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You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes. This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.

The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

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Attempt all four questions.

The intended marks for questions or part of questions are given in brackets.

You are advised to spend not more than 45 minutes in answering Question 1 , 55 minutes on Question 2, 30 minutes on Question 3 and 50 minutes on Question 4.

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**Question 1****[20]**

Write a composition (**in approximately 400 – 450 words**) on **any one** of the following subjects.

(You are reminded that you will be rewarded for the orderly and coherent presentation of the matter, use of appropriate style and general accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar.)

- a) Describe any three important lessons that you have learnt through the course of your life. How did you learn these lessons and why do you think they are so important.
- b) You got a chance to be a member in the core team of the annual day celebration. Narrate your experiences and observations during the planning and execution of the programmes. What did you learn from the experience?
- c) Men have failed, let women overtake. Argue for or against the statement.

**Question 2**

- a) Imagine that you are the Head Boy/Head Girl of ABC Public School. You have to deliver a speech at the Farewell Party organized for your seniors. Prepare a suitable speech for the occasion using the notes given below: **[15]**

Greeting - early memories – association with seniors - memorable moment - best wishes – thanks giving.

- b) As a Member of the Student Council of your school, you have been assigned the responsibility of setting up a student counseling center in your school. Write a proposal in not more than 150 words, outlining the steps you would take to successfully set up the center. **[10]**

### Question 3

i) Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given after each of them in brackets. [5]

- a) Act on my advice or you will come to grief. (Begin: If you.....)
- b) It would be a good idea if we went through the exercise again. (Begin: We had...)
- c) The police were taking him to cell. (End: ...the police.)
- d) He is said to have been an eminent scientist. (Begin: People say...)
- e) Can a tiger change his nature? ( Begin: A tiger...)

ii) In the following sentences, replace the INCORRECT underlined words to make the sentences meaningful and grammatically correct. Do not copy the sentences. [5]

- a) She put up a pretty dress for the party.
- b) She is putting in weight.
- c) The policeman ran before the thief.
- d) I ran with the case before going to the court.
- e) Turn the transistor up a little.
- f) She turned in to be more intelligent than her brother.
- g) His tie goes without his suit.
- h) We cannot go until food for long.
- i) We dropped up at their house on Sunday.
- j) He dropped in of the picnic due to health issues.

iii) Fill in the blanks in the passage given below with the appropriate form of the verb given in brackets. Do not write the passage but write the verbs in the correct order. [5]

The Taj Mahal is.....(1)( locate) on the right bank of the Yamuna River in a vast Mughal garden that .....(2)(encompass) nearly 17 hectares, in the Agra District in Uttar Pradesh. It was.....(3)( build) by Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal with construction .....(4) (start) in 1632 AD and completed in 1648 AD, with the mosque, the guest house and the main gateway on the south, the outer courtyard and its cloisters were added subsequently and .....(5)(complete) in 1653 AD. Ustad-Ahmad Lahori .....(6)(be) the main architect of the Taj Mahal.

Taj Mahal .....(7)(represent) the finest architectural and artistic achievement. To ensure the protection of the setting, the adequate management and enforcement of regulations in the ..... (8)(extend) buffer zone is needed. In addition, future development for tourist facilities will need..... (9)(ensure) that the functional and visual integrity of the property .....(10)(maintain), particularly in the relationship with the Agra Fort.

## Question 4

**Read the passage given below and answer the questions (i),(ii)and (iii)that follow.**

The Police Superintendent is walking across the market square followed by a constable. Suddenly he hears a loud shout, "So you bite, you damned brute? Lads, don't let the dog go! Biting is prohibited nowadays!"

There is the **sound** of yelping and the Superintendent sees a dog running out of a timber-yard. A man runs after it and tries to seize the dog by its hind legs. Sleepy countenances protrude from the shops and soon a crowd gathers.

"It looks like a row, your honour", says the constable.

