

This paper has been divided into three sections :

SECTION A	READING	20 marks
SECTION B	WRITING	15 marks
	GRAMMAR	10 marks
SECTION C	LITERATURE	25 marks

General instructions :

1. All the questions are compulsory.
2. Wherever required, copy the entire sentence and then underline the word or words.
3. Strictly adhere to the word limit.
4. Marks will be deducted for untidiness.

SECTION – A (READING)

1. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below : (8 marks)

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

The New Year is a time for resolutions. Mentally, at least most of us could compile long lists of 'do's' and 'don'ts'. The same old favourites recur year in and year out with monotonous regularity. We resolve to get up earlier each morning, eat less, find more time to play with the children, do a thousand and one jobs about the house, be nice to people we don't like, drive carefully, and take the dog for a walk every day. Past experience has taught us that certain accomplishments are beyond attainment. If we remain liars, it is only because we have so often experienced the frustration that results from failure.

Most of us fail in our efforts at self-improvement because our plans are too ambitious and we never have time to carry them out. We also make the fundamental error of announcing our resolutions to everybody so that we look even more foolish when we slip back into our bad old ways. Aware of these pitfalls, this year I attempted to keep my resolutions to myself. I limited myself to two simple ambitions: to do physical exercise every morning and to read more in the evening. An all-night party on New Year's Eve provided me with a good excuse for not carrying out either of these new resolutions on the first day of the year, but on the second, I applied myself sincerely to the task.

The daily exercise lasted only eleven minutes and I proposed to do them early in the morning before anyone had got up. The self-discipline required to drag myself out of bed eleven minutes earlier than usual was considerable. Nevertheless, I managed to creep down into the living room for two days before anyone found me out. After jumping about on the carpet and twisting the human frame into uncomfortable positions, I sat down at the breakfast table in an exhausted condition. It was this that betrayed me.

The next morning the whole family came in to watch the performance. That was really unsettling but I fended off the taunts of the family good humouredly and soon everybody got used to the idea. However, my enthusiasm reduced, the time I spent at exercises gradually diminished. Little by little, the eleven minutes fell to zero. By January 10th, I was back to where I had started from.

- a) New Year is a time for what?
 - b) Why could the writer not carry out his resolutions on New Year's Day?
 - c) For how long did his physical exercise last?
 - d) How did the author's family members treat his resolution?
 - e) Find a word in the passage similar in meaning to 'deep disappointment'.
 - f) Supply one word for 'unchanging State of affairs' from the passage.
 - g) Why is it a basic mistake to announce our resolutions to everybody?
 - h) Why, according to the writer, do most of us fail in our efforts at self improvement?
2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

Ever wondered about those tall structures that are landmarks along every shore all over the world? Lighthouses. We see them in pictures and in movies and along every shore. Tall stately structures looking out to sea, warning the incoming ships of approaching land.

Did you know what served as a lighthouse in the early years? The locals from the area would light a fire at a height to warn boats of any impending danger like rocks or even land. The early constructors of lighthouses included the Greeks, Roman and Phoenicians.

How do you think these lighthouses showed the way to incoming ships? Those were the days when technology had not taken over the world. The lighthouses used lamps to guide the ships. However these lamps could throw light only as far as a few miles into the sea. It was only much later that mirrors, prisms, electricity and the automatic working of a lighthouse came to be. It is indeed amazing what these stately structures out in lonely locations across the world mean to the sailors as they near land after days out at sea.

Did you know that the lighthouse of Alexandria is one of the seven wonders of the ancient world? It was located on the island of Pharos in Egypt and it was built in 290 BC. The lighthouse used fire at night and reflected the sunrays during the day to warn sailors of land. This monument is a legacy in the world today although it was destroyed by several earthquakes that hit it in the 1300s.

Today in its place stands a fort built in 1480 using the marbles and stones from the lighthouse, a breathtaking structure that came down ravaged by nature. Lighthouses mark dangerous coastlines, hazardous shores, reefs and can also assist in aerial navigation. Once widely used the number of operational lighthouses has declined due to expense of maintenance and replacement by modern electronic navigational system.

