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SET-2

Series GBM/2

Code No. **1/2/2**

Roll No. | | | | | | | |

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

- Please check that this question paper contains **15** printed pages.
- 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 **13** questions.
- **Please write down the Serial Number of the question 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 : 100*

General Instructions :

(i) *This paper is divided into three sections : A, B and C.* ***All*** *the sections are compulsory.*

(ii) *Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.*

(iii) *Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*

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SECTION A — (Reading) *30*

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow : *12*

1 We sit in the last row, bumped about but free of stares. The bus rolls out of the dull crossroads of the city, and we are soon in open countryside, with fields of sunflowers as far as the eye can see, their heads all facing us. Where there is no water, the land reverts to desert. While still on level ground, we see in the distance the tall range of the Mount Bogda, abrupt like a shining prism laid horizontally on the desert surface. It is over 5,000 metres high, and the peaks are under permanent snow, in powerful contrast to the flat desert all around. Heaven Lake lies part of the way up this range, about 2,000 metres above sea-level, at the foot of one of the higher snow-peaks.

2 As the bus climbs, the sky, brilliant before, grows overcast. I have brought nothing warm to wear: it is all down at the hotel in Urumqi. Rain begins to fall. The man behind me is eating overpoweringly smelly goat's cheese. The bus window leaks inhospitably but reveals a beautiful view. We have passed quickly from desert through arable land to pasture, and the ground is now green with grass, the slopes dark with pine. A few cattle drink at a clear stream flowing past moss-covered stones; it is a Constable landscape. The stream changes into a white torrent, and as we climb higher I wish more and more that I had brought with me something warmer than the pair of shorts that have served me so well in the desert. The stream (which, we are told,

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rises in Heaven Lake) disappears, and we continue our slow ascent. About noon, we arrive at Heaven Lake, and look for a place to stay at the foot, which is the resort area. We get a room in a small cottage, and I am happy to note that there are thick quilts on the beds.

3 Standing outside the cottage we survey our surroundings. Heaven Lake is long, sardine-shaped and fed by snowmelt from a stream at its head. The lake is an intense blue, surrounded on all sides by green mountain walls, dotted with distant sheep. At the head of the lake, beyond the delta of the inflowing stream, is a massive snow-capped peak which dominates the vista; it is part of a series of peaks that culminate, a little out of view, in Mount Bogda itself.

4 For those who live in the resort, there is a small mess-hall by the shore. We eat here sometimes, and sometimes buy food from the vendors outside, who sell kabab and naan until the last buses leave. The kababs, cooked on skewers over charcoal braziers, are particularly good; highly spiced and well-done. Horse's milk is available too from the local Kazakh herdsmen, but I decline this. I am so affected by the cold that Mr. Cao, the relaxed young man who runs the mess, lends me a spare pair of trousers, several sizes too large but more than comfortable. Once I am warm again, I feel a pre-dinner spurt of energy — dinner will be long in coming — and I ask him whether the lake is good for swimming in.

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5 "Swimming ?" Mr. Cao says. "You aren't thinking of swimming, are you ?"

6 "I thought I might," I confess. "What's the water like ?"

7 He doesn't answer me immediately, turning instead to examine some receipts with exaggerated interest. Mr. Cao, with great off-handedness, addresses the air. "People are often drowned here," he says. After a pause, he continues. "When was the last one ?" This question is directed at the cook, who is preparing a tray of mantou (squat, white steamed bread rolls), and who now appears, wiping his doughy hand across his forehead. "Was it the Beijing athlete ?" asks Mr. Cao.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage complete the statements given below with the help of the options that follow : *1×4=4*

(a) One benefit of sitting in the last row of the bus was that

(i) the narrator enjoyed the bumps.

(ii) no one stared at him.

(iii) he could see the sunflowers.

(iv) he avoided the dullness of the city.

(b) The narrator was travelling to

(i) Mount Bogda.

(ii) Heaven Lake.

(iii) a 2,000-metre high snow-peak.

(iv) Urumqi.

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(c) On reaching the destination the narrator felt relieved because

(i) he had got away from the desert.

(ii) a difficult journey had come to an end.

(iii) he could watch the snow-peak.

(iv) there were thick quilts on the beds.

(d) Mount Bogda is compared to

(i) a horizontal desert surface.

(ii) a shining prism.

(iii) a Constable landscape.

(iv) the overcast sky.

Answer the questions given below briefly : *1×6=6*

(e) Which two things in the bus made the narrator feel uncomfortable ?

(f) What made the scene look like a Constable landscape ?

(g) What did he regret as the bus climbed higher ?

(h) Why did the narrator like to buy food from outside ?

(i) What is ironic about the pair of trousers lent by Mr. Cao ?

(j) Why did Mr. Cao not like the narrator to swim in the lake ?

