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Series SRQPE/C

Set No. 1

Q.P. Code 2/6/1

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

Roll No.

- *Please check that this question paper contains* ***7*** *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* ***7*** *questions.*
- ***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

(Language and Literature)

Time allowed : 2 hours *Maximum Marks : 40*

General Instructions :

(i) *The question paper contains* ***three*** *sections – Reading, Writing & Grammar and Literature.*

(ii) *Attempt questions based on specific instruction for each part.*

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SECTION A

Reading *10 marks*

1. Read the passage given below :

Most people love to sing. Whether or not they sing in tune, people seem to understand that there is something positive — something healthy — in the act of raising voices in song.

There is concrete evidence in studies that singing is good for your body and your mind.

In closely-knit rural communities, one still hears women singing before dawn while grinding grain, singing in the fields while planting or harvesting, singing at marriages, during festivals and fairs. For these women, singing comes as naturally as breathing. These communities have largely oral cultures and non-literate lifestyles. They sing not to entertain others but to celebrate festivals, express their own joys and sorrows, their gratitude to nature, to their gods.

In such communities, singing is mostly a group activity, an expression of community identity. Even today, people bond by singing together in churches, temples, monasteries and other places of worship.

Through the ages, songs have been used to express ways of thinking. In the oral culture, songs are like air and water, though one person might have created them, they belong to all.

Besides passing down myths and traditions, singing has many medicinal benefits. Firstly, it helps people relax in today's life of stress. Whether individual or in a group, singing boosts the immune system, improves speaking ability, improves breathing and strengthens respiratory muscles. Singing helps in memory recall and dealing with emotional pain. On the social front, you develop a strong sense of community and social inclusion.

Above all, singing gives you joy and happiness : it boosts confidence and self-belief. It is not limited to any age or era. Children, men, women, the elderly, all continue to belt out songs and build empathetic relationships.

People have used songs not just to celebrate, pray or express their joy, but also to give vent to their pain and anger. Though people, over the years, have found different activities to relieve stress.

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

(i) Why do most people love to sing ?

(ii) On what occasions do women in rural communities sing ?

(iii) How do people gain a communal identity ?

(iv) In what way are songs like air and water ?

(v) List any two medicinal benefits of singing.

(vi) Mention any one emotional benefit of singing.

2. Read the passage given below :

Going Digital

Electronic libraries will make today's Internet pale by comparison. But building them will not be easy.

All over the world, libraries have begun the Herculean task of making faithful digital copies of the books, images and recordings that preserve the intellectual effort of humankind. For armchair scholars, the work promises to bring such a wealth of information to the desktop that the present Internet may seem amateurish in retrospect.

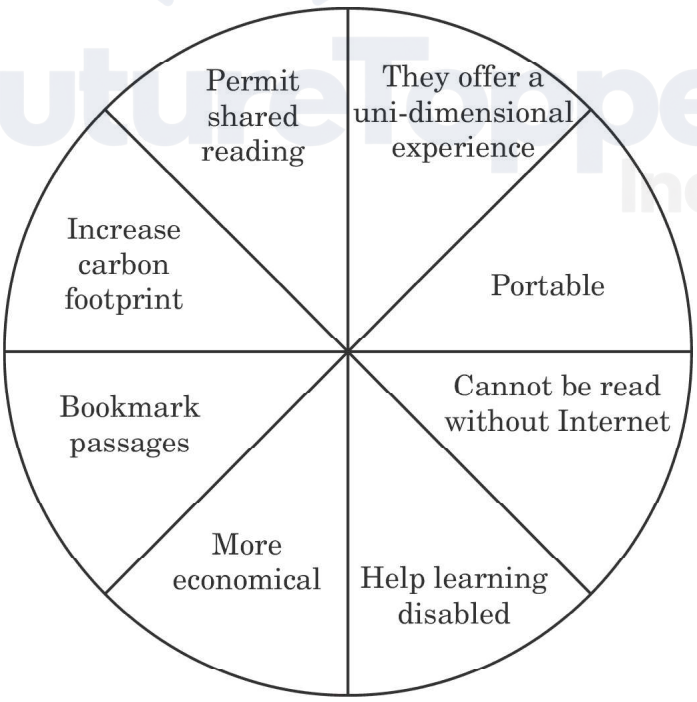
Librarians see three clear benefits to going digital. First, it helps them preserve rare and fragile objects without denying access to those who wish to study them. The British Library, for example, holds the only medieval manuscript of *Beowulf* in London. Qualified scholars scanned the ancient manuscript with three different light sources (revealing details not normally apparent to the naked eye) and put the images up on the Internet for anyone to peruse. National Diet Library is similarly creating detailed digital photographs of 1,236 woodblock prints, scrolls and other materials it considers national treasures so that researchers can scrutinize them without handling the originals.

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A second benefit is convenience. Once books are converted to digital form, patrons can retrieve them in seconds rather than minutes. Several people can simultaneously read the same book or view the same picture. Clerks are spared the chore of reshelving. And libraries could conceivably use the Internet to lend their virtual collections to those who are unable to visit in person.

