2018

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ENGLISH Paper – 1

(Two hours)

Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.

*You will **not** be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.*

This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.

The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

*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 35 minutes in answering **Question 1** and 20 minutes in answering **Question 2**.*

Question 1.

(Do not spend more than 35 minutes on this question.) **[25]**

Write a composition (350-400 words) on any one of the following :

(a) *Write an original short story entitled 'The Gift'.*

(b) *"Money is important for happiness." Express your views either **for** or **against** this statement.*

(c) *Narrate an incident from your own experience when you helped to prepare a meal. Explain what you did and what you gained from the experience.*

(d) *You had been waiting outside the examination hall. Describe what you saw and the sounds you heard when you arrived at the place. What were your feelings ? Describe how the scene changed once you entered the hall and the examination started.*

(e) *Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.*



Answer 1.

(a)

THE GIFT

Aniket was in a fix. It was his parents' anniversary and he had forgotten to wish them. At work, he was contemplating about finding a gift for them to surprise them in the evening. However, it was easier said than done. His father had keen interest in books and arts while his mother was the quintessential Bengali housewife who only

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wanted utility stuff as gifts. He just couldn't buy something like a watch, book or jewellery, for the risk of being scolded for spending hard-earned money without consulting them first. Being in the fag end of the month, Aniket had to even look at his stretching expenditures before deciding to buy something. He spent the whole day thinking about gift options while pretending to look busy at work. He also searched online for ideas, for something financially viable, an attractive yet a utilitarian thing, something that brings smile to his parents' faces, but in vain.

Finally, at around 4 p.m. Aniket decided that it is best to get down to the market and look for a gift rather than thinking around in circles. He left office early, and about an hour later found himself roaming around the busy Karol Bagh market looking at the colourful stores and stalls all around. He walked around for nearly an hour, only to get confused at the end.

At last, swallowing his pride he dialled his father, "Hello Baba, is Ma around? Yes, well I forgot to wish you guys happy anniversary today and I felt bad that I did, so I was here at the market looking for a gift but as always I am totally confused as to what to buy. Can you help me out, please?" He heard a chuckle at the other end. "Where are you? At the market? Well, come home first, we'll decide on the gift later". With that, his father disconnected the line. "Well at least they are not angry," thought Aniket as he walked back home somewhat relieved.

As he rang the bell and walked in, he found his father at his desk, working on some project files while his mother was tinkering something in the kitchen. Aniket touched their feet and sought blessings from them and it hit him at that moment. The best gift he can give them is his love and respect which are much more valuable and priceless than any material gift. The blessings he received from them were by far the best gift which can be exchanged between parents and children.

(b) MONEY IS IMPORTANT FOR HAPPINESS.

Money has an important place in our day-to-day lives. We need money for anything we are required to do. From education to travel to household expenses, man needs money. And without money life becomes difficult or impossible.

(1) FOR THE MOTION

Money makes one powerful, wealthy, respected, stylish, and even arrogant enabling him/her to live a lavish and comfortable life without any trouble or botheration. Many people believe that if one has money then he can get anything he wants. All his needs and demands can be fulfilled with money. Perhaps they are right. In today's world your social status is measured by your bank balance, your posh house and swanky cars that you possess. Your status is measured by the number of clubs that you are a member of or how many parties you throw to your friends and admirers during the week or month. If you have ample money you will always be surrounded by many people who pose or feign to be your admirers and well-wishers. People who think that possessing things that they can buy with money, gives them happiness, for them money is definitely the one and only source of happiness in life. They consider themselves very lucky since they have got enough money to live a lavish life and spend that money in any manner they may deem fit. Thus for them it is the most important thing in their life to get happiness, well being and almost anything under the sun.

(2) AGAINST THE MOTION

Money is definitely a source of happiness to mankind. But the happiness that money gives is not permanent since money is not likely to stay with you forever. God

has his own way of balancing our lives. People think that money can buy anything they need and is a guarantee to good life. It is true to some extent but not entirely. Money does not guarantee peace of mind and tranquillity since superfluous money gives birth to greed, arrogance and lust to have more. This desire is endless and invariably causes mental tension and health problems like high blood pressure, heart ailment and many more complications. Money is thus said to be a 'necessary evil' in today's life. In general, people having more money, have a rather narrow mindset and they would not like to part with their money. It is difficult to generalise people's mindset.

