

SECTION D (TEXT BOOK)

Passage 1

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

I knew that the oppressor must be liberated just as surely as the oppressed. A man who takes away another man's freedom is a prisoner of hatred. He is locked behind the bars of prejudice and narrow mindedness. I am not truly free if I am taking away someone else's freedom, just as surely as I am not free when my freedom is taken away from me. The oppressed and the oppressor alike are robbed of their humanity.

- a) What is the theme of the above passage? 1
- b) The relationship between "oppressor" and "oppressed" is one of power and control. Which word best completes the following analogy, maintaining a similar relationship: 1
oppressor : oppressed :: liberator : _____?
- c) 'He is locked behind the bars of prejudice and narrow mindedness.'
In the above lines prejudice can be replaced with. 1
(i) Loving (ii) relenting (iii) unbiased (iv) hatred
- d) What message is the author trying to convey about the importance of human rights and equality? 1

Passage 2

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

The baker usually collected his bills at the end of the month. Monthly accounts used to be recorded on some wall in pencil. Baking was indeed a profitable profession in the old days. The baker and his family never starved. He, his family and his servants always looked happy and prosperous. Their plump physique was an open testimony to this. Even today any person with a jackfruit-like physical appearance is easily compared to a baker.

- a) According to the passage, if someone is of plump physique, it means: 1
(i) He is suffering from obesity.
(ii) He is happy and prosperous.
(iii) He is not doing well.
(iv) He is engaged in an unprofitable business.
- b) Which of the following options best describes the life of a Goan bakers in the old days : 1
(i) Penurious (ii) Affluent (iii) Indisposed (iv) Emaciated
- c) What word in the passage means the opposite of "Skinny"? 1
(i) jackfruit (ii) compared (iii) recorded (iv) plump
- d) How does the description of the Goan bakers' physique in the passage reflect their overall life and profession? 1

Passage 3

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Coorgi homes have a tradition of hospitality, and they are more than willing to recount numerous tales of valour related to their sons and fathers. The Coorg Regiment is one of the most decorated in

the Indian Army, and the first Chief of the Indian Army, General Cariappa was a Coorgi. Even now, Kodavus are the only people in Indian permitted to carry firearms without a licence.

- a) Why is the tradition of recounting tales of valour significant in Coorgi culture? 1
- b) What makes the Coorgi regiment unique in Indian Army? 1
- c) What does the privilege of carrying firearms without a licence signify about Kodavus? 1
- d) What does valour refer to in the context of the paragraph? 1
 - (i) Generosity
 - (ii) Bravery in battle
 - (iii) Leadership qualities
 - (iv) Military tradition

Passage 4

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Kisa Gotami became weary and hopeless and sat down at the wayside watching the lights of the city, as they flickered up and were extinguished again. At last the darkness of the night reigned everywhere. And she considered the fate of men that their lives flicker up and are extinguished again. And she thought to herself, "How selfish am I in my grief. Death is common to all; yet in this valley of desolation there is a path that leads him to immortality who has surrendered all selfishness.

- a) How did the lights of the city reflect Kisa Gotami's understanding of the life? 1
- b) What aspect of her grief did Kisa Gotami find selfish in nature? 1
 - (i) She was focused on her own sorrow rather than understanding that death is universal.
 - (ii) She failed to express her sorrow openly.
 - (iii) She was indifferent to the sufferings of others.
 - (iv) She didn't mourn on her son death deeply enough.
- c) What is the 'path that leads to immortality'? 1
 - (i) seeking eternal life
 - (ii) surrendering selfishness
 - (iii) overcoming fear
 - (iv) helping underprivileged
- d) What deeper meaning can be inferred from the statement, "Death is common to all; yet in this valley of desolation there is a path that leads him to immortality who has surrendered all selfishness"? 1
 - (i) Immortality is achieved through physical survival after death.
 - (ii) True immortality comes from selflessness, transcending personal desires and ego.
 - (iii) Death is the only certainty in life, and immortality is irrelevant.
 - (iv) The path to immortality is marked by wealth and material success.

Passage 5

Read the lines given below and answer the questions that follow:

Lencho was a man of strong faith, for him God was not an abstract belief but a concrete, physical presence. He went about his work and his life the assurance of one who knows that God is always watching over him.

