



विद्या सर्वार्थ साधिका

**ANANDALAYA**  
**PERIODIC TEST-1**  
Class : XII

Subject : English Core (301)

M.M : 40

Date : 16-07-2024

Time : 1 Hr. 30 Min.

**General Instructions:**

1. The Question Paper contains three sections.
2. Section A-Reading Section has a passage for comprehension.
3. Section B-Writing Section has 2 questions. Adhere to the word limit as given in the instructions with each question.
4. Section C-Literature Section has 3 questions. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

**SECTION-A**

**Reading Section (10 Marks)**

1. Read the passage given below.
  - 1 What's the one thing that you associate with your college days? For me, it was consuming copious amounts of chai. A cup of tea was a panacea to all troubles and the companion to all joys. In this exclusive interview, we caught up with 65-year-old Deepak Garg, owner of Ganga Dhaba, a spot that every officer from National Academy of Administration has visited multiple times.
  - 2 Deepak begins, "My family has been here for almost 90 years. It was my grandfather who first started working here as the supplier to the hotel that existed then." In 1964, when Deepak was all of eight, he lost his father and the responsibility of raising four children, fell on his mother.
  - 3 "Our growing up years were a huge struggle. My mother used to teach home-science at a local balwadi school, and which was also where my siblings and I studied," he says. In 1978, Deepak says that he started a food joint that he named Om Chinese Restaurant. "In those days, there was a huge liking for Chinese food and hence, the name and the choice of cuisine," he says.
  - 4 For almost 17 years, things continued and then Deepak got a Public Call Office (PCO) installed for the Officer Trainees. The business did so well that soon he had installed more than ten telephones, with separate cabins, to allow them some privacy while they made and received their calls.
  - 5 "The OTs who would talk on the PCO from here would always refer to the place as 'Ganga Dhaba'. It was because this place is so close to the Ganga hostel inside the academy, that slowly the name changed and it became Ganga Dhaba. Since, it was the OTs that gave us our identity, we decided to change the name and call it Ganga Dhaba," he says.
  - 6 There have been instances when Deepak and his family members have learnt dishes from the OTs. He says, "So many dishes on our menu today are because some officer came in and decided to teach us how to make them."
  - 7 "We have seen two generations of officers, served the parents, who now as the parents come back to drop their children at the academy and tell us to take care of them. What more can we ask for? While the money we make is not great, the respect and the love we have accumulated over the years is what keeps us going," says Deepak, proudly.

On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions.

- i. What, according to the author, gave him solace during his bad times in his college days? (1)
- (A) Friends (B) Family  
(C) Tea (D) Telephone
- ii. Read the following statements: (1)
- (i) Mr. Deepak named his food joint Om Chinese.  
(ii) Chinese food was then popular among people.
- (A) (ii) is the cause for (i). (B) (i) is the cause for (ii).  
(C) (i) is true and (ii) is false. (D) (i) is false and (ii) is true.
- iii. 'Soon he had installed ten telephones.' In the light of the above statement, select the option that lists the right inference. (1)
- (A) He was kind enough to do social service for the OTs.  
(B) He was successful and flourishing in his business.  
(C) He expanded his canteen to accommodate more people.  
(D) He switched his business from canteen to telephone booths.
- iv. The gesture of changing the name of the food joint to 'Ganga Dhaba' speaks of Deepak's: (1)
- (A) wavering mind. (B) tendency to change with times.  
(C) respect and tribute to OTs. (D) dogmatic approach.
- v. "..... his family members learnt dishes from OTs." (1)
- Choose the option that lists the inference with reference to the above statement.
- (A) OTs were equally good connoisseurs of food.  
(B) His family was mediocre in cooking.  
(C) His family had close association and good rapport with OTs.  
(D) His family wanted to learn more recipes to expand their business.
- vi. As per paragraph 7, select the option that sums up the personality of Deepak Garg. (1)
- (A) He is a struggler, lacks business acumen to make his business profitable.  
(B) He is a very social and friendly person and enjoys a good relationship with OTs.  
(C) A responsible son who shared the burden of his family.  
(D) A person who upholds dignity and esteem in life, not materialistic.
- vii. "...OTs that gave us our identity." He means to say: (1)
- (A) That his canteen was in the vicinity of OTs hostel.  
(B) That the canteen was named after the OTs' hostel.  
(C) That it was OTs who helped his family to learn new recipes.  
(D) That it was OTs who patronized his canteen business.

- viii. Choose the option that aptly defines Deepak Garg’s life story “from struggling childhood days to becoming a successful businessman”. (1)
- (A) Where there is a will, there is a way.  
(B) Make hay while the sun shines.  
(C) A good fire makes a good cook.  
(D) Despair gives courage to a coward.
- ix. “..... many dishes on our menu today are because some officer came in and decided to teach us.” (1)
- Choose the option that rightly reflects the tone of the speaker.
- (A) Ignorance (B) Humility  
(C) Pride (D) Regret
- x. “..... tell us to take care of them.” (1)
- Choose the option that lists the appropriate reason behind the statement.
- (A) Parents make a request as they stay away from their children.  
(B) Deepak Garg can take care as he stays close to the hostel.  
(C) Parents trust and respect Deepak Garg’s hospitality.  
(D) Parents pay Deepak Garg for the facilities he offers.

### SECTION-B

#### Creative Writing Section (9 Marks)

Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below. (50 words)

- 2A. You are the Chief Warden of a Boys’ Hostel. You have noticed that the boys often report late for the roll-call at night and have a tendency to damage the hostel property. Write a notice informing the hostel inmates that they should refrain from doing so or else they will be penalised.

