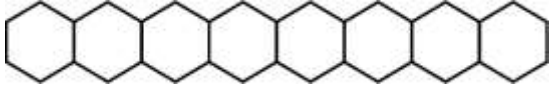


Series : S7PQR

SET ~ 4

Roll No.



Q.P. Code 28/7

Candidates must write the Q.P. Code on the title page of the answer-book.

ENGLISH (Elective)

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 80

- (I) Please check that this question paper contains **15** printed pages.
- (II) Q.P. Code given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- (III) Please check that this question paper contains **13** questions.
- (IV) **Please write down the Serial Number of the question in the answer-book at the given place before attempting it.**
- (V) 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the candidates will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

- (i) *This question paper has **13** questions. **All** questions are **compulsory**.*
- (ii) *This question paper contains **three** sections — Section A, B and C.
Section A : **Reading**, Section B : **Grammar and Writing**,
Section C : **Literature and Fiction**.*
- (iii) *Separate instructions are given with each part and question, wherever necessary.*
- (iv) *Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*

SECTION A

Reading

(20 marks)

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow : 12

- (1) I am a fortunate person. For over fifty years I have been able to make a living by doing what I enjoy most — writing.
- (2) Sometimes I wonder if I have written too much. One gets into the habit of serving up the same ideas over and over again; with a different sauce perhaps, but still the same ideas, themes, memories, characters. Writers are often chided for repeating themselves. Artists and musicians are given more latitude. No one criticized Turner for painting so many sunsets at sea, or Gauguin for giving us all those lovely Tahitian women; or Husain for treating us to so many horses, or Jamini Roy for giving us so many identical stylized figures.
- (3) In the course of a long writing career, it is inevitable that a writer will occasionally repeat himself, or return to themes that have remained with him even as new ideas and formulations enter his mind. The important thing is to keep writing, observing, listening and paying attention to the beauty of words and their arrangement. And like artists and musicians, the more we work on our art, the better it will be.
- (4) Writing, for me, is the simplest and greatest pleasure in the world. Putting a mood or an idea into words is an occupation I truly love. I plan my day so that there is time in it for writing a poem, or a paragraph, or an essay, or part of a story or longer work; not just because writing is my profession, but from a feeling of delight.
- (5) The world around me — be it the mountains or the busy street below my window — is teeming with subjects, sights, thoughts that I wish to put into words in order to catch the fleeting moment, the passing image, the laughter, the joy, and sometimes the sorrow. Life would be intolerable if I did not have this freedom to write every day. Not that everything I put down is worth preserving. A great many pages of manuscripts have found their way into my waste-paper basket or into the stove that warms the family room on cold winter evenings. I do not always please myself. I cannot always please others because, unlike the hard professionals, the Forsyths and the Sheldons, I am not writing to please everyone, I am really writing to please myself!

(6) My theory of writing is that the conception should be as clear as possible, and that words should flow like a stream of clear water, preferably a mountain stream! You will, of course, encounter boulders, but you will learn to go over them or around them, so that your flow is unimpeded. If your stream gets too sluggish or muddy, it is better to put aside that particular piece of writing. Go to the source, go to the spring, where the water is purest, your thoughts as clear as the mountain air.

(7) I do not write for more than an hour or two in the course of the day. Too long at the desk, and words lose their freshness.

Together with clarity and a good vocabulary, there must come a certain elevation of mood.

(8) A real physical emotion accompanies the process of writing, and great writers are those who can channel this emotion into the creation of their best work.

“Are you a serious writer ?” a schoolboy once asked.

“Well, I try to be *serious*,” I said, “but cheerfulness keeps breaking in!”

(9) Can a cheerful writer be taken seriously ? I don’t know. But I was certainly serious about making writing the main occupation of my life.