- a) Which of these best summaries Lencho's belief in God? 1
 - (i) He has strong disbelief that God can't be everywhere.
 - (ii) He knows that God is watching over him.
 - (iii) He wants to meet God one day
 - (iv) God is a spiritual being for him.
- b) Which sentence uses the word "abstract" correctly? 1
 - (i) Lencho's belief in God was abstract, as he rarely prayed.
 - (ii) For Lencho, God was not an abstract belief, but a physical presence.
 - (iii) Lencho's thoughts on the situation were abstract.
 - (iv) Lencho believed in abstract things like happiness and peace.
- c) According to the extract, Lencho can be described as: 1
 - (i) atheist
 - (ii) theist
 - (iii) agnostic
 - (iv) fundamentalist
- d) What is the theme of this passage? 1

Passage 6

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

The day before all day long he had watched his parents flying about with his brothers and sister, perfecting them in the art of flight, teaching them how to skim the waves and how to dive fish. He had in fact seen his brother catch his first herring and devour it standing on a rock while his parents circled raising a proud cackle.

- a) "He had in fact seen his brother catch his first herring and devour it standing on a rock while his parents circled raising a proud cackle."
- ‘ How might this scene influenced the young seagull? 1
 - (i) Increases his fear of flying
 - (ii) Decreases his self-esteem
 - (iii) Encourage him to try his first flight
 - (iv) Make him jealous of his brother
- b) What activity were the young seagull's parents engaged in? 1
 - (i) Preparing their children for life experience
 - (ii) Playing with kids
 - (iii) Enjoying sea life

- (iv) Hunting fish only
- c) What is the significance of the word 'proud crackle' in the above passage? 1
 - (i) it shows celebration over fear
 - (ii) it shows their dancing skills
 - (iii) it shows they are starving
 - (iv) it shows teasing someone with the act.
- d) Which of the following sentence conveys correct meaning of the word 'devour'? 1
 - (i) She read the book so quickly that it seemed like she wanted to devour every page.
 - (ii) The lion was devouring its pray slowly and carefully.
 - (iii) He devoured the landscape with his eyes, admiring the beauty of landscape.
 - (iv) All of the above

Passage 7

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

I started right away at the Montessori nursery School. I stayed there until I was six, at which time I started in the first form. In the sixth form my teacher was Mrs. Kuperus, the headmistress. At the end of the year we were both in tears as we said a heart breaking farewell.

- a) According to the passage, which of the following options is correct? 1
 - (i) In the beginning, the speaker didn't like Mrs Kuperus.
 - (ii) Mrs Kuperus was a strict woman.
 - (iii) At the end of the year, they both knew each other very well.
 - (iv) Mrs Kuperus had been teaching her since the first form.
- b) What does the mention of "heartbreaking farewell" suggest about the teacher's role in the speaker's life? 1
 - (i) Mrs. Kuperus was just another teacher.
 - (ii) The teacher played a significant role in shaping the speaker's early years.
 - (iii) The speaker felt relieved to leave Mrs. Kuperus.
 - (iv) The farewell was emotional only for the teacher, not the speaker.
- c) Which of the following words can replace 'form' in the above passage? 1
 - (i) Section
 - (ii) Class
 - (iii) Fraction
 - (iv) Part
- d) What can you infer about the speaker's personality from the passage? 1
 - (i) The speaker disliked changes in her life.
 - (ii) The speaker was indifferent to the emotions.
 - (iii) The speaker was a brilliant student
 - (iv) The speaker formed connection with people.

Passage 8

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

He would greet the lady of the house with “Good morning” and then place his basket on the vertical bamboo. We kids would be pushed aside with a mild rebuke, and the loaves would be delivered to the servant. But we would not give up. We would climb a bench or the parapet and peep into the basket, somehow. I can still recall the typical fragrance of those loaves. Loaves for the elders and the bangles for the children.

- a) The author’s description of the bread seller routine suggests : 1
- (i) A new and unfamiliar experience for the author.
 - (ii) A chaotic and unorganised system of bread delivery.
 - (iii) Author’s hatred for the vendors.
 - (iv) A distant and familiar relationship with the bread seller and the household.
- b) According to the passage, a bangle is a: 1
- (i) circular ring like bread
 - (ii) jewellery for girls
 - (iii) sweet candy for children
 - (iv) chocolate brand name
- c) “I can still recall the typical fragrance of those loaves”
What can be concluded from the statement above?
- (i) every food has a particular fragrance.
 - (ii) fragrance can be remembered.
 - (iii) one can taste food while recalling it
 - (iv) a person never forgets his/her childhood
- d) "Which of the following sentences conveys the correct meaning of the phrase ‘mild rebuke’ as used in the passage?" 1
- (i) The children were gently scolded but not in a harsh manner.
 - (ii) The children were scolded severely for their behaviour.
 - (iii) The children were ignored and not given any attention.
 - (iv) The children were praised for their curiosity.
- e) What is similar to ‘Bread’ 1
- (i) Cake (ii) loaf (iii) pastry (iv) candy

Passage 9

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Two days later, Mijbil escaped from my bedroom as I entered it, and I turned to see his tail disappearing round the bend of the corridor that led to the bathroom. By the time I got there he was up on the end of the bath tub and fumbling at the chromium taps with his paws. I watched, amazed; in less than a minute he had turned the tap far enough to produce trickle of water, and after a moment or two achieved the full flow.

