



ANANDALAYA
PERIODIC TEST-2
Class : XII

Subject : English Core (301)
Date : 19-09-2024

M.M : 80
Time : 3 hours

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains three sections.
2. Section A-Reading Section has two passages for comprehension.
3. Section B-Writing Section has 4 questions. Adhere to the word limit as given in the instructions with each question.
4. Section C-Literature Section has 7 questions. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit.

SECTION-A

READING SKILLS (22 marks)

Reading Comprehension Through Unseen Passages

1. Read the passage given below. (12)
 - a. Those of us who grew up in multilingual places can recall that moment when we first noticed resemblances between different languages spoken around us. I remember my surprise when, as a child, I discovered that the word for father in French, Spanish and Latin looked alike: *père*, *padre* and *pater*. And then my father told me that it did not end there. The word for father in Hindi was *pitā*, and there was a Sanskrit word, *pitṛ*, which looked even more like the Latin *pater*. The English word father too, he assured me, was part of the line-up, with the initial *p* having softened' to become an *f*.
 - b. That sent me on a journey to find more of these cognate words- cognate being from the Latin *co-gnatus*, which meant 'together-born' - for these could not be loanwords, borrowings needed to give names to new objects and new concepts in mature languages. Even at that age I knew that words like father and mother were too basic and thus too old to be anything but core vocabulary. Soon I discovered that philologists (linguists who study the origins of words), regarded all these languages as members of a larger Indo-European language family. They were actually related. But they did not look all that alike. They were not, for example, mutually intelligible. Forget Hindi and English... just in India, knowing Hindi did that you not mean automatically understood Marathi or Bengali.
 - c. Each of these modern languages seemed to bear the stamp of the region it belonged to. As in Europe, once you got past the stray words, you would find striking differences in the grammars and sound systems of the languages. Hindi, for example, has two grammatical genders-masculine and feminine- with not just adjectives and the but even verbs having to 'agree' in gender with the nouns. Marathi has three genders- masculine, feminine the neuter. Bengali, however, does not have grammatical gender at all, and neither did the Bhojpuri I had heard in Trinidad as a child.
 - d. For me, these differences raised more interesting questions than what the initial similarities in vocabulary had done. It was as if modern Indian languages had an extra strand to them, one that preserved a story of earlier people who had survived a encounters with new settlers, and of a fusion between people chat got mirrored in the languages they made. How did these languages come to mix, and what does it tell us about the people who speak them? What does it tell us about the backstory of today's Indians?

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

- (i) Statement 1: Father in Latin is called “*pater*”. (1)
 Statement 2: Father in Sanskrit is called “*pitr*”
 Conclusion: The word “*pater*” in Latin has been borrowed from “Sanskrit”.
 (A) Both the statements are correct and the conclusion follows.
 (B) Both the statements are correct but the conclusion does not follow.
 (C) Only Statement 1 is correct.
 (D) Only Statement 2 is correct.
- (ii) Select the statements which are true according to the passage. (1)
 (i) Each Indian language though related, has a unique regional character.
 (ii) Languages carry stories of past and present of the people speaking it
 (iii) Languages may belong to the same family but one cannot be called source of the other
 (iv) Languages borrow words to name new things or concepts.
 (v) Languages mirror fusion of culture
 (A) All the statements are correct (B) only i, ii, iv are correct
 (C) only i, iii are incorrect (D) ii, i, iii and v are correct; iv is incorrect
- (iii) Which statement from the ones stated below must be included in the summary of paragraph ‘c’? (1)
 (A) Hindi has two grammatical genders, Marathi has three and Bengali has none.
 (B) Indian Languages may share similarities but are still distinctly individualistic
 (C) Indian Languages carry regional identity and have different grammar and sound systems
 (D) Indian Languages share common vocabularies and grammatical structures but distinct sound systems.
- (iv) Shubhangi: I am so proud to be a Hindi speaking Indian. Hindi is the purest language with defined grammar. (1)
 Shubhra: I speak Malayalam at home and I feel just as much pride as you do. We too have defined grammar you know.
 Vidhi: Everyone thinks their language is the best, purest and most melodious. After all,
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- Complete the dialogue by choosing the right proverb.
 (A) Every horse thinks its own pack is heaviest. (B) Familiarity breeds contempt.
 (C) Grass is always greener on the other side. (D) If you can’t beat them, join them.
- (v) Assertion: Philologists consider, Latin, French, English, Hindi and Sanskrit as part of the family of Indo-European languages. (1)
 Reason: The languages share common vocabulary and structure but are not mutually intelligible.
 (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
 (B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
 (C) A is true but R is false.
 (D) A is false but R is true

