

21001081

**ENGLISH
PAPER 1
(LANGUAGE)**

Maximum Marks: 80

Time Allotted: Three Hours

Reading Time: Additional Fifteen Minutes

Instructions to Candidates

1. You are allowed an **additional fifteen minutes** for **only** reading the question paper.
2. You must **NOT** start writing during reading time.
3. This question paper has **7 printed pages and one blank page**.
4. It has **four questions** in all.
5. Answer **all** questions.
6. You are advised to spend not more than **45 minutes** on **Question 1**, **55 minutes** on **Question 2**, **30 minutes** on **Question 3** and **50 minutes** on **Question 4**.
7. While answering **Multiple Choice Questions** in **Question 4**, you are required to **write only one option** as the answer.
8. You should begin each answer on a fresh page.
9. The intended marks for questions are given in brackets [].

SEAL

Instruction to Supervising Examiner

1. Kindly read **aloud** the Instructions given on page 1 to all the candidates present in the examination hall.

21001081

21001081

21001081

Question 1

[20]

Write a composition (in approximately 400 – 450 words) on **any one** of the following subjects.

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

- (i) You were cleaning your room and found a long-forgotten object. Describe the object, your reactions on discovering it and how it felt when you held it. What memories did it evoke in you?
- (ii) At your school farewell ceremony, you met a retired teacher from the junior school who had changed your life for the better. Narrate what had happened and the guidance given by the teacher at that time. How did it change you as a person?
- (iii) Hobbies are a waste of time in this fast-paced world. Argue either **FOR** or **AGAINST** the given statement.
- (iv) Time
- (v) Worry does not take away tomorrow's sorrow but empties today of its strength. Present your reflections on this statement.
- (vi) Write an original short story that **begins** with the following words:
A green flag waved in the distance and this meant.....

Question 2

- (i) On the occasion of World Reading Day, write a speech to be delivered at the morning assembly on the topic 'Effects of the Reading Habit on Students', using the following guidelines: [15]
Helps make good use of time – builds vocabulary – improves writing skills – enhances power of imagination – increases knowledge – contributes to character development
- (ii) As a member of the Student Council of your school, you wish to set up a Music Club to identify and promote talent among students. Write a proposal in not more than 150 words, outlining the steps you would take to set up the club successfully. [10]

Question 3

Answer subparts (i), (ii) and (iii).

- (i) Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given after each of them in brackets. [5]

- (a) One of my friends wrote this book.
(End: friends.)
- (b) Notwithstanding the bad weather, we continued playing.
(Begin: Although the)
- (c) No sooner had they completed their homework than they got ready to attend the party.
(Begin: As soon as)
- (d) If Ravi does not accept his fault, there can be no settlement.
(Begin: Unless)
- (e) The little boy said to his mother, "Can I go and play outside now?"
(Change into indirect speech)

- (ii) Replace the **INCORRECT** underlined words to make the following sentences meaningful and grammatically correct. Do not copy the sentences. [5]

- (a) While walking in the park, he came about Mr. Thomas.
- (b) Many birds migrate to other cities during winter but come in to their nests in spring.
- (c) Vijay realised that time was running up and he had to finish the project.
- (d) My friends encouraged me to run at the post of Class Representative.
- (e) Long boring speeches make me switch up.
- (f) Maya needs a print urgently. Can you show her how to switch in the printer?
- (g) I have been looking at the important documents but have not found them.
- (h) Deepa said that she could look out herself and did not need help.
- (i) We decided to pull off the old building to make a playground.
- (j) Danish is facing some difficulties but will pull across if we offer him some help.

- (iii) 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]

While I was _____ (1) (engage) in watching the beautiful scenery around, the driver _____ (2) (slow) the car down and brought it to a stop. "This is Tenzing's house, sir," he proudly _____ (3) (point) out. It was _____ (4) (perch) at a height, its lawn and flowerbeds sloping down towards the road. Wonderful surroundings to live in for a deserving hero of the mountains, I _____ (5) (muse) as I watched a man cutting grass in the garden. Our driver suddenly became all excited and in suppressed delight _____ (6) (whisper) to me,

"That _____ (7) (be) Mr. Tenzing Norgay, sir!"

The grass-cutter immediately turned to us, sharply _____ (8) (balance) himself on the slippery patch of grass. His expression seemed uncertain just for a fraction of a second and then his face cracked into a thousand bits, _____ (9) (reveal) a smile that only Tenzing could _____ (10) (give) with such universal warmth and sincerity.

Question 4

Read the passage given below and answer the questions (i), (ii) and (iii) that follow.

