

MT 16

Seat No.

2017 __ __ 1100

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

Time : 3 Hours

(Pages 10)

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. Complete the following:

- (i) According to the priest it was difficult to get the bilva leaf because_____.
- (ii) Reddy was surprised to find that _____.

2

If you want to find in one single garden all the trees/flowers/fruits/berries mentioned in our Vedas, you have to go to Pavitra Vana at Ramanagaram, 50 miles away from Bengaluru. The creation of this garden happened thus...

36 years ago, the then conservator of Forests Karanataka Yellappa Reddy went to his favourite Shiva Temple at Gokarn to worship. But as he was giving flowers and garlands after puja, he was surprised to find that he was given only jasmine flowers and not the bilva leaf, the favourite of Lord Shiva. On enquiring, the priest said that the temple found it difficult to get the bilva leaf, as it was not commercially economic to grow it and very few flower sellers were willing to provide bilva leaves. In his words, "I determined that whoever originally had included these flowers as part of worship had done so with scientific insight. For example, I found that when we gently press the petals of these flowers, the glands will burst and it will produce certain volatile oils. This will generate certain chemicals which enriches the atmosphere and becomes beneficial to humans, creating an environment that induces the mind to greater concentration. Additionally, these plants have various medicinal healing properties long established by Ayurveda. Reddy determined to grow this entire flora in a single garden.

A.2. Answer the following:

2

- (i) Where is Pavitra Vana situated?
 (ii) Who was the inspiration behind the establishment of Pavitra Vana?

A.3. Match the words in column 'A' with their meanings in Column 'B':

2

- | A | B |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| (i) sacred | (a) improve |
| (ii) enhance | (b) part |
| (iii) aspect | (c) a deep understanding |
| (iv) insight | (d) holy |

A.4. Do as directed:

2

- (i) These plants have various medicinal healing properties.
(Identify the non-finite verb and state its type)
- (ii) This will generate certain chemicals.
(Rewrite the sentence using a modal auxiliary showing 'Past Habitual Action')

A.5. What was the purpose behind setting up Pavitra Vana?

2

Q.I. (B) Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:*(10 marks)***B.1. State whether the following statements are true or false:**

2

- (i) The author's friend's name is Gilson.
 (ii) The author's friend had asked him to buy a horse vaccine this time.

"Oh, so you're going abroad? Can you bring me back...?" I've been asked to bring back a vaccine for a horse. Once I searched the suburbs of Paris for two days for a special brand of ceramic paint. Having spent a lot of money for Cartier lighter refills, I had them confiscated at the airport just before boarding because the gas might be dangerous in the air.

Now, two months before a trip, I stop talking to people so they won't suspect I'm about to travel. But someone always catches me. "I've heard you're going to New York, and I want you to get something for me. It's just a little thing you can find anywhere, I don't know exactly how much it costs, but it shouldn't be much. We'll settle up when you get back."

What Gilson asked me to buy was, in fact, a little thing: a tie. But not just any tie. He wanted a tie with a small embroidered G. Any colour would do, as long as it had his initial. Look, this is a special flight, I explained. We are only staying Saturday through

Tuesday. On the day we arrived I didn't have time to think about the tie, but strolling around on Sunday I did see ties bearing various letters in more than one shop window. They were cheap, just a dollar, but all the shops were closed.

Frantic Search: On Monday, lunch lasted the whole afternoon. Then it was Tuesday morning, time to leave. It was only when I saw our airport bus waiting outside the hotel that I remembered the tie.

I told the group to go on. I would get a taxi to the airport. And so I went in search of a nearby shop where I had seen ties. But I couldn't find it. I walked further down the street-one, two, three blocks-all in vain. Back at the hotel, a bit anxious now, I took my suitcase, got a taxi and asked the driver to rush to the street where I had seen them.

B.2. State the reasons why the writer could not buy the tie on the following days: 2

- (i) Saturday - _____
 (ii) Sunday - _____

B.3. Match the words in column 'A' with their meanings in column 'B': 2

A	B
(i) abroad	(a) first letter
(ii) confiscated	(b) foreign country
(iii) initial	(c) walking casually
(iv) strolling	(d) taken forcibly
	(e) walk fast

B.4. Do as directed: 2

- (i) I did see ties bearing various letters. *(Rewrite as a negative sentence)*
 (ii) I told the group to go on. *(Rewrite as a question)*

B.5. Do you think that the writer wanted to bring the tie for Gilson? Give reasons to support your answer. 2

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

A.1. Complete the reasons : 2

- (i) MOM is the short form of _____.
 (ii) Mangalyaan is a _____.
 (iii) The elite club of three comprises Russia, the USA and _____.
 (iv) The total cost of the Mission is _____.

