

Answer to this paper must be written on the paper provided separately. You will not be allowed to write during the first **15 minutes**. This time is to be spent in reading the question paper. The first time given at the head of this paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

Attempt all five questions.

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in bracket []. You are advised to spend not more than **30 minutes** in answering **Question 1** and **20 minutes** in answering **Question 2**

Question 1

[20]

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

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

- Write an original short story which clearly illustrates the friendship between a boy and his dog.
- Your room has been untidy for a long time and your parents have been urging you to tidy it. Narrate your experience of cleaning and tidying your room. What did the experience teach you?
- 'Life's best lessons are learnt from friends' Express your views either for or against this statement.
- You mistakenly went to your school on a day which was a holiday. Everything was closed and the school was empty. Write a description of what you saw and heard. What were your feelings at the end of the visit?
- Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



Question 2

[10]

(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.)

Select **any one** of the following:

- i) As the President of the cultural academy of your school. Write a letter inviting a well-known ~~career~~ counsellor to advise the students on their future career plans. Your letter should give all the information related to the number of students, their age group and the queries they are likely to have.
- ii) Your friend is the captain of the team, of your school. He is miserably lost the first match in an inter school competition. Write a letter for encouraging him not to lose heart and to try again with renewed vigour.

Question 3

- (i) Your school has started a Relief Fund for the flood-affected people in Bihar. Write a notice to be put up in your school requesting the students of Classes VI to X to contribute towards the Relief Fund. [5]
- (ii) Write an email to the Principal of a neighbouring school, requesting him/her to ask the students of her/his school to contribute towards the Relief Fund for the flood-affected people in Bihar. [5]

Question-4

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

One summer Aksionov, a young merchant, was going to the Nizhny fair. But his wife forbade him from going to the fair because of a nightmare she had the previous night in which she had seen him with greyed hair. Disregarding his wife's dream, Aksionov left for the fair. When he had travelled half-way, he met a merchant whom he knew, and they put up at the same inn for the night. They had some tea together, and then went to bed in adjoining rooms.

When Aksionov had gone about twenty-five miles the next day, he stopped for the horses to be fed. Aksionov rested awhile in the passage of the inn. Suddenly a horse cart drove up with tinkling bells and an official got off, followed by two soldiers. He came to Aksionov and began to question him, asking him who he was and whence he came. Then the official, calling the soldiers, said, "I am the Police-Officer of this district, and I question this man because the merchant with whom he spent last night has been found with his throat cut."

The soldiers and the Police-Officer unstrapped Aksionov's luggage and searched it. Suddenly the officer drew a knife out of a bag, crying, "Whose knife is this?" Aksionov swore he had not done anything wrong, and that the knife was not his. The Police-Officer ordered the soldiers to bind Aksionov and to put him in the cart. Then the trial came on: he was charged with murdering a merchant from Ryazan, and robbing him of twenty thousand roubles.

For the next twenty six years Aksionov lived as a convict in Siberia. His hair turned white as snow, and his beard grew long, thin, and grey. Resigned to his plight, he dedicated his life to God. All his mirth vanished; he spoke little, and never laughed.

One day a fresh gang of convicts came to the prison. Aksionov sat down near the newcomers and listened with downcast air to what the new convicts were saying. One of the new convicts, a tall, strong man of sixty, was from Vladimir. He said, "My name is Makar, and they also call me Semyonich." When Aksionov heard these words, he felt sure he was the man who had killed the merchant.

That night, when Aksionov was lying on his bed someone came quietly and sat down on his bed. Aksionov peered through the darkness and recognised Makar.

Makar Semyonich bent close over Aksionov, and whispered, 'Ivan Aksionov, forgive me!' 'It was I who killed the merchant and hid the knife among your things. I meant to kill you too, but I heard a noise outside, so I hid the knife in your bag and escaped out of the window. I will now confess that it was I who killed the merchant, and you will be released and can go to your home.'

When Aksionov heard him sobbing, he, too, began to weep. 'God will forgive you!' said he. And at these words his heart grew light, and the longing for home left him. Next morning when the order for his release came, Aksionov was already dead.

(i) For each word given below choose the correct meaning (as used in the passage) from the options provided: [2]

1. unstrapped (line 14)

- (a) detached (b) separated (c) unbolted (d) opened

2. mirth (line 22)

- (a) sorrow (b) cheer (c) promise (d) distress

ii) Which word in the passage means the opposite of the word hatred? [1]

- (a) awhile (b) swore (c) convict (d) longing

i) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words.

(a) Why did Aksionov's wife forbid him from going to the Nizhny fair?

