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SET-1

Series S3QRP/3

Q.P. Code **1/3/1**

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

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

- Please check that this question paper contains **19** printed pages.
- Please check that this question paper contains **13** questions.
- 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.
- **Please write down the serial number of the question in the answer-book before attempting it.**
- 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 students 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.*

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SECTION A

Reading Skills (22 marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully : *12*

(1) As a young adult, life can be stressful and overwhelming at times. Juggling among school, work, social life, and other responsibilities, it can be easy to feel alone and disconnected from the world around us. Dogs are the ultimate companions for anyone looking to alleviate stress and loneliness. We'll explore many reasons why dogs make the best companions for young adults.

(2) Unconditional love : Dogs are known for their loyalty and love for their owners, no matter what. They don't judge us, criticize us, or hold grudges against us. No matter how flawed or imperfect we may be, our dogs will always love us unconditionally. This kind of unwavering support and affection can be incredibly comforting for young adults struggling to find their place in the world.

(3) Social connection : Dogs are great ice-breakers and conversation starters. Whether you're walking them in the park, taking them to the dog beach, or simply hanging out at home, dogs have a way of bringing people together. For young adults who may feel isolated or disconnected from their peers, having a dog by their side can be a great way to connect with others and form new friendships.

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(4) Increase physical activity : Dogs require regular exercise in order to stay healthy and happy. This means that young adults who own dogs are more likely to engage in physical activity themselves. Whether its going for a run, playing frisbee, or simply taking a leisurely stroll, getting out with your dog can be a great way to boost your mood and energy levels.

(5) Emotional support : Dogs are also great emotional support animals for those struggling with mental health issues such as anxiety and depression. Their presence alone can provide a sense of calm and comfort, and their ability to sense their owner's emotions can be incredibly comforting. For young adults dealing with mental health challenges, having a dog as a companion can be a life-changing experience.

(6) Improve responsibility and self-care : Owning a dog also comes with a great deal of responsibility and self-care. Dogs require regular feeding, grooming, exercise, and attention, which can be a great way for young adults to develop a sense of responsibility and self-discipline. Additionally, having a dog as a companion can encourage young adults to take better care of themselves, such as making sure they get enough sleep, eat healthy, and engage in regular exercise.

(7) For all these reasons and more, dogs make fantastic companions for young adults. Whether you're looking for emotional support, social connection, increased physical activity , or simply someone to love and be loved by, a dog can provide all these things and more. So the next time you're feeling stressed or overwhelmed, consider finding a furry friend to take on the world with you.

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Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

(i) What is the significance of owning a dog for a young adult who is striving for acceptance in society ? *1*

(A) It means increased physical activity.

(B) It builds a sense of responsibility.

(C) It helps young adults get more sleep.

(D) It is a source of unconditional love.

(ii) A dog can encourage its owner to lead a healthier life by _____.

Complete the above sentence appropriately, in about 40 words, with a characteristic or description. *2*

(iii) Share evidence from the text, in approximately 40 words, to support the view that dogs provide a sense of calm and comfort to those struggling with mental health issues. *2*

(iv) Explain in about 40 words the statement that 'dogs are great ice-breakers'. *2*

(v) Which of the following activities help(s) young adults, owning a dog, build their sense of responsibility and self-discipline ? *1*

(A) walking the dog daily

(B) feeding it regularly

(C) engaging the services of a dog trainer

(D) Both (A) and (B)

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(vi) What does this article aim to do ? *1*

(A) Explain the benefits of owning a dog.

(B) Provide advice on how to get a dog.

(C) Discuss how to take proper care of a dog.

(D) Describe the experiences of dog owners.

(vii) Select the option that is similar in meaning to the phrase 'take on the world'. *1*

(A) travel the world

(B) accept a responsibility

(C) to be pessimistic

(D) have a global outlook

(viii) What does the underlined part in the sentence "consider finding a furry friend to take on the world with you" refer to ? *1*

(ix) What is the tone of the article ? *1*

(A) critical but supportive

(B) indifferent and bored

(C) positive and informative

(D) humorous and casual

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2. Read the following passage carefully : *10*

(1) Without specialised equipment, humans would be lost in these deep-sea habitats, so how do fish make it seem so easy ? Much of this is due to a biological phenomenon known as electroreception — the ability to perceive and act upon electrical stimuli as part of the overall senses. This ability is only found in aquatic and amphibious species because water is an efficient conductor of electricity.

