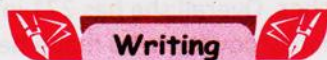




6. Given below are the meanings of four words which you will find in Question No. 3. Find out the words and write them in the appropriate boxes on the right hand side. 2×4=8

- (i) achievement
- (ii) small group or team
- (iii) given
- (iv) first appearance or performance


**Section – C**

7. Write a paragraph (in about 100 words) on the importance of sports and games in student life. You may use the following points : 10

[Points : integral part of life – helps to maintain healthy life – increases sportsman spirit – develops fellow feeling and cooperation – reduces stress and anxiety – makes physically strong]

8. As the Secretary of School Students' Association write a notice in about 100 words requesting the students of your school to participate actively in the garbage cleaning operation in your school. You may use the following points : 10

[date and time – things they should bring from home – areas to be cleaned – duration of the garbage cleaning operation – general appeal]

9. The Annual School Sports of your school has been organised. Write a newspaper report on the event in about 100 words using the following points : 10

[Points : Venue of the event – stage decoration – detailed programme – guests present – audience response]

## Madhyamik Examination - 2017

**Section – A**

1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

It is always lovely on the Big Half Moon in summer. When it is fine, the harbour is blue and calm, with little wind and ripples. Every summer, we had some hobby. The last summer before Dick and Mimi came, we were crazy about kites. A boy on the mainland showed Claude how to make them. Back on the island we made plenty of kites. Claude would go around to the other side of the island and we would play shipwrecked mariners signalling to each other with kites.

We had a kite that was big and covered with lovely red paper. We pasted gold tinsel stars all over it and had written our names full on it – Claude Leete and Philippa Leete, Big Half Moon lighthouse.

One day there was a grand wind for kite-flying. I'm not sure how it happened, but as I was bringing the kite from the house, I tripped and fell over the rocks. My elbow went clear through the kite, making a big hole.

We had to hurry to fix the kite if we wanted to send it up before the wind fell. We rushed into the lighthouse to get some paper. We knew there was no more red paper. We took the first thing that came handy – an old letter lying on the bookcase in the sitting room. We patched the kite up with the letter, a sheet on each side and dried it by the fire. We started out, and up went the kite like a bird.

A. Write the correct alternative to complete the following sentences : 1×5=5

- (a) The Big Half Moon looked lovely during – (i) spring, (ii) summer, (iii) autumn, (iv) winter.
- (b) The narrator and his playmates pretended to be –  
(i) robbers, (ii) adventurers, (iii) mountaineers, (iv) shipwrecked mariners.
- (c) The part of the narrator's body that went through the kite was his – (i) elbow, (ii) ankle, (iii) knee, (iv) fingers.
- (d) The narrator of the text is – (i) Dick, (ii) Mimi, (iii) Philippa, (iv) Claude.
- (e) The kite was mended with a – (i) red paper, (ii) letter, (iii) leaflet, (iv) newspaper.

B. Complete the following sentences with information from the text : 1×3=3

- (i) The visitors to the island last summer were \_\_\_\_\_.
- (ii) The name of the lighthouse was \_\_\_\_\_.
- (iii) They hurried to fix the kite because \_\_\_\_\_.

C. State whether the following statements are True or False. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False in the boxes on the right-hand side. Provide sentences / phrases / words in support of your answer : 2×2=4

- (i) In summer the island is rough and windy.

Supporting statement : \_\_\_\_\_

- (ii) The names of Claude and Philippa were written on the kite.

Supporting statement : \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow :**

The mountain and the squirrel  
Had a quarrel :  
And the former called the latter 'Little Prig.'  
Bun replied,  
'You are doubtless very big;  
But all sorts of things and weather  
Must be taken in together,  
To make up a year  
And a sphere.  
And I think it no disgrace  
To occupy my place.  
If I'm not so large as you,  
You are not so small as I,  
And not half so spry.  
I'll not deny you make  
A very pretty squirrel track;  
Talents differ; all is well and wisely put;  
If I cannot carry forests on my back,  
Neither can you crack a nut.'

**A. Write the correct alternative to complete the following sentences :****1×4=4**

- (a) 'Little Prig' refers to— (i) the mountain, (ii) the squirrel, (iii) the forest, (iv) a nut.  
(b) The mountain is — (i) very wise, (ii) quite lively, (iii) very big, (iv) very pretty.  
(c) The quarrel was between — (i) the forest and the squirrel, (ii) a nut and the squirrel, (iii) talent and wisdom, (iv) the mountain and the squirrel.  
(d) Unlike the squirrel the mountain can —  
(i) carry forests on its back, (ii) crack a nut, (iii) move about happily, (iv) make a sphere.

**B. Answer the following questions :****2×2=4**

- (i) How does the mountain make fun of the squirrel? (ii) Mention two qualities of the mountain.

**Reading Comprehension (Unseen)****3. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :**

P.V. Sindhu, India's latest badminton superstar, spoke freely and frankly to the press. She impressed everyone with her charming manner, infectious smile and friendly jokes. The Rio Olympics silver medalist is a lively 21 years old with a sharp brain and fierce dedication to her work. She recalled her days at Gopichand's Academy. She told the press that she started her training at 4.30 a.m. everyday and she wished to continue to stick to that same schedule. She was full of praise for Gopichand's Academy. "I can tell you," she said with great excitement, "the infrastructure and everything has been perfect and we have been getting all the facilities. Whatever we have wanted has been there."

When she was asked how she felt to be a woman achiever, she replied, "It's really a great feeling." She added that all the women participants from India performed really well, because she believed that coming to the Olympics itself was a very big achievement.

Sindhu was asked to comment on her feelings on the day of the final match. She said that she was confident and even her coach Gopichand believed that she could do it. On National Sports Day, 29th August, Sindhu along with Deepa Karmakar and Sakshi Malik received the Rajib Gandhi Khel Ratna award.

— Adapted from an interview published in *The Times of India*, dated 31st August, 2016

**A. Tick the right answer :****1×6=6**

- (i) P.V. Sindhu is the latest superstar in the field of — (a) table-tennis, (b) badminton, (c) lawn tennis, (d) hockey.  
(ii) P.V. Sindhu is — (a) 25 years old, (b) 43 years old, (c) 21 years old, (d) 17 years old.  
(iii) Sindhu was trained at — (a) Gopichand's Academy, (b) Sports Authority of India, (c) a local badminton club, (d) National Sports Academy.  
(iv) Everyday Sindhu started her training —  
(a) in the afternoon, (b) early in the morning, (c) in the evening, (d) at midday.  
(v) National Sports Day is observed on — (a) 29th August, (b) 15th August, (c) 5th September, (d) 2nd October.  
(vi) The above passage is an adaptation from — (a) a story, (b) a report, (c) an article, (d) an interview.



B. Each of the following statements is either 'True' or 'False'. Write 'T' for 'True' and 'F' for 'False' in the boxes on the right-hand side. Also pick out suitable line(s) or phrase from the passage in support of your answers :

(1+1)×3=6

- (i) While speaking to the press Sindhu was nervous and shy.   
Supporting statement : \_\_\_\_\_
- (ii) Sindhu was full of admiration for Gopichand's Academy.   
Supporting statement : \_\_\_\_\_
- (iii) As a woman achiever she felt excited.   
Supporting statement : \_\_\_\_\_

C. Answer the following questions :

2×4=8

- (i) How did Sindhu impress everyone ?
- (ii) Mention the two special qualities that Sindhu has.
- (iii) What is Sindhu's opinion about the women participants from India at the Rio Olympics ?
- (iv) How did Sindhu feel on the day of the final match ?

**Section – B**



**Grammar and Vocabulary**



4. Write the correct alternative to fill in the blanks :

1×3=3

Minara Begum, who \_\_\_\_\_ (was coaching / has been coaching / is coaching) national-level gymnasts for 30 years, \_\_\_\_\_ (is surprised / has been surprised / was surprised) to receive a call from a parent soon after Deepa Karmakar \_\_\_\_\_ (will finish / was finished / finished) fourth in the Olympics.

5. Do as directed :

A. Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles and prepositions :

1×3=3

When John arrived \_\_\_\_\_ Mumbai \_\_\_\_\_ train, there was not \_\_\_\_\_ single penny in his pocket.

B. Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given in brackets :

1×3=3

- (i) It was raining. The children could not go out to play. *(Join into a complex sentence)*
- (ii) My friend gave me a story book. *(Change the voice)*
- (iii) The policeman said to the thief, "Where have you kept the stolen goods ?" *(Change into Indirect Speech)*

C. Choose the correct phrasal verbs from the list given below to replace the words underlined. Write the correct phrasal verbs in the boxes on the right-hand side changing the form, where necessary. There is one extra phrasal verb in the list :

1×3=3

- (i) The patient will recover within a week.
- (ii) Please do not reject my proposal.
- (iii) He wore a white shirt.

[put on, put off, turn down, come round]

6. Given below are the meanings of four words which you will find in Question No. 3. Find out the words and write them in the appropriate boxes on the right-hand side.

2×4=8

- (i) very pleasant and attractive
- (ii) basic systems and services for an organisation
- (iii) something done successfully
- (iv) feeling sure about one's ability

**Section – C**



**Writing**



7. Write a story (in about 100 words) with the help of the points given below and add a suitable title.

10

[shepherd tends sheep near a forest – raises false alarm of a wolf – villagers rush to his rescue – shepherd enjoys – one day wolf really comes – shepherd cries for help – nobody comes – wolf kills sheep.]

8. Write a letter (in about 100 words) to a friend living in a village about the place you live in. You may use the following points.

10

[The name of the place you live in – district where situated – the people around you – sights worth seeing – why you like the place.]

9. Use the following flow-chart to write a paragraph (in about 100 words) on the preparation of a mixture useful for rehydration or maintaining balance of water in the body :

10

[Wash hands, pots, spoons, glass – boil one litre water in pot – cool – add six level teaspoons of sugar + half teaspoon of common salt – stir well – ready]



**Madhyamik Examination - 2018**

**Section - A**



**Reading Comprehension (Seen)**



1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

It is the last time we shall be walking with Bapu.

It was an agonizing walk. Thousands silently watched the procession. Bapu lay on an open truck covered with flowers. Thousands of people wept, trying to touch Bapu's feet. It was impossible to move in the thick crowd.

As I moved forward slowly I understood I was not merely in the midst of grieving people. This was even more than the funeral procession of India's beloved leader. I was among people for whom walking with Bapu had a special meaning. We had walked with Bapu over the rough and smooth of India's recent history. We could not now accept the fact that the man who had led us over many difficult paths, was never going to walk with us again. Bapu's slight figure had walked, staff in hand, over a large part of India. To walk is to make slow progress. It is to think with clarity and closely look at all that is around you, from small insects to the horizon in the distance. Moreover, to walk was often the only way open to the average Indian. It required no vehicle except his own body and cost him nothing but his energy.

