

MT 16

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2017 __ __ 1100

- MT 16 - ENGLISH - SEMI PRELIM I - PAPER - II (FIRST LANGUAGE) (E)

Time : 3 Hours

(Pages 12)

Max. Marks : 80

SECTION I

Reading Skills, Grammar and Vocabulary (Prose)

Q.I. (A) Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow: (10 marks)

A.1. Read the following sentences carefully and put them in proper order.

2

- (i) He led me through the main gate of the apartment
- (ii) When we got to the third floor, he took out a bunch of keys
- (iii) It was 3.30 am
- (iv) He took a right turn

My parents were out for the weekend. My sister and I had been dumped, rather unceremoniously, at my grandparents' place in Hazra. Located near the noisy, bustling, and dusty SP Mukherjee Road, it was a far cry from our quaint house in New Alipore. After dinner and a few games of chess against Grandpa, we tucked into bed. Grandpa and I in one room, my sister and Grandma in the other. As was customary, Grandpa said his prayers before bed, and made me join in. I had an uneasy night what with all the weird traffic sounds and lights from the main road. My light sleep was suddenly disturbed by a jolt along the bed. I opened my eyes a crack. It was still dark outside. Grandpa was sitting up. I assumed he was going to the toilet. I shut my eyes again. A weird rustling sound continued, I opened my eyes again, wanting to tell him to go to sleep. He had slipped into a faded t-shirt, wearing it the wrong way around. Then, he looked under the bed, and located his slippers. Grabbing a large bag, he got up. What was he doing, sleep-shopping? Lifting his feet up high with each step, he crept forward steadily. My curiosity aroused, I got up in bed. My watch showed the awkward time of 3.30 a.m. His back was to me, so he didn't notice.

The sight of a 70-odd year old man sleepwalking like this seemed so strange, I couldn't control a giggle.

He turned around with surprising agility, his large, owl-like eyes probing through the darkness to locate the source of the sound. He clamped his hand on my mouth to silence me. He led me through the main gate of the apartment, and up the stairs, where he had rented out a floor to a computer institute. When we got to the third floor, he took out a bunch of keys.

The room, when it wasn't full of students, served as a cyber café. But it wasn't the main room that interested Grandpa. He took a right turn into another room, and we entered what looked like a shabby storehouse. He took two confident steps and turned on a light.

His tenants trusted him with all their secure teaching material, and here we were, robbing God-knows what.

Grandpa suddenly whispered, "Lend me a hand beta..." I went closer. He was crouched on the floor, his 'shopping bag' open. A large stack of paper was strewn about towards one corner.

I helped him pile it all into his bag. After filling it, we hurried down. It was now 4.45 by my watch, and we went to bed again. I didn't even try to sleep.

A.2. Match the following:

2

- | A | B |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| (i) Author's house | (a) Hazra |
| (ii) Grandparent's house | (b) slept with Grandmother |
| (iii) Author's sister | (c) New Alipore |
| (iv) Author | (d) slept with Grandpa |

A.3. (i) Write from the passage the antonyms for :

2

- (a) quiet (b) exited

(ii) Write from the passage one word meaning for :

- (a) busy and noisy (b) in a poor condition.

A.4. Do as directed :

2

- (i) He looked under the bed, and located his slippers.
(Rewrite using an 'ing' verb)
- (ii) When we got to the third floor, he took out a bunch of keys.
(Identify the subordinate clause and state its kind)

A.5. Mention some important roles that grandparents play in our lives.

2

Q.I. (B) Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow : (10 marks)

B.1. Choose the correct alternative :

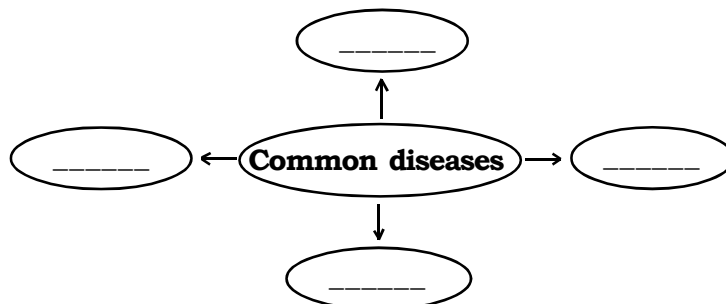
2

- (i) The writer is a _____.
- (a) dietician
(b) surgeon
(c) physician
- (ii) Daily consumption of fruits _____.
- (a) is a guarantee of getting nutrients
(b) is a guarantee of being healthy
(c) is not a guarantee of getting nutrients

