people with disabilities
(d) Sympathized with people with disabilities
- (E) "I would want to see the people, whose kindness, and gentleness, and companionship have made my life worth living." The phrase "life worth living" is mainly in reference to the: 1
- (a) Opportunity to travel overseas
(b) Inability to hear and see
(c) Education and achievements
(d) Qualities that helped her survive and overcome the difficulties that she faced due to her disabilities.
- (F) Based on the timeline of Helen Keller, choose the option that lists the statements that are TRUE. 1
- (I) In 1909, Helen joined the Suffragist Movement, demanding the right to vote for the marginalized.
(II) After two years from her birth, Helen lost her sight and hearing.

(III) Helen visited blind, deaf and disabled soldiers of World War I in military.
(IV) In 1964 Helen received Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor.

- (a) (II) and (IV)
- (b) (I) and (II)
- (c) (II) and (III)
- (d) (III) and (IV)

(G) Based on the timeline of Helen Keller, pick the year which signifies one of the biggest achievements of Helen in reference to publication. 1

- (a) 1887
- (b) 1902
- (c) 1904
- (d) 1964

(H) In paragraph 2 of the passage, the reaction of Helen Keller's friend to Helen's question on what did she observe on her walk in the woods: 1

- (a) Relieved Helen Keller
- (b) Enlightened Helen Keller
- (c) Amazed Helen Keller
- (d) Collapsed Helen Keller

(I) Which of the following statements is NOT substantiated by information in the timeline of Helen Keller? 1

- (a) Anne Sullivan taught letters to Helen Keller.
- (b) Often Helen Keller desired to see the world using her eyes.
- (c) Helen became a member of the freshmen class of 1904 at Radcliffe college.
- (d) In 1924 Helen and Anne begin their work with the American foundation of Blind.

(J) According to your understanding of the above passage and the experiences of Helen Keller, pick the option which correctly displays the relationship between 1

- (i) Her ability to see and hear and,
- (ii) Her ability to feel the touch

(K) Based on your understanding of the passage and timeline, choose the option that lists the correct timeline of the events in the life of Helen Keller. 1

- (I) Helen became a member of the freshmen class at Radcliffe college.
- (II) With the help of the writer, Helen writes, 'The story of my life'.
- (III) Helen and Anne begin their work with the American foundation of Blind.
- (IV) Helen travels overseas and visits 37 nations.
- (a) (I), (II), (IV), (III)
- (b) (II), (I), (III), (IV)
- (c) (IV), (III), (I), (II)
- (d) (I), (III), (II), (IV)

III

SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

1

Attempt **ANY ONE** from A and B given below.

1x4=4

A You are Sumit, the Secretary of Air Force Public School, Mathura. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words informing students about the planned excursion to Ooty.

OR

B You are Nivedita, Sports Captain, St John's School, Delhi. Write a notice in about 50-60 words for the school notice board informing the students about an Inter school Tennis match to be played in your school. Invite them to watch and cheer the teams.

2 Attempt **ANY ONE** from A and B given below.

1x4=4

A The Students' Council of your school has planned a Career Guidance Day on the occasion of International Career Day. Acclaimed career counsellor, Dr Amrita Tandon will preside as Chief Guest and Keynote speaker. Draft an invitation in not more than 50 words inviting parents to be a part of the event. Give all the necessary details. You are Bhavit/Bhavna, President, Students' Council, Harmony Public School, Kanpur, UP.

OR

B You were invited as the Chief Guest to inaugurate the cultural fiesta of Bhavan International School. However, due to sudden illness you are unable to attend the same. Draft a formal reply in not more than 50 words on behalf of your personal assistant and sign yourself as Sudhanshu.

3 Attempt **ANY ONE** from A and B given below.

1x5=5

A Your school organized a campaign to raise awareness about the harmful effects of fireworks on the environment, to reduce noise pollution and help the burn victims. This effort by the students received widespread appreciation. You decide to write a letter to the editor of a national daily to create awareness amongst people. You are Deepak/Deepika, a student of LPS Public School, Lucknow. (120-150 words)



OR

B Diwakar Awasthi of 24/7 Hollyhock Apartments, Gurugram comes across an advertisement in the Indian Express and decides to apply for the post of sales executive. Write an application in 120-150 words to the Personnel Manager, Ayush Ayurveda, 34-B Shanti Nagar, Gurugram.

