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- Please check that this question paper contains **11** printed pages.
- Code number given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer book by the candidate.
- Please check that this question paper contains **8** questions.
- Please write down the **Serial Number of the question** before attempting it.
- 15 minutes time has been allotted to read this question paper. The students will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.

## I PRE BOARD EXAMINATION ENGLISH CORE

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 80

Instructions:-

- (i) The question paper has been divided into three sections.
- (ii) Section- A includes Reading Comprehension - 20 marks  
Section- B includes Writing Section - 20 marks.  
Section- C includes Literature Segment- 40 marks
- (iii) Options have been given wherever needed.
- (iv) Follow the word limit judiciously.

### SECTION-A (Reading) (20 Marks)

Q.1 Read the following passage and answer the questions given at the end of the extract by choosing the correct option: 10

What's the one thing that you associate with you college days? For me, it was consuming copious amounts of chai. A cup of tea was a panacea to all troubles and the companion to all joys. In this exclusive interview, we caught up with 65 year-



old Deepak Garg, owner of Ganga Dhaba, a spot that every officer from National Academy of Administration has visited multiple times.

Deepak begins, "My family has been here for almost 90 years. It was my grandfather who first started working here as the supplier to the hotel that existed then. "In 1964, when Deepak was all of eight, he lost his father and the responsibility of raising four children, fell on his mother.

"Our growing up years were a huge struggle. My mother used to teach home science at a local balwadi school, and which was also where my siblings and I studied," he says. In 1978, Deepak says that he started a food joint that he named Om Chinese restaurant. "In those days there was a huge liking for Chinese food and hence the name and the choice of cuisine," he says.

For almost 17 years, things continued and then Deepak got a Public Call Office (PCO) installed for the Officer Trainees. The business did so well that soon he had installed more than ten telephones, with separate cabins, to allow them some privacy while they made and received their calls.

"The OTs who would talk on the PCO from here would always refer to the place as 'Ganga Daba', it was because this place is so close to the Ganga hostel inside the academy, that slowly the name changed and it became Ganga Dhaba. Since it was the OTs that gave us our identity, we decided to change the name and call it Ganga Dhaba", he says.

There have been instances when Deepak and his family members have learnt dishes from the OTs. He says, "So many dishes on our menu today are because some officer came in and decided to teach us how to make them."

We have seen two generations of officers, served the parents who now as the parents come back to drop their children at the academy and tell us to take care of them. What more can we ask for? While the money we make is not great, the respect and the love we have accumulated over the years is what keeps us going," says Deepak, proudly.

i. What according to the author, gave him solace during his bad times in his college days?

- |            |              |
|------------|--------------|
| a. Friends | b. Family    |
| c. Tea     | d. Telephone |



ii. Read the following statements:

1. Mr. Deepak named his food joint Om Chinese Restaurant.

2. Chinese food was then popular among people.

a. (2) is the cause for (1).      b. (1) is the cause for (2)

c. (1) is true and (2) is false      d. (1) is false and (2) is true.

iii. 'Soon he had installed ten telephones.' In the light of the above statement select the option that lists the right inference.

a. He was kind enough to do social service for the OTs.

b. He was successful and flourishing in his business.

c. He expended his canteen to accommodate more people.

d. He switched his business from canteen to telephone booths.

iv. The gesture of changing the name of the food joint to 'Ganga Dhaba' speaks of Deepak's:

a. wavering mind

b. tendency to change with times

c. respect and tribute to OTs

d. dogmatic approach

v. " \_\_\_\_\_ OT's that gave us our identity." He means to say:

a. His canteen was in the vicinity of OT's hostel.

b. The canteen was named after the OT's hostel.

c. It was OT's who helped his family to learn new recipes.

d. It was OT's who patronized his canteen business.

vi. ' \_\_\_\_\_ many dishes on our menu today are because some officer came in and decided to teach us.'

