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Series S5RPQ

SET-1

Q.P. Code **1/5/1**

Roll No. | | | | | | | | |

Candidates must write the Q.P. Code on the title page of the answer-book.

[ ]

NOTE

(I) Please check that this question paper contains **19** printed pages.

(II) Q.P. Code given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.

(III) Please check that this question paper contains **13** questions.

(IV) **Please write down the Serial Number of the question in the answer-book at the given place before attempting it.**

(V) 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the candidates will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.

ENGLISH (Core)

*Time allowed : **3** hours* *Maximum Marks : **80***

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

*(i) This question paper has **13** questions. **All** questions are **compulsory**.*

*(ii) This question paper contains **three** sections — Section A : **Reading Skills**, Section B : **Creative Writing Skills** and Section C : **Literature**.*

(iii) Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.

(iv) Separate instructions are given with each question / part, wherever necessary.

(v) Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

(vi) All the names, addresses, etc. used in the questions are fictitious. Resemblance, if any, is purely coincidental.

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SECTION A

Reading Skills (22 marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully : *12*

(1) Robotics is transforming the healthcare landscape by revolutionizing the way medical procedures are executed, patients are managed and hospital operations are streamlined. The seamless integration of artificial intelligence (AI), engineering and automation has catalysed the emergence of cutting-edge robotic technologies that are making healthcare more precise, efficient and accessible than ever before. From surgical theatres to outpatient clinics, robotics is enhancing workflow efficiency and significantly improving clinical outcomes.

(2) Among its most notable applications is robot-assisted surgery. Advanced systems such as the 'Da Vinci Surgical Robot' empower surgeons with superior visualization, refined control and pinpoint accuracy. These minimally invasive techniques reduce surgical trauma, minimize complications and shorten recovery periods. Robotic surgery has proven especially transformative in intricate disciplines like cardiothoracic, gynaecological and neurosurgical procedures where precision is paramount.

(3) In the realm of rehabilitation therapy, robotics play a crucial role in helping patients regain motor functions following strokes, spinal cord injuries or orthopaedic surgeries. Devices like robotic exoskeletons and motion-guided therapy systems provide consistent, repetitive movements that are vital for neuro-muscular recovery — often surpassing the capabilities of manual therapy. These systems also enable real-time monitoring and adaptive treatment planning, offering a more individualized and effective rehabilitation process.

(4) Hospital automation is another rapidly expanding frontier. Robots are increasingly being deployed to perform routine yet essential functions such as medicine delivery, room disinfection and food distribution. During the COVID-19 pandemic, their use in contactless service delivery proved invaluable in reducing exposure risks and maintaining stringent hygiene protocols. The advent of diagnostic robotics further underscores the transformative power of AI in medicine. These intelligent systems analyse medical data and imagery with exceptional accuracy, facilitating early detection of conditions such as cancer, cardio-vascular disease and diabetes. By enhancing diagnostic speed and reliability, they significantly contribute to timely and effective intervention.

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(5) In the field of geriatric care, assistive robots are being developed to support elderly individuals with medication reminders, vital sign monitoring and social engagement. These robots offer not only physical assistance but also emotional support, helping combat loneliness and cognitive decline — especially for those living alone or with limited human interaction.

(6) While the integration of robotics into healthcare does pose challenges — such as substantial implementation costs, the need for specialized training and concerns about diminished human connection — the long-term advantages far outweigh these limitations.

(7) As healthcare systems worldwide strive for greater accuracy, efficiency and inclusivity, robotics stands out as a catalyst for innovation. Its expanding role — from surgical precision to hospital automation and personalized patient care — heralds a future where technology and empathy coalesce to create a more advanced and humane healthcare ecosystem. *(427 words)*

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

(i) According to paragraph 1, what impact has robotics had on healthcare operations ? Mention any two. *1*

(ii) What does the use of the phrase 'from surgical theatres to outpatient clinics' convey about the scope of robotics in healthcare ? (Paragraph 1). *1*

(iii) The phrase 'superior visualization, refined control and pinpoint accuracy' emphasizes the advanced capabilities of robotic systems in surgery. (Paragraph 2) *1*

Choose the correct response from the two options (A) or (B) to complete the following sentence.

This highlights that robotic-assisted surgery primarily enhances _____.

(A) the mechanical speed of operations with minimal supervision.

(B) the precision and safety of complex surgical procedures.