**Ayush Ayurveda
Sales Executive Wanted**

Required a sales executive; should have an experience of minimum 2 years. Efficiency in work. Salary inclusive of PF. Apply with a bio-data addressed to the Personnel Manager, 34-B Shanti Nagar, Gurugram

4 Attempt **ANY ONE** from A and B given below. 1x5=5

A You are Martin/Maria, staff reporter for The News Express. Write a report in 120-150 words covering the alarming rise in pollution levels and declining air quality in the National Capital Territory in the month of October, keeping in the mind the given cues.

- (1) Capital choking under a cloud of smog.
- (2) Children complaining of burning sensation in the eyes and throat.
- (3) Government's initiative of a cracker free Diwali.
- (4) Number of vehicles shall reduce and green cover increase.

OR

B With rapid digitalization students have started using digital devices for entertainment as well as schoolwork. This may lead to a change in every sphere of life especially in the field of education. As Rohit, write an article in 120-150 words with the help of the given cues, highlighting the reasons and ways in which this might happen and also cite the advantages and disadvantage of the same. (1) Current and accurate data can be found online.

- (2) Effect not limited to education only.
- (3) Children becoming victims of cyber bullying.
- (4) Overdependence on social media.
- (5) Perfect balance between the virtual world and reality.

SECTION C- LITERATURE

40

IV Read the given extracts to attempt the questions with reference to the Context.

1 Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two extracts given.

1*6=6

1A Driving from my parent's home to Cochin last Friday morning, I saw my mother, beside me, doze, open mouthed, her face ashen like that of a corpse and realised with pain that she was as old as she looked but soon

(A) What hurt the narrator after looking at her mother?

1

- (a) That her mother was old and nearing her death
- (b) That her mother would cry at the airport
- (c) That she will have to leave her mother alone
- (d) That she couldn't take her mother along

- (B) Choose the correct meaning of 'corpse'. 1
- (a) Old age
 - (b) Dead body
 - (c) Young trees
 - (d) Cheerful children
- (C) The narrator's mother looked like a corpse because 1
- (a) She had wrinkles
 - (b) She was getting old
 - (c) Of the manner in which she was sleeping
 - (d) Of her looks
- (D) The tone of the poem towards the end is: 1
- (a) sad
 - (b) hopeless
 - (c) cheerful
 - (d) resigning
- (E) What do you understand by 'Ashen face'? 1
- (a) Aging is painful
 - (b) Old is gold
 - (c) It shows the narrator's fears
 - (d) It is the pale and lifeless face of the mother
- (F) The literary device used in the line 'Driving from my parent's home to Cochin last Friday' is: 1
- (a) Alliteration
 - (b) Irony
 - (c) Assonance
 - (d) Metaphor

OR

1B without rush, without engines,
 we would all be together
 in a sudden strangeness.
 Fishermen in the cold sea
 would not harm whales
 and the man gathering salt
 would look at his hurt hands.

- (A) Why would that moment be strange? 1
- (a) Because it will be a morning hour
 - (b) Because everything will be stationary
 - (c) Because people will be sleeping
 - (d) Because people will be praying
- (B) Why does the Poet ask to put on clean clothes? 1
- (a) So that all humans appear submissive
 - (b) Because we should pray to god in clean clothes
 - (c) So that they can embrace others

- (d) So that they could feel the meaning of peace
- (C) Mention the literary device used in 'hurt hands.' 1
 (a) Alliteration
 (b) Simile
 (c) Hyperbole
 (d) Metaphor
- (D) What does the poet want from the fishermen? 1
 (a) To harm the whales
 (b) Not to harm the whales
 (c) To abandon the sea
 (d) To gather salt
- (E) 'Exotic moment' referred here means: 1
 (a) Moment of destruction
 (b) Moment where human activity is suspended
 (c) Moment of anger
 (d) Moment of war
- (F) Who is referred as 'we' here? 1
 (a) The fisherman and the poet
 (b) The man gathering salt and the poet
 (c) Whole Mankind
 (d) Both (a) and (b)

2 Attempt **ANY ONE** of two the extracts given. 1*4=4

2A That night, among my oldest first-day covers, I found one that shouldn't have been there. But there it was. It was there because someone had mailed it to my grandfather at his home in Galesburg; that's what the address on the envelope said. And it had been there since July 18, 1894 the postmark showed that I didn't remember it at all. The stamp was o six-cent, dull brown , with a picture of President Garfield. Naturally, when the envelope came to Granddad in the mail, it went right into his collection and stayed there and opened it.