Colour is the key to good nutrition. As a physician who has studied nutrition and cancer prevention for more than 20 years, I believe our careless diet accounts for most common diseases, including heart disease, cancer and “diabetesity”- an epidemic of obesity and diabetes. But here’s a shocker: Eating fruits and vegetables every day won’t guarantee you’re getting enough essential nutrients. Iceberg lettuce and your favourite French fries, for instance, are hardly nutritious. A big clue: they lack colour. Produce that comes in vivid hues contains an arsenal of disease-fighting chemicals called phytonutrients. To get enough of these vital ingredients, just add a single serving (a piece of fruit, cup of juice, one to two cups of vegetables) from each of these seven colour families to your usual whole grains, protein and healthy fats. It couldn’t be simpler. Patients tell me this colour-coded plan doesn’t feel like a diet - yet you’ll probably drop a few kilos as fruits and vegetables naturally edge out higher-calorie breads and snacks. You’ll also up your intake of vitamins, minerals and fibre.

B.2. Complete the following web diagram :

2



B.3. (i) Identify two compound words from the passage. 2

(ii) Give the adjective form of :
 (i) nutrition (ii) obesity

B.4. Do as directed: 2

(i) Produce that comes in vivid hues contains an arsenal of disease fighting chemicals.
 (Identify the subordinate clause and state its kind)

(ii) This colour coded plan doesn't feel like a diet yet you'll probably drop a few kilos. *(Rewrite using 'Although')*

B.5. Think about your everyday meal. How will you make it more colourful and nutritious? 2

Q.II. (A) Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow : **(10 marks)**

A.1. Match the following: 2

A	B
(i) songs	(a) search for name
(ii) an age old belief	(b) elaborate events of today
(iii) popular game	(c) colour of the bride's mehendi
(iv) mehendi function	(d) healing properties

Mehendi enjoys special attention during wedding. In India, the day before the wedding is devoted exclusively for the elaborate ritual of applying mehendi on the hands and feet of the bride. This practice is followed in Arab countries as well, except that it is held few days prior to the wedding day. Songs woven around the healing properties and lucky omens associated with mehendi, are sung by the bride's family and friends. An age-old belief handed down to generations lays great emphasis on the colour of the bride's mehendi - a darker colour suggests bountiful love and affection from the future in-laws and husband, and for this reason brides take pains to ensure that only the best quality henna is used for her wedding day. The ritual of adorning the bride with henna is a sacred one and in some communities requires the initiation by the mother-in-law. A popular game during marriage function is the search for their names, by the bride and groom hidden within the elaborate pattern on the bride's hands. In certain parts of India, the bridegroom too has his hands decorated with henna. The mehendi function during marriages has evolved from simple family affairs of yesteryears to elaborate events of today. Lavish spread of food and entertainment

in the form of song and dance performances have transformed it from a small function to a gala prelude. In earlier days, the task of applying mehendi on the bride was the sole prerogative of creative family members. The demand for intricate and different style now, sees this job outsourced to beauticians skilled in this art. Beauty salons charge according to the style and complexity of pattern desired by the clients.

A.2. State whether the following statements are True or False :

2

- (i) In India, the day after the wedding is devoted exclusively for the elaborate ritual of applying mehendi.
- (ii) The ritual of adorning the bride with henna is a sacred one.
- (iii) In all parts of India, the bridegroom too has his hands decorated with henna.
- (iv) Now-a-days, the task of applying mehendi on the bride is the sole prerogative of creative family members.

A.3. Complete the following table:

2

Noun	Verb	Adjective
attention	_____	_____
_____	_____	popular

A.4. Do as directed:

2

- (i) Cones are the most popular means of application of mehendi.
(Change into comparative degree)
- (ii) The ritual of adorning the bride with henna is a sacred one and in some communities requires the initiation by the mother-in-law.
(Make it Simple)

A.5. What is the modern version of mehendi design? Why do you think people use it?

