

Total No. of Printed Pages : 15

Subject Code : C1

1060



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2026

ENGLISH

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Full Marks : 90
Pass Marks : 27

Time : 3 hours

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The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions.

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SECTION - A

Choose the correct option for the following : (Q. Nos. 1 to 45)

1 × 45 = 45

1. "There's nobody here who's a child."

Who said this ?

(a) The elderly woman

(c) Valli

(b) The conductor

(d) A fellow passenger

2. What emotion dominates Amanda's thought throughout the poem "Amanda !" ?

(a) Joy and excitement

(c) Sadness and loneliness

(b) Desire for escape

(d) Fear and anxiety

3. Based on the details given about Lencho's house in "A Letter to God", it can be best described as

(a) majestic

(c) unique

(b) imposing

(d) solitary

4. "The structure they created formed the basis of one of the harshest, most inhumane, societies the world has ever known." What structure is Mandela talking about ?

(a) Racial domination against the black-skinned people.

(b) Poverty and suffering

(c) Discrimination against the poor

(d) Oppression of women.

5. In the chapter "Coorg" the author's attitude towards the place and its people is -

(a) condescending and negative

(c) negative and neutral

(b) positive and appreciative

(d) appreciative and critical

6. The expression "stand up" in the context of "The Ball Poem" means

(a) the act of standing up

(c) standing to act

(b) being resilient

(e) being prompt

7. Identify the question for which the following sentence is the answer.
Mother engaged the gardener's wife to work for us in the villa.

- ~~(a) Why did mother engaged the gardener's wife ?~~
(b) Why does mother engages the gardener's wife ?
(c) Why did mother engage the gardener's wife ? ✓
~~(d) Why does mother engage the gardener's wife ?~~

8. Which of the following set of qualities does the poet attribute to animals ?

- ~~(a) Contented, equal, non-acquisitive~~
(b) Happy, self serving, intelligent
(c) Discontented, furious, respectful
(d) Fearless, materialistic, reputable



9. _____ is a pattern in the shape of V. [Hint : Long Walk to Freedom]

- ~~(a) Victory~~ (b) Chevron
(c) Triangle ~~(d) Heron~~

10. Choose the correct words in order to complete the letter written by Lencho, if he had received a hundred pesos from God.

Dear God,
Thank _____ for sending a hundred pesos _____ help. I am very
_____ for this kind gesture. You were my only _____ and your help
has _____ my faith in you. This money will help me until the crop
_____ and I promise to _____ hard in the future.


- (a) you, as, grateful, hope, strengthened, grow, work
(b) you, as, grateful, worship, strengthened, grows, work
(c) you, as, grateful, hope, weakened, grows, work
~~(d) you, as, grateful, hope, strengthened, grows, work~~



11. "Do you know that over eighty crore cups of tea are drunk everyday throughout the world ?" Rajvir said.

In this sentence taken from "Tea from Assam", Rajvir says so because


- (a) he was interested to know the number of people who drinks tea.
(b) he was counting the people drinking tea compared to the ones who take coffee.
(c) he was quite overwhelmed by the large number of people who drink tea.
~~(d) he was surprised that Pranjol did not know how many people drank tea.~~

12. "Stop that slouching and sit up straight" –
Identify the literary device used in this line from Amanda !"
(a) Metaphor (b) ~~Anaphora~~
(c) Assonance (d) Alliteration
13. Choose the correct set of prepositions from the options to fill in the following passage :
The river _____ (to / from / by) which I went yesterday _____ (along / by /with) my friends abounds (in / of / with) fish. We rowed _____ (across / along / on) the stream to the opposite bank.
(a) ~~from, along, with, across~~ (b) to, with, in, across
(c) with, along, of, along  (d) by, with, of, on
14. The following statements provide descriptions of the dragon in the poem, "The Tale of Custard the Dragon."
Choose the most accurate description :
(a) He had sharp teeth, red mouth and fair skin.
(b) ~~He had a long tail, fiery mouth and smooth skin.~~
(c) He had sharp teeth, spikes above and scales beneath.
(d) He had leathery wings and a spiky tail with giant claws.
15. Why does Amanda wish to be an orphan in Robin Klein's poem "Amanda !" ?
(a) To be free from her mother's nagging
(b) To wander the streets barefooted
(c) To be adopted by a caring mother
(d) ~~To get rid of her homework~~
16. What do the underlined words mean in the following lines from the poem, "The Ball Poem" by John Berryman ?
A dime, another ball, is worthless. Now
He senses first responsibility.
In a world of possessions. People will take
Balls, balls will be lost always, little boy.
(a) The spiritual world (b) The virtual world
(c) The emotional world (d) The materialistic world

17. With reference to the poem "Animals" read the following statements and choose the correct answer.

Assertion (A) : The poet brings out the hypocrisy of humans.

