

Roll No.....

Total No. of Questions : 11]

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12th ARF(S/Z)JD-2026

1400-A

ENGLISH

Time : 3 Hours]

[Maximum Marks : 80

SECTION-A

(Reading Comprehension)

1. Read the following passage. Make notes (5 marks) and write a summary (4 marks) and give it a suitable title (1 mark) : (10)

Effective speaking depends on effective listening. It takes energy to concentrate on hearing and concentrate on understanding what has been heard.

Incompetent listeners fail in a number of ways. First, they may drift. Their attention drifts from what the speaker is saying.

Second, they may counter. They find counter arguments to

whatever the speaker may be saying. Third, they compete. Then, they filter. They exclude from their understanding those parts of the message which do not readily fit in with their own frame of reference. Finally, they react. They let personal feelings about speaker or subject override the significance of the message which is being sent.

What a listener do to be more effective/the first key to effective listening is the art of concentration. If a listener positively wishes to concentrate on receiving the message, his chances of success are high. It may need determination. Some speakers are difficult to follow, either because of voice problems, or because of the form in which they send a message. There is then particular need for the determination of a listener to concentrate on what is being said.

Concentration is helped by alertness. Mental alertness is helped by physical alertness. It is not simply physical fitness, but also positioning of the body, the limbs and the head.

Some people also find it helpful to their concentration if they hold the head slightly to one side. One useful way for achieving this is intensive note-making, by trying to capture the critical headings and sub-headings the speaker is referring to.

Note-taking has been recommended as an aid to the listener. It also helps the speaker. it gives him confidence when he sees that listeners are sufficiently interested to take notes; the pattern of eye-contact when the note-taker looks up can be very positive; and the speaker's time is aided--he can see when a note-taker is writing hard and can then make effective use of pause. Posture too is important. Consider the impact made by a less competent listener who pushes his chair backward and slouches. An upright posture helps a listener's concentration. At the same time it is seen by the speaker to be a positive feature amongst his listeners. Effective listening skills have a impact on both the listener and the speaker.

2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow : (1×10=10)

Academics has always been an essential part of human development. It prepares us to survive in the outside world and establish an identity of our own. But is an individual's development restricted to merely academics? In India, from an early age, we have been taught that education is limited to the boundaries of academics only; the idea of getting out into the

field, for gaining experience, is always considered a hoax. This has hindered the student's development. But the truth is that education represents a considerably broader field than we know of it. Our teaching, from the basics, has been focused on getting good grades and job offers rather than being creative and unique.

In the 21st century, the pure academic type of education is slowly paving way for a whole new type. The paradigm shift in the whole education system is evident. People have now come to understand that education is a 360 degree activity that should focus on the student's overall development, rather than restricting her/him to the classroom.

Co-curricular activities that take place outside the classroom but reinforce or supplement classroom curriculum, in some way, have become a point of focus today. These activities help in the growth of the child, in more than one way.

Participating in such activities helps youngsters grow mentally, socially and individually. Intellectual development of a student is done in the classroom, but for the aesthetic development, such as team-building, character-building, and physical growth, students must step out into the outside world. For instance, if a student is a part of school football team, he/she will learn team-work and coordination, in a practical manner, which cannot be taught in the class.

Similarly, in colleges and universities, there is a need for practical exposure so that the student can experience the actual working of an industry. For example, taking a student to a manufacturing firm will give him/her real insight and better learning of the industry. Catering to this change, most professional colleges including B schools have started providing practical exposure to students through regular guest lectures,

industrial visits, conferences, seminars, cultural festivals and so on. With industry visits, students are able to better identify their prospective areas of work in the overall organizational function. Moreover, they help enhance interpersonal skills and communication techniques. In addition, guest lectures are equally important for all-round development of students. It is a great way for students to gain maximum exposure as guest speakers talk about their real-life experience and not what is there in the textbooks.

Questions :

- (i) What has not been the focus of education from earlier times? *
- (ii) A student's development is hindered by :
 - (a) Limiting education to academic boundaries.
 - (b) getting out to the field

- (c) being creative and unique
- (d) gaining practical knowledge
- (iii) The paradigm shift in the classroom means to :
- (a) restrict to classroom activities
- (b) focus on academic development
- (c) ~~ignore 360 degree activity~~
- (d) focus on overall development
- (iv) Co-curricular activities that take place outside the classroom do not help a student. (True/False)
- (v) What will give children a better insight into industry?

(vi) Give the synonym of 'hoax'.