- (A) Why should this particular first-day cover not be there? 1
 (a) Because Charley did not notice its existence before.
 (b) Because it could not have been collected by his grandfather.
 (c) Because it was a modern first-day cover from the future.
 (d) Because it was too old to be from his grandfather's time.
- (B) Why doesn't Charley remember the existence of this first-day cover? 1
 (a) Because Charley was forgetful.
 (b) Because Louisa collected it.
 (c) Because it appeared recently.
 (d) Because it was in a bad state.
- (C) The Picture of President Garfield indicates that the first-day cover was: 1
 (a) not at all old

- (b) slightly old
- (c) somewhat old
- (d) definitely old

(D) What is a First Day Cover?

1

- (a) A new stamp gets the Postmark and date
- (b) A gift
- (c) A gift wrapper
- (d) A gift wrapped in a beautiful wrapper

OR

2B They did not try to hide what they said from the ears of Hana as she stood arranging the day's flowers in the veranda nearby, and she knew they spoke on purpose that she might hear. That they were right she knew too in most of her being. But there was another part of her which she herself could not understand.

(A) Pick out the option that lists Hana's feelings in the extract:

1

1. Sorrow
2. Hatred
3. Confusion
4. Fear
5. Sympathy
6. Anger

- (a) 1, 3, 4
- (b) 2, 5, 6
- (c) Only 3
- (d) 4 and 5

(B) Why were they not trying to hide anything from Hana?

1

- (a) To make her feel guilty.
- (b) To punish her
- (c) To express their dislike for her and her husband's actions.
- (d) To appreciate her husband.

(C) What were they right about?

1

- (a) their pride in their master.
- (b) Their disgust for the prisoner.
- (c) Their reaction to their master's act.
- (d) Their concern for their children.

(D) 'On purpose' in the extract means _____.

1

- (a) Casually
- (b) Intermittently
- (c) Accidentally
- (d) Intentionally

3 Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two extracts given.

1*6=6

3A When I passed the town hall there was a crowd in front of the bulletin-board. For the last

two years all our bad news had come from there — the lost battles, the draft, the orders of the commanding officer — and I thought to myself, without stopping, “What can be the matter now?” Then, as I hurried by as fast as I could go, the blacksmith, Wachter, who was there, with his apprentice, reading the bulletin, called after me, “Don’t go so fast, bub; you’ll get to your school in plenty of time!” I thought he was making fun of me, and reached M. Hamel’s little garden all out of breath.

- (A) In the past two years, what has been Franz’s experience of the town’s bulletin board? 1
- (I) exciting
 - (II) idyllic
 - (III) sad
 - (IV) educational
 - (V) disappointing
 - (VI) whimsical
- (a) (I) & (VI)
- (b) (II) & (IV)
- (c) (III) & (V)
- (d) (II) & (VI)
- (B) Why was the narrator hurrying by as fast as he could go? 1
- (a) Because he wanted to watch the Prussians drill.
 - (b) Because he had to meet the blacksmith.
 - (c) Because he always naturally walked fast.
 - (d) Because he was late for school that day.
- (C) What does ‘apprentice’ mean? 1
- (a) A person who earns a monthly wage by being employed by a company.
 - (b) A person who learns a trade from a master for low wages or free.
 - (c) A person who pays to give advice about how to improve one’s life.
 - (d) A person who works for the social services or a private organization.
- (D) Choose the word which is an antonym of ‘out of breath’. 1
- (a) energetic
 - (b) panting
 - (c) winded
 - (d) breathless
- (E) Which of the following words can replace the term ‘crowd’? 1
- (a) group
 - (b) team
 - (c) multitude
 - (d) people
- (F) Choose the statement that is true about Franz. 1
- (a) Franz was in hurry to reach the garden of the town hall.
 - (b) Franz was not interested in reading the bulletin board.
 - (c) Franz felt attracted on seeing the crowd.
 - (d) Franz was dawdling as he has had no hurry to reach his destination.