(k) Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following : *1×2=2*

(i) sellers (Para 4)

(ii) increased (Para 7)

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2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow : *10*

1 Thackeray reached Kittur along with a small British army force and a few of his officers. He thought that the very presence of the British on the outskirts of Kittur would terrorise the rulers and people of Kittur, and that they would lay down their arms. He was quite confident that he would be able to crush the revolt in no time. He ordered that tents be erected on the eastern side for the fighting forces, and a little away on the western slopes tents be put up for the family members of the officers who had accompanied them. During the afternoon and evening of 20th October, the British soldiers were busy making arrangements for these camps.

2 On the 21st morning, Thackeray sent his political assistants to Kittur fort to obtain a written assurance from all the important officers of Kittur rendering them answerable for the security of the treasury of Kittur. They, accordingly, met Sardar Gurusiddappa and other officers of Kittur and asked them to comply with the orders of Thackeray. They did not know that the people were in a defiant mood. The commanders of Kittur dismissed the agent's orders as no documents could be signed without sanction from Rani Chennamma.

3 Thackeray was enraged and sent for the commander of the Horse Artillery, which was about 100 strong, and ordered him to rush his artillery into the Fort and capture the commanders of the Desai's army. When the Horse Artillery stormed into the fort,

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Sardar Gurusiddappa, who had kept his men on full alert, promptly commanded his men to repel and chase them away. The Kittur forces made a bold front and overpowered the British soldiers.

4 In the meanwhile, the Desai's guards had shut the gates of the fort and the British Horse Artillery men, being completely overrun and routed, had to get out through the escape window. Rani's soldiers chased them out of the fort, killing a few of them until they retreated to their camps on the outskirts.

5 A few of the British had found refuge in some private residences, while some were hiding in their tents. The Kittur soldiers captured about forty persons and brought them to the palace. These included twelve children and a few women from the British officers' camp. When they were brought in the presence of the Rani, she ordered the soldiers to be imprisoned. For the women and children she had only gentleness, and admonished her soldiers for taking them into custody. At her orders, these women and children were taken inside the palace and given food and shelter. Rani came down from her throne, patted the children lovingly and told them that no harm would come to them.

6 She, then, sent word through a messenger to Thackeray that the British women and children were safe and could be taken back any time. Seeing this noble gesture of the Rani, he was moved. He wanted to meet this gracious lady and talk to her. He even thought

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of trying to persuade her to enter into an agreement with the British to stop all hostilities in lieu of an *inam* (prize) of eleven villages. His offer was dismissed with a gesture of contempt. She had no wish to meet Thackeray. That night she called Sardar Gurusiddappa and other leading Sardars, and after discussing all the issues came to the conclusion that there was no point in meeting Thackeray who had come with an army to threaten Kittur into submission to British sovereignty.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, complete the statements given below with the help of the options that follow : *1×2=2*

(a) Thackeray was a/an

(i) British tourist.

(ii) army officer.

(iii) advisor to the Rani of Kittur.

(iv) treasury officer.

(b) British women and children came to Kittur to

(i) visit Kittur.

(ii) enjoy life in tents.

(iii) stay in the palace.

(iv) give company to the army officers.

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Answer the following questions briefly : *1×6=6*

(c) Why did Thackeray come to Kittur ?

(d) Why did Kittur officials refuse to give the desired assurance to Thackeray ?

(e) What happened to the Horse Artillery ?

(f) How do we know that the Rani was a noble soul ?

(g) How, in your opinion, would the British women have felt after meeting the Rani ?

(h) Why did the Rani refuse to meet Thackeray ?

(i) Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following : *1×2=2*

(i) aggressive/refusing to obey (Para 2)

(ii) entered forcibly (Para 3)

3. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow : *8*

The most alarming of man's assaults upon the environment is the contamination of air, earth, rivers and sea with lethal materials. This pollution is for the most part irrevocable; the chain of evil it initiates is for the most part irreversible. In this contamination of the environment, chemicals are the sinister partners of radiation in changing the very nature of the world; radiation released through nuclear explosions into the air, comes to the earth in rain, lodges into the soil, enters the grass or corn, or wheat grown there and reaches the bones of a human being, there to remain until his death. Similarly, chemicals sprayed on crops lie long in

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soil, entering living organisms, passing from one to another in a chain of poisoning and death. Or they pass by underground streams until they emerge and combine into new forms that kill vegetation, sicken cattle, and harm those who drink from once pure wells.

It took hundreds of millions of years to produce the life that now inhabits the earth and reach a state of adjustment and balance with its surroundings. The environment contains elements that are hostile as well as supporting. Even within the light of the sun, there are short-wave radiations with power to injure. Given time, life has adjusted and a balance reached. For time is the essential ingredient, but in the modern world there is no time.