- (vi) Why did the difference in the languages fascinate the writer more than similarities? (1)
- (A) Because similarities are obvious but the reason behind the similarities is impossible to explore.
- (B) Because similarities don't give any scope of further exploration while differences open doors to many relevant questions.
- (C) Because differences were easier to spot than the similarities which were veiled and not apparent.
- (D) Because the differences told the story of the interaction of the people and the languages through time.
- (vii) Which word in Paragraph 1 is an antonym of "distinctiveness"? (1)
- (viii) What purpose does the comparison of Hindi, Bengali and Marathi serve? (1)
- (A) It serves as an example of unity in diversity in Indian languages.
- (B) It serves as an evidence for a point stated by the writer at the beginning of the paragraph.
- (C) It aims to grab readers' attention through interesting factual references.
- (D) It explains why languages are different.
- (ix) Avantika: Sanskrit is the oldest language on this planet and the mother of all languages. (1)
- Shrutika: There is no scientific evidence to support that conjecture. Languages are a result of confluence of cultures. One can't be called source of another.
- (A) Avantika and Shrutika both are correct but Shrutika supports her argument better.
- (B) Avantika is wrong.
- (C) Shrutika's argument portrays her scientific temperament and balanced mindset while Avantika betrays her emotional nature.
- (D) Avantika's argument echoes her misconceptions while Shrutika speaks with authority of evidence.
- (x) Select the correct meaning of the word "encounter" in the context in which it is used in the passage. (1)
- (A) to meet as an adversary or enemy
- (B) a particular kind of meeting or experience with another person
- (C) a sudden often violent clash
- (D) a chance meeting
- (xi) What made the writer initiate into the study of cognate words (1)
- (A) Her multilingual background
- (B) Her interest in languages
- (C) Her fascination with similarity in vocabulary
- (D) Her need to understand her cultural background
- (xii) India cannot have a common national language because _____. (1)
- (A) The country's plethora of languages clash with each other
- (B) While Indians have very united on the surface, there is lot of political tension underneath
- (C) While Indian languages share similarities, they are not mutually intelligible
- (D) While languages share common roots, people associate them with their ego and refuse to compromise.

2. Read the passage given below.

(10)

Rural children in India have clear career aspirations, with a focus on professions such as police, teaching, medicine, Army, and engineering. However, there are notable gender differences in these choices. Boys show a preference for the Army (13.8%) and police (13.6%), while girls commonly choose teaching (16%) and medicine (14.8%), with police (12.5%) being the third most popular option. Interestingly, the gender gap is smallest for those aspiring to join the police, a TOI report stated.

According to the ASER 2023 'Beyond Basics' report, 21% of rural children aged 14 to 18 have not yet thought about their future careers, and 2.1% do not want to work. The report also highlights regional variations in career preferences. For example, in Hathras (Uttar Pradesh), over a third of girls were unable to identify a career aspiration. On the other hand, in Dhamtari (Chhattisgarh) and Solan (Himachal Pradesh), the most common choice among girls is to become teachers or doctors. The micro-data reveals stark regional differences. While the police profession is the most preferred choice for children in Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Gujarat, teaching ranks as the top choice among girls in Tripura, Rajasthan, and Chhattisgarh, with more than 30% of girls aspiring to be teachers in the first two states.

Nationally, the Army is a popular career option in the hill states of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Nagaland. However, the preference for the Army among girls in these states is lower, at 7% or less. Engineering, which is among the top five career choices for rural children, is particularly popular in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka, with over 15% of males in each state preferring this field. The report also highlights that the career aspirations of rural children have remained relatively stable since 2017. Males continue to aspire to join the Army, police, or become engineers, while females show a preference for teaching and medicine, with police now being the third most popular choice for girls, surpassing nursing.

The analysis of the Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) held with girls participating in the survey reveals that the socioeconomic context of their location greatly influences their perceptions of future career possibilities. Many girls feel limited in their choices due to their household circumstances and view their skills as a means of generating additional income for the family. One notable deviation highlighted in the report is the lack of aspiration for careers in agriculture, despite the fact that 58.4% of individuals in rural India work in this sector according to the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2022-23. Only 1.4% of children aged 14-18 express a desire to pursue agriculture as their primary occupation. The report suggests that agriculture is often associated with dropping out of school and is perceived as arduous labour performed under the sun. Parents aspire for their children to pursue more respectable professions. The report also emphasizes the role of schools in shaping children's career aspirations and suggests that they need to play a more active role in this regard.