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(iv) How does the writer emphasize the benefits of robotic-assisted surgery ? (Paragraph 2) *1*

(A) highlights how robotics can replace surgeons in all types of procedures

(B) shows how advanced systems improve accuracy and reduce patient trauma

(C) suggests robotic surgeries are faster but less reliable than traditional ones

(D) claims that robotics will eliminate the need for doctors in the future

(v) Complete the following suitably with one reason, with reference to paragraph 3. *1*

Today, rehabilitation therapy is a more individualized and effective process because _____.

(vi) Complete the analogy with one word from paragraph 4. *1*

necessary : essential : : emergence : _____

(A) advent (B) automation

(C) detection (D) intervention

(vii) Support with evidence from paragraph 4, how robotics are being deployed to help maintain strict sanitation protocol. *2*

(viii) Why is there a need to develop assistive robots ? (Paragraph 5) *2*

(ix) The integration of robotics into healthcare according to the given text is ironic because _____. *1*

(A) very few patients register for robotics-assisted therapy

(B) the country is not equipped to provide robots in villages

(C) it has resulted in an increase in human isolation

(D) human interaction has been enhanced with the use of AI

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(x) Which of the following best explains why robotics is considered a catalyst for innovation in healthcare despite its challenges ? (Para 7) *1*

(A) Robotics merges technological precision with patient-centred care, improving both efficiency and empathy in healthcare delivery.

(B) It eliminates human involvement in healthcare, making systems fully automated and cost-effective.

(C) Although robotics comprises emotional connection, it is not favoured in spite of being faster than traditional care.

(D) The high cost and complexity of robotics are outweighed by its ability to make healthcare impersonal but scalable.

2. Read the following passage carefully : *10*

(1) **Introduction :** Deforestation, the clearing of forest land for other uses, is a global environmental catastrophe with profound and often irreversible consequences. While its impact on climate change and biodiversity loss is widely recognised, its most immediate and devastating effects are often borne by indigenous tribes, whose existence is inextricably linked to the health of forest ecosystems. These communities, guardians of ancient knowledge and sustainable practices, face not only the loss of their physical homes but also the erosion of their cultural identity and traditional livelihoods.

(2) **Survey Examination :** Consider the plight of the Arava Tribe, a hypothetical indigenous community living deep within a remote part of the Arava Basin. For generations, the Arava have co-existed peacefully with the rainforest, drawing from its richness for food, healing and spiritual nourishment. Their traditional knowledge, passed down through generations, encompasses intricate understanding of plant properties, animal behaviour and sustainable resource management. The Arava's diet comprises forest-sourced fruits, nuts, wild game and freshwater fish, reflecting their deep ecological integration. Their shelters, constructed from indigenous materials and their ceremonial practices, aligned with seasonal forest rhythms, underscore a lifestyle symbiotically tied to their natural surroundings.

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(3) **Methodology and Implications :** Moreover, in recent decades, the Arava's ancestral lands have been encroached upon by illegal logging operations, cattle ranching and agricultural expansion. Vast tracts of their forest homes have been systematically cleared, leading to a cascade of environmental and social impacts. Environmentally, the loss of tree cover has resulted in localized climate shifts, including increased temperatures and altered rainfall patterns, leading to prolonged droughts and unpredictable floods. Biodiversity has plummeted, with many plant species vital for Arava medicine disappearing and traditional hunting grounds shrinking, impacting their food security. The pollution of waterways from agricultural runoff further compromises their health and access to clean drinking water.

(4) **Effects and Conclusion :** From a social and cultural perspective, the effects are equally dire. The destruction of sacred sites within the forest has severed spiritual ties. The forced displacement of families due to land loss has led to the breakdown of community structures and increased vulnerability to external diseases. Traditional knowledge, once practical for survival, becomes less relevant in a deforested landscape, leading to cultural erosion, particularly among younger generations. This disruption often results in increased poverty, loss of identity and heightened conflict with encroaching outsiders.

Social and Cultural Impacts of Deforestation on Indigenous Tribes

S.No.	Types of impact	Severity (on the scale of 1 – 10)
1	Destruction of sacred sites	7
2	Forced displacement	8
3	Breakdown of community structure	6
4	Vulnerability to diseases	5
5	Cultural erosion	7
6	Increased poverty	8
7	Loss of identity	7
8	Heightened conflict	6

Answer the following questions, based on the given passage.