Choose the option that rightly reflects the tone of the speaker.

a. Ignorance

b. Humility

c. Pride

d. Regret

vii. At the time of interview Deepak Garg was 65 year old. (True/ False)

viii. At the age of 9, Deepak lost his father. (True/ False)

ix. Pick up the word from the passage which meant the same as 'Abundant'.

x. Identify the word which is the antonym of 'Dissipate'.

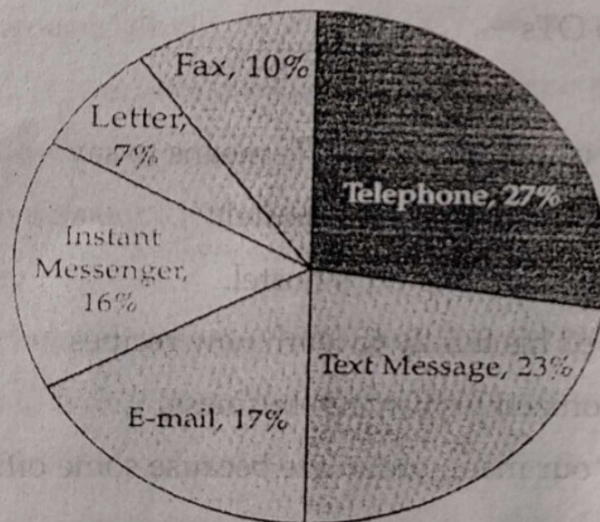


Q.2 Read the passage given below:

A survey was conducted on student preferences with respect to the most popular means of communication among them. Surprisingly, the students didn't seem much interested in traditional means of communication. Only 7% were interested in writing letters to their friends or kins as compared to those who preferred e-mails.

However, the chief competition is between users of Instant Messenger and those of telephone lines. The users of fax line as a medium of communication are only marginal. There are supporters of text messaging also. Overall, the survey had a mixed response from the students.

The students have indicated that out of the choices given in the survey questionnaire, they have indicated the most preferred option. But, most of the students are of the view that video calling needs to be mentioned in the questionnaire as it is the most effective and most popular means of communication. Further, voice messages are the second most popular means of communication.



- i. According to survey, students were least interested to adopt \_\_\_\_\_ means of communication.
  - a. Traditional
  - b. Modern
  - c. Both (a) and (b)
  - d. Neither (a) nor (b)
- ii. Which means of communication totals to the combined usage of fax and letters?
  - a. Telephone
  - b. Text message
  - c. E-mail
  - d. Instant Messenger







- theme for the Science Exhibition to be held in your school. You are Raju/ Rani
- ii. Draft a formal invitation in 50 words to be sent to your friends and relatives on the occasion of the inaugural ceremony of your new Showroom. You are Arun/ Aruna. 5

Invent necessary details.

OR

Write a reply in not more than 50 words to Mrs. and Mr. Yadav, accepting the invitation to attend the birthday party of their daughter. You are Mr. Ajay.

Invent other details yourself.

- iii. You feel that India will face a severe water crisis by the year 2025. Write a letter to the Editor of 'The National Daily' expressing your concern about it and requesting individuals and authorities to take steps to avert this crisis. You are Rajiv/ Rekha. 5

OR

You are Ketan Pandey of 63, Civil Lines, Delhi. You saw an advertisement in the Hindu for the post of Accountant in a reputed firm. Write an application in 120-150 words to the Area Manager of Gayatri Consultants, 2- Rai Road, New Delhi, giving your detailed biodata.

- iv. India is a tourists, dream destination. Give your views on the tourism potential of India in an article in 150-200 words. You are Nitin / Navya. 5

OR

In your locality a blood donation camp was organised by an NGO- 'For Your Health'. Many people visited the camp and donated blood. Write a report in 150-200 words for a local newspaper covering the arrangements, team of doctors, refreshment served etc.

### SECTION- C (LITERATURE)

Q.4 Read The given extracts to attempt the questions with reference to content. 1 x 6 = 6

A. Attempt ANY ONE of two entreats given.

We have imagined for the mighty dead;

All lovely tales that we have heard or read;

An endless fountain of immortal drink,

Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink.