We should be able to draw a distinct line between the good effects and bad effects of having money. Those who have more money should have a broader mind to help those who need money for living. A wealthy person can easily pay for the education of a meritorious student from a not too wealthy background. The concerned person would remain ever grateful to him for this act of kindness. The future of a bright student will be secured. A person with limited resources may be happier than a person with unlimited resources because the former has faith in himself and in God. He is happy with whatever God has given him and does not hanker after more.

Too much money for one and no money for another is a perennial problem. In fact, nobody is happy; the one with no money wants to earn some and the one with more money hopes to earn even more and enhance his treasure.

(c) MY EXPERIENCE WHEN I HELPED TO PREPARE A MEAL

Once when I was in school, my mother was taken ill. We were shocked and very disturbed since it was the first time that I saw my mother in bed late in the day, many hours after her usual rising time, early in the morning.

However, one morning the scene was different. My father was sitting by her side and my elder sister was preparing tea in the kitchen. Amongst the four siblings, I was closest to her. Even today we are very close though living far away from each other.

Didi was in the kitchen getting the meal ready for the day. Father had to go to office and elder brother was sent to school. I went to the kitchen and asked Didi if I could help her. She was very happy and her face beamed with joy. I sat by her and helped by peeling the potatoes first and then chopping other vegetables. The chopping was not as good as hers but she was happy. I washed the vegetables and kept them aside for the next step. Didi planned to make dal. I washed it and kept it ready for boiling. Lastly, rice had to be washed. I did that too and kept it in a bowl, in which afterwards I poured water, to soak the rice well, so that it takes less time to boil.

It was my first time in the kitchen, but I thoroughly enjoyed the work. I was happy that I could help Didi and also learnt to make dal. It was a good experience which helped me immensely later. While working with her, she kept asking me to be careful with the knife and the stove in order to avoid any accident.

(d) WAITING OUTSIDE THE EXAMINATION HALL

I was waiting outside the examination Hall of Harcourt Butler School, on the first day of our Higher Secondary examination. It was my first experience of sitting in an exam outside my school. There was a strange feeling. I was apprehensive but not nervous.

This was the first step in a student's life to enter a bigger life outside his school where he has spent many years preparing himself for this day. Today was English Paper I. It was my favourite subject.

There were so many other boys from my school as well as some other schools too. Different types of noises were coming from everywhere. Some were frantically

checking their notes for a final time before the first bell was to ring. Some were rehearsing lines mutely, but with their lips moving. Some of my classmates were also busy, the same way avoiding the eyes of their friends. Some parents had also come and were seen giving last minute tips to their children.

I stood in a corner, silently, not trying to remember or recollect anything in particular. I was so lost in my own thoughts that I missed the first bell, but suddenly found the other children hurrying towards the exam hall. When I began moving one of my classmates with whom I used to share a desk in class came by and both of us moved to the hall.

At the entrance, a teacher asked for the admit card which we showed and he asked another person to lead us to our designated seats. We were asked to keep any books, notes, mobiles and other things near the door and collect them on our way out. Only pens, pencils and erasers were allowed in the hall.

It was a big hall which could accommodate about 50 boys at a time. There were four rows of single desks in the hall. My seat was in the middle of the second row while my friend was seated in the fourth row.

As we were seated the invigilators started giving us the answer sheets and we were asked to put our name, roll number and subject on the top. This was done, exactly at 9 a.m., when the question papers were distributed to each. I sat composed and after a few seconds and then opened the paper and started reading it. I was happy. It was an easy paper and I went through it twice, choosing five best questions which I had prepared well. It was a great experience.

I did moderately well in the exams passing with a good second division and scored highest marks in English in my class.

(e) **THE GAME OF CRICKET**

The picture here depicts three village girls on a rough ground with one of them holding a cricket bat. The idea is perhaps to show the wide popularity of cricket in India, in the villages and towns apart from the metropolis.