A. Write the correct alternative to complete the following sentences :

1×5=5

- (a) The last walk with Bapu was — (i) pleasant, (ii) painful, (iii) strange, (iv) delightful.
- (b) According to the narrator, walking with Bapu was — (i) quite boring, (ii) a usual affair, (iii) not a commonplace affair, (iv) meaningless.
- (c) While walking, Bapu used to carry a — (i) staff, (ii) flag, (iii) book, (iv) bag.
- (d) The narrator comments that to walk is to make — (i) a tiresome journey, (ii) no progress, (iii) rapid progress, (iv) slow progress.
- (e) According to the narrator, walk required — (i) a lot of money, (ii) vehicle, (iii) one's own body and energy, (iv) a walking stick.

B. Complete the following sentences with information from the text :

1×3=3

- (i) Bapu was being carried \_\_\_\_\_
- (ii) Thousands of people were eager to \_\_\_\_\_
- (iii) India's recent history was both \_\_\_\_\_

C. Fill in the chart with information from the text :

2×2=4

	Statement	Reason
(i)		The crowd was thick
(ii)	Walking is making slow progress	because.....

2. Read the poem and answer the questions that follow :

I must go down to the seas again, for the call of the running tide  
Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied ;  
And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying,  
And the flung spray and the blown spume, and the sea-gulls crying.  
I must go down to the seas again, to the vagrant gypsy life,  
To the gull's way and the whale's way where the wind's like a whetted knife;  
And all I ask is a merry yarn from a laughing fellow-rover,  
And quiet sleep and a sweet dream when the long trick's over.

A. Write the correct alternative to complete the following sentences :

1×4=4

- (a) The call of the running tide — (i) can be easily denied, (ii) cannot be denied, (iii) is not at all attractive, (iv) is most discouraging.
- (b) The poet would like to hear the cry of the — (i) nightingale, (ii) skylark, (iii) cuckoo, (iv) seagull.
- (c) The poet likes to lead a gypsy life because it is — (i) a carefree life full of adventures, (ii) full of responsibilities, (iii) full of luxury, (iv) dull and uninteresting.
- (d) The wind on the sea is like a whetted — (i) sword, (ii) arrow, (iii) spear, (iv) knife.

B. State whether the following statements are 'True' or 'False'. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False in the boxes on the right-hand side. Provide sentences/phrases/words in support of your answer :

2×2=4

- (i) The poet is not going out to the sea for the first time.   
Supporting statement : \_\_\_\_\_
- (ii) The poet does not want to sleep when the journey is over.   
Supporting statement : \_\_\_\_\_


**Reading Comprehension (Unseen)**
**3. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :**

For the second year in a row, tiger population in the Indian Sundarbans has shown an increase. This year, a camera-trap exercise has captured at least six more tigers in the mangroves.

According to a forester associated with the exercise, 87 unique frames were captured by the camera-traps in the mangroves, including the tiger reserve area and the South 24 Parganas forest division. The count was 81 last year. The latest exercise was conducted between December 2016 and June 2017.

The mangroves is home to at least 87 tigers, with the possibility of more big cats being present, said the forester. He further added, "It's not possible to photograph all the tigers in a forest."

While the average figure is yet to be analysed, officials expect the number to be around 90 this time, compared to last year's 81. "The trend is positive, but we are still in the process of analysing the final figure that will also be checked by the Wildlife Institute of India," said the Chief Wildlife Warden Ravikant Sinha.

He, however, added that the cubs which were camera-trapped last year have grown up and have probably been photographed again this year. This, he observes, can be a reason behind the positive trend.

Sources revealed that, while 62 tigers were photographed in the tiger reserve area — seven more than last year — 25 were clicked in the South 24 Parganas division, the forests outside the core area. Pictures of three cubs were also captured, though they were not included in the final figure.

All eyes are now on the 1500 sq.km South 24 Parganas forest division that has added, at least, eight tigers in the last five years. It recorded seventeen tigers when the camera-trap exercise was first conducted in 2012.

— Adapted from a report published in *The Times of India* dated June 30, 2017

**A. Tick the right answer :**

1×6=6

- (i) For two successive years the number of tigers in the Indian Sundarbans has —  
(a) been captured, (b) decreased, (c) increased, (d) remained the same.
- (ii) 87 unique photographs of tigers were captured by —  
(a) a forester, (b) the camera traps, (c) officials, (d) hunters.
- (iii) The mangroves shelter — (a) 87 tigers, (b) 81 tigers, (c) 25 tigers, (d) more than 87 tigers.
- (iv) Ravikant Sinha is —  
(a) the Chief Wildlife Warden, (b) a photographer, (c) a journalist, (d) a minor forest official.
- (v) The number of tigers photographed last year was — (a) 81, (b) 90, (c) 55, (d) 62.
- (vi) The camera-trap exercise was conducted for the first time in — (a) 2016, (b) 2012, (c) 2017, (d) 1986.

**B. Each of the following statements is either 'True' or 'False'. Write 'T' for 'True' and 'F' for 'False' in the boxes on the right-hand side. Also pick out suitable line(s) or phrase(s) from the passage in support of your answers :**

(1+1)×3=6

- (i) The camera traps were laid only in the forest division of the South 24 Parganas.   
*Supporting statement :* \_\_\_\_\_
- (ii) According to a forester, it is impossible to photograph all the tigers in a forest.   
*Supporting statement :* \_\_\_\_\_
- (iii) The average number of tigers has not yet been calculated.   
*Supporting statement :* \_\_\_\_\_

**C. Answer the following questions :**

2×4=8

- (i) Which trend, according to the reporter is positive ?
- (ii) What is the observation of the Chief Wildlife Warden regarding the increase in tiger population ?
- (iii) How many tigers were clicked in the tiger reserve area and how many in the forests outside the core area ?
- (iv) State the number of tigers added to the tiger population in the last five years in the South 24 Parganas forest division.

**Section - B**
**Grammar and Vocabulary**
**4. Write the correct alternative to fill in the blanks :**

1×3=3

Although children \_\_\_\_\_ (love / has loved / are loving) outdoor games, their parents \_\_\_\_\_ (is considering / consider / has considered) their interest as harmful and meaningless. A child who spends time and energy in outdoor activities \_\_\_\_\_ (grows / had grown / is growing) up to be healthy and strong.

**5. Do as directed :****A. Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles and prepositions :**

1×3=3

In \_\_\_\_\_ evenings they would sit together \_\_\_\_\_ the dining table and rearrange the stamps. He had \_\_\_\_\_ album for each country.



**B. Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given in brackets :**

1×3=3

(i) Garbage causes pollution. It may be used as a source of energy.

(Join into a single sentence using a relative clause)

(ii) The teacher delivered a lecture to a group of students.

(Change the voice)

(iii) The trainer said, "Why is everybody late today?"

(Change into Indirect Speech)

**C. Choose the correct phrasal verbs from the list given below to replace the words underlined. Write the correct phrasal verbs in the boxes on the right-hand side changing the form, where necessary. There is one extra phrasal verb in the list.**

1×3=3

(i) They started their journey early in the morning.

(ii) I cannot understand what you are saying.

(iii) The man abandoned evil company.

[make out, give up, give off, set out]

**6. Given below are the meanings of four words which you will find in Question No. 3. Find out the words and write them in the appropriate boxes on the right-hand side :**

2×4=8

(i) recorded in camera

(ii) studied and explained

(iii) definite and sure

(iv) a person in charge of a particular place

**Section - C**

**Writing**

7. Write a letter to the Inspector-in-Charge of your local police station complaining about the loss of your mobile phone in your area. Give details of the phone and the way in which it was lost. **10**

8. Write a biography of Virat Kohli (within 100 words) using the following points : **10**

[Date of Birth : 5 November, 1988, Delhi – Father : Prem Kohli, criminal lawyer – Mother : Saroj Kohli, homemaker – Showed interest in cricket at the age of three – Enrolled at West Delhi Cricket Academy, when nine – Right-hand batsman, right-arm medium pacer, outstanding fielder – Test debut 2011 – captain of the Indian team 2014 – More than 5000 runs in test matches – more than 8000 runs in One Day International Matches – Received Arjuna Award : 2013.]

9. Write a newspaper report (within 100 words) on the outbreak of fire in your local market. You may use the following points : **10**

[Date and time – place – cause of fire – damages – actions taken]

**Madhyamik Examination - 2019**

**Section - A**

**Reading Comprehension (Seen)**

1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

"What have you written, Father?" Swami asked apprehensively.

"Nothing for you. Give it to your headmaster and go to your class."

"Have you written anything about our teacher Samuel?"

"Yes. Plenty of things."

"What has he done, Father?"

"Everything is there in the letter. Give it to your headmaster."

Swami went to school feeling that he was the worst boy on earth. His conscience bothered him. He wasn't at all sure if his description of Samuel had been accurate. He felt he had mixed up the real and the imagined.

Swami stopped on the roadside to make up his mind about Samuel. Samuel was not such a bad man after all. Personally he was much more friendly than the other teachers. Swami also felt Samuel had a special regard for him.

Swami's head was dizzy with confusion. He could not decide if Samuel really deserved the allegations made against him in the letter. The more he thought of Samuel, the more Swami grieved for him. To recall Samuel's dark face, his thin moustache, unshaven cheek and yellow coat filled Swaminathan with sorrow.

A. Write the correct alternative to complete the following sentences :

1×5=5

(a) Swami's father wrote the letter to Swami's – (i) friends, (ii) headmaster, (iii) teacher, (iv) mother.

(b) The letter made Swami feel – (i) happy, (ii) sad, (iii) excited, (iv) worried.

(c) Swami stopped on his way to school to decide whether Samuel was a/an –

(i) bad person, (ii) good and friendly person, (iii) honest person, (iv) dishonest person.



- (d) Swami felt dizzy because he was — (i) excited, (ii) indifferent, (iii) afraid, (iv) puzzled.  
 (e) The more Swami thought of Samuel the more — (i) aggrieved he felt, (ii) cheerful he felt, (iii) disappointed he felt, (iv) angry he felt.

**B. Complete the following sentences with information from the text :** 1×3=3

- (i) Swami's father asked him to \_\_\_\_\_  
 (ii) While going to school Swami felt \_\_\_\_\_  
 (iii) Other teachers were not as \_\_\_\_\_

**C. Answer the following questions :** 2×2=4

- (i) Why did Swami's conscience bother him ? (ii) How did Swami recall Samuel's appearance ?

**2. Read the poem and answer the questions that follow :**

Once I crept in an oakwood – I was looking for a stag.  
 I met an old woman there – all knobby stick and rag.  
 She said : 'I have your secret here inside my little bag.'

Then she began to cackle and I began to quake.  
 She opened up her little bag and I came twice awake —  
 Surrounded by a staring tribe and me tied to a stake.