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

- (i) What point does the following data prove?

(1)

“Boys show a preference for the Army (13.8%) and police (13.6%), while girls commonly choose teaching (16%) and medicine (14.8%), with police (12.5%) being the third most popular option.”

- (A) Boys and girls differ in their choice of careers
- (B) Boys choose more physically strenuous jobs
- (C) Girls choose more nurturing careers
- (D) Boys choose careers that would give them more secure income

- (ii) “Army is a popular career choice for boys in the hilly regions but not for girls” (1)
- (A) Statement is true
- (B) Statement is false
- (C) It is just conjecture
- (D) May or may not be true
- (iii) What suggests India’s shift from a primary sector intensive economy to a tertiary sector intensive economy? (1)
- (A) Girls stepping into service sector jobs
- (B) Boys getting attracted to engineering jobs
- (C) Rural students turning away from Agriculture
- (D) Increase in number of schools and colleges
- (iv) Vinay: My sister wishes to serve in the police force. My mother thinks it is not a job for women. (1)
- Mugdha: That is not right, women have a vast potential that remains untapped because people keep telling them what they cannot do.
- What would Mugdha most likely say to Vinay’s mother to convince her to change her opinion?
- (A) Michelle Obama said, “No country can ever truly flourish if it stifles the potential of its women and deprives itself of the contributions of half its citizens”
- (B) Michelle Obama said, “There is no limit to what we, as women, can accomplish.”
- (C) I agree with Brigham Young that, “You educate a man; you educate a man. You educate a woman; you educate a generation.”
- (D) Maya Angelou once wrote, “We may encounter many defeats but we must not be defeated.”
- (v) Assertion: They choose careers through which they can contribute to the family income. (1)
- Reason: Girls’ choices are limited because of their socio-economic status.
- (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (C) A is true but R is false.
- (D) A is false but R is true
- (vi) What is the main aim of the article? (1)
- (A) to summarise a social survey report
- (B) to present data regarding an important national concern
- (C) to prove that boys are given more freedom than girls
- (D) to establish that girls choose careers that would be socially acceptable
- (vii) Which statement must be mentioned in the summary of the above mentioned article? (1)
- (A) Schools play an important role in shaping minds of students and they must take this role seriously
- (B) Girls need to be given more freedom regarding their career choices
- (C) Boys need to be trained for professional careers
- (D) State must encourage study of agricultural practices

- (viii) Statement 1: 21% of rural children aged 14 to 18 have not yet thought about their future careers (1)
Statement 2: 2.1% of rural children aged 14 to 18 do not want to work.
Conclusion: There is lack of direction and dedication in the life of rural youth.
(A) Both the statements are correct and the conclusion follows.
(B) Both the statements are correct but the conclusion does not follow.
(C) Only Statement 1 is correct.
(D) Only Statement 2 is correct.
- (ix) Which word in paragraph 3 means the same as “ambition”? (1)
- (x) What are the basis of differences in career choices as cited by the writer in the article? (1)
i. gender ii. caste iii. region iv. socio-economic background v. prevalent literacy rate
(A) i and iii only
(B) all of the above
(C) all except ii
(D) i, iii, iv only

SECTION-B

CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (18 Marks)

Note: All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

3. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below. (50 words) (4)
- A. You are the Secretary of J.P. Narain Housing Society, R.W.A., Meerut. Draft a notice stating that the second instalment of maintenance charges falls due on 31st October 2024, and requesting the members to pay before the due date. Sign as Anil/Anita Srivas.
- OR**
- B. You are Scout Master/Guide Captain of K.R. Sagar Public School, Mysore. You have decided to send a troop of scouts and guides of your school to the jamboree* to be held at Lucknow for a week. Draft a notice to be placed on the school notice board inviting the names of those scouts and guides who are interested to participate in the jamboree. Invent the necessary details.
* a large rally of Scouts
4. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below. (50 words) (4)
- A. Your friend, P.V. Sathish, has invited you to attend the wedding of his sister, Jaya. You find that you have an important paper of pre-board examination on the day of the wedding. Thus, you cannot attend the event. Write a formal reply to the invitation expressing your regret. You are Puneet/Puneeta Viji, M 114, Fort Road, Chennai.
- OR**
- B. You are organising an Exhibition of Painting ‘Nayika Series’ on 30th September, 2024 at Swatantra Bhavan Art Gallery, Jammu & Kashmir at 5:45 p.m. Draft an invitation card to invite the General Public. Take yourself as Danish/Ghazal Bhat.

5. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below. (120-150 words) (5)

- A. You are Ramesh/Rajani Shukla, living at 1, Rana Pratap Marg, New Delhi. Read the advertisement given below and apply for the job that suits you giving your bio-data separately.

Sun University requires Lecturers in English and Demonstrators in Physics, Chemistry and Botany for their new Campus at Panipat. Candidates with a minimum of 5-year experience alone can apply. Excellent command of English is a must. Excellent package and compensation for experienced persons. Those interested may e-mail to sununiversityjobs@gmail.com or mail their response to: Box no 123, 'The Harbinger', New Delhi. Selected candidates will be called for an interview.

OR

- B. There is a flood of advertisements on television channels these days. Useless commodities and even superstitious beliefs are promoted through glamorous and exaggerated presentations. Write a letter to the Editor, 'New Indian Express' about the negative influence such advertisements have on the minds of the people. You are Radha/ Ramesh of Mayur Vihar, Lucknow.

6. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below. (120-150 words) (5)

- A. The whole country is outraged because of the heinous crime happened against a lady doctor in Kolkata. Write an article highlighting the rising crimes against women in India and give a suitable title. Also, write practical solutions to resolve the problem. You may use the following hints.

- The NCRB (National Crime Records Bureau) report detailed a substantial escalation in reported crimes against women, soaring from 3,71,503 cases in 2020 to 4,45,256 cases in 2022.
- The report highlighted that a significant proportion of crimes against women under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) involved 'Cruelty Relatives' (31.4%), 'Kidnapping and Abduction of Women' (19.2%), 'Assault on Women' (18.7%), and 'Rape' (7.1%). The crime rate per lakh women population rose to 66.4% in 2022% from 64.5 in 2021.
- 32% of ever-married women reported having experienced physical, sexual, or emotional violence by their husbands in their lifetime.

OR

- B. India in the recent Paris Olympics won six bronze and a silver medal. For a country of 140 crores this success is not very significant. Write an article on the pathetic situation of sports in India at international level and suggest pragmatic and effective solutions to improve standard of sports in the country. You may use the following hints.

- adequate infrastructure, equipment and human resources in schools, colleges and sports institutions.
- sport teachers to take their jobs seriously.
- awareness and orientation to youngsters and parents.
- regular competitions in sports for all ages.
- providing professional facilities to sportspersons.
- encouragement by the government and media.

SECTION-C

LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 marks)

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions. (6x1=6)

*Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen,
Bright topaz denizens of a world of green
They do not fear the men beneath the tree,
They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.*

- (i) The tigers prance across the screen because; (1)
- (A) They are shown excited and jovial as aunt is also feeling the same.
(B) Aunt wants to express her unfulfilled desire through the tigers.
(C) Spirited tigers look appropriate in the art made by her.
(D) She made spirited tigers so that she can come out of her depression.
- (ii) The literary device used in the 'bright topaz' is; (1)
- (A) Simile (B) Imagery
(C) Hyperbole (D) Metaphor
- (iii) Why do the tigers unafraid of the men? (1)
- (A) They are confident of their power to kill the men.
(B) The men are weapon less and can't do anything to the tigers.
(C) It is quite natural that tigers should be unafraid of anyone else.
(D) Aunt wants to show them unafraid which is her inner desire.
- (iv) The word chivalric means; (1)
- (A) Persuasive (B) Courageous
(C) Powerful protector (D) Dominating
- (v) What are her tigers symbolic of? (1)
- (vi) How are Aunt Jennifer's tigers described? (1)
8. Read the given extracts and answer the questions. (4x1=4)
- MR LAMB: Some call them weeds. If you like, then....a weed garden, that. There's fruit and there are flowers, trees and herbs. All sorts. But over there....weeds. I grow weeds there. Why is one green, growing plant called a weed and another 'flower'? Where's the difference? It's all life.... growing. Same as you and me.*
- (i) Why does Mr. Lamb grow a weed garden? (1)
- (ii) What is the difference between weeds and flowers according to Mr. Lamb? (1)
- (A) Weeds and flowers both represent life and are same.
(B) Flowers can be used for decoration but weeds are useless.
(C) Weeds are unwanted but flowers are desired.
(D) Weeds : Flowers : : Selfishness : Beauty

- (iii) *“The social and cognitive processes during the early years of a child’s life, in relation to how their family, friends and others around them react to their disfigurement, will affect their self-esteem, their sense of worth and their self-confidence.”* (1)

The statement shows that;

- (A) Derry has lost his confidence as his family is disappointed with his deformity.
 (B) Derry must live with people having deformity to gain self-confidence.
 (C) Derry should try to make his family understand that deformity doesn’t make any difference.
 (D) Mr. Lamb and Derry are natural partners having some type of deformity.