(i) Complete the following suitably :

In the introduction, the author links deforestation with the global environment to highlight _____. *1*

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(ii) What would the following be classified as ? *1*

These communities ..... face not only the loss of their physical homes but also the erosion of their cultural identity.

Select the appropriate response.

(A) Primary purpose (B) Secondary objective

(C) Method of analysis (D) Research outcome

(iii) What does the phrase 'aligned with seasonal forest rhythms' suggest about the Arava's cultural practices and way of life ? (Any two points) (Paragraph 2) *2*

(iv) Paragraph 3 includes the words — 'encroached' and 'impact'. Classify the following sentences as 'encroached' or 'impact'. *1*

Sentence 1 : Illegal logging operations, cattle ranching and agricultural expansion have been systematically clearing forest area.

Sentence 2 : Plant species vital for medicine disappeared and waterways pollution compromised health.

(v) Give two points to support how Arava's diet and lifestyle reflects ecological integration. *1*

(vi) Analyse how indigenous communities face both physical loss and erosion of cultural identities. *2*

(vii) Which statement most accurately captures the fundamental message conveyed by the passage ? *1*

(A) Deforestation has contributed to changes in diet and health patterns among forest dwellers.

(B) Environmental degradation causes irreversible spiritual and economic damage to modern societies.

(C) Indigenous tribes are impacted by deforestation, losing their environment, traditions, identity and culture.

(D) The efforts to preserve forests must prioritize biodiversity over tribal welfare.

(viii) According to the given table, which two social or cultural impacts of deforestation are rated as most severe ? *1*

(A) forced displacement and increased poverty

(B) destruction of sacred sites and cultural erosion

(C) breakdown of community structure and heightened conflict

(D) vulnerability to diseases and loss of identity

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SECTION B
Creative Writing Skills (18 marks)

3. Attempt any ***one*** of the two, (a) or (b), in about 50 words. *1×4=4*

(a) Your school is planning to conduct an inter-class panel discussion on the topic 'Ethical Use of Social Media' to sensitise students about responsible online behaviour. You are Pragya/Paras, the head of the Organising Committee of Green View Public School. Write a notice to inform students and also invite registrations from classes XI and XII. Include all necessary details. Put your notice in a box.

OR

(b) Your school is celebrating 'Wellness Week' to promote healthy lifestyles. As the Cultural Secretary of Little Valley School, write a notice for the school bulletin board to inform students of classes IX to XII about a poster-making competition on the theme 'My Mental Health, My Priority'. Include other necessary details. You are Mahima/Manish. Put your notice in a box.

4. Attempt any ***one*** of the two, (a) or (b), in about 50 words. *1×4=4*

(a) You are Sonali/Sohum of Kalka Apartments, Jeevgarh. Your housing society is organising a Folk Dance Festival. It will showcase India's vibrant folk heritage through group and solo performances. Draft an informal invitation letter inviting your friend to the event. Include all necessary details.

OR

(b) You are Aarti/Aarav of 132, Shivaji Nagar, Meetnagar. Your friends have invited you to watch a live cricket match on 27th November, 2025 at the Naoroji Stadium. Unfortunately you have already agreed to volunteer on the same day at a community clean-up drive. Write an informal letter regretting your inability to accept the invitation.

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5. Attempt any ***one*** of the two, (a) or (b), in 120 – 150 words. *1×5=5*

(a) Plastic pollution has become a serious environmental hazard across the country. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily, expressing concern about the rising plastic pollution and suggesting effective measures to control it. You may use the cues given below along with your own ideas. You are Riya Verma/Raju Verma of 56 Nehru Nagar, Nazarshahar.

- excessive use of single-use plastics
- chokes drainage systems
- lack of public awareness
- improper garbage disposal and waste management
- need for eco-friendly alternatives
- role of schools, media and civic bodies

OR

(b) You are Kavya/Mehul from Lakeview Apartments, Jheelpur. You come across the following advertisement for the job of a graphic designer at PixelCraft Studios, a creative designing firm and wish to apply for the post advertised. Write your application along with your bio-data.