(10) In order to do this, one has to give up many things — a job, security, comfort, domesticity — or rather, the pursuit of these things. Had I married when I was twenty-five, I would not have been able to throw up a good job as easily as I did at the time; I might now be living on a pension! God forbid. I am grateful for continued independence and the necessity to keep writing for my living, and for those who share their lives with me and whose joys and sorrows are mine too. An artist must not lose his hold on life. We do that when we settle for the safety of a comfortable old age.

(11) Normally writers do not talk much, because they are saving their conversation for the readers of their books — those invisible listeners with whom we wish to strike a sympathetic chord. Of course, we talk freely with our friends, but we are reserved with people we do not know very well. If I talk too freely about a story I am going to write, chances are it will never be written. I have talked it to death.

- (12) Being alone is vital for any creative writer. I do not mean that you must live the life of a recluse. People who do not know me are frequently under the impression that I live in lonely splendour on a mountain top, whereas in reality, I share a small flat with a family of twelve — and I'm the twelfth man, occasionally bringing out refreshments for the players!
- (13) I love my extended family, every single individual in it, but as a writer I must sometimes get a little time to be alone with my own thoughts, reflect a little, talk to myself, laugh about all the blunders I have committed in the past, and ponder over the future. This is contemplation, not meditation. I am not very good at meditation, as it involves remaining in a passive state for some time. I would rather be out walking, observing the natural world, or sitting under a tree contemplating my novel or navel! I suppose the latter is a form of meditation.
- (14) When I casually told a journalist that I planned to write a book consisting of my meditations, he reported that I was writing a book on meditation per se, which gave it a different connotation. I shall go along with the simple dictionary meaning of the verb *meditate* — to plan mentally, to exercise the mind in contemplation.

So I was doing it all along!

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer any **twelve** of the fifteen questions given below : $12 \times 1 = 12$

- (i) The speaker considers himself to be a fortunate person for :
- (A) being a writer and artist
 - (B) living off his savings
 - (C) living with other writers
 - (D) doing what he enjoys most
- (ii) "Writers are often chided for repeating themselves. Artists and musicians are given more latitude." What does the author mean by 'latitude' ?
- (A) horizontal lines circling the globe
 - (B) distance on the earth's surface
 - (C) the equatorial line
 - (D) scope for freedom of action or thought

- (iii) *Statement 1* : For the author, putting his ideas or mood into words is an occupation.
Statement 2 : He has been making a living by doing what he enjoys most.
- (A) Both Statements 1 and 2 are correct and Statement 2 is the reason for Statement 1.
(B) Both Statements 1 and 2 are correct, but Statement 2 is **not** the reason for Statement 1.
(C) Statement 1 is correct, but Statement 2 is incorrect.
(D) Both Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect.
- (iv) According to the author, what is inevitable in a writer's writing career ?
- (A) writing to please the media
(B) repetition of themes
(C) writing in the same genre
(D) incorporating art work in the writing
- (v) The writer plans his day so that there is time to _____.
- (A) visit only friends and family
(B) work on a bit of writing
(C) continue with professional demands endlessly
(D) get necessary breaks and relaxation from work
- (vi) The writer gets his inspiration from _____.
- (A) his friends
(B) his family
(C) the world around him
(D) works of other writers
- (vii) In paragraph (2), the narrator suggests that the writers are criticised for being repetitive, whereas artists and musicians have the choice of doing what they want. Here the author highlights the _____ between writers and artists.
- (A) constrast (B) competition
(C) match (D) tie

- (viii) Many manuscripts are used in the fireplace in winter because :
- (A) they have been rejected by publishers
 - (B) they are repeats of previous works
 - (C) they are not worth preserving
 - (D) they deal with very contemporary subjects
- (ix) According to the author, writing flows like water when :
- (A) there is a vast vocabulary
 - (B) the manuscript has been proofread many times
 - (C) there is a clear conception
 - (D) there are no deadlines to be met
- (x) How does the writer retain freshness in his work ?
- (xi) Complete the sentence appropriately.
The author demonstrated his seriousness about his writing by _____.
- (xii) State whether the following opinion is *True* or *False*.
It is important for a writer to follow a profession alongside his writing career.
- (xiii) In paragraph (11), the writer's phrase, 'I have talked it to death' means :
- (A) the idea has been shot down
 - (B) the idea has been discussed too frequently
 - (C) the idea has been rejected by the community
 - (D) the idea has been discussed among very few people
- (xiv) 'Being alone is vital for any creative writer.' Being alone does not mean living the life of a/an _____.
- (A) recluse
 - (B) bachelor
 - (C) introvert
 - (D) researcher
- (xv) How does the author bring out the difference between 'contemplation' and 'meditation' ?