Men have been performing well in cricket for many years now. Of late even the India Women's Cricket team is doing well in the domestic and the international circuit. In the last Women's World Cup, the Indian women team led by Mithali Raj narrowly missed the cup and ended second. Captain Mithali Raj was the top scorer while medium pacer Jhulan Goswami became the first ever woman cricketer in the world to bag 200 ODI wickets. Thereafter the team toured South Africa and played five ODIs and three T20 matches there, almost simultaneously with our Men's team. They returned home triumphant, winning both the ODI and T20 series. BCCI has recognised the talent of women cricketers and have brought the players under a central contract scheme like their male counterparts. Some outstanding cricketer amongst them are Mithali Raj, Harmanpreet Kaur, Jhulan Goswami, Rumeli Dhar, Ekta Bisht and Veda Krishnamurthy.

Women's cricket in India is slowly gaining prominence and popularity among the public. To popularise the game further, the BCCI must take more initiative. Publicity needs a big boost. There should be regular telecasts of women's cricket matches. These telecasts will boost the players' morale and consequently people will be drawn towards the game. With more viewers, advertisers will also show interest like they do for men's cricket now. Cricket academies for budding players should be setup throughout the country and scouting should be done to find future cricketers from

schools and colleges. If BCCI starts taking concrete steps in earnest, women's cricket in India will flourish in no time.

Question 2.

*(Do not spend more than **20 minutes** on this question.)*

*Select **any one** of the following :* **[10]**

(a) *Your uncle has offered to get you a pet for your birthday. Write a letter to him telling him what you would like, give reasons for your choice and tell him how you would take care of your pet.*

(b) *The traffic outside your school is very heavy and chaotic.*
Write a letter to the Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic) pointing out the danger of such heavy and chaotic traffic in a school zone. Suggest possible solutions for the problem.

Answer 2.

(a) Letter to an Uncle about a pet

A/13 Himgiri Apartments

Kalkaji, New Delhi

19th March, 2018

My dear Uncle,

I received your loving letter a few days back. I am sorry I could not reply to you earlier as I was busy with the sports event in school which ended yesterday. You will be glad to know that I have won three prizes in some events.

I must thank you for asking my opinion about my favourite pet, which you propose to gift me on my forthcoming birthday. I would love to have a small puppy, since dogs are said to be "a man's best friend." A small dog is a great company. I assure you that I shall fully care of it. Once I get it, the first thing I will do is to take him to a vet and have a thorough check up. I will clean and bathe him regularly and take him out to the park every evening.

He will be fed as per the vet's prescription. Regular checkups and preventive medicines and injections will be given to prevent any infection or disease. I shall give him training to behave with people and whenever guests come. This pet will live with us in our home just like another member of the family. Everyone at home is excited at the prospect of having a pet or are rather excited at the prospect of having another new member in the family.

With my regards to you and aunty

Your loving nephew

Aniket

(b) Letter to the police regarding traffic hazard

Aniket Sharma

St. Joseph School,

Ferozeshah Road, New Delhi

23rd May, 2018

The Deputy Commissioner of Police

Office of DCP Traffic Control, Central Zone

Police Headquarters, New Delhi

Subject : Regulation of traffic outside St. Joseph School, Ferozeshah Road

Respected Sir,

I am writing this letter to you on behalf of my school, St. Joseph. This letter intends to inform you about the chaotic situation of traffic just outside our school and some possible solutions for controlling the same.

First of all, I would like to bring to your kind attention, the traffic light at the three-way intersection on the main road in front of our school does not function properly. Out of the 30 days of a month, it is malfunctioning for most of the days. Secondly, the traffic pyramid situated there for the traffic policeman is seldom manned by anyone resulting in even more chaos on the road. All these factors together pose a serious threat towards the safety of school children. However, there are some feasible solutions to these problems.

- To start with, I would request you to kindly get the traffic light repaired or replaced immediately so that it can function smoothly.
- Deploy a traffic policeman at the pyramid, especially during morning time when the school children are arriving and in the afternoon when the school closes for the day so that he can regulate the traffic and ensure that the school buses are not hindered by the passing traffic.
- In case if it is possible, try and divert the afternoon traffic from the main road to the auxiliary road next to the school lane so that the buses are able to move without hindrance.

Thanking you

Yours truly,

Aniket Sharma

Question 3.

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

Granny knew I'd been in the train for two nights, and she had a huge breakfast ready for me.

Later she told me there'd been a letter from Uncle Ken.

