



विद्या सर्वार्थ साधिका

ANANDALAYA
PERIODIC TEST-2
Class : XI

Subject : English Core (301)

Date : 27-09-2024

M.M : 80

Time : 3 Hours

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains four sections.
2. Section A- Reading has three passages for comprehension.
3. Section B- Writing has four questions. Adhere to the word limit given in the instructions with each question.
4. Section C- Grammar has two questions. Read the instructions carefully and write only the answers.
5. Section D- Literature has six questions. Adhere to the word limit given in the instructions with each question.

SECTION-A Reading Section (26 Marks)

1. Read the passage given below.

- (a) Those who grew up in the 90s in India would have definitely noticed this! Women with a basket of wares on their head roaming about city streets, selling steel utensils, aluminum spatulas and cast iron pans. The Bhandiwali or Pheriwali as they're known in some parts of Western India were some of the earliest Up-cyclers before it became a fashionable term. Their operating model was simple. They took your old clothes, utensils and any household wares you wanted to dispose off and paid you a mutually agreed price for it. As the informal 'supplier' of this supposed waste, we were completely oblivious to what happened to these goods post the trade. As I researched a bit more into understanding the nuances of the circular economy, I wondered why this system of upcycling in India almost died down. It was an almost perfect system.
- (b) The Pheriwalis used to collect the goods from houses and they in turn had their own supply chain or darners, tailors, washers and even some designers/fashion labels who they sold these clothes to or got them repaired from. They would either resell these clothes in street markets or act as a middleman for larger establishments that up-cycled or refurbished clothes. Then repeat the cycle. In many cities in India there were also some specialist up-cyclers who specifically sourced the gold/silver zari from Sarees that they used to reuse in high-end carpets and furnishings. The rest of the saree was stripped into threads to make quilts, bed linen and clothing goods.
- (c) Our discarded clothes used to get a second-life, while a huge chunk of textile waste was kept out of landfills. While we now hear of the Zara Homes and H&Ms of the world getting into upcycled fashion and sustainable fashion, India has had this worked out long long ago. It is encouraging to note that a bevy of Indian brands like 'I was a sari', 'ReCharkha' and Doodlage' are taking this to the next level. Brands like Doodlage, Pomogrenade, and Paromita Banerjee also upcycle pre-consumer waste and old textiles, turning them into stylish garments, accessories, and home décor using patchwork, repurposing, and handcrafting techniques.
- (d) From our gated apartments and communities with restricted access, somewhere, we seem to have lost sight of how the circular economy was a core feature, not a nice-to-have trait of our society. To the humble Pheriwali, I hope your utility is realized and technology comes through as an enabler to revive the yeoman service your cohort was doing to the world.

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

- (i) What did the Pheriwali typically sell?

- (A) Only steel and copper utensils.
- (B) Only aluminum spatulas and cast iron pans.
- (C) Steel utensils, aluminum spatulas, and cast iron pans.
- (D) Only newly manufactured household items.

(1)

