

NAHAR GLOBAL SCHOOL

CLASS 12

ENGLISH

WORK SHEET -1

EXERCISE OF SHORT COMPOSITIONS

1. In a recent survey it was found that your city has the highest rate of pollution in the country. Innumerable vehicles on the road and lack of green cover have made the air unfit to breathe. Draft a poster in about 50 words, creating awareness about the need to keep your city clean and green.. You are Rakhsita/Rohit of MVN Public School.
2. Your school is organizing a cultural programme on the occasion of the World Dance Day wherein the renowned Bharatnatyam dancer, Geeta Chandran would be giving a lecture demonstration. As the President, Cultural Society of your school, draft a notice in about 50 words, informing the students about the same. You are Rakhsita/Rohit of MVN Public School.
3. You are Manager, Infocom Network C-3 Main Shopping Center, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi. Draft an advertisement offering office furniture for sale. Give details.
4. You are Romila/Rohit, Sports Captain of Sunshine International School. Your school has organised a marathon to promote a cause. Design a visually appealing poster about this in about 50 words. Include all relevant details.
5. You are the Dean, Admissions, MNT Professional College, Chandigarh. Draft an advertisement in about 50 words giving information about admission to undergraduate courses offered by your College. Include all relevant details.

EXERCISE OF LONG COMPOSITIONS

1. Your school recently launched a GPRS system in the school buses which will enable the parents to keep track of their children while they are travelling in the bus. The service, however, is not smooth and is facing a lot of problems. As the Transport Incharge of DML Public School, Delhi, write a letter in about 120-150 words to the Manager, Forumloft Ltd, 21 Park Street, Delhi, complaining about the same.
2. Your school has opened a new activity wing for the kindergarten students for which you require play equipments. Write a letter to the Manager, OK Toys, 21, Daryaganj, Delhi, in about 120-150 words placing an order for educational toys and other play equipments. You are Neera/Naresh, Manager, DML Public School, Delhi .

3. Draft an application with bio-data in about 120-150 words for the post of the Librarian in Vision Senior Secondary School, Calicut. You are Radhika/Rajeev from 21, Cherry Road, Madurai.
 4. You are Seema / Surya living in Bangalore. You and your friends are planning a week long holiday to Simla. Write a letter to the Manager of Lake View Hotel, Simla, making necessary enquiries before you make your final decision.
 5. You are Kumaran/Koyana, Vice President, Customer Care, Shopmart Online. You have received a letter of inquiry from a dissatisfied customer seeking information about your company's exchange policy. Write a letter of reply in about 120-150 words to the customer giving information about the same.
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WORKSHEET -2

EXERCISE OF UNSEEN PASSAGE

Q.1 Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

1. One of the greatest sailing adventures of the past 25 years was the conquest of the Northwest Passage, powered by sail, human muscle, and determination. In 100 days, over three summers (1986-88), Canadians Jeff MacInnis and Mike Beedell accomplished the first wind-powered crossing of the Northwest Passage.
2. In Jeff MacInnis's words...Our third season. We weave our way through the labyrinth of ice, and in the distance we hear an unmistakable sound. A mighty bowhead whale is nearby, and its rhythmic breaths fill us with awe. Finally we see it relaxed on the surface, its blowhole quivering like a volcanic cone, but it senses our presence and quickly sounds. We are very disappointed. We had only good intentions - to revel in its beautiful immensity and to feel its power. Mike thinks how foolish it would be for this mighty beast to put any faith in us. After all, we are members of the species that had almost sent the bowhead into extinction with our greed for whale oil and bone. It is estimated that as many as 38,000 bowheads were killed off eastern Baffin Island in the 1800s; today there are about 200 left.
3. The fascinating and sometimes terrifying wildlife keeps us entertained during our explorations. Bearded harp and ring seals greet us daily. The profusion of bird life is awesome; at times we see and smell hundreds of thousands of thickbilled murrelets clinging to their cliffside nests. Our charts show we are on the edge of a huge shoal where the frigid ocean currents upwell and mix nutrients that provide a feast for the food chain. At times these animals scare the living daylights out of us. They have a knack of

sneaking up behind us and then shooting out of the water and belly flopping for maximum noise and splash. A horrendous splash coming from behind has a heart-stopping effect in polar bear country.

4. We have many encounters with the "Lords of the Arctic," but we are always cautious, observant, and ever so respectful that we are in their domain. In some regions the land is totally devoid of life, while in others the pulse of life takes our breath away. Such is the paradox of the Arctic; It's wastelands flow into oasis' that are found nowhere else on the face of the earth. Many times we find ancient signs of Inuit people who lived here, superbly attuned to the land. We feel great respect for them; this landscape is a challenge at every moment.

