



विद्या सर्वार्थ साधिका

ANANDALAYA
PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION
Class : X

Subject : English Language & Literature (184)
Date : 25-01-2023

M.M : 80
Time : 3 Hrs.

General Instructions:

1. 15-minute prior reading time allotted for Q-paper reading.
2. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE.
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION-A

Reading Section (20 Marks)

I Read the passage given below.

- 1 “Who doesn't know how to cook rice? Cooking rice hardly takes time.” said my father. So, I challenged myself. I switched from news to YouTube and typed, “How to cook rice?” I took one and a half cups of rice. Since I didn't have access to a rice cooker, I put the rice in a big pot. Firstly, the rice has to be washed to get rid of dust and starch. I thought I won't be able to drain the rice and that it will fall out of the pot. I observed the chef as I swirled the rice around and used my dexterous hands to drain it, not once, not twice, but three times. I looked down at the sink and saw less than 50 grains that made their way out of the pot. Suffice to say, I was up to the mark.
- 2 The video stated that the key to perfect rice is equal amounts of rice and water. I have heard that professionals don't need to measure everything; they just know what the right amount is. But as this was my first time in the kitchen, I decided to experiment by not measuring the water needed for boiling the rice. I wanted the rice to be firm when bitten, just like pasta. I don't enjoy the texture of mushy rice. It has to have that chutzpah; it has to resist my biting power just for a bit before disintegrating.
- 3 After what seemed like 10 minutes, all the water disappeared. I went in to give it a good stir. To my surprise, some of the rice got stuck to the pot. I tried to scrape it off but to no avail. At the same time, there was a burning smell coming from it. I quickly turned the stove off. “What have you done to the kitchen?” shouted Mother, while coming towards the kitchen. I managed to ward her off.
- 4 Finally, when the time came to taste my creation, I was surprised! It wasn't bad at all. The rice had the desired consistency. Sure, a little more salt would've been better, but I just added that while eating. The experience was fairly rewarding and memorable. It taught me a new sense of respect for those who cook food on a regular basis at home or engage in gourmet creations professionally.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer ANY TEN questions.

(1x10)

- i Father's question to the narrator, about knowing how to cook rice, was intended to _____.
 - A. criticize the narrator's lack of abilities.
 - B. make the process sound simple.
 - C. encourage the narrator to take up cooking.
 - D. showcase his own expertise in cooking rice.
- ii. “I switched from news to YouTube ...” Pick the option in which the meaning of ‘switch(ed)’ is NOT the same as it is in the passage.

- A. He switched on the radio to listen to the news while having dinner.
- B. “Forget these diet supplements and switch to yoga, if you want a true sense of well-being.”
- C. Mom switched to reading fiction recently because she was bored with cook-books.
- D. The company will switch the trucks to other routes to bring down city pollution.

iii. Based on your understanding of the passage, choose the option that lists the correct sequence of the process.

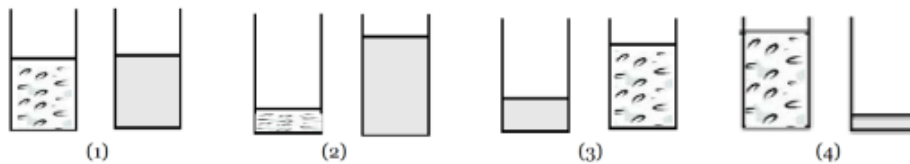
1. Use water to wash the rice.
2. Repeat the process three times.
3. Drain the water off.
4. Put rice in a utensil.
5. Swirl the water in and around the rice.

- A. 4,2,1,3,5
- B. 1,3,2,5,4
- C. 4,1,5,3,2
- D. 5,1,2,4,3

iv. The narrator says that he has dexterous hands. He would have had a problem had it been the opposite. NOT BEING dexterous means, being _____.

- A. uncomfortable
- B. clumsy
- C. unclear
- D. clueless

v. Which option represents the correct ratio of water to rice for cooking ‘perfect rice’?



- A. Image 1
- B. Image 2
- C. Image 3
- D. Image 4

vi. How did mother react to the burning smell?

vii. According to the passage, the fact that the narrator risked experimentation, on his maiden attempt in the kitchen, shows that he was_____.

- A. conscientious
- B. nervous
- C. over confident
- D. courteous

viii Write a sentence using the word ‘chutzpah’ in the same context as used in the passage.

ix. Pick the option that correctly states what DID NOT happen after the writer checked on the rice.

