

SECTION-A

(Reading Skills)

1. (i) - Tone - Informative / objective / formal / appreciative
 - Rationalization - Writer - presented factual information about the historical use of Saffron - its medicinal properties, without any particular emotional or subjective bias
- (ii) (c) Saffron is considered to be the most valuable spice, similar to how gold is valued among metals.
- (iii) - Being used since ages in various foods made for the royals and elites/ Forms the backbone of several iconic dishes from around the world
 - Contains medicinal properties.
 - Has strong aroma and unique flavour.
 - Has high retail value because of labour-intensive harvesting methods. (Any Two Value Points)
- (iv) (b) widely recognised
- (v) - hand-picking / drying over charcoal fires/spread on trays/ forty hours of labour (Any Two Value Points)
- (vi) True
- (vii) (c) Due to its labour - intensive cultivation process and its relatively low yield per plant.
- (viii) - Beetroot and pomegranate are used as adulterants to enhance red colour of Saffron
 - because of its high price, adulteration is quite common
 - silk fibres, oil or wax - used to add bulk
 - Powdered saffron can be adulterated with turmeric and paprika (Any Two Value Points)
2. (i) - Soft and smooth texture
 - Feels comfortable on skin
 - Absorbs, releases moisture (Any Two Value Points)
- (ii) (a) Both the assertion and reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion
- (iii) - Labour-intensive cultivation.
 - Limited production due to natural factors.
 - Specialized knowledge, expertise required.
 - Careful selection for superior quality. (Any One Value Point)
- (iv) China and India
- (v) - This makes the production limited/cost high/ (any other correct response to be accepted)
- (vi) - easily damaged as it loses 20% strength when wet
 - moderate to poor elasticity
 - weakened when exposed to sunlight
 - if dirty - attacked by insects (Any One Value Point)
- (vii) - Karnataka produced the most amount
- Uttar Pradesh produced the least amount
- (viii) - ... production of 1 kg of silk
- (ix) - It requires specialized knowledge / expertise by skilled artisans and craftsmanship.

SECTION-B

(Grammar and Creative Writing Skills Grammar)

3. (i) Considering
- (ii) trapping – trapped
- (iii) Yukti asked Sanjay if/whether that restaurant served good South Indian food
- (iv) (b) If she was sure she could manage
- (v) Migrate
- (vi) Error - Much
Correction - More/ Something
- (vii) (c) between – among
- (viii) (c) enjoyed
- (ix) She had finished the project the day before/ the previous day
- (x) (b) will be held
- (xi) (b) ensure
- (xii) Error - upto
Correction – into
4. Self
5. Self

SECTION-C

(Literature)

6. (a) (i) (c) There was a hailstorm

(ii) Devastated

(iii) - All his effort put in the field had gone in vain.

- The storm had destroyed his cornfields.

- He will not be able to earn any money as the crops were destroyed (Any Two Value Points)

(iv) A few leaves would have been left

OR

(b) (i) - Anil was careless/casual/generous about his money.

- Anil did not seem to bother about little profit made by Hari Singh.

- Anil was being helpful by not disclosing the fact that he knew about the profit being made by Hari Singh (Any One Value Point)

(ii) (c) That he would be able to accomplish a lot if he gets educated.

(iii) - Anil promised to teach him how to cook, write his name, whole sentences and add numbers.

- The narrator felt grateful for the opportunity to learn, believing that once he could write like an educated man, there would be no limit to what he could achieve

(iv) profit

7. (a) (i) (Any One Value Point)

- It is a term of endearment or affection.

- It suggests a close relationship or familiarity between the speaker and the person they are addressing

(ii) (Any Two Value Points)

- The "yellow hair" mentioned in the poem is likely symbolic of physical beauty or attractiveness

- The religious man suggests it not to be the basis of God's love.

- Youth considers it to be a reason for loving someone

(iii) Selfless

(iv) Self

OR

(b) (i) - Oxymoron - In his quiet rage

- Metaphor - pads of velvet quiet

- Repetition - quiet

- Alliteration - stress, should, stripes, shadow

- Imagery - lurking, sliding

- Personification

(ii) Soft, restless, restrained, smooth, stealthily (Any One Value Point)

(iii) (b) both subdued and angry

(iv) (b) Along the sand, the people All turn and look one way They turn back on the sand They look at the sea all day

8. (i) - Mandela talks about decades of oppression and brutality faced by Black people of South Africa.

- The structure created by white people was hurtful - formed the basis of one of the harshest, most inhumane societies the world has ever known.

- The prejudice, discrimination created by the Whites - developed a sense of inferiority in the blacks

- The trauma/ atmosphere of fear for the Blacks

(Any Two Value Point) (Any other relevant point to be accepted)'

(ii) - Nature - Hemlock tree, snow, crow, simple acts of nature can bring a change/ healing effect

- Simplicity - small acts have big impacts, simple telling of a simple scenario

(iii) - Rajvir was excited about the magnificent view because he saw it for the first time.

