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Series : DPQRS

SET – 2

Q.P. Code **2/4/2**

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Roll No.

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

- Please check that this question paper contains **8** printed pages.
- Q.P. Code number 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 **7** questions.
- **Please write down the Serial Number of the question in the answer-book before attempting it.**
- 15 minutes 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 : **2** hours* *Maximum Marks : **40***

General Instructions :

*(i) This question paper contains **three** sections READING, WRITING & GRAMMAR and LITERATURE.*

*(ii) Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each **Part/Section**.*

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Section – A

(Reading) **10**

1. Read the passage given below :

(1) Milkha Singh, also known as The Flying Sikh, was an Indian track and field sprinter who was introduced to the sport while serving in the Indian Army. He is the only athlete to win gold in 400 metres at the Asian Games as well as the Commonwealth Games. He also won gold medals in the 1958 and 1962 Asian Games. He represented India in the 1956 Summer Olympics in Melbourne, the 1960 Summer Olympics in Rome and the 1964 Summer Olympics in Tokyo. He was awarded the Padma Shri, India's fourth-highest civilian honour, in recognition of his sporting achievements.

(2) The race for which Singh is best remembered is his fourth-place finish in the 400 metres final at the 1960 Olympic Games. He led the race till the 200 m mark before easing off, allowing others to pass him. Singh's fourth-place time of 45.73 seconds was the Indian national record for almost 40 years.

(3) From beginnings that saw him orphaned and displaced during the partition of India, Singh became a sporting icon in the country. In 2008, journalist Rohit Brijnath described Singh as "the finest athlete India has ever produced".

(4) He was disappointed with his debut performance at the 1956 Melbourne Olympics. "I returned to India, chastened by my poor performance in Melbourne. I had been so excited by the prospects of being part of the Indian Olympics team, but, hadn't realized how strong and professional the competition would be. My success in India had filled me with a false sense of pride and it was only when I was on the track that I saw how inconsequential my talents were when pitted against superbly fit and seasoned athletes. It was then that I understood what competition actually meant, and that if I wanted to succeed on the international arena, I must be prepared to test my mettle against the best athletes in the world."

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(5) Then he decided to make sprinting the sole focus of his life.

"Running had thus become my God, my religion and my beloved".

"My life during those two years was governed by strict rules and regulations and a self-imposed penance. Every morning I would rise at the crack of dawn, get into my sports kit and dash off to the track, where I would run two or three miles cross-country in the company of my coach."

(6) On how he pushed himself through the tough days of vigorous training. "I practiced so strenuously that often I was drained of all energy, and there were times when I would increase my speed to such an extent that after my rounds, I would vomit blood or drop down unconscious through sheer exercise. My doctors and coaches warned me, asked me to slow down to maintain my health and equilibrium but my determination was too strong to give up. My only focus was to become the best athlete in the world. But then images of a packed stadium filled with cheering spectators, wildly applauding me as I crossed the finishing line, would flash across my mind and I would start again, encouraged by visions of victory."

Based on your reading answer any **five** questions from the six given below : **1 × 5 = 5**

(i) What is Milka Singh known as ? What realization did Milkha Singh have when he was on the track during the Melbourne Olympics ?

(ii) List any two of Milkha Singh's achievements.

(iii) What strict rules and regulations did Milkha Singh follow ?

(iv) State two consequences of his hard and strenuous practice.

(v) What motivated Milkha Singh to become the best athlete in the world ?

(vi) Explain the phrase 'I would start again' in the last sentence.

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2. Read the following excerpt from a Case Study. J.K. Rowling – A Journey

The story of Joanne Kathleen Rowling's near magical rise to fame is almost as well known as the characters she creates.

Rowling was constantly writing and telling stories to her younger sister Dianne. "The first story I ever wrote down was about a rabbit called Rabbit." Rowling said in an interview. "He got the measles and was visited by his friends including a giant bee called Miss Bee. And ever since Rabbit and Miss Bee, I have always wanted to be a writer, though I rarely told anyone so.

However, my parents, both of whom come from impoverished backgrounds and neither of whom had been to college, took the view that my overactive imagination was an amusing personal quirk that would never pay a mortgage or secure a pension.

A writer from the age of six, with two unpublished novels in the drawer, she was stuck on a train when Harry walked into her mind fully formed. She spent the next five years constructing the plots of seven books, one for every year of his secondary school life.

Rowling says she started writing the first book, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone, in Portugal, where she was teaching English.

At first nobody wanted to publish Harry Potter. She was told that plot was too complex. Refusing to compromise, she found a publisher.