- A. Turning the stove off.
- B. Being taken aback at the condition of rice.
- C. Forgetting to scrape the stuck rice.
- D. Smelling the delicious aroma of cooked rice.

x. Complete the sentence on the basis of your understanding.

Finally the narrator’s creation was _____.

xi. Pick the option that correctly lists the final feelings of the writer with reference to the cooking experience.

1. frustrating
2. amusing
3. satisfying
4. disillusioning
5. exacting
6. enlightening

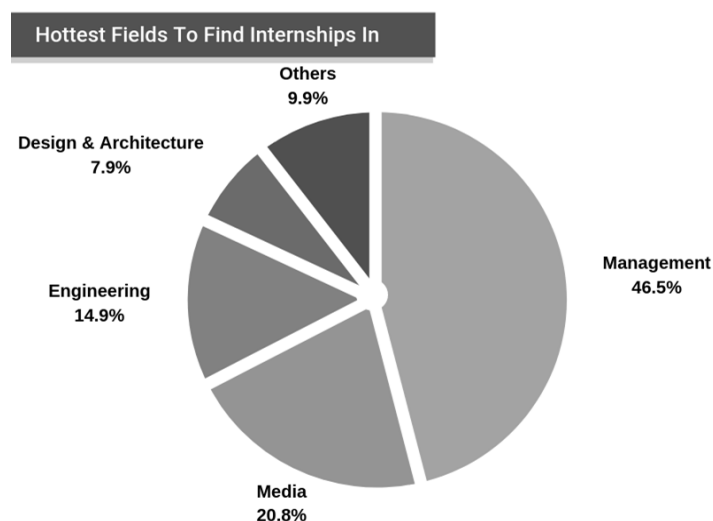
- A. 1 and 4
- B. 2 and 5
- C. 3 and 6
- D. 1 and 3

II Read the passage given below.

(1x10)

- 1 Over the last five years, more companies have been actively looking for intern profiles, according to a 2018-19 survey by an online internship and training platform. This survey reveals that India had 80% more internship applications — with 2.2 million applications received in 2018 compared to 1.27 million in the year before. The trend was partly due to more industries looking to have fresh minds and ideas on existing projects for better productivity. What was originally seen as a western concept, getting an internship before plunging into the job market, is fast gaining momentum at Indian workplaces.
- 2 According to the survey data, India's National Capital Region has been the top provider of internships, with a total of 35% internship opportunities, followed by Mumbai and Bengaluru at 20% and 15%, respectively. This includes opportunities in startups, MNCs and even government entities. The stipend has been an important factor influencing the choice of internships. The survey data reveals that the average stipend offered to interns was recorded as ₹7000 while the maximum stipend went up to ₹85,000. According to statistics, a greater number of people considered virtual internships than in-office internships. Virtual internships got three times more applications than in-office, since a large chunk of students were the ones already enrolled in various courses, or preferred working from home.
- 3 Internship portals have sprung up in the last three to four years and many of them already report healthy traffic per month. Reports suggest that on an average, an internship portal company has around 200,000-plus students and some 8,000 companies registered on it. It gets around two lakh visits online every month. The Managing Director of a leading executive search firm says that though these web platforms are working as an effective bridge between the industry and students, most established companies are still reluctant to take too many interns on board for obvious reasons. The internship trends of 2018 show that management sector has the highest percentage of internships. This is so as it provides a bridge between what students learn in academic institutes to what they have to do when they are in some job.

Internship Trends 2018



Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

- i. Select the correct inference with reference to the following:
Over the last five years, more companies have been actively looking for intern profiles...
 - A. The past five years have seen active applications by interns to several companies.
 - B. The activity for intern profiling by the companies has reached a gradual downslide over the past five years.