‘MOM never disappoints’ was how Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated the scientists of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) at the successful insertion of the maiden Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) into the Martian orbit. At 07.47 IST, the spacecraft Mangalyaan started orbiting the Red Planet and 12 minutes later, the signal was received at the ISRO’s Mission Control Centre. It was a remarkable achievement by any standard. With this success, India joins the elite club of three (Russia, the United States and the European Space Agency) that has put a spacecraft into Martian orbit. What is noteworthy is that India has been able to do so in its first attempt and at a fraction of the cost of earlier missions by other nations. The total cost of the mission is about ‘450 crore (\$75 million). To put this in perspective, the Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution Mission of the US’s NASA which beat Mangalyaan by three days to reach Mars cost around \$700 million.

The project was approved by the Central Government in 2012 and it is to the credit of ISRO to have managed to assemble the spacecraft and launch it in a span of 15 months, something which is highly unusual for a space mission of this complexity. In fact, the haste had led an ex-ISRO chairman, G Madhavan Nair to comment that “it was a half-baked, half-cooked mission being attempted in undue haste with misplaced objectives.”

A.2. Fill in the following:

2

- (i) It was a remarkable achievement because India joins the _____ of three that has put a spacecraft into Martian orbit.
- (ii) India did it at a _____ of the cost.

A.3. Find words in the passage which mean the following:

2

- (i) for the first time
- (ii) going around
- (iii) worth mentioning
- (iv) put together.

A.4. Do as directed:

2

- (i) Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated the scientists.
(*Rewrite the sentence beginning with ‘The scientists...’*)
- (ii) The project was approved by the Central Government.
(*Rewrite beginning the sentence with ‘The Central Government.....’*)

A.5. What are your views about the MOM and other such missions ?

2

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

(10 marks)

B.1. Answer the following:

2

- (i) What are the flippers of the penguin covered with?
- (ii) Which human beings are compared with penguins?

Almost everything about penguins resembles something human. Their black backs and white fronts give them the appearance of little men dressed for a party. Their legs are set far back on their bodies, so that they stand with exaggerated erectness. Their flippers, slightly covered with feathers, look like arms in well-pressed, over-long sleeves.

The penguin walks in such a leisurely manner that it is difficult to think if he would be able to go a long distance. He tries to walk fast enough on his three-inch legs, but curiosity gets the better of him. He looks all around except at the road. Many a penguin, therefore, falls flat on his stomach because he has been looking backward all the time. However, he immediately gets up and marches off proudly as though nothing had happened.

Penguins love to go swimming. But when they come to the edge of the ice, nobody wants to be first in. This is because the sea leopard, a deadly enemy of the penguins, lurks beneath the ice, waiting to snatch them with his sharp-toothed jaws. The birds line up, shoving each other off balance with their flippers, avoiding blows and leaning backward to keep from tumbling into the water. Sooner or later, however, one penguin will be thrown overboard. It is a signal for the others to follow. Like a row of racing swimmers they all dive off the ice into the water. Tumbling, calling to each other, they perform just like a crowd of children in the river.

B.2. Why are penguins such comical creatures ?

2

B.3. Write from the passage words for:

2

- (a) waits secretly in order to attack
- (b) seeming more than it really is.

B.4. Do as directed:

2

- (i) Like a row of racing swimmers they all dive off the ice into the water.
(Rewrite beginning with 'They look like')
- (ii) Avoiding blows they lean backward to keep from tumbling into the water.
(Rewrite using 'and')

B.5. Write about some bird you have seen, describing it as having some human quality or the other.

2

SECTION II : POETRY

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

A.1. Match the following :

2

A	B
(i) pirates	(a) Beatrix Potter
(ii) cannibals	(b) rowed with muffled oars
(iii) books for younger one	(c) Penelope
(iv) smugglers	(d) purple pants

And in the bedroom, by the bed,
 More books were waiting to be read!
 Such wondrous, fine, fantastic tales
 Of dragons, gypsies, queens, and whales
 And treasure isles, and distant shores
 Where smugglers rowed with muffled oars,
 And pirates wearing purple pants,
 And sailing ships and elephants,
 And cannibals crouching 'round the pot,
 Stirring away at something hot.
 (It smells so good, what can it be?
 Good gracious, it's Penelope.)
 The younger ones had Beatrix Potter
 With Mr. Todd, the dirty rotter,
 And Squirrel Nutkin, Pigling Bland,
 And Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle and-
 Just How the Camel Got His Hump,
 And How the Monkey Lost His Rump,
 And Mr. Toad, and bless my soul,
 There's Mr. Rat and Mr. Mole-
 Oh, books, what books they used to know,
 Those children living long ago!

