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Series FEG8D

Set – 2

Q.P. Code **2/8/2**

Roll No.

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

- Please check that this question paper contains **15** printed pages.
- 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 check that this question paper contains **11** questions.
- **Please write down the Serial Number of the question in the answer-book at the given place 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 candidates will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.

ENGLISH
(Language and Literature)

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

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General Instructions :

Read the instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

(i) *This question paper comprises* ***11*** *questions.* ***All*** *questions are compulsory.*

(ii) *The question paper contains* ***THREE*** *sections :*

Section – A : *Reading Skills*

Section – B : *Grammar and Creative Writing Skills*

Section – C : *Literature Textbook*

(iii) *Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.*

Section – A (20 Marks)

Reading Skills

1. Read the passage given below : **10 M**

(1) People have worn hats throughout history for practical reasons like protection from the elements, as well as social and cultural ones, such as displaying status, expressing individuality, and for religious or ceremonial purposes. Early headwear was for survival against the weather and injury, while later, hats became symbols of wealth, profession, and social rank. Today, reasons for wearing hats often include fashion, personal expression, and safety or comfort, with many of the old social pressures for wearing hats having faded.

(2) I do not remember how I came to like wearing a hat. Friends view it as an odd habit of mine, since few people wear hats today. I think my fondness for hats comes down to the desire to announce what type of person I am. Telling the world what kind of person resides below its brim is one of the principal jobs of any hat worth its name.

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(3) Even if we are not supposed to judge a book by its cover, we very often judge a person by his or her hat. In a narrow sense, a top hat indicates to all that you are a magician, just as a mortarboard and tassel tells the world you just graduated. More generally a cowboy hat may say you are the strong silent type, while a beret suggests you are artistic and creative. We even use hats as a kind of code for moral character, letting 'white hats' and 'black hats' serve as metaphors for 'good guys' and 'bad guys'. Hats show up in our figures of speech as well. Home is where you hang your hat, while declaring your desire to win a position is throwing your hat into the ring. How could anyone not want to wear a hat, when it can do so much ?

(4) A hat can do even more in everyday life. When people deserve congratulations, I say that my hat is off to them – and then I can literally do exactly that. When someone has exciting news for me, he can tell me to hold onto my hat. If the news must be kept secret, I can promise to keep it under my hat. He can even tell me to remain calm and not be a mad hatter.

(5) Maybe the real reason I like wearing a hat, however, has to do with getting away from everyday life. What I find so interesting is the possibility of using a hat to make myself more like someone very different from my everyday self. A fedora helps me to think of myself as more of a street-smart tough-guy private eye. Another hat, appropriately battered, makes me feel like a daring adventurer whose search for fabulous treasures will succeed against all odds.

(6) On my last birthday my family gave me a Napoleon hat. I wonder what are they trying to tell me.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage :

(i) Support the writer's view how wearing a hat has been a journey of change over the years ? (paragraph 1) **2**

(ii) In paragraph 2, why does the author refer to his habit as 'odd' with reference to context ? **1**

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(iii) State whether the following statement is True or False :

Telling a person what lies beneath the brim means motivations, and experiences that shape who we are. (paragraph 2) **1**

(iv) Complete the following with the correct option from the given two :

For people wearing a cowboy hat suggests that the person may be _____.

(a) hard-working and independent

(b) resilient and reserved (paragraph 3) **1**

(v) Select the option that best explains the code of moral character of white hats and black hats. (paragraph 3)

(a) It is a symbolic representation of good and bad character.

(b) It is a metaphor for wealth and poverty. **1**

(vi) List any two points that illustrate how a hat is representative of everyday life. (paragraph 4) **2**

(vii) The writer mentions that he likes wearing a hat to get away from everyday life. Based on the information given in the passage, which of the following illustrates this reason ? He wears it _____.

(A) to protect himself from the summer heat

(B) as it is part of his daily office attire

(C) to portray a good moral character

(D) as it makes him feel like a daring adventurer (paragraph 5) **1**

(viii) What does the phrase, 'succeed against all odds' mean ?

(A) achieve success despite facing extremely difficult circumstances.