2

Q.II. (B) Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :

(10 marks)

B.1. Fill in the blanks:

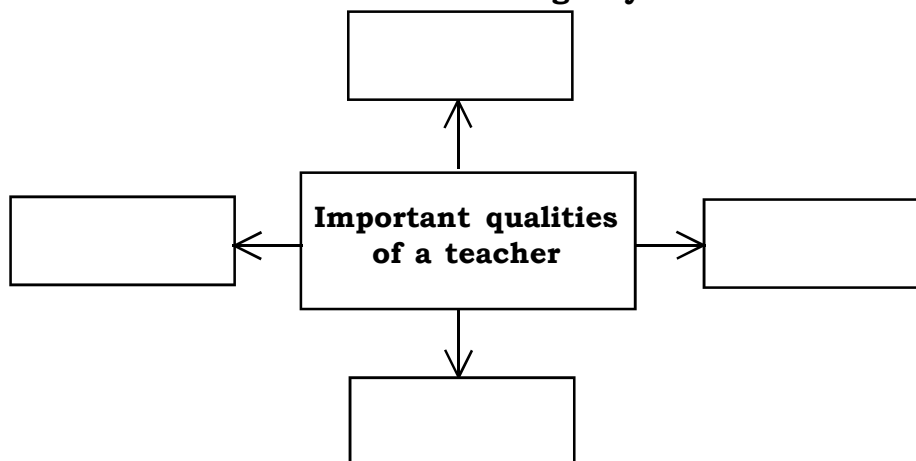
2

- (i) I am grateful to teachers who have simply been friends to me, and
- (ii) I only hope that I live up to what their were undoubtedly meant to create.

The teachers I'm most grateful to, though, are not those who have taught me the most, but those who have simply been friends to me, believed me and believed in me. Prominent among them is Sudha Ramasubramaniam - Rambo, as we used to call her. I didn't know her too well. She taught me in college, and apart from being incredible in class unless one missed class, she also believed that I actually had a problem when I developed an injury (which several doctors found difficult to diagnose). Despite my missing an exam – the HSC, of all exams – she was the only person who told me to concentrate on my health and assured me that I could take the exam off the top of my head any time I wanted to. I'm not even certain she remembers it, but at the time, it felt like one of the only rays of hope in an extremely dark tunnel. Perhaps few teachers realize how far their influence extends or how much of a difference their actions and words can make. A number of my teachers have unfortunately taught me kindness and tolerance and patience by being precisely the opposite, and quite obviously, they aren't the people I like to think about. But many of my teachers have been extraordinary people, who have not only taught me in class but also helped mould me and my character in every other way. I only hope that I live up to what their endeavours were undoubtedly meant to create.

B.2. Complete the following web giving any four important qualities that a teacher should have according to you :

2



B.3. (i) Give adverbs for :

- (a) grateful (b) extreme

2

(ii) Pick words from the passage that mean :

- (a) important (b) efforts

B.4. Do as directed:

- (i) It's a lesson that has stood me in good stead.
(Rewrite using a co-ordinator)
- (ii) I actually had a problem when I developed an injury.
(Identify and analyse the clause)

2

B.5. Do you think that teaching should go beyond the four walls of the classroom? Express your views on it.

2

SECTION II : POETRY

Q.III. (A) Read the following poem and answer the questions given below:
(5 Marks)

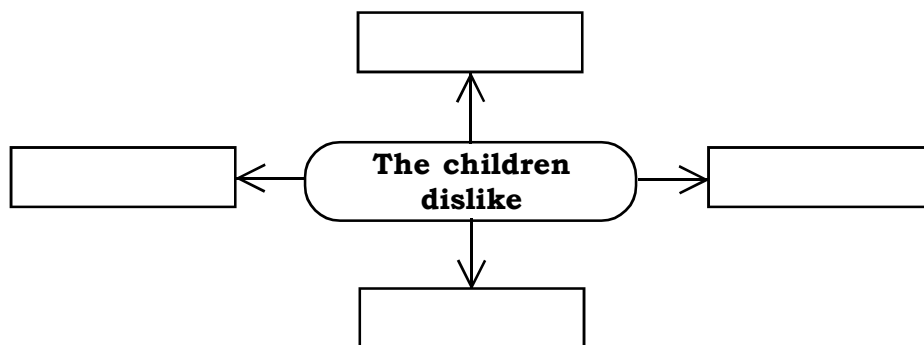
A.1. Choose the Correct Alternative:

- (i) The children are referred to as
 (a) naughty (b) brats (c) cats
- (ii) The word is used to describe children as cats is
 (a) fussy (b) persnickety (c) choosy

2

I always so enjoy to dine
 With whining, little brats;
 Who won't eat half you give them,
 They're persnickety as cats.
 The soup's too hot, the corn's too cold,
 The pickles make them choke;
 They won't eat meat nor apple sauce,
 And naught they'll drink but coke.
 They won't eat peas, don't like your bread -
 For something in it crunches;
 They gag on fat, the gravy's gross,
 They won't eat grapes in bunches.