5. We face a 35 mile open water passage across Prince Regent Inlet on Baffin Island that will take us to our ultimate goal - Pond Inlet on Baffin Bay. The breakers look huge from the water's edge. Leaning into the hulls, like bobsledders at the starting gate, we push as hard as we can down the gravel beach to the sea. We catch the water and keep pushing until we have plunged waist deep, then drag ourselves aboard. Immediately, we begin paddling with every ounce of effort. Inch by agonizing inch, Perception moves offshore. Sweat pours off our bodies. Ahead of us, looming gray-white through the fog, we see a massive iceberg riding the current like the ghost of a battleship. There is no wind to fill our sails and steady the boat, and the chaotic motion soon brings seasickness. Slowly the wind begins to build. Prince Regent Inlet now looks ominous with wind and waves. The frigid ocean hits us square in the face and chills us to the bone.

6. We were on the fine edge. Everything the Arctic had taught us over the last 90 days was now being tested. We funneled all that knowledge, skill, teamwork, and spirit into this momentous crossing... If we went over in these seas we could not get the boat back up. Suddenly the wind speed plummeted to zero as quickly as it had begun.... Now we were being pushed by the convulsing waves toward sheer 2,000 foot cliffs. Two paddles were our only power. Sailing past glacier capped mountains, we approached the end of our journey. At 05:08 on the morning of our hundredth day, speeding into Baffin Bay, the spray from our twin hulls makes rainbows in the sun as we complete the first sail powered voyage through the Northwest Passage.

7. We have journeyed through these waters on their terms, moved by the wind, waves and current. The environment has always been in control of our destiny; we have only tried to respond in the best possible way. We've been awake for nearly 23 hours, but we cannot sleep. The joy and excitement are too great. Our Hobie Cat rests on the rocky beach, the wind whistling in her rigging, her bright yellow hulls radiant in the morning sunlight. She embodies the watchword for survival in the Arctic - adaptability.

Q.1.1. On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option : (1X4=4)

1. The passage is about the

A. author's sailing adventure through the Northwest Passage B. flora and fauna of the Arctic

C. survival skills needed while sailing

D. saving the Arctic

2. "Lords of the Arctic," (Para 4) refers to

A. Wind breakers

B. Icebergs

C. Polar Bears

D. Innuits

3. The author's sailing vessel is named

A. Prince Regent

B. Hobie Cat

C. Perception

D. Arctic

4. 'We were on the fine edge' refers to

A. the Prince Regent Inlet

B. the ominous sail

C. the frigid ocean

D. their expedition

Q.1.2 Answer the following questions briefly:

(1X6=6)

1. Why does the author feel disappointed to see the bowhead whale disappear into the ocean?

2. How does his sailing partner rationalize it?

3. What reason does the author give for a thriving wildlife in the Arctic?

4. What is the paradox of the Arctic?

5. What skills helped the author and his partner survive the adventure?

6. What is the author's sailing vessel an embodiment of?

Q.1.3 Pick out the words/phrases from the passage which are similar in meaning to the following:

(1X2=2)

a) Abundance (Para 3)

b) Threatening (Para 5)

Q.2. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

1. By the time a child is six or seven she has all the essential avoidances well enough by heart to be trusted with the care of a younger child. And she also develops a number of simple techniques. She learns to weave firm square balls from palm leaves, to make pinwheels of palm leaves or frangipani blossoms, to climb a coconut tree by walking up the trunk on flexible little feet, to break open a coconut

with one firm well-directed blow of a knife as long as she is tall, to play a number of group games and sing the songs which go with them, to tidy the house by picking up the litter on the stony floor, to bring water from the sea, to spread out the copra to dry and to help gather it in when rain threatens, to go to a neighboring house and bring back a lighted faggot for the chief's pipe or the cook-house fire

2. But in the case of the little girls all these tasks are merely supplementary to the main business of baby-tending. Very small boys also have some care of the younger children, but at eight or nine years of age they are usually relieved of it. Whatever rough edges have not been smoothed off by this responsibility for younger children are worn off by their contact with older boys. For little boys are admitted to interesting and important activities only so long as their behavior is circumspect and helpful.

3. Where small girls are brusquely pushed aside, small boys will be patiently tolerated and they become adept at making themselves useful. The four or five little boys who all wish to assist at the important, business of helping a grown youth lasso reef eels, organize themselves into a highly efficient working team; one boy holds the bait, another holds an extra lasso, others poke eagerly about in holes in the reef looking for prey, while still another tucks the capture deals into his lavalava. The small girls, burdened with heavy babies or the care of little staggerers who are too small to adventure on the reef, discouraged by the hostility of the small boys and the scorn of the older ones, have little opportunity for learning the more adventurous forms of work and play.

