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SECTION-A: (READING) 20 marks

Q. 1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: 8 Marks

Effective speaking depends on effective listening. It takes energy to concentrate on hearing and concentrate on understanding what has been heard. Incompetent listeners fail in several ways. First, they may drift. Their attention drifts from what the speaker is saying. Second, they may counter. They find counter arguments to whatever a speaker may be saying. Third, they compete. Then they filter. The exclude from their understanding those parts of the message which do not readily fit with their own frame of reference. Finally, they, react. They let personal feelings about speaker or subject override the significance of the message which is being sent.

What can a listener do to be more effective? The first key of effective listening is the art of concentration. If a listener positively wishes to concentrate on receiving a message his chances of success are high. It may need determination. Some speakers are difficult to follow either because of voice problems, or because of the form in which they send a message. There is then particular need for the determination of a listener to concentrate on what is being said.

Concentration is helped by alertness. Mental alertness in helped by physical alertness. It is not simply physical fitness, but also positioning of the body, the limbs and the head. Some people also find it helpful to their concentration if they hold the head slightly to one side. One, useful way for achieving this is intensive note-taking, by trying to capture the critical headings and sub-headings the speaker is referring to. Note-taking has been recommended as an aid to the listener. It also helps the speaker. It gives him confidence when he sees that listeners are sufficiently interested to take notes; the patterns of eye-contact when the note-taker looks up can be very positive; and the speaker's timing is aided he can see when a note-taker is writing hard and can then make effective use of pauses. Posture too is important. Consider the impact made by a less competent listener who pushes his chair backwards and slouches. An up-right posture helps a listener's concentration. At the
same time, it is seen by the speakers to be a positive feature amongst his listeners. Effective listening skills have an impact on both the listener and the speaker.

(a) Based on your reading of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. 5 Marks

(b) Write a summary of the passage in not more than 80 words using the notes made and suggest a suitable title.

Q. 2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: 12 marks

1. Today’s woman is a highly, self-directed person, alive to the sense of her dignity and the importance of her functions in the private domestic domain and the public domain of the World of work. Women are rational in approach, careful in handling situations and want to do things as best as possible. The Fourth World Conference of Women held in Beijing in September 1995 had emphasised that no enduring solution of society’s most threatening social, economic and political problems could be found without the participation and empowerment of the Women. The 1995 World Summit for Social Development had also emphasised the pivotal role of Women in eradicating poverty and mending the social fabric.

2. The Constitution of India had conferred on Women equal rights and opportunities political, social, educational and of employment—with men. Because of oppressive traditions, superstitions, exploitation and corruption, most women are not allowed to enjoy the rights and opportunities, bestowed on them. One of the major reasons for this state of affairs is the lack of literacy and awareness among women. Education is the main instrument through which we can narrow down the prevailing inequality and accelerate the process of economic and political change in the status of Women.

3. The role of Women in a society is very important. Women’s education is the key to a better life in the future. A recent World Bank study says that educating girls is not a charity, it is good economics and if developing nations are to eradicate poverty, they must educate the girls. The report says that the economic and social returns on investment in education of the girls considerably affect the human development index of the nation. Society would progress only if the status of Women is respected and the presence of an educated Woman in the family would ensure education of the family itself. Education and empowerment of Women are closely related.
4. Women's education has not received due care and attention from the planners and policy makers. The National Commission for Women has rightly pointed out that even after 50 years of independence, Women continue to be treated as the single largest group of backward citizens of India. The role of Women in overall development has not been fully understood nor has it been given its full weight in the struggle to eliminate poverty, hunger, injustice and inequality at the national level. Even when we are at the threshold of the 21st century, our society still discriminates against women in matters of their right and privileges and prevents them from participating in the process of national and societal Progress. Various Committees and Commissions have been constituted before and after the independence to evaluate the progress in Women's education and to suggest ways and means to enhance the status of Women. The female literacy rate has gone up in the 20th century from 0.6 per cent in 1901 to 39.29 per cent in 1991 but India still possesses the largest number of illiterate Women in the world. The female literacy index for the year 1991 shows that there are eight States which fall below the national average. The most populous States of the country, UP, MR Bihar and Rajasthan fall in the category of most backward States as far as female literacy is concerned.

5. The prevailing cultural norms of gender behaviour and the perceived domestic and reproductive role of Women tend to affect the education of girls. Negative attitude towards, sending girls to schools, restrictions on their mobility, early marriage, Poverty and illiteracy of parents affect the girl's participation in education.

6. Women's political empowerment got a big boost with the Panchayati Raj Act of 1993 which gave them 30 per cent reservation in Village Panchayats, Block Samities and Zila parishads throughout the country. The National Commission for Women was also set up in 1992 to act as a lobby for Women's issues.

7. The educational system is the only institution which can counter act the deep foundations of inequality of sexes that are built in the minds of people through the socialization Process. Education is the most important instrument of human resource development. Educational system should be used to revolutionise the traditional attitudes and inculcate new values of equality.

