Q1. **Read the passage given below.**

Hobbies help us grow as a person. The best way to have a new hobby is to try something new. All of us are unique, and this is the reason why our hobbies and interests are different. Once we find an activity we are passionate about, we can explore that activity more. When you get hooked, you will realize that your hobby has become an integral part of your life. Having a hobby that we enjoy brings us joy and refreshes us. Hobbies help us to manage our leisure and unplanned time more productively. It also affords you the opportunity to learn new skills in your work. But these are not the only benefits of having a hobby.

It feels great to be skilled and good at something, doesn’t it? And this is what that makes you confident. It can take some time to develop your hobby so that you may be able to tell that you are skilled. But, the journey of experiencing your hobby is very rewarding in itself. With the exposure to different types of activities these days, it doesn’t matter which activity you choose. Whether you are pursuing a craft, sports, puzzles, or skill development, your hobby should be a diversion and a passion. Simultaneously, if your hobby gives you a sense of purpose, then you will be more confident about challenging yourself in your hobby and help you prepare for learning new things at work.

Hobbies give you an opportunity to enhance your life. Hobbies allow you to de-stress yourself while remaining mentally productive. Having hobbies promotes better health and may lower the risk of having high blood pressure. Enjoying a few hours of your hobby a week can also reduce the risk of depression and dementia. Hobbies refocus your mind on to something that you enjoy doing. Hobbies that include physical activities create chemical changes in your body that help to reduce stress.

Even if it doesn’t involve physical activities, you can still reap the benefits of having a hobby. Getting a short break from work and doing something you are passionate about can rejuvenate your mind and help prepare you to handle challenges in the future in a better way.

Hobbies may provide an opportunity for you to socialize with people and that can be an additional benefit for your overall well-being. You can connect with people who enjoy doing the same things that you do. You can meet new people, discuss your hobby and get connected to a bigger circle that may even help you turn your hobby into your profession. The internet provides numerous groups and forums to connect with people that enjoy doing the same things that you want to do.
Some hobbies require creativity and if you develop creativity through your hobby, it can be beneficial. Creativity can help you experience new things at school and work. The skill of being creative is essential in today’s world.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the twelve that follow.

(a) When a person gets hooked on a hobby, he realises that:
   (i) it has become an integral part of our life.
   (ii) it has much more benefits than we realised.
   (iii) it is much more enjoyable to have a hobby.
   (iv) it is quite essential for us to learn some skills through our hobbies.

(b) No matter which sort of hobby you are pursuing, be it a craft, sports, puzzles, or skill development, your hobby should be:
   (i) useful for you in the long run.
   (ii) a skill that improves your present circumstances.
   (iii) a diversion and a passion.
   (iv) followed through till the end.

(c) The journey of experiencing a hobby is quite:
   (i) challenging for a person.
   (ii) rewarding in itself.
   (iii) demanding in itself.
   (iv) inspirational for a person.

(d) Which of the following is NOT a way through which hobbies enhance your life?
   I. may lower the risk of having high blood pressure
   II. reduce the risk of depression and dementia
   III. distracts the mind from other useless problems
   IV. promotes better health
   V. reduces stress
   VI. manages the regular balanced exercise
   (i) I, II, II and IV
   (ii) I, III, IV and VI
   (iii) I, II, IV and V
   (iv) I, III, V and VI

(e) Getting a hobby means having a short break from work and doing something you are passionate about which can:
   (i) give you a peace of mind from all the other problems of daily hectic life and make you feel refreshed.
   (ii) help you enhance and improve your skills and push you forward on your path to success.
   (iii) make you enjoy and appreciate your life much more as you are happy pursuing what you love.
   (iv) rejuvenate your mind and help prepare you to handle challenges in the future in a better way.

(f) Choose an option that is NOT a benefit of having a hobby.
   (i) Provides an opportunity for us to socialize with people.
   (ii) Gives us an opportunity to enhance our life.
   (iii) Help us to manage our planned time more beneficially.
   (iv) Makes us more confident in ourselves.