- (iv) Why does Mr. Lamb tell Derry the philosophy of weeds and flowers? (1)

- (A) Derry should accept himself as a weed.
 (B) Derry shouldn’t expect people to consider him as a flower or herb.
 (C) Derry is unwanted like a weed.
 (D) A weed and Derry both are life and important.

9. Read the given extracts and answer the questions. (6x1=6)

Since you have been so nice to me all day long, as if I was a captain, I want to be nice to you, in return, as if I was a real captain — for I do not want you to be embarrassed at this Christmas season by a thief; but you can give back the money to the old man on the roadside, who has the money pouch hanging on the window frame as a bait for poor wanderers.

The rattrap is a Christmas present from a rat who would have been caught in this world’s rattrap if he had not been raised to captain, because in that way he got power to clear himself. “Written with friendship and high regard, Captain von Stahle.”

- (i) Which of the following can’t be attributed to the peddler, according to the above extract? (1)

- (A) Indebtedness (B) Reform
 (C) Self-pity (D) Self-awareness

- (ii) Why did the peddler gift a rattrap as a Christmas present? (1)

- (A) It was all the peddler had that he could give away, and represented his turn to honesty.
 (B) It symbolized his successful escape from entrapment as he returned the stolen money.
 (C) It served as a reminder for Edla to be wary of the dangerous temptations of the world.
 (D) It was a practical and convenient present that the lady of the house could effectively use.

- (iii) The word ‘frame’ has been used to indicate a rigid structure that surrounds something such as a picture, door, or windowpane. There are other meanings of ‘frame’ too. (1)

Choose the option that doesn’t list the meaning of ‘frame’

(1) a person’s body with reference to its size or build	(2) a single complete picture in a series forming a cinema, T.V., or video film	(3) the triangular structure for positioning the red balls in snooker	(4) a thin solid object that seals a container or hole; a lid
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- (A) Option (1) (B) Option (2)
 (C) Option (3) (D) Option (4)

- (iv) This communication includes; (1)

- 1) a promise 2) regret 3) an apology 4) shame
 (A) only 4 (B) only 1
 (C) 1 & 3 (D) 2 & 4

- (v) The peddler signed as Captain von Stahle because; (1)
- (A) he wanted to woo Edla being von Stahle himself.
- (B) being Captain von Stahle he would've stolen more things in future.
- (C) he wished to raise himself up to the stature of Captain von Stahle.
- (D) he wanted to assure Edla that she didn't do anything wrong by harbouring him.
- (vi) Why did he return the money? (1)
- (A) He wanted to come out of the trap and prove that he was not a rat anymore.
- (B) He didn't want to be in the police custody in future.
- (C) He knew that the old man was in need of that money.
- (D) He wanted to impress Edla by showing that he was not a rat anymore.
10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following in about 40-50 words each. (5x2=10)
- (i) Why had the bulletin-board become a centre of attention during the last two years? (The Last Lesson) (2)
- (ii) What does the title, 'Lost Spring' convey? (2)
- (iii) Why did Douglas go to Lake Wentworth in New Hampshire? (Deep Water) (2)
- (iv) Do you think the poet, Pablo Neruda advocates total inactivity and death? Why/ Why not? (2)
- (v) What is the message of the poem, 'A Thing of Beauty'? (2)
- (vi) What is the meaning of the phrase, 'massive weight of uncle's wedding band'? (Aunt Jennifer's Tigers) (2)
11. Answer ANY TWO of following in about 40-50 words each. (2x2=4)
- (i) How can a visit to the Antarctica be an enlightening experience? (2)
- (ii) In what context does Hana remember the cruel nature of General Takima? (The Enemy) (2)
- (iii) What does the third level refer to? What is the significance of the third level? (2)
12. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words. (1x5=5)
- A. "It is his 'karam', his destiny" that made Mukesh's grandfather go blind. How did Mukesh disprove this belief by choosing a new vocation and making his own destiny?

OR

- B. The Champaran episode was a turning point in Gandhiji's life and Indian freedom struggle. Elucidate.
13. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words. (1x5=5)
- A. To choose between professional loyalty and patriotism was a dilemma for Dr. Sadao. How did he succeed in betraying neither? (The Enemy)

OR

- B. Derry said, "It (acid) ate me up." How did this fact affect his attitude towards life? (On the Face of It)