2. Read the following poem 'She Dwelt among the Untrodden Ways' by William Wordsworth : 4

She Dwelt among the Untrodden Ways

She dwelt among the untrodden ways
Beside the springs of Dove,
A Maid whom there were none to praise
And very few to love:

A violet by a mossy stone
Half hidden from the eye!
— Fair as a star, when only one
Is shining in the sky.

She lived unknown, and few could know
When Lucy ceased to be;
But she is in her grave, and, oh,
The difference to me!

Based on your understanding of the poem, answer any **four** of the five questions given below : $4 \times 1 = 4$

- (i) The poem explores the following themes *except* :
- (A) solitude
 - (B) unnoticed beauty and virtue
 - (C) dwelling among the downtrodden
 - (D) beauty and dignity of womanhood
- (ii) Complete the sentence appropriately.
The poet sets up a context of remoteness through the phrase _____.
- (iii) Lucy, who lived and died virtually alone, yet became immortalised is an example of _____.
- (A) imagery
 - (B) personification
 - (C) irony
 - (D) hyperbole
- (iv) The mood of the poem is :
- (A) detached
 - (B) somber
 - (C) joyful
 - (D) indifferent
- (v) What do the comparisons to 'a violet' and 'fair as a star' suggest ?

3. Read the passage given below :

4

Helpers in Our Daily Lives

Satellites are silent yet mighty helpers orbiting high above Earth.

They play a crucial role in communication, weather forecasting, navigation, and disaster management. Communication satellites make global television broadcasts and Internet connections possible.

Weather satellites track storms, helping meteorologists predict cyclones and save lives. Navigation satellites, such as those in the Global Positioning System (GPS), guide ships, aircrafts, and even food delivery services with precise location data.

In India, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has developed satellites like INSAT and GSAT for communication, and the IRNSS system (NavIC) for navigation. During natural disasters like floods or earthquakes, satellites help locate affected areas quickly, enabling faster rescue operations.

Thus, satellites, though unseen, have become essential for modern living. From checking the weather to finding the shortest route home, they constantly support human life from thousands of kilometers from the Earth.

Satellites That Help Us in Our Daily Life

Satellite	Category	Main Function
INSAT/GSAT Series	Communication	Transmit T.V., radio, Internet and phone signals
NavIC	Navigation	Provides accurate positioning and timing across India, helps drivers, sailors, and pilots with directions
INSAT-3D/INSAT-3DR	Meteorological	Observes weather patterns, temperature, and humidity
Cartosat	Earth observation	Captures high-resolution images of the Earth's surface
Resourcesat Series	Remote sensing	Monitors agriculture, waterbodies and forests
Oceansat Series	Ocean observation	Studies Sea Surface Temperature, chlorophyll and winds

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer any **four** of the five questions given below : $4 \times 1 = 4$

- (i) Fill in the blank by selecting the appropriate option.

Satellites orbiting high above Earth are _____ helpers.

- (A) weak (B) powerful
(C) feeble (D) incapacitated

- (ii) How do weather satellites save lives ?

- (iii) State *True* or *False* :

With reference to the given table, the one function of Oceansat series satellite is to study winds which help fishermen.

- (iv) Complete the sentence appropriately.

One Indian communication and one navigation satellite are _____ and _____.

- (v) State a point in support for the given opinion.

Satellites support human life from thousands of kilometers above Earth.

