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No. of printed pages : 7

103

403 (IMC)

**2020**  
**ENGLISH**

Time : 3 hours ]

[ Max. Marks : 100

- Note :** (i) This question paper is divided into **three** sections – A, B and C.  
(ii) **All** questions are **compulsory**. Marks are indicated against each question.  
(iii) Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.  
(iv) Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

**Section - A (Reading)**

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow-
- (A) Agriculture has always been celebrated as the primary sector in India. Thanks to the 'Green Revolution', India is now self-sufficient in food production. Indian agriculture has been making technological advancement as well. Does that mean everything is looking bright for Indian Agriculture? A superficial analysis of the above points would tempt one to say yes, but the truth is far from it. The reality is that Indian farmers have to face extreme poverty and financial crisis, which is driving them to suicides. What are the grave adversities that drive the farmers to commit suicide at a time when Indian economy is supposed to be gearing up to take on the world?
- (B) Indian agriculture is predominantly dependent on nature. Irrigation facilities that are currently available, do not cover the entire cultivable land. If the farmers are at the mercy of monsoons for timely water for their crops, they are at the mercy of the government for alternative irrigation facilities. Any failure of nature directly affects the fortune of the farmers. Secondly, Indian agriculture is largely an unorganised sector. There is no systematic

planning in cultivation. Farmers work on lands of uneconomical sizes. Institutional finances are not available and minimum purchase prices of the government do not in reality reach the poorest farmers. Added to this, the cost of agricultural inputs have been steadily rising over the years. Farmer's margins of profits have been narrowing because the price rise in inputs is not complimented by an increase in the purchase price of the agricultural produce. Even today in several parts of the country, agriculture is a seasonal occupation. In many districts, farmers get only one crop per year and for the remaining part of the year they find it difficult to make both ends meet.

- (C) The farmers normally resort to borrowing from money lenders in the absence of institutionalised finance. Where institutional finance is available, the ordinary farmer does not have a chance of availing it, because of the 'Procedures' involved in disbursing the finance. This calls for removing the elaborate formalities for obtaining the loans. The institutional finance, where available is mostly availed by the medium or large land owners, the small farmers do not even have the awareness of the existence of such facilities. The moneylender is the only source of finance to the farmers. Should the crops fail, the farmers fall into a debt trap and, crop failures piled up over the years give them no other option than ending their lives.
- (D) Another disturbing trend has been observed where farmers, commit suicide or deliberately kill a family member in order to avail relief and benefits announced by the government to support the families of those who have committed suicide so that their families could at least benefit from the government's relief programmes. What then needs to be done to prevent this sad state of affairs? There can not be one single solution to end the woes of farmers.
- (E) Temporary measures through monetary relief would not be the solution. The governmental efforts should be targeted at improving the entire structure of the small farmers where in the relief is not given on a drought to drought basis, rather they are taught to overcome their difficulties through

their own skills and capabilities. Social responsibility also goes a long way to help the farmers. General public, NGO's, corporates and other organisations too can play a part in helping farmers by adopting drought affected villages and families and helping them to rehabilitate.

The nation has to realise that farmer's suicides are not minor issues happening in remote parts of a few states, it is a reflection of the true state of the basis of our economy.

- (a) What are the reasons that drive Indian farmers to commit suicide? 2
- (b) Why have farmer's margins of profit been narrowing? 2
- (c) What happens when the crops fail? 1
- (d) Why have many farmers resorted to killing family members? 2
- (e) According to the passage how can general public lend a helping hand to the struggling farmers? 2
- (f) Choose the correct option and write in your answer book.  $1 \times 3 = 3$
- (I) Find the word from **Para A** which means '**radiant**' –
- (i) drive
  - (ii) grave
  - (iii) bright
- (II) Find the word from **Para B** which means '**reduction**' –
- (i) failure
  - (ii) narrowing
  - (iii) occupation
- (III) Find the word from **Para D** which means '**suffering**' –
- (i) woes
  - (ii) relief
  - (iii) suicide

2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow –

The economic system of any country is largely dependent upon the efficiency of its transport system. Without the help of a good transport system, the expansion in national and international trade would never take place. Broadly the means of transport both for purposes of trade and social activity can be classified into three main divisions - land, water and air. We are here concerned with transport of trade, of all the forms of transport, road transport has shown the greatest growth in recent years. Road transport is also used as a complementary means of transport for other types of transport. Roads are indispensable links for carrying goods and people to and from railway stations, ports and airports. Transport by road may be both vehicular and non-vehicular. Non-vehicular transportation includes both animal and man. Animals such as horses, mules and yaks are frequently used for carrying goods and passengers in hilly areas. Camel is the only means of transport in desert areas. Man is also sometimes used to carry goods. Porters and coolies carry goods on their backs and heads. This type of transport is generally used when animals, carts or vehicles can not be used. Vehicular transport in developing countries includes the ancient bullock-carts, as well as the modern automobiles.