They said : 'We are the oak-trees and your own true family.  
 We are chopped down, we are torn up, you do not blink an eye.  
 Unless you make a promise now – now you are going to die.'

'Whenever you see an oak-tree felled, swear now you will plant two.  
 Unless you swear the black oak bark will wrinkle over you  
 And root you among the oaks where you were born but never grew.'

This was my dream beneath the boughs, the dream that altered me.  
 When I came out of the oakwood, back to human company,  
 My walk was the walk of a human child, but my heart was a tree.

**A. Write the correct alternative to complete the following sentences :** 1×4=4

- (a) The young child met — (i) a forester, (ii) an old man, (iii) an old woman, (iv) a stag.  
 (b) The old woman was — (i) very smart, (ii) looking nervous, (iii) richly dressed, (iv) unsteady and poorly dressed.  
 (c) The oak trees complained that — (i) the old woman cackled, (ii) they are chopped down, torn up but the humans remain indifferent, (iii) they are not watered everyday, (iv) they are tied to a stake.  
 (d) A 'staring tribe' refers to —  
 (i) local inhabitants, (ii) the primitive people, (iii) homeless people, (iv) the oak trees.

**B. State whether the following statements are 'True' or 'False'. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False in the boxes on the right-hand side. Provide sentences/phrases/words in support of your answer :** 2×2=4

- (i) The oak trees told the child in his dream that whenever an oak tree is cut down he should plant two oak saplings.

Supporting statement : \_\_\_\_\_

- (ii) When the child woke up from his dream he forgot all about the oak trees.

Supporting statement : \_\_\_\_\_

### Reading Comprehension (Unseen)

**3. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :**

It is a known fact that children generally emulate the adults. When a child imitates an elder smoking by holding a pencil between his/her tiny fingers, most of us find it quite cute. We fail to realise that this harmless imitation often results in actual smoking when they grow up. So it is time to take a pause and think about its consequences. According to WHO data, tobacco kills more than seven million people each year. While more than six million of those deaths are the result of direct tobacco use, many non-smokers die because they are exposed to second-hand smoke.

Over eighty percent of individuals, who start smoking during adolescence, will continue to smoke in adulthood, while one-third of them will die prematurely due to smoking-related diseases like cancer, heart disease and chronic lung diseases. Experimentation by children can rapidly escalate into heavy smoking.

Experts say that unless urgent action is taken immediately, the annual death toll could rise to more than eight million by 2030. This sure is a gloomy and cheerless world that we are leaving behind to our future generations. So it is time to motivate youngsters to stay away from this deadly habit.



Dr Shyama Chona, the educationist says, "The best way to motivate them to stay away from smoking is to involve them in some activities." She suggests that schools can organise events like sports, drama and story-telling sessions. Such participatory learning is very effective because it dissuades kids from smoking, when they themselves propagate its bad effects.

Parents have a big role to play when it comes to influencing their kids. Theatre director Arvind Gaur says that a smoking parent can never tell his/her child not to smoke because that would be too hypocritical.

— Adapted from an article published in *The Times of India* dated March 14, 2018

**A. Tick the right answer :**

1×6=6

- We find it cute when — (a) a child imitates an adult, (b) an adult imitates a child, (c) a child copies an elder smoking by holding a pencil between his/her tiny fingers, (d) a child actually smokes.
- According to WHO data, each year direct use of tobacco kills — (a) seven million people, (b) more than seven million people, (c) less than six million people, (d) more than six million people.
- In the opinion of experts urgent action should be taken — (a) immediately, (b) after one year, (c) by 2030, (d) by the parents.
- Dr Shyama Chona is — (a) a medical practitioner, (b) a psychologist, (c) a social worker, (d) an educationist.
- 'Deadly habit' in paragraph 3 refers to — (a) sports, (b) smoking, (c) play-acting, (d) story-telling.
- A smoking parent can — (a) always tell his child to smoke, (b) tell his child to be hypocritical, (c) never tell his child not to smoke, (d) tell his child to be honest and truthful.

**B. Each of the following statements is either 'True' or 'False'. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False in the boxes on the right-hand side. Also pick out suitable line(s) or phrase(s) from the passage in support of your answers :**

(1+1)×3=6

- A child never imitates an elder smoking.   
Supporting sentence : \_\_\_\_\_
- Many non-smokers die because of passive smoking.   
Supporting sentence : \_\_\_\_\_
- Our future generations will be left in a dark and hopeless world due to smoking.   
Supporting sentence : \_\_\_\_\_

**C. Answer the following questions :**

2×4=8

- How does a child imitate an elder smoking ?
- Name some of the smoking-related diseases.
- Why should urgent action be taken immediately to stop smoking ?
- How can children be motivated to stay away from smoking ?

**Section - B**



**Grammar and Vocabulary**



**4. Write the correct alternative to fill in the blanks :**

1×3=3

When Mrs Gupta \_\_\_\_\_ (return / returned / was returning) home she noticed at once that thieves \_\_\_\_\_ (enter / have entered / had entered) her house during her absence. The local police station \_\_\_\_\_ (was informing / had informed / was informed) immediately.

**5. Do as directed :**

**A. Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles and prepositions :**

1×3=3

Sunil, \_\_\_\_\_ young diver jumped \_\_\_\_\_ the river and saved the child \_\_\_\_\_ drowning.

**B. Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given in brackets :**

1×3=3

- He has worked out the answers carefully. *(Change the voice)*
- You do not take care of your health. You may fall ill. *(Join into a single sentence using an adverb clause)*
- "What have you written, Sachin ?" The teacher said. *(Change into Indirect Speech)*

**C. Choose the correct phrasal verbs from the list given below to replace the words underlined. Write the correct phrasal verbs in the boxes on the right-hand side changing the form where necessary. There is one extra phrasal verb in the list.**

1×3=3

- Kshudiram sacrificed his life for his motherland.
- Police is investigating the case.
- I am trying to find a job.


[look into, come by, look for, give up]

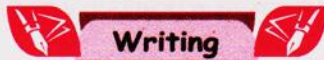




6. Given below are the meanings of four words which you will find in the passage in Question No. 3. Find out the words and write them in the appropriate boxes on the right-hand side : 2×4=8

- (i) imitate
- (ii) increase rapidly
- (iii) discourage
- (iv) spread and promote an idea widely


### Section – C



7. Write a story (within 100 words) using the given hints. Give a title to the story. 10

[Three children collecting green mangoes near railway track – one sees a crack on rails – hears a train coming – senses danger – tears his red shirt – three pieces – waves like flags – driver stops – accident avoided – children rewarded]

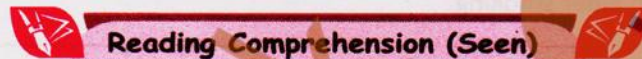
8. Write a letter (within 100 words) to the editor of an English daily stating reasons why plastic carry bags should be banned. Your letter may include the following points : 10

[Large scale use of plastic carry bags – choking sewerage system – waterlogging on roads – drains overflowing – pollution of land and ocean – must be banned to save environment – use of substitutes like jute bags and paper bags.]

9. Your school is going to host an inter-school drama competition. Suppose you are the Cultural Secretary of your school. Write a notice (within 100 words) calling students to participate in the competition. Mention the time, date and venue of the competition. Your notice should be countersigned by the Headmistress / Headmaster of your school. 10

## Madhyamik Examination - 2020

### Section – A



1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

When the family has finished tea, and gathers round the fire, the cat casually goes out of the room. True life now begins for him. He saunters down his own backyard, springs to the top of the fence, drops lightly down to the other side. He trots across and skips to the roof of an empty shed. His movement becomes lithe and pantherlike. He looks keenly from side to side and moves noiselessly, for he has so many enemies – dogs and small boys with stones.

On top of the shed, the cat arches his back and rakes his claws once or twice through the soft bark of the old roof. He stretches himself a few times to see if every muscle is in full working order. Then, drooping his head nearly to his paws, he sends across a call to his kindred. Before long they come, gliding, graceful shadows. No longer are they the meek creatures who an hour ago were mewling for fish and milk. They are now grim fighters.

Just think how much more he gets out of his life than you do out of yours ! And the sports they have, too ! As they get older they go in for sport to the suburban backyards. These backyards that are dull to us, are to them hunting grounds where they have more gallant adventure than King Arthur's knights ever had.

A. Write the correct alternative to complete the following sentences : 1×5=5

- (a) When the family gathers round the fire, the cat goes out of the room –  
(i) cautiously, (ii) smartly, (iii) casually, (iv) noiselessly.
- (b) Sauntering down his own backyard, the cat jumps to the top of the –  
(i) fence, (ii) roof, (iii) other side, (iv) shed.
- (c) The cat looks keenly from side to side and moves – (i) carefully, (ii) anxiously, (iii) fearfully, (iv) noiselessly.
- (d) On top of the shed the cat – (i) mews, (ii) arches his back, (iii) goes to sleep, (iv) fights.
- (e) As the cats get older they go in for sport to the –  
(i) neighbouring house, (ii) old roof, (iii) empty shed, (iv) suburban backyard.

B. Complete the following sentences with information from the text : 1×3=3

- (i) The family gathers round the fire after \_\_\_\_\_.
- (ii) The cat skips to the roof of an empty shed where his movement becomes \_\_\_\_\_.
- (iii) The cat stretches himself a few times to feel if \_\_\_\_\_.

C. State whether the following statements are true or false. Write 'T' for 'True' and 'F' for 'False' in the boxes given on the right-hand side. Provide sentences/phrases/words in support of your answer : 2×2=4

- (i) The cat sends across a call to his kindred by stretching himself a few times.   
Supporting sentence : \_\_\_\_\_
- (ii) The cats behave as gallantly as King Arthur's knights.   
Supporting sentence : \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Read the poem and answer the questions that follow :**

To grass, or leaf, or fruit, or wall  
The snail sticks close, nor fears to fall  
As if he grew there, house and all,  
Together.

Within that house secure he hides  
When danger imminent betides  
Of storm, or other harm besides

Of weather.

Give but his horns the slightest touch,  
His self-collecting pow'r is such,  
He shrinks into his house with much  
Displeasure.

Where'er he dwells, he dwells alone,  
Except himself has chattels none,  
Well satisfied to be his own

Whole treasure.

**A. Write the correct alternative to complete the following sentences :**

1×4=4

- (a) The snail is not afraid to — (i) fight, (ii) hide, (iii) fall, (iv) touch.  
(b) The snail faces imminent danger when there is — (i) storm, (ii) rain, (iii) thunder, (iv) lightning.  
(c) With the slightest touch the snail shrinks into his house with much —  
(i) delight, (ii) displeasure, (iii) defiance, (iv) pain.  
(d) In the house the snail lives — (i) alone, (ii) with others, (iii) with chattels, (iv) with family.

**B. Answer the following questions :**

2×2=4

- (i) What does the snail stick close to ? (ii) What does the snail do when it faces danger ?