PixelCraft Studios
Invites
Applications for Graphic Designer

Job Responsibilities :
- Create visual content for digital campaigns, websites and branding
- Collaborate with marketing team on design concepts
- Ensure design consistency and creativity

Qualification :
- Degree/Diploma in Graphic Design or Fine Arts
- 2 – 4 years experience in a creative agency preferred

Skills Required :
- Proficiency in Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign)

Apply within 10 days to the Creative Director PixelCraft Studios
14, Green Park, Jheelpur

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6. Attempt any ***one*** of the two, (a) or (b), in 120 – 150 words. *1×5=5*

(a) India is facing an increasing water crisis due to overuse, pollution and poor conservation policies. Water scarcity is becoming a servious concern. Write an article for 'Nature' Magazine on the need to conserve water and promote sustainable practices. You are Devina/ Dev. You may use the cues given below along with your own ideas.

- why is water conservation important ?
- causes of water scarcity
- effective water-saving methods
- how can individuals, communities and government help solve the problem ?

OR

(b) You are Mansi/Manas of Class XII C, student reporter of your school magazine. Your school recently organized an inter-school science exhibition in the school auditorium. Write a comprehensive report on the event including details of the theme, participation, exhibits and the outcome of the event. You may organise your report by using the following cues.

Who – What – When – Where – Why – How

SECTION C
Literature **(40 marks)**

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any ***one*** of the given two, (a) or (b) : *6×1=6*

(a) Driving from my parent's
home to Cochin last Friday
morning, I saw my mother,
beside me,
doze, open mouthed, her face
ashen like that
of a corpse and realized with
pain
that she was as old as she looked …

(My Mother at Sixty-six)

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(i) What underlying concern does the poet have while recalling the memory of the drive with her mother ? *1*

(A) A reflection on the irreversible passage of time and looming mortality
(B) A moment of nostalgia for shared childhood memories
(C) A comparative portrayal of mother as youthful and old
(D) A symbolic reference to the generational divide between them

(ii) What does the phrase 'ashen like that of a corpse' suggest about the mother's frailty ? *1*

(iii) Complete the following suitably :

The image of the mother like 'a corpse' and the subsequent realisation symbolizes _____. *1*

(iv) Select the correct option from those given in brackets, to fill in the blank. *1*

The speaker's use of the word 'doze' suggests that the mother was _____. (pained/exhausted)

(v) Why has the poet placed the word 'pain' in a separate line ? *1*

(vi) Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract. Choose the correct interpretation of the following. *1*

Assertion : The poet attempts to mentally shield herself from her mother's physical decline.

Reason : She is emotionally unprepared to confront the inescapable reality of her mother's ageing.

Choose the correct option :

(A) The assertion is supported but the reason is ambiguous.
(B) The assertion lacks clarity, while the reason is clearly expressed.
(C) Both the assertion and the reason are strongly implied in the text.
(D) Neither the assertion nor the reason can be supported by the text.

OR

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(b) A flowery band to bind us to the earth,
Spite of despondence, of the inhuman dearth
Of noble natures, of the gloomy days,
Of all the unhealthy and o'er-darkened ways
Made for our searching: yes, in spite of all,
Some shape of beauty moves away the pall
From our dark spirits. Such the sun, the moon,
Trees old, and young, sprouting a shady boon

(A Thing of Beauty)

(i) Select the option that does ***not*** agree with the ideas as conveyed in the above given extract : *1*

(A) Beauty in nature offers comfort during times of despair.
(B) Even in a world of sorrow, beautiful things continue to heal us.
(C) The poet suggests that man-made inventions promote the Earth's natural beauty.
(D) Natural elements like the sun, moon and trees are our sources of hope.

(ii) Complete the following suitable : *1*

In the line, 'of the inhuman dearth of noble natures', the phrase 'dearth of' refers to _____.

(iii) Select the phrase that suggests the following : *1*

despite our feelings of sadness and depression ….

(iv) Choose the correct option and fill in the blank. *1*

The tone of the poet in the above extract is _____.
(ironic and cynical/reflective and reassuring)

(v) In the context of the poem, the word 'pall' most closely means : *1*

(A) a dense fog that obscures light.
(B) a metaphorical shroud symbolizing grief.
(C) an ornamental veil signifying delight.
(D) a supernatural entity haunting humans.

