

2006

ENGLISH (Compulsory)

Standard : H.S.C.

Total Marks : 200

Nature : Conventional

Duration : 3 Hours

- Note :**
- (i) Answers must be written in English.
 - (ii) All questions are compulsory.
 - (iii) Figures to the RIGHT indicate marks of the respective question.
 - (iv) Number of optional questions upto the prescribed number in the order in which they have been solved will only be assessed. Excess answers will not be assessed.
 - (v) Credit will be given to correct spelling, punctuation, good handwriting and neatness.
 - (vi) Irrelevant and rambling answers will be penalised SUITABLY.
 - (vii) Candidate should not write roll number, any name (including their own), signature, address or any indication of their identity anywhere inside the answer book otherwise he will be penalised.

Marks

1. Write an essay in about 300 words on *any one* of the following topics : 30
- (a) Privatization : A Boon or/a Bane ?
 - (b) My first day in college.
 - (c) IPL Cricket matches : mere entertainment or serious cricket ?
 - (d) Examinations are not a true test of one's intellectual abilities.
 - (e) The profession I like the most.
2. (a) (i) Write a letter to your friend inviting him to spend summer vacation with you. State your plans for spending the vacation together/in about 100 words. 10

Addresser's Name : Prakash. Addressee : Umesh.

OR

- (ii) Write a letter to your father informing him about your progress in your study in about 100 words. 10

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|--|-------|--|-----------|
| (b) | (i) | Write an application to the Manager of a local bank for the post of Office Assistant. (100 words). | 10 |
| OR | | | |
| | (ii) | Write a letter to a local postmaster complaining about the non-delivery of a parcel of books that your friend has sent you from Delhi. (100 words). | 10 |
| OR | | | |
| | (iii) | Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper regarding the nuisance of stray dogs. Suggest a solution. (100 words). | 10 |
| Addresser's Name : Rajesh | | | |
| Title of Newspaper : "The Times of India". | | | |
| 3. | (a) | (i) Write a report on how the police arrested a gang of dacoits hiding themselves in a multi-storied building in a crowded part of a city. (150 words). | 10 |
| OR | | | |
| | (ii) | Your college is celebrating its Diamond Jubilee. Chief Minister of Maharashtra was invited to inaugurate the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. Write a report of the function of inauguration in about 150 words. | 10 |
| | (b) | (i) You are the student-in-charge of cultural activities of your college. Write an appeal in about 100 words to the students of your college to participate in a trip that your college is organizing to historical places in the country. | 10 |
| OR | | | |
| | (ii) | Write a Press Release in about 100 words for the media (Radio, T.V., Press) to inform the citizens of your town about the Science Exhibition that your college is organizing and also to request them to visit the exhibition. | 10 |
| 4. | (a) | (i) You are working as a correspondent with a leading English daily. You are asked by your newspaper's editor to interview Mahendra Singh Dhoni, the celebrated Cricketer of India. Write out a dialogue between you and Mr. Dhoni in about 100 words. | 10 |
| OR | | | |
| | (ii) | You are invited as the chief guest in a programme for discussing the necessity of intercaste marriages. Write out your speech in about 100 words that you will deliver as the chief guest of the programme. | 10 |

Marks

- (b) (i) You are appearing for an interview for the post of Public Relations Officer (PRO) for a company. Write down in about 100 words a conversation that would take place between you and the interview committee consisting of five members. 10

Candidate's Name : Ramesh.

OR

- (ii) You are the manager of an automobile factory. A foreign delegation is to visit your factory to know about production, sales, and human resource management of your factory. Write out in about 100 words what you would tell the delegation in relation to your factory as its manager. 10
- (c) (i) A group of five members is asked to discuss all the possible sides of the topic : "Urbanization leads to progress". Write out in about 100 words what discussion would take place among the members of the group. 10

OR

- (ii) Four persons from four different countries are participating in a teleconference on the subject of "Global Warming". Write out in about 100 words what views they would express on the subject. 10
5. Make a precis of the following passage in your own words in about one-third (about 100 words) of its original length and suggest a suitable title : 20

(N.B. : Marks will be deducted if your precis is longer or shorter than the prescribed length.)