**Reading Comprehension (Unseen)**

**3. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :**

Mother nature has been very generous to us by giving us so many resources of water — rain water, rivers, lakes, melting glaciers and ground water. The demand for water is ever increasing but the supply is far from adequate.

Given the lack of water in rivers, people have been resorting to pumping out ground water for personal consumption and for farming. As a result, ground water table has fallen to alarming levels. Moreover, harmful fertilisers used for growing crops have contaminated ground water so that in many places it is not fit for drinking.

It is time to wake up. Every drop of water is a source of life. It is high time we realise that water resources are not permanent. Soon, we as a family, society and nation will be struggling to get a drop of clean potable water. We have to focus on water conservation and stop polluting our water resources.

Each one of us also needs to do our bit by avoiding use of plastic, recycling waste products and keeping our surroundings clean. Every town, every village should have an eco-friendly garbage sorting and disposal system. Every school and college should initiate programmes educating youngsters about the importance of our natural resources, especially water and air. We have to train new generations to adopt an eco-friendly way of life.

*— Adapted from an article published in The Times of India dated June 26, 2019*

**A. Tick the right answer :**

1×6=6

- (i) The demand for water is increasing but the supply of water is —  
(a) adequate, (b) surplus, (c) inadequate, (d) plentiful.  
(ii) People have been resorting to pumping out ground water due to —  
(a) lack of water in the rivers, (b) scanty rainfall, (c) drying up of wells, (d) melting glaciers.  
(iii) The ground water table has — (a) risen, (b) dropped, (c) increased, (d) remained stable.  
(iv) Ground water is contaminated by —  
(a) irrigation, (b) construction of roads, (c) harmful fertilisers, (d) pumping out of water.  
(v) It is high time we realize that water resources are —  
(a) permanent, (b) potable, (c) impermanent, (d) abundant.  
(vi) Each one of us must avoid the use of — (a) copper, (b) paper, (c) jute, (d) plastic.

**B. Each of the following statements is either 'True' or 'False'. Write 'T' for 'True' and 'F' for 'False' in the boxes on the right-hand side. Also pick out suitable line(s) or phrase(s) from the passage in support of your answers :**

(1+1)×3=6

- (i) People have been resorting to pumping out ground water for construction work.   
Supporting sentence : \_\_\_\_\_  
(ii) Water is valuable because it is a source of life.   
Supporting sentence : \_\_\_\_\_  
(iii) Soon, it will be easy for us to get clean potable water.   
Supporting sentence : \_\_\_\_\_

**C. Answer the following questions :**

2×4=8

- (i) How has mother nature been generous to us ?
- (ii) What should be our immediate focus regarding water ?
- (iii) What should every town and every village have to keep the surroundings clean ?
- (iv) What kind of programmes should every school and college initiate ?

**Section – B**

**Grammar and Vocabulary**

**4. Write the correct alternative to fill in the blanks :**

1×3=3

Rina who \_\_\_\_\_ (have been / has been / is being) ill for a month \_\_\_\_\_ (will visit / visited / had visited) the doctor last Monday. The doctor \_\_\_\_\_ (advised / had advised / will advise) her complete bed rest.

**5. Do as directed :**

**A. Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles and prepositions :**

1×3=3

Wrestling is one of \_\_\_\_\_ oldest sports in the world. Ancient cave drawings of people wrestling with one another have been found \_\_\_\_\_ Europe. It is \_\_\_\_\_ serious sport.

**B. Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given in brackets :**

1×3=3

- (i) The authorities postponed the cricket match. (Change the voice)
- (ii) "Is there anybody there ?" said the traveller. (Change into Indirect Speech)
- (iii) We should not show cruelty to animals. (Rewrite using adjective form of the word underlined)

**C. Choose the correct phrasal verbs from the list given below to replace the words underlined. Write the correct phrasal verbs in the boxes on the right-hand side changing the form where necessary. There is one extra phrasal verb in the list.**

1×3=3

- (i) The dog followed the thief.
- (ii) Have you read this book ?
- (iii) The chief guest distributed the prizes.  
[take back, go through, give away, go after]


**6. Given below are the meanings of four words which you will find in the passage in Question No. 3. Find out the words and write them in the appropriate boxes on the right-hand side.**

2×4=8

- (i) kind
- (ii) disturbing
- (iii) polluted
- (iv) process of getting rid of something


**Section – C**

**Writing**

**7. Write a newspaper report (within 100 words) about an accident that took place yesterday. Write the report on the basis of the points given below :**

10

[Date and time – place – cause of the accident – consequences – measures taken.]

**8. Write a letter (within 100 words) to your friend describing a cultural programme you have attended recently. Your letter should include the following points :**

10

[Name of the programme – venue – date – description of performances – your feelings.]

**9. Write a paragraph (within 100 words) on 'The Most Memorable Day in Your Life', based on the following points :**

10

[Date / Day – a description of the day – your role on that day – why is the day memorable to you ?]

**Madhyamik Examination - 2022**

**Section – A**

**Reading Comprehension (Seen)**

**1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :**

A month later a letter came for Father. After he finished reading it, his eyes looked as if he had been crying. "Do you want to know what became of your kite?" he said. Then he sat down beside us and told us the whole story.

Father had a brother and a sister. He had quarrelled with his brother and left home. Years afterward, he felt sorry and when he went back, he found his brother had died and he couldn't find his sister.



The letter father had just received was from his sister, Aunt Esther, mother of Dick and Mimi. She was a widow who lived hundreds of miles inland. One day when Dick and Mimi were out in the woods, they discovered the kite on the top of a tree and carried it home. When their mother saw the kite patched with the letter, she turned pale. It was the very letter she had once written to her brother. Philippa was her mother's name and Claude was her father's. She knew who we must be. So she sat down and wrote to Big Half Moon and Father received her letter.

Next day, Father went and brought Aunt Esther and Dick and Mimi with him. They have been here ever since. Aunt Esther is a dear and Dick and Mimi are too jolly for words.

**A. Write the correct alternative to complete the following sentences :** 1×5=5

- Father received a letter — (i) one month ago, (ii) one week ago, (iii) after one month, (iv) after several years.
- The letter was from Father's sister — (i) Philippa, (ii) Claude, (iii) Mimi, (iv) Esther.
- Father left home because he — (i) did not like his home, (ii) quarrelled with his brother, (iii) wanted a new life, (iv) got a new job at Big Half Moon.
- When Father went back home his brother —  
(i) had already died, (ii) could not be traced, (iii) did not meet him, (iv) welcomed him warmly.
- The kite was patched with the letter written by —  
(i) Philippa to Claude, (ii) Esther to her husband, (iii) Father to her sister, (iv) Esther to her brother.

**B. Complete the following sentences with information from the text :** 1×3=3

- Though Father left home \_\_\_\_\_
- In the woods Dick and Mimi \_\_\_\_\_
- Esther turned pale when \_\_\_\_\_

**C. State whether the following statements are true or false. Write 'T' for 'True' and 'F' for 'False' in the boxes given on the right-hand side. Provide sentences/phrases/words in support of your answer :** 2×2=4

- Aunt Esther always lived on the island Big Half Moon.   
*Supporting sentence :* \_\_\_\_\_
- Claude was Esther's father's name.   
*Supporting sentence :* \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Read the poem and answer the questions that follow :**

The mountain and the squirrel  
Had a quarrel:  
And the former called the latter 'Little Prig.'  
Bun replied,  
'You are doubtless very big;  
But all sorts of things and weather  
Must be taken in together,  
To make up a year  
And a sphere.

And I think it no disgrace  
To occupy my place.  
If I'm not so large as you,  
You are not so small as I,  
And not half so spry.  
I'll not deny you make  
A very pretty squirrel track;  
Talents differ; all is well and wisely put;  
If I cannot carry forests on my back,  
Neither can you crack a nut.'

**A. Write the correct alternative to complete the following sentences :** 1×4=4

- The quarrel took place between the squirrel and the — (i) Prig, (ii) Bun, (iii) Rabbit, (iv) Mountain.
- All sorts of things and weather make up a —  
(i) sphere and mountain, (ii) year and a sphere, (iii) mountain and a squirrel, (iv) pretty squirrel track.
- The mountain can — (i) make squirrel track, (ii) crack nut, (iii) move from place to place, (iv) be very energetic.
- The squirrel claims that the mountain is —  
(i) as spry as him, (ii) not as big as him, (iii) not spry like him, (iv) equal in size with him.

**B. Answer the following questions :** 2×2=4

- Why does the squirrel not consider it a disgrace to occupy his place ?
- What examples of differing talents does the squirrel give in the poem ?

**Reading Comprehension (Unseen)**

**3. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :**

Heavy rain battered North Bengal, throwing life out of gear and triggering multiple landslides that left tourists stranded in the hills. Torrential showers in Darjeeling, Kalimpong and Jalpaiguri districts triggered landslides causing damages to roads and bridges while halting or disrupting traffic in many places, officials said.



The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) deployed four teams for relief and rescue operation across North Bengal as well as in Sikkim. While three of the rescue teams will work in North Bengal, the remaining one will stay put in Sikkim for relief work.

Around 11 p.m. a landslide occurred at NH-10, near Birik-Dara, that connects Siliguri with Sikkim and Kalimpong. The Algarah-Lava stretch in Kalimpong was also blocked for several hours due to a landslide. Kalimpong Police deployed personnel at all important points, handling out water and snacks to stranded tourists. Civil defence volunteers were also seen providing tea and eatables to visitors stuck on Lava-Algarah road.

Pounded by incessant rainfall for 36 hours several roads in North Bengal were blocked due to landslides, stranding locals and visitors, cutting off traffic. Siliguri bound passenger vehicles from Sikkim were advised to take Peshok road. Meanwhile the low pressure system over Bihar and its neighbourhood has now developed into a cyclonic circulation, the weather office said, adding that enhanced rainfall activity was likely to continue in North Bengal over the next few days.

— Adapted from an article published in *The Indian Express* dated October 21, 2021

**A. Tick the right answer :**

1×6=6

- (i) The three districts affected by torrential showers are Darjeeling, Kalimpong and —  
(a) Coochbehar, (b) Jalpaiguri, (c) Gangtok, (d) Alipurduar.
- (ii) Tourists were stranded in the hills due to —  
(a) bad rainfall, (b) heavy thunderstorm, (c) sudden storm, (d) multiple landslides.
- (iii) For rescue operation in North Bengal and Sikkim NDRF has deployed —  
(a) four teams, (b) three teams, (c) many teams, (d) two teams.
- (iv) NH-10 is the main road linking Siliguri with —  
(a) Jalpaiguri and Kalimpong, (b) Kalimpong and Sikkim, (c) Sikkim and Bhutan, (d) Sikkim and Bihar.
- (v) The Algarah-Lava stretch in Kalimpong was blocked for —  
(a) several hours, (b) two hours, (c) three hours, (d) one hour.
- (vi) At important points on Lava-Algarah road personnel providing relief were deployed by —  
(a) NDRF, (b) Sikkim govt, (c) Kalimpong police, (d) Algarah police.

