

**Question 1.** (Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question.)

Write a composition (300-350 words) on any one of the following: [20]

1. Write an original story that begins with the words: 'He was the funniest boy I had ever met. He would make everyone laugh ...'
2. You had booked a ticket on an early morning train. However, you woke up late and missed it. You then decided to run to catch a bus to the next station where you hoped to catch up with the train. Narrate the entire event, how you felt, the effort you made and how you finally caught the train. What did you learn from this stressful experience?
3. 'All girls' or all boys' schools provide a better learning environment than co-educational schools.' Express your views either *for* or *against* the statement.
4. Describe **in detail** the view from your bedroom window. Does your room overlook a park? A busy street? What are the sights, sounds and smells that you would typically see, hear and experience at different times of the day? When do you most enjoy the view? Early in the morning, in the evening or late at night?
5. Study the picture given below. Write a short story or description or an account of what the picture suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however, your composition must have a clear connection with the picture.



**Q 2.** (Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.) Select *any one* of the following: [10]

1. Your class wants to visit a well-known historical monument in a nearby town. Write a letter to your Principal seeking permission and say why you would benefit from the visit.
2. You are to be awarded a Special Prize at the Annual Prize Day ceremony of your school. Write a letter to lady relative giving her the news. Be sure to include details of the prize that you are to receive and tell her why you have been chosen for this honour.

**Question 3.**

1. You are the President of the Dramatics Club at school. You want to stage a play. Make a notice giving details of the audition for roles. [5]
2. Write an e-mail to the manager of a prominent auditorium in your city, seeking information about hiring the venue for a show. [5]

**Question 4.**

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:  
Lying in bed, Swami realized with a shudder that it was Monday morning. It looked as though only a moment ago it had been the last period on Friday. Already Monday was here. He hoped that an earthquake would reduce the school building to dust, but that good building - Albert Mission

School had withstood similar prayers for over a hundred years now. At nine o'clock Swaminathan wailed, "I have a headache." His mother said, "Why don't you go to school in a bullock cart?" "So that I may be completely dead at the other end? Have you any idea what it means to be **jolted** in a cart?"

"Have you any important lessons today?"

"Important! Bah! That geography teacher has been teaching the same lesson for over a year now. And we have arithmetic, which means for a whole period we are going to be beaten by the teacher .... Important lessons!" And Mother generously suggested that Swami might stay at home.

At 9.30, when he ought to have been lining up in the school prayer hall, Swami was lying on the bench in Mother's room. Father asked him, "Have you no school today?" "Headache," Swami replied.

"Nonsense! Dress up and go."

"Headache."

"Loaf about less on Sundays and you will be without a headache on Monday."

Swami knew how **stubborn** his father could be and changed his **tactics**. "I can't go so late to class."

"I agree, but you'll have to; it is your own fault. You should have asked me before deciding to stay away."

"What will the teacher think if I go so late?"

"Tell him you had a headache and so are late."

"He will beat me if I say so."

"Will he? Let us see. What is his name?"

"Mr. Samuel."

"Does he beat the boys?"

"He is very violent, especially with class boys who came late. Some days ago a boy was made to stay on his knees for a whole period in a corner of the class because he came late, that after a getting six cuts from the cane and having his ears twisted. I wouldn't like to go late to Mr. Samuel's class."

"If he 's so violent, why not tell your headmaster about it?"

"They say even the headmaster is afraid of him. He is such a violent man."

And then Swami gave a **lurid** account of Samuel's violence; how when he started **caning** he would not stop till he saw blood on the boy's hand, which he made the boy press to his forehead like a **vermillion** marking. Swami hoped that his father would be made to see that he couldn't go to his class late. But Father's behaviour took an unexpected turn. He became excited. "What do these people mean by beating our children? They must be driven out of service. I will see .....

The result was he proposed to send Swami late to his class as a kind of challenge. He was also going to send a letter with Swami to the headmaster. No amount of protest from Swami was of any **avail**. Swami had to go to school. By the time he was ready, Father had composed a long letter to the headmaster, put in an envelope and sealed it.

"What have you written, Father?" Swaminathan asked **apprehensively**.

"Nothing for you. Give it to your headmaster and go to your class."

Swami's father did not know the truth, that actually Mr. Samuel was a very kind and gentle man.

(i) For each word given below, choose the correct meaning (as used in the passage) from the options provided.

[3]

jolted

(a) hit by stones (b) shaken up badly (c) stopped suddenly (d) turned down

stubborn

(a) obstinate (b) flexible (c) punctual (d) yielding

avail

(a) propose (b) take (c) use (d) follow

Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:

(a) What did Swami wish for on a Monday morning? Why was his wish unlikely to be answered? [2]

- (b) Which sentence tells us that Swami's father was completely unsympathetic to his son's headache? [2]
- (c) In what way was Swami's Mother's response different from his father's? [2]
- (d) In what way did Father's behaviour take an unexpected turn? [2]
- (e) What was Swami finally ordered to do by his father? [1]
- (ii) In not more than 50 words, describe how Swami tries to prove Mr. Samuel is a violent man. [8]

Question 5.