(g) The skill of being .......... is essential in today’s world.
   (i) confident
   (ii) creative
   (iii) socialable
   (iv) opportunistic
Choose an option that is clearly a synonym of the word ‘hooked’.
(i) opposed  (ii) indifferent
(iii) willing (iv) captivated

Choose an option that can be considered as an appropriate title for the passage.
(i) The Importance of Having a Hobby
(ii) The Usage of Hobby
(iii) The Advantages and Disadvantages of Having a Hobby
(iv) The Correct Usage of Free Time- A Hobby

Hobby provides you with an opportunity to socialise with people by making:
I. you get connected to a bigger circle that may even help you turn your hobby into your profession.
II. you meet new people with whom you can discuss your hobby.
III. you connect with people who enjoy doing the same things that you do.
IV. you get together with people of your own age and profession.
(i) I, III and IV (ii) II, III and IV
(iii) I, II and III (iv) I, II, III and IV

Which of the following option is NOT similar in meaning to the word ‘beneficial’?
(i) advantageous (ii) favourable
(iii) rewarding (iv) worthless

If your hobby gives you ..........., then you will be more confident about challenging yourself in your hobby and help you prepare for learning new things at work.
(i) confidence to move forward (ii) a sense of purpose
(iii) a reason to develop yourself (iv) skills that help you in your work

Q2. Read the passage given below. [10 Marks]
The ocean is one of the most unexplored parts of our planet, with a magnitude of undiscovered species and mysteries. It turns out from the studies conducted over the last few decades, this magnificent environment is under serious threat from human intervention, with plastics set to outnumber fish by 2050.

Marine life, as we know it, is suffering irreparable damage from the chemical pollution of the waters and the millions of tons of mismanaged waste dumped in the oceans each year. The result is a planetary crisis with over 100 million marine animal’s lives get lost every year, and the decay of the ocean’s ecosystem.

**Shocking Ocean Pollution Statistics**
- 100 melon marine animals die each year from plastic waste alone.
- 100000 marine animal die from getting entangled in plastic yearly - this is just the creatures we find
- 1 in 3 marine mammal species get found entangled in litter, 12-14000 tons of plastic are ingested by North Pacific fish yearly.
- In the past 10 years, we’ve made more plastic than the last century. By 2050, the pollution of fish will be outnumbered by our dumped plastic.
- The largest trash site on the planet is the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, twice the surface area of Texas, it outnumbers sea life there 6 to 1.
- China is ranked #1 for mismanaged waste and plastics. However, the US is in the top 20 with a more significant waste per person contributions.
- 300 Million tons of plastic gets created yearly, and this weighs the same as the entire human population, and 50% is single-use only.
- There are 5.25 trillion pieces of plastic waste estimated to be in our oceans. 269000 tons float, 4 billion microfibers per km² dwell below the surface.
• 70% of our debris sinks into the oceans’s ecosystem, 15% floats and 15% lands on our beaches.
• In terms of plastic, 8.3 million tons are discarded in the sea yearly. Of which, 236000 are ingestible microplastics that marine creatures mistake for food.
• Plastics take 500-1000 years to degrade; currently 79% is send to lands or the oceans, while only 9% is recycled, and 12% gets incinerated.
• 1950-1998 over 100 nuclear blast tests occurred in our oceans.
• 500 marine locations are now recorded as dead zones globally, currently the size of the United Kingdom’s surface (245000 km²)
• 80% of global marine pollution comes from agriculture runoff, untreated sewage, discharge of nutrients and pesticides.
• 90% of the worldwide ocean debris comes from 10 rivers alone.

Almost 1,000 species of marine animals get impacted by ocean pollution, and we now have over 500 locations recorded as dead zones where marine life cannot exist. How did this happen, what is causing the most damage, find out everything above in the marine pollution statistics roundup.

The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is a floating island of debris, accumulated in the North Pacific Ocean by an extensive system of currents called gyres. It is built up from two other waste patches, the western garbage patch near Japan and the eastern garbage patch near America’s west coast near California and Hawaii.

The North Pacific Subtropical Convergence Zone links the east and western garbage patches, acting as a highway for waste to move from one to the other. Because of this, a small item of debris dropped near California can travel across to Japan, then eventually get sucked up by these swirling garbage patch vortexes.

The great pacific garbage patch size is quite shocking. These patches of trash are said to be twice the size of Texas and float on the surface but do drop several meters into the ocean in places, which makes the correct size challenging to measure. The world’s largest garbage site is mainly made up of microplastics creating a vast cloud, with newer items of debris that haven’t broken down as much floating around like chunks in a soup. The great pacific garbage patch effects on marine life are extremely significant.

