

You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes. This time is to be spent reading the question paper. The time given at the head of the paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

**Question 1**

Write an interesting composition of about 300-350 words on any one of the following topics: [20]

- a) Write an original short story beginning with the following statement:  
"The day I found the old, dusty map in the attic was the day my adventure began....."
- b) Narrate an interesting incident during your school trip, recalling the details of the risky venture with your friends.
- c) 'Eco-bricks offer a sustainable solution for plastic waste management.' Express your views either for or against the statement.
- d) Describe the funniest day at school you have ever had: Capture the hilarious moments, the quirky characters and the light hearted atmosphere that made it unforgettable with vivid descriptions of your experience.
- 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**

Select any ONE of the following:

[10]

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

- i) Write a letter to your grandfather describing your recent celebration of a festival with much fanfare, pomp and show as the whole family had descended to your house for the grand festivities.  
Or
- ii) In spite of government initiatives for a clean India, with programmes like the '*Swachh Bharat Abhiyan*', the lack of hygiene and cleanliness continues to pose a major health hazard. Write a letter to the editor of a popular newspaper, expressing concern towards this problem and offer suitable suggestions to tackle the same.



Q3 Notice & Email:

[10]

- a) Write a notice for the school notice board in capacity of the President of the Rotract Club of Greenlawns School, Worli to host an interschool Science and Technology Fair for standard IX and X.
- b) Write an email to the principal of a neighbouring school requesting him or her to send two Science teachers to judge the exhibition.

#### Question 4

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: [20]

Since Saturday and Sunday came so rarely to Swaminathan, it seemed absurd to waste time at home, gossiping with granny and mother or spend time doing sums. It was his father's definite orders that Swaminathan should not start loafing in the afternoon and that he should stay at home and do schoolwork, but this order was seldom obeyed.

Swaminathan sat impatiently in his 'study', trying to wrest the meaning out of a poem in his English Reader. His father stood before the mirror, winding a turban around his head. He had put on his silk coat. Now only his spectacles remained. Swaminathan watched his progress keenly.

Even the spectacles were on. All that now remained was the watch. Swaminathan felt glad. This was the last item, and after that father would leave for the court. Mother came in with a tumbler of water in one hand, and a plate of betel leaves and nuts in the other. Father drank the water and held out his hand. She gave him a little areca-nut and half a dozen neatly rolled, betel leaves. He put them all into his mouth, chewing them with great contentment. Swaminathan read at the top of his voice, the poem about the wooly sheep. His father fussed about a little for his tiny, silver snuffbox and the spotted kerchief, which was the most unwashed thing in that house. He hooked his umbrella on his arm. This was really the last signal for starting. Swaminathan heaved a sigh of relief. 'Bolt the door', came father's voice from the street gate.

Swaminathan heard the clicking of the bolts. He sat at the window, watched his father turn the corner and then, left his post.

"Where are you going?" Mother asked. "I have got to go." Swaminathan said with a serious face. Swaminathan ran down the Grove Street, turned to his

right, threaded his way through Abu Lane, stood before a low roofed, dingy house and gave a low whistle. He waited for a second and repeated it. The door chain clanked.

The door opened a little, and Mani's head appeared and said, "Fool! My aunt is here, don't come in. Go away and wait for me there." Swaminathan moved away and waited under a tree. Presently Mani sneaked out of his house. Rajan's father lived in Lawley Extension, (named after the mighty engineer, Sir Frederick Lawley, who was at one time the Superintendent Engineer for Malgudi Circle) which consisted of about fifty neat bungalows mostly occupied by government officials. The Trunk Road to Trichinopoly passed a few yards in front of these houses.

Swaminathan and Mani were nervously walking up the short drive, leading to Rajam's house. A policeman in uniform, cried to them to stop and came running towards them. Swaminathan felt like turning and fleeing, he appealed to Mani to speak to the policeman. The policeman asked what they were doing there. Mani said in a tone in which overdone carelessness was a trifle obvious: 'If Rajam is in the house, we are here to see him, he asked us to come.' The policeman at once, became astonishingly amiable, and took them along to Rajam's room.

To Mani and Swaminathan, the room looked large. There were chairs in it, beautiful, artistic chairs made of solid Mahogany wood and a good, big table with Rajan's books arranged neatly on it. What impressed them most was a time piece on the table. His father seemed to be an extraordinary man. Presently Rajam entered, he had known that his friends were waiting for him, but he liked to keep them waiting for a few minutes, because he had seen his father do it so many times, so he stood for a few minutes in the adjoining room, biting his nails, when he could keep away no longer, he burst in upon his friends.

(i) For each word given below, choose the correct meaning, as used in the passage from the options provided:

1. loafing

- a) spending time in an idle way or aimlessly
- b) rushing
- c) running
- d) rapid



2. contentment

- a) sorrow
- b) displeasure
- c) satisfaction
- d) misery

3. amiable

- a) having a friendly or pleasant manner
- b) hostile
- c) unkind
- d) unpleasant

iii) Answer the following questions in your own words:

- a) What were father's definite orders? (2)
- b) Whom did Swaminathan go to meet? How did he signal his friend? (2)
- c) Where did Rajan's father live? What information has been shared about the residence? (2)
- d) Describe Rajam's room (3)
- e) In not more than 50 words of your own, describe Swaminathan's observation about his father ,as he got ready for his departure to the court. (8)

Question 5

i) In the following passage fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets do not copy the passage, but right in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space;

[4]

