

General English

Paper-I

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 300

Note: 1. *All questions are compulsory.*

2. *The number of marks carried by each question is indicated at the end of the question.*

3. *Clearly mention the question number and part number before attempting.*

4. *The parts of the same question must be answered together and must not be interposed between answers to other questions.*

1. Write an Essay in about **300** words on any **one** of the following:

100

(a) The problem of rising prices.

(b) Film censorship in India.

(c) The changing face of Indian Society.

(d) Role of judiciary in a democracy.

2. Read the following passage and answer the following questions in your own words:

75

A person who takes the trouble to form his own opinions and beliefs, will feel that he owes no responsibility to the majority of his conclusions. If he is a genuine lover of truth, if he is inspired by a passion for seeing things as they are and an abhorrence of holding ideas which do not conform to facts, he will be wholly independent of the assent of those around him. When he proceeds to apply his beliefs in the practical conduct of his life, the position is different. There are then good reasons why his attitude should be less inflexible. The society in which he is placed is an ancient and composite growth. The people from whom he dissents have not come by their opinions, customs and by a process of mere haphazard.

These opinions and customs all had their origin in a certain real supposed fitness. They have certain depth of roots in the lives of a proportion of the existing generation. Their congruity with one another may have come to an end. That is only one side of the truth. The most zealous propagandism cannot penetrate to them. In common language, we speak of a generation as something possessed a kind of exact unity, with all its part and members homogenous. Yet, plainly it is not this. It is a whole but a whole in a state of

constant flux its factors and elements are eternally shifting. It is not one but many generations. Each of the seven ages of man is neighbour to all the rest. The column of the veterans is already sinking into the last abyss, whereas the column of the newest recruits is forming to each its tradition, its tendency and its possibilities. Only a proportion of each can have never enough to grasp the banner of new truth and endurance to bear it along rugged and untrodden ways. Thus we must remember the stuff of which life is made.

We must consider what an overwhelming preponderance of the most tenacious energies and most concentrated interests of a society must be absorbed between material cares and the solitude of the affections. It is obviously unreasonable to lose patience and quarrel with one's time because it is tardy in throwing off its institutions and beliefs and slow to achieve the transformation which is the problem in front of it. Men and women have to live. The task for most of us is arduous enough to make us well pleased with even such imperfect shelter as we find in daily use and wont. To insist on whole community being made at once to submit the reign of new practices and the ideas that have just begun to commend themselves to the most advanced speculative intelligence of the time, thus even if it were a possible process, would do hurry on social dissolution.

- (i) What is the hard task the author is referring to in the paragraph? 15
- (ii) What is the attitude of self-opinionated person in practical social life? 15
- (iii) How are the customs and traditions originated? 15
- (iv) What does the author mean by describing 'apply his beliefs in practical conduct of life' in the passage? 15
- (v) What is the author's attitude towards the problem discussed in the passage? 15

3. Make a précis of the following passage, in your own words, in about **180 to 200** words:

Marks will be deducted if the précis is not written on the separate précis sheet provided, and if it is longer or shorter than the prescribed limit. At the end of the précis, state the number of words it contains and securely fasten the précis sheet inside the answer book. 75

What is the use of a house if you haven't got a tolerable planet to put it on?" asked Henry David Thoreau. More than a century later, the Earth seems to be literally falling to pieces - recent environmental set-backs include billions of tonnes of ices shelves breaking off in the Antarctic and unusually warm temperatures in different parts of the world. Panic reactions range from predictions of sinking islands to lamenting the ill-effects of global warming induced by release of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. The trouble is that we are too much obsessed with the problem of climatic change to even acknowledge the fact that the state of the planet hinges on much more. Climatic

change is at best a symptom of a far more complex malaise, just as a fever is most often only an indicator of something that's gone awry in our body. It is time for a complete and comprehensive planetary health check, that will examine the impacts of change in land use, loss of biodiversity, use of fertilizers and pesticides and consistent pollution of water bodies. This would overcome the limitations of evaluating how ecosystems work by reacting to just one major environmental concern as is happening in the case of global warming.

The eco-panel will have source inputs from more than 2,000 natural and social scientists the world over. Put simply, the earth will go through the equivalent of a thorough physical analysis, so that biological, economic and social information can be collated to help scientists arrive at a final diagnosis. What is crucial, says one of the scientists, is that "no one has previously tried to work out how all of these conflicting pressures interact". The other important factor is how well we can orchestrate tread-offs and interactions in order to maintain ecological balance. Scientific bodies like the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) have access to vast amounts of baseline data relating to the subject - although critics point out that the information available is mostly from the North, leaving the concerns of the South largely unrepresented. The newly-constituted eco-panel will have to take all these aspects into account. For instance, it will have to ensure that data collection is more representative of the regions of the world. Today, we have the advantage of sourcing data from remote sensing satellites well. The information thus gathered would have to be sorted out and analyzed by specialists and also by generalists - before the panel comes out with specific periodic predictions, prescriptions and warnings. The healing process can begin only if all the scientific evidence and direction is made available to a wide audience and not just restricted to policy makers. Rather than depending solely upon governments to listen to and take corrective action, the focus should now be on convincing individuals and communities whose collective or individual action will eventually make the difference between regression and recovery.

4. (a) Correct the following sentences:

10

- (i) Each of us love our country.
- (ii) He objected at my remarks.
- (iii) I expect you to congratulate me over my grand-success.
- (iv) A number of items is missing.
- (v) This pen is superior than that.
- (vi) She is so cunning as her sister.
- (vii) Higher you go, the cooler it is.
- (viii) We find in him a mutual enemy.
- (ix) Could you please borrow me you car for a day?
- (x) He spends a lot for items of luxury.

(b) Use the following idioms/phrases in sentences of your own so as to bring out their meaning: 10

- (i) To turn tables on.
- (ii) In the long run.
- (iii) On account of.
- (iv) To build castles in the air.
- (v) Out of the blue.
- (vi) A feather in One's cap.
- (vii) To blow hot and cold.
- (viii) A white elephant.
- (ix) In spite of.
- (x) Turn down.

(c) Suggest One word substitute for the following: 10

- (i) A cure for all diseases.
- (ii) The study of mountains.
- (iii) One who looks at the darker side of things.
- (iv) A collection of poems.
- (v) The house or shelter of an Eskimo.
- (vi) One who draws maps.
- (vii) An expert at story telling.
- (viii) One who does not believe in the existence of God.
- (ix) Violating or profaning religious things.
- (x) One living at the same time as another.

5. (a) Use the following homonyms in your sentences so as to bring out the difference in meaning clearly without changing the form: 5×2=10

- (a) Altar – Alter
- (b) Device – Devise
- (c) Compliment – Complement
- (d) Canvas – Canvass
- (e) Sail – Sale

(b) Rewrite the following sentences as directed: 5×2=10

- (i) The man said, "Could you tell me where the post office is?".
(Change into the indirect speech)
- (ii) Our generation is modern.
(Use the superlative)
- (iii) I have a piece of sweet please.
(Use the modal auxiliary may or might)
- (iv) She knew me.
(Change into passive)
- (v) Mohan rides a bike.
(Add a suitable question tag).