"He says he's the manager in Firpo's hotel in Simla,' she said. 'The salary is very good. It's steady job and I hope he keeps it.'

There days later Uncle Ken was on the veranda steps with his bedding roll and ***battered*** suitcase.

'Have you given up the hotel job ?' asked Granny.

'No,' said Uncle Ken. 'They have closed down.'

'I hope it wasn't because of you.'

'No, Aunt Ellen. The bigger hotels in the hill stations are closing down.'

'Well, never mind. Come along and have your lunch.'

Over lunch, Uncle Ken talked very seriously about ways and means of earning a living.

'There is only one taxi in the whole of Dehra,' he ***mused***. 'Surely there is business for another ?'

'I'm sure there is,' said Granny. 'But where does it get you ? In the first place, you don't have a taxi. And in the second place, you can't drive.'

'I can soon learn. There's a driving school in town. And I can use Uncle's old car.'

'I don't think it will run now,' said Granny.

'Of course, it will. It just needs some oiling and greasing and a spot of paint.'

'All right, learn to drive.'

so, Uncle Ken joined the driving school.

After a month Uncle Ken announced that he could drive and that he was taking the car out for a trial run.

'You haven't got your license yet,' said Granny.

'Oh, I won't take it far,' said Uncle Ken. 'Just down the road and back again.'

He spent all morning cleaning up the car. Granny gave him money for a can of petrol.

After tea, Uncle Ken said, 'Come along, Ruskin, hop in and I will give you a ride. Bring Mohan along too.' Mohan and I needed no urging. We got into the car beside Uncle Ken.

'Now don't go too fast, Ken,' said Granny anxiously. 'You are not used to the car as yet.'

Uncle Ken nodded and smiled and gave two sharp toots on the horn. He was feeling pleased with himself.

Driving through the gate, he nearly ran over a cat.

Miss Kellner, coming out for her evening rickshaw ride, saw Uncle Ken at the wheel of the car and ran indoors again.

Uncle Ken drove straight and fast, tootling the horn without a break .

At the end of the road there was a roundabout.

'We'll turn here,' said Uncle Ken, 'and then drive back again.'

He turned the steering wheel, we began going round the roundabout, but the steering wheel wouldn't turn all the way, not as much as Uncle Ken would have liked it to...So, instead he went on–and straight through the Maharaja of Jetpur's garden wall.

It was a single-brick wall, and the car knocked it down and ***emerged*** on the other side without any damage to the car or any of its occupants. Uncle Ken brought it to a halt in the middle of the Maharaja's lawn.

Running across the grass came the Maharaja himself. When he saw that it was Uncle Ken at the wheel, the Maharaja beamed with pleasure.

'Delighted to see you, old chap !' he exclaimed. 'Jolly decent of you to drop in again. How about a game of tennis ?'

(a) *Give the meaning of the following words as used in the passage.*
One word answers or short phrases will be accepted.
(i) battered (line 7) (ii) mused (line 15) (iii) emerged (line 48) **[3]**

(b) *Answer the following questions briefly in your own words :*
(i) Why did Granny hope Uncle Ken would keep his job at Firpo's hotel ? **[2]**
(ii) When Uncle Ken arrived with his luggage, Granny remarked that she hoped the hotel had not closed down because of him. What does this remark tell you about Uncle Ken ? **[2]**
(iii) Why did Uncle Ken think, that driving a taxi in Dehra would be profitable ? **[2]**
(iv) Which sentence tells you that the narrator and his friend were waiting to be invited for a drive in a car ? **[2]**
(v) Why did Miss Kellner run indoors when she saw Uncle Ken at the wheel of the car ? **[2]**
(vi) What was Uncle Ken's intention at the roundabout ? **[2]**

(c) *(i) In not more than 60 words, describe what happened after the car went through the wall.* **[8]**
(ii) Give a title to your summary in 3(c)(i). Give a reason to justify you choice of the title. **[2]**

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Answer 3.

(a) **(i)** Battered- bashed/banged up/old and overused

(ii) Mused- thought/pondered

(iii) Emerged- got out/stepped out

(b) **(i)** Granny hoped that Uncle Ken would keep his new job, because the salary was good and he had changed quite a few jobs in the past.

(ii) It tells that he had a history of causing problems for his employers.