ANSWER: (0) was waiting

A woman \_\_\_\_\_ (wait) at an airport one night, with several long hours before her flight. She (1)\_\_\_\_\_ (hunt) for a book at the airport shops, she (2)\_\_\_\_\_ (buy) a bag of cookies and found a place to sit. She (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (engross) in her book but happened to see that the man sitting beside her, bold as he could be, grabbed a cookie or two from the bag in between, which she tried to ignore to avoid a scene, so she (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (munch) the cookies and (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (watch) the clock, as the gutsy thief diminished her stock. She was getting more irritated as the minutes ticked by, thinking, ' If I wasn't so nice, I would blacken his eye',

with each cookie she took, he took one too. When only one was left, she (6)\_\_\_\_\_ (wonder) what he would do. With a smile on his face and a nervous laugh, he (7)\_\_\_\_\_ (take) the last cookie, broke it in half, he offered her a half as he ate the other half. She had never known, she could be so angry, she turned to gather her belongings as she reached for her baggage she gasped with surprise, there was a bag of cookies in front of her eyes. If mine are here, she moaned in despair, the others were his and he (8)\_\_\_\_\_ (try) to share!

ii) Filling the blanks with an appropriate word: [4]

- a) Daisy tucked a stray curl \_\_\_\_\_ her ear with a tender smile.
- b) A shiver ran \_\_\_\_\_ her spine as she descended into the dark, damp, echoing cellar.
- c) The sale will be held \_\_\_\_\_ the weekend.
- d) Martin knew that his father would never stand \_\_\_\_\_ him.
- e) The principal shouted angrily \_\_\_\_\_ the disobedient boy.
- f) The aroma of freshly baked bread wafted \_\_\_\_\_ the air.
- g) Laughter bubbled \_\_\_\_\_ from the group gathered around the campfire.
- h) A sailboat drifted aimlessly \_\_\_\_\_ the vast expanse of the ocean.

(iii) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using 'and' 'but' or 'so'. Choose the correct option and write the entire sentence. [4]

1. The library held whispers of forgotten lands. It was waiting to be discovered by curious minds.
  - a) The library, which held whispers of forgotten lands, was waiting to be discovered by curious minds.
  - b) The library held whispers of forgotten lands that were waiting to be discovered by curious minds.
  - c) Because the library was waiting to be discovered by curious minds it held whispers of forgotten lands.
  - d) The library was waiting to be discovered by curious minds who held whispers of forgotten minds.



2. Panda bears are herbivores. They relish bamboo shoots.
- a) Bamboo shoots are relished by Panda Bears.
  - b) As panda bears are herbivores, they relish bamboo shoots.
  - c) Although panda bears are herbivores, they relish bamboo shoots.
  - d) Panda bears are herbivores and they relish bamboo shoots.

3. The song has a catchy tune. People have appreciated it.
- a. People appreciate catchy songs.
  - b. The song has a catchy tune, but the people have appreciated it.
  - c. Despite the song having a catchy tune, people have appreciated it.
  - d. The song has a catchy tune that people have appreciated.

4. I warned him several times. Yet, he broke the school rules.
- a) Although I warned him several times, he broke the school rules.
  - b) Although I warned him several times, yet he broke the school rules.
  - c) Although I had warned him several times, still he broke the school rules.
  - d) Although I had warned him several times, he broke the traffic rules.

- iv) Rewrite the following sentences according to instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of the sentence. Choose the correct option. [8]

1. He is so old that he cannot remember the events of the past. (Begin: He is too.....)
- a) He is too old to remember the events of the past.
  - b) He is too old that he cannot remember the events in the past.
  - c) He is too old that he remembers events of the past.
  - d) He is too old for remembering the events of the past.

2. As soon as Adjoa reached the school, the bell rang. ( Begin: No sooner...)

- a) No sooner does Adjoa reach the school that the bell rang.
- b) No sooner did Adjoa reach the school than the bell rang.
- c) No sooner did Adjoa reached the school then the bell rang.
- d) No sooner did Adjoa reached the school when the bell rings.

3. "Will you help me carry the books?" the teacher said.(Begin with : The teacher...)

- a) The teacher asked me helping her books to be carried.
- b) The teacher told me to help her carry the books.
- c) The teacher asked me for carrying her books.
- d) The teacher asked me if I would help her carry the books.

4. Shehnaaz has gone to Manila to visit her aunt. Add a question tag.

- a) Shehnaz has gone to Manila to visit her aunt, isn't it?
- b) Shehnaz has gone to Manila to visit her aunt, didn't she?
- c) Shehnaz has gone to Manila to visit her aunt, hadn't she.
- d) Shehnaz has gone to Manila to visit her aunt, hasn't she?

5. Caesar's assassination was the most pivotal moment in the play. ( Begin: No other...)

- a) No other moment was pivotal as Caesar's assassination in the play.
- b) No other moment was as pivotal as Caesar's assassination.
- c) No other moment in the play was more pivotal as Caesar's assassination.
- d) No other moment in the play was as pivotal as Caesar's assassination.

6. I would not eat cheese cubes if I was not terribly hungry. (Begin with: Unless...)

- a) Unless I was not terribly hungry, I would not eat cheese cubes.
- b) Unless I was terribly hungry, I would not eat cheese cubes.
- c) Unless I was terribly hungry, I would eat cheese cubes.
- d) Unless I was not terribly hungry, I would eat cheese cubes.

7. My neighbour rarely goes to the theatre. (Begin: Seldom...)

- a) Seldom my neighbour goes to the theatre.
- b) Seldom times my neighbour visits the theatre.
- c) Seldom does my neighbour go to the theatre.
- d) Seldom was the theatre visited by my neighbour.



8. They are now printing, a new edition of that book. ( Begin: A new edition.....)
- a) A new addition of that book now is being printed.
  - b) A new addition of that book is now printed.
  - c) A new addition of that book is now being printed.
  - d) A new edition of that book has now been printed.
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