- C. There were lesser companies searching for intern profiles earlier, as compared to those in the recent five years.
- D. Several companies have initiated intern profiling five times a year in the recent past.
- ii. Which of the following statements is TRUE regarding the given figure?
- A. Internships for Engineering and Management are the top two favourites.
- B. Design & Architecture internships are significantly more popular than Others.
- C. Internships for Media and Others have nearly equal popularity percentage.
- D. Management internships' popularity is more than twice that for Media.
- iii. Complete the sentence given below with one reason.
- Most established companies are still reluctant to take too many interns on board for the obvious reason that _____.
- iv. The survey statistics mention the average stipend. This indicates that
- A. 50% interns were offered ₹85,000.
- B. ₹7,000 was the lowest and ₹85,000 was the highest.
- C. most interns were offered around ₹7,000.
- D. No intern was offered more than ₹7,000.
- v. Read the two statements given below and select the option that suitably explains them.
- (1) Established companies are reluctant to take too many interns on board.
- (2) Probability of interns leaving the company for a variety of reasons, is high.
- A. (1) is the problem and (2) is the solution for (1).
- B. (1) is false but (2) correctly explains (1).
- C. (1) summarises (2).
- D. (1) is true and (2) is the reason for (1).
- vi. The phrase 'healthy traffic' refers to _____.
- vii. Looking at the statement 'Virtual internships got three times more applications than in-office internships', which statement given below is NOT TRUE?
- A. Students find it convenient to manage work and study.
- B. Students like to go to work places.
- C. Students can earn extra money.
- D. Students shun routines and uniforms.
- viii. Complete the following statement meaningfully.
- The Managing Director of a leading executive search firm says that though these web platforms are working as an effective bridge between the industry and students as _____.
- ix. Management sector has the highest percentage of internships as _____.
- x. The synonym of 'momentum' as used in paragraph 1 is _____.
- A. thrust B. break C. desire D. momentous

III

SECTION B- GRAMMAR

(10)

Attempt ANY TEN of the following questions.

1. Frederick hoped _____ his music by incorporating some aspects of modern music.
A. improvise B. are improvised C. to improvise D. been improvised

2. Choose the option that best completes the given conversation correctly.
Anu: You are panting heavily. You _____ be exhausted!
Sofia: When I was in college, I _____ run everyday.
Anu: You _____ resume exercise. It will make you more fit.
A. could, would, might B. must, would, should
C. must, ought to, would D. might, ought to, should

3. Jane: When were we last here?
Ed: _____, I was just thinking the same thing, and I haven't a clue.
A. Can you thinking B. Do you know
C. Have I say D. Will I get it

4. What _____ 'modern civilisation' is the result of accumulated knowledge applied to practical life.
A. is called B. has called C. was calling D. can be called

5. If you just _____ tight, I will be with you in a couple of minutes.
A. sitting B. have sat C. sit D. will sit

6. Choose the appropriate pair of words to complete the sentence given below.
"Yes, I have been living in the city _____ about eight years, _____ June, 1997, to be exact."
A. since, for B. since, after C. for, since D. after, since

7. I bought a small flower pot and filled it with chocolates and presented it to my mother. She thanked me with a hug and told me that she could not help liking the beautiful little pot.
Choose the option that BEST represents the words and tone my mother would have used.
A. "Thank you so much," she said, with a hug "I cannot help but like the beautiful little pot!"
B. "Thank you so much," she said, with a hug "I cannot like but help the beautiful little pot!"
C. "Thank you so much," she said, with a hug "I like but cannot the beautiful little pot!"
D. "Thank you so much," she said, with a hug "I can help but not like the beautiful little pot!"

8. Choose the correct option that completes the sentence below.
Both students are equally good, _____.
A. Either is capable of winning the President's Cup.
B. Nor is one capable of winning the President's Cup.
C. Either are capable of winning the President's Cup.
D. Or are capable of winning the President's Cup.

9. Choose the option with the most appropriate pair of expressions to complete the sentence below.
_____ by my peers was a great thrill for me. I made up my mind to do all that _____ of me during my term as the 'Head Girl' of the school.
A. Been elected.....is expected B. Having elected.....are expected
C. Being elected..... was expected D. Having been elected.....had expected

10. The French _____ for being superb cooks and artists.
A. has been renowned B. will be renowned
C. are renown D. are renowned

11. Choose the sentence with a spelling error.
- There was a consensus in the team about each person's role in the evening's programme.
 - The superstitious person was extremely scared of sneezing 3 times before going anywhere.
 - In a fit of extravagance, my friend bought as many gifts as she could for everyone in her family.
 - In today's world no person with a physical disability, likes any kind of sympathetic treatment.
12. My mother, along with others, _____ worried.
- were
 - are
 - have
 - was

SECTION B- CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

All the names and addresses used in the questions are fictitious. Resemblance, if any, is purely coincidental.