- (ii) Complete the following sentence meaningfully. (1)
The author described the Pheriwali system as "an almost perfect system" because it was ____.
- (iii) How does the author view the Pheriwali system? (1)
(A) As a symbol of outdated and inefficient practice.
(B) As a model for sustainable and circular economy practices.
(C) As a minor contributor to the textile industry.
(D) As a member of a system that has no relevance in modern times.
- (iv) Identify whether the following statement is True or False. (1)
In the past, discarded clothes in India were often sent directly to landfills without any reuse.
- (v) What was the effect of the Pheriwalis' activities on textile waste? (1)
(A) It increased the amount of textile waste in landfills.
(B) It reduced the amount of textile waste in landfills by reusing materials.
(C) It had no impact on textile waste.
(D) It led to the production of more synthetic fabrics.
- (vi) Why is it encouraging that Indian brands like 'I was a Sari' and 'Doodlage' are involved in upcycling? (1)
(A) Because they are new to the concept of upcycling.
(B) Because they are taking an existing sustainable practice to the next level.
(C) Because they are competing with international brands like Zara and H&M.
(D) Because they are focusing solely on fast fashion.
- (vii) What has been lost in modern society according to the passage? (1)
(A) The awareness of the importance of new age features like gated apartments.
(B) The understanding of how the circular economy was a core feature of society.
(C) The ability to use technology effectively.
(D) The need for restricted access communities.
- (viii) What does 'yeoman service' mean in the context of the passage? (1)
It is a service that is _____.
(A) of little importance. (B) highly valued and significant.
(C) only provided by professionals (D) no longer needed
- (ix) What is the main theme of the passage? (1)
(A) The rise of modern upcycling brands like Pheriwali system in India.
(B) The historical significance and decline of the Pheriwali system.
(C) The environmental impact of textile waste in India.
(D) The economic benefits of informal clothes recycling systems.
- (x) What does the term 'up-cyclers' most likely mean in the context of this passage? (1)
(A) Innovators (B) Re-purposers (C) Traders (D) Recyclers
2. Read the passage given below. (8)
- (a) Every morning, six days a week, Kiran Gavande and fellow dabbawalas crisscross Mumbai, delivering hundreds of thousands of home-cooked meals to workers. This 125-year-old tradition, despite the rise of online food-delivery companies like Deliveroo and Uber Eats, remains one of the world's most efficient logistics systems. The dabbawalas, a 5,000-strong cooperative, have been recognized for their impeccable management, earning a Six Sigma certification for their error rate of fewer than 3.4 mistakes per million transactions.
- (b) The dabbawalas operate on a simple yet effective system. Each dabbawala has a dedicated collection and delivery area, collecting an average of 30 lunchboxes from customers' homes. These lunchboxes are then sorted at local offices or railway stations and transported to their destinations via Mumbai's suburban train network. The system relies on an alphanumeric and

colour-coded code drawn on each lunchbox, which is easily understood by all dabbawalas.

- (c) The service is not only reliable but also affordable, costing roughly 800 rupees a month. "People think it's a luxury getting food delivered to their office," says Subodh Sangle, Coordinator of the Mumbai dabbawalas. "But we make our service available to everyone from the security guard to the CEO." This inclusivity and reliability have earned the dabbawalas a prestigious reputation, with even Richard Branson spending a day learning their secrets.
- (d) Despite the competition from tech-powered food delivery companies, the dabbawalas remain confident in their service. "There's no competition. They won't be able to keep up with the service we provide," says Gavande. Their commitment is partly due to the good salary they earn, roughly 12,000 rupees a month, the prestige associated with their job.
- (e) The dabbawalas' success has attracted the attention of tech start-ups. Companies like 'Runnr' have sought to learn from their expertise, particularly in navigating Mumbai's traffic. "No other system has this level of data for each locality," says Mohit Kumar, CEO of Runnr. "That really helped us get our delivery times down." While the dabbawalas are open to new opportunities, such as partnering with e-commerce giant Flipkart for last-mile deliveries, their core business remains unchanged. "Serving their customers is like serving their god," says Sangle, highlighting the spiritual connection that drives their dedication.
- (f) In summary, the Mumbai dabbawalas continue to thrive with their traditional, low-tech approach, delivering over 200,000 lunchboxes daily with remarkable efficiency. Their commitment to their customers and their spiritual beliefs ensure that they remain an integral part of Mumbai's daily life, even as the city's food delivery landscape evolves.

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

- (i) What is the significance of the Dabbawalas 'involvement' in Flipkart's delivery system? (1)
- (A) To explore new delivery channels and leverage the Dabbawalas' expertise in last-mile delivery.
- (B) To copy their existing delivery network with the same system as that of the Dabbawalas.
- (C) To focus solely on delivering food items using the local system.
- (D) To reduce their delivery costs significantly by outsourcing removing employees.
- (ii) Identify whether the following statement is True or False. (1)
- The Mumbai Dabbawalas deliver home-cooked meals to workers seven days a week.*
- (iii) What drives the Dabbawalas' dedication to their work, according to Sangle? (1)
- (A) Their desire to work with e-commerce companies to improve their success rate.
- (B) Their commitment to serving their customers, equated to serving their god.
- (C) Their need to adapt to new technologies in keeping with changing times.
- (D) Their focus on increasing their salaries through creative measures.
- (iv) Match the following components with their effects on the dabbawala system: (1)
- | Column A | Column B |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Alphanumeric and colour-coded code | a. Supports efficient navigation through the city. |
| 2. Local offices or railway stations | b. Facilitates categorizing and transporting lunchboxes. |
| 3. Mumbai's suburban train network | c. Delivery to the customer's doorstep. |
| 4. Dabbawalas' bicycles and handcarts | d. Ensures accurate distribution and diminishes errors |
- (A) 1-A, 2-B, 3-B, 4-D (B) 1-B, 2-A, 3-D, 4-C (C) 1-C, 2-D, 3-B, 4-A (D) 1-D, 2-B, 3-A, 4-C
- (v) What does "Six Sigma" mean in the context of the passage? (1)
- (A) A certification for high rate of error and lost goods in deliveries.
- (B) A certification for minimal errors in deliveries, indicating quality and efficiency.
- (C) A type of advanced technology used for deliveries or courier service.
- (D) A method of centralized management of food delivery apps.