A.2. List four characters from books given in the poem.

2

A.3. Pick out two pairs of rhyming words from the above extract.

1

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

B.1. Answer in one word:

2

- (i) Who is rejoicing in the morning's birth ?
 (ii) Who is replying to the Magpie's chattering ?

There was a roaring in the wind all night;
 The rain came heavily and fell in floods;
 But now the sun is rising calm and bright,
 The birds are singing in the distant woods;
 Over his own sweet voice the Stock-dove broods;
 The Jay makes answer as the Magpie chatters;
 And all the air is filled with pleasant noise of waters.
 All things that love the sun are out of doors;
 The sky rejoices in the morning's birth;
 The grass is bright with raindrops - on the moors
 The hare is running races in her mirth;
 And with her feet she from the plashy earth
 Raises a mist; that, glittering in the sun,
 Runs with her all the way, wherever she doth run.

B.2. State whether the following statements are true or false:

2

- (i) There was a strong wind blowing throughout the day.
- (ii) The birds were singing in distant woods.

B.3.

1

- (i) Pick out one word from the passage which means 'shining'.
- (ii) Pick out an archaic word from the extract and give its meaning.

SECTION III : RAPID READING

Q.IV Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

(5 Marks)

1. Choose the correct alternative:

1

- (i) Postings came with predictable regularity every _____ years.
 (a) five (b) three (c) four
- (ii) When the writer was thirteen, they moved to the cantonment at_____
 (a) Ambala (b) Pune (c) Allahabad

One of the advantages of growing up in an Army household was the frequency with which we moved. 'Postings' came with predictable regularity every three years. What was one of the advantages of growing up in an Army household was the frequency with which we moved. 'Postings' came with predictable regularity every three years. What was unpredictable and therefore exciting was the suspense.

Where would we go this time? Ambala, Pune, Dehradun, Allahabad, Tejpur, Bangalore, Yo! In my short span of thirteen years we had moved lock, stock and barrel eleven times!

Every move meant change. New journeys, new places, new schools, my new books, new uniforms, new friends and new houses. We lived in tents, bashas, Nissen huts, flats and bungalows. No matter what the shape and size of the dwelling, mother soon put her own special stamp on it and transformed it into a familiar place - our home - complete with bright yellow curtains, coffee-brown carpet, assorted pictures, hanging ferns and potted palms - providing a comforting sense of continuity in our essentially nomadic life. I was thirteen, the year we moved to the Cantonment at Allahabad. In stark contrast to the razzle-dazzle of the city's commercial areas like Katra and Chowk, the Cantonment was a quiet, orderly place with broad tree-lined roads that still carried the names of longdead Britishers. Our bungalow was on a sleepy by-lane called MacPherson Road. When we first saw it, my brothers and I were delighted. It was by far the biggest house we had ever lived in. The task of furnishing those huge, echoing rooms daunted Mother.

2. In what way was the cantonment area different from the city's commercial area? 2

3. Do you like to change your house frequently? Justify your answer. 2

SECTION IV : WRITING SKILLS

Q.V. (A) A1 or A2. Do any ONE of the following activities : (5 Marks)

A.1. Imagine your cousin is born and brought up in the USA. It is your vacation time. Write a letter persuading him/her to visit India, as you would like to show the rich culture of India to him/her.

