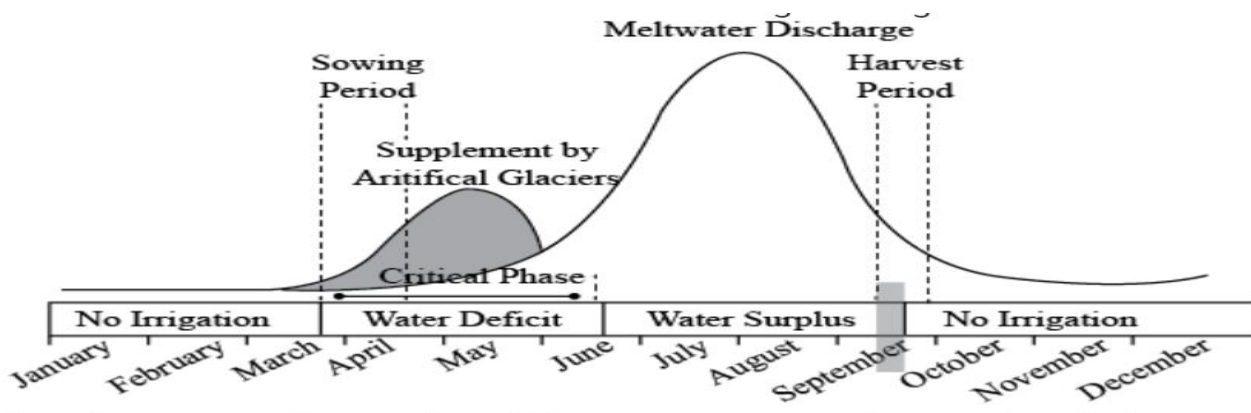


- v. Which word serves as the antonym of "mundane" in the passage? 1
 a. routine b. thrilling c. urgent d. solace
- vi. List any two examples of minute observations you make while on a hike. (30-40 words) 2
- vii. Substitute the phrase in italics in the following sentence from the passage with **one word** similar in meaning. 1
 The feeling of unlimited freedom makes our hearts '*leap with joy*'.
- viii. Why is hiking considered as one of the healthiest sports? (30-40 words) 2

II. Read the passage given below: **8**

- Necessity is indeed the mother of invention. When areas in and around Leh began to experience water shortages, life didn't grind to a halt. Why? Because Chewang Norphel, a retired civil engineer in the Jammu and Kashmir Government came up with the idea of artificial glaciers.
- Ladakh, a cold desert at an altitude of 3,000 - 3,500 meters above sea level, has a low average annual rainfall rate of 50 mm. Glaciers have always been the only source of water. Agriculture is completely dependent on glacier melt, unlike the rest of river/monsoon-fed India. But over the years, with increasing effects of climate change, rainfall and snowfall patterns have been changing, resulting in severe shortage and drought situations. Given the extreme winter conditions, the window for farming is usually limited to one harvest season.
- It is located between the natural glacier above and the village below. The one closer to the village and lowest in altitude melts first, providing water during April-May, the crucial sowing season. Further, layers of ice above melt with the increasing temperature, thus ensuring continuous supply to the fields. Therefore, farmers have been able to manage two crops instead of one. It costs about 1,50,000 and above to create a glacier.
- Fondly called the glacier man, he has designed over 15 artificial glaciers in and around Leh since 1987. In recognition of his pioneering effort, he was conferred the Padma Shri by the President of India.
- There are a few basic steps followed while creating an artificial glacier. River or stream water at high altitude is diverted to a shaded area of the hill, facing north, where the winter sun is blocked by a ridge or a mountain range. At the start of winter i.e., in November, the diverted water is made to flow on sloping hills facing distribution channels. Stone embankments are built at regular intervals which impede the flow of water, making shallow pools which freeze, forming a cascade of ice along the slope. Ice formation continues for 3-4 months resulting in a large accumulation of ice which is referred to as an 'artificial glacier'.



SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (23 MARKS)

IV. Do as directed: (Any Seven)

7

- i. I _____ (hear) that my cousin has won the match and I _____ (like) to wish him in person.
a. hear, liked b. heard, have liked c. am hearing, will like d. heard, would like
- ii. Despite his failure, he _____ to try one more time. (Choose the correct option).
a. was determined b. is determined c. will determine d. has determined
- iii. Amir worked hard. Amir failed to qualify. (Transform into a compound sentence.)
- iv. There have been heavy rains, so the Yamuna (flow) pretty fast. (Rewrite using the right form of the verb given in brackets.)
- v. His sister (write) a novel (March 2020). (Rewrite using 'since'.)
- vi. Make hay while the sun shines. (Identify the subordinate clause and name it.)
- vii. Rearrange the words given below to make a meaningful sentence.
of questions / based on / exams/ sentence/ types/ reordering come/ national/ different/ level/ in
- viii. You won a scholarship. I am happy to know it. (Transform into a complex sentence.)

V. Creative Writing Skills (16 MARKS)

- i. Draft a poster in 50 words creating awareness among young students about Digital India Programme. 3

OR

The Health Ministry has launched a special immunization campaign for mothers and children. Design a poster to create awareness in 50 words. 3

- ii. You are the manager of Star Field Ltd., Prabhat Nagar, Surat. You need an efficient data entry operator for your office. Write an advertisement in 50 words for the 'Situation Vacant' column of a local daily. 3

OR

You are Suresh of Tagore Street, Kolkata. Your cousin, Vikram, aged 8, 124 cm tall, is missing for the past two days. Draft a suitable advertisement in the 'Missing Persons' column of a daily newspaper in not more than 50 words. 3

- iii. Write a speech in 120-150 words on the topic, 'The Importance of Embracing Change'. It is to be delivered in the morning assembly. You are Praveen/ Meena. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to write the speech. 5

CUES:

- Change is inevitable; resistance leads to stagnation.
- Embrace change - opportunity for growth and innovation.
- Adaptability fosters resilience and success.
- Embrace change, navigate uncertainty, thrive in dynamic environments.

OR

You are Nayana/ Neeraj. Write a speech in 120-150 words on the topic, 'Let Dreams Become Your Wings', to be delivered in the morning assembly for the students of Class XI & XII. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to write the speech. 5

CUES:

- Dreams ignite passion and purpose.
- Chase your dreams fearlessly.
- Let dreams inspire action and determination.
- Transform aspirations into achievements.
- Embrace your dreams as the fuel for your journey.

- iv. 'Brain drain is not a bane for a developing country.' Write a debate in 120-150 words either for or against the motion. You are Tarun / Tara. Use the given verbal input along with your own ideas to write the debate. 5

CUES:

For the Motion:

- Skill acquisition
- Global connections
- Efforts to retain skilled workforce
- stimulate economic growth and alleviate poverty

Against the Motion:

- Loss of talent
- Economic impact
- Inequality
- Social fragmentation
- Loss of innovation

OR

Technology today is an effective and convenient means of learning. Write a debate in 120-150 words either for or against the motion. You are Suwarna / Sujit. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to write the debate. 5

CUES:

For the Motion:

- Improves engagement and retention.
- Promotes interactive collaborative learning
- Prepares students for future.
- Reduces cost.

Against the Motion:

- Distracting
- Reduces problem solving skills.
- Expensive to maintain.
- Information may not be authentic

SECTION C: LITERATURE (31 MARKS)

VI. Read the given extracts to attempt the questions with reference to the context.

i. Attempt EITHER ONE of the two extracts given. 3

A. "And who art thou? said I to the soft-falling shower,
Which, strange to tell, gave me an answer, as here translated:
I am the Poem of Earth, said the voice of the rain"

i. What is strange in the above extract?

- a. The poet asking questions to the rain.
- b. The rain answered the question.
- c. The rain calling itself the Poem of Earth
- d. That the poet was a translator.

ii. Why does the rain call itself 'the Poem of Earth'?

iii. "I am the Poem of Earth", said the voice of the rain. Which poetic device is used in the above line? Explain.

OR

B. "Then sleek as a lizard, and alert, and abrupt,
She enters the thickness, and a machine starts up
Of chitterings and a tremor of wings, and trilling
The whole tree trembles and thrills."

i. Name the poetic device in the first line.