OR

- 2B. Your school, Bloomdale’s Senior Secondary School, Gurgaon, is organising an inter-house skit competition to celebrate Independence Day. Scenes from the struggle for independence are to be depicted. Auditions will be held a week before the event. You are Lila/Laxman Arya, secretary of the Cultural Society of your school. Write a notice announcing the event.

Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.

- 3A. You are a resident of Mahalakshmi Apartments, Patparganj, Delhi. Your residential area is flooded with roadside dwellers who are deprived of the basic civic amenities like light, public toilets and bathrooms. Write a letter to the Editor of The Hindustan Times, highlighting the problems of these roadside dwellers, and also the problems posed by them to the public. Give suggestions for improvement.

OR

- 3B. You are a social worker. You feel upset as some of the good schools are admitting as many as 60-70 students in a class just to mint money. This is adversely affecting academic standards. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily highlighting this corrupt practice. Sign the letter as Jaishri/Ranjan.

### SECTION-C

#### Literature Section (21 Marks)

4. Read the excerpts given below and answer the questions that follow after each excerpt.

4A. Mukesh insists on being his own master. "I will be a motor mechanic", he announces. (4x1=4)

"Do you know anything about cars?" I ask.

"I will learn to drive a car," he answers, looking straight into my eyes. His dream looms like a mirage amidst the dust of streets that fill his town Firozabad, famous for its bangles. Every other family in Firozabad is engaged in making bangles. It is the centre of India's glass blowing industry where families have spent generations working around furnaces, welding glass, making bangles for all the women in the land it seems. Mukesh's family is among them. None of them know that it is illegal for children like him to work in glass furnaces with high temperatures,...

- (i) What does the author try to convey by the expression 'being his own master'?
- (A) Mukesh is disobedient to the elders. (B) Mukesh is adamant in his behaviour.  
(C) Mukesh takes his own decisions. (D) Mukesh does not listen to others.
- (ii) Through the expression "... looking straight into my eyes" the narrator is trying to convey:
- (iii) "His dream looms like a mirage." This indicates:
- (A) Mukesh has no clear vision of his dream. (B) His dream is distorted and misleading.  
(C) His dream is elusive and illusive. (D) Mukesh's dream is different from others.
- (iv) Select the option that lists the facts about Firozabad.
- i. Almost all the families are engaged in bangle making.  
ii. The children work as motor – mechanics.  
iii. The children work in a hazardous situation.  
iv. Firozabad is the centre for car making.
- (A) i & ii (B) ii & iii  
(C) i & iii (D) iii & iv

4B. What I want should not be confused (4x1=4)

with total inactivity  
Life is what it is about;  
I want no truck with death,  
If we were not so single-minded  
about keeping our lives moving –  
and for once could do nothing  
Perhaps a huge silence  
might interrupt this sadness  
of never understanding ourselves  
and of threatening ourselves with death.

- (i) The poet's intention in the first line is to:
- (A) give warning to the readers. (B) give right direction to the readers.  
(C) give choice to the readers. (D) give a clarification to the readers.
- (ii) Select the option that best explains the stand of the poet in the expression:  
"I want no truck with death".
- (A) He advises people to escape death. (B) He asserts that death is inevitable.  
(C) He assures that he does not advocate death. (D) He expresses his desire not to die.

- (iii) Describe the tone of the poet in the expression:  
 “If we were not so single minded”.
- (iv) The tone of the poet in the expression “perhaps a huge silence might interrupt this sadness” is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (A) unsure yet optimistic (B) sure and confident  
 (C) poetic & melodramatic (D) hopeful but not confident

4C. *941 Willard Street Galesburg, Illinois* (4x1=4)  
*July 18, 1894*

*Charley*

*I got to wishing that you were right. Then I got to believing you were right. And, Charley, it's true; I found the third level! I've been here two weeks, and right now, down the street at the Daly's, someone is playing a piano, and they're all out on the front porch singing 'Seeing Nelly Home'. And I'm invited over for lemonade. Come on back, Charley and Louisa. Keep looking till you find the third level! It's worth it, believe me!*

*The note is signed Sam.*

- (i) What was the feeling of Sam as conveyed in the letter?  
 (A) surprise (B) doubt  
 (C) excitement (D) anger
- (ii) What was Sam Weiner reaction when Charley told him about the third level?  
 (A) dismissal (B) acceptance  
 (C) wonderstruck (D) puzzled
- (iii) Sam wrote the letter to Charley in order to \_\_\_\_\_ .
- (iv) The phrase “Charlie, it’s true” in the context of the extract implies which of the given options.  
 I. Sam is relaxed  
 II. Charley had migrated with Louisa  
 III. The existence of the third level  
 IV. Sam had met Charley's grandfather.  
 (A) I and II (B) II and IV  
 (C) I and III (D) IV only

5. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40-50 words each. (2x2=4)

- (i) Why did Hauser and the other villagers come to attend the last lesson?  
 (ii) How did the near drowning experience at the pool affect Douglas?  
 (iii) “From that day onwards it was celebration time for all tigers inhabiting Pratibandapuram”.  
 Bring out the irony in this statement.

6. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 100-120 words each.

6A. Do the poor have the right to dream? Why then does the author call Mukesh’s dream ‘a Mirage’?

**OR** (1x5=5)

6B. We need a new system for the age of ecology-a system which is embedded in the care of all people and also in the care of the Earth and all life upon it. Discuss. (The Tiger King)