- a. Which 'tales' does the poet refer to here?
- Bedtime stories
  - Horror stories
  - Beautiful stories
  - Fairy tales
- b. What does Keats mean by 'an endless fountain of immortal drink'?
- An endless source of motivation inspiration
  - An endless source of happiness
  - Both (i) and (ii)
  - Neither (i) nor (ii)
- c. Poetic device used in the third line of the extract is \_\_\_\_\_.
- d. Which word from the extract means the same as 'immortal'?
- e. Complete the following analogy correctly.  
Simple sheep : symbolism : : \_\_\_\_\_ : Hyperbole
- f. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to (1) and (2) given below.
- Grandeur is associated with mighty dead.
  - The earth and its beautiful bounties can not be replaced by any thing.
    - (1) is true but (2) is false
    - (2) is true but (1) is false
    - Both (1) and (2) are true
    - Both (1) and (2) false

OR

What I want should not be confused

With total inactivity.

Life is what it is about;

I want no truck with death.

- a. What does the poet want from people?
- To keep quiet for a short time
  - To spread brotherhood
  - Self-interrogation
  - Self-reliance
- b. Identify the phrase from the extract, that suggests the following.  
Keeping quiet and remaining still.



- c. What qualities does the poet want to teach?
- A. Spreading love                      B. Spreading brotherhood  
 C. Self- introspection                D. Self- reliance  
 E. Being self- centered                F. Stillness & death
- i. Cbfd                                      ii. EBAF  
 iii. EFDB                                  iv. ADCB
- d. Complete the following analogy correctly.  
 Without rush, without engines : Repetition : :  
 put on clean clothes : \_\_\_\_\_
- e. Identify the technique used when the poet says 'no truck with death' \_\_\_\_\_
- f. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to (1) and (2) given below.
1. The poet advocates to keep quiet and still for self- introspection.  
 2. Standing still is associated with death.
- i. (1) is true but (2) is false            ii. (2) is true but (1) is false  
 iii. Both (1) and (2) are true          iv. Both (1) and (2) are false

B. Attempt Any ONE of two extracts given. 1 x 6 = 6

Gandhi decided to go first to Muzaffarpur, which was en route to Champaran, to obtain more complete information about conditions than Shukla was capable of imparting.

- a. Gandhi decided to go first to Muzaffarpur in order to.....
- b. Whom did he contact in Muzaffarpur?
- i. J. B. Kripalani                              ii. Raj Kumar Shukla  
 iii. Rajendra Prasad                        iv. Peasants
- c. Who was Raj Kumar Shukla?
- i. A priest                                      ii. Poor Peasant  
 iii. A Landlord                                iv. An Advocate
- d. The main theme of the chapter is \_\_\_\_\_.
- e. Strike out what is not true in the following about Raj Kumar Shukla.
1. poor    2. resolute  
 3. politician                                      4. delegate  
 5. Sharecropper                                6. landlord



- i. 5, 2, 1                      ii. 6, 3, 4  
 iii. 5, 4, 3                     iv. 2, 3, 4
- f. Where did Gandhi decide to go first?
- i. Lucknow                      ii. Patna  
 iii. Muzaffarpur                iv. Camparan

OR

Together they have imposed the baggage on the child that he can not put down. Before he is aware, he accepts it as naturally as his father. To do anything else would mean to dare. And daring is not part of his growing up. When I sense a flash of it in Mukesh I am cheered!

- a. "To do anything else would mean to dare," means \_\_\_\_\_  
 b. What is not a part of his growing up?  
 i. Dreaming                      ii. Daring  
 iii. Acting                        iv. hiving  
 c. The baggage mentioned in the above lines is \_\_\_\_\_  
 d. Who are 'they' here?  
 i. Middlemen                    ii. Bureaucrats  
 iii. Politicians                    iv. All of these  
 e. What does he accept naturally?  
 i. bangle-making                ii. What bureaucrats want.  
 iii. Both (i) and (ii)              iv. Neither (i) nor (ii)  
 f. Who is 'I' here?  
 i. Anees Jung                    ii. Mukesh  
 iii. Saheb- E- Alam              iv. None of the above

C. Attempt Any ONE of the two extracts given. 1 x 4 = 4

"What if the hundredth tiger were also killed?"

