

1st Preliminary Examination

English

Time : 3 Hrs.

(Pages 8)

Marks : 80

SECTION A : (Prose) (Reading skills, Grammar and Vocabulary)

Q.1 (A) Read the following extract and answer the questions given below 9 it :

Two weeks later, I visited Mom, eager to show her a videotape of the home run. But when I walked into her room, I was shocked to see the physical condition of my dear mother. I knew that this would probably be the last visit I would ever have with her.

We were both watching the tape for the first time, so I didn't anticipate the commentator's story that would unfold. After I hit the home run, the announcer, Harry Kalas, explained that it had been six long weeks since my last hit. Mom and I held hands and listened to Kalas continue, "John Morris had really struggled the second half of this season, and this couldn't have happened to a nicer guy." I could feel the tears building up inside the two of us, as he as showed a slow motion replay of my dramatic home run. As the pitcher wound up, Kalas uttered the sweetest words my mom had ever heard. "John's mom has been quite ill for some time," and as the ball connected with the bat, he finished, "and this one was probably for his mom."

Mom and I broke down. She hugged me as tightly as she could and whispered into my ear, "I love you son, and I'm very proud of you. I'm going to miss you very much."

The season was ending the last weekend of September when I received a call that Mom was not expected to make it through the weekend. That Sunday afternoon, the last out of the season was recorded, and on Monday morning, she passed away with me at her beside. It was as if she knew the season was complete, and that it was all right to let go.

Questions :

1. When did the author visit his mother? (1)
2. Why was he eager to meet his mother? (1)
3. Why did the mother and son break down after hearing the final statement of Kalas? (1)

4. **Do as directed :** (2)
(i) Kalas uttered the sweetest words my mom had ever heard.
(Change the degree)
(ii) What a feeling! (Make it assertive)
5. (i) Give the noun forms of : (a) utter (b) connect (2)
(ii) Give the antonyms of : (a) continue (b) recorded
6. What does the last sentence indicate? (2)

(B) Read the following extract and answer the questions given below 9 it :

When I started my telecommunications company, I knew I was going to need sales people to help me expand the business. I put the word out that I was looking for qualified sales people and began the interviewing process. The salesperson I had in mind was experienced in the telemarketing communications industry, knew the local market, had experience with the various types of systems available, had professional demeanor and was a self-starter. I had very little time to train a person, so it was important that the salesperson I hired could "hit the ground running."

During the tiresome process of interviewing prospective salespeople, into my office walked a Cowboy. I knew he was a Cowboy by the way he was dressed. He had on corduroy pants and a corduroy jacket that didn't match the pants; a short-sleeved snap-button shirt; a tie that came about halfway down his chest with a knot bigger than my first; Cowboy boots; and a baseball cap. You can imagine what I was thinking : "Not what I had in mind for my new company." He sat down in front of my desk, took off his cap and said, "Mister, I 'd just shore appreciate a chance to be a success in the telephone biness." And that's just how he said it, too: biness.

I was trying to figure out a way to tell this fellow, without being too blunt, that he just wasn't what I had in mind at all. I asked him about his background. He said he had a degree in agriculture from Oklahoma State University and that he had been a ranch hand in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, for the past few years during the summers. He announced that was all over now, he was ready to be a success in "biness," and he would just "shore appreciate a chance."

Questions :

1. What was the interview for? (1)
2. What kind of salesperson did the author have in mind? (1)
3. What do you think the narrator was thinking when he saw the Cowboy? (1)
4. **Do as directed :** (2)
(i) He sat down in front of my desk. He took off his cap.
(Join by using participle)
(ii) He announced that all was over now. (Add a question tag)

5. (i) Give the antonyms of : (a) professional (b) qualified (2)
(ii) Give the verb forms of : (a) success (b) imagination
6. How did the author know that he was a Cowboy? (2)

Q.2 (A) Read the following extract and answer the questions given below 9 it :

It is a land of courteous people. Respect to elders is of paramount importance. Therefore rise when a senior enters a room and sit only after the elders sit.