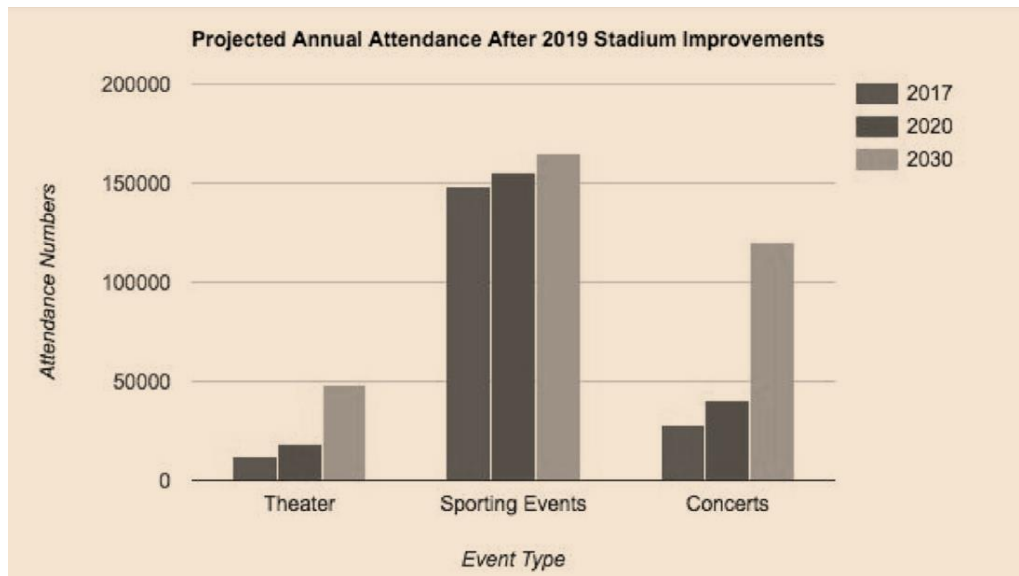
1. Answer ANY ONE from A and B given below. (5)
- A. You are Soham/ Shikha, a resident of 19-B, Tapan Road, Patna. You noticed that a few persons in your community are still reluctant to get vaccinated against COVID-19. Write a letter in 100-120 words to the Editor of a national daily, expressing your concern about this reluctance and mentioning the need to create awareness about the vaccination programme.

OR

- B. You are Sneha, a student of class 10. You recently came across a learning app on the Internet that offers practice questions to prepare students for the board examination. In 100-120 words, write a letter to the Operations Officer of the app enquiring about their pricing and the duration of the free trial period.

2. Answer ANY ONE from A and B given below. (5)

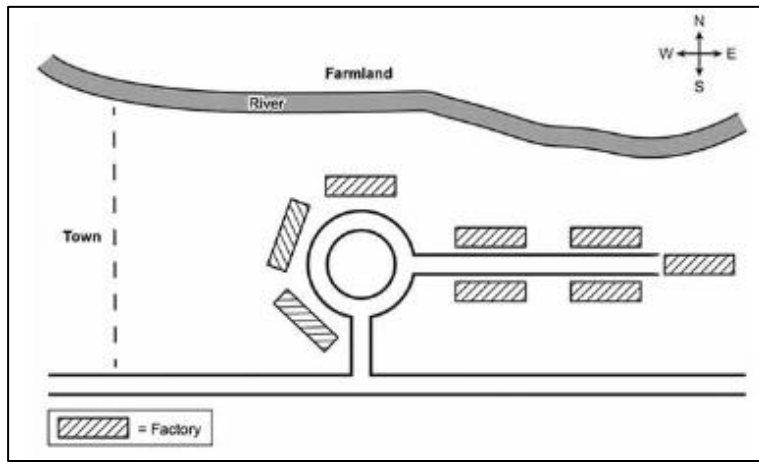
- A. The chart given below gives attendance figures for Grand Stadium from 2017, which are projected till 2030 after a major improvement project. Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant. Write in 100-120 words.



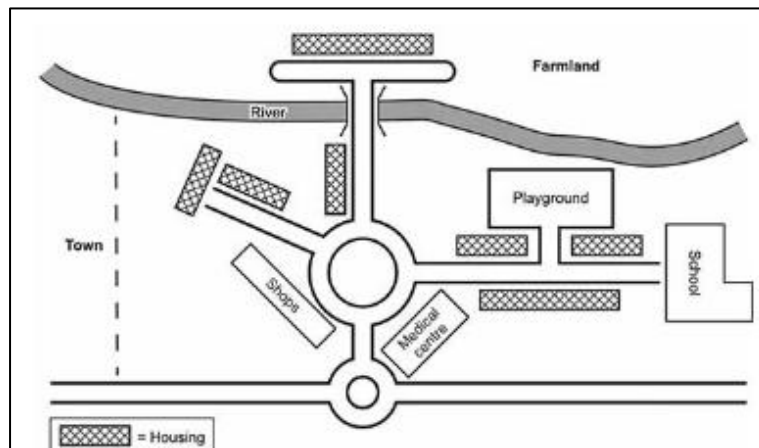
OR

- B. The maps below show an industrial area in the town of Norbinton. The first half shows the current status and the second half depicts the future plans for development of the site. Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