(2) One fascinating use of electroreception has been observed between the weakly electric fish. When two such electric fish meet in the ocean using the same frequency, each fish will then shift the frequency of its discharge so that they are transmitting on different frequencies. Doing so prevents their electroreception faculties from becoming jammed.

(3) Electroreception can also play an important role in animal defences. Rays are one such example. Young ray embryos develop inside egg cases that are attached to the sea bed. The embryos keep their tails in constant motion to pump water and allow them to breathe through the egg's casing. If the embryo's electroreceptors detect the presence of a predatory fish in the vicinity, however, the embryo stops moving (and in doing so, ceases transmitting electric currents) until the predator has moved on.

(4) Many people fear swimming in the ocean because of sharks. Sharks hunt with extraordinary precision. They initially lock on to their prey through a keen sense of smell. As the shark reaches in proximity of its prey, it tunes into electrical signals that ensure a precise strike on its target; this sense is so strong that the shark even attacks blind by letting its eyes recede for protection. In areas where shark attacks on

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humans are likely to occur, scientists are exploring ways to create artificial electroreceptors. These would disorient the sharks and repel them from swimming beaches.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

(i) Infer the advantage that aquatic or amphibious species have over human beings. Answer in about 40 words. *2*

(ii) A possible use for electroreception that will benefit humans is to : *1*

(A) use water as it is an efficient conductor of electricity.

(B) act on electrical stimuli.

(C) change electrical frequency to prevent it from being jammed.

(D) jam electrical frequencies.

(iii) Explain in about 40 words the use of electroreception between the weakly electric fish. *2*

(iv) Identify a young ray embryo from the following : *1*

(A) It fears electric signals.

(B) It keeps its tail in constant motion.

(C) It stations itself on land.

(D) It disorients sharks.

(v) Complete the sentence appropriately. *1*

A shark hunts with accuracy because _____.

(vi) Why does a shark recede its eyes when it attacks ? *1*

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(vii) In areas where shark attacks on humans are likely to occur, scientists : *1*

(A) suggest putting barriers.

(B) are exploring ways to create artificial electroreceptors.

(C) suggest blinding them.

(D) are exploring ways to warn swimmers.

(viii) State *True* or *False*. *1*

The title – 'Understanding Electroreception and its Uses is Significant for Human Beings' is appropriate for this passage.

SECTION B
Creative Writing Skills **(18 marks)**

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

(a) You are Akhil/Amala, the Secretary of the History Club of Margaret Public School, Utsavnagar. The club has decided to conduct an educational tour to the local historical sites for students of class XI. Draft a notice informing the students of the proposed tour. Invent all necessary details.

OR

(b) You are Roshni/Rahul, Secretary of ABC Colony Welfare Association, Naveenbagh. Write a notice for the society notice board informing residents that there will be no water supply in your colony on 24th and 25th April, 2024 due to maintenance work. Invent necessary details.

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

(a) You are Suresh/Surbhi Gupta, the Principal of Goodwill Public School, Akash Nagar. Your school is organizing an Inter-School Economics Seminar on Critical Analysis of the Financial Budget, 2023 – 2024. Send a formal letter of invitation to the Finance Secretary of your State to be the Chief Guest. Invent necessary details.

OR

(b) You are the PA to the Chairman, State Book Trust. The Chairman has been invited to inaugurate the annual book fair to be held at Olympic Maidan from 5th March, 2024 to 12th March, 2024. Write an appropriate formal letter of acceptance on his behalf.

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

(a) Divya/Diwakar Awasthi of 24/7, Hill View Apartments, Shrigram has come across an advertisement in Indian News and decides to apply for the post of Sales Executive. Write a letter applying for the post to the Personnel Manager.

Amarish Ayurveda Pvt. Ltd.

Requires Sales Executives

- Qualification: Graduate in any subject
- Skills: Good communication skills
  Basic computer skills
- Willing to travel
- Knowledge of ayurvedic products

Please send your resumé within ten days to the Personnel Manager.
personnelmanageramarish@gmail.com

Amarish House 35, Shanti Nagar, Shrigram

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(b) Your school organized a week-long campaign to create awareness of the plight of senior citizens in old age homes and ways of volunteering to bring smiles to their faces. This effort by the students was greatly appreciated. You decide to write a letter to the editor of a local daily to create awareness amongst people all over the city. You are Deepika/Deepak, Raja Vas School, Tri Bagh. You may combine your ideas with the cues given below.