"Then I will tear up all my books on astrology, set fire to them, and ..."

"And ..."

"I shall cut off my tuft, crop my hair short and become an insurance agent",  
 the astrologer finished on an incoherent note.

- a. Who said, "What if the hundredth tiger were also killed?" \_\_\_\_\_



- b. The speaker urged the astrologer to make further promise to himself saying "And ..."

This shows his :

- i. obstinate attitude      ii. malleable attitude  
iii. non-resistant attitude      iv. amenable attitude

- c. Select the most appropriate option for the following analogy.

incoherent : lucid :: confiscated : \_\_\_\_\_

- i. apparent      ii. Vulnerable  
iii. Vengeance      iv. returned

- d. The state astrologer announced that he would cut off his ceremonial tuft because \_\_\_\_\_.

OR

He came along, holding out the packet by its string, without touching it. I stood there thinking to myself, if he holds it like that, won't the package come undone, and the vadais fall out?

The elder went straight up to the landlord, bowed low and extended the packet towards him, cupping the hand that held the string with his other hand. The landlord opened the parcel and began to eat the vadais.

After I had watched all this, at last I went home. My elder brother was there. I told him the story in all its comic detail. I fell about with laughter at the memory of a big man, and an elder at that, making such a game out of carrying the parcel. But Annan was not amused.

- a. The narrator's Annan was not amused to hear the story because \_\_\_\_\_.

- b. Which word from the following demonstrates best the mood of Annan in the given extract?

- i. Melancholic      ii. Buoyant  
iii. Frolicsome      iv. Tumultuous

- c. Select the most appropriate option for the following analogy.

Comic : grave :: bowed \_\_\_\_\_

- i. amused      ii. resolute  
iii. extended      iv. comic

- d. 'he' holds the packet by its string. Who is 'he' ? \_\_\_\_\_



Q.5 Answer Any FIVE of the following in about 40 - 50 words each. 5 x 2 = 10

- a. 'And then in the midst of the terror came a touch of reason'. What was that and did it succeed?
- b. What symbol from nature does the poet invoke to say that there can be life under apparent stillness?
- c. How does Umberto Eco find the time to write so much?
- d. What change do you find in Saheb's life when he stops ragpicking and starts working at a tea stall?
- e. What was the only occasion when Sophie got to see Danny Casey in person?
- f. What are the probable causes of the passing cars to stop near the roadside stand?

Q.6 Answer Any TWO of the following in about 40- 50 words each. 2 x 2 = 4

- a. How did the Maharaja prepare himself for the hundredth tiger which was supposed to decide his fate?
- b. What are phytoplanktons? How are they important to our ecosystem?
- c. What is it that draws Derry towards Mr Lamb inspite of himself?

Q.7 Answer Any ONE of the following in about 120-150 words. 1 x 5 = 5

- a. The attitude of Franz towards school as well as M. Hamel changes when he comes to know about the take over of his village by the Prussians. Do you agree? Discuss with reference to the 'The last lesson'.
- b. "Freedom from fear is more important than legal justice for the poor". Do you think that the poor of India are free from fear after Independence? Discuss with reference to the chapter 'Indigo'.

Q.8 Answer Any ONE of the following in about 120-150 words. 1 x 5 = 5

- a. The servants of Sadao & Hana reflect a particular mind-set of the general public in society towards the thinking & broad- minded human beings. Elaborate with the help of the story, 'The Enemy'.
- b. 'Things that matter. Things nobody else has ever said. Things I want to think about.' What are the "things" that Derry is referring to? How did Derry's chance meeting with Mr. Lamb prove meaningful for him?

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