(vi) Based on the given extract, state in one sentence, your views on the simple joys of beauty. *1*

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8. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any ***one*** of the given two, (a) or (b) : *4×1=4*

(a) The corridor I was in began angling left and slanting downward and I thought that was wrong, but I kept on walking. All I could hear was the empty sound of my own footsteps and I didn't pass a soul. Then I heard that sort of hollow roar ahead that means open space and people talking. The tunnel turned sharp left; I went down a short flight of stairs and came out on the third level at Grand Central Station. For just a moment I thought I was back on the second level, but I saw the room was smaller, there were fewer ticket windows and train gates, and the information booth in the centre was wood and old-looking. And the man in the booth wore a green eyeshade and long black sleeve protectors.

(The Third Level)

(i) What initially made the narrator uncertain about the corridor he was walking through ? *1*

(A) The corridor changed direction unexpectedly.
(B) Dim lights and strange signs.
(C) The walls echoed with unfamiliar voices.
(D) The floor felt uneven and unstable underfoot.

(ii) The 'hollow roar' that the narrator heard signifies _____. *1*

(iii) Complete the sentence : *1*

The narrator's realization that he was not on the second level was triggered by _____.

(iv) Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract. *1*

Assertion : The narrator got confused about his location in the Grand Central Station.

Reason : The third level of the Grand Central Station was smaller than the second level.

Choose the correct option :

(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is ***not*** the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.

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(b) My Antarctic experience was full of such epiphanies, but the best occurred just short of the Antarctic Circle at 65.55 degrees south. The *Shokalskiy* had managed to wedge herself into a thick white stretch of ice between the peninsula and Tadpole Island which was preventing us from going any further. The Captain decided we were going to turn around and head back north, but before we did, we were all instructed to climb down the gangplank and walk on the ocean. So there we were, all 52 of us, kitted out in Gore-Tex and glares, walking on a stark whiteness that seemed to spread out forever. Underneath our feet was a metre-thick ice pack, and underneath that, 180 metres of living, breathing salt water. In the periphery Crabeater seals were stretching and sunning themselves on ice floes much like stray dogs will do under the shade of a banyan tree. It was nothing short of a revelation: everything does indeed connect.

(Journey to the end of the Earth)

(i) The author describes the moment near the Antarctic Circle as the best of epiphanies because _____. *1*

(ii) The author's experience of walking on the frozen ocean revealed _____. *1*

(iii) Support with evidence from the given extract, the Captain's decision to walk on the ocean. *1*

(iv) Which of the following is ***not*** a plausible interpretation of the phrase 'living, breathing' used to describe the water beneath the ice ? *1*

(A) It evokes a sense of continuous motion and vitality under the frozen surface.

(B) The phrase highlights the contrast between static ice and the dynamic ocean life.

(C) It implies that the ocean lies dormant and lifeless during the winter months.

(D) The words convey the idea that nature remains active even in extreme conditions.

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9. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any ***one*** of the given two, (a) or (b) : *6×1=6*

(a) Sophie watched her back stooped over the sink and wondered at the incongruity of the delicate bow which fastened her apron strings. The delicate-seeming bow and the crooked back. The evening had already blacked in the windows and the small room was steamy from the stove and cluttered with the heavy-breathing man in his vest at the table and the dirty washing piled up in the corner. Sophie felt a tightening in her throat. She went to look for her brother Geoff.

He was kneeling on the floor in the next room tinkering with a part of his motorcycle over some newspaper spread on the carpet. He was three years out of school, an apprentice mechanic, travelling to his work each day to the far side of the city. He was almost grown up now, and she suspected areas of his life about which she knew nothing, about which he never spoke.

(Going Places)

(i) Complete the following suitably :

The phrase 'the incongruity of the delicate bow … and the crooked back' of Sophie's mother conveys _____. *1*

(ii) Select the correct option from those given in brackets to fill in the blank. *1*

The description of Sophie's 'mother's back' in the extract expresses Sophie's _____ (conflicted/confident) state of mind.

(iii) What role does the man in the vest play in enhancing the tone of the passage ? *1*

(A) he brings a sense of peace to the setting.

(B) he deepens the oppressive atmosphere.

(C) he reinforces the narrator's emotional connection.

(D) he introduces a moment of comic relief.

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(iv) What is the most plausible interpretation of Sophie's physical reaction of 'a tightening in her throat' ? *1*

(A) a desire to express something, restrained by uncertainty

(B) apprehension about her upcoming encounter with Geoff

(C) a surge of inner turmoil triggered by her surroundings

(D) a symptom indicating that she may be unwell

(v) Why does Sophie decide to go look for Geoff ? *1*

(vi) What is Sophie's perception of Geoff's nature ? *1*

OR

(b) Mukund : The English novelist and academic David Lodge once remarked, "I can't understand how one man can do all the things he [Eco] does."

