

Question 1 Composition of about 300-350 words on any one of the following topics. [15]

- a) Due to unavoidable circumstances, you were without any electronic gadget or mobile phone for a week. Describe how you spent your time, what did you discover and reflect on the fact that ironically, it served a vital purpose of connecting with the people.
- b) Write an original story using the following cues:
a watch, a Cricket bat and a gold locket.
- c) Imagine a situation in which you get to live the life of a celebrity for one day. Write an account of your experience on this day.
- d) 'Women should only be housewives and not engage themselves in any profession': State your views for or against the topic.
- e) Study the picture given below. Write a story or 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.



Question 2

[10]

- a) Write a letter to your grandfather describing the 'Pandemic' scenario in your city and your role in helping the poor. Or
- b) Write a letter of complaint to the Commissioner of the Traffic Police in Mumbai as the slack traffic constables do not check the speeding motorists and these result in fatal accidents.

Question 3 Notice and Email

[10]

- a) Write a notice for the school notice board announcing an interschool Dance competition for classes VIII to X. Assign a theme to the said competition.
- b) Write an email to the principal of a neighbouring school requesting him/her to send two students of different classes, to participate in the competition.

Question 4

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: [10]

This year marks the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev. They say, there's a certain magic in the fertile soil and soft water of Amritsar that imparts a rich flavour to its food. When in the holy city, stay away from air-conditioned, fine-dining restaurants and be ready to feast on delicious treats at street stalls, legendary dhabas and tiny hole-in-the-wall joints tucked away in ancient narrow lanes. These no-frill eateries dish out high quality, fresh, edible food that's prepared in clean, hygienic conditions. Consider starting your tasting tour at the Sri Harmandir Sahib, better known as the Golden Temple. At the southeast end of the gurdwara complex is the Guru-Ka-Langar, an enormous dining room where an estimated 75,000 pilgrims come to eat every day. One of the biggest community kitchens in the world, the room is open round the clock, and epitomises the popular Sikh saying that no one in Amritsar ever goes to bed hungry. Before you head to the langar hall, do take a tour of the kitchen to see how they run the show. You're sure to be fascinated by the automated rotimaker that churns out 25,000 rotis an hour. However, it is only used on days when larger crowds are expected. On other days, volunteers make the rotis by hand. The comforting meal comprises soft, thin rotis, rajma, one wholesome sabzi, dal and cooked rice served on

squeaky clean steel thalis. What you certainly can't miss is the heavenly *karah prasad*. Later, a walk towards the Town Hall and the Partition Museum will show you the iconic Kesar Da Dhaba and Bharawan Da Dhaba that specialise in flaky lachcha paranthas and buttery Amritsari kulchas that are too hard to resist. Sitting on a straw dhurrie with thousands of other people in a line is a treasured experience in community eating. With no seating categories and no barriers of religion, caste, and social status, you could be sitting next to a celebrity, CEO, or a beggar. served with creamy maa ki daal (black gram dal) and channa masala. End your meal with sinfully-thick phirni that comes in a small clay pot. Tea lovers must surely make a stop at the iconic six-decades old Giani Tea Stall for a cup of piping hot tea with kachoris and delicious butter toast. Sit on one of the **vintage** stools and learn the interesting story of Giani Gurmit Singh whose father started a tea stall in Lahore with the same name before Partition. When picking up some **edible** souvenirs for friends and family back home, do not leave out the pickles, particularly 'the shikar da achaar and dehu ka achaar'. Eating your way through the wide range of 'mithai' and desserts in Amritsar can surely give you a sugar rush. Hence, settle for a chosen few. Nothing can beat the ever-popular 'jalebis and mini gulab jamuns' at Ramesh Sharma Sweet Shop. A delicious way to deal with the winter chill is relishing coarse 'gajar ka halwa' at Novelty Sweets. Alternatively, you can indulge in fresh, fluffy sweetened cream at Sukhram Fruit Cream and Juice Bar. The surprisingly light, hand-beaten cream is mixed with bananas and other seasonal fruits as well as nuts, and is quite gentle on your stomach. A great way to end your culinary adventures in Amritsar is to gorge on a plate of aam papad chaat at Ram Lubhaya & Sons. Seven varieties of aam papad cut into small pieces, sprinkled with a special masala with 12 spices and a dash of lime, the chaat is an explosion of flavours in your mouth!

Q1 Give the meaning of each word as used in the passage. One word answers or short phrases will be accepted; (2)

- a) vintage b) edible

Answer the following questions:

- a) What did the writer mean when he used the phrase, 'no frill eateries' ? (2)
 b) How does the Golden temple's 'community eating' offer a treasured experience to the writer? (2)
 c) In what way is Giani Gurmit Singh connected to India's history? (2)
 d) How can one effectively deal with the winter chill? (2)

Question 5

[15]

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. (4)

I was still not _____(1)_____ (worry) when the plane, a Lockheed Electra _____(2)_____ (do) not take off until 11:15 a.m. It _____(3)_____ (be) due to start at seven, but in Peru planes _____(4)_____ (be) rarely on time, so you _____(5)_____ (become) used to it. There _____(6)_____ (be) more than 80 passengers, but I _____(7)_____ (manage) to get a window seat, in a row on the right. Some of the passengers _____(8)_____ (sleep) when the plane flew over the Pacific and crossed the Andes.

b) Fill in the blanks with an appropriate word: (3)

- i) When he stayed at the hotel he ran _____ a huge bill.
 ii) After his examinations he disposed _____ his old textbooks.
 iii) How are you getting _____ in your new job?
 iv) Do you think she will ever get _____ her shyness.
 v) Can you make _____ what he is trying to say?
 vi) He ran the risk _____ being arrested.

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

- i) He is good at gymnastics. His handwriting must improve. (2)
 ii) He can go abroad. He must qualify the SAT.

d) Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. (6)

- i) Arif said to Mohsin, 'I will come early tomorrow as this issue must be settled now'. (Change the speech)
 ii) Both the participants are not adequately prepared for the competition. (Begin: Neither.....)
 iii) I replied to his letter immediately. (Use: reply)
 iv) Frost is one of the most celebrated poets of England. (Use: more)
 v) As soon as the snacks reached the table everyone started eating. (Begin: Hardly....)
 vi) Who has written this book? (Change the voice)