Help the Senior Citizens
Make Them Smile

- panel discussion on 'How to help the elderly'
- visit to old age homes
- distribution of hampers
- cultural programmes
- pledge to volunteer one hour a week

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

(a) The newspapers today have more of full page advertisements than news items or editorials. Write an article to be published in a national daily on how these advertisements take away the purpose of a newspaper and mislead the reader. Suggest how journalism can become more responsible. You are Madhu/Mahesh. You may use the given cues along with your own ideas.

Impact of advertisements :

- advertisements should not overwhelm the reader and distract from the purpose of news information
- gradual decline in newspaper readership
- newspapers lose credibility and appeal
- merely as a promotional medium

Suggestions :

- reinforce idea that newspapers and other print media are gateways to information
- focus more on news — rather than commercial visibility
- focus on in-depth coverage
- direct advertisements to a designated section of the paper

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(b) The Literary Society of your school organized a library week. As student editor of the school magazine, draft a report on the week-long activities. You are Rani/Rahul. You may use the following cues along with your ideas to write the report. Invent necessary details.

- exhibition-cum-discount sale of books by leading publishers
- meet the author session
- creative writing – creating a graphic story and book cover making workshops
- inter-school literary quiz
- short story writing competition

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*

(a) 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 but soon
put that thought away, and
looked out at Young
Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling
out of their homes.

(My Mother at Sixty-six)

(i) The phrase 'ashen like that of a corpse' gives the impression that the mother is *1*

(A) frustrated (B) depressed
(C) dead (D) weak

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(ii) State whether the following statement is *True* or *False*, with reference to the extract. *1*

"The mother was suffering from some fatal disease."

(iii) Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract ? *1*

(A) Life is short and one must enjoy it
(B) Ageing and Mortality
(C) Sleeping and Playing
(D) Art of Parenting

(iv) Pick the option in which the word 'spilling' is used in the same sense as in the extract. *1*

(A) Rahul was responsible for spilling the beans by telling everyone the secret.
(B) He opened the bag, spilling all its contents on the table.
(C) Try to keep that crowd from spilling onto the main street.
(D) The cat spilled all the milk.

(v) The phrases 'Young Trees sprinting' and 'merry children spilling' represent : *1*

(A) Youth
(B) Old age
(C) Disease
(D) Travel

(vi) Complete the sentence appropriately. *1*

'She was as old as she looked.'

The repetition of the word 'as' suggests that _____.

OR

(b) What I want should not be confused
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.

(Keeping Quiet)

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(i) Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract ? *1*

(A) Silence alleviates sadness of our life.

(B) Life and death are part of our existence.

(C) We must keep our lives moving.

(D) Life is stressful and monotonous.

(ii) State whether the following statement is *True* or *False*, with reference to the extract. *1*

The poet feels that quiet productivity in place of all activities is desirable.

(iii) The sadness being referred to (line 9) is due to : *1*

(A) failure to understand ourselves.

(B) failure to understand others.

(C) loss of peers in life.

(D) inability to achieve what we desire.

(iv) The poem has been written from the point of view of a/an : *1*

(A) environmentalist.

(B) feminist.

(C) social activist.

(D) linguist.

(v) Based on the rhyme scheme, which of the following does ***not*** rhyme with line 1 ? *1*

(A) cruised

(B) complaint

(C) mused

(D) bruised

(vi) Complete the sentence appropriately.

In 'Life is what it is about', the poet is talking about _____ . *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*

(a) To make sure, I walked over to a newsboy and glanced at the stack of papers at his feet. It was *The World*; and *The World* hasn't been published for years. The lead story said something about President Cleveland. I've found that front page since, in the Public Library files, and it was printed June 11, 1894.

I turned toward the ticket window knowing that here — on the third level at Grand Central — I could buy tickets that would take Louisa and me anywhere in the United States we wanted to go.

(The Third Level)

(i) Why does the narrator resort to wishful day-dreaming and want to travel back in time ? *1*

(ii) The year 1894 holds so much importance because _____. *1*

(iii) *The World,* the news about President Cleveland — what do they hint at ? *1*

(A) The narrator used to like reading the newspaper.

(B) The narrator fantasises about past events.

(C) The narrator wants to escape to a world that was unaffected by the two World Wars.

(D) The narrator tends to forget things.

(iv) Give one reason why the writing style of the extract can be called autobiographical. *1*

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(b) But at this moment the door opened and she looked out, a dark-blue woollen haori over her kimono. ... He had met Hana in America, but he had waited to fall in love with her until he was sure she was Japanese. His father would never have received her unless she had been pure in her race.