Umberto Eco : Maybe I give the impression of doing many things. But in the end, I am convinced I am always doing the same thing.

Mukund : Which is ?

Umberto Eco : Aah, now that is more difficult to explain. I have some philosophical interests and I pursue them through my academic work and my novels. Even my books for children are about non-violence and peace… you see, the same bunch of ethical, philosophical interests.

And then I have a secret. Did you know what would happen if you eliminate the empty spaces from the universe, eliminate the empty spaces in all the atoms ? The universe will become as big as my fist. Similarly, we have a lot of empty spaces in our lives. I call them interstices. Say you are coming over to my place. You are in an elevator and while you are coming up, I am waiting for you. This is an interstice, an empty space. I work in empty spaces. While waiting for your elevator to come up from the first to the third floor, I have already written an article! *(Laughs)*

(The Interview)

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(i) What does Umberto Eco mean when he says, "Maybe I give the impression of doing many things" ? *1*

(A) work appears diverse but has the same core interests
(B) multitasks constantly to prove his worth
(C) hides his real work behind his many hobbies
(D) doesn't enjoy working on too many things

(ii) Complete the following suitably :
When Eco says that he is always doing the same thing he means _____. *1*

(iii) Select the correct option from those given in brackets to fill in the blank. *1*
Eco's secret to being productive, as implied in the passage is _____ (delegating tasks/managing time).

(iv) What does the following line in the extract showcase about Eco's nature ?
'Even my books for children are about non-violence and peace.' *1*

(A) bored (B) insolent
(C) ethical (D) playful

(v) Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract. *1*

Assertion : While waiting for the elevator, Eco has already written an article.

Reason : He pursues his philosophical interests through his work.

Choose the correct option :

(A) Both the assertion and the reason are true and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
(B) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is ***not*** the correct explanation of the assertion.
(C) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.
(D) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.

(vi) Complete the following sentence suitably.
Eco's tone in the statement : *1*
'I have already written an article!" is _____.

(A) sympathetic (B) cynical
(C) humorous (D) pensive

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10. Answer any ***five*** of the following six questions in 40 – 50 words each : *5×2=10*

(i) 'We've all a great deal to reproach ourselves with.' What does M. Hamel's statement reveal about his emotional turmoil following the ban on French, in 'The Last Lesson' ?

(ii) Anees Jung through the title 'Lost Spring' symbolises the plight of the marginalised children. Justify.

(iii) Why do you think that Edla's kindness had a stronger effect on the peddler than the ironmaster's hospitality in 'The Rattrap' ?

(iv) Despite criticism, why does the author suggest that interviews remain important in journalism ? (The Interview)

(v) Why did the visit of the English poet lead to confusion among the staff at Gemini Studios ? (Poets and Pancakes)

(vi) How does the poet use the phrase 'polished traffic' to highlight the contrast between urban and rural life in the poem 'A Roadside Stand' ?

11. Answer any ***two*** of the following three questions in 40 – 50 words each : *2×2=4*

(i) The Tiger King's royal power is both his strength and his greatest weakness. Discuss. (The Tiger King)

(ii) What prompted Sadao to put the unfinished report into the secret drawer of his desk ? (The Enemy)

(iii) 'Because if I don't go there, I'll never go anywhere else in this world again." What does the statement reveal about Derry's transformation ? (On The Face Of It)

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12. Answer any ***one*** of the following two questions in 120 – 150 words : *1×5=5*

(a) 'Deep Water' by William Douglas and 'Keeping Quiet' by Pablo Neruda represent a state of introspection that leads to growth, understanding and liberation. Discuss.

OR

(b) Aunt Jennifer from Adrienne Rich's poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers' and Gandhi from 'Indigo' struggle against oppression to fight for freedom, even though the contexts are different. Discuss.

13. Answer any ***one*** of the following two questions in 120 – 150 words : *1×5=5*

(a) Derry's journey reflects an intense personal challenge that he overcomes through courage and determination. Elaborate.

(On The Face Of It)

OR

(b) '... and heard them gnaw off one of my thick braids. Then I lost my spirit.' This episode highlighted the indignity meted out to Zitkala-Sa. Support your answer with evidence from the text.

(Memories of Childhood)