

ENGLISH

Paper 1

(Three hours)

(Candidates are allowed additional 15 minutes for **only** reading the paper.
They must **NOT** start writing during this time.)

Attempt all four questions.

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].
(You are advised to spend not more than 50 minutes on Question 1, 40 minutes on
Question 2, 30 minutes on Question 3 and 1 hour on Question 4.)
(You should begin each answer on a fresh page.)

Question 1

Write a composition (in approximately 450-500 words) on any **one** of the following [30]
subjects:

(You are reminded that you will be rewarded for orderly and coherent presentation of material, use of appropriate style and general accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar.)

- (a) *The small things that we own are the most precious to us.* Give your views on the statement.
 - (b) Write about an incident in your life when you experienced the pain of defeat. It had seemed to you then that life would come to an end. What lessons did you learn from the experience and how did you move ahead after that incident?
 - (c) Describe the career you have decided to pursue and the factors that have influenced you to make that decision.
 - (d) *Capital punishment should be abolished.* Argue for or against the proposition.
 - (e) Luck.
 - (f) Write an original story beginning with the following words:
"The silence of the evening was broken when I heard my sister's shrill cry"
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This Paper consists of 6 printed pages.

Question 2

You have recently visited a tourist destination. Write a description of it for a travel magazine in about 300 words using the points given below: [20]

Name of the place – location – means of travelling to the destination – climate – best season to visit – picturesque landscape – lodging and food – recreational facilities – places of interest in the area – local language / dress – handicrafts / products – overall experience.

Question 3

Answer sections (a), (b) and (c).

- (a) In each of the following items, sentence A is complete, while sentence B is not. Complete sentence B, making it as similar as possible to sentence A. Write sentence B in each case. [10]

Example:

- (0) (A) I lost the book.
(B) The book.....

Answer: (0) The book was lost by me.

- (1) (A) Raju plays both cricket and football.
(B) Not only.....
- (2) (A) She was too full for another meal.
(B) She was so.....
- (3) (A) Ranjeet said, "Sheela, why don't you take the advice of your parents in this matter?"
(B) Ranjeet asked Sheela
- (4) (A) Rahul has not been to school for over two months.
(B) It has
- (5) (A) As soon as he entered the room, he slipped and fell.
(B) Hardly.....
- (6) (A) Candidates may not bring textbooks into the examination hall.
(B) Candidates are
- (7) (A) Although it was a sunny day, it was very cold.
(B) Despite.....

- (8) (A) The **book** I **had** read earlier was **better** than this **book**.
 (B) This **book** is.....
- (9) (A) They said that he **had** **broken** the chair.
 (B) They **accused**.....
- (10) (A) All the **girls** **have** **brought** their **books** with them.
 (B) Each of the **girls**.....

(b) Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (Do not write the sentence.)

[5]

- (1) We failed to **agree** _____ a common **plan of** action.
- (2) When I **explained** my **plan of** action to him, he **did not** **agree** _____ me.
- (3) The **Principal** **does not** **approve** _____ **indiscipline**.
- (4) I **need** his **approval** _____ I can start the work.
- (5) An **explanation** **about** the **evolution of** species is **given** _____ Chapter 2.
- (6) The **answers** to these **questions** are **given** _____ **page 44**.
- (7) **One** fine **day**, he set _____ on his **adventurous** trip.
- (8) As **soon as** he **entered** the **room**, he set _____ his heavy **bag**.
- (9) It has **been a long** time _____ I saw her.
- (10) I have **not** seen **Ravi** _____ ten years.

(c) Fill in the blanks in the **passage** given **below** with the **appropriate form** of the **verb** given in **brackets**. **Do not** write the **passage**, but write the **verbs** in the **correct order**.

[5]

We **decided** to travel **by** car and _____ (1)(leave) the house **early**.
 We _____ (2)(be) on the **road** for two **hours**, when **our** car _____ (3)(hit) a **stone** that _____ (4)(lie) in the **middle of** the **road**. The car _____ (5)(go) off the **road** but we _____ (6)(escape) with **minor** injuries. Had we _____ (7)(travel) **faster**, we _____ (8)(involve) in a **serious** **accident**. The **mishap** _____ (9)(delay) us but **did not** _____ (10)(damp) our **enthusiasm**.