(The Enemy)

(i) Complete the sentence appropriately. *1*

Hana was attired in _____.

(ii) With reference to the above, how will you describe Dr. Sadao as a son ? *1*

(A) indifferent

(B) obedient

(C) defiant

(D) practical

(iii) What is 'this moment' all about ? *1*

It is a moment of :

(A) emotional turmoil.

(B) tranquility.

(C) agitation.

(D) conflict.

(iv) From the extract, what can you infer about Dr. Sadao and Hana's relationship ? *1*

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

(a) For a moment I thought of running away and spending the day out of doors. It was so warm, so bright! The birds were chirping at the edge of the woods; and in the open field back of the sawmill the Prussian soldiers were drilling. It was all much more tempting than the rule for participles, but I had the strength to resist, and hurried off to school.

(The Last Lesson)

(i) List two sensory details present in the extract. *1*

(ii) Why is the narrator tempted to spend the day out of doors ? *1*

(iii) Complete the sentence appropriately. *1*

I hurried off to school resisting _____.

(iv) Why does the narrator want to bunk school ? *1*

(A) He doesn't like the teachers.
(B) He doesn't like his classmates.
(C) He wasn't prepared for the test on participles.
(D) He had forgotten to complete his homework.

(v) Which trait of the protagonist is revealed in the sentence 'I had the strength to resist' ? *1*

(A) sincerity (B) determination
(C) bravery (D) kindness

(vi) Which of the following headlines best suggests the central idea of the extract ? *1*

(A) The Drilling of Prussian Soldiers
(B) The Rule of Participles
(C) Strength to Resist
(D) Out of Doors

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(b) My introduction to the Y.M.C.A. swimming pool revived unpleasant memories and stirred childish fears. But in a little while I gathered confidence. I paddled with my new water wings, watching the other boys and trying to learn by aping them. I did this two or three times on different days.

(Deep Water)

(i) Identify the phrase from the given extract that bears evidence to the fact that the narrator's association with 'childish fears' was not a recent one. *1*

(ii) How does the writer try to learn it ? Mention any two ways. *1*

(iii) What did the Y.M.C.A. pool bring back to Douglas ? *1*

(A) Unpleasant memories
(B) Memory of a boat
(C) Meeting a bruiser of a boy
(D) Memory of his visit to the Yakima River

(iv) The two emotions of Douglas mentioned in the given extract are _____ and _____. *1*

(v) Why did Douglas ape the other boys ? *1*

(vi) The writing style of the extract is autobiographical because _____ . *1*

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

(i) Why is Mukesh's dream compared to a mirage ? (Lost Spring)

(ii) Why did Gandhi say : "Freedom from fear is more important than legal justice for the poor" ? (Indigo)

(iii) Stephen Spender's visit to the Gemini Studios was viewed as an unexplained mystery by the Gemini family. How did Asokamitran solve this mystery years later ? (Poets and Pancakes)

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(iv) What do you understand by "interstices" ? How does Umberto Eco utilize his interstices ? (The Interview)

(v) Explain how 'The tigers in the panel .... Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid." (Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

(vi) 'Resignation was no sudden thing.' What is the implication of this remark in the context of Sophie's character ? (Going Places)

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

(i) What were the two 'amazing' things of the royal infant ? (The Tiger King)

(ii) What are Geoff Green's reasons for including high school students in the 'Students on Ice' expedition ? (Journey to the End of the Earth)

(iii) Why does Derry not like being with people ? (On The Face Of It)

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

(a) If you were the poet of "A Thing of Beauty", how would you interpret the need for quiet introspection as mentioned in "Keeping Quiet" ?

OR

(b) Umberto Eco (The Interview) has a talk with Danny Casey from the story "Going Places". Danny, being a football prodigy, feels his popularity may affect his game as he can't devote much time to it. What advice will Umberto Eco give Danny about time management ? Write a paragraph on the interaction between the two and the advice given by Umberto Eco.

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

(a) Physically impaired people have to suffer pain and a sense of alienation due to the behaviour of the people around them. It's ironical that people who should be treated with empathy are either avoided or pitied. Discuss.

(On The Face Of It)

OR

(b) In the two stories of Bama and Zitkala-Sa in the lesson of "Memories of Childhood" there are certain similarities of strength in the face of social challenges. Write a diary entry sharing your observations.

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