Although they're a hospitable people, they can appear to be distant to a stranger. But once you get on familiar grounds, e.g. common friends from the same city, etc., you're likely to have a close friend on your hands.

When introduced to a person, shake hands and bow a bit. Immediately. Then, present your card with both hands and expect to be presented one too. O Young Lee in the etiquette series says, you should study the card a little before thrusting it into your pocket. It's polite.

Traditionally, Koreans tend to avoid direct eye contact - they prefer to fix their gaze somewhere on the bridge of your nose. Speaking of which, it's not a good idea to blow your nose loudly in public. When invited home, remember to leave your shoes at the front door.

Questions :

1. What does this passage inform you about? (1)
2. What is considered as good or bad manners among the Koreans? (1)
3. Why may some people consider Koreans to be unfriendly? (1)
4. **Do as directed :** (2)
 - (i) Although they're a hospitable people, they can appear to be distant to a stranger. **(Pick out the dependent clause & define)**
 - (ii) Remember to leave your shoes at the front door.
(Add question tag)
5. (i) Make adjectives from : (a) importance (b) courtesy (2)
(ii) Pick out 2 adverbs from the passage :
6. Give some other rules of etiquette from some other countries or even your own? (2)

(B) Read the following extract and answer the questions given below 9 it :

I jumped into the first coach of the train. My friends, Raman and Shyam, followed me into the compartment. I heaved a sigh of relief, when I saw they were safe. But the relief was short-lived. For, I was shocked to see Mr. Khanna, a Travelling Ticket Examiner, enter the coach from the other end.

"Where the hell is he coming from?" whispered Raman.

"Only he can answer that," replied shyam, looking at the fast receding platform.

"No use peeping out, Shyam! The train has picked up speed. Let's not try to jump," I said.

"He must have seen us boarding this coach," said Shyam.

"I'm sure, he did. But he was nowhere on the platform. Where has he appeared from?" asked Raman.

"We saved our fare this morning, Raman. But now we may have to shell out that too, as penalty," I said.

"What bad luck!" commented Raman.

In the meantime, the T.T.E. had started examining the passengers' tickets.

"Look! He is coming towards us. Let's make sad faces, and try to win his sympathy," I suggested.

Questions :

1. Who entered the coach from the other end? (1)
2. Why did the narrator heave a sigh of relief? (1)
3. What does Raman consider as bad luck? (1)
4. **Do as directed :** (2)
 - (i) He was nowhere on the platform. (Rewrite as interrogative sentence)
 - (ii) "What bad luck!" commented Raman. (Change to reported speech)
5. (i) Give the verb forms of : (2)
 - (a) relief
 - (b) sympathy(ii) Pick out the words from the passage which mean the following :
 - (a) move back from a previous position
 - (b) look quickly or cautiously (at something)
6. Have you ever travelled without ticket? If so, share your experience. (2)

Q.3 Do as directed :

4

1. she said my brother met with an accident on friday. (Punctuate) (1)
2. Ayurveda ascribes amazing curative powers to the tulsi. (1)
(Change the voice)
3. Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions : (2)

Galileo's telescope was the first that was ever turned to look the stars. Looking it, he saw a hundred times as many stars as he could see unaided eyes. the moon's surface, he saw high mountains and deep valleys.

SECTION B : (Poetry)

Q.4 (A) Read the following extract and answer the questions given below 5 it :

I have workout clothes and sweat bands
Even a 'get - fit' coffee cup!
But that scale hasn't budged an inch
So, I'm on the verge of giving up!

I've just about convinced myself
That it's true what some folks say....
You have heard it too.....Eat Right!
Get Fit? Die anyway!!

So for those who are devoted
To trying to make me over, PLEASE!
If God wanted me to touch my toes
He would have put them on my kness!