(i) Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage, but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. [4]

Example: One morning I \_\_\_\_\_ (0)(see) the python curled up on the dressing table.

Answer: saw

It was \_\_\_\_\_ (1) (gaze) at its own reflection in the mirror. I \_\_\_\_\_ (2) (go) for grandfather but by the time we \_\_\_\_\_ (3) (return) to the room, the python \_\_\_\_\_ (4) (move) on. He was seen in the garden and once the cook saw him \_\_\_\_\_ (5) (crawl) up the ladder to the roof. Then, we \_\_\_\_\_ (6) (find) him on the dressing table again \_\_\_\_\_ (7) (admire) himself in the mirror. "He's trying to look better for Aunt Mabel," I said. I \_\_\_\_\_ (8) (regret) this remark immediately because grandmother overheard and held up my pocket money for the rest of the week.

(ii) Fill in the blanks with an appropriate word. [4]

- He found the key just \_\_\_\_\_ the front door.
- I could not accompany my cousin \_\_\_\_\_ the trip because I had fever.
- The noise prevented us \_\_\_\_\_ sleeping.
- The young man put the flute \_\_\_\_\_ his lips and began to play.
- Ashok leaned \_\_\_\_\_ the wall tiredly.
- The paper dart went gliding \_\_\_\_\_ the air.
- The cyclist rode quickly \_\_\_\_\_ the path.
- The young child carried the heavy bucket \_\_\_\_\_ the stairs.

(iii) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence **without using and, but or so**. Choose the correct option. [4]

- This book is interesting. It has many twists and turns.
  - This book is interesting unless it has many twists and turns.
  - This book is interesting that it has many twists and turns.
  - This book is interesting as it has many twists and turns.
  - This book is interesting until it has many twists and turns.
- I must have left my box in the classroom. I must have left it on the field.
  - I must have left my box in the classroom and on the field.
  - I must have left my box in the classroom or on the field.
  - I must have left my box either in the classroom or on the field.
  - I must have left my box neither in the classroom or on the field.
- This concept is complex. That concept is equally complex.
  - This concept is complex that. 2. This concept is complex as that.
  - This concept is as complex that.  4. This concept is as complex as that.

- The boy goes home after school. His friends go home after school.
  - The boy, and his friends, goes home after school.
  - The boy, as well as his friends, goes home after school.

3. The boy or his friends go home after school.
4. The boy with his friends go home after school.

(iv) Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence. Choose the correct options.

[8]

a. All the people in the bank are not prepared to go home without cash. (Begin: None ... )

1. None of the people in the bank is prepared to go home without cash.
2. None people in the bank is prepared to go home without cash.
- ✓ 3. None of the people in the bank were prepared to go home without cash.
4. None people in the bank were prepared to go home without cash.

b. She is good at dancing and singing. (Use: but)

- ✓ 1. Not only is she good at dancing but in singing.
- ✓ 2. Not only is she good at dancing but also singing.
3. Not only was she good at dancing but also singing.
4. Not only was she good at dancing and also singing.

c. Reena and Wendy do not have a choice. (Begin: Neither ... )

- ✓ 1. Neither Reena nor Wendy has a choice.
2. Neither Reena or Wendy had a choice.
3. Neither Reena and Wendy have a choice.
4. Neither Reena with Wendy have a choice.

d. 'Don't watch television now as you have a test tomorrow,' said Mother to me. (Use: warned)

1. Mother warned me not to watch television as I have a test tomorrow.
2. Mother warned me not to watch television as I had a test tomorrow.
- ✓ 3. Mother warned me not to watch television as I have a test the next day.
4. Mother warned me not to watch television as I had a test the next day.

e. She was disappointed because her friends did not wait for her. (Begin: If ... )

1. If her friends had waited for her, she is not have been disappointed.
2. If her friends had waited for her, she will not have been disappointed.
- ✓ 3. If her friends had waited for her, she would not have been disappointed.
4. If her friends had waited for her, she may not have been disappointed.

f. If you break the queue while waiting for the bus, there will be disorder. (Begin: Unless)

1. Unless you break the queue while waiting for the bus, there will be any disorder.
- ✓ 2. Unless you break the queue while waiting for the bus, there won't be any disorder.
3. Unless you didn't break the queue while waiting for the bus, there won't be any disorder.
4. Unless you didn't break the queue while waiting for the bus, there would not be any disorder.

g. The thought of making lasagna never occurred to me. (Begin: It ... )

1. It never occurred to me that I could have made lasagna.
- ✓ 2. It never occurred to me that I could make lasagna.
3. It never occurred to me that I can make lasagna.
4. It never occurred to me that I will make lasagna.

h. We looked up recipes on the internet to make roast chicken. (Begin: Recipes ... )

1. Recipes to make roast chicken is looked up on the internet by us.
2. Recipes to make roast chicken are looked up on the internet by us.
3. Recipes to make roast chicken was looked up on the internet by us.
- ✓ 4. Recipes to make roast chicken were looked up on the internet by us.