4. So while the little boys first undergo the chastening effects of baby-tending and then have many opportunities to learn effective cooperation under the supervision of older boys, the girls' education is less comprehensive. They have a high standard of individual responsibility, but the community provides them with no lessons in cooperation with one another. This is particularly apparent in the activities of young people: the boys organize quickly; the girls waste hours in bickering, innocent of any technique for quick and efficient cooperation.

Q. 2.1 On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option: (1X2=2)

a) The primary purpose of the passage with reference to the society under discussion is to

- i. explain some differences in the upbringing of girls and boys
- ii. criticize the deficiencies in the education of girls
- iii. give a comprehensive account of a day in the life of an average young girl
- iv. delineate the role of young girls

b.) The list of techniques in paragraph one could best be described as

- i. household duties
- ii. rudimentary physical skills
- iii. important responsibilities
- iv. useful social skills

Q. 2.2 Answer the following as briefly as possible: (1X8=8)

- a) What is the prime responsibility of a girl child by the time she is six or seven?
- b) What simple techniques does she learn at this stage?
- c) What household chores is she responsible for?
- d) In what way is a boy's life different?
- e) What qualities ensure that the boys move on to a higher responsibility?
- f) Why do small girls have little opportunity for learning the more adventurous forms of work and play?
- g) In what way is the girls' education less comprehensive?
- h) How is this apparent?

Q.2.3 Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following: (1X2=2)

- (i) brusquely (para 3)
- (ii) scorn (para 3)

Q.3. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

1. That large animals require luxuriant vegetation has been a general assumption which has passed from one work to another; but I do not hesitate to say that it is completely false, and that it has vitiated the reasoning of geologists on some points of great interest in the ancient history of the world. The prejudice has probably been derived from India, and the Indian islands, where troops of elephants, noble forests, and impenetrable jungles, are associated together in every one's mind. If, however, we refer to any work of travels through the southern parts of Africa, we shall find allusions in almost every page either to the desert character of the country, or to the numbers of large animals inhabiting it. The same thing is rendered evident by the many engravings which have been published of various parts of the interior.

2. Dr. Andrew Smith, who has lately succeeded in passing the Tropic of Capricorn, informs me that, taking into consideration the whole of the southern part of Africa, there can be no doubt of its being a sterile country. On the southern coasts there are some fine forests, but with these exceptions, the traveler may pass for days together through open plains, covered by a poor and scanty vegetation. Now, if we look to the animals inhabiting these wide plains, we shall find their numbers extraordinarily great, and their bulk immense.

3. It may be supposed that although the species are numerous, the individuals of each kind are few. By the kindness of Dr. Smith, I am enabled to show that the case is very different. He informs me, that in lat. 24', in one day's march with the bullock-wagons, he saw, without wandering to any great distance on either side, between one hundred and one hundred and fifty rhinoceroses - the same day he saw several herds of giraffes, amounting together to nearly a hundred.

4. At the distance of a little more than one hour's march from their place of encampment on the previous night, his party actually killed at one spot eight hippopotamuses, and saw many more. In this same river there were likewise crocodiles. Of course it was a case quite extraordinary, to see so many great animals crowded together, but it evidently proves that they must exist in great numbers. Dr. Smith describes the country passed through that day, as 'being thinly covered with grass, and bushes about four feet high, and still more thinly with mimosa-trees.'

5. Besides these large animals, anyone the least acquainted with the natural history of the Cape has read of the herds of antelopes, which can be compared only with the flocks of migratory birds. The numbers indeed of the lion, panther, and hyena, and the multitude of birds of prey, plainly speak of the abundance of the smaller quadrupeds: one evening seven lions were counted at the same time prowling round Dr. Smith's encampment. As this able naturalist remarked to me, the carnage each day in Southern Africa must indeed be terrific! I confess it is truly surprising how such a number of animals can find support in a country producing so little food.

6. The larger quadrupeds no doubt roam over wide tracts in search of it; and their food chiefly consists of underwood, which probably contains much nutriment in a small bulk. Dr. Smith also informs me that the vegetation has a rapid growth; no sooner is a part consumed, than its place is supplied by a fresh stock. There can be no doubt, however, that our ideas respecting the apparent amount of food necessary for the support of large quadrupeds are much exaggerated. The belief that where large quadrupeds exist, the vegetation must necessarily be luxuriant, is the more remarkable, because the converse is far from true.

7. Mr. Burchell observed to me that when entering Brazil, nothing struck him more forcibly than the splendour of the South American vegetation contrasted with that of South Africa, together with the absence of all large quadrupeds. In his Travels, he has suggested that the comparison of the respective weights (if there were sufficient data) of an equal number of the largest herbivorous quadrupeds of each country would be extremely curious. If we take on the one side, the elephants hippopotamus, giraffe, bos caffer, elan, five species of rhinoceros; and on the American side, two tapirs, the guanaco, three deer, the vicuna, peccari, capybara (after which we must choose from the monkeys to complete the number), and then place these two groups alongside each other it is not easy to conceive ranks more disproportionate in size.