Question 4

Read the passage given below and answer the questions (a), (b) and (c) that follow:

The Snow Goose

- (1) In the late spring of 1930, Philip Rhayader came to the abandoned lighthouse at the mouth of the river Aelder on the Essex coast. He was a painter of birds and of nature and had withdrawn from all human society. He was afflicted with a hunched back and a deformed, twisted hand.
- (2) Although physical deformity often breeds hatred of humanity in people, Rhayader did not hate any one. His heart was filled with pity and understanding. He had mastered his handicap, but he could not master the rebuffs he suffered because of his appearance. The thing that drove him into seclusion was his failure to find anybody who loved him as much as he loved nature and humanity. 5 10
- (3) One November afternoon, three years after Rhayader had come to the Great Marsh, a child approached his lighthouse studio. In her arms, she carried a burden. She was no more than twelve, slender, dirty, nervous and timid as a bird, but beneath the dirt, as beautiful as a fairy. She was desperately frightened of the ugly man she had come to see, but greater than her fear was the need of that which she carried. For locked in her child's heart was the knowledge picked up somewhere in the swamp-land, that this ogre who lived in the lighthouse had magic that could heal injured things. 15
- (4) She had never seen Rhayader before and was close to fleeing in panic at the dark apparition that appeared at the studio door, drawn by her footsteps – the black head and beard, the sinister hump and the crooked hand, bent at the wrist. She stood there staring, poised like a disturbed marsh bird for instant flight. But his voice was deep and kind when he spoke to her. 20
“What is it, child?”
- (5) She stood her ground, and then edged timidly forward. The thing she carried in her arms was a large white bird, and it was quite still. There were stains of blood on its whiteness and on her dress where she had held it to her. 25
- (6) The girl placed it in his arms. “I found it, sir. It is hurt. Is it still alive?”
“Yes. Yes, I think so. Come in, child, come in.” Rhayader went inside 30
bearing the bird, which he placed upon a table, where it moved feebly.

Curiosity overcame fear. The little girl followed and found herself in a room warmed by a coal fire, shining with many coloured pictures that covered the walls, and full of a strange but pleasant smell.

- (7) The bird fluttered. With his good right hand Rhayader spread one of its immense white pinions. The end was beautifully tipped with black. Rhayader looked and marvelled, and said, "Child, where did you find it?" 35
- (8) "In the marsh, sir, where fowlers had been. What – what is it, sir?"
"It is a snow goose from Canada. But how in heaven did it come here?"
- (9) The name seemed to mean nothing to the little girl. Her deep, violet eyes, shining out of the dirt on her thin face, were fixed with concern on the injured bird. 40
She said, "Can you heal it, sir?"
"Yes, yes," said Rhayader. "We will try. Come, you shall help me."
- (10) There were scissors and bandages and splints on a shelf, and he was marvellously deft, even with the crooked hand that managed to hold things. He said, "Ah, she has been shot, poor thing. Her leg is broken, and the wing tip, but not badly. We will bandage the wing closer to her body, so that she cannot move it until it has set, and then make a splint for the poor leg." 45
- (11) Her fears forgotten, the child watched, fascinated, as he worked, and fixed a fine splint to the shattered leg. "A bitter reception for a visiting princess," concluded Rhayader. "We will call her the Lost Princess. And in a few days, she will be feeling much better. See?" 50
- (12) He reached into his pocket and produced a handful of grains. The snow goose opened its round yellow eyes and nibbled at it. The child laughed with delight. 55

Paul Gallico – *The Snow Goose* (Adapted)

- (a) (i) Given below are four words and phrases. Find the words which have a similar meaning in the passage: [4]
- (1) cruel and frightening person
 - (2) seemingly evil and dangerous
 - (3) wings
 - (4) skilful

- (ii) For each of the words given below, write a sentence of at least ten words using the same word unchanged in form, but with a different meaning from that which it carries in the passage: [4]
- (1) master (*line 7*)
 - (2) flight (*line 23*)
 - (3) still (*line 26*)
 - (4) bitter (*line 51*)
- (b) Answer the following questions in your own words as briefly as possible:
- (i) Why did Rhayader live alone? [2]
 - (ii) What was the child's reaction on first seeing Rhayader? [3]
 - (iii) What was the child's burden? [2]
 - (iv) How did Rhayader manage to fascinate the child and make her happy? [3]
- (c) Describe how Rhayader attended to the bird (paragraphs 6 to 12) in not more than 100 words. Failure to keep within the word limit will be penalised. You will be required to:
- (i) List your ideas clearly in point form. [6]
 - (ii) In about 100 words, write your points in the form of a connected passage. [6]