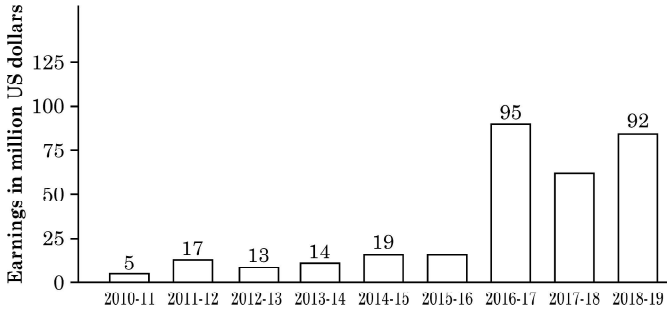
In 1997 Rowling received her first royalty cheque. By book three, she had sky rocketed to the top of the publishing world. A row of zeroes appeared on the author's bank balance and her life was turned upside down. Day and night she had journalists knocking on the unanswered door of her flat.

Rowling's quality control has become legendary, as her obsession with accuracy. She's thrilled with Stephen Fry's taped version of the books and outraged that an Italian dust jacket showed Harry minus his glasses. "Don't they understand that the glasses are the clue to his vulnerability."

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Annual earnings of J.K. Rowling from 2010 to 2019.



On the basis of your understanding of the passage answer any **five** of the six questions given below. **1 × 5 = 5**

(i) Explain J.K. Rowling's 'near magical rise to fame'.

(ii) What reason did the publishers give for rejecting Rowling's book ?

(iii) What was the drawback of achieving fame ?

(iv) Why was Rowling outraged with the Italian dust jacket ?

(v) Find a word in the last para that means the same as 'insecure/helpless'.

(vi) According to the graph, how many years did it take Rowling to become very successful ?

For the Visually impaired Candidates :

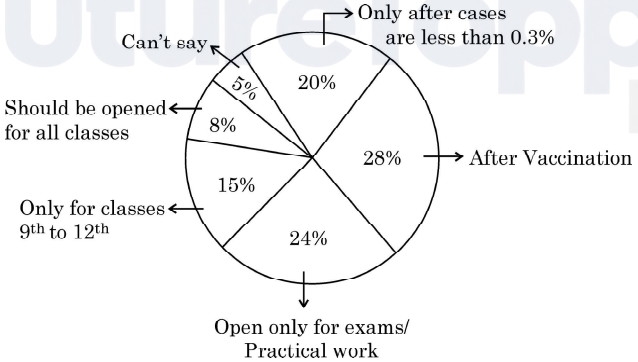
(vi) What has become legendary about Rowling ?

Section – B 10

(Writing and Grammar)

3. Attempt any **one** from (i) and (ii).

(i) A group of enterprising young adults conducted a survey on reopening of educational institutions in the National Capital **5**



Write a paragraph in about **120** words analysing the listed responses.

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For the Visually Impaired Candidates

The school authorities view eating junk food as a strong reason for the rising obesity among school children. There is a move to change canteen food to healthier options.

Students on the other hand have spoken strongly against such a move.

Write a paragraph in not more than **120** words analysing the above argument.

(ii) You are Vikram/Vanya, Librarian, B.S. Public School, Delhi.

Write a letter to the Manager of Amar Publication House, Mumbai, placing an order for 4 sets of Social Studies books for grades 6-8 published by N.C.E.R.T. in not more than **120** words. Mention library discount, mode of payment and date of delivery. **5**

4. ✽ Read the following conversation and complete the passage that follows : **2**

Neha : I'm really looking forward to the class picnic tomorrow.

Nanita : Yes, after a long time we will be meeting our friends and teachers.

Neha told Namita (1) _____ looking forward to the class picnic _____, Namita agreed that after a long time.

(2) _____ friends and teachers.

5. The following paragraph has an error in each line. Identify the error and write its correction against the correct blank number. The first one has been done as an example. **1 × 3 = 3**

		Incorrect	**Correct**
Air pollution is emerging like a	eg	like	as
global problem among the world.	(a)	_____	_____
Much of our cities have	(b)	_____	_____
industries which is responsible for 20% of the	(c)	_____	_____
pollutants.			

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Section – C 20

(Literature)

6. Answer any **six** questions in **30-40** words each. **2 × 6 = 12**

(i) What impressed Mr. Barua about Rajiv ? (Glimpses of India)

(ii) Kisa Gotami admitted that she was being selfish in grief. Do you agree ? Why/Why not ? (The Sermon at Benaras).

(iii) Amanda did not agree with the restrictions put on her. Give two reasons to support the statement.

(iv) Mention any two reasons why Walt Whitman appreciates animals more than humans. (Animals)

(v) Describe the pirate in the 'Tale of Custard the Dragon'.

(vi) Why did Ebright start a project of tagging butterflies ?

(vii) Why did the young lawyer dislike his job in the Law firm ? (The Hack Driver)

7. Answer any **two** of the following in about **120** words each. **4 × 2**

(i) As Valli, make a diary entry sharing your joys and disappointments during the bus ride. **4**

(ii) Natalya and her father Chubukov 'turn around' when Lomov puts his proposal in the open. As a reader briefly describe what you think of Natalaya and Chubukov from the play "The Proposal". **4**

(iii) The credit of Bholi's transformation to Sulekha goes to her teacher. Elaborate with reference to the text. **4**

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