- (1) Once, I went to stay for the hunting season with some friends in a large country house in Picardy. My friends were fond of practical jokes. I do not care to know any other sort of people.
- (2) When I arrived, they gave me a princely reception, which at once aroused distrust in me. I thought I caught a mischievous smile between two of my friends. 5 They embraced me, as if they wanted to have great fun at my expense.
- (3) During dinner, the mirth was excessive. I observed, 'Here are people who take a double share of amusement, and apparently without reason. They must be looking out in their own minds for some bit of fun. Assuredly, I am to be the victim of the joke.' 10
- (4) For the entire evening, everyone laughed in an exaggerated fashion. I smelled a practical joke in the air, as a cat smells a mouse. I did not let a word or gesture escape me. I was watchful and restless. Everyone seemed to me an object of suspicion.
- (5) The clock struck and it was time to go to bed. The whole household came to accompany me to my room. I entered the room, shut the door, and remained standing, without moving a single step, holding the wax candle in my hand. 15
- (6) I heard laughter and whispering in the corridor. Without doubt, they were spying on me. I cast a glance around the walls, the furniture, the ceiling, the hangings, the floor. I heard people moving about outside my door. I had no doubt they were looking through the keyhole. 20

- (7) An idea occurred to me, 'My candle may suddenly go out and leave me in darkness.' So, I went across to the mantelpiece and lit all the wax candles that were on it. I inspected every article one after the other. I looked around me once again, without discovering anything. 25
- (8) I went over to the windows. The shutters were open and I closed them with great care. I placed a chair in front of the windows to prevent any entry from outside. Cautiously tiptoeing, I peeped behind the enormous curtains and found nothing.
- (9) I did not venture to get into the bed as it was particularly suspicious looking. Perhaps it would sink if I lay on it. So, I caught hold of the side of the mattress and drew it slowly toward me. It came away followed by the sheet and the rest of the bedding. I dragged all these objects into the very middle of the room far away from the bed, facing the entrance door. Then, I extinguished all the candles, slipped under the blanket and lay down on the mattress. 30
- (10) For at least another hour, I remained awake and then I fell asleep. I must have been in a deep sleep and did not realise that it was morning already. 35
- (11) All of a sudden, I was awakened by something heavy falling on me. At the same time, a burning liquid fell on my face and neck, and I howled in pain.
- (12) I felt myself suffocating under the weight that was crushing me. I stretched out my hand and felt a face. With all my strength, I launched out a punch which was reciprocated with a hail of punches. Jumping straight out of the soaked sheets, I rushed into the corridor. 40
- (13) The noise brought my friends hurrying into my room. Sprawled over my improvised bed, we found the dismayed housekeeper. While bringing my morning cup of coffee, he had tripped over the bed in the middle of the floor, and fallen on his stomach, spilling the hot liquid all over me. 45
- (14) The precautions I had taken in closing the shutters and going to sleep in the middle of the room had only brought about all the drama I had been striving to avoid.

(Adapted from An Uncomfortable Bed by Guy De Maupassant)

- (i) (a) Find a single word from the passage that will **exactly replace the underlined word or words** in the following sentences. [3]
- (1) I asked my friend if she would come along with me to the concert.
- (2) Rani gave just a brief look and understood what the problem was.
- (3) He did not like how the song turned out, so he changed it on the spot.

- (b) For each of the words given below, choose the correct sentence that uses the same word **unchanged in spelling, but with a different meaning** from that which it carries in the passage. [3]

(1) sort (line 3)

- (A) What sort of cuisine do you like?
- (B) The secretary needs to sort the letters according to their importance.
- (C) It takes all sorts of ingredients to make a delicious curry.
- (D) The mangoes were sorted according to their quality.

(2) rest (line 31)

- (A) They decided to take some rest before resuming their journey.
- (B) The teacher asked Diana to recite the rest of the poem.
- (C) I awoke feeling rested and refreshed.
- (D) She rests every afternoon post lunch.

(3) face (line 38)

- (A) Her face lit up when she heard the good news.
- (B) You should not take anything she says at face value.
- (C) He was so ashamed that he could not face her anymore.
- (D) This brand of facewash has a lovely fragrance.

(ii) Answer the following questions as briefly as possible in your own words.

- (a) What made the narrator immediately suspicious as he arrived at the country house? [2]
- (b) Explain what the narrator meant when he said: 'I smelled a practical joke in the air...' What does this statement reveal about his character? [2]
- (c) How did the turn of events become ironical at the end? [2]

(iii) Summarise the precautions taken by the narrator to avoid becoming the victim of a 'practical joke' (paragraphs 7 to 9). You are required to write the summary in the form of a connected passage in about 100 words. [8]