How did Aksionov react? [2]

(b) What did the Police-Officer find in Aksionov's bag? [1]

(c) What was Aksionov accused of? What punishment did he get? [2]

d) How did Aksionov feel when he heard the name Makar from the fresh gang of convicts who came to the prison? [2]

(e) What did Makar Semyonich tell Aksionov when he came to see him at night? [2]

(iv) In not more than 50 words, state how Aksionov led the life of a convict for twenty-six years for the crime which he had not committed. [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: (0) asked

One day Akbar..... (ask) Birbal if he ...1..... (can) tell him the difference between truth and falsehood in three words or less. "Four fingers" said Birbal.

"Four fingers?" asked the emperor,2.... (perplex). "That is the difference between truth and falsehood, your Majesty," said Birbal. "That which you3.... (see) with your own eyes is the truth. That which you have only4.... (hear) about5.... (may) not be true. More often than not, it is likely to be false."

"That is right," said Akbar. "But what6.... (do) you mean by7.... (say) the difference is four fingers?"

"The distance between one's eyes and one's ears is the width of four fingers, Your Majesty," said Birbal,8.... (grin).

[4]

ii) **Fill in the blanks with appropriate words:**

- (a) The children were told to return home _____ it became dark.
- (b) The meeting is _____ half past two.
- (c) He always ran _____ money.
- (d) The winter season has set _____.
- (e) The authorities are investigating the circumstances _____ the crash.
- (f) Can she work _____ the answer?
- (g) The cat was run _____ by a car.
- (h) The scheme has fallen _____ for want of funds.

iii) **Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using and, but or so.**

[4]

Choose the correct option.

1. It was a steep hill. We had great difficulty in climbing.
 - a) We had great difficulty in climbing a steep hill.
 - b) Climbing off a steep hill was a great difficulty for us.
 - c) It was greatly difficult to climb a steep hill.
 - d) It was a great difficulty in climbing a steep hill.
2. I spoke to the man. The man is a magistrate.
 - a) I spoke to the man that is a magistrate.
 - b) I spoke to the man being a magistrate.
 - c) The man, I spoke, was a magistrate.
 - d) The man, I spoke to, is a magistrate.
3. Let us go out. I am bored.
 - a) I am bored to go out.
 - b) Let us go since I was bored.
 - c) Let us go out as I am bored.
 - d) Let us go out for I feel boring.
4. Stop talking. Leave the classroom.
 - a) Stop talking or leave the classroom.
 - b) Leave the classroom to stop talking.
 - c) Stop talking to leave the classroom.
 - d) If you don't want to stop talking you can leave the classroom.

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]

1. She can never refuse awards. (End:awards?)
 - (a) Has she ever refused awards?

- (b) Can she ever refuse awards?
- (c) Can she refuse awards?
- (d) Has she refused awards?

2. Only graduates can apply for this post. (Begin with: None)

- (a) None from the graduates can apply for this post.
- (b) None of the graduates can apply for this post.
- (c) None but graduates can apply for this post.
- (d) None of the graduates but can apply for this post.

3. They won the match. so I congratulated them. (Begin with: I congratulated them.....)

- (a) I congratulated them as soon as they win the match.
- (b) I congratulated them because they won the match.
- (c) I congratulated them over winning the match.
- (d) I congratulated them on winning the match.

4. That roof is not worth repairing. (Begin with: It is pointless ...)

- (a) It is pointless for that roof to be repaired....
- (b) It is pointless that roof be repaired.
- (c) It is pointless if we cannot repair that roof.
- (d) It is pointless to repair that roof.

5. I think you should come back tomorrow. (Begin with: You had)

- (a) You had to come back tomorrow.
- (b) You had tomorrow to come back.
- (c) You had to think to come back tomorrow.
- (d) You had better come back tomorrow.

6. He has not seen his parents for ages. (Begin with: It is ages)

- (a) It is ages when he has seen his parents.
- (b) It is ages since he has seen his parents.
- (c) It is ages during which he has not seen his parents.
- (d) It is ages for he has not seen his parents.

7. He works hard that he may become rich. (Begin with: He aims)

- (a) He aims that he may become rich by working hard.
- (b) He aims to become rich by working hard.
- (c) He aims at becoming rich by working hard.
- (d) He aims for hard work because he wants to become rich.

8. Kiran is the fastest runner in our school. (Begin with: No other.....)

- (a) No other runner in our school is fastest as Kiran.
- (b) No other runner can run as fast as Kiran in our school.
- (c) No other runner in our school is as fast as Kiran.
- (d) No other runner in our school is faster to Kiran.