I believe He loves us as we are
That includes both big AND small
So when I reach the gates of Heaven
It will be with flab and all.

Questions :

1. What is the poet's belief about God? (1)
2. To whom has the poet addressed this poem? (1)
3. Do you think that joining a gym is essential for physical fitness? What (1)
is the other option?
4. Give the noun forms of : (i) devoted (ii) convinced (1)
5. Give an example of antithesis. (1)

(B) Read the following extract and answer the questions given below 5 it :

Life is a gift to be used every day,
Not to be smothered and hidden away;
It isn't a thing to be stored in the chest
Where you gather your keepsakes and treasure your best;

It isn't a joy to be sipped now and then
And promptly put back in a dark place again.
Life is a gift that the humblest may boast of
And one that the humblest may well make the most of,
Get out and live it each hour of the day,
Wear it and use it as much as you may;
Don't keep it in niches and corners and grooves,
You'll find that in service its beauty improves.

Questions :

1. The poet suggest to the readers to : (1)
 - a. take care of life.
 - b. use life sparingly.
 - c. use life thoroughly.
2. What according to the poet, shouldn't be done with life? Give any two (1) examples.
3. How can be a success in life? (1)
4. 'Grooves' in the poem means : (1)
 - a. fixed and dull ways.
 - b. a particular type of musical rhythm.
 - c. a long cut in the surface of something hard.
5. List any two rhyming words. (1)

SECTION C : (Rapid Reading)

Q.5 Read the following extract and answer the questions given below 5 it :

As Sherlock Holmes had expected, Mr. Henry Baker saw the advertisement and came to see him at 6.30 that evening. His appearance and manners confirmed all the guesses which Holmes had made about him, on the basis of his hat - middle age, large head, gizzled hair, lack of exercise, intelligence and learning combined with signs of poverty and drunkenness. When Holmes told him that his goose had been eaten, he was a little upset, but when Holmes offered him a newly bought goose as a substitute, he accepted it gladly. This showed that he was quite ignorant of what the crop of his own goose had contained. Holmes then gave him his hat and asked him, casually, where he had bought the goose which he had subsequently lost. The man replied that he had bought it at the Alpha Inn, near the Museum.

Questions :

1. What endorsed Sherlock Holmes' assumption Mr. Henry Baker? (1)

... 7 ...

2. What contrasting words are used to show Mr. Henry Baker's feelings? (1)
3. Why was Holmes' sure that Mr. Henry Baker was unaware of the value (1) of his lost goose?
4. Can you read a person's character or condition just by watching his (2) appearance, outfit or attitude?

SECTION D : (Writing Skill)

Q.6 (A) Write any one of the following : **5**

Write a letter to the Police Commissioner to complain about the increase of mobile thefts in your locality.

OR

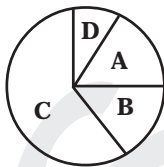
Write a letter to your friend who invited you to visit a Painting Exhibition held in the city.

(B) Write any one of the following : **5**

Prepare a factfile for a visit to Mahabaleshwar.

OR

A survey was conducted in Thane city. The topic was "TV advertising should it be controlled?" Study the pie chart and write a small paragraph on the results.



A = should be banned completely

B = should be on TV only after 8 p.m.

C = only certain product like alcohol, tobacco

D = no restrictions

Q.7. (A) Write any one of the following : **5**

Write a dialogue between father and son about joining a sports camp.

OR

Prepare a speech to be delivered on "Environment Day" being celebrated by your school.

... 8 ...

(B) Write any one of the following :

5

Write a report on 'A Marathon Race' held in your town.

OR

Write an interview of your teacher on the occasion of 'Teacher's Day'

Q.8 Expand the idea in 100 words on any one topic.

5

1. Charity begins at home.
2. Practice makes one perfect.
3. Sports and Academics go hand in hand.

Best of Luck 🍀

.... 68/Y