The third advantage of electronic copies is that they occupy millimetres of space on a magnetic disk rather than metres on a shelf. Expanding library buildings is increasingly costly. The price of disk storage, in contrast, has fallen and continues to drop. Besides library use, e-books have many more advantages. Digital books are portable and lightweight, making it easy to carry them around. Today, on one device you can have many books. Consequently they are accessible everywhere, at home, office or even on a holiday. They can be downloaded and read offline. In a world of rising costs, e-books offer an economical way of sharing with multiple users. Today's e-books come with a read aloud feature which helps the learning disabled or the visually impaired. Some of the e-books offer a 3-dimensional visual which pops up, thus enhancing the reading experience. Some e-books include interactive features that make the reading experience a more engaging one. The reader can bookmark a certain page or find a word in a quick or effortless way and make annotations. E-books are environment-friendly, reduce the carbon footprint and stop cutting of trees.

Features of digital books



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

(i) Why is the world digitalizing books ?

(ii) What did scholars do to the manuscript of *Beowulf* ?

(iii) How can librarians lend their books to those who cannot visit the library ?

(iv) Where are e-books stored ?

(v) List two benefits of portable e-books.

(vi) Based on the passage, which aspects given in the chart are not features of e-books ?

For the Visually Impaired Candidates only (in lieu of Q. No. 2(vi)) :

(vi) How do e-books help the learning disabled ?

SECTION B
Writing and Grammar *10 marks*

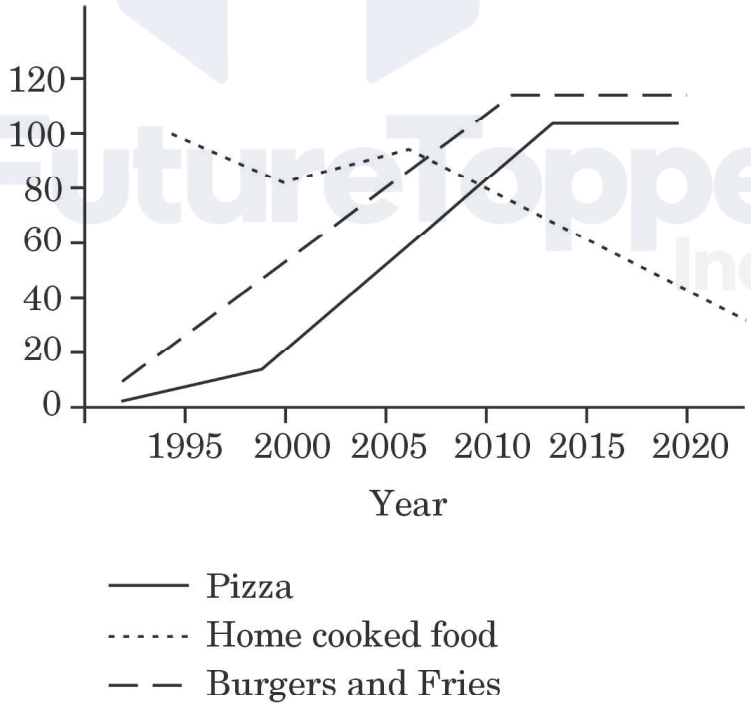
3. Attempt any ***one*** from (i) and (ii).

(i) The recent pandemic has reinforced the importance of health and exercise. The Resident Welfare Association of Green Park has decided to organise Yoga classes. Write a letter to the Manager 'Yogshalaya' enquiring about trainers, individual/group sessions, time slots and costs involved along with other relevant details.

You are Rakesh/Ritika Mathur, 721, Green Park, New Delhi. *5*

(ii) There is no greater love than the love for food. The following graph shows eating habits of teenagers and how often they go out to eat.

Eating habits of teenagers : Number of times eaten per year



Write a paragraph in not more than 120 words analysing the listed responses. *5*

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For the Visually Impaired Candidates only (in lieu of Q. No. 3(ii)) :

(ii) School canteens today do not serve junk food to the students. This has raised a hue and cry amongst the children. Write a paragraph in not more than 120 words analysing the above argument.

You may use the following information : *5*

1. Junk food leads to obesity
2. Not wholesome or nutritious
3. Falsely advertised
4. Leads to poor eating habits

4. The following paragraph has *an error* in each line with a blank. Write the correct and the incorrect option in the space provided. The first one has been done for you. *3×1=3*

		Incorrect	*Correct*
Fossil fuels are made for decomposing	(e.g.)	for	from
plants and animals. These fuels is found in	(a)	_____	_____
the Earth's crust and contains carbon and	(b)	_____	_____
hydrogen who can be burned for energy.	(c)	_____	_____

5. Read the conversation below and complete the passage that follows : *2×1=2*

Artist : When will the costumes arrive ?
Manager : There is a slight delay but they will arrive today in the evening.

The artist asked the manager (a) _____ . The manager replied that (b) _____ in the evening.

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SECTION C

Literature *20 marks*

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

(i) Explain the Indian legend associated with the origin of tea. (Glimpses of India)

(ii) How does Chubukov defend 'Squeezer' ? (The Proposal)

(iii) Describe any two character traits of Amanda.

(iv) Why does the poet describe the animals as 'placid' and 'self-contained' ? (Animals)

(v) How did Ink and Blink behave when they saw the pirate ? (The Tale of Custard the Dragon)

(vi) How did Dr. Urquhart encourage Ebright ? (The Making of a Scientist)

(vii) What did the hack driver tell the narrator about Lutkins' mother ?

7. Answer any ***two*** of the following in about 120 words each : *2×4=8*

(i) Matilda's greed and ambition brings about her downfall. Support the statement with references from the text. (The Necklace)

(ii) Valliammai comes across as a very confident, sensible and sensitive girl. Write a letter to your friend admiring Valli. (Madam Rides the Bus)

(iii) Taking references from the text 'The Sermon at Benares', describe how Kisa Gotami's understanding was changed by Buddha.

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