The invention of the automobiles has been of great significance of modern industry and commerce because of their high speed and low cost per kilometer. The introduction of the railways has been vital in the growth of industrialization. Railways are useful in carrying heavy and bulky goods over long distances. They are specially favoured because unlike other modes of transport, they are unaffected by weather conditions. Water transport is one of the oldest form of cargo transport though it is slow, it is the cheapest form of transport. Water transport includes inland as well as ocean transport. Inland waterways are rivers and canals. While rivers are 'naturally' created, canals are artificial waterways.

Inland waterways are not always reliable. Sometimes rivers change their course abruptly, which may cause dislocation of traffic. In times of drought they may run dry.

- (a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it using heading and sub-heading. 5
- (b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words using the notes made by you and also suggest a suitable title. 3

**Section - B (Advanced Writing Skills)**

3. You are Sohan / Amita planning to a 'Yoga Club' in your locality. Draft a poster in not more than 50 words highlighting the importance of yoga and requesting the people to join the club. 5

**OR**

Your school has decided to stage a play by Shakespeare for the annual day. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words for the school notice board inviting students to assemble in the auditorium for auditions.

4. To promote healthy eating habits amongst school children, Govt. Intermediate College Udham Singh Nagar organized a 'Nutritious Food and Snacks Competition'. The competition was open to both parents and students. As Arvind/ Anjana, the local students reporter for the 'Young India Newspaper'. Write a report about this event in 100-125 words. 10

**OR**

Recently your school celebrated its Golden Jubilee, write a report for your school magazine about the celebration in 100-125 words. You are Meena / Manish, Cultural Secretary of Touch Wood School, Nainital.

5. You are Mayank / Monika of Govt. Inter College Uttarkashi. Write a letter to the police commissioner about many lawless activities going on outside your School Campus. 10

**OR**

Your younger brother Atul needs your advice for the preparation of his high school examination. Write a letter to him giving some tips in brief. You are Gaurav / Geetanjali.

6. Children living in cities are rarely seen playing outdoor in the neighbourhood. Being busy with other attractions like the television and computer games they miss the joy of outdoor play. Write an article in 150-200 words highlighting the need and value of outdoor games. You are Vidhya / Vinod. 10

**OR**

Write a composition of about 150-200 words on 'Value of Discipline in life'.

**Section - C (Literature)**

7. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow-

For once on the face of the Earth  
let's not speak in any language,  
let's stop for one second,  
and not move our arms so much.  
It would be an exotic moment  
without rush, without engines,  
we would all be together  
in a sudden strangeness.

- (a) Why does the poet suggest a few moments of peace and silence in the world? 1
- (b) How will suspension of all activities affect all of us? 1
- (c) What does he refer to us the 'exotic moment'? 1
- (d) Why would this togetherness cause 'sudden strangeness'? 1

**OR**

.....Yes, in spite of all,  
Some shape of beauty moves away the pall  
From our dark spirits. Such the sun, the moon,  
Trees old, and young, sprouting a shady boon.  
For simple sheep:

- (a) Why did the poet use the phrase 'in spite of all' in the first line of the stanza? 1
- (b) What does some shape of beauty do for us? Who are these shapes? 1
- (c) Who bestows a boon on an ordinary sheep? 2

8. Answer any **three** of the following questions in 30-40 words each-  $2 \times 3 = 6$
- (a) Why has the mother been compared to the 'Late Winter's Moon'?
  - (b) What does the poet say about the 'Open handed map'?
  - (c) What was the plea of the folk who had put up the road side stand?
  - (d) What is the theme of the poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers'?
9. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each-  $2 \times 5 = 10$
- (a) What does the title 'Lost Spring' convey?
  - (b) When did the writer join the Y.M.C.A. pool and why?
  - (c) Subbu is described as a many-sided genius. List four of his special abilities.
  - (d) What are some of the positive views on Interview?
  - (e) How does Sophie include her brother Geoff in her fantasy of her future?
10. Answer the following question in 125-150 words-  $10$
- Describe how the story, 'The Rattrap' shows that basic human goodness can be brought out by understanding and love?

**OR**

Why do you think Gandhiji considered the Champaran Episode to be a turning point in his life?

11. Answer the following question in 125-150 words-  $7$
- Why is Antarctica the place to go to understand the earth's present, past and future?

**OR**

Describe the different experiences of Zitkala-Sa with respect to the situation depicted in the story.

12. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each:  $2 \times 4 = 8$
- (a) Who is the hero of the story 'The Tiger King'? How is he identified.
  - (b) What kind of a person was Evans?
  - (c) What does the third level refer to?
  - (d) Why does Dr. Sadao save the life of an enemy soldier?