(B) achieve success with the support of your adversities.

(C) to give up in the face of challenges.

(D) to collaborate with others for profit. **1**

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2. Read the following passage carefully : **10 M**

(1) Woodsfield, a picturesque town surrounded by dense woods, is renowned for its rich wildlife biodiversity. Recent studies conducted in 2024 compared the variety of species in the Woodsfield region over the past two decades.

(2) The results were indeed startling. In 2024, a total of 250 species of birds were endangered. However, this number had dwindled to 210. A silver lining was the rise in the population of a certain winged warbler, once on the endangered species list. The red winged warbler on the brink of extinction, saw a population increase from just 20 in 2004 to 150 in 2024. The mammalian population count displayed mammal decreased fluctuations. While the overall from 95 in 2004 to 86 in 2024, the population of the elusive Woodsfield fox, native to the region, increased from 150 in 2004 to 400 in 2024.

(3) In 2004, region's freshwater lakes experienced the most drastic decline. There were 50 species of freshwater fish, a staple for the local fishing industry, in 2004 but this dropped to 40 in 2024. The blue-scaled trout saw a sharp decline in numbers with a reduction of 60% from 1000 to 400 over two decades.

(4) Deforestation and urbanization were identified as primary reasons for the decline in species count, while conservation efforts were credited for the resurgence of endangered species.

The data is summarized in the table below :

Species Category	2004	2024
Birds	250	210
Red-winged warbler	20	150
Mammals	95	86
Woodsfield fox	150	400
Freshwater fish	50	40
Blue-scaled trout	1000	400

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The revelations from the study have prompted discussions on enhancing conservation measures in Woodfield to strike a balance between development and preserving its rich diversity.

Answer the following questions, based on the reading of the passage :

(i) What does the use of the phrase "Silver lining" by the writer, in paragraph 2 imply ? **1**

(A) The overall decline in bird species is irreversible.

(B) Despite the decline, there is a positive trend in the population of the red-winged warbler.

(C) The Woodsfield fox is the only species that has increased.

(D) Aquatic life has shown no signs of recovery.

(ii) Fill in the blanks with the appropriate options from those given in the brackets, based on your understanding of the paragraph 3. **1**

The statement that "the Woodsfield fox population increased from 150 in 2004 to 400 in 2024" is a/an _____ (fact/opinion) because it is a/an _____ (subjective judgment/objective detail)

(iii) Draw a comparative analysis of the bird species and mammal species count in Woodsfield between 2004 and 2024. **1**

(iv) What are the factors that are mainly responsible for decline in species count ? **2**

(v) Select the option that is true for the Assertion and Reason given below : **1**

Assertion : The blue-scaled trout population saw a sharp decline over two decades.

Reason : It is a staple for the local fishing industry.

(A) Both the Assertion and Reason are true, and the Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion.

(B) Both the Assertion and 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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(vi) Complete the sentence with a suitable reason :

The red-winged warbler's population rose from 20 to 150 because _____. **1**

(vii) Why were deforestation and urbanization identified as primary reasons for the decline in species count ? **1**

(viii) What is the writer's view about the aquatic life in Woodsfield ? **1**

(ix) Identify the word in paragraph 4 that indicates the 'revival' of wildlife. **1**

Section – B (20 Marks)

Creative (Writing and Grammar) Skills

Grammar 10 M

3. Complete any **ten** of the twelve tasks, as directed. Select the correct option to complete the given sentence from a recipe book : **10 × 1 = 10**

(i) To learn how to make a new dish, someone _____ to teach you how to go about it. **1**

(A) must (B) needs

(C) will (D) would

(ii) Fill in the blank by supplying the correct form of the verb given in the brackets.

She insisted that the documents be _____ (submit) without delay. **1**

(iii) Complete the line from a 'Plant More Trees' rhyme by filling in the blank with the correct option. **1**

Green leaves dancing in the breeze,

Homes for birds in all these trees,

Let's plant more now, _____ tomorrow bright.

(A) to make (B) for making

(C) make (D) for make

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(iv) Rahul and Sneha were discussing a school project. Report Rahul's question. **1**

Have you completed the Science model for tomorrow's exhibition ?