- a) Discuss the impact of Mijbil’s escape and his actions in the bedroom. 1
- b) According to the passage, what can be inferred about Mij’s intelligence? 1

- c) What does the “chromium” refer to in the passage? 1
- d) Statement 1: Mij loves water.
Statement 2: Mij was intelligent enough to open the water taps. 1
- (i) Statement 1 is true
(ii) Statement 1 is false
(iii) Both are true
(iv) Both are false

Passage 10

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

The most fascinating thing of all was the bus that travelled between her village and the nearest town. It passed through her street each hour, once going to the town and once coming back. The sight of the bus filled each time with a new set of passengers, was a source of unending joy for Valli.

- a) What was the full name of Valli? 1
- b) How much time the bus passed through her street? 1
- c) According to the passage, what was the most fascinating thing for Valli? 1
- (i) The bus goes around the world each hour.
(ii) The bus travelled her village and the nearest town
(iii) The bus is not for elders
(iv) It never passed through her.
- d) Which of these emotions cannot be applied on Valli’s current state of mind: 1
- (i) Joyous and adventurous
(ii) curious and mischievous
(iii) composed and quiet
(iv) exciting and surprised

Passage 11

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

At about the age of twenty five, the Prince, heretofore shielded from the sufferings of the world, while out hunting chanced upon a sick man, then an aged man, then a funeral procession and finally a monk begging for alms. These sights so moved him that he at once became a begger and went out into the world to seek enlightenment concerning the sorrows he had witnessed.

- a) According to passage, what effects did those sights have on the prince’s mind? 1
- (i) He went out to help needy.
(ii) He became restless and left all his pleasures in search of truth
(iii) He started begging in the street
(iv) He started hiding himself behind the palace walls.
- b) Re-arrange the following events in the sequence that they occur in the extract. 1
- (i) Prince encountered an aged man
(ii) Prince went out for hunting
(iii) Prince saw a monk begging for alms
(iv) Prince saw a sick man

1) (iv)-(iii)-(ii)-(i)

2) (iii)-(i)-(ii)-(iv)

- 3) (ii)-(iv)-(i)-(iii) 4) (i)-(ii)-(iii)-(iv)
- c) Which of the following best describes the prince decision to leave the world behind in search of enlightenment? 1
- (i) to escape from his responsibilities as a ruler
 - (ii) to seek deeper understanding of the world's suffering
 - (iii) for a quest for more wealth and power
 - (iv) to express anger towards his parents and well-wishers
- d) Which of the following sentences shows correct uses of the word 'heretofore': 1
- (i) The book heretofore was interesting
 - (ii) He ran heretofore as fast as he could.
 - (iii) Heretofore, the cat sat patiently by the window
 - (iv) The chef, heretofore unknown, suddenly became a culinary sensation.

Passage 12

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Natalya Stepanovna is an excellent house keeper, not bad-looking, and well education. What more do I want? But I'm getting a noise in my ears from excitement. And it's impossible for me not to marry. In the first place, I am already 35-a critical age, so to speak. In the second place, I ought to lead a quiet and regular life.

- a) Which of the following descriptions is true about Natalya Stepanova, according to the passage: 1
- (i) She doesn't want to marry anyone.
 - (ii) She was good looking enough and could be an excellent housewife.
 - (iii) She was not truly educated but could read newspaper.
 - (iv) She was excited to get married.
- b) According to the passage, why is it critical for Lomov to get married? 1
- (i) He has no taste for married life.
 - (ii) He is not interested in Natalya.
 - (iii) He believes he is too old to get married
 - (iv) His life was far more adventurous and interesting
- c) Based on the passage, can it be concluded that there is a right age for everything? Explain whether you agree or disagree with this statement? 1
- d) Select the option which best describes the relationship between the statements given below: 1
- Statement 1: It was impossible for Lomov not to marry.
- Statement 2: Lomov have societal pressures regarding age and stability.
- (i) Statement 2 does not support Statement 1
 - (ii) Statement 2 explains the cause of Statement 1
 - (iii) Statement 2 contradicts Statement 1
 - (iv) Statement 2 and Statement 1 are not related

Passage 13

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

It is from these comrades in the struggle that I learned the meaning of courage. Time and again, I have seen men and women risk and give their lives for an idea. I have seen men stand up to attacks and torture without breaking, showing a strength and resilience that defies the imagination. I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear.