(iii) Because there was just one taxi in the town and so there would be possibility of business for another.

(iv) "Come along, Ruskin, hop in and I will give you a ride. Bring Mohan along too." They needed no urging.

(v) Miss Kellner run indoors when she saw Uncle Ken at the wheel of the car because she was aware of Uncle Ken's driving skill.

(vi) Uncle Ken wanted to turn around and head back home.

(c) **(i)** Once the car went through the wall it got out on the other side where Uncle Ken brought it to a halt in the middle of the Maharaja's lawn. The Maharaja himself came running across the lawn and looked very happy to see Uncle Ken and invited him to a game of tennis. (53 words)

(ii) 'An Eventful Drive'. This drive was certainly eventful for most of the participants involved: Mohan and Ruskin got to go on a drive; Uncle Ken understood that he still needed to work on his driving skills, and the Maharaja got to see his friend.

Question 4.

(a) ***Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage, but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space.***

Example :

(0)beginning

Alice was (0) _____(begin) to get very tired of (1) _____(sit) by her sister on the bank and of having nothing to do : once or twice she had (2) _____ (peep) into the book her sister was reading, but it (3) _____ (have) no pictures or conversations in it, "and what is the use of a book," (4) _____ (think) Alice, "without pictures or conversations ?"

Alice wondered whether the pleasure of (5) _____(make) a daisy-chain would be worth the trouble of getting up and picking the daisies, when suddenly a White Rabbit with pink eyes (6) _____(run) close by her. Alice did not think this was very remarkable, until the Rabbit actually (7) _____ (take) a watch out of its waistcoat-pocket, and (&) _____ (look) at it, and then hurried on. **[4]**

(b) ***Fill in each blank with an appropriate word :***

(i) The poet's mother was stung _____a scorpion.

(ii) "Please write _____what I tell you otherwise you will forget," the teacher said.

(iii) The dog was hiding _____ the bed, barking at the stranger.

(iv) Sheila's grandmother found it difficult to climb _____ the steep staircase.

(v) The soldier fought bravely _____his country.

(vi) There is no use crying _____ spilt milk.

(vii) I don't know what they were arguing _____ but I could hear angry voices.

(viii) The school playground is out _____bounds for the pupils of the primary school. **[4]**

(c) ***Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using and, but or so.***

(i) They have to go to bed early every night. They are allowed to stay up late on Saturdays.

(ii) The children were delighted. The exams had been cancelled.

(iii) We are not allowed to play in the sun. We are not allowed to play in the rain.

(iv) This is the place. The dog was rescued from its cruel owner. **[4]**

(d) ***Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence.*** **[8]**

(i) She laid the table after she had finished the cooking.
(Begin : When……)

(ii) He is old but still he works hard.
(Begin : Despite ……)

(iii) The delivery boy was requested to bring the parcel the next day.
(Rewrite using direct speech)

(iv) I prefer playing a game to watching television.
(Begin : I would rather ……)

(v) Every family has a black sheep.
(Begin : There is no ……)

(vi) I have never worn a more ill-fitting suit.
(End :……ever worn)

(vii) Anil is too fast a runner not to come first in the race.
(Begin : Anil is so……)

(viii) As soon as the sports meet ended, the children ran on the field.
(Begin : Hardly ……)

Answer 4.

(a) (i) sitting (1); peeped (2); had (3); thought (4); making (5); ran (6); took (7); looked (8)

(b) (i) by **(ii)** down **(iii)** under **(iv)** down
(v) for **(vi)** over **(vii)** about **(viii)** of

(c) (i) Although they had to go to bed early every night, they were allowed to stay up late on Saturdays.
(ii) The children were delighted since the exams had been cancelled.
(iii) We were not allowed to play either in the sun or in the rain.
(iv) This is the place where the dog was rescued from its cruel owner.

(d) (i) When the cooking was over, she laid the table.
(ii) Despite being old, he still works hard.
(iii) He said to the delivery boy, "Please bring the parcel tomorrow."
(iv) I would rather play a game than watch television.
(v) There is no family without a black sheep.
(vi) This is the most ill-fitting suit that I have ever worn.
(vii) Anil is so fast that he can never come second.
(viii) Hardly had the sports meet ended, when the children ran on the field.