On the basis of your understanding of the given passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the twelve that follow.

1 × 10 = 10

(a) In the ocean what is set to outnumber the fish by the year 2050 ?
(i) pollution (ii) plastics
(iii) human waste (iv) garbage

(b) Marine life is suffering from irreparable damage because of :
I. the millions of tons of mismanaged waste dumped in the oceans each year.
II. the rising global warming which is increasing the death rate of the ocean ecosystems.
III. the chemical pollution of the waters.
(i) I and II (ii) II and III
(iii) I and III (iv) I, II and III

(c) How many locations are recorded as dead zones where marine life cannot exist ?
(i) 400 (ii) 450
(iii) 500 (iv) 550

(d) The largest trash site on the planet, the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, is twice the size of which city ?
(i) Arizona (ii) Colorado
(iii) Texas (iv) Florida
(e) Which country is ranked number one for mismanaged waste and plastics?
   (i) China   (ii) USA
   (iii) India  (iv) France

(f) Which of the following is NOT a place from where 80% of global marine pollution comes?
   (i) untreated sewage
   (ii) agriculture run-off
   (iii) discharge of nutrients and pesticide
   (iv) factory waste disposal

(g) The western garbage patch, which is one of the waste patches that makes up the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, is near ...........
   (i) California  (ii) Japan
   (iii) Hawaii    (iv) Malibu

(h) Because of what can a small item of debris dropped near California can travel across to Japan?
   (i) The North Pacific Subtropical Convergence Zone
   (ii) The Great Pacific Garbage Patch
   (iii) the gyres
   (iv) the vortexes

(i) Choose an option that lists a statement that is NOT TRUE.
   (i) 700 marine locations are now recorded as dead zones globally.
   (ii) 70% of our debris sinks into the ocean’s ecosystem, 15% floats, and 15 % lands on our beaches.
   (iii) 100 million marine animals die each year from plastic waste alone.
   (iv) 90% of the worldwide ocean debris comes from 10 rivers alone.

(j) An extensive system of currents in the North Pacific Ocean is called:
   (i) vortex
   (ii) convergence
   (iii) gyres
   (iv) debris

(k) Choose an option that is a synonym of the word ‘irreparable’.
   (i) unrecoverable
   (ii) mendable
   (iii) cure
   (iv) replace

(l) Which of the following is an antonym of the word ‘unexplored’?
   (i) undiscovered
   (ii) known
   (iii) unimportant
   (iv) irrelevant

**LITERATURE**

**Q3. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY ONE by answering the questions that follow.**

**[1 × 5 = 5 Marks]**

Inside the clouds, everything was suddenly black. It was impossible to see anything outside the aeroplane. The old aeroplane jumped and twisted in the air. I looked at the compass. I couldn’t believe my eyes: the compass was turning round and round and round. It was dead. It would not work! The other instruments were suddenly dead, too. I tried the radio.

(a) What was causing the plane to jump and twist in the air?
   (i) air pressure
   (ii) wind currents
   (iii) black stormy clouds
   (iv) dead engine
(b) Why was the compass turning round and round?
(i) because it was dead
(ii) because it couldn’t find any signal
(iii) because the plane was out of control
(iv) because there was a storm

(c) The narrator couldn’t see outside the aeroplane because:
(i) it was too bright to look outside.
(ii) he was too high in the clouds to see anything clearly.
(iii) everything was black inside the storm clouds.
(iv) there was too much lightening.

(d) Choose an option that is a synonym of the word ‘dead’.
(i) barren
(ii) broken-down
(iii) deserted
(iv) not useful

(e) Over which country was the pilot flying at this moment?
(i) Germany
(ii) Spain
(iii) United Kingdom
(iv) France

OR

It was green, green everywhere. Rajvir had never seen so much greenery before. Then the soft
green paddy fields gave way to tea-bushes.

It was a magnificent view. Against the backdrop of densely wooded hills a sea of tea bushes
stretched as far as the eye could see. Dwarfing the tiny tea plants were tall sturdy shade-trees and
amidst the orderly rows of bushes busily moved doll-like figures. In the distance was an ugly
building with smoke billowing out of tall chimneys.

“Hey, a tea-garden!” Rajvir cried excitedly.
Pranjol, who had been born and brought up on a plantation, didn’t share Rajvir’s excitement.