**B. Each of the following statements is either 'True' or 'False'. Write 'T' for 'True' and 'F' for 'False' in the boxes on the right-hand side. Also pick out suitable line(s) or phrase(s) from the passage in support of your answers :**

(1+1)×3=6

- (i) Landslides have caused damages to roads and bridges in many places of North Bengal.   
Supporting sentence : \_\_\_\_\_
- (ii) Roads were blocked in North Bengal due to landslides caused by 48 hours of incessant rain.   
Supporting sentence : \_\_\_\_\_
- (iii) Birik-Dara experienced the landslide in day time.   
Supporting sentence : \_\_\_\_\_

**C. Answer the following questions :**

2×4=8

- (i) What was the effect of torrential rain in three districts of North Bengal ?
- (ii) What does NDRF stand for? How did it respond to the disaster in North Bengal and Sikkim ?
- (iii) How did Kalimpong Police and Civil defence volunteers try to help stranded tourists ?
- (iv) Why does the weather office predict enhanced rainfall activity to continue for few more days ?

**Section – B**

**Grammar and Vocabulary**

**4. Write the correct alternative to fill in the blanks :**

1×3=3

When I entered the house something \_\_\_\_\_ (smelling / smells / smelt) awful. Someone \_\_\_\_\_ (had been cooking / has cooked / was cooking) and \_\_\_\_\_ (burn / burnt / has burnt) the meal.

**5. Do as directed :**

**A. Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles and prepositions :**

1×3=3

My neighbourhood is \_\_\_\_\_ very interesting place. My house is located \_\_\_\_\_ an area which has many stores and offices. The biggest store is only five minute's walk \_\_\_\_\_ my house.

**B. Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given in brackets :**

1×3=3

- (i) The poor man carried a heavy load. (Change the voice)
- (ii) "What has he done, Father ?" said Swami. (Change into indirect speech)
- (iii) The people were too stunned to speak in the beginning. (Rewrite the sentence using "so....that")



C. Choose the correct phrasal verbs from the list given below to replace the words underlined. Write the correct phrasal verbs in the boxes on the right-hand side changing the form where necessary. There is one extra phrasal verb in the list : 1×3=3

- (i) He continued as if nothing had happened.  
 (ii) She resembles her mother.  
 (iii) Have the factory workers withdrawn the strike ?  
 [take after, carry out, carry on, call off]


6. Given below are the meanings of four words which you will find in the passage in Question No. 3. Find out the words and write them in the appropriate boxes on the right-hand side : 2×4=8

- (i) save  
 (ii) continuous  
 (iii) used effectively  
 (iv) money or food given to those in need


### Section – C

### Writing

7. Suppose you are the student editor of your school magazine. Write a notice (within 100 words) inviting contributions from students for the next issue of the magazine. You may use the following points : 10  
 [Types of contribution (article, story, poem, drawings) – length of the writing and page to be used for submission – last date of submission and whom to submit.]

8. Write a story (within 100 words) using the following hints. Give a title to the story : 8+2=10  
 [The hare laughs at the slow-moving tortoise – tortoise invites the hare for a race – agrees – the hare runs very fast – the tortoise falls behind – confident hare takes a nap – tortoise continues in his own speed – reaches winning post before the hare – the hare loses.]

9. Write a letter (within 100 words) to your friend advising him or her to maintain Covid rules strictly. Mention wearing of mask, use of sanitizer, frequent handwash, maintaining physical distance as precautions against Covid. 10

## Madhyamik Examination - 2023

### Section – A

### Reading Comprehension (Seen)

1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

Some days after the funeral, a special train took Gandhiji's ashes to Allahabad. The compartment was decked with flowers. People on the train sang "bhajans". People did not weep anymore for they could feel Gandhiji's presence amid the flowers and the songs. At every station sorrowful crowds filled the platform. Amid song and prayer the train reached Allahabad. The ashes were immersed in the Ganges where a huge crowd had gathered at the bank. Afterwards we all went back to Delhi.

Back in Delhi, I felt at sea. I had not directly walked with Gandhiji, gone to prison at his call or made any sacrifice for my country. My sisters and I, and other young people like me, had been merely onlookers. But still I felt at sea. I felt I had grown up within a magic circle. With Babu's passing away, I felt the magic circle had vanished, leaving me unprotected.

With an effort I roused myself, I asked myself — had Babu lived and died for nothing? How could I so easily lose courage when he was no longer there? My values were not so weak. Millions of people would have been ordinary folk but for Babu. He brought them out of indifference and awakened them to one another's suffering. What if now Babu is gone? We were still there, young, strong and proud to bear his banner before us.

A. Write the correct alternative to complete the following sentences : 1×5=5

- (a) After the funeral Gandhiji's ashes were taken to — (i) Delhi, (ii) Allahabad, (iii) Kolkata, (iv) Patna.  
 (b) People who were on the train with the ashes did not weep but —  
 (i) offered prayer, (ii) sang songs, (iii) expressed sorrow, (iv) sang "bhajans".  
 (c) "Back in Delhi, I felt at sea" — In this sentence 'felt at sea' means —  
 (i) felt at a loss, (ii) visited the sea, (iii) felt very sad, (iv) felt very generous.  
 (d) Like many other young Indians, the narrator and her sister had been — (i) Gandhiji's companions in prison, (ii) co-workers of Gandhiji, (iii) mere observers of Gandhiji's work, (iv) making sacrifices for Gandhiji.  
 (e) After Gandhiji's death, the narrator wanted to —  
 (i) lose motivation, (ii) remain courageous, (iii) turn indifferent, (iv) weaken values.

**B. Complete the following sentences with information from the text :**

1×3=3

- (i) At the time of immersion of Gandhiji's ashes \_\_\_\_\_
- (ii) When Gandhiji passed away, the magic \_\_\_\_\_
- (iii) Even if Bapu was gone \_\_\_\_\_

**C. Fill in the chart with information from the text :**

2×2=4

Statement	Reason
(i) People stopped weeping for Gandhiji.	
(ii)	Gandhiji brought ordinary folk out of indifference.

**2. Read the poem and answer the questions that follow :**

I must go down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky,  
And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by;  
And the wheel's kick and the wind's song and the white sail's shaking,  
And a grey mist on the sea's face, and a grey dawn breaking.  
I must go down to the seas again, for the call of the running tide  
Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied;  
And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying,  
And the flung spray and the blown spume, and the sea-gull's crying.  
I must go down to the seas again, to the vagrant gypsy life,  
To the gull's way and the whale's way where the wind's like a whetted knife;  
And all I ask is a merry yarn from a laughing fellow-rover,  
And quiet sleep and a sweet dream when the long trick's over.

**A. Tick the right answer :**

1×4=4

- (a) The colour associated with the mist and dawn in the poem is — (i) white, (ii) blue, (iii) grey, (iv) black.
- (b) The call that the poet cannot deny, is the call of the —  
(i) white clouds, (ii) running tides, (iii) lonely sea, (iv) grey mist.
- (c) "The vagrant gypsy life" in the third stanza of the poem actually refers to the wandering life of a —  
(i) vagabond, (ii) warrior, (iii) gypsy, (iv) sailor.
- (d) The intensity of the poet's desire to go on a voyage is expressed by — (i) repeating the same phrase "I must go down...", (ii) describing the sea voyage in details, (iii) comparing the voyager's life with gypsies, (iv) referring to the running tide and flying clouds.

**B. Answer the following questions :**

2×2=4

- (i) Which word in the poem tells you that this is not going to be the first voyage of the poet ? Why does the poet ask for a star ?
- (ii) What does the poet ask for at the end of his journey ?

**Reading Comprehension (Unseen)****3. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :**

More than 3,500 hectares of mangrove plantation have been done in the Sunderbans by the forest department in order to protect the delta from soil erosion as well as storms and cyclones. Large swathes of mangroves had got damaged in the Sunderbans when cyclone Amphan struck. Other factors like cutting down forests to make way for pisciculture ponds and farming fields have also played a part in this.

According to a senior officer of the forest department, many tens of thousands of migrant labourers had returned to the mangrove delta during the Covid-induced lockdown. Many of them took to an alternate livelihood. Some started farming and fishing in local ponds on a small scale and to make way for these large swathes of mangroves had been cut down leaving the area exposed to the vagaries of storms as well as soil erosion. The department had roped in the help of joint forest management committees and local women to plant mangrove saplings. According to an estimate, by the end of 2022 around 17.5 lakh saplings will be planted.

Milan Mondal, the divisional forest officer of South 24-Parganas, said their efforts were paying off as the villagers themselves have realised the importance of the mangrove cover after the Sunderbans was lashed with back to back cyclones, including Amphan and Yaas. In areas like Lothian Island, G Plot and Frasergunj, mangrove saplings have been planted on as many as 230 acres. The forest department has also managed to generate employment for more than 12,500 villagers.

— Adapted from an article published in *The Telegraph* dated 25th July 2022



**A. Tick the right answer :**

1×6=6

- (i) An initiative for mangrove plantation has taken place in the Sunderbans by the — (a) irrigation department, (b) forest department, (c) agriculture department, (d) pisciculture department.
- (ii) Mangrove plantation initiative aimed at protecting Sunderbans from storms and — (a) human greed, (b) Amphan, (c) pisciculture ponds, (d) soil erosion.
- (iii) The area covered with mangrove under this initiative measures less than — (a) 4000 hectares, (b) 3000 hectares, (c) 2000 hectares, (d) 2500 hectares.
- (iv) The number of cyclones named in this passage is — (a) three, (b) one, (c) two, (d) many.
- (v) The collaborators helping forest department in this initiative are — (a) local farmers and local women, (b) forest management committees and local women, (c) local farmers and local fishermen, (d) all the villagers and forest management committees.
- (vi) An appropriate title for the passage would be — (a) An endeavour to protect mangroves, (b) A bid to protect mangroves in Sunderbans, (c) Planting mangroves to protect the Sunderbans, (d) Plantation of mangroves for protection of life.

**B. Each of the following statements is either 'True' or 'False'. Write 'T' for 'True' and 'F' for 'False' in the boxes on the right-hand side. Also pick out suitable line(s) or phrase(s) from the passage in support of your answers :**

(1+1)×3=6

- (i) Cyclone Amphan damaged large areas of mangroves in the Sunderbans.   
Supporting sentence : \_\_\_\_\_
- (ii) Cyclones are the only cause of the damage of the mangroves in the Sunderbans.   
Supporting sentence : \_\_\_\_\_
- (iii) Planting mangrove saplings has generated employment for many villagers.   
Supporting sentence : \_\_\_\_\_

**C. Answer the following questions :**

2×4=8

- (i) How many migrant labourers returned to the Sunderbans during Covid-induced lockdown and what alternative livelihood did they take in ?
- (ii) What were the impacts of migrant labourers' alternative livelihood on Sunderban's nature ?
- (iii) Name two areas of Sunderbans where mangrove saplings have been planted.
- (iv) Who is Milan Mondal ? What did he say about the effect of their effort on the villagers of the area ?