SECTION B

Grammar and Writing

(28 marks)

4. Transform the following sentences according to the instructions given against each one. Attempt any **eight** of the ten questions that follow : $8 \times 1 = 8$

- (i) I know the man. I also know his house.
(Combine using : As well as _____)

- (ii) The book was so interesting that I could not put it away.
(Start with : It was such _____)

- (iii) I like coffee more than I like tea.
(Start with : I prefer _____)

- (iv) The siren sounded. The labourers left the factory.
(Start with : No sooner _____)

- (v) The thief entered the house. The alarm went off immediately.
(Start with : Hardly _____)

- (vi) He said, can a man live whose soul is dead ?
(Start with : He asked if _____)
- (vii) The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world.
(Start with : The world _____)
- (viii) In spite of his best efforts, he failed.
(Start with : Despite _____)
- (ix) Under existing conditions railway travel is very expensive.
(Start with : Given the current situation _____)
- (x) She is a talented singer. She is good in sports.
(Combine using : Not only _____ but also)

5. Attempt any **three** of the following four questions in 120 – 150 words each :

$3 \times 5 = 15$

- (a) It is important for schools to inculcate the spirit of giving and volunteering among children. This essence of fostering generosity teaches young minds values of compassion and selflessness.
Write an analytical essay discussing the significance of teaching values to children through volunteering.
- (b) Sports play a crucial role in personality development, fostering essential life skills and helping to build confidence, leadership skills, promoting teamwork, discipline, and stress management. These benefits extend beyond the playing field, positively influencing academic performance, career prospects and overall well-being.
Write an essay on the importance of sports in personality development.
- (c) Technology offers numerous benefits in healthcare. Improved diagnostics and treatment, enhanced patient care, increased accessibility, remote patient monitoring, personalized medicine, etc., are some of them.
Write an essay with the help of examples, on the impact of technology on healthcare.
- (d) Waste management in India involves handling of waste from its inception to its final disposal. This includes collection, transportation, treatment and disposal, along with monitoring and regulation.
Write an essay expressing your views and observations on waste management in your city, its challenges and the steps to be taken by the concerned authorities and public in general.

6. Read the questions given below and attempt any **one** of the following : $1 \times 5 = 5$

- (a) As part of the 'National Voters' Day' celebration, the History Department of your school organized a seminar on the importance of voting and being a responsible citizen. Write a report in 120 – 150 words for your school magazine.
- (b) Education empowers children to break the chains of poverty, equipping them with skills and knowledge needed for better economic opportunities and improved well-being. It boosts their earning potential and enhances critical thinking. Write an article in 120 – 150 words on the importance of education in empowering children to fight poverty.

SECTION C

Literature and Fiction

(32 marks)

7. (I) Attempt any **one** of the two extracts (a) and (b) given below : 6

(a) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow :

$6 \times 1 = 6$

She felt her cheek pale and cold and, out of a maze of distress, she prayed to God to direct her, to show her what was her duty. The boat blew a long mournful whistle into the mist. If she went, tomorrow she would be on the sea with Frank, steaming toward Buenos Aires. Their passage had been booked. Could she still draw back after all he had done for her? Her distress awoke a nausea in her body and she kept moving her lips in silent fervent prayer.

(Eveline)

- (i) Who does 'she' refer to in the passage ?
- (ii) What direction was she seeking from God ?
- (iii) Why was she conflicted about drawing back ?
- (iv) Where would she be heading in the steamer ?
- (v) How does the author highlight her distressed state of mind ?

- (vi) What would be a good synonym for 'fervent' ?
- (A) casual
 - (B) impulsive
 - (C) hurried
 - (D) intense

OR

- (b) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow :

She spoke an elementary Spanish in a metallic accent without pausing for breath, and I thought she was the only Austrian at the long wooden table. But no, she had been born in Colombia and had come to Austria between the wars, when she was little more than a child, to study music and voice. She was about thirty, and did not carry her years well, for she had never been pretty and had begun to age before her time. But she was a charming human being. And one of the most awe-inspiring.