- a. Anaphora
- b. Alliteration
- c. Simile
- d. Metaphor

ii. What is the engine of the machine? Why is it called so?

iii. What happens to the laburnum top when the bird flies away?

ii. Attempt EITHER ONE of the two extracts given. 3

A. "The sun can beat down like a hammer this far south in Egypt, and Carter tried to use it to loosen the resins. For several hours, he set the mummy outside in blazing sunshine that heated it to 149 degrees Fahrenheit. Nothing budged. He reported with scientific detachment that 'the consolidated material had to be chiseled away from beneath the limbs and the trunk before it was possible to raise the king's remains."

- i. What 'resins' are being referred to in this extract:
 - a. The oils used for cooking by Egyptians.
 - b. The oils that were poured over King Tut's body during the funeral
 - c. The eatables kept in the pharaoh's room
 - d. The flowers kept over King Tut's body.
- ii. Who was Carter?
- iii. What does the expression 'scientific detachment' refer to here?

OR

B. "Further on, where the plains became more stony than grassy, a great herd of wild ass came into view. Tsetan told us we were approaching them long before they appeared. "Kyang," he said, pointing towards a far-off pall of dust. When we drew near, I could see the herd galloping en-masse, wheeling and turning in tight formation as if they were practising manoeuvres on some predetermined course."

- i. How does the wild ass herd behave as the group draws nearer?
 - a. They dispersed in random directions.
 - b. They maintained a slow pace.
 - c. They exhibited coordinated movements.
 - d. They stopped and grazed peacefully.
- ii. What was the indication that the group was approaching the wild ass herd?
- iii. Who warned whom about the wild ass herd?

iii. Attempt EITHER ONE of the two extracts given.

3

A. "That'll do then. [She moves towards the door left then turns] But remember-keep firm-or you've had it. [She opens the door. Calling] Hoy! You can come in now. [Coming away from the door, and moving right slightly. Quietly] But remember-remember-a firm hand."

- i. Who is the speaker of the above lines?
 - a. Mrs Pearson b. Ms. Doris c. Mrs. Fitzgerald d. The Narrator
- ii. Who is called into the room when these words are being spoken?
 - a. Mr. George b. Ms. Doris c. Mr. Cyril d. All of them
- iii. What does the speaker want the other person to remember?
- iv. What did the speaker mean when she said, "or you've had it"?

OR

B. He went into the house for his bag, then together they set out for Number 12 Blaina Terrace. The night air was cool and deep with quiet mystery. Usually so perceptive, Andrew now felt dull and listless. He had no premonition that this night call would prove unusual, still less that it would influence his whole future in Blaenelly.

- i. How is the night air described in the extract?
 - a. shallow, calm and mysterious b. cool, windy and clear
 - c. intense, enigmatic and cool d. Puzzling, meaningful and excitable
- ii. How does Andrew feel as they embark on their journey to Number 12 Blaina Terrace?
 - a. Energetic and lively b. Dull and devoid of energy
 - c. Excited yet lacked energy d. Anxious and curious
- iii. What did the narrator do before he set out to Joe's house?
- iv. What does the excerpt suggest about the significance of the night call?

VII. Answer ANY TWO of the following questions in about 40-50 words each:

6

- i. The poet talks about a particular cardboard. Why is it special to her?
- ii. "I didn't want to worry you when you were trying to save us all," said Sue. What had happened to her?
- iii. Who was Professor Gaitonde and why was he going to the library?
- iv. Why does the father say 'this child', not 'my child'?

- VIII. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in about 40-50 words:** 3
- i. Mourad was a kind hearted young boy who was compassionate to animals. Mention any two instances to justify this statement.
 - ii. Finally the narrator in the chapter 'The Address' turned over a new leaf. Elucidate.

- IX. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in about 120 - 150 words:** 6
- i. Is independent thinking a step towards adulthood? If yes, then how? Explain with reference to the poem 'Childhood'.

OR

- ii. Gradually, the author and the grandmother saw less of each other and their friendship was broken. Was the distance in the relationship deliberate or due to the demands of the situation? Elaborate.

- X. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in about 120 - 150 words:** 6
- i. After reading the story 'Birth', you were inspired to give a speech in your school assembly about the miraculous revival of the still born child by Dr. Andrew. Write the speech in 120-150 words, discussing about how bookish knowledge is theoretical and it is practice and observation that makes a man perfect in his field.

OR

- ii. In 'The Tale of Melon City', how was the new ruler of Melon City selected? Discuss how Melon City is the satire of the society.