(a) Pranjol did not share Rajvir’s excitement about the view outside because:
(i) he saw it too often.
(ii) there was nothing exciting outside actually.
(iii) he was born and brought up in that area.
(iv) he was more interested in the book he was reading.

(b) Why has the building been called ugly?
(i) because it was an old building
(ii) because the construction was bad
(iii) because smoke was coming out of its tall chimneys
(iv) because it didn’t have a good history

(c) Why did Rajvir cry excitedly?
(i) because he saw too much greenery
(ii) because he saw a tea-garden
(iii) because he saw a plantation
(iv) because he saw an ugly building

(d) Which of the following options tells the meaning of the word ‘billowing’?
(i) aggressively shooting upwards
(ii) rolling outward
(iii) moving at a great speed
(iv) gathering at a place
(e) What has been called ‘magnificent’ in the extract?
   (i) the tall chimney throwing smoke into the air
   (ii) the tea bushes covering a huge area
   (iii) the hills surrounding the train
   (iv) the green green view of Assam’s tea gardens

Q4. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY ONE by answering the questions that follow. [1 × 5 = 5 Marks]

Now the name of the little black kitten was Ink,
And the little grey mouse, she called him Blink,
And the little yellow dog was sharp as Mustard,
But the dragon was a coward, and she called him Custard.

(a) Who is ‘she’?
   (i) Amanda
   (ii) Belinda
   (iii) Wanda
   (iv) Peggy

(b) What was the little kitten called?
   (i) Mustard
   (ii) Blink
   (iii) Ink
   (iv) Custard

(c) What was the characteristic of the dragon?
   (i) he was brave
   (ii) he was clumsy
   (iii) he was very wise
   (iv) he was a coward

(d) The little dog was called Mustard because:
   (i) he was yellow in colour.
   (ii) he talked quite harshly.
   (iii) he was as yellow and sharp as mustard.
   (iv) he had a muddy colour and a muddy mood.

(e) Choose an option that is an antonym of the word ‘coward’.
   (i) weakling
   (ii) scaredy cat
   (iii) aggressor
   (iv) master

OR

So they show their relations to me and I accept them,
They bring me tokens of myself, they evince
them plainly in their possession.
I wonder where they get those tokens,
Did I pass that way huge times ago and negligently drop them?

(a) Who does ‘they’ refer to?
   (i) animals
   (ii) humans
   (iii) nature
   (iv) pets

(b) Choose an option that states the meaning of the word ‘evince’.
   (i) to reveal the presence of or to show
   (ii) to think things over
   (iii) to measure the value of something
   (iv) to show the love and affection
(c) Which figure of speech is used in ‘wonder where’?
   (i) personification  (ii) alliteration
   (iii) metaphor       (iv) anaphora

(d) Who is ‘I’?
   (i) Ogden Nash       (ii) Walt Whitman
   (iii) Robin Klein    (iv) Leslie Norris

(e) Choose an option that is NOT a synonym of the word ‘negligently’.
   (i) carelessly       (ii) indifferently
   (iii) poorly         (iv) attentively

GRAMMAR

Q5. Choose the correct options to fill in the blanks to complete the note. [10 Marks]

Few studies and inconsistent findings render uncertain whether using the Internet
(a) .......... . On the one hand, time (b) .......... , including participating in social activities and
communicating with family and friends. On the other hand, the Internet facilitates communication
with geographically distant family and friends, and (c) .......... frequently with those nearby.

(a) (i) is having any influence on children’s social outcomes
     (ii) has any influence on children’s social outcomes
     (iii) had any influence on children’s social outcomes
     (iv) have any influence on children’s social outcomes

(b) (i) spend online is time not spend elsewhere
     (ii) is spending online is time not spent elsewhere
     (iii) spending online is time not spent elsewhere
     (iv) spent online is time not spent elsewhere

(c) (i) makes it easier to communicate
     (ii) made it easier to communicate
     (iii) is making it easier to communicate
     (iv) will make it easier to communicate

Q6. Choose the correct options to fill in the blanks to complete the narration. [3 x 1 = 3]

Wilma : Can I have a small packet of goat cheese?
Storekeeper : Sorry, I have only big packets.
Wilma : When will it be available?
Storekeeper : I can give it to you tomorrow.
Wilma : Thank you, then I will get it tomorrow.