PRESENT STATE



PLANNED FUTURE DEVELOPMENT



SECTION C- LITERATURE

(40)

V Reference to the Context

1. Attempt ANY ONE of two given extracts. (5)

1.A “CHUBUKOV: *What a weight off my shoulders, ouf!*

NATALYA: *But, still you will admit now that Guess is worse than Squeezer.*

LOMOV: *Better!*

NATALYA: *Worse!*

CHUBUKOV: *Well, that’s a way to start your family bliss! Have some champagne!*

LOMOV: *He’s better!*

NATALYA: *Worse! Worse! Worse!*

CHUBUKOV: *[trying to shout her down] Champagne! Champagne!”*

- i. How would you characterise Chubukov’s mood based on the given extract?

A. cautious and celebratory	B. relieved and jubilant
C. merry, yet thoughtful	D. grateful, yet hurt
- ii. The liberal use of exclamatory marks in the given extract indicates that the characters _____.
 - A. are remorseful in a solemn and heartfelt tone.
 - B. take good counsel and advice in a serious matter.
 - C. try to reconcile on matters, leading to argument.
 - D. show strong feelings with a raised voice.
- iii. The playwright ends the extract with Chubukov trying to shout louder than his daughter. List any two reasons for this behaviour of his.

- A. _____
B. _____

- iv. Based on the extract, Lomov and Natalya's closing lines can best be seen as _____.
A. a humorous and ironic take on typical marriage vows.
B. a reflection of their affections for Guess and Squeezer.
C. a sign of the prospective instability in their marital bliss.
D. the writer's comment that disagreement is part of marriage.
- v. Chubukov's words 'What a weight off my shoulders' as used here means _____.
A. his daughter is overweight
B. he is relieved of his fatherly duties
C. he had to pay off a huge debt
D. he disliked his daughter strongly

OR

1.B *"I didn't get any real results," he said. "But I went ahead and showed that I had tried the experiment. This time I won." The next year his science fair project was testing the theory that viceroy butterflies copy monarchs. The theory was that viceroys look like monarchs because monarchs don't taste good to birds. Viceroys, on the other hand, do taste good to birds. So, the more they look like monarchs, the less likely they are to become a bird's dinner. Ebright's project was to see whether, in fact, birds would eat monarchs. He found that a starling would not eat ordinary bird food. It would eat all the monarchs it could get."*

- i. Choose the option listing Ebright's qualities as depicted by the above extract.
1. persevering
2. visionary
3. determined
4. liberal
5. conceited
A. 1, 2 B. 3, 5 C. 1, 3 D. 4, 5
- ii. According to the dictionary, 'fair' as a noun, shows the following meanings. Choose the option that lists the meaning similar to the usage to that in the extract.
A. A gathering of stalls and amusements for public entertainment.
B. A competitive exhibition showcasing products or ideas.
C. A periodic gathering for the sale of goods.
D. An annual exhibition of livestock, agricultural products, etc., held by a town, county, or state.
- iii. Choose the option that is true for the two statements given about the information in the extract.
Statement 1- Starling feeds on viceroys.
Statement 2- Starling does not eat seeds and insects.
A. Both statements are clearly mentioned in the extract.
B. Statement 1 cannot be clearly inferred from the text and statement 2 is true.
C. Statement 1 is false and statement 2 cannot be clearly inferred from the extract.
D. Both statements need to be inferred from the given extract.
- iv. Choose the statements that are TRUE for the given extract contextually.
1. Ebright didn't get any results for the experiment he conducted on butterflies.
2. Monarchs tasted awful to the birds.
3. Ebright wanted to explore the possibility of monarchs getting eaten by birds.
4. He wanted to prove that viceroys are lookalikes of monarchs.

A. 1,2

B. 2,3

C. 1,3

D. 2,4

v. *“But I went ahead and showed that I had tried the experiment.”*

Complete the sentence on the basis of this sentence.

Ebright made effort and showed that he had _____ his best to complete the experiment.

A. failed

B. attempted

C. scouted

D. secured

2. Attempt ANY ONE of two given extracts.

2.A

*“I heard an old religious man
But yesternight declare
That he had found a text to prove
That only God, my dear,
Could love you for yourself alone
And not your yellow hair.”*

i. The above stanza strongly defies the idea of _____ .