Indian philately has a colourful history. Remember India came out with its first stamp in 1852, that is only 12 years after the world's first stamp appeared. Stamp-collecting has developed to become the pastime of the thousands of young and old people today. There is no town where you don't come across a shop selling used stamps and philatelist's accessories.

Bullock mail existed in India between 1846 and 1904. Bullock drawn carts carried mail along the Grant Trunk Road between Allahabad and Delhi. The Calcutta Post Office had a separate counter for bullock mail. By 1875, as many as 41 Government Bullock Trains offices were operating in North India. The last line, which was closed in 1904, was between Ambala and Simla.

The first official airmail in the world was between Allahabad and Naini. On February 18, 1911 L. Pecquet flew a biplane carrying mail in connection with the United Provinces Exhibition. The golden jubilee of the event was commemorated in 1961 by India issuing three stamps. Interestingly, the first official airmails in Britain, Denmark, Italy and the USA were also begun in 1911. In 1910, mail was flown unofficially in Britain as souvenirs of the Blackpool Aviation Meeting.

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The Indian State of Bhor issued the world's first oval stamp in 1879.

Before the introduction of postage stamp, handstruck stamps were used on letters for prepayment of postage. They were used in Bengal, Bombay and Madras Presidencies. The early Indian handstruck stamps are found in all shapes and sizes- the shape of an egg of a canary, a duck's egg, etc.

The first Indian postage stamp was a special issue for the district of Scinde (the modern province of Sind now in Pakistan) issued on July 1, 1852. It is known as Scinde District Dawk Stamp. In 1929, Air Mail series stamps were issued, and on February 9, 1931 the 'Inauguration of New Delhi' stamps came out. They carried the pictures of Purana Qila, War Memorial Arch, Council House, Viceroy's House, and Government Secretariat. (334 Words).

6. (a) Read the following passage and answer in your own words, the questions below : 20

The men who were governing Athens summoned Socrates to appear before them and *to stand his trial*. His friends and pupils begged him to escape or to hide until *the storm had blown over*. But Socrates was no coward. He knew that he had done nothing wrong and that he had only taught what he believed to be just, true and honourable, and so he went to the Court, an undersized, ugly old man, dusty and travelstained, but with a noble heart beating under the shabby garments which everyone knew so well.

He made a powerful, dignified speech, answering every question, explaining that, although the Athenians knew it not, he was really their friend. He told them that they would gain nothing by taking away the last few years of his life, but that he was willing to die many deaths for what he believed to be right.

The judges listened to him, questioned him, and condemned him to death. The old man made no complaint. He leaned on his staff, looking round the crowded Court. 'No evil can happen to a good man,' he said, 'either in life or after death, *so be of good cheer. The hour of my departure has arrived and we go our ways, I to die, and you to live.*'

Answer the following questions :

- (i) What did Socrates' friends and pupils advise him to do ?
- (ii) Why did Socrates not follow their advice ? Give two reasons.
- (iii) What did he teach ?
- (iv) Pick out the words that have been used to describe Socrates.
- (v) What was the verdict on Socrates ?

6. (b) Paraphrase the following prose passage in your own words expressing the ideas in the passage clearly and in simple and direct language (not more than 100 words) : 20

On the morning of August 6, 1945, Hiroshima was just settling to another day. The summer sun gave promise of a fair weather and the air-raid warning did not alarm the people unduly. It probably meant no more than just another inconvenient routine interruption of the day's work as raiding aircraft, whatever their target, flew over the city.