- a) According to the passage, which of the following sentences does not convey correct meaning of courage? 1
- (i) It means being fearless.
 - (ii) It means showing strength and resilience.
 - (iii) It means conquering fear.
 - (iv) It means risking lives for ideas in which you believe.
- b) What do you think, why Nelson Mandela chose to speak about courage on this historic day? 1
- (i) To emphasize the significance of South Africa gaining freedom.
 - (ii) To reflect on his journey to becoming the first black President.
 - (iii) To highlight the challenges faced by South Africa during foreign conflicts.
 - (iv) To address the symbolic importance of rebuilding after the destruction of the parliament.
- c) What is the ability to cope with hardship and recover from its effect called? 1
- (i) courage (ii) triumph (iii) resilience (iv) strength
- d) Select the option which best describes the relationship between the statements given below: 1
- Statement 1: The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear.
- Statement 2: Bravery involves overcoming fear, even in the face of great challenges.
- (v) Statement 2 does not support Statement 1
 - (vi) Statement 1 explains the cause of Statement 2
 - (vii) Statement 2 contradicts Statement 1
 - (viii) Statement 2 and Statement 1 are not related

Passage 13

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

The evening, after I finished the rest of my homework, the note about the essay caught my eye. I began thinking about the subject while chewing the tip of my fountain pen. Anyone could ramble on and leave big spaces between the words, but the trick was to come up with convincing arguments to prove the necessity of talking. I thought and thought, and suddenly I had an idea. I wrote the three pages Mr. Keesing had assigned me and was satisfied. I argued that talking is a student's trait and that I would do my best to keep it under control, but that I would never be able to cure myself of the habit since my mother talked as much as I did if not more, and that there's not much you can do about inherited traits.

- a) Why did the speaker chew the tip of her fountain pen? 1
- (i) She was thinking about the convincing arguments for the essay.
 - (ii) She was starving.

- (iii) She was thinking, how to praise teachers.
- (iv) She was thinking how to apologize for her mistakes.
- b) According to the passage, which proverb best describes early signs of Anne Frank's writing skills. 1
 - (i) A bad workman quarrels with his tools.
 - (ii) A little knowledge is a dangerous thing.
 - (iii) Shallow brooks are noisy.
 - (iv) Coming events cast their shadow before.
- c) What does Anne's use of humour and wit in her essay suggest about her personality? 1
- d) According to the passage, what is 'inherited traits'? 1

Passage 14

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

He felt certain that his wings would never support him; so he bent his head and ran away back to the little hole under the ledge where he slept at night. Even when each of his brothers and his little sister, whose wings were far shorter than his own, ran to the brink, flapped their wings, and flew away, he failed to muster up courage to take that plunge which appeared to him so desperate.

- a) Why did young seagull run back instead of trying to fly? 1
 - (i) He was too excited to fly.
 - (ii) He was afraid his wings would not support him.
 - (iii) He didn't want to leave the ledge.
 - (iv) He didn't want to follow his siblings.
- b) Why did the young seagull not follow his brothers and his little sister? 1
- c) Which of the following statements is NOT true about young seagull?
 - (i) He was jealous of his siblings
 - (ii) He felt despair at his siblings' success and went back.
 - (iii) His fear was due to lack of courage.
 - (iv) He was afraid that his wings would not support him. 1

Passage 15

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

MIDWAY between Mysore and the coastal town of Mangalore sits a piece of heaven that must have drifted from the kingdom of god. This land of rolling hills is inhabited by a proud race of martial men, beautiful women and wild creatures. Coorg, or Kodagu, the smallest district of Karnataka, is home to evergreen rainforests, spices and coffee plantations. Evergreen rainforests cover thirty per cent of this district. During the monsoons, it pours enough to keep many visitors away. The season of joy commences from September and continues till March. The weather is perfect, with some showers thrown in for good measure.