**Section - B**

**Grammar and Vocabulary**

**4. Write the correct alternatives to fill in the blanks :**

1×3=3

The Tortoise set out to collect all the wisdom in the world, and as he \_\_\_\_\_ (has been gathering / gathered / had gathered) each piece he put it into a large gourd. This took a long time, and when Tortoise thought he \_\_\_\_\_ (had collected / collected / collect) all there was, he \_\_\_\_\_ (decides / had decided / decided) to hide the gourd on top of a tree.

**5. Do as directed :**

**A. Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles and prepositions :**

1×3=3

Life had not been smooth sailing \_\_\_\_\_ Sudha. In 1981, \_\_\_\_\_ car she was travelling met with an accident and her right leg had to be amputated below the knee. She walked around \_\_\_\_\_ crutches.

**B. Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given in brackets :**

1×3=3

- (i) People on the train sang "Bhajans". (Change the voice)
- (ii) Samuel said, "Swaminathan, where is your homework ?" (Change into indirect speech)
- (iii) He put it in an envelope and sealed it. (Turn into a simple sentence)

**C. Choose the correct phrasal verbs from the list given below to replace the words underlined. Write the correct phrasal verbs in the boxes on the right-hand side changing the form where necessary. There is one extra phrasal verb in the list :**

1×3=3

- (i) Sahana visited you last night to invite you to her birthday party.
- (ii) Solving the puzzle was so difficult that I stopped trying.
- (iii) The man created a story to avoid punishment.

[call up, make up, call on, give up]





6. Given below are the meanings of four words which you will find in the passage in Question No. 3. Find out the words and write them in the appropriate boxes on the right-hand side : 2x4=8

- (i) loss
- (ii) unprotected
- (iii) a person who moves from one place to another
- (iv) work


**Section - C**

**Writing**

7. Write a short biography (in about 100 words) of Sukurmar Ray, the great Bengali writer and poet, on the basis of the points given below : 10

[*Birth* : 30 October, 1887 – *Parents* : Upendrakishore Ray Chowdhury and Bidhumukhi Devi – *Education* : Attended City College School – Graduated with double honours in Physics and Chemistry from Presidency College – trained in photography and printing technology from England – *Profession* : Writer, illustrator, photographer, publisher of 'Sandesh', the famous children's magazine – *Notable works* : Notable for writing "nonsense" rhymes in Bengali e.g. Abol Tabol, Pagla Dashu, HaJaBaRaLa etc – *Death* : September 10, 1923]

8. Write a letter (within 100 words) to the editor of an English daily expressing concern about the frequent accidents due to rash driving in your area : 10

9. Write a paragraph (within 100 words) about how you celebrate Independence Day in your school. You may use the following points : 10

[Time of attendance – participants – programmes – significance of celebrating the day.]

**ANSWER SHEET**

**MODEL QUESTION PAPER 1**

1.A. (a) (iv) loafed about less on Sundays, (b) (ii) arrogantly, (c) (iv) at 9:30 am, (d) (iii) with a shudder, (e) (iii) 9 am; 2.A. (a) (iii) spy, (b) (iii) mocks at the squirrel, (c) (iv) no doubt, (d) (ii) vary; 3.A. (i) (d) eight or nine, (ii) (a) wordsmith, (iii) (b) untidy working habits, (iv) (c) meticulous, (v) (b) Charles Dickens, (vi) (d) school life friends; 3.B. (i) F, (ii) T, (iii) F; 4. was asked, make, was finished; 5.A. an, in, to; 5.C. (i) went after, (ii) gone through, (iii) gave away; 6. (i) neat, (ii) attributes, (iii) forays, (iv) captivated.

**MODEL QUESTION PAPER 2**

1.A. (a) (iv) a boy on the mainland, (b) (iii) foolish, (c) (ii) summer season, (d) (iv) repair the kite, (e) (iv) peaceful and blue; 1.C. (i) F, (ii) T; 2.A. (a) (ii) stake, (b) (iv) his dream, (c) (ii) cut down, (d) (iii) a little bag; 3.A. (i) (b) jewels, (ii) (c) Napoleon, (iii) (b) hot, (iv) (a) India, (v) (a) proper initiative, (vi) (d) struggle; 3.B. (i) T, (ii) F, (iii) T; 4. helps, says, conducted; 5.A. at, a, a; 5.C. (i) came across, (ii) set up, (iii) took off; 6. (i) meddle, (ii) struggle, (iii) angel, (iv) destruction.

**MODEL QUESTION PAPER 3**

1.A. (a) (ii) evening, (b) (iii) an hour or two, (c) (ii) unintelligent, (d) (iv) grim fighter, (e) (iv) comfort; 2.A. (a) (iv) displeased, (b) (ii) shell, (c) (iv) hides within

his house, (d) (iv) private world of a snail; 3.A. (i) (b) high jump, (ii) (c) 21 years old, (iii) (a) 6026 points in total, (iv) (a) faster than Barman, (v) (a) first Indian who got gold medal, (vi) (c) bronze; 3.B. (i) F, (ii) T, (iii) F; 4. found, torturing, were laughing; 5.A. in, an, the; 5.C. (i) clean up, (ii) went over, (iii) given up; 6. (i) feat, (ii) enroute, (iii) collapse, (iv) emerged.

**MODEL QUESTION PAPER 4**

1.A. (a) (iii) very lonely, (b) (ii) with only two, (c) (ii) relations, (d) (ii) they enjoyed themselves, (e) (iv) six; 2.A. (a) (iii) lively, (b) (iv) 12 months, (c) (iii) ashamed, (d) (ii) nut; 3.A. (i) (c) second class compartment, (ii) (a) big, (iii) (c) quarrelsome, (iv) (b) with a saree, (v) (d) after the train had moved further, (vi) (a) an inquisitive crowd; 3.B. (i) T, (ii) F, (iii) T; 4. began, were, was registered; 5.A. the, at, an; 5.C. (i) stands for, (ii) laugh at, (iii) set in; 6. (i) commotion, (ii) howl, (iii) crowd, (iv) stopped.

**MODEL QUESTION PAPER 5**

1.A. (a) (iii) convince his father, (b) (iii) recalling of Samuel, (c) (ii) about Samuel, (d) (iii) feeling, (e) (i) yellow coat; 1.C. (i) T, (ii) F; 2.A. (a) (i) promise, (b) (ii) two, (c) (iii) a child, (d) (ii) old and torn; 3.A. (i) (b) Howrah Bridge, (ii) (d) fifty-seven acres, (iii) (a) eight feet, (iv) (a) could not provide security, (v) (c) stop unauthorized entry, (vi) (a) nearly hundred years; 3.B. (i) F, (ii) F, (iii) T;

**মধ্যশিক্ষা পরীক্ষা কর্তৃক সম্প্রতি প্রকাশিত নমুনা প্রশ্নপত্র**

**1.A.** (a) (i) tea, (b) (iii) guest, (c) (iii) delighted, (d) (iv) fish, (e) (iii) purrs; **C.** (i) T, (ii) F; **2.A.** (a) (ii) fall, (b) (iv) house, (c) (i) himself, (d) (i) satisfied; **3.A.** (i) (c) fast bowler, (ii) (b) Australia, (iii) (a) 2007, (iv) (b) Catherine Fitzpatrick; (v) (a) 2007, (vi) (b) Padmasree award; **B.** (i) F, (ii) T, (iii) F; **4.** took, were eating, is; **5.A.** at, a, a; **5.C.** (i) passed away, (ii) put out, (iii) cut down; **6.** (i) feat, (ii) squad, (iii) conferred, (iv) debut.

**Madhyamik Examination - 2017**

**1.A.** (a) (ii) summer, (b) (iv) shipwrecked mariners, (c) (i) elbow, (d) (iii) Philippa, (e) (ii) letter; **C.** (i) F, (ii) T; **2.A.** (a) (ii) the squirrel, (b) (iii) very big, (c) (iv) the mountain and the squirrel, (d) (i) carry forests on its back, **3.A.** (i) (b) badminton; (ii) (c) 21 years old, (iii) (a) Gopichand's Academy, (iv) (b) early in the morning, (v) (a) 29th August, (vi) (d) an interview; **B.** (i) F, (ii) T, (iii) T; **4.** has been coaching, was surprised, finished; **5.A.** in, by, a; **5.C.** (i) come round, (ii) turn down, (iii) put on; **6.** (i) charming, (ii) infrastructure, (iii) achievement, (iv) confident.

**Madhyamik Examination - 2018**

**1.A.** (a) (ii) painful, (b) (iii) not a commonplace affair, (c) (i) staff, (d) (iv) slow progress, (e) (iii) one's own body and energy; **2.A.** (a) (ii) cannot be denied, (b) (iv) seagull, (c) (i) a carefree life full of adventures, (d) (iv) knife; **B.** (i) T, (ii) F; **3.A.** (i) (c) increased, (ii) (b) the camera traps, (iii) (d) more than 87 tigers, (iv) (a) the Chief Wildlife Warden, (v) (a) 81, (vi) (b) 2012; **B.** (i) F, (ii) T, (iii) T; **4.** love, consider, grows; **5.A.** the, at, an; **5.C.** (i) set out, (ii) make out, (iii) gave up; **6.** (i) photographed, (ii) analysed, (iii) final, (iv) warden.

**Madhyamik Examination - 2019**

**1.A.** (a) (ii) headmaster, (b) (iv) worried, (c) (i) bad person, (d) (iv) puzzled, (e) (i) aggrieved he felt; **2.A.** (a) (iii) an old woman, (b) (iv) unsteady and poorly dressed, (c) (ii) they are chopped down, torn up but the humans remain indifferent, (d) (iv) the oak trees; **B.** (i) T, (ii) F; **3.A.** (i) (c) a child copies an elder smoking by holding a pencil between his / her tiny fingers, (ii) (b) more than seven million people, (iii) (a) immediately, (iv) (d) an educationist, (v) (b) smoking, (vi) (c) never tell his child not to smoke; **B.** (i) F, (ii) T, (iii) T; **4.** returned, had entered, was informed; **5.A.** a, into, from; **5.C.** (i) gave up, (ii) looking into, (iii) looking for; **6.** (i) emulate, (ii) escalate, (iii) dissuade, (iv) propagate.