A.2. Complete the following web diagram:



2

A.3. Pick out an example of Simile from the extract.

1

Q.III. (B) Read the following poem and answer the questions given below:
(5 Marks)

B.1. Complete the following:

2

- (i) The sights impossible to bear are _____.
(ii) The will of the people is important to _____.

Republic Day! We grow aware
That nothing can be wrought by prayer
- Prop of the credulous - until
It is supported everywhere
By an all-powerful people's will!
We have been witness in the past to sights impossible to bear :
Famine and drought and dread and doom
Continue still to spread the gloom
Of humans turned to skeletons, to shriveled bags of naked bones
Who have not even strength to vent their suffering through sobs
and groans...
MAY EVERY Indian's heart become
An unafraid announcing drum
Echoing and re-echoing a new hope and a new desire
To burn up rubbish-heaps of hate,
Once and for all. Time cannot wait!
Burn up all selfish aims and ends in a great nation's cleansing fire!
Let India's millions chant in chorus :
A mighty future stands before us -
Down with all ruthless tyranny, down with all exploitation which
Renders the poor the poorer-and renders the bloated rich, more rich!

B.2. According to the poet how should every Indian heart become?

2

B.3. Identify two pairs of rhyming words from the above extract.

1

SECTION III : RAPID READING

Q.V. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:
(5 Marks)

1. Name the usual visitors of Gerrard mentioned in the passage.

1

Gerrard : Are you American, or is that merely a clever imitation?
Intruder : Listen, this gun's no toy. I can hurt you without killing
you, and still get my answers.

Gerrard : Of course, if you put it like that, I'll be glad to assist you. I do possess a car, and it's in the garage round the corner.

Intruder : That's better. Do people often come out here?

Gerrard : Very rarely. Surprisingly few people take the trouble to visit me. There's the baker and the green-grocer but then no one so interesting as yourself.

Intruder : I happen to know that you never see trades-people.

Gerrard : You seem to have taken a considerable amount of trouble. Since you know so much about me, won't you say something about yourself? You have been so modest.

Intruder : I could tell you plenty. You think you're smart, but I'm the top of the class round here. I've got brains and I use them. That's how I've got where I have.

Gerrard : And where precisely have you got? It didn't require a great brain to break into my little cottage.

Intruder : When you know why I've broken into your little cottage, you'll be surprised, and it won't be a pleasant surprise.

Gerrard : With you figuring so largely in it, that is understandable. By the way, what particular line of crime do you embrace, or aren't you a specialist?

Intruder : My speciality's jewel robbery. Your car will do me a treat. It's certainly a dandy bus.

Gerrard : I'm afraid, jewels are few and far between in the wilds of Essex.

Intruder : So are the cops. I can retire here nicely for a little while.

Gerrard : You mean to live with me? A trifle sudden, isn't it; you've not been invited.

Intruder : You won't be here long, so I didn't care to ask.

Gerrard : What do you mean?

Intruder : This is your big surprise. I'm going to kill you.

Gerrard : A little harsh, isn't it?

Intruder : (with heavy sarcasm) Yeah, I'll be sorry to do it. I've taken a fancy to you, but it's just got to be done.

Gerrard : Why add murder to your other crimes? It's a grave step you're taking.

Intruder : I'm not taking it for fun. I've been hunted long enough. I'm wanted for murder already, and they can't hang me twice.