(v) Fill in the blank with the correct article.

She is _____ university professor in London. **1**

(vi) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the given sentence. **1**

Neither of the options are suitable for our needs at the present moment.

Option No.	Error	Correction
(A)	options	option
(B)	are	is
(C)	needs	need
(D)	moment	moments

(vii) Arun talked to a journalist about his experience at the World Cup. Report the journalist's question to Arun.

"How do you feel after winning the 'Man of the Match' award ?"

The journalist asked Arun _____. **1**

(viii) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence.

_____ he ran at breakneck speed he did not manage to catch the bus. **1**

(A) However (B) Although

(C) Whether (D) Because

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(ix) Identify the error and supply the correction for the given sentence.

Access to quality learning and the development of skills is crucial for future jobs. **1**

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

(x) Read the dialogue between two friends Rahul and Amit. **1**

Rahul : I am going to the store. Do you want me to buy anything for you ?

Amit : Yes, please buy some milk.

Report the dialogue between the two friends by completing the sentence.

Rahul told Amit that he was going to the store and asked if _____.

Amit requested him to buy some milk.

(xi) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence. **1**

You are requested to _____ the workshop on time.

(A) decline (B) join

(C) approach (D) arrive

(xii) Select the correct option that reports the given sentence in indirect speech.

The teacher said, "The capital of France is Paris." **1**

(A) The teacher said that the capital of France was Paris.

(B) The teacher said that the capital of France is Paris.

(C) The teacher said that the capital of France will be Paris.

(D) The teacher said that the capital of France is being Paris.

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Writing 10 M

4. Attempt any **one** from (a) and (b) given below : **5**

(a) You are Aruna/Arun a concerned citizen. Write a letter in about 120 words addressing the President of the RWA of ABC colony highlighting the poor lighting in the colony and the need to add more lights to ensure security and safety of residents. Mention the few cases of petty crimes that have taken place over the last few weeks in your colony to support your request.

OR

(b) You are Sneha/Ritesh a student of class X, Green Field School, Jaipur. You recently noticed the colony waste collector with a lot of text books discarded by residents. Write a letter to the editor of a local daily highlighting the value of books and the importance of donating books to libraries and NGOs to make education more affordable for students on tight budgets.

5. Attempt any **one** from (a) and (b) given below : **5**

(a) Read the following statement :

> 'Good education is essential for it to be capable of directing the country toward a brighter future. With the impact of artificial intelligence on education in India growing by the day, the education sector must adapt its strategy to help today's young minds become tomorrow's leaders and innovators.

Write a paragraph analyzing the given statement and providing evidence to support or refute it.

OR

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(b) The table below shows the number of students enrolled in different streams in a college in the year 2022 and 2023.

Stream	Number of Students	
	2022	**2023**
Engineering	250	300
Medical	200	150
Arts	150	200
Commerce	150	150

Based on the data given in the table, write an analytical paragraph highlighting the key observations and trends in the enrollment of students in different streams.

Section – C (40 Marks)

Literature

6. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any **one** of the given two (a) and (b) : **5**

(a) It is from these comrades in the struggle that I learned the meaning of courage. Time and again I have seen men and women risk their lives for an idea. I have seen men stand up to attack and torture without breaking, showing a strength and resilience that defies the imagination. I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid but he who conquers that fear.

(Nelson Mandela : A Long Walk to Freedom)

(i) Who taught the real meaning of courage to Nelson Mandela ? **1**

(ii) According to the speaker, the men and women risk and sacrifice their lives for _____. **1**

(iii) Choose the most suitable option. **2**

What does courage mean to Mandela ?

(A) fearlessness (B) patriotism

(C) strength (D) diligence

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(iv) Fill in the blank with the correct word from the bracket. **1**

The use of the phrase 'stand up to attack' describes the _____ (resilience/resignation) of the people.

OR

(b) I think he knew I made a little money this way but he did not seem to mind. Anil made money by fits and starts. He would borrow one week, lend the next. He kept worrying about his next cheque, but as soon as it arrived, he would go out and celebrate. It seems he wrote for magazines – a queer way to make a living' !