**Madhyamik Examination - 2020**

**1.A.** (a) (iii) casually, (b) (i) fence, (c) (iv) noiselessly, (d) (ii) arches his back, (e) (iv) suburban backyard; **C.** (i) F, (ii) F; **2.A.** (a) (iii) fall, (b) (i) storm, (c) (ii) displeasure, (d) (i) alone; **3.A.** (i) (c) inadequate; (ii) (a) lack of water in the rivers, (iii) (b) dropped, (iv) (c) harmful fertilisers, (v) (c) impermanent, (vi) (d) plastic; **B.** (i) F, (ii) T, (iii) F; **4.** has been, visited, advised; **5.A.** the, in, a; **5.C.** (i) went after, (ii) gone through, (iii) gave away; **6.** (i) generous, (ii) alarming, (iii) contaminated, (iv) disposal.

**Madhyamik Examination - 2022**

**1.A.** (a) (iii) after one month, (b) (iv) Esther, (c) (ii) quarrelled with his brother, (d) (i) had already died, (e) (iv) Esther to her brother; **1.C.** (i) F, (ii) T; **2.A.** (a) (iv) Mountain, (b) (ii) year and a sphere, (c) (i) make squirrel track, (d) (iii) not sly like him; **3.A.** (i) (b) Jalpaiguri, (ii) (d) multiple landslides, (iii) (a) four teams, (iv) (b) Kalimpong and Sikkim, (v) (a) several hours, (vi) (c) Kalimpong police; **B.** (i) T, (ii) F, (iii) F; **4.** smelt, had been cooking, burnt; **5.A.** a, in, from; **5.C.** (i) carried on, (ii) takes after, (iii) called off; **6.** (i) rescue, (ii) incessant, (iii) deployed, (iv) relief.

**Madhyamik Examination - 2023**

**1.A.** (a) (ii) Allahabad, (b) (iv) sang "bhajans", (c) (i) felt at a loss, (d) (iii) mere observers of Gandhiji's work, (e) (ii) remain courageous; **2.A.** (a) (iii) grey, (b) (ii) running tides, (c) (iii) gypsy, (d) (i) repeating the same phrase "I must go down..."; **3.A.** (i) (b) forest department, (ii) (d) soil erosion, (iii) (a) 4000 hectares, (iv) (c) two, (v) (b) forest management committees and local women, (vi) (d) Plantation of mangroves for protection of life; **B.** (i) T, (ii) F, (iii) T; **4.** gathered, had collected, decided; **5.A.** for, the, on; **5.C.** (i) called on, (ii) gave up, (iii) made up; **6.** (i) damage, (ii) exposed, (iii) migrant, (iv) employment.



Madhyamik Examination 2024

SECTION-A

READING COMPREHENSION (SEEN)

1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

As he entered the school gate, an idea occurred to him. He would deliver the letter to the headmaster at the end of the day. There was a chance Samuel might do something during the course of the day to justify the letter.

Swami stood at the entrance to his class. Samuel was teaching arithmetic. He looked at Swami. Swami hoped Samuel would scold him severely.

"You are half an hour late", Samuel said.

"I have a headache, sir", Swami said.

"Then why did you come at all?"

This was an unexpected question from Samuel. Swami said, "My father said I shouldn't miss school, sir."

Samuel looked impressed. "Your father is quite right. We want more parents like him." "Oh, you poor man!" Swami thought, "You don't know what my father has done to you." "All right, go to your seat."

Swami sat down, feeling sad. He had never met anyone as good as Samuel.

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The teacher was inspecting the home lessons.

To Swami's thinking, this was the time when Samuel got most angry. But today Samuel appeared very gentle.

"Swaminathan, where is your homework?"

"I have not done my homework, sir", Swami said.

**A. Write the correct alternative in the given space to complete the following sentences:**

(a) Swami decided to deliver the letter to the headmaster.....

- (i) in the lunch break
- (ii) after the assembly
- (iii) at the end of the day
- (iv) as soon as possible

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Samuel got most angry while he.....

- (i) taught the class
- (ii) checked the homework
- (iii) corrected mistakes in the classwork
- (iv) checked the handwriting

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_

(c) When Swami stood at the entrance of his class, Samuel was teaching

- (i) Mathematics
- (ii) History



- (iii) English
- (iv) Geography

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_

- (d) Swami gave the excuse of headache for
- (i) being absent from class the previous day
  - (ii) his irregularity in attendance last week
  - (iii) protecting his father from Samuel's anger
  - (iv) arriving in school half an hour late that day

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_

- (e) "We want more parents like him." Here "him" refers to.....
- (i) The headmaster
  - (ii) Samuel
  - (iii) Swami's father
  - (iv) Samuel's father

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Complete the following sentences with information from the text :**

(i) An idea occurred to Swami when \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) Swami decided to deliver the letter to the headmaster at the end of the day because \_\_\_\_\_

(iii) Samuel was impressed with Swami's father for \_\_\_\_\_

**C. State whether the following statements are 'True' or 'False'. Write 'T' for 'True' and 'F' for 'False' in the boxes on the right-hand side. Also provide sentences/phrases from the passage in support of your answers:**

(i) Swami felt sympathy for Samuel when he appreciated Swami's father for sending Swami to school.

**Supporting sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) Samuel appeared very angry as he was inspecting the home lessons on the day Swami came late to his class.

**Supporting sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Read the poem and answer the questions that follow :**

Once I crept in an oakwood - I was            looking for a stag.  
 I met an old woman there - all knobbly stick and rag.  
 She said: 'I have your secret here    inside my little bag'.



Then she began to cackle and I began to quake.  
She opened up her little bag and I came twice awake.  
Surrounded by a staring tribe and me tied to a stake.

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They said: 'We are the oak-trees and your own true family.  
We are chopped down, we are torn up, you do not blink an eye.  
Unless you make a promise now -now you are going to die?'

'Whenever you see an oak-tree felled, swear now you will plant two.  
Unless you swear the black oak bark will wrinkle over you  
And root you among the oaks where you were born but never grew.'

This was my dream beneath the boughs, the dream that altered me.  
When I came out of the oakwood, back to human company,  
My walk was the walk of a human child, but my heart was a tree.

**A. Tick the correct alternative to complete the following sentences:**

- (a) The poet crept in  
(i) a garden (iii) an orchard  
(ii) a burrow (iv) an oakwood
- (b) The old woman appeared to be  
(i) unjust (iii) unmindful  
(ii) unsteady (iv) unfortunate
- (c) "You do not blink an eye" - the expression suggests that human beings are  
(i) indifferent. (ii) caring  
(iii) aggressive. (iv) alert
- (d) The poem explores the theme of  
(i) conservation of forest and wild animals  
(ii) dreams and realities in the life of modern human beings  
(iii) the integral relationship between human beings and nature  
(iv) insecurities and ailments of an old woman

**B. Answer the following questions:**

(i) How did the oak-trees threaten the poet if he failed to promise to plant two oak-trees in place of every felled oak-tree?

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(ii) How did the dream alter the poet?

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## READING COMPREHENSION (UNSEEN)

## 3. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

The neglected irrigation canal passing through the heart of the Champdani town has become a matter of great concern for the residents. It is posing a threat to the environment of the town. The heavily-silted irrigation canal with practically no flow of water except during monsoons, is full of weeds, dirt and filth. Stagnation of water at different pockets of the irrigation canal has become a favourable breeding ground for mosquitoes, flies and rodents.

Moreover during the high tide and monsoons, when the Hooghly river is in a spate, the lock gates of the DVC irrigation canal are opened to allow back flow of water. The heavily-silted irrigation canal, with no capacity to hold excess flow of water, overflows, inundating a large part of Champdani town.

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The drainage system fails to empty since the irrigation canal water finds its way into the residential areas through drains. The local civic body Chairman, Mr. Suresh Mishra, said, "The canal has been neglected for years. Intensive dredging must be conducted to restore the irrigation canal to its original depth. The dense layer of weeds, filth and dirt needs to be cleared off to stop stagnation of water. The DVC needs to pay attention towards the repairing and maintenance of the canal and lock gates so that they can withstand the massive water pressure during monsoons when the Hooghly river is in a spate."

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## A. Tick the right answer:

- (i) The passage is about
- (a) a neglected irrigation canal of DVC
  - (b) the town Champdani and its residents
  - (c) the drainage system of Champdani
  - (d) the impact of a neglected canal on Champdani
- (ii) Residents of the town are concerned that the canal is becoming
- (a) useless for transportation within the town
  - (b) a threat to the environment of the town
  - (c) dry throughout the year irrespective of seasons
  - (d) more useful for irrigation only during the monsoons
- (iii) The canal has become a favourable breeding ground for mosquitoes, flies and rodents because
- (a) there is no water in the canal
  - (b) the canal is full of dirt and filth
  - (c) the canal overflows during monsoons
  - (d) there is stagnant water in different pockets
- (iv) The canal was dug for the purpose of
- (a) drainage
  - (b) irrigation



- (c) drinking water
- (d) transportation
  
- (v) The siltation at the canal-bed caused
  - (a) increased capacity to hold water
  - (b) loss of capacity to hold water
  - (c) breeding of mosquitoes and flies
  - (d) back flow of water during monsoons
  
- (vi) An appropriate title for the passage would be
  - (a) A canal losing its flow due to filth and dirt
  - (b) Neglected irrigation canal posing health hazards
  - (c) Irrigation canal inundating towns in monsoon
  - (d) Stagnant water causing health hazards

**B. Each of the following statements is either 'True' or 'False', Write 'T' for 'True' and 'F' for 'False' in the boxes on the right-hand side. Also write suitable line(s) or phrase(s) from the passage in support of your answers:**

- (i) The lock gates of the DVC irrigation canal are opened during monsoons only.

**Supporting sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_

- (ii) The canal disrupts the drainage system in the residential areas during monsoons.

**Supporting sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_

- (iii) According to the Chairman of DVC the canal has been neglected for years.

**Supporting sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_

**C. Answer the following questions:**

- (i) What causes the inundation of a large part of Champdani town?

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_

- (ii) Who is Suresh Mishra ? Whose responsibility is it to maintain this irrigation canal?

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_

- (iii) What is needed to increase the depth of the canal and stop stagnation of water?

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- (iv) Why does DVC need to pay attention towards repairing and maintenance of the irrigation canal and the lock gates?

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_





SECTION-B

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY

4. Write the correct alternatives to fill in the blanks:

As the temperature \_\_\_\_\_ (had soared/soars/has been soaring) so high, it \_\_\_\_\_ (is advised/advised/advises) to take cool showers many times a day. People \_\_\_\_\_ (drink/drank/should drink) plenty of water.

5. Do as directed:

A. Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles and prepositions :

We must consider \_\_\_\_\_ unemployment problem with great seriousness and try to solve it \_\_\_\_\_ the earliest opportunity. This would be beneficial \_\_\_\_\_ our younger generation.

