Roll No. | | | | | | | | |

No. of printed pages : 4

103

403 (ICD)

2017

ENGLISH

Time : 3 hours] **[Max. Marks : 100**

Note : (i) This question paper is divided into three sections— A, B and C.
(ii) All questions are compulsory. Marks are indicated against each question.
(iii) Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
(iv) Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

Section – A (Reading)

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow—

(A) Ruskin called good books 'Kings' Treasuries' not transient treasuries of gold and silver but the immortal and inexhaustible treasure-house of wisdom, knowledge and experience. They preserve the precious thought-germs, the exquisite imaginings, the weighty counsels and the accumulated wisdom of all ages. "Nothing can supply the place of books. Let everyman, if possible, gather some good books under his roof. Almost any luxury should be sacrificed for this," wrote Channing. Macaulay declared, "I would rather be a poor man in a garret with plenty of books than a king who did not love reading."

(B) The value of books in feeding our intellectual powers and forming the mind is inestimable. "Man does not live by bread alone" is as substantial a saying as it is old. Books are as necessary for the health of brain as bread is for body. Most of the people fail in the business of life owing to want of study and understanding. "They are like kites flown by the priests and politicians who hold the string. They are fleeced and befooled on account of their ignorance of – Science, History, Economics and other subjects. Half the ills of mankind are due to ignorance; the other half arise from egotism." Books are the source of intellectual light and spiritual elevation. According to Hudson, they make us "partakers in a life larger, richer and more varied than we ourselves can ever know of our individual knowledge: and they do this not only because they open up new fields of experience and new lines of thought and speculation, but also and even more notably, because they carry us beyond the pinched and meagre humanity of our everyday round of existence into contact with fresh, strong and magnetic personalities of the world."

(C) Books are our unfailing friends of solitude when we are sick of the hurry and worry of life, when the sky is overcast with cloud. The path of future lies through a thick forest, and when we are utterly alone in darkness without a single ray of light, when all around us are difficulties, we go to the world of books and place ourselves at the feet of great poets and authors. In their company, we find a rare source of inspiration and enlargement. Human companions are uncertain and they know but a little of their own age. But in the company of books, a man can fill his solitude with mighty men of all ages, laughing, frisking, romping, scattering mirth and cheerfulness around us and shedding 'light of health and joy on the darkest gloom of sorrow and dejection; young men and women, inspired with fancies of love and poetry; men of maturer age, racked by the cares and snares of this world, groaning under the weight of burden and yet unwilling to throw it off; and garrulous oldmen and women, ready to give their counsels unasked for, perpetually of the good old days they have seen.

(D) Books are our friends, philosophers and guides. They give light to those who are benighted, guide those who are strayed and cheer to those who are melancholy. The comical sight of Pickwick running after his hat, drives away sadness from our looks. The experience of the great Buddha, when he sees old age with body bent double, his hair turned grey, his cheeks fallen in, his eyes bereft of lustre, quickly arrests our sober feelings. The sight of Christ on the cross, praying to God to pardon his persecutors for they know not what they have done, will enable us to be patient under unjust prosecutors and to be kind to those who wrong us. If we feel ourselves unable to uphold our just cause because of odds against us, let us study the life of Rana Pratap and we shall be strengthened in our resolve not to give way. If constant failures have made us despair of success, let us learn the lesson of perseverance which Robert Bruce learnt from the spider.

(E) In books are recorded and preserved the memories of the ages past and by reading them we can transport ourselves in the past and witness the panorama of a new life opening before our eyes. Books are a source of eternal joy and pleasure. Life is a bed of thorns. But in reading books we find an escape from the cares and worries of life. Our fancy roams from earth to the sky and on the viewless wings of poesy, we flit from flower to flower forgetting the thorn below.

Books serve not only for delight and ability but also play a vital role in revolutionizing the public opinion and reforming the moral tone of human society. Life is governed by ideas and ideals, and books which are 'the precious life-blood of master-spirits' are at the back of all revolutionary movements.

(a) What do the good books possess ? 2
(b) Why are the books necessary for human beings ? 2
(c) How do the books help us in our loneliness ? 2
(d) What are the signs of the old age ? 2
(e) What governs our life ? 1
(f) Find one word from the paragraph that is the opposite of — 3
(i) Mortal (para A)
(ii) Knowledge (Para B)
(iii) Foes (Para D)