One evening he came home with a small bundle of notes, saying he had just sold a book to a publisher. At night I saw him tuck the money under the mattress. I had been working for Anil for almost a month and apart from cheating on the shopping, had not done anything in my line of work. *(The Thief's Story)*

(i) Complete the following sentence. **1**

Anil made money by 'fits and starts' means that he _____.

(A) deemed it fit to start investing money.

(B) started earning money in the recent past.

(C) received money intermittently.

(D) put his money to use frequently.

(ii) What does the information in the given extract tell us about Anil's character ? **2**

(iii) Fill in the blank with the correct word from the bracket.

The phrase 'in my line of work' in the given context implies _____. (robbing/publishing) **1**

(iv) What connotation does the phrase 'this way' have in relation to earning money ? **1**

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7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any **one** of the given two (a) and (b) : **5**

(a) He should be lurking in shadow
Sliding through long grass
Near the water hole
Where the plump deer pass. *(A Tiger in the Zoo)*

(i) Complete the following suitably :

The phrase 'lurking in shadow' implies that the tiger _____. **1**

(ii) According to the extract, the poet wishes for the tiger to be 'sliding' through the foliage as this would : **1**

(A) assist in keeping the prey unsuspecting of the predator's sound.

(B) aid in camouflaging the presence of the predator before it rushes in.

(C) help the predator pounce on the prey comfortably without getting tired.

(D) support the predator's vision as it eyes its prey.

(iii) What would the tiger do in the forest ? **2**

(iv) Pick the phrase that suggests that the forest in the extract is lush. **1**

(A) long grass (B) the water hole

(C) plump deer (D) lurking in shadow

OR

(b) The leaves strain toward the glass
small twigs stiff with exertion
long-cramped boughs shuffling under the roof
like newly discharged patients
half-dazed, moving
to the clinic doors. *(The Trees)*

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(i) Complete the following suitably :

The phrase that implies that moving out was tedious for the small twigs is _____. **1**

(ii) What is the poet's attitude towards the tree's movement, as described in the extract ? **1**

(iii) Fill in the blank :

The boughs are likened to newly discharged patients, suggesting that the tree is recovering from a state of _____. **1**

(iv) How does the image of the clinic doors contribute to the overall meaning expressed by the poet ? **2**

8. Answer any **four** of the following five questions in **40-50** words each : **4 × 3 = 12**

(a) Describe the young seagull's first flight ?

(Two Stories about Flying)

(b) Why does the author in 'Coorg' say that the visitor's search for the heart and soul of India would be found in Coorg ?

(Glimpses of India)

(c) How is Oxen Meadows a bone of contention between Lomov's and Natalya's family ? *(The Proposal)*

(d) Describe the similarities that have been mentioned in the poem between the fog and a cat. *(Fog)*

(e) How was Custard's reaction on seeing the pirate different from that of others ?

9. Answer any **two** of the following questions in **40-50** words each : **2 × 3 = 6**

(a) Why did the police arrest Horace Danby when he had not kept the jewels stolen from the Grange safe ? *(A Question of Trust)*

(b) Compare and contrast the characters of Noodle and Think Tank.

(The Book That Save the Earth)

(c) Richard Ebright's mother played a huge role in making him a great scientist. Elaborate. *(The Making of a Scientist)*

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10. Answer any **one** of the following two questions in **100-120** words : **6**

(a) Compare how the texts of 'A Letter to God' and 'Dust of Snow' use nature to either test or transform human emotion and belief.

OR

(b) How does the tone and style of 'Mijbil the Otter' contrast with that of 'How to Tell Wild Animals' when it comes to depicting the human-animal relationship ?

11. Answer any **one** of the following two questions in **100-120** words : **6**

(a) How did Ausable outsmart and outwit the crafty Max and get rid of him ? *(The Midnight Visitor)*

OR

(b) In what way did Bholi's mother's attitude towards her make Bholi an introvert ? How did her teacher help her to overcome her handicap ? *(Bholi)*

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