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GPSC

Previous Year Paper

2014-15 English
(Compulsory)





No. of Pages : 4

Code : QDB-22
Subject : English (Compulsory)
Question Paper

Max. Marks : 100

- Q. 1. Write an essay in about **400** words on **any one** of the following : **15**
- a) Make in India – need of the hour.
 - b) Is life better for us than it was for our forefathers ?
 - c) Judicial activism.
 - d) Major challenges faced by India in its path to prosperity.
 - e) Sustainable development and environment conservation.
- Q. 2. Write a letter to your father describing your recent visit to an exhibition of historical interest. **5**
- Q. 3. Write a letter to your Reporting Officer seeking permission for a study-leave with a reasoning how it would be beneficial to perform duties more effectively. **5**
- Q. 4. Write an inspection report of a school you visited mentioning the strength and shortcomings you noticed there. **5**
- Q. 5. As the Director of your company draft a letter of warning to the employees who have been found indulging repeatedly in acts of misbehavior with their seniors. **5**
- Q. 6. Draft a dialogue between two neighbours about the rising cases of cyber crime in the city. **5**
- Q. 7. As the Head Boy of a school, write a send-off speech to be delivered at the farewell of the Principal of the school. **5**
- Q. 8. Draft your conversation with the members of the interview board for the post of Accountant. **5**
- Q. 9. You have to apprise the press about your plans for the development of your city as you're contesting the election for the post of Mayor, Municipal Corporation. Draft the conversation imagining the possible questions by the press and your answers. **5**
- Q. 10. As the Editor of a local newspaper, prepare a short write-up advising people to take necessary precautions in the case of flood. **5**

P.T.O.



- Q. 11. Write précis of the following paragraph in about **one-third** of its length and also give a suitable title.

5

What happens when one person sends a message and another receives it ? First of all, let us consider the nature of language – the words in which most of the messages are expressed. All words are symbols. A symbol is a standardized sign, seen or heard, which stands for an object, event, or idea as agreed upon by senders and recipients of the messages. It need not resemble what it stands for. Thus it differs from pictorial representation or imitation, such as a portrait, a street plan, a building's map, or an organization chart.

A set of symbols agreed upon by two or more people is called a code. By far, the most important codes are those which form language. In any civilized language there is a primary code of spoken words, formed from articulated sounds. There is also a secondary code of letters (the alphabet) which can be combined to stand for the speech sounds of the primary code, as the letters – t, r, e, e – stand for the sound of 'tree'. Neither letters nor sounds have any resemblance to what they denote – a tree.

Whenever language is used, a sender must encode his message, and a recipient must decode it. For language communication to be effective, senders and receivers must agree on all the details of the language code. If you go to France in ignorance of the French code and meet people ignorant of the English code, you have to resort to gestures and attempt at direct representation of what you want to say. How inadequate this can be is shown by the story of an English tourist, who suffering from hunger in a French street, moved his hand and jaw to convey his wish to find a restaurant, he was obligingly conducted to a dentist's waiting room ! (300 words)

- Q. 12. Read the following paragraph carefully and answer the questions that follow.

5

The most frightening aspect of malnutrition is that it is likely to cause permanent damage to the brain. Experiments carried out on animals suggest that brain damage due to malnutrition is irreversible. This may not be true of human beings. Nevertheless, known facts as well as results of tests conducted so far point to alarming conclusions. The human brain grows very fast. Three months before a child's birth the child's brain weighs one-fourth of the adult brain. In one year, the brain of a child is already 66 percent of the weight of the adult brain. At four the brain weighs 90 percent and at eight the child's brain is the size of an adult's and there is no further increase. Quite obviously the first four years are very crucial for the development of the brain. And if the child suffers malnutrition, the damage to the brain may well be permanent.

Fortunately and thanks to the research carried out by scientists in India and abroad and systematic attempts made by the National Institution of Nutrition, Hyderabad, to analyze the cause of malnutrition in the country, one need not wait for years to solve at least some aspects of the problem.



For instance, it was found that the addition of iodine in the lake water salt consumed in the sub-Himalayan region would go a long way to controlling goitre. Again, experiments made by the Institute reveal that inexpensive green leafy vegetables are a good alternative to egg and butter as a rich source of Vitamin A.

The Institute has also carried out considerable research into the fortification of various foods. Modern bread is a case in point. But since bread is beyond the means of the poor the Institute has found some items of mass consumption which can be strengthened with certain proteins and amino acids. Fortification of common salts is considered the most promising possibility.

Questions :

- I) What is the most serious harm that may be caused by malnutrition in childhood ?
- II) Why is good nutrition so essential during the first four years of childhood ?
- III) What suggestions have been made by the National Institute of Nutrition for controlling goitre in certain parts of India ?
- IV) What alternative sources of Vitamin A have been suggested by the Institute ?
- V) Find out the synonym for 'strengthening' used in the passage.

Q. 13. Translate the following passage from **English** to **Gujarati**.

10

A great part of Arabia is desert. Here there is nothing but sand and rock. The sand is so hot that you cannot walk over it barefoot during daytime. Here and there in the desert are springs of water that come from deep down under the ground – so deep that the sun cannot dry them up. These springs are few and far apart, but wherever there is one, trees grow tall and graceful, making a cool green shady place around the spring. This is indeed the beauty of nature.

Q. 14. English Grammar :

20

Do as directed :

- I) This room _____ (not clean) for months, but we are cleaning it now.
(Insert the correct form of the verb (not clean) in the blank)
- II) You must shut these doors. (Change the voice)
- III) Paint covered the lock. (Change the voice)
- IV) By whom was this question raised ? (Change the voice)
- V) Tom said, "I must be there by nine tomorrow".
(Change the narration)



- VI) As soon as the teacher arrived, the noise ceased.
(Transform into negative)
- VII) She seized the child by _____ collar.
(Supply article)
- VIII) Write meanings of the following administrative terms :
Prioritize, Inventory.
- IX) Give synonyms of the following words :
Deficit, Invader.
- X) Give antonyms of the following words :
Assert, Flourish.
- XI) Give one word substitute for :
A person who can neither read nor write.
- XII) After her husband died, she was all lonely.
(Correct the sentence)
- XIII) I _____ a lot of work today.
(Insert did/have done/had done)
- XIV) When I _____ my dinner, I went to bed.
(Insert had/have had/had had)
- XV) The news is too good to be true.
(Remove 'too')
- XVI) There is nothing better than a busy life.
(Rewrite the sentence in question form)
- XVII) We suffered _____ your neglect.
(Insert suitable preposition)
- XVIII) Do not cry _____ spilt milk.
(Insert suitable preposition)
- XIX) Neither his father nor his mother _____ alive.
(Supply a verb in agreement with its subject)
- XX) At daggers drawn.
(Make sentence using this idiom).
- _____