The rapidity of change and the speed with which new situations are created follow the heedless pace of man rather than the deliberate pace of nature. Radiation is no longer the bombardment of cosmic rays; it is now the unnatural creation of man's tampering with the atom. The chemicals to which life is asked to make adjustments are no longer merely calcium and silica and copper and all the rest of the minerals washed out of the rocks and carried in the rivers to the sea; they are the synthetic creations of man's inventive mind, brewed in his laboratories, and having no counterparts in nature.

(a) On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognisable abbreviations (wherever necessary — minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. *5*

(b) Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words. *3*

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4. Twenty-five years ago, a government school was opened in Adampur, your village. As part of its silver jubilee celebrations the school has decided to honour the meritorious old students who are now holding important positions in life. As Head boy/girl draft a notice in about 50 words inviting the students of classes IX to XII to attend the function in the school hall. *4*

OR

You are Ranjit/Rani Chopra, a celebrated short story writer. You have been invited by the Literary Club, Sunshine Public School, Karnal to deliver a lecture on 'Literature and Life'. Draft a formal acceptance of the invitation in about 50 words. Address it to the Principal.

5. Last month, you went to Ooty and stayed at Hotel Greenview for a week. Within two days you found that the facilities provided were not good and you had to leave the hotel. On reaching home at Chennai you decided to write a letter of complaint to the manager describing all that went wrong there. Demand a refund of the money paid in advance. Write the letter in 120 – 150 words. You are Omar/Amna, 12 B, Mount Road, Chennai. *6*

OR

Apart from newspapers, 24-hour news channels on TV are a major source of information for the common man. As compared to foreign news channels, the Indian channels are full of advertisements. Write a letter to the editor of a national newspaper urging the news channels to create a healthy balance between news and commercials. You are John/Elizabeth, 18, Civil Lines, Meerut.

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6. The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow. As a teenager you want India to achieve certain goals in the next ten years. Write an article in 150 – 200 words on 'India After Ten Years'. You are Prabhu/Prabha. Use the following clues : *10*

- Education
- Health
- Communication
- Infrastructure
- Inflation
- Employment

OR

Last week, a friendly cricket match between your school and DAV Public School, Amritsar took place at your school ground. Write a report in 150 – 200 words on the match (the two innings, runs scored, batting, bowling, result, etc.) for your school newsletter. You are Prabhu/Prabha.

7. The students of your school got 100 percent marks in various subjects in Senior School Certificate Examination this year. This achievement was made through the efforts made by the students under the guidance of their teachers. Write a speech in 150 – 200 words congratulating the teachers and the students. *10*

OR

"Gyms and fitness centres have reduced the importance of exercise in the park." Write a debate in 150 – 200 words either *for* or *against* the motion.

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8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow : *1×4=4*

On sour cream walls, donations. Shakespeare's head,
Cloudless at dawn, civilised dome riding all cities.
Belled, flowery, Tyrolese valley.

(a) How were the walls built ?

(b) What do you find in the classroom ?

(c) What is the significance of Tyrolese valley ?

(d) What does the word, 'Belled' mean ?

OR

When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie
Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by.
The tigers in the panel that she made
Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.

(a) Who terrified the aunt ?

(b) What did she do to face the terror ?

(c) What is the result of her effort ?

(d) What does the word, 'prancing' mean ?

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9. Answer any ***four*** of the following questions in 30 – 40 words each : *3×4=12*

(a) What did Sophie tell Geoff about her 'meeting' Danny Casey ?

(b) Douglas's mother (ironically) thought that YMCA pool was safe for learning to swim. What are your views ?

(c) What are green wars ? Who wage them and with what result ? (Keeping Quiet)

(d) How does Keats define a thing of beauty ?

(e) What happened to the hundredth tiger ?

(f) How do people react to Derry's face ?

10. Answer the following question in 120 – 150 words : *6*

What change do you find in Saheb's life when he stops rag-picking and starts working at a tea-stall ?

OR

Very soon after stealing the crofter's money, how did the peddler realise that he was himself caught in a rattrap ?

11. Answer the following question in 120 – 150 words : *6*

For a long time we have been treating certain castes with a prejudice. What did Bama see which made her realise this injustice ?

OR

In marriage one expects complete trust and cooperation between husband and wife. How did Hanna help Dr. Sadao when he was in trouble ?

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12. Answer the following question in 120 – 150 words : *6*

A comparison with Dr. Kemp highlights the weaknesses of Griffin. Attempt a character contrast of the two.

OR

In Raveloe, Dolly Winthrop stands for comfort, devotion and joy. Give your views on this statement.

13. Answer the following question in 120 – 150 words : *6*

Describe Marvel's first meeting with Griffin.

OR

How did Dunstan blackmail Godfrey ?

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