The atom bomb was set to explode not on contact but after dropping to the height of the Everest, that is, 29,000 feet. For just about forty-two seconds after the bomb-doors of the aircraft were opened nothing happened. The instrument fell thirty-two feet per second, gathering speed. In the final second of its descent it travelled something like a quarter of a mile. High above it, racing to escape, eyes guarded with dark glasses, were the aircrew who had dropped the deadly bomb. In Hiroshima, men, women and children went about their daily tasks as the all-clear had been sounded.

Suddenly the sun was blotted out. It was eclipsed not by shadow but by light, a light so blinding that the sun appeared pale before it. When the survivors regained consciousness, it was dark and murky as a thick mist of brick and stone, earth and vegetation and human tissue enveloped the town.

What was the extent of the damage ? One single bomb had killed and wounded as many as the mass raid of two hundred and seventy-nine huge aircraft striking at a city ten times as populous. The destruction was so vast and the sufferings that the bomb caused were so shocking that the very thought of the tragedy stuns the senses.

7. (a) Rewrite *any five* of the following sentences using the correct forms of the verbs given in the brackets : 5
- (i) Haven't you (finish) yet ?
 - (ii) The horse wasn't (hurt) but the rider was.
 - (iii) Shyam never (go) to hotels.
 - (iv) You (see) him, did you ?
 - (v) I am (live) in Mumbai now.
 - (vi) How old (is/are) you ?
 - (vii) I (has/have/had) a visa so I was allowed to cross the border.

(b) Do as directed (*any five*) :

(i) He felt that justice was done to him.

(Rewrite the sentence using negative prefix to the word "justice").

(ii) These are the days of National enterprises.

(Rewrite the sentence by using number prefix to the word "national").

(iii) You can be a member of that Organisation.

(Rewrite the sentence using a suffix to the word "member").

(iv) They can Employ you.

(Rewrite the sentence by making a noun of the word "employ").

(v) We are living in Independent India.

(Rewrite the sentence using prefix of time to the word "independent").

(vi) They said he was privileged.

(Rewrite the sentence by using prefix of degree and size to the word "privileged").

(vii) He is American by temperament.

(Rewrite the sentence using positive or negative prefix of attitude to the word "American").

(c) Transform *any five* of the following sentences as directed :

(i) He said, "When I saw them, they were playing tennis".

(Change into indirect speech)

(ii) I haven't got anything for you.

(Make it assertive sentence)

(iii) You are very young. You can't have a motorbike.

(Combine the sentences by using 'too' to frame a compound sentence)

(iv) The manager told his lady secretary that she had to type out the annual report before she went home.

(Change into direct speech)

(v) He sometimes comes here.

(Make it negative sentence)

(vi) They will join the procession.

(Transform into imperative form)

(vii) The Taj Mahal at Agra is a magnificent structure.

(Make it exclamatory sentence)

8. (a) Punctuate the following paragraph :

5

vandalism is wilful and deliberate destruction of public property objects of artistic value or natural beauty If you visit the red fort, qutub minar, fatehpur sikri, or even places of religious importance, you will find that the walls are often stained with betel-leaf juice, or ugly marks and remarks Some years ago, 'La Pieta', the famous statue in Rome made by michaelangelo was broken What causes this kind of behaviour Which kind of people have such an attitude

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- (b) Correct *any five* of the following sentences : 5
- (i) Rabindranath Tagore is one of the Internationally-acclaimed writer from India.
 - (ii) He is always drinking coffee.
 - (iii) Have you ever seen the Gir lions.
 - (iv) Everest is the highest mountain peak in the world.
 - (v) French is an European language.
 - (vi) He will not pay attention what you say.
 - (vii) He lives in Pune since 1950.
- (c) Give meanings of *any five* of the following phrases and use them in sentences of your own : 10
- (i) to look after _____ .
 - (ii) to be in the soup _____ .
 - (iii) to run into _____ .
 - (iv) to be taken aback _____ .
 - (v) to give up _____ .
 - (vi) to live from hand to mouth _____ .
 - (vii) to fall back on _____ .

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