8. After the above facts, we are compelled to conclude, against anterior probability that among the mammalia there exists no close relation between the bulk of the species, and the quantity of the vegetation, in the countries which they inhabit.

3.1 On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option: (1x4=4)

1.] The author is primarily concerned with

A. discussing the relationship between the size of mammals and the nature of vegetation in their habitats

B. contrasting ecological conditions in India and Africa

C. proving that large animals do not require much food

D. describing the size of animals in various parts of the world

2.] According to the author, the „prejudice“ (Para 1) has lead to

A. errors in the reasoning of biologists

B. false ideas about animals in Africa

C. incorrect assumptions on the part of geologists

D. doubt in the mind of the author

3.] The flocks of migratory birds (Para 5) are mentioned to

A. describe an aspect of the fauna of South Africa

B. illustrate a possible source of food for large carnivores

C. contrast with the habits of the antelope

D. suggest the size of antelope herds

4. Darwin quotes Burchell’s observations in order to

A. counter a popular misconception

B. describe a region of great splendor

C. prove a hypothesis

D. illustrate a well-known phenomenon

3.2. Answer the following questions briefly: (1x6=6)

1. What prejudice has vitiated the reasoning of geologists?

2. Why does Dr. Smith refer to Africa as a sterile country?

3. What is the “carnage” referred to by Dr. Smith?

4. What does Darwin’s remark, „if there were sufficient data“, indicate?

5. To account for the „surprising“ number of animals in a „country producing so little food“, what partial explanation does Darwin suggest?

6. What does the author conclude from Dr. Smith and Burchell’s observations?

3.3. Pick out the words/phrases from the passage which are similar in meaning to the following:

(1 x2 = 2)

a) Dense (Para 1)

b) Barren ((Para 2)

Q.4 Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

1. I've always held the belief that rationale or logic has no place in faith. If you have faith in the Supreme then you must also accept that you are not out there to defend your faith based on any scientific evidence. Those who don't share your belief have an equal right to their opinion. What matters is your personal stand. If you feel peaceful and joyous, if you feel inspired to do good deeds by having your faith, then by all means keep it, there's no reason to abandon it.

2. Einstein once got a letter asking if he believed in the Supreme. Einstein sent a telegram in response stating, "I believe in Spinoza's idea of the Supreme who reveals himself in the orderly harmony of what exists, not in someone who concerns himself with the fates and actions of human beings." In case you are not familiar, Baruch Spinoza (1632 – 1677) was a Dutch philosopher (yes, not just brilliant engineers, they have philosophers too). An unorthodox and independent thinker, his views were revolutionary at the time. His philosophy is thought-provoking. So, where does that leave us in regards to faith?

3. To me, faith is a sentiment, it's an emotion. Just like you fall in love and you surrender in love and you find yourself willing to do anything for the person you love, same is with faith. Faith is love. When you have faith, you let go of your worries of the future, you let go of your guilt of the past, because you have surrendered to the divine will. You remain committed to a life of goodness and action. But, you also recognize that there are other bigger forces, of immense scale, in play in the grand scheme of things and it'll do you much good to play along.

4. You gain this courage, zest and zeal to work hard, to excel, to serve. Life looks beautiful and everything looks priceless then, because it truly is. Even our suffering is priceless. It gives you strength, it makes you reflect on you. It is priceless because you appreciate life more, it brings you closer to you, the real you. Don't limit yourself by asking petty things from the Supreme. Trust the immensity of nature. Faith does not mean all your dreams will come true, it simply means you look upon everything that's granted to you as a blessing. Just focus on your deeds, and before long, you'll be filled beyond measure.

5. Accepting the transient nature of this world, and its eternal impermanence, is the definitive path to inner peace. Either live in complete surrender or exercise total control. If your boat is neither anchored nor guided, it'll just drift then. It'll drift in the direction of your thoughts, desires and emotions. Here today, there tomorrow. 6. Cosmic intelligence is infinitely more subtle, smart, organized and selfless than individual intelligence. Anchor your ship if you are tired of rowing. Have faith.

4.1 On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option: (1x2=2)

a) Faith

- i. does not depend on rationale and logic
- ii. is a personal stand
- iii. fills us with joy and peace
- iv. All of the above

b) „Here today, there tomorrow“ (Para 5) refers to

- i. our thoughts
- ii. our faith
- iii. our emotions
- iv. our desires

4.2 Answer the following briefly: (1x6=6)

- a) What was Einstein's belief about faith?
- b) What does one gain from having faith?
- c) In what way does suffering become priceless?
- d) Why does the writer compare life to a birthday party?
- e) What is the definitive path to inner peace?
- f) How is cosmic intelligence superior to individual intelligence?