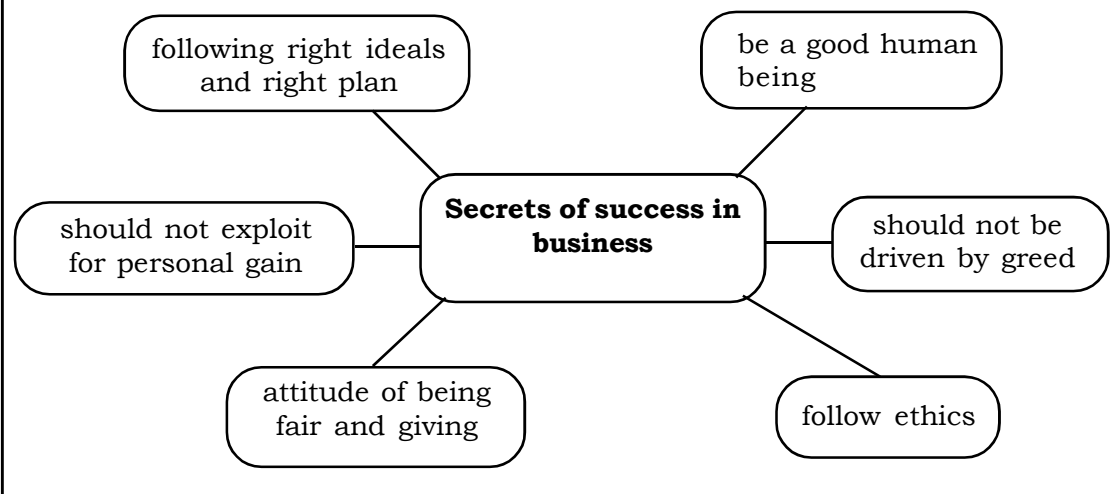
Persuade her/him to plan a visit to India, there are lots of sights to marvel at and admire in India, visiting Mumbai, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat would be worth, he should see his/her mother's school and college in South Mumbai, it will be a worthy and memorable experience.

A.2. Write a letter to the Principal requesting him/her to organize a photography exhibition.

(5 Marks)

B.1. Write a report on a fire, causing devastation in the city.

B.2. Prepare a dialogue between a father and son discussing the secrets of success in business based on the following web diagram.

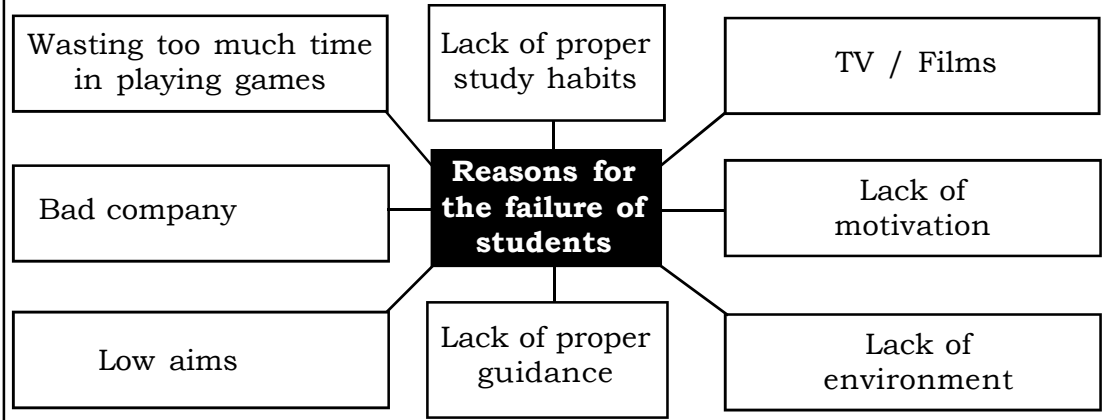


Q.VI. (A) A1 or A2. Do any ONE of the following activities : (5 Marks)

A.1. Read the following passage and draw a tree diagram to cover the main points:

Amla has many benefits. It is a rich source of Vitamin C. This helps to improve the immunity of the body and gives physical strength. It has many health benefits. It acts as a diuretic and laxative. It is used to treat constipation. It can even cure insomnia. It is an important component of Ayurvedic medicines and has been used traditionally for the treatment of scalp. It is very healthy for hair. People use amla as a cooling agent to reduce the effects of sunstrokes and sunburns.

A.2. Look at the following diagram and write at least three paragraphs on 'Reasons for the failure of students'. Also write in brief the ways to improve their situations.



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

B.1. Two of your schoolmates died the previous week as they could not be saved due to loss of excessive blood and there was no blood available in the blood banks. Prepare a speech to be delivered before your class persuading them to donate blood.

B.2. You come across the following article in the newspaper, written by an irate teacher: Mobile phones should be banned in schools. In the name of freedom, in the name of personal safety and security, students have been allowed to bring mobile phones to schools. However, they are using them at liberty for purposes other than they were originally intended for. It is not uncommon for a teacher to correct a student for sending an SMS instead or not paying attention to what is being taught or for a student to be deeply engrossed in a video game while the teacher, in blissful ignorance, narrates the exploits of Rana Pratap Singh!
Write your views against the opinions expressed in the article.

Q.VII. Attempt any ONE of the following:

Develop a paragraph of about 100 words expanding any ONE of the following expressions : (5 Marks)

1. Where there is a will, there is a way
2. Service to man is service to God.
3. **Write a story ending with ...**

..... God had rewarded Rohan's hard work. The trophy shone in his hands.

Best of Luck 🍀