B. (i) I am too tired to walk. (Turn into a complex sentence)

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) The students are staging a play. (Change the voice)

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_

(iii) The mother said to the boy, "Do not waste time on mobile phone." (Turn into indirect speech)

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_

C. Choose the correct phrasal verbs from the list given below to replace the words underlined. Write the correct phrasal verbs in the boxes on the right-hand side changing the form where necessary. There is one extra phrasal verb in the list:

- (i) The robbers escaped with the ornaments.
- (ii) The old man died in his sleep.
- (iii) You must not hide anything from the police.

[pass away, keep away, hold back, make off]

6. Given below are the meanings of four words which you will find in the passage in Question No.

3. Find out the words and write them in the appropriate boxes on the right-hand side:

- (i) risk or hazard
- (ii) a sudden forceful flow
- (iii) flooding
- (iv) removal of sediment from the bottom of a river







SECTION-C

WRITING

7. Write a letter (within 100 words) to your friend who stays far away, describing your most favourite festival in West-Bengal:

8. Write a newspaper report (in about 100 words) about a train accident that took place in Balasore, Orissa, when Koromondal Express rammed into a goods train on 2nd June, 2023. You may use the following points to write your report:

Date : 2nd June; Time - 7.15 p.m.,

Place : Bahanaga near Balasore

Cause : Error in signal

Casualties : 285 death and 1000 injured. Relief work by locals and NDRF along with army.

Compensation: Announced by Government.

9. Your school is going to organise a sit-and-draw competition for students of Class VII-X. As the Secretary of the Student Council, write a notice (in about 100 words) informing students about this competition. Your notice must mention date and time of the competition, the last date to register students' name and the theme of the drawing.





**SECTION - A**  
**READING COMPREHENSION (SEEN)**

1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :



When the family sits down to tea, the cat puts in an appearance to get his share. He purrs noisily and rubs himself against the legs of the family members. If there is a guest at the table the cat is particularly civil to him, because the guest is likely to have the best of what is offered. Sometimes, instead of giving him something to eat, the guest stoops down and strokes the cat, and says, "Poor pussy !" The cat soon tires of that. He puts up his claw and quietly but firmly rakes the guest in the leg. "Ow !" says the guest, "The cat stuck his claws into me !". The delighted family remarks, "Isn't it sweet of him ? Isn't he intelligent ? He wants you to give him something to eat."

The guest dares not do what he would like to do - kick the cat out of the window. So, with tears of rage and pain in his eyes, he affects to be very much amused, and sorts out a bit of fish from his plate and hands it down. The cat gingerly receives it, with a look in his eyes that says, "Another time, my friend, you won't be so slow to understand." He purrs as he retires to a safe distance from the guest's boot before eating his food.



**A. Write the correct alternative in the given space to complete the following sentences :**

1×5=5

(a) The cat is particularly civil to the .....

(i) children

(ii) family members

(iii) strangers

(iv) guest of the family

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

(b) At tea-time the cat puts in an appearance to .....

(i) see if there is anyone new

(ii) disturb the family members

(iii) get his share of food

(iv) rake the legs of the guest





- (c) Sometimes, the guest stoops down and strokes the cat instead of .....
- (i) offering food
  - (ii) kicking it
  - (iii) ignoring it
  - (iv) having food

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

- (d) The purring cat rubs himself against the legs of the .....
- (i) guest of the family
  - (ii) members of the family
  - (iii) guest and family members
  - (iv) people outside the house

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

- (e) With tears of rage and pain in eyes, the guest affects to be very much .....
- (i) angry
  - (ii) amused
  - (iii) honoured
  - (iv) unhappy

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Complete the following sentences with information from the text : 1×3=3**



(i) The guest wishes to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(ii) Putting up his claw the cat \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(iii) The cat retires to a safe distance to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



C. State whether the following statements are 'True' or 'False'. Write 'T' for 'True' and 'F' for 'False' in the boxes on the right-hand side. Also provide sentences/phrases from the passage in support of your answers :



2x2=4

(i) The guest was amused when the cat raked him in the leg.

Supporting sentence : \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(ii) The family members were not ashamed of the behaviour of the cat.

Supporting sentence : \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Read the poem and answer the questions that follow :

I must go down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky,

And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by ;

And the wheel's kick and the wind's song and the white sail's shaking,

And a grey mist on the sea's face, and a grey dawn breaking.

I must go down to the seas again, for the call of the running tide

Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied;



And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying

And the flung spray and the blown spume, and the sea-gulls crying.

I must go down to the seas again, to the vagrant gypsy life

To the gull's way and the whale's way where the wind's like a whetted knife

And all I ask is a merry yarn from a laughing fellow rover,

And quiet sleep and a sweet dream when the long trick's over.



A. Tick the correct alternative to complete the following sentences :

1x4=4

(a) During his journey the poet's ship will be guided by

(i) the sail

(ii) the wind

(iii) the star

(iv) the whale



(b) "I must go down ...." – this line expresses the poet's

- (i) frustration about sea voyage
- (ii) determination to go on sea voyages
- (iii) anxiety about hardships of sea voyage
- (iv) depression for not being able to go on a voyage


(c) The living creatures mentioned in the poem are

- (i) gulls and whales
- (ii) mariners, gulls and whales
- (iii) fellow rovers and whales
- (iv) the poet and fellow rovers

(d) The poet desires his fellow rover to be in a

- (i) a gloomy mood
- (ii) pensive mood
- (iii) reckless mood
- (iv) joyous mood


**B. Answer the following questions :**



2x2=4

(i) Why does the poet compare the life of a mariner with the life of gypsies ?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(ii) What does the poet ask for at the end of a voyage ?



Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## READING COMPREHENSION (UNSEEN)

3. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

It was back in 1975 that India launched its Crocodile Conservation Project in Odisha's Bhitarkanika National Park, the former hunting grounds of kings from the Kanika princely state.

Today there are 1811 saltwater crocodiles in Bhitarkanika, a vast tract of forest and saltwater swamp, but back in 1975 the number of saltwater crocodiles was only 74. In 1975, barely three years after the passage of the Wild Life Protection Act, 1972, crocodiles were very much threatened and were on the verge of extinction in India due to indiscriminate killing for commercial purposes and severe loss of natural habitat. "The main objective of the crocodile conservation project was to protect the animal's natural habitat and revive the population through captive breeding" said Mr. Sudhakar Kar, Odisha's 'Crocodile Man'.

Kar, after his retirement as senior scientist, has been imparting technical expertise and methodology on the conservation of these saltwater monsters. He added, "the conservation of crocodiles is not a passing fact for me but a mission."

[Adapted from an article published in The Hindu dated 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024]



A. Tick the right answer :

(i) India launched its Crocodile Conservation Project in

- (a) 1978
- (b) 2024
- (c) 1975
- (d) 1974

1×6=6



(ii) Currently in Bhitarkanika National Park the number of crocodiles is

- (a) About three thousand
- (b) More than two thousand
- (c) About two thousand
- (d) Less than thousand

(iii) The number of crocodiles in India has increased due to

- (a) Forced breeding
- (b) Captive breeding
- (c) Natural breeding
- (d) Segregated breeding

(iv) The year 1972 is significant for wild life enthusiasts in India because this year

- (a) The Wild Life Protection Act was passed in India
- (b) The Crocodile Conservation Project was launched in India
- (c) Bhitarkanika was declared a national park by Indian government
- (d) The Crocodile Man of Odisha started working as a senior scientist

(v) "Conservation of these saltwater monsters" refers to conservation of

- (a) Monsters living in saltwater
- (b) Wild animals living in Bhitarkanika
- (c) Crocodiles living in saltwater
- (d) Animals living in saltwater

(vi) An appropriate title for the passage would be

- (a) An endeavour to protect crocodiles
- (b) Ways to conserve wild animals of India
- (c) 50<sup>th</sup> year of India's Crocodile Conservation
- (d) The visionary scientist - Mr. Sudhakar Kar

[Turn Over





B. Each of the following statements is either 'True' or 'False'. Write 'T' for 'True' and 'F' for 'False' in the boxes on the right-hand side. Also write suitable line(s) or phrase(s) from the passage in support of your answers :



(1+1)×3=6

(i) Since 1975 the number of crocodiles in India has decreased drastically.

Supporting sentence : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(ii) The Bhitarkanika National Park used to be the hunting grounds of kings from Kanika Princely states.

Supporting sentence : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(iii) After retirement Mr. Sudhakar Kar is no longer associated with crocodile conservation.

Supporting sentence : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

C. Answer the following questions :



2×4=8

(i) What were the main objectives of the crocodile conservation project ?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(ii) Why were the saltwater crocodiles on the verge of extinction in 1975 ?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_





- (iii) Who is referred to as Odisha's 'Crocodile Man' ? Which post did he retire from ?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

- (iv) How does Mr. Kar contribute to the crocodile conservation project even after his retirement ?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION - B

## GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY



4. Write the correct alternatives to fill in the blanks :

1×3=3

It \_\_\_\_\_ (was drizzling/had been drizzling/is drizzling) continually for hours together from morning. But in the afternoon, the wind \_\_\_\_\_ (grew up/grows up/growing up). Then \_\_\_\_\_ (comes/came/had come) the storm with heavy gust.

5. Do as directed :



- A. Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles and prepositions :



1×3=3

Last year we visited Haridwar \_\_\_\_\_ summer. We stayed in a hotel \_\_\_\_\_ the river. Though \_\_\_\_\_ hotel was a bit expensive it was very nice.



1x3=3

B. (i) We patched the kite up with a letter. (Change the voice)

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(ii) Father asked him, "Have you no school today ?" (Change into indirect speech)

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(iii) The people were very much stunned. They could not speak in the beginning. (Join the sentences into a simple sentence)



Ans : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

C. Choose the correct phrasal verbs from the list given below to replace the words underlined. Write the correct phrasal verbs in the boxes on the right-hand side changing the form where necessary. There is one extra phrasal verb in the list :



1x3=3

(i) The officer demanded his explanation for the work.

(ii) We must reduce our daily expenses.

(iii) I cannot remember his name.  
[call up, cut off, call for, cut down]

6. Given below are the meanings of four words which you will find in the passage in Question No. 3. Find out the words and write them in the appropriate boxes on the right-hand side :



2x4=8

(i) the natural home or environment of an animal



(ii) to bring something back to life

(iii) important assignment or vocation

(iv) target



SECTION - C

WRITING



7. Write a letter to the editor of an English daily complaining about the pollution caused by fire crackers. (in about 100 words)

10

Your letter should include the following points :



Air and sound pollution — health hazards — suffering of children and aged people.



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8. Write a paragraph (within 100 words) about the advantages of morning walk.

You may use the following points :



10

Introduction — easiest form of exercise — early start for the day's work — increase energy and prevent weight gain — improve memory — fresh air freshens mind — lower risk of heart disease — conclusion.



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Question

9. Write a newspaper report (in about 100 words) on a dacoity in your area. You may use the following points :

- Locality and place of occurrence — date and time — valuables looted — the
- number of dacoits — impact — steps taken.

10

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