4.3 Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following: (1X2=2)

- i) proof (para 1)
- ii) celestial (para 7)

Q.5 Read the passage given below :

1. No student of a foreign language needs to be told that grammar is complex. By changing word sequences and by adding a range of auxiliary verbs and suffixes, we are able to communicate tiny variations in meaning. We can turn a statement into a question, state whether an action has taken place or is soon to take place, and perform many other word tricks to convey subtle differences in meaning. Nor is this complexity inherent to the English language. All languages, even those of so-called 'primitive' tribes have clever grammatical components. The Cherokee pronoun system, for example, can distinguish between 'you and I', 'several other people and I' and 'you, another person and I'. In English, all these meanings are summed up in the one, crude pronoun 'we'. Grammar is universal and plays a part in every language, no matter how widespread it is. So the question which has baffled many linguists is - who created grammar?

2. At first, it would appear that this question is impossible to answer. To find out how grammar is created, someone needs to be present at the time of a language's creation, documenting its emergence. Many historical linguists are able to trace modern complex languages back to earlier languages, but in

order to answer the question of how complex languages are actually formed, the researcher needs to observe how languages are started from scratch. Amazingly, however, this is possible.

3. Some of the most recent languages evolved due to the Atlantic slave trade. At that time, slaves from a number of different ethnicities were forced to work together under colonizer's rule. Since they had no opportunity to learn each others languages, they developed a make-shift language called a pidgin. Pidgins are strings of words copied from the language of the landowner. They have little in the way of grammar, and in many cases it is difficult for a listener to deduce when an event happened, and who did what to whom. Speakers need to use circumlocution in order to make their meaning understood. Interestingly, however, all it takes for a pidgin to become a complex language is for a group of children to be exposed to it at the time when they learn their mother tongue. Slave children did not simply copy the strings of words uttered by their elders, they adapted their words to create a new, expressive language. Complex grammar systems which emerge from pidgins are termed creoles, and they are invented by children.

4. Further evidence of this can be seen in studying sign languages for the deaf. Sign languages are not simply a series of gestures; they utilise the same grammatical machinery that is found in spoken languages. Moreover, there are many different languages used worldwide. The creation of one such language was documented quite recently in Nicaragua. Previously, all deaf people were isolated from each other, but in 1979 a new government introduced schools for the deaf. Although children were taught speech and lip reading in the classroom, in the playgrounds they began to invent their own sign system, using the gestures that they used at home. It was basically a pidgin. Each child used the signs differently, and there was no consistent grammar. However, children who joined the school later, when this inventive sign system was already around, developed a quite different sign language. Although it was based on the signs of the older children, the younger children's language was more fluid and compact, and it utilised a large range of grammatical devices to clarify meaning. What is more, all the children used the signs in the same way. A new creole was born.

5. Some linguists believe that many of the world's most established languages were creoles at first. The English past tense –ed ending may have evolved from the verb 'do'. 'It ended' may once have been 'It end-did'. Therefore it would appear that even the most widespread languages were partly created by children. Children appear to have innate grammatical machinery in their brains, which springs to life when they are first trying to make sense of the world around them. Their minds can serve to create logical, complex structures, even when there is no grammar present for them to copy.

5.1 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer each of the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option: (1x4=4)

(a) In paragraph 1, why does the writer include information about the Cherokee language?

- i. To show how simple, traditional cultures can have complicated grammar structures.
- ii. To show how English grammar differs from Cherokee grammar.

iii. To prove that complex grammar structures were invented by the Cherokees.

iv. To demonstrate how difficult it is to learn the Cherokee language.

(b) What can be inferred about the slaves' pidgin language?

i. It contained complex grammar.

ii. It was based on many different languages.

iii. It was difficult to understand, even among slaves. iv. It was created by the land-owners.

(c) All the following sentences about Nicaraguan sign language are true EXCEPT:

i. The language has been created since 1979.

ii. The language is based on speech and lip reading.

iii. The language incorporates signs which children used at home.

iv. The language was perfected by younger children.

(d) Which idea is presented in the final paragraph?

i. English was probably once a creole.

ii. The English past tense system is inaccurate.

iii. Linguists have proven that English was created by children.

iv. Children say English past tenses differently from adults.

5.2 Answer the following questions briefly:

(1x6=6)

(a) What is common to all languages?

(b) How can we find out who created grammar?

(c) According to the passage what can be attributed as a consequence of the Atlantic slave trade?

(d) What is pidgin?

(e) What are creoles?

(f) Why does the author say that even the most widespread languages were partly created by children?