- a) The passage primarily aims to: 1
 - (i) Provide detailed history of Coorg
 - (ii) Describe the flora and fauna of the Coorg
 - (iii) Persuade the reader to visit Coorg

- (iv) Compare Coorg to other hill station
- b) Which of the following best describes the tone of the passage? 1
- (i) provocative and disputable
 - (ii) Humorous and witty
 - (iii) Evocative and appreciative
 - (iv) Critical and analytical
- c) According to the passage, which of the following season is referred to as 'the season of joy'? 1
- (i) The coffee harvesting season
 - (ii) The monsoon season
 - (iii) The season from the month of Sep to March
 - (iv) The season around Holi
- d) Do you think "kingdom of god" and "rolling hills" are suitable descriptions for Uttarakhand also? State your opinion with a reason. 1

Short Answer Type Questions

- 1) "The Proposal" is a conflict of egos. Explain 2
- 2) Analyze the underlying reasons for Lomov and Natalya's constant argument. How do their personalities contribute to the conflicts? 2
- 3) Evaluate the role of Chukov in resolving or escalating the conflict? What could he have done differently to facilitate peace? 2
- 4) Natalya and Lomov argue over petty issues. What does it suggest about human pride? Suggest one way to address such behaviour. 2
- 5) If you were a mediator in the play how would you guide the character to resolve their conflicts? Provide specific steps. 2
- 6) Discuss the importance of effective communication in resolving conflicts using examples from the play The Proposal. Propose a better way Lomov and Natalya could have expressed their feelings. 2
- 7) Frame a letter in your own words which Lencho would write to 'God'. 4
- 8) Write Lencho's struggle as a farmer in your own words. 4
- 9) What did you learn about fear and triumph over it from the chapter 'First Flight'. 3
- 10) "Family members often rebuke you for your failure, but actually they want to encourage you." Discuss this statement in the context of the story 'First Flight'? 2
- 11) Compare the Seagull's emotions with the tiger in the poem "A Tiger in the Zoo". 3
- 12) "Diary is a form of Self-realization." Analyse this statement with reference to Anne Frank's diary? 2
- 13) What conclusions can you draw about the social standing of Goan bakers after reading the story 'Bakers of Goa'? 2
- 14) Illustrate the typical appearance and behaviour of a hawker in your society? 2
- 15) There is a growing trend of keeping non-traditional animals as pets. What are your opinions on this practice? 2
- 16) What differences did you observe between Mij and typical household pets? 3
- 17) How does "Madam rides the bus" challenge the societal norms? 3

- 18) Share your experience how you manage your desires. 3
- 19) The story of the mustard seeds is relevant even today. How can this ancient story help us deal with the loss and suffering in our modern lives? 2
- 20) Explain the responsive behaviour of young seagull in the chapter First Flight. 2
- 21) Distinguish the Present-day bread baking and the traditional bread baking on the basis of A Baker from Goa. 2

Long Answer Type Questions

- 1) Why was Anne's teacher annoyed with her? How was she able to bring about a change in his attitude towards her? 5
- 2) Analyze the author's use of language and imagery to create a specific mood or atmosphere. How does this contribute to the reader's emotional engagement with the story 'Madam Rides the Bus'? 5
- 3) Compare Lencho's faith in God with the postmaster's faith in humanity. How do these beliefs shape their action? 5
- 4) Evaluate Mandela's belief that courage is not the absence of fear but the triumph over it? 5
- 5) In context of 'First Flight', discuss how fear of failure can impact one's growth and learning. How does the story suggest overcoming this fear? 5
- 6) The narrator describes how Mijbil brings joy and liveliness to his life. Evaluate how the presence of an animal such as Mijbil can influence the emotional and mental well being of humans. 5
- 7) Synthesize the gems of innocence and maturity in the character of Valli. How does her journey blend these two aspects of her character? 5
- 8) Lencho believed raindrops were new coins. Suppose coins actually fall from the sky as rain. Describe the chaos among the people. 5
- 9) What things does Mij do which tell you that he is an intelligent, friendly and fun-loving animal who needs love? 5
- 10) The postmaster impressed by Lencho's faith in God. Do you find faith to be an impressive quality? 5
- 11) "Mr Kessing was a strict teacher", do you think this strictness made him a good teacher? 5
- 12) Maxwell says- "the air hostess was the very queen of her kind". Analyze most of the air hostess are very queen of her kind in their daily life? 5
- 13) The source of unending joy for Valli was the sight of the bus. List the source of joy in your daily life? 5
- 14) "Death and suffering is all part of human life", Justify the statement with reference to the chapter 'The sermon at Benares' 5
- 15) How does 'the argument over oxen meadows' contribute to the play's themes of marriage, social class, and the absurdity of human conflict?" 5
- 16) How did the experience of oppression shape and redefine Mandela's 'hunger for freedom'? 5
- 17) The young seagull landed on the surface of the water and was welcomed by the member of his family. Imagine when you achieve success in your life. How would your family welcome you? 5