Questions:

(a) (i) Mention any two attributes of a modern woman. 2 marks

(ii) Why are women's participation and empowerment considered necessary? 2 marks

(iii) Which factors adversely affect the education of girls? 2 marks

(iv) What benefits did the Women get with the enactment of the Panchayati Raj Act of 1993? 2 marks

(v) By what process can be remove the sense of inequality of sexes from the minds of the people? 1 mark

(b) Pick out words from the passage which mean the same as each of the following: 3 marks
(i) cruel and unfair (Para 2)
(ii) remove (para 3)
(iii) full of people (para 4)

(b) Write a summary of the passage in not more than 80 words using the notes made and suggest a suitable title.

SECTION-B: (ADVANCED WRITING SKILLS) 35 marks

Q. 3. You are Srinivas/Srinidhi of D.P. Public School, Nagpur. As Student Editor of your school magazine, draft a notice in not more than 50 words for your school notice board inviting articles/sketches from students of all classes. 5 marks

OR

You want to rent out your newly constructed flat in the heart of the city. Draft an advertisement in not more than 50 words to be published in 'The Deccan Herald', Bangalore under classified columns. Give all the necessary details. You are Mohan/Mahima of Jayanagar, Bangalore.

Q. 4. You are Pritam/Priti, 27, W. E. A. Karol Bagh, Delhi. You have decided to shift your residence to Faridabad and hence decided to discontinue your membership of Brain Trust Library, Karol Bagh. Write a letter to the Librarian, requesting him to cancel your membership and refund your security deposit of five thousand explaining your inability to continue your membership. 10 marks

OR

You are Anu/Arun, 13 W. E. A. Karol Bagh, New Delhi. You feel very strongly about the ill-treatment meted out to stray dogs at the hands of callous and indifferent people. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily giving your views on why some people behave in such a manner and how these dogs should be treated.

Q. 5. You are Cultural Secretary of PND Xavier School, Jamshedpur. Your school organised a debate on the topic, 'The impact of reality shows on the younger generation'. Write a report in 100-125 words to be published in 'The Times of India', Jamshedpur. 10 marks

OR

A major bus mishap which left several people seriously injured took place at Nicholas Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai. Luckily no life was lost. Collect the information from the eyewitnesses and send a report in L00-125 words to 'The Nungambakkam Times'. You are Vinod/Vinodhini, a reporter.

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Q. 6. As a regular commuter by bus from Noida to Delhi, you have been witnessing rash driving by the bus drivers daily without an exception. Write a letter to the Editor, 'The Times of India' drawing the attention of the General Manager, Delhi Transport Corporation to this problem. You are Priti/Prakash, 15 Udyog Vihar, Noida. 10 marks

OR

You are Amit/Amita living at F-25, Shalimar Colony, New Delhi. You have observed that many school-going children drive around on bikes without a valid driving licence, thereby endangering their own lives as well as those of others. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily with a view to sensitizing students about the risks involved in under-age driving. Also, give suggestions.

SECTION=C: (TEXT BOOK) 30 marks
(Based on New Text books)

Q. 7. Answer any two of the following question in 30-40 words each: 4 marks

(a) Why has the poet's mother have been compared to the 'late winter's moon'?

(b) What message does Stephen Spender convey through the poem: 'An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum'?

(c) What will happen to Aunt Jennifer's tigers when she is dead?

Q. 8. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: 4 marks

All lovely tales that we have heard or read;
An endless fountain of immortal drink.
Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink

(a) Name the poem and the poet. 1 marks
(b) What is the thing of beauty mentioned in these lines? 1 marks
(c) What image does the poet use in these lines? 2 marks

OR

With ships and sun and love tempting them to steal...
For lives that slyly turn in their cramped holes
From fog to endless night

(i) Who are 'them' referred to in the first line? 1 marks
(ii) What tempts them? 1 marks
(iii) What does the poet say about 'their' lives? 2 marks

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Q. 9. Read the following and answer the question that follow:  5 marks

The story “Deep Waters” has made you realize that with determination and perseverance one can accomplish the impossible. Write a paragraph in about 100 words on how a positive attitude and courage will aid you to achieve success in life.

Q. 10. Answer the following in 120-150 words:

Describe the difficulties the bangle makers of f have to face in their lives. The peddler declined the invitation of the ironmaster but accepted the one from Edla. Why? 6 marks

OR

The story 'The Rat Trap' focuses on human loneliness and the need to bond with others. Explain.

Q. 11. Answer the following in 120-150 words: 6 marks

Our language is part of our culture and we are proud of it. Describe how regretful M. Hamel and the village elders are for having neglected their native language, French.

OR

Teachers always advise their students to dream big. Yet, the same teachers in your classrooms find fault with Sophie when she dreams. What is wrong with Sophie’s dreams?

SECTION-D: (NOVEL) 15 marks

(Long Reading Text)

Attempt any Question either Q.No.12 or Q. No. 13.

Q.12. Answer the following questions in 125-150 words:

(a) Write short note on Dr. Cuss.

(b) Describe the burglary at vicar’s house.

Q. 13. Answer the following questions in 125-150 words:

(a) What was the Interdependence of Faith and Community?

(b) Write the feature of Domesticity in context of Silas Marner.
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