Reason (R) : Humans pretend to be dutiful, yet they are sinful.

- (a) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
(b) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
~~(c)~~ (A) is true and (R) is false. 
(d) (A) is false and (R) is true.

18. "Oh, please don't be angry with me, my fine madam," he said. "Here, have a seat right up there in front. Everybody move aside please – make way for madam."

What can you tell about the tone of the conductor from the text ?

- (a) He was being humorous.
(b) He was being sarcastic
(c) He was trying to console Valli.
~~(d)~~ He was making fun of Valli.

19. In "Long Walk to Freedom" Nelson Mandela shares how his ideas regarding freedom formulated over the years. Place them in the correct sequence as they appear in the text.

Sentence – 1 : I want to freely pursue different activities of my liking.

Sentence – 2 : I crave the freedom that helps me lead a life of dignity.

Sentence – 3 : I was born free, but that freedom was taken from me.

Sentence – 4 : I desire the freedom of all those who are oppressed.

- ~~(a)~~ Sentence : 3, 1, 2, 4 (b) Sentence : 3, 2, 1, 4
~~(c)~~ Sentence : 2, 3, 1, 4 (d) Sentence : 2, 1, 4, 3

20. The main contrasting idea suggested in the poem

'A Tiger in the Zoo' is that of

- ~~(a)~~ strength and weakness
(b) nature and culture
(c) beasts and mortals
~~(d)~~ confinement and freedom

21. The tiger has velvet like _____ as described in the poem 'A Tiger in the Zoo.'

~~(a) skin~~

~~(c) paws~~



(b) hair

(d) nose

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22. I along with my friends Sunil and Geeta, went to a book fair looking for a good grammar book. While most of the books were very expensive, one of them _____ not only reasonably priced, but also highly useful. However, neither Sunil nor Geeta _____ interested in buying the book.

The words that correctly fill the gaps in the above passage are (in the correct order) :

(a) was, was

~~(b) were, was~~

~~(c) was, were~~

(d) were, were

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23. Add the right suffix from the options to correct the error in the underlined word in the given sentence.

Mohan, the cobbler had a makeshift shop near the bazaar chowk where he repaired shoes but with his meager earnings, he could hard feed his family properly.

(a) -er

~~(b) -ened~~

(c) -ly

(d) -est

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24. 'Macaques, Malabar squirrels, langur and slender loris keep a watchful eye from the tree canopy.' Identify the correct antonym for the underlined word in the sentence taken from 'Coorg'.

~~(a) Careful~~

(b) Keen

~~(c) Oblivious~~

(d) Guarded



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25. With reference to the chapter 'Coorg' by Lokesh Abrol, choose the correct answer from the following options :

Assertion (A) : Kodavus are the only people in India permitted to carry firearms without a license.

Reason (R) : Coorgi people recount many valorous tales of their fathers and sons.

~~(a)~~ Both (A) and (R) are false.

(b) (A) is true and (R) is false.

(c) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation for (A).

(d) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).



26. Choose the reason that justifies the statement about Valli's character from 'Madam Rides the Bus' by Vallikkannan.

Valli was an independent and courageous girl.

(a) Valli did not want anyone to interfere in her journey.

(b) Valli did not like to mix up with other passengers on the bus.

(c) Valli liked watching out of the window and standing on the seat.

~~(d)~~ Valli saved money all by herself and travelled alone to the town.

27. Read the given excerpt from 'Tea from Assam' by Arup Kr. Dutta.

'Dwarfing the tiny tea plants were tall sturdy shady trees, and amidst the orderly rows of bushes busily moved doll-like figures.

Identify the antonym of the underlined word.

~~(a)~~ Flexible

(b) Weak

(c) Strong

(d) Straight



28. From your understanding of the poem, "A Tiger in the Zoo" by Leslie Norris, choose the correct answer from the following options :

Assertion (A) : Some animals that are on the verge of extinction, are becoming endangered.

Reason (R) : Zoo is a place to save and protect such endangered species.

(a) Both (A) and (R) are false.

(b) (A) is false and (R) is true.

~~(c)~~ Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

(d) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

29. In the poem "The Tale of Custard The Dragon", the colours of the kitten, mouse and dog are clearly mentioned. Find the right colours from the following options :

- (a) Ink, the yellow kitten
Blink, the black mouse
Mustard, the grey dog.
- (b) Ink, the grey kitten.
Blink, the yellow mouse
Mustard, the black dog.
- (c) Ink, the black kitten,
Blink, the yellow mouse
Mustard, the grey dog.
- (d) Ink, the black kitten
Blink, the grey mouse
Mustard, the yellow dog.