- (vi) Fill in the gap meaningfully. (1)
 Each dabbawala collects an average of _____ lunchboxes from customers' homes, for an average cost of Rs. ____; this give the dabbawala earn a salary of roughly _____ rupees a month.
 (A) 10, 500, 8000 (B) 20, 800,10000 (C) 30, 800, 12000 (D) 40, 1000, 14000
- (vii) What does the word 'prestigious' mean as used in paragraph (c)? (1)
 (A) Respected (B) Influential (C) Famous (D) Exclusive
- (viii) Use the word 'impeccable' in a sentence of your own in the same context as used in paragraph (a). (1)

3. Read the passage given below.

- (a) Mindfulness, the practice of being fully present and aware of one's thoughts and feelings without judgment, has become an increasingly popular personal habit. This practice involves paying attention to the present moment and acknowledging one's experiences without reacting or becoming overwhelmed. By doing so, individuals can cultivate a deeper understanding of themselves and their surroundings.
- (b) Research suggests that mindfulness can have significant positive effects on mental health. Regular practice helps to reduce stress, anxiety, and symptoms of depression. By focusing on the present moment, individuals can gain greater clarity and control over their thoughts and emotions, leading to improved emotional regulation and resilience. This enhanced emotional stability can also foster a more positive outlook on life, enabling individuals to better navigate challenges.
- (c) Mindfulness also contributes to enhanced concentration and productivity. By training the mind to stay focused, individuals can improve their ability to complete tasks efficiently and effectively. Additionally, mindfulness can promote better relationships, as individuals become more attuned to their own and others' emotions, leading to greater empathy and understanding. This heightened awareness can facilitate more harmonious interactions and stronger social bonds.
- (d) Incorporating mindfulness into daily routines can be achieved through simple practices such as meditation, mindful breathing, or paying attention during routine activities like eating or walking. Even brief moments of mindfulness, such as taking a few deep breaths before a meeting or during a break, can be beneficial. The positive impact of mindfulness extends to various aspects of life, making it a valuable habit for enhancing overall well-being and effectiveness. By integrating mindfulness into daily life, individuals can experience improved mental clarity, better emotional balance, and a more fulfilling existence.
- (i) On the basis of your reading of the passage, make notes on it in points only, using abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply a suitable title. (5)
- (ii) Write a summary of the notes in 50 words. (3)

SECTION-B Grammar and Writing Sections (23 Marks)

4. Fill in the blanks with the correct option to make the paragraph meaningful. (3x1=3)
 The artist explained that by the time the new gallery opens, she (i) _____ (complete) her series of paintings. She (ii) _____ (work) on them for months and hoped that the public (iii) _____ (appreciate) the effort and creativity involved.
- (i) (A) will have completed (B) completes (C) has completed (D) will complete
 (ii) (A) works (B) had worked (C) will work (D) has been working
 (iii) (A) will appreciate (B) appreciates (C) has appreciated (D) would appreciate
5. Rearrange the phrases/words to form meaningful sentences. (4x1=4)
- (i) is / the / significance / time / of / management / effective / often / underestimated
 (ii) this / was / particularly / handled / challenging / with / situation / remarkable / composure
 (iii) technology / systems / integrating / revolutionized / rapidly / changing / into / has / industries
 (iv) organizations / market / need / a / succeed / diverse / to / in / a competitive / global / workforce

