

General Instructions :

1. The Question paper is divided into three sections :

| | | | |
|-----------|---|---------------------|---------|
| Section A | : | Reading | 5 marks |
| Section B | : | Writing and Grammar | 7 marks |
| Section C | : | Literature | 8 marks |
2. All questions are compulsory.
3. You may attempt any section at a time.
4. All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.

SECTION - A (READING)

1. Read the following poem carefully:

Freedom from fear is the freedom
I claim for you, my motherland !
Freedom from the burden of ages, bending your head,
breaking your back, blinding your eyes to the beckoning
call of the future;
Freedom from the shackles of slumber wherewith
You fasten yourself in night's stillness,
mistrusting the star that speaks of truth's adventurous path;
Freedom from the anarchy of a destiny
whose sails are weakly yielded to the blind uncertain winds,
And the helm to a hand over rigid and cold as death.
Freedom from the insult of dwelling in a puppet's world.
where movements are started through brainless wires,
repeated through mindless habits,
where figures wait with patience and obedience for the
Master of show.
To be stirred into a moment's mimicry of life.

- Rabindranath Tagore

- 1.1 Answer the following questions : (5)
 - a) What does the poet mainly want for his motherland?
 - b) What does the star speak about?
 - c) Give an appropriate title to the poem.
 - d) Explain "Freedom from insult of dwelling in a puppet's world".
 - e) Find a word from the poem which means the same as signal.
2. Mrs. Ghosh your English teacher, retired today after forty years of service to the school. You will really miss her presence in the school. Write a diary expressing your feelings about this in about 80-100 words. (3)

3. The following passage has not been edited. There is a mistake in each line except one. Write the incorrect word and the correction against the correct blank number in your answer sheet: (1/2x6=3)

| | Incorrect | Correct |
|---|-----------|---------|
| When you smile on another person, they will almost always return it. | a) _____ | _____ |
| This cause positive feeling in you both because of cause or effect. Studies | b) _____ | _____ |
| show that much encounters will run | c) _____ | _____ |
| smoother, last longer, had more positive | d) _____ | _____ |
| outcomes but dramatically improve | e) _____ | _____ |
| relationships, if you smile frequently. | f) _____ | _____ |

4. Re-arrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences: (1/2x2=1)
- a) is / the best / water / in its / quencher / thirst / natural form
- b) use / are / water / non-judicious / resources / getting / to / depleted / due / their

5. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: (3)

I Steal by lawns and grassy plots,
I slide by hazel covers
I move the sweet forget-me-nots
That grow for happy lovers.

- a) Why does the brook 'steal' by the grassy plots and lawns?
- b) What do 'forget-me-nots' symbolize?
- c) What poetic device is used in this stanza?
6. Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each: (5)
- a) Avva was a good student. Elucidate.
- b) Where does the brook come from, where is it going and why?
- c) What is the theme of the story, 'How I Taught My Grandmother To Read'?
- d) What does the poet mean by the "netted beam"? How does the brook make it dance?
- e) How are the two roads in the poem, 'The Road Not Taken', similar or different from each other?

-X-X-X-X-X-