30. Direct speech of "She asked me if I read novels" is

- (a) She said to me, "Do you read novels?"
(b) She said to me, "Did you read novels?"
(c) She said to me, "Have you read novels?"
(d) She said to me, "If you read novels?"

31. She is proud of her beauty.

Choose the correct sentence that replaces the underlined part in the correct form :

- (a) She prides herself on her beauty.
(b) She prides herself in her beauty.
(c) She is proud for her beauty.
(d) She prides of her beauty.

32. You shall obey my orders.

The underlined modal is used to imply -

- (a) threat
(b) determination
(c) promise
(d) command

33. I visited his birthplace. - the sentence can be replaced by :

- (a) I visited his born place.
(b) I visited the place where he was born.
(c) I saw the place where he was born.
(d) His birth place is visited by me.

34. He behaved as if he were a mad man.

Identify the type of adverb clause represented by the underlined part.

- ~~(a)~~ Adverb clause of time.
- (b) Adverb clause of place.
- ~~(c)~~ Adverb clause of manner.
- (d) Adverb clause of condition.

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35. Fill in the blank with the right determiner from the options given :

They have spent _____ money for their son's wedding.

- (a) many
- ~~(b)~~ enough
- ~~(c)~~ few
- (d) any

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36. Read the following statements and choose the correct option given below in Q. No. 36 & 37.

Statement – 1 : Ausable tricked Max to save both his and Max's life and the report.

Statement – 2 : The report was very important because it contained secret information about Ausable.

- ~~(a)~~ Both the statements are correct.
- (b) Both the statements are false.
- (c) Statement 1 is correct but Statement 2 is false.
- ~~(d)~~ Statement 1 is false but Statement 2 is correct.

OR

Statement – 1 : Horace was a lock maker, yet he had to steal every year.

Statement – 2 : His business did not run successful to meet all his needs.

- (a) Both the statements are false.
- (b) Both the statements are true.
- (c) Statement 1 is true but Statement 2 is false.
- (d) Statement 1 is false but Statement 2 is true.

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37. **Statement – 1** : Griffin took a train to go to the village of Iping.
Statement – 2 : Griffin stole money from the Clergyman's house.
- (a) Both the statements are false.
(b) Both the statements are true.
(c) Statement 1 is true and Statement 2 is false.
(d) Statement 1 is false and Statement 2 is true.

OR

- Statement – 1** : Bill was actually Oliver Lutkins.
Statement – 2 : The young lawyer was sent to New Mullion to serve summon on Oliver Lutkins

- (a) Statement 1 is true and Statement 2 is false.
(b) Both the statements are true.
(c) Both the statements are false.
(d) Statement 1 is false and Statement 2 is true.

38. Bills seemed to _____ Lutkin's talent for dishonesty.

- (a) dislike
(b) hate
(c) criticise
(d) admire

OR

The clergyman described the burglary of his house as _____ affair.

- (a) a typical
(b) an ordinary
(c) mysterious
(d) an extraordinary

39. Griffin, the scientist, was always _____, now he became furious.

- (a) patient
(b) quick-tempered
(c) calm
(d) pleasing

OR

On his second visit to New Mullion, the lawyer was accompanied by a colleague who knew

- (a) Gustaff
(b) Lutkins
(c) Bill
(d) Magnuson

Question nos. 40 to 43 are based on comprehension :

Read the passage and answer the questions :

If people wish to keep strong and well, they must always breathe fresh air. We cannot be always out of doors, but when we are indoors, we can keep out windows open. A house that has been built on a good plan has many windows. It is not good to have all the windows on one side of the room. The windows should be built on two sides of each room. The doors should be so placed that when the doors and windows are open, the fresh air can blow straight through the house.

We should only work and play where we can breathe pure fresh air all time. Some people think that night air is harmful. So they close all their doors and windows at night. Sometimes, they cover up their heads too. People who do this can never have good health and a long life.

40. A good room should have _____.
- (a) windows on all walls of the room.
(b) windows on one side of the room.
(c) doors and windows for proper ventilation.
(d) many windows and doors on one side of the room.

41. At night, we should _____.
- (a) close all the doors
(b) cover up our heads
(c) have fresh air for breathing
(d) close all the windows

42. For fresh air inside the room, we should _____.
- (a) keep the door closed.
(b) keep the windows open.
(c) keep all the doors and windows closed.
(d) keep all the windows on one side of the room.