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

Happiness is a shy bird. If you hunt it, it will fly away. It is better to set a trap for it. Pleasure-seekers miss it. They are restless, discontended people, who, having no inward happiness, seek it in outward things where they do not often find it. It is a common mistake to think that money brings happiness. "If only I were rich !" we sigh. Money is not to be despised; and it can do much to make life pleasant. Yet the rich are sometimes unhappy, and some poor men sing. So the source of happiness can not be simply in wealth, and even those who will never be rich can still be happy. There are some outward conditions that make for happiness. First good health. A man who suffers from chronic indigestion or a deranged liver, can not feel very happy. There is a lot of truth in the famous joke in Punch : 'Is life worth living ? It all depends on the liver !' And yet it is wonderful how some invalids rise above their pain and weakness, and keep smiling faces. But these are brave souls who find happiness within, inspite of their ailments. Everyone is not a hero; and few can resist the depression and gloom that bad health brings. So to be happy we must keep well, and observe the laws of health. An idler is rarely a happy man. Most grumblers are lazy people with nothing to occupy their minds and their time. Workers are generally cheerful. A man who has a congenial occupation finds great happiness in his work. And even if one's work is not always as pleasant as it might be, the necessity of doing it, and doing it regularly, saves one from a lot of brooding and melancholy thoughts. We should have healthy amusements and hobbies to fill our leisure hours. "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy"; and a man who has not learnt to use his leisure time, will not be happy. Games, sports, music, reading, any pleasant and wholesome occupation we most take to, will add immensely to the pleasure of life.

And pleasant social intercourse is a great source of happiness. Man is a social animal, and few of us can lead entirely solitary lives. True friendship is one of the most precious treasures of life and blessed is

he that has a real friend; but even the pleasant companionship of acquaintance is a joy. But the true source of happiness lies within. Happiness depends not so much on our circumstances as on ourselves. The kingdom of happiness, like the kingdom of heaven, 'is within you." A poor man may be happy in a hut and a millionaire unhappy in a palace. In unselfishness, kindness to others, humility, a clean mind, a clear conscience and an upright life-in these things lies the secret of happiness.

(a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it using heading and sub-heading. 5

(b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words using the notes made by you and also suggest a suitable title. 3

Section – B (Advanced Writing Skills)

3. You are Ajay/Anita of G.G.I.C. Almora. Write a note on the school notice-board offering to sell your secondhand class-XII books at very nominal prices. (word limit 50) 5

OR

You are Ankur/Anjali, a student of G.I.C. Srinagar (Pauri). Your father wants you to draft a formal invitation to be sent on the occasion of your brother, Punit's marriage. Prepare the invitation in about 50 words.

4. You have attended a meeting wherein a number of people spoke about the increasing crime rate in India. You are Tarun/Trishna of Dehradun. Write a report to be published in a daily newspaper in about 100-125 words, expressing your views and suggestions. 10

OR

You are Rahman/Rehana of Senior Secondary School, Rudrapur. Write a factual description of your school library in about 100-125 words. Mention its merits, its shortcomings and scope for improvement.

5. Nakul/Poonam bought a colour TV set from Messrs Deep Electronics, Bara Bazar, Haldwani a week ago. Now he/she finds that the sound is not clear and the picture changes to black and white from time to time. He/she writes a letter to the dealer complaining about the same and requesting him to attend to it. Draft a letter. 10

OR

Write a letter to the Inspector of Police about the nuisance of loudspeakers in your locality. You are Vipin/ Neha of Haridwar.

6. You have interviewed many students and their parents about the physical fitness of the school students. You have found that the students tend to neglect their physique. Write an article on the matter giving suitable suggestions. You are Sumit/Sudha, a student of G.I.C. Champawat. (word limit 150-200) 10

OR

You are a social worker much concerned about the discriminatory treatment given to female right from their birth in Indian society. Write an article in 150-200 words throwing light on this problem. You are Sonu/Salu, resident of Uttarkashi.

Section – C (Literature)

7. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow—

Unless, governor, inspector, visitor,
This map becomes their window and these windows
That shut upon their lives like catacombs,
Break O break open till they break the town
And show the children to green fields and make their world
Run azure on gold sands, and let their tongues
Run naked into books, the white and green leaves open
History theirs whose language is the sun.

(a) What does the poet want the governor, the inspector and the visitor to do ? 1

(b) What kind of children is the poet talking of ? 1

(c) Explain : 'History theirs whose language is the sun'. 2

OR

The little old house was out with a little new shed
In front at the edge of the road where the traffic sped,
A roadside stand that too pathetically pled,
It would not be fair to say for a dole of bread,
But for some of the money, the cash, whose flow supports
The flower of cities from sinking and withering faint.

(a) Name the poem and the poet. 1
(b) What would not be fair to say and why ? 1
(c) What is it that supports 'the flower of cities' ? 1
(d) Write the rhyme scheme (similar sound) of the above stanza. 1

8. Answer any three of the following questions in 30-40 words each— 2×3 = 6
(a) Where was the poetess going ? Who was sitting beside her in the poem "My Mother at Sixty-six" ?
(b) What does the poet want all of us to do in the poem "Keeping Quiet" ?
(c) List the things of beauty mentioned in the poem 'A Thing of Beauty'.
(d) How have Aunt Jennifer's tigers been defined ?

9. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each— 2×5 = 10
(a) What fear did little Franz have when he started for school in the morning ?
(b) What happened when Rajkumar took Gandhiji to the house of Rajendra Prasad in Patna ?
(c) What is the example of national integration that the author refers to in the make-up department ?
(d) Why was the crofter so talkative and friendly with the peddler ?
(e) Sophie and Jansie were classmates and friends. What were the differences between them that show up in the story ?