(I Sell my Dreams)

- (i) Who does 'she' refer to in the extract ?
- (ii) Where did she originally hail from ?
- (iii) The author draws attention to her 'elementary Spanish'. What is the significance of this phrase ?
- (iv) What was the reason of her coming to Austria ?
- (v) Explain the phrase "did not carry her years well".
- (vi) What is a good synonym for 'awe-inspiring' ?
 - (A) generous
 - (B) indifferent
 - (C) admirable
 - (D) irreverent

(II) Attempt any **one** of the two extracts (a) and (b) given below :

6

- (a) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow :

6×1=6

For Mercy has a human heart,
Pity a human face,
And Love, the human form divine,
And Peace, the human dress.

Then every man, of every clime,
That prays in his distress,
Prays to the human form divine,
Love, Mercy, Pity, Peace.

And all must love the human form,
In heathen, turk, or jew;
Where Mercy, Love, and Pity dwell
There God is dwelling too.

(The Divine Image)

- (i) How does the poet personify the virtues in the first four lines ?
- (ii) What are the four virtues the poet talks about in the above extract ?
- (iii) In lines 5 – 8, how does the poet build a strong relationship between divinity and humanity ?
- (iv) In the last stanza, which line highlights that all forms of humanity should be cherished ?
- (v) The last two lines remind the readers about the idea of inseparability between God and man. Explain.
- (vi) Which word is a good antonym for 'distress' ?
 - (A) torment
 - (B) imprisonment
 - (C) happiness
 - (D) anguish

OR

(b) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow :

The Trees like Tassels hit – and – swung –
There seemed to rise a Tune
From Miniature Creatures
Accompanying the Sun –

Far Psalteries of Summer –
Enamoring the Ear
They never yet did satisfy –
Remotest – when most fair

(Trees)

- (i) What makes the trees swing and sway ?
- (ii) What ‘Miniature Creatures’ could the poet be referring to ?
- (iii) ‘There seemed to rise a Tune’ refers to the music of _____.
- (iv) Identify one word which describes the effect of the sounds to the ear.
- (v) What dissatisfaction does the poet refer to ?
- (vi) Which word is a good antonym for ‘satisfy’ ?
 - (A) reassure (B) appease
 - (C) frustrate (D) anger

8. Answer any **one** of the following questions in 30 – 40 words : 1×2=2

- (a) In the poem ‘Kubla Khan’, why does the poet say “I would build that dome in air” ?
- (b) How does Chandalika reflect Tagore’s vision of a harmonious and peaceful society ?

9. Answer any **one** of the following questions in 50 – 60 words : 1×3=3

- (a) In the poem ‘Time and Time Again’, how is the sound of the metal bells different in every clocktower ?
- (b) Who were the Senciminers and what happened to them during the Second World War ?

10. Answer any **one** of the following questions in 120 – 150 words : $1 \times 5 = 5$
- (a) How does Amartya Sen attribute the tradition of public discussion and interactive reasoning to the success of democracy in India ?
 - (b) What factors helped Frau Frieda succeed in finding a job in Vienna and what was her daily routine ?
11. Answer any **one** of the following questions in 30 – 40 words : $1 \times 2 = 2$
- (a) In comparison to human beings, when do tigers generally attack ?
 - (b) How did Margayya succeed in getting a red lotus ?
12. Answer any **one** of the following questions in 50 – 60 words : $1 \times 3 = 3$
- (a) What was Alphonse's motive when he took the Chairman of 'Tiger Project' aside under a tree and spoke in whispers ?
 - (b) To Margayya, Mr. Murti seemed to be a very satisfactory picture of a Teacher. How ?
13. Answer any **one** of the following questions in 120 – 150 words : $1 \times 5 = 5$
- (a) What image of India and its people is depicted in 'A Tiger for Malgudi' ?
 - (b) Rudderless and aimless, Balu grows up resenting his father's neglect and materialistic pursuits. Write a character sketch of Margayya's son Balu.