43. Read the following statements and choose the correct one :
- Statement – 1 : Some people close doors and windows at night to avoid light entering the room.
- Statement – 2 : A well ventilated room is good for health.
- (a) Statement 1 is true and statement 2 is false.
(b) Statement 1 is false and statement 2 is true.
(c) Both the statements are true.
(d) Both the statements are false.

44. Ausable was a _____ fellow.

- (a) fat and lazy (b) fat and sloppy
(c) thin and enthusiastic (d) thin and sloppy

OR

Where was the safe in shotover grange ?

- (a) bed room (b) drawing room
(c) kitchen (d) bathroom

45. What is the meaning of the word 'Slender' ?

- (a) weak (b) strong
(c) slim (d) fat

OR

Choose the most suitable antonym of the word 'Hinder'

- (a) obstruct (b) shackle
(c) facilitate (d) hamper

SECTION - B

Answer the following questions briefly : (Q. Nos. 46 to 54)

46. Read the following abstract from the lesson 'Coorg' :

2 × 9 = 18

These people married amongst the locals and their culture is apparent in the marital traditions, marriage and religious rites which are distinct from the Hindu mainstream.

Who are referred to here as "these people" and "the locals" ?

47. Explain what Mandela implies in the following extract :

'I was simply the sum of those African patriots who had gone before me. That long and noble line ended and now began again with me.'

48. How did Belinda and her pets behave when they saw the pirate in from the window as described in the poem "The Tale of Custard the Dragon" ?

49. Read the extract given below from "Tea from Assam" by Arup Kr. Dutta.

"On the other side was a deep ditch and then acres and acres of green fields - green, green, green, as far as the eye could see."

What effect does the repetition of 'acres' and 'green' have on the reader ?

50. 'Lencho had unshakable faith in God, but lacked faith in humanity.' Comment.

51. Amanda was blamed for a number of things. Mention any two of them.

52. What did Valli tell the elderly man when he calls her a child ?

53. Fill in the blanks. Provide the name of the poet and the poem.

No use to say 'O there are other balls' :

An _____ shaking grief _____ the boy.



54. Why does the poet Walt Whitman show a preference for living with the animals ?

SECTION - C

Answer the following :

55. "The door knob turned. Swiftly Max pushed with his left hand to free himself from the still and drop to the balcony." Who was there at the door ? Was Max able to jump from the balcony ? Why ?

1 + 3 = 4

OR

What made Horace Danby to break upon the safe containing jewellery at Shotover Grange ?

4

56. How did the hack driver sketch the character of Lutkins ?

4

OR

How did Griffin try to become visible ?

4

SECTION - D

57. Write an essay on any **one** of the following topics :

6

(a) The festival you like most

(b) My Favourite book

(c) The Impact of Science and Technology



OR

Look at the picture given below. Think about it and develop a story in about 150 words.



58 Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper about the allergy / respiratory problems faced by the people of your area due to various construction work going on in the locality.



OR

Write a report for a local newspaper based on the information given.

- * The State Government has banned the use of plastic bags.
- * The ban is being ignored.
- * Regular use of plastic bags causes damaging effects and pollution in the environment.
- * Alternatives for plastic bags.

59 Translate the following into the language as per your MIL/IL subject. 1 x 3 = 3

(a) The father said to his sons, "Never tell a lie."

(b) Walking is a good exercise.

(c) She wears a coat made of wool.

OR



Write the substance of the following passage :

3

Fresh, brief showers fell almost every morning now and between the showers Kunta and his playmates would dash about excitedly outside. "Mine ! Mine !" they would shout at the pretty rainbows that would arc down to the earth, seeming never very far away. But the showers also brought swarms of flying insects whose vicious stinging and biting soon drove the children back indoors. Then, suddenly, late one night, the big rains began, and the people huddled inside their cold huts listening to the water pound on their thatch roofs, watching the lightning flash and comforting their children as the frightening thunder rumbled through the night. Between cloudbursts, they heard only the barking of the jackals, the howling of the hyenas, and the croaking of the frogs. The rains came again the next night, and the next – and the next – and only at night – flooding the lowlands near the river, turning their fields into a swamp and their village into a mudhole.



SECTION – E
GRAMMAR

60. Join the sentences given below using a relative clause.
The man ~~cheated~~ me. I trusted him.

1

61. Make sentences with any two of the following :
black and blue, fly high, ups and downs

1 × 2 = 2

62. Turn the sentence into passive voice:
Very few people enjoy Harold Pinter's black comedy.

1

63. Add a tag question for the following :
She did not make the mistake, did she ?

1

64. Change the form of narration :
The villagers said, "We saw a tiger here yesterday, but we have not seen that today."

1