5.3 Pick out the words/phrases from the passage which are similar in meaning to the following: (1X2=2)

i) simple and temporary (Para 3)

ii) uniform (Para 4)

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WORKSHEET -3

EXERCISE OF NOTE MAKING

Q.1. Read the following passage carefully:

1. It seems that there is never enough time in the day. But, since we all get the same 24 hours, why is it that some people achieve so much more with their time than others? The answer lies in good time management. "Time management" refers to the way that you organize and plan how long you spend on specific activities. Good time management requires an important shift in focus from activities to results: being busy isn't the same as being effective. (Ironically, the opposite is often closer to the truth.) Spending your day in a frenzy of activity often achieves less, because you're dividing your attention between so many different tasks. Good time management lets you work smarter – not harder – so you get more done in less time.

2. It may seem counter-intuitive to dedicate precious time to learning about time management, instead of using it to get on with your work, but the benefits are enormous. It improves productivity and efficiency. Your reputation as a professional grows. The stress levels dip and the a world of opportunities opens up for you. Your career advances and important goals are reached.

3. Failing to manage your time effectively can have some very undesirable consequences. Deadlines are missed and the work flow is not only inefficient but of poor quality. It dents your reputation as a professional and your career is in in danger of being stalled. As a result your stress level shoots up.

4. Everyday interruptions at work can be a key barrier to managing your time effectively and, ultimately, can be a barrier to your success. Think back to your last workday, and consider for a minute the many interruptions that occurred. There may have been phone calls, emails, hall way conversations, colleagues stopping by your office, or anything else that unexpectedly demanded your attention and, in doing so, distracted you from the task at-hand. Because your day only has so many hours in it, a handful of small interruptions can rob you of the time you need to achieve your goals and be successful in your work and life. More than this, they can break your focus, meaning that you have to spend time re-engaging with the thought processes needed to successfully complete complex work. The key to controlling interruptions is to know what they are and whether they are necessary, and to plan for them in your daily schedule.

1) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. (5)

2) Write a summary of the above in 80 words using the notes. (3)

Q.2 Read the following passage carefully:

1. Classical dance evolved from Tamil Nadu's temples across centuries. The revived and reformed Bharatanatyam keeps the art born of these ancient temples alive even to this day. Once sustained and nurtured in temples as part of a rich and vibrant temple tradition, classical dance in South India has remained over centuries a dynamic, living tradition that is continuously renewed.

2. Even 2000 years ago, dance in India was a highly evolved and complex art. It was an integral part of ancient Indian theatre as established by the Natya Shastra, the oldest and exhaustive treatise on theatre and dramaturgy. Dance dramas were performed in temple precincts. Dance movements were crystallised in stone as karanas in temple sculpture. Following the Bhakti movement in the 6th century, dance and music became powerful vehicles of veneration. The deity was treated like a much-loved king, praised and royally entertained with music and dance, as part of the daily sacred rituals of worship. Gifted, highly educated temple dancers or devadasis were supported by the temples that were richly endowed by the rulers. Some 400 temple dancers were dedicated to and maintained by the Brihadeswarar Temple in Thanjavur. Dance evolved as a composite art in temples as dancers, nattuvanars (dance gurus), musicians, poets, composers, architects, sculptors and painters shared a holistic approach to all the arts.

3. The evolution of Bharatanatyam derives from the invaluable contribution of The Tanjore Quartet. The four Pillai brothers – Chinnayya, Ponnayya, Sivanandam and Vadivelu – served as court musicians at the kingdom of Maratha king, Serfoji II in the early 19th century. Their legacy to Bharatanatyam has been their restructuring of the dance repertoire into the margam format and their vast and diverse music compositions set specifically for dance. Some of their descendants like Guru Meenakshisundaram Pillai evolved the famous Pandanallur bani (style) and trained many eminent dancers.

4. From the temples, dance made its way into the courts of kings and dancers were not just devadasis, but also rajanartakis. By the early 17th century dance forms like sadir or chinna melam, precursors to Bharatanatyam as we know it today had become popular in the courts of the Maratha rulers in Thanjavur. However, in the 19th century, colonial propaganda perceived such dance as vulgar and immoral. It led to the Anti-Nautch Movement and legislation against temple dance and dancers. Divested of all patronage and temple support, devadasis were thrown into dire straits. In the early 20th century, thanks to enlightened visionaries like EV Krishna Iyer and later, Rukmini Devi Arundale, and the dedication of a handful of devadasis and nattuvanars, classical dance was resuscitated and revived as Bharatanatyam. Today, apart from a few cultural festivals in some temples, dance has left the temple for the proscenium stage.

a). On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Give an appropriate title. (5)

b). Write a summary of the above in 80 words using the notes. (3)

Q.3. Read the passage given below:

1. This isn't a mountain region of mere subjective beauty. Nor one, which claims its greatness, based on just an overwhelming opinion of a large majority. For Sikkim is a treasure that few know about. However, the facts of its remarkable geography bear enough testimony to pitch Sikkim in a slot that no other mountain region, anywhere in the world, could duplicate or rival. What Everest is to peaks, Sikkim is to the mountains. Tragically, a region so wild and exotic and with such geographic and climatic extremes, that its amazing wilds and not its unremarkable hill stations, ensure its accessibility to the adventurous only. Just delve on these facts a bit. From the plains, in a mere 80 kms as the crow flies, the altitude reaches 28,168 feet at the very top of Kangchenjunga, the third highest peak in the world.