The Superintendent turns to his **left** and strides towards the crowd. He sees the aforementioned man standing close by the gate of the timber-yard, holding his right hand in the air and displaying a bleeding finger to the crowd. He was the town's goldsmith. The culprit who has caused the sensation, a white puppy with a sharp muzzle and a yellow patch on its back, is sitting on the ground.

"What's it all about?" the Superintendent inquires, pushing his way through the crowd, "Who was it that shouted?"

The goldsmith answers, "I was walking along here not interfering with anyone when this low brute, for no rhyme or reason, bit my finger. I am a working man. Mine is fine work. I must have damages, for I shan't be able to use this finger for a week."

"I won't let this pass! Find out whose dog it is and draw up a report!", the Superintendent commands the constable.

"I fancy it's General Zhigalov's dog", says someone in the crowd.

Suddenly indignant, the Superintendent turns to the goldsmith and asks, "There's one thing I can't make out. How it could have bitten you? Surely it couldn't reach your finger. It's a little dog, and you are a great hulking fellow! You must have scratched your finger with a nail, and then the idea struck you to get damages for it. I know your sort!"

"No, that's not the General's dog", says the constable, with profound conviction, "the General has valuable dogs, and goodness knows what this is! No coat, no shape, a low creature."

The Superintendent says, "You have been injured, goldsmith and we can't let the matter drop. You must be compensated for the damage."

"I is the General's, that's certain!", says a voice in the crowd.

"Oh! Constable, take the dog to the General's and inquire there. Say I found it and sent it. And tell them not to let it out into the street. A dog is a delicate animal. And you, you goldsmith, put your hand down. It's your own fault."

On seeing the General's cook approaching, the Superintendent asks him, "Is it one of yours?"

"We have never had one like this", says the **cook**.

"There's no need to waste time asking," decides the Superintendent, "it's a stray dog. Chase it away!"

"It's not our dog", the cook goes on, "it belongs to the General's brother who arrived the other day."

"Is his Excellency's brother here? Delighted to hear it," says the Superintendent, and his whole face beams with an ecstatic smile, "it's not a bad pup. A lively creature, indeed. Come, why are you shivering, you nice little pup?"

The cook calls the dog and walks away from the timber-yard.

The crowd laughs at the goldsmith.

**Adapted from:** *A Chameleon* by Anton Chekov

(i) (a) Find a single word from the passage that will **exactly replace the underlined word or words** in the following sentences. **[3]**

(1) They were attacked by a savage beast.

(2) The offender was sentenced to community service for his offense.

(3) You have my solemn assurance that it is true.

(b) For each of the words given below, choose the correct sentence that uses the same word unchanged in spelling, but with a different meaning from that which it carries in the passage. **[3]**

(1) **sound**

(A) The doctor confirmed that the patient was not of sound mind.

(B) Liza was so frightened she couldn't make a sound.

(C) They heard what sounded like a huge explosion.

(D) Murphy sounds like a child.

(2) **left**

- (A) I believe in the success of the Left Wing Party members.
- (B) The bank is situated to the left of the library.
- (C) I instructed the driver to take a left turn at the intersection.
- (D) He's giving away the money left with him for unknown reasons.

(3) **cook**

- (A) The issues of Cook's Country magazine are available in the library.
- (B) Where did you learn to cook?
- (C) Cooking seems to be an interesting way to relax.
- (D) The rivalry between a Cantonese street cook and a French-trained chef drew lot of attention.

(ii) Answer the following questions as briefly as possible in your own words.

- (a) Why did the crowd gather in the market? [2]
- (b) Who is the aforementioned man and what happened to him? [2]
- (c) Why does the goldsmith ask for damages? [2]

(iii) Trace the Superintendent's reactions from the time the initial voice in the crowd is heard till the cook takes the dog away. You are required to write the summary in the form of a connected passage in about 100 words. Failure to keep within the word limit will be penalised. [8]

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