2. Refer to two incidents that prove that the intruder is boastful.

2

3. Do you think that criminals can be changed and can live a normal life ever?

2

SECTION IV : WRITING SKILLS**Q.V. (A) A1 or A2. Do any ONE of the following activities : (5 Marks)**

A.1. Write a letter to your friend to tell about a Mountaineering Adventure Course. Consider the following points : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • you just returned from a mountaineering adventure course • source of information about the course • highlights of the course • what you learnt and experienced • benefits of the course 	5
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A.2. Write a letter to the Principal to request him to introduce health food instead of fast-food in the school canteen.	5
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Q.V. (B) B1 or B2. Do any ONE of the following activities : (5 Marks)

B.1. The shortage of supply of electricity in our country is glaring problem. You as a responsible citizen write a report for a daily newspaper about solar energy as a potential alternative for this problem.	5
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B.2. Write a dialogue between a student and his coach who is motivating him to perform better.	5
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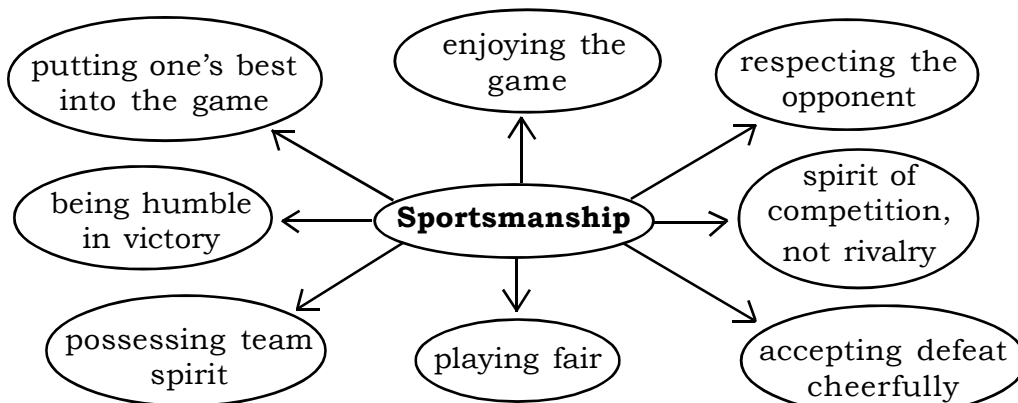
Q.VI. (A) A1 or A2. Do any ONE of the following activities : (5 Marks)

A.1. Convert the following information into tabular form. <p>Mint has been used for many centuries. Mint was used by the ancient Assyrians in rituals to their fire god. Ancient Hebrews scattered mint on their synagogue floors so that each footstep would raise its fragrance. Ancient Greeks and Romans rubbed tables with mint before their guests arrive. Spearmint was used by the ancient Greeks and Romans as a flavouring herb culinary condiment and in perfumes and bath scents. The Japanese have distilled peppermint oil for several centuries and the oil is further treated to produce menthol. Spearmint has long been used for medicinal purposes. Hippocrates wrote of it and in medieval times it was commonly used to whiten teeth and soothe bites of all kinds. In India they hang fresh bunches of mint in doorways and open windows allowing the breeze to carry the scent throughout the house; sort of room fresheners. A symbol of hospitality and wisdom, “the very smell of it reanimates the spirit”, says Pliny, an ancient Greek scholar. Sure</p>	5
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the aroma of mint is nice if you were expecting company; the hospitality does not extend to rats and mice, rodents are repelled by mint! The smell of mint is known to keep mice away and pennyroyal is also regard as an effective insecticide against fleas and aphids!

A.2. To be a good sportsman, one needs to develop sportsmanship. Some qualities of true sportsmanship have been given in the web below. Write a paragraph using the points. You may use the points in any order that you choose. You may also add a few points :

5



Q.VI. (B) B1 or B2. Do any ONE of the following activities : (5 Marks)

B.1. Your school has arranged 'Teacher's Day' programme on 5th September. Being the class head you have to deliver a speech on 'Importance of Teachers or Gurus' in your life. Use the points given below

5

- Moulding students into fine citizen
- making subjects more interesting
- teachers are our second parents
- gratitude towards students

B.2. You hear a conversation between two of your friends and you are quite shocked by their views. Here is a part of the conversation :

5

Friend A : I want to be rich when I grow up.

Friend B : Yes, I want to be successful too.

Friend A : I don't care what I do. I want all the comforts and luxuries of life.

Friend B : Yeah, who cares about anything else?

Friend A : Me too. Success, to me, means earning a lot of money.

Write a counterview to the views expressed by the two friends.

Q.VII. Develop a paragraph of about 100 words expanding any ONE of the following expression : 5 (5 Marks)

1. A bird in hand is worth two in the bush.
2. Perseverance is the key to success.
3. **Write a story ending with....**
..... from that day we decided never to help a stranger again.

Best of Luck 🍀