10. Answer the following question in 125-150 words— 10
Write a brief note on the town of Firozabad.

OR

Write in brief the various views expressed by celebrities about the interview in journalism.

11. Answer the following question in 125-150 words— 7
Describe in brief how death, at last, came to the Tiger King.

OR

Why does the author call her trip to Antarctica a journey to the end of the earth ? Which expedition did she join ?

12. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each— 2×4 = 8
(a) What does the writer say about the first and the second levels at the Grand Central in "The Third Level" ?
(b) Who was Dr. Sadao ? Where was his house ?
(c) How does Derry get into Mr. Lamb's garden ?
(d) How much time did Bama take walking home from school ?

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Section – A (Reading)

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow—

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after his hat, drives away sadness from our looks. The experience of the great Buddha, when he sees old age with body bent double, his hair turned grey, his cheeks fallen in, his eyes bereft of lustre, quickly arrests our sober feelings. The sight of Christ on the cross, praying to God to pardon his persecutors for they know not what they have done, will enable us to be patient under unjust prosecutors and to be kind to those who wrong us. If we feel ourselves unable to uphold our just cause because of odds against us, let us study the life of Rana Pratap and we shall be strengthened in our resolve not to give way. If constant failures have made us despair of success, let us learn the lesson of perseverance which Robert Bruce learnt from the spider.

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(a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it using heading and sub-heading. 5

(b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words using the notes made by you and also suggest a suitable title. 3

Section – B (Advanced Writing Skills)

3. You are Ajay/Ajanta, the organizer of the Inter School Singing Competition to be held in your school. Write a notice in about 50 words to be put on the school notice board asking the students of class XII to meet you to discuss the details regarding the conduct of the competition. 5

OR

You want to sell your old car. Draft a suitable advertisement in about 50 words to be published in the classified columns in any of the National Newspaper.

4. You are Sumit / Supriya. You have attended a Blood Donation Camp oragnised by the Rotary Club. Write a report in about 100-125 words for your school magazine. 10

OR

It is your turn to address the morning assembly of your school today. You have to speak on 'Tree Plantation'. Write your speech in about 100-125 words.

5. Write a letter to the Senior Superintendent of Police about many lawless activities going on outside your school campus. You are Ravi/Rama of Inter College, Tehri. 10

OR

You have seen an advertisement in a local newspaper for the post of an Accountant in the Municipal Corporation. In response to it, apply for the post giving your biodata. You are Sanjay/Sanjna of B-15, Avas Vikas, Kashipur.

6. Mobile phone has become a necessity for young and old alike. Write an article on the role and importance of Mobile phone in about 150-200 words. 10

OR

Write a composition of about 150-200 words on 'Children and T.V. Advertising'.

Section 'C' (Literature)

7. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow—

It is in the news that all these pitiful kin
Are to be bought out and mercifully gathered in
To live in villages, next to the theatre and the store,
Where they won't have to think for themselves anymore.

(a) What does the news proclaim ? 1

(b) Who do these pitiful kin refer to ? 1

(c) Why will they be mercifully gathered ? 1

(d) Where will one see these poor villagers ? 1

OR

Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool
Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.
The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band
Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.

(a) Why do Aunt Jennifer's fingers flutter ? 1
(b) Why does she find it hard to pull the ivory needle ? 1
(c) Why is Uncle's wedding band described as being very heavy ? 1
(d) Write the rhyme scheme (similar sound) in the above stanza. 1

8. Answer any three of the following questions in 30-40 words each— 2×3 = 6
   (a) What are the things that rural people want to sell to the car owners passing by a road-side stand ?
   (b) What is the theme of the poem 'Keeping Quiet' ?
   (c) List the things of beauty mentioned in the poem "A Thing of Beauty".
   (d) Why has the mother been compared to the late winter's moon ?

9. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each— 2×5 = 10
   (a) Who was Raj Kumar Shukla ? What more do you know about him ?
   (b) Subbu is described as a many-sided genius. List four of his special abilities.
   (c) How is Mukesh's attitude in the story 'Lost Spring' different from that of his family ?
   (d) Who is Geoff and who is Frank ? What did Geoff tell Frank ?
   (e) What tempted Franz to run away and spend the day out of doors ?

10. Answer the following question in 125-150 words— 10

Do you think Umberto Eco likes being interviewed ? Give reasons for your opinion.

OR

Sophie and Jausie were classmates and friends. What are the differences between these two characters shown in the story ?

11. Answer the following question in 125-150 words— 7

Give a brief account of the things and persons Charley had seen on the third level of the Grand Central Station, New York.

OR

What is the moral issue raised out of the story 'Should Wizard hit Mommy' ?

12. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each— 2×4 = 8
   (a) What is a first day cover ?
   (b) Who is Mr. Lamb ? How does Derry get into his garden ?
   (c) Who is Jo ? What was her problem ?
   (d) Should criminals in prison be given the opportunity of learning and education ?

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