2. Such a sharp elevation is unrivalled anywhere else and is the first geographical claim of Sikkim. The second is an offshoot of the first. Nowhere else do so many 7,000 metre plus peaks crowd up such a confined space. And the third is really a consequence of the first and the second with the sharp gradation creating the most variegated flora and fauna possible anywhere in the mountains. The fourth uniqueness is also a consequence of the first and the second and lies in the extremes of the climate which ranges from the tropical to the typical arctic type. And the fifth claim is its thin permanent population and relatively fewer travellers by virtue of its remote far-eastern Himalayan location.

3. The startling facts about Sikkim never seem to end. For starters, all of Sikkim lies in a mere 110 kms by 65 kms of mountains, peaks, glaciers, rivers and forests. A little dot on the map at a latitude 27 degrees North and longitude 88 degrees East. Its 7,000-sq kms make it about as large as the National Capital Region of India! To the North and extending to the East of Sikkim, is Tibet / China and to the West is Nepal. To the South are the Himalayan and sub Himalayan regions of West Bengal. It is, in fact these geographical extremes and the resulting ambience, that makes mountaineers trek here, when they are not climbing, besides fuelling mountaineering dreams in the minds of trekkers, what with the closest possible proximity to magnificent peaks while trekking.

4. On the subject of trekking here, it is strange but true that acclimatisation is much tougher in Sikkim than elsewhere. It may have something to do with being closer in latitude to the Tropic of Cancer, besides the rather sharp stages involved in each day of trekking. The closeness to the Tropic of Cancer has meant that the snowline will always be much higher and therefore human settlements are seen even at altitudes of 16,000 feet!.

(a) On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary-minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it. (5)

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

Q.4. Read the passage given below:

1. Colour Therapy is a complementary therapy for which there is evidence dating back thousands of years to the ancient cultures of Egypt, China and India. If we define it in simple terms, Colour is a light of varying wavelengths, thus each colour has its own particular wavelength and energy.

2. Colours contribute energy. This energy may be motivational and encouraging. Each of the seven colours of the spectrum are associated with energy. The energy relating to each of the seven spectrum colours of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet, resonates with the energy of each of the seven main chakras/energy centres of the body. Colour therapy can help to re-balance and/or stimulate these energies by applying the appropriate colour to the body .

3. Red relates to the base chakra, orange the sacral chakra, yellow the solar plexus chakra, green the heart chakra, blue the throat chakra, indigo the brow chakra (sometimes referred to as the third eye) and violet relates to the crown chakra.

4. Colour is absorbed by the eyes, skin, skull our 'magnetic energy field' or aura and the energy of colour affects us on all levels, that is to say, physical, spiritual and emotional. Every cell in the body needs light energy - thus colour energy has widespread effects on the whole body. There are many different ways of giving colour, including; Solarised Water, Light boxes/lamps with colour filters, colour silks and hands on healing using colour.

5. Colour therapy can be shown to help on a physical level, which is perhaps easier to quantify, however there are deeper issues around the colours on the psychological and spiritual levels. Our wellbeing is not, of course, purely a physical issue. Fortunately, many more practitioners, both orthodox and complementary are now treating patients in an holistic manner.

6. Colour Therapy is a totally holistic and non-invasive therapy and, really, colour should be a part of our everyday life, not just something we experience for an hour or two with a therapist. Colour is all around us everywhere. This wonderful planet does not contain all the beautiful colours of the rainbow for no reason. Nothing on this earth is here just by chance; everything in nature is here for a purpose. Colour is no exception. All we need to do is to heighten our awareness of the energy of colour, absorb it and see how it can transform our lives.

(a) On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary-minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it. (5)

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

Q.5 Read the passage carefully:

1. There is a clear dichotomy between Jayashankar Prasad's daily life and the one that found expression in his literature. In his literary formulations, Prasad advocated an escape- from- personality ideal and

categorically stated: “An artist’s art, and not his person, is the touchstone to assess his work . . . it is only after losing his personality that he emerges in his art as an artist”.

2. In Prasad’s works – his poems, short stories, novels, dramas etc. – what emerges is life as shaped in the writer’s inner self by his emotions, fancies, dreams, reveries . . . His writings are a record not of outer reality, but of the artist’s inner world. As such, of a proper appreciation and understanding of his works more emphasis needs to be placed on the working of his mind, than the events of his day-to-day life.

