

Class:- 11

Time:- 2 Hours

Name of the student :

Subject:- English

Total :- 40 Marks

Roll: Stream:

Reading Section (10 Marks)**1. Read the passage carefully and answer the following questions: (10)**

Reading Comprehension (RC, as it is normally called) is the most peculiar section in almost all scholastic, entrance and employment tests. The skills in RC make a lot of difference to one's chances of good grades/selection.

Most students find it difficult to tackle topics that are diverse from the field they are in or they are comfortable with. So one needs to develop a taste for even the most obscure and boring topic on this planet. For success in RC one should be able to understand. And even with an average speed one can succeed if one implements the strategies.

Broadly speaking, RC passages can be classified in a few categories. Fact based RC is the simplest form of RC. These types of passages have lot of information in the form of names, numbers etc. In this type of passages one should read very fast.

Don't try to memorize any facts, numbers or names etc. In fact there is no need to even remember them. Just make yourself familiar with the structure of the passage. Just see in which paragraph author is talking about what. Mark it. Then when you go to the questions, identify in which paragraph information regarding that question is mentioned. Go to that paragraph, read the numbers, names etc. and mark the answer.

Inference based RC is the toughest form of RC. Here the passage is fairly tough to understand. This includes passages on topics like Religion, Spirituality, Philosophy, etc. Most of the students will be comfortable attempting these passages at least in RC. The reading speed is fairly slow in this type of passages. The way to master this type of passages is to read them again and again while practising.

Topic based RC includes passages on any particular topic like economics, astrology, medical science, etc. Generally what makes -these passages tough is usage of technical terms. If a topic is new to us then presence of technical term scares us even if they are defined in the passage. For success in this type of passages we need to have a fan-understanding of the definition of the term if it is defined in the passage. Read that definition twice if you need to. But don't worry about technical terms if they are not defined in the passage. Assume them to be non-existent and proceed. Key principle in these passages is that don't go to the next line unless the previous line is clear.

Reading passage first and then questions is the most popular strategy for RC. While answering the question you may come back to the passage to find answer as you have just read the passage initially and not crammed it. But you should not come back for each and every question. If you come back for majority of questions, then you haven't read the passage properly. The key to success for this strategy is that you should understand the passage very well. We will suggest students to follow this technique from the beginning and work upon this.

Reading questions first and then passage is the strategy followed by a few students. They just look at the questions and not options. The objective is that after seeing the questions when you read the passage then you read only that part carefully where the answer is given. The flaw with this is that you will not be able to remember all the questions. Besides this, this strategy fails when there are questions that require understanding of the passage.

- A. Most students find reading comprehension difficult because ____** (1)
 (a) The language is tough (b) The vocabulary is too difficult
 (c) The style is too involved (d) The topics are unrelated to their interest
- B. Fact based RC is the easiest because ____** (1)
 (a) it is written in simple language (b) there are no allusions
 (c) it contains information (d) it can be memorised easily
- C. For answering a question on RC, one should ____** (1)
 (a) memorise the facts, figures, etc.
 (b) mark what the author is talking about in the para
 (c) mark the essential details of the passage
 (d) remember the names, numbers, etc.
- D. Topic based RC is tough as ____** (1)
 (a) it contains technical terms (b) it is based on different topics
 (c) it demands instant understanding (d) one can't read them fast enough
- E. Careful reading of the passage is essential for ____** (1)
 (a) answering difficult questions
 (b) saving time and effort
 (c) proper understanding and answering correctly
 (d) selective identification of relevant parts
- F. The reading speed is fairly slow in ____ type of passages.** (1)
 (a) Inference based RC (b) Topic based RC
 (c) Fact based RC (d) None of the above
- G. Which strategy is followed by a few students?** (1)
 (a) Not reading the questions (b) Reading questions first and then passage
 (c) Not reading the passage (d) All of the above
- H. Inference based passages include topics like ____** (1)
 (a) Religion (b) Spirituality (c) Philosophy (d) All of the above
- I. The word 'diverse' in para 2 means ____** (1)
 (a) similar (b) same (c) variety (d) different
- J. The word 'assume' in para 6 means ____** (1)
 (a) Accept as true (b) Problematic
 (c) Imaginative (d) None of the above

Writing Section (5 Marks)

2. "Online smart classes are the future of education style". Write a debate either For or Against the motion in about 150 words. Sign yourself as Ali/ Alia. (5)

Grammar Section (7 Marks)

3. Supply the appropriate determiner to complete the following passage: (1X4=4)
 I have met (i)_____ people in my life but the person who has influenced me (ii)_____ most is Mother Teresa. To me she has been (iii)_____ symbol of true love and compassion. Only (iv)_____ people can do what she has done.

4. Rearrange the following jumbled words and make meaningful sentences. (1X3=3)

- a. soldier/rather/the/surrender/would/than/die
- b. everything/will/sense/make/perfect/someday
- c. continues/passage/of time/unabated/the

Literature Section (18 Marks)

5. Read the extract and answer the following questions: (1X3=3)

Till the goldfinch comes, with a twitching chirrup
A suddenness, a startlement, at a branch end
Then sleek as a lizard, and alert, and abrupt
She enters the thickness, and a machine starts up
Of chitterings, and a tremor of wings, and trillings

- i. What is goldfinch?
 - a. Kind of dog
 - b. kind of lizard
 - c. kind of bird
 - d. kind of insect
- ii. What does the poet mean by 'twitching chirrup'?
 - a. loud noise made by the bird
 - b. sudden noise made by the bird
 - c. slow noise made by the bird
 - d. all of these
- iii. Who creates the noise on the laburnum tree?
 - a. goldfinch
 - b. lizard
 - c. machine
 - d. none of these

6. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words: (2X5=10)

- (i) Why was it hard for the author to believe that his grandmother was once young and pretty?
- (ii) Mention the thoughtless order given by the king in 'The Tale of Melon City'. What was the result of his order?
- (iii) What traits of the Garoghlanian family are highlighted in the story, 'The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse'?
- (iv) What was the happiest moment of the day for the grandmother? Why?
- (v) "I couldn't believe what I saw," says the narrator. What was so unbelievable? Why?

7. Answer the following questions in 120-150 words: (5X1=5)

'Religion was the dominant feature of her life.' Comment on this statement in regard to Khushwant Singh's grandmother as projected in "The Portrait of a Lady"?

OR

Discuss 'The Tale of Melon City' as a humorous as well as an ironic verse with the help of examples from the text.