- 2.1 Answer the following questions: (2 x 4 = 8 marks)
- Why were lighthouses built in the early years?
 - Who were the early constructors of lighthouses?
 - Where was the lighthouse of Alexandria located?
 - What is unique about the fort built in 1480?
- 2.2 Choose the correct meaning for the following words taken from the passage, from the options given below: (1 x 4 = 4 marks)
- Hazardous
 - approaching
 - dangerous
 - frightening
 - safe
 - Ravaged
 - amazed
 - destroyed
 - lonely
 - constructed
 - Breathtaking
 - exciting
 - terrifying
 - depressing
 - amusing
 - Ancient
 - modern
 - very old
 - simple
 - legacy

SECTION – B (WRITING and GRAMMAR)

3. Now a days the youth are taking upon themselves different roles and responsibilities. They also have varied interests. Recently you came across a group of youngsters hosting a rally for a clean environment, you are moved by their act to clean mother earth so you decide to write an article on, 'The Changing Role of Youngsters'. (5 marks)
4. You are Anuj/Anuja. You have recently joined a boarding school in Dehradun. Write a letter to your mother telling her about your hostel and new friends that you have made. (Word Limit - 120-150 words) Use the hints given below :
- Hostel facilities
 - Mess
 - Sports - indoor and outdoor
- (OR)
- You are Rahul. You were stuck in a traffic jam caused due to two cars standing in the middle of the road with their owners fighting among themselves. It took an hour for the traffic to get cleared. Stressed with the situation you decide to write a letter to the Editor of a national daily about the growing road rage among people today. Write this letter in not more than 150 words taking hints form the clues given below.
- Road rage – aggressive behavior
 - Can lead to assaults, collisions
 - Causes inconvenience to general public
- (10 marks)
5. Complete the following paragraph using one word only. (3 marks)
- Civil Aviation Secretary Ashok Lavasa has written to the Cabinet Secretary to make foreign travel a) _____ bureaucrats easier. Lavasa has said that the present system b) _____ be revised and it must include both official c) _____ personal travel plans. Lavasa wrote the letter d) _____ June 16. He asked the cabinet secretary to revert e) _____ August 14. This is not the first time that Lavasa raised f) _____ issue.

6. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction against the correct blank number. (4 marks)

	Incorrect word	Correct word
The journey of Xavier Times has been an wonderful experience,	a) _____	_____
spending endless hours chase kids to get articles, poems,	b) _____	_____
stories etc but going from class to class, ensuring	c) _____	_____
that us do not miss out on anyone’s piece and	d) _____	_____
hurt their feelings. Laughing over all baby article	e) _____	_____
and get annoyed at spelling mistakes and grammatical	f) _____	_____
errors. Xavier Times are beyond a magazine it	g) _____	_____
is a reflection of what we are and what we stood for.	h) _____	_____

7. Look at the following words and phrases and rearrange them to form meaningful sentences: (3 marks)
- a) tide / none / for / time / wait / and
 - b) once / never / recalled / time / can / gone / be
 - c) allowed / never / is / slip / return / if / to / it / unutilized / it will

SECTION - C (Literature)

8. Read the extracts given below and answer any one of the following: (1 x 3 = 3 marks)

“Now girl number twenty you know what a horse is and you also know how to answer questions properly. Be clatter and don’t ramble. And don’t and don’t clang”.

- a) Who is the speaker of the above lines?
- b) What is the definition of a horse given by girl number twenty?
- c) Find a word from the above passage which means the same as loud noise of hard things banging together.

(OR)

“I could not rest if I heard the tread of a coffle gang to the shambles led and the mothers shriek of wild despair Rise like a curse on the trembling air”

- a) Why is the mother shrieking?
- b) What is the figure of speech in the stanza given above?
- c) Find a word from the stanza given above which means the same as a place of execution.

9. Answer the following questions in 30 – 40 words: (2 x 4 = 8 marks)

- a) What qualities of the grass are highlighted in the poem “The grass so little has to do”?
- b) Describe how the flu pandemic affected India?
- c) Why is the author in a hurry to reach Lahsa?
- d) Why is Leonard Mead taken to “The Psychiatric Centre for Research on Regressive Tendencies”?

10. “Sorrow and joy together complete the picture of life” (4 marks)
Write a paragraph expressing your views about this.

(OR)

“As you sow so shall you reap”. How far do you agree with this? Write a paragraph expressing your views with reference to the chapter “How Camel got its Hump”.

- 11. The character of Santiago depicts struggle and pain. Do you agree? Why/Why not? (5 marks)
- 12. Love for nature is one of the themes of the novel “Old man and the Sea”. Comment (5 marks)