3. Prasad was born in a renowned family of Varansi. His grand-father Shiv Ratan Sahu, a dealer in high quality perfumed tobacco (snuff). Besides being an astute businessman, he was endowed with a marked cultural taste. His home was the meeting place of the local poets, singers, artists, scholars and men of religion. Prasad’s father Devi Prasad Sahu carried forward this high tradition of family. Prasad, therefore, had a chance to study the various phases of human nature in the light of the business traditions, artistic taste and religious background of his family.

4. When the business had somewhat recovered, Prasad planned the publication of a literary journal. Prasad started the “Indu”. The inaugural number appeared in July 1909. By this time Prasad’s notions of literature had crystallized into a credo. In the first issue of Indu, he proclaimed, “Literature has no fixed aim; it is not slave to rules; it is free and all-embracing genius, gives birth to genuine literature which is subservient to none. Whatever in the world is true and beautiful is its subject matter. By the dealing with the True and Beautiful it establishes the one and affects the full flowering of the others. Its force can be measured by the degree of pleasure it gives to the reader’s mind as also by criticism which is free of all prejudice”. The words sound like the manifesto of romanticism in literature.

5. Even while recognizing the social relevance of literature, Prasad insisted, “The poet is a creator . . . he is not conditioned by his milieu; rather it is he who moulds it and gives it a new shape; he conjures up a new world of beauty where the reader for the time being, becomes oblivious of the outer world and passes his time in an eternal spring garden where golden lotuses blossom and the air is thick and pollen”. Thus, the chief aim of literature according to Prasad is to give joy to the reader and to create a state of bliss in him. Later under the impact of Shaivadvaitism, this faith of Prasad got further strengthened.

(a) On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary-minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it. (5)

b) Write a summary of the passage in about 100 words. (3)

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WORKSHEET- 4

EXERCISE OF LONG COMPOSITIONS

1. The use of tobacco in cigarettes and other forms is a great health hazard. People do not pay much heed even to the statutory warning on cigarette packs. On the occasion of ' No Tobacco Day', write a speech in about 150-200 words about the hazards of tobacco, giving arguments for your stand. You are Shalini/Suraj of Greenfields Public School.
2. Due to incessant rains during the past few weeks, the Army has launched 'Operation Megh Rahat' in Naoshera, Rajouri, Thanamandi and Poonch districts of Jammu and Kashmir in coordination with the civil authorities for search, rescue and relief of people. Write a speech in about 150-200 words to be given at the Republic day programme in your school, applauding the role of the army and the need to boost their morale. You are Shalini/Suraj of Greenfields Public School.
3. On the occasion of "Teachers Day" the Honorable PM of India had an interactive session with students from all over the country through satellite link. Your school also made special arrangements for the students to view the telecast. Write an article in 150-200 words for your school magazine giving details of the talk and its impact on you. You are Akshay/ Akshita of Brightland Public School.
4. On the occasion of ' Earth Day' you participated in various eco-friendly campaigns initiated by your school. Write an article in about 150-200 words for your school magazine giving details of these campaigns and the impact on you. You are Akshay/ Akshita of Brightland Public School.
5. 5th June has been recognized as World Environment Day. Your school conducted various activities to commemorate the day. Write a report about it in about 150-200 words for your school magazine. You are Karuna/Karan.
6. On the threshold of being a world super power, India does have a large young workforce but unfortunately not many in this force are employable for want of necessary skills. Write in about 150-200 words, an article for a newspaper on the topic ' Skill Development is the need of the hour'. You are Anita/Arnav.
7. With a view to create awareness regarding health St. Anne's school organised 'Health Mela' in the school premises. Various charts, models, fitness equipments were displayed. Lectures, debates, discussions, plays were organised. A workshop on low calorie cooking was also organised. Write a report in 150-200 words on the 'Health Mela' for the school magazine. You are Neha/Nikhil, Secretary of the Health Club of school.
8. Yoga unites the body, mind and soul. When you are in harmony, the journey through life is calmer, happier and more fulfilling.. Write a speech in 150-200 words to be delivered in the morning assembly on the topic ' Yoga- a way of life'. You are Karan/ Kajal, Head Boy /Head Girl of D.A.V. Public School, Delhi.

9. By 2050, India will be amongst the countries which will face acute water shortage. You are highly alarmed and terrified of the future world without water. So, write an article on "Save water- are we doing enough?" for the local daily in 150-200 words.

10. You are Karan / Kirti of L.M. Memorial Public School, Dwarka. Your school has adopted a village as a social responsibility. Students are being taken to teach the children of that village on a regular basis. Write a report, for your school magazine, on the various other programmes organized there in 150-200 words.

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