A. internal qualities

B. external beauty

C. spiritual self

D. divinity

ii. Choose the phrase that best represents, ‘love you for yourself alone.’

A. Unconditional love

B. Unseemly love

C. Unrequited love

D. Understated love

iii. Select the most appropriate option from those given below.

1. The old religious man declared that the subject of this poem could truly love herself.
2. God will love the listener only if she does not have yellow hair.
3. God can love her when she decides not to have yellow hair.
4. She will be loved by God no matter what.

A. Only 1 and 4 are TRUE

B. Only 1 and 2 are TRUE

C. 1 and 3 are TRUE but 4 is FALSE

D. 1 and 4 are FALSE

iv. What is the rhyme scheme of this stanza?

A. abccdb

B. abcdbb

C. aacbdb

D. abcbbd

v. Complete the sentence given below.

Since the listener of the above stanza is either absent or not responding, the figure of speech would be _____.

2.B

*“Ink trickled down to the bottom of the household,
And little mouse Blink strategically mouseholed.
But up jumped Custard, snorting like an engine,
Clashed his tail like irons in a dungeon,
With a clatter and a clank and a jangling squirm,
He went at the pirate like a robin at a worm”*

i. Which option lists the quotes that support the ideas in the extract?

- 1) Fear makes strangers of people who would be friends.
- 2) If you’re brave enough to start, you’re strong enough to finish.
- 3) Courage doesn’t mean you don’t get afraid. Courage means you don’t let fear stop you.
- 4) You get in life what you have the courage to ask for
- 5) Fear has a large shadow, but the strong one overcomes

A. 1 and 5

B. 2, 3 and 4

C. 2 and 3

D. 1, 3 and 5

- ii. What is the poet's purpose of using the onomatopoeic words given in the extract?
A. It is to emphasize on the might and boldness of Custard.
B. It is to introduce the character Custard to the readers.
C. It is to impress upon the readers that Custard was ready.
D. It is to make Custard bold enough to face the situation.
- iii. Select the option that fits with the reaction of the characters in the context of the extract.
Eg. Ink: terrified : : Blink : terrified
Pirate: _____ :: Custard: undaunted
- iv. The extract mentions 'irons' in dungeons. As per this context, 'irons' is a reference to _____.
A. iron racks for scared books. B. iron cases housing treasures.
C. iron chains holding the prisoners captive. D. iron coffins for burying the royal dead.
- v. The poet used Similes repeatedly for _____ of the readers.

VI Answer ANY FOUR of the following in 40-50 words each. (4*3=12)

- i. Anne was a sensitive and mature girl. From the chapters and poems in your text book, First Flight, think of any two characters who could be her friends or confidantes. Mention the common character traits that would help in creating this special bond of friendship.
- ii. Mijbil the otter is compared to small children by Maxwell because of the compulsive habits. Which compulsive habits are mentioned in the story?
- iii. Do you think Valli's mother would have taken her for the bus ride if she had requested her to do so? Why/ Why not?
- iv. People get support from family and friends during bad times. How does Lencho's family behave after the harvest is ruined?
- v. Mandela feels that courage is triumph over fear. How would you define courage in this context?

VII Answer ANY TWO of the following in 40-50 words each. (2*3=6)

- i. According to a popular quote— Where there is no struggle, there is no strength. In what way is this quote relevant to the events of the story? (A Triumph of Surgery)
- ii. "The most successful people work smart, not hard" Justify the quote with reference to "A Question of Trust".
- iii. Madame Loisel came to know the horrible life of necessity. Do you think Madame Loisel accepted this change willingly? Give two reasons in support of your answer.

VIII Answer ANY ONE of the following in 100-120 words. (1*6=6)

- i. Imagine that Man has been accused by the tiger of cruelty in an animal court. What would be the tiger's accusations and how would Man defend them? Present your answer in two paragraphs. (The Tiger in the Zoo)

OR

- ii. The 'fight or flight response', that is, to stay and face a situation or run from it- is an automatic reaction to an event perceived as stressful or harmful. How would you evaluate the young gull's response on finding himself off the ledge?

IX Answer ANY ONE of the following in 100-120 words. (1*6=6)

- i. "Stereotypes are often misleading".
Elaborate on the given quote in the context of "The Midnight Visitor".

OR

- ii. A book helped save Earthlings from a Martian invasion. Describe how this happened. Similarly, how can books help save humans from self-destruction?