- 6 A You are Sneha F-46, Sec.-9, Rohini, Delhi. You are well qualified in music and dance forms (Classical). Draft an advertisement for seeking work/ job to be published in local daily. (50 words) (3)
- OR**
- 6 B You have a prime space approximately 5000 sq. ft. near Mathura Road suitable for show rooms, Mall/Plaza etc. Draft an advertisement for the 'For Sale' column of a daily newspaper. (50 words)
- 7 A World First Aid Day is observed on 11th September every year. The day raises awareness among the public about how first aid can save lives in case of crises. First aid should be accessible to all people and should be an important part of developmental societies. As a concerned citizen, draft a poster to raise awareness on the importance of this day. (50 words) (3)
- OR**
- 7 B Rose Day is observed on 22nd September every year for the welfare of cancer patients or we can say that this day marks the hope for cancer patients that it is curable. Draft a poster to raise awareness about this disease and to give hope to cancer patients. (50 words)
- 8 A The rivers of India play a significant role in people's lives. They provide drinking water, affordable transportation, electricity, and livelihoods for many people across the world. This easily explains why almost all of India's major cities are situated along the banks of rivers. Draft a speech to be delivered in your class about the important role played by rivers in the life of people. Highlight the fact that rivers are harmed by dumping of effluents and garbage, among other reasons. Suggest possible remedies to reverse this degradation of rivers. You are Ayaan/Ayaana of class 11, Arya Vidya Vihar. (120-150 words) You may use the following hints. Source of water and food- crucial for trade, agriculture, transport - cultural and spiritual significance- crucial for maintaining ecological balance- threatened by pollution and waste- call for conservation efforts (5)
- OR**
- 8 B Imagine that you are Aniket/Anita of the Book Club of Vasant Valley School. You have been asked by the Principal to deliver a speech on 'Effective Study Habits for Better Grades' to the students of grades 6 to 10. Prepare the speech in 120-150 words. Use the following hints and your own ideas to prepare the speech. set specific goals- use active learning techniques- create a dedicated study space- regular review and self-assessment- practice time management- maintain a healthy lifestyle- participate in study groups- viewing challenges as opportunities for improvement (5)
- 9 A *With its population estimated to touch 142.86 crores, marginally ahead of China, India overtook China as the world's most populous country, according to the UNFPA's State of the World Population Report in 2023.* Based on this report, write a debate for or against the motion 'Our large population is not a cause of poverty but an asset, a resource.' You are Amit/ Amita, a class 11 debater participating in Rotary Inter-School Debate Competition held in Vadodara. Write in 120-150 words. Use the hints given below. **For:** diverse talent pool-economic growth- demo-graphic dividend: high percentage of the population in the productive age group, human resource, global competitive edge **Against:** resource strain, unemployment and underemployment, inequality and poverty, health and education challenges, sustainability concerns (5)
- OR**
- 9 B *India is witnessing a surge in the number of nuclear families. As per data from Kantar Research Platform, nearly 50 per cent of all households in India are nuclear (1-4 members). Almost 30 per cent of the elderly in India either live alone or with another older family member, without any younger member to provide care. Data show that there are 70 per cent household without any elders, and almost 30 per cent families comprise only elders. – The Hindu Businessline* On the basis of the above news article, your teacher has asked you to prepare for a class debate on the topic 'Rising Disparity in Number of Nuclear Families and Elderly Care in India'. You may use the following hints. Write for or against the motion. (120-150 words)

For : Nuclear families lack enough younger members to take care of elderly relatives- isolation and mental health challenges for the elderly- increased risk to physical and mental health; neglect by family- traditional systems of shared responsibilities in joint families disappearing - paying for external caregiving services adds financial strain on families

Against: Many elderly prefer living independently, do not require constant care- health apps and technology help families provide care remotely -trained caregivers offer specialized services, which may be more effective than family support- nuclear families often have better economic resources to hire proper elderly care

SECTION-C Literature Textbook (31 Marks)

10. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow. (3x1=3)

*"I descend to lave the droughts, atomies, dust-layers of the globe,
And all that in them without me were seeds only, latent, unborn;
And forever, by day and night, I give back life to my own origin,
and make pure and beautify it"*

- (i) The phrase "I give back life to my own origin" suggests that the speaker _____.
(A) Receives life from the earth (B) Is detached from the natural cycle
(C) Contributes to a regenerative process (D) Transforms seeds into dust
- (ii) What does the speaker claim to do continuously by day and night?
(A) Revive and purify the earth (B) Protect the seeds from being dormant
(C) Observe the dust layers of the globe (D) Maintain the droughts in their natural state
- (iii) Which literary device is used in the line "I descend to lave the droughts, atomies, dust-layers of the globe"?
(A) Simile (B) Personification (C) Alliteration (D) Hyperbole

11. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow. (3x1=3)