(vii) Guest speakers talk about :

~~(a)~~ all round development

(b) their real-life experiences

(c) intellectual development

(d) character building

~~(viii)~~ Use the word 'professional' in a sentence of your own.

~~(ix)~~ For the aesthetic development students must -----
(complete the sentence.)

~~(x)~~ Give an appropriate title to the passage.

SECTION-B

(Writing Skills and Grammar)

3. You want to sell your flat as you are going abroad. Draft a classified advertisement for it to be published in a local newspaper (40-50 words). (4)

OR

~~You have been invited to attend the wedding of your friend's sister next week. Respond to the invitation, regretting your inability to accept the invitation. Give a suitable reason (40-50 words).~~

4. You are Principal of R.M.P. Higher Secondary School Srinagar/Jammu. The number of students in the computer class is increasing. You need 25 more computers in your laboratory. Write a letter to the Commissioner Secretary Education Department for granting you the funds (120-150 words). (6)

OR

~~The roads in your area in a very bad shape. Write a letter to the Editor of English daily highlighting the problem of the dilapidated roads in your area and asking the concerned authorities to improve these roads as soon as possible (120-150 words).~~

5. Sunshine Higher Secondary School Srinagar/Jammu require the services of a physical Education Lecturer on contract for two years. You have read their advertisement and you know that you have the required qualification for applying this post. Write your resume (4 marks) along with a covering letter/ application (2 marks) (120-150 words). (6)

6. You are an academic counsellor. You have been invited to speak on the topic, "Books are our Best Friends". Write a speech giving your views on books, how they can be our best friends and how they happen to be better than real human friends (200-250 words). (6)

OR

Almost all of us have some role model in our lives. We wish to follow her/him as she/he act as a continuous source of inspiration for us. Write a personality profile of the person who has become a role model for you and has greatly inspired you (200-250 words).

7. Edit the following passage : (8)

She entered followed by a valet, carrying on his arm a big fur coat. She was not at all pretty, so seemed modest and quite shy. In the forge everything was just ~~as~~ it had been earlier in the evening. The master blacksmith and his apprentice still sat in their bench, and iron and charcoal still glowed in the furnace. The stranger had stretched oneself out on the floor and lay with a piece of pig iron under his head and his hat pulled down over his eyes. As soon as the young girl caught sight of him, she went up and lifted his hat. The man was evidently used to sleeping with one eye open. He jumped up abruptly and seemed to quite frightened. My name is Edla Willmansson said the girl.

SECTION-C

(Literature)

8. (a) Read the following poetic extract and briefly answer the questions that follow :

Now we will count to twelve

and we will all keep still.

For once on the face of the Earth

let's not speak in any language,

let's stop for one second,

and not move our arms so much.

It would be an exotic moment

Without rush, without engines,

We would all be together

in a sudden strangeness.

Questions:

(1×4=4)

- (i) Why does the poet want us to keep quiet?
- (ii) Find at least one example of a poetic device from the above lines.
- (iii) What does the poet mean by 'not move our arms'?
- (iv) How could man achieve this 'exotic moment'?
- (v) Name the poem and its poet.

(b) Answer any two of the following questions in 40-50 words each: (3×2=6)

- (i) How do 'denizens' and 'chivalric' add to our understanding of the tigers' attitudes in "Aunt Jennifer's Tigers"?
- (ii) What was the plea of the folk who had put up the roadside stand in the poem "A Roadside Stand"?
- (iii) What makes human beings love life in spite of troubles and sufferings?

9. Answer any **three** questions of the following in 40-50 words

each:

(3×3=9)

(i) What changes did the order from Berlin cause in school that day?

(ii) How did Douglas make sure that he conquered the old terror?

(iii) How did the Champaran episode change the plight of the peasants?

~~(iv)~~ Do you think Umberto Eco likes being interviewed? Give reasons for your opinion.

~~(v)~~ Why did Sophie wriggle when Geoff told her father that she had met Danny Casey?

~~10.~~ Answer any **one** of the following questions in 150-200 words: (6)

- (i) Why is Antarctica the place to go to understand the earth's present, past and future?
- (ii) How did Dr. Sadao resolve the conflict in his mind between his loyalty to his country and his duty as a doctor?

11. Answer any **one** of the following questions in 120-150 words: (5)

~~(i)~~ What is it that draws Derry towards Mr. Lamb in spite of himself?

(ii) Derry and Mr. Lamb both are victims of physical impairment, but their attitudes towards life are completely different. Explain.