Wilma asked the storekeeper (a) ......... . The storekeeper said that he only had big packets of goat
cheese. Wilma wanted to know (b) ......... . The storekeeper said (c) ......... . Wilma thanked him and
said that she would get it tomorrow.

(a) (i) if he had a small packet of goat cheese
     (ii) if he has a small packet of goat cheese
     (iii) if he is having a small packet of goat cheese
     (iv) if he did have a small packet of goat cheese
Q7. Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct options for ANY FOUR of the six sentences given below. 

(a) Kane was just a student when his father ............... in a car accident.
   (i) dies (ii) died (iii) was dying (iv) dead

(b) Unfortunately, I haven’t got ............... time to pick you up.
   (i) few (ii) no (iii) much (iv) little

(c) Can you pass me ............... water bottle please?
   (i) a (ii) the (iii) some (iv) an

(d) They can buy these necessities at ............... convenience store.
   (i) any (ii) some (iii) many (iv) one

(e) I’m sorry the house is not available any longer. It ............... to a millionaire.
   (i) was being sold (ii) will be sold (iii) is sold (iv) has been sold

(f) Michelle ............... her mother in the restaurant until school starts.
   (i) is helping (ii) helped (iii) was helping (iv) has helped

PART-B (40 MARKS)

Q8. Attempt ANY ONE of the following in 100-120 words. [5 Marks]
You are Arihant/Ananya of Ashok Vihar. Write a letter of complaint to Cabinet World regarding the faulty cabinet that they have sold to you. Invent the necessary details on your own.

OR

You are Mohammad Ali/Sahiba Ali, residing in 1545, Kirti Nagar, New Delhi. Write a letter to the Deputy Commissioner of Police, drawing his attention to the deteriorating law and order situation in the city.

Q9. Attempt ANY ONE of the following in 100-120 words. [5 Marks]
The following line graph shows the average monthly temperatures in three major cities. Write an analytical paragraph on the basis of the line graph reporting the important information and making comparisons where relevant.
OR

The following pie charts show the percentage of students taking admission in different faculties of XYZ University over a certain period of time. Write an analytical paragraph on your understanding of the given data.

LITERATURE [30 Marks]

Q10. Answer ANY TWO questions in 20-30 words each, from (A) and (B) respectively. [2 x 4 = 8]
(A) (any two) [2 x 2 = 4]
(i) What does Chubukov at first suspect Lomov had come to his house for ?
(ii) How did Valli manage to leave her house ?
(iii) Why was the pilot of the Dakota frightened once again while following the other plane ?
(B) (any two) [2 x 2 = 4]
(i) What did Anil offer to teach Hari Singh ?
(ii) In the end how did Bholi console her father ?
(iii) How did Griffin escape from the London store ?

Q11. Answer ANY TWO questions in 40-50 words each, from (A) and (B) respectively. [3 x 4 = 12]
(A) (any two) [3 x 2 = 6]
(i) Who are Pranjol and Rajvir ? Where were they going ?
(ii) What was the peculiarity of the corner of the room where Wanda used to sit ?
(iii) ‘Money is external.’ What does the poet John Berryman mean by these words ?
(B) (any two) \[3 \times 2 = 6\]

(i) What reasons does Griffin give to Mrs. Hall for coming to Iping?

(ii) ‘If the theory proves correct, it will be a big step towards understanding the processes of life.’ What is the theory and who proposed it?

(iii) What happened at the ball? Was Matilda’s dream fulfilled?

Q12. **Answer ANY ONE of the following in 100-120 words.** \[5 \text{ marks}\]

According to Nelson Mandela, every man in life has twin obligations. What are these obligations? Do you agree with Nelson Mandela’s opinion about the ‘twin obligations’?

**OR**

Contrary to Wanda’s presence not being shown too much in the story ‘The Hundred Dresses’, she is the main protagonist of the story. Explain what sort of person Wanda was and how, in spite of being poor, she won the hearts of everyone in the story.

Q13. **Answer ANY ONE of the following in 100-120 words.** \[5 \text{ Marks}\]

“Oh I will, Mr Herriot. I’m sure you are right, but it is so difficult, so very difficult.”

Above statement easily shows that Mrs Pumphrey is a very loving and caring mistress for Tricki. Explain the truth with instances from the story ‘A Triumph of Surgery’.

**OR**

“A lawless scientist is a curse to the society.”

Discuss with reference to the story ‘Footprints without Feet’.

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