*"It's out there in front of us," they chorused, "as big as a battleship."
I rushed on deck and gazed with relief at the stark outline of Ile Amsterdam. It was only a bleak piece of volcanic rock, with little vegetation — the most beautiful island in the world!"*

- (i) How does the contrast between the island's appearance and the speaker's reaction enhance the narrative?
(A) It suggests that the speaker prefers simple, barren landscapes.
(B) It emphasizes the speaker's love for nature.
(C) It highlights the strategic importance of the island.
(D) It shows how even ordinary things can be valuable in difficult times.
- (ii) What can be inferred about the emotions of the speaker before they saw the island?
(A) They were indifferent. (B) They were filled with joy.
(C) They were anxious or worried. (D) They were disappointed.
- (iii) Why did the speaker describe Ile Amsterdam as "the most beautiful island in the world"?
(A) Because of its rich vegetation (B) Because they were relieved to see land
(C) Because of its historical significance (D) Because it was a famous tourist destination

12. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow. (4x1=4)

"Mrs. Pearson: [airily] No, I wouldn't go that far. I might make a bed or two and do a bit of cooking as a favour. Which means, of course, I'll have to be asked very nicely and thanked for everything and generally made a fuss of. But any of you forty-hour-a-weekers who expect to be waited on hand and foot on Saturday and Sunday, with no thanks for it, are in for a nasty disappointment. Might go off for the week-end perhaps."

- (i) What does Mrs. Pearson intend to convey through this passage?
 (A) She is willing to help out with household chores unconditionally.
 (B) She is tired of doing housework and plans to leave for the weekend.
 (C) She will only do housework if she is treated with respect and appreciation.
 (D) She enjoys being the primary caretaker in the family.
- (ii) How does Mrs. Pearson's use of the phrase "forty-hour-a-weekers" contribute to her overall tone?
 (A) It highlights her empathy towards her family members' busy schedules.
 (B) It sarcastically criticizes her family's expectation that she work on weekends.
 (C) It reinforces her admiration for the hard work of her family.
 (D) It indicates her willingness to help out when others are tired.
- (iii) What does the word "airily" suggest about Mrs. Pearson's attitude in this passage?
 (A) She is indifferent and uninterested in the situation.
 (B) She is speaking with a carefree, dismissive tone.
 (C) She shows overly enthusiastic and excited behaviour.
 (D) She is anxious and nervous about her decision.

(iv) Make a sentence using the idiom 'to make a fuss of' as used in the extract.

13. Answer ANY TWO of the following questions in about 40- 50 words each. (3x2=6)

- (i) Why did Khushwant Singh cherish the moist imprint of his grandmother's kiss as the last sign of physical contact between them?
- (ii) How does the poet Ted Hughes explore the colour yellow in *The Laburnum Top*?
- (iii) Compare 'A Photograph' and 'The Portrait of a Lady' for their themes and treatment of subject.

14. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in about 40- 50 words each. (3x1=3)

- (i) "Well, it seemed to me stealing a horse for a ride was not the same thing as stealing something else, such as money." What do these words of Aram reveal about his morals?
- (ii) Interpret the thoughts of Marga Minco when she says "Things which were hidden away in cupboards and boxes...which had endured all those years because they were things."

15. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120-150 words. (1x6=6)

- (A) How have advancements in archaeology and preservation techniques changed the way ancient artifacts, documents and mummies etc. are handled today compared to Carter's time? Discuss the importance of these changes in preserving cultural heritage. (*Discovering Tut: the Saga Continues*)

OR

- (B) Imagine you are one of the children aboard the *Wavewalker* during the storm. Write a diary entry describing your thoughts and emotions during the most intense moments of the journey. Consider how the raging sea, the uncertainty of survival, and your family's courage affected you. How did you find strength in that challenging situation, and what memories or feelings kept you hopeful?

16. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120-150 words. (1x6=6)

- (A) Meera, a 30-year-old woman from rural India, endured years of physical and emotional abuse from her husband. With the support of a local women's group, she sought legal help and found shelter. Meera is now rebuilding her life, advocating for domestic violence survivors.

Taking cues from Meera's case and from the play 'Mother's Day', write an article highlighting the plight of women, the root causes for it and possible remedies in a culture like India.

OR

- (B) Why do you think the story is titled 'The Address'? What does the address symbolize in the story, and how does it relate to the main character's emotions and memories?