- Pranjol was a youngster from Assam only and was born and brought up on a plantation. That's why he was not excited.

(iv) - The poem humorously provides guidelines for identifying various wild animals encountered in the jungle.

- Through witty descriptions and clever rhymes, Wells presents distinct characteristics of different animals.

- By employing a light hearted approach, Wells effectively conveys information about wildlife in a memorable and engaging manner.

- The underlying themes of human-animal interactions and the importance of keen observation in understanding nature are subtly woven into the humorous narrative

(Any Two Value Points) (Any other relevant point to be accepted)

(v) - Mijbil was packed into a box not more than 18 inches square - felt uncomfortable/injured, to be carried on the floor at the author's feet in the airplane

- When the author got back after the meal, Mijbil had torn the lining of the box to shreds.

- In the aircraft, Mijbil was out of the box in a flash. He disappeared at a high speed down the aircraft. There were squawks and shrieks.

- It was an eventful journey for the author - could not take a direct flight because pets were not allowed

(Any Two Value Points) (Any other relevant point to be accepted)

9. (i) - Mrs. Pumphrey's overindulgence - over pampering, overfeeding Reluctance to impose discipline on Tricki reflects a common tendency among pet owners to spoil their animals without considering the consequences.

- The absence of adequate exercise for Tricki emphasizes the importance of regular exercise for pets and the impact of external factors on their well being.

- It offers a critical examination of human behaviour towards animals and the need for responsible pet ownership (Any Two Value Points) (Any other relevant point to be accepted)

(ii) - A seemingly innocuous book containing nursery rhymes plays a pivotal role in saving the earth from destruction.

- Martian invasion was prevented because of the book

- The book, discovered by the inhabitants of a faraway planet, contains nursery rhymes from Earth's literature, which the aliens misinterpret as factual accounts of historical events.

- The misunderstanding arises when the aliens lacking knowledge of Earth's culture and language, mistake the nursery rhymes for an accurate depiction of human history. (Any Two Value Points)

(Any other relevant point to be accepted)

(iii) - Griffin undergoes significant character development. Once a figure consumed by his desire for power and dominance through invisibility, Griffin, later, grappled with the consequences of his actions.

- He navigates a world where his once extraordinary abilities became a burden, leading him to confront the moral implications of his scientific pursuits.

- Examples from text how he indulges in many harmful activities. (Any Two Value Points)

(Any other relevant point to be accepted)

10. (a) - Amanda-

- Amanda represents the longing for freedom - felt dominated, while her mother/parent/guardian, represents instructional control over freedom, this highlights the contrast.

- The poem conveys the moral that children need to be allowed more freedom. Excessive nagging may make them annoyed and disobedient and hence they may develop a type of dislike for real life.

- Madam rides the bus-

- On the other hand, Valli - eight years old - has no friends - wanted to explore the world - mesmerized by the bus journey between her village and the city - started saving money for the bus fare.

- Planned her journey meticulously. (Any Three Value Points - At least one value point for each text)

(Any other relevant point to be accepted)

OR

(b) - The ball poem- Berryman - beautifully describes a boy who has lost his ball - gave a lesson full a wisdom - everyone must learn to

bear the pain associated with loss - need to learn the ways for bearing those losses - both material and human.

- 'A Long Walk to Freedom' by Nelson Mandela is about the struggle of freedom of South Africa. Mandela recalls the reason for this movement - black-skinned people exploited by the whites.

- While taking vow as the first black President, Mandela established democracy in the country - said there would be no discrimination henceforth.

- Conclusion - While the Ball Poem teaches us to accept loss and that suffering is a part of life, A Long Walk to Freedom, teaches us to fight for loss of freedom and suffering as a human right.

(Any other relevant point to be accepted)

11. (a) - Horace had gone to steal from the safe

- Was befooled by the lady in red

- Believed her to be the mistress/owner, as claimed by her

- Opened the safe for her without taking any precautions e.g. gloves - left fingerprints everywhere

- Was imprisoned

- Meticulously planned robbery came to a naught as not familiar with the owner

- Regretted - duped by the lady, ran away with the money

- Realizes that one should never trust anyone blindly (Any Three Value Points)

(Any other relevant point to be accepted)

OR

(b) - Matilda - pretty, young lady - wanted to lead a luxurious life - born in a humble family - married an ordinary man/clerk

- Wanted to pretend to be a rich woman at the Ball

- lacked wisdom and prudence.

- Just to show off at the ball - borrowed necklace from a friend - lost it led to enormous sufferings for her and her husband for many years.

- After the loss - became mature, humble and grateful.

- Earlier, did not understand the importance of living within one's means later on realized her mistake.

(Any Three Value Points) (Any other relevant point to be accepted)