OR

3B She still has bangles on her wrist, but no light in her eyes. “Ek waqt ser bhar khana bhi nahin khaya.” she says, in a voice drained of joy. She has not enjoyed even one full meal in her entire lifetime—that’s what she has reaped! Her husband, an old man with a flowing beard says, “I know nothing except bangles. All I have done is, make a house for the family to live in.” Hearing him one wonders if he has achieved what many have failed in their lifetime. He has a roof over his head! The cry of not having money to do anything except carry on the business of making bangles, not even enough to eat, rings in every home. The young men echo the lament of the elders. Little has moved with time, it seems in Firozabad, years of mind-numbing toil have killed all initiative and the ability to dream.

(A) ‘She still has bangles on her wrist, but no light in her eyes.’ This implies that:

- (a) she is married but has lost the charm in her eyes. 1
- (b) she is a married woman who has lost her grace and beauty.
- (c) though she is married, her eyes are devoid of happiness.
- (d) she is a married woman who has lost her eyesight.

(B) ‘He has a roof over his head!’ The tone of the author is:

- (a) pessimistic 1
- (b) empathetic
- (c) sympathetic
- (d) optimistic

(C) Choose the term which best matches the statement ‘The young men echo the lament of their elders’:

- (a) acceptance 1
- (b) reflection
- (c) reiteration
- (d) doubtfulness

(D) ‘Years of mind-numbing toil have killed all initiative and the ability to dream’. This shows that:

- (a) the bangle makers are exhausted yet they are enterprising and have dreams. 1
- (b) the drudgery of work has destroyed their willingness to improve their lot.
- (c) the daily grind has stolen the dreams of the bangle makers and made them dull.
- (d) the bangle makers have been working so hard that there’s no time to dream.

(E) From this chapter, it is evident that the author has an attitude of:

- (a) sympathy
- (b) apathy 1
- (c) empathy
- (d) bewilderment

(F) Which of the following quotes captures the theme of ‘The Lost Spring’?

- (a) “Poverty is the parent of revolution and crime” –Aristotle
- (b) “Poverty is the worst form of violence” –Mahatma Gandhi 1
- (c) “Poverty is not just lack of money; it is not having the capability to realize one’s full

potential as a human being.” --Amartya Sen

(d) “Poverty is like punishment for a crime you didn’t commit.” --Eli Khamarov

- 4 Answer **ANY FIVE** of the following questions in about 40-50 words each. 2x5=10
- (A) Explain the ways how things of beauty prove to be significant to human life. 2
- (B) Comment on the significance of the bulletin board for the people of Alsace. 2
- (C) Mukesh’s dream appears like a mirage in the setting of Firozabad. State a reason why the writer says this. 2
- (D) Why did Douglas’s mother warn him against swimming in the Yakima river? 2
- (E) In the poem ‘Keeping Quiet’, what lesson does the earth teach us? 2
- (F) ‘I looked outside the window...’ What does Kamala Das mean by this statement? 2

- 5 Attempt **ANY TWO** of the following questions in 40-50 words each: 2x2=4
- (A) In the chapter ‘On the Face of It’, Derry was a victim of negative judgement. What kind of things did people say about Derry behind his back? 2
- (B) When the psychiatrist says that Charley’s desire is an escape, Charley’s wife gets upset with him. Why do you think so? 2
- (C) Sadao was confident that despite his actions of treating a prisoner, nothing would happen to him. Support this statement with a rationale. 2

- 6 Answer **ANY ONE** of the following in about 120-150 words. 1x5=5

6A The prose selections, *Deep Water* and *Indigo*, bring out the importance of overcoming fear, in order to be able to lead our lives successfully.

Imagine yourself to be a motivational speaker who has to address high school students. Write this address in 120 – 150 words elaborating on occurrences from the two texts to inspire your audience and to convince them about the importance of overcoming fear.

OR

6B The rattrap peddler thinks of the world as a big rattrap. However, his expectations are subverted time and again, throughout the story. Discuss with examples from the text.

- 7 Answer **ANY ONE** of the following in about 120-150 words. 1x5=5

7A On returning home, Tishani Doshi writes her thoughts reflecting on how her decision to enroll for the Students on Ice programme has been the single most important decision of her life that has completely transformed her. Imagine yourself to be Tishani and express these thoughts.

OR

7B Both Bama and Zitkala Sa experienced the harsh reality of discrimination in their childhood. Instead of letting it pull them down, they both found a way to overcome it. Compare and contrast the experiences faced by the two and their response/s to these experiences, in 120-150 words.