

# GENERAL ENGLISH

111175

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 100

- Instructions :** (1) Answer the questions, strictly following the instructions.  
(2) Write legibly, and in your own words. Be concise and accurate.  
(3) The figures in the right-hand margin indicate full marks for the questions.

1. Write an essay in approximately 300 words on any *one* of the following topics : [25]
  - (a) Social media platforms and the youth today
  - (b) The value of a clean and green environment
2. Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper, complaining about frequent power cuts in your area, causing difficulties for students, industrial and commercial units, and the general populace. [20]

**OR**

Write a letter to the librarian of a university library, seeking permission to work in the Manuscripts Section of the library for a few days.

3. Write a paragraph in about 200 words on any *one* of the following ideas : [15]
  - (a) Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise
  - (b) Discretion in eating is a requirement for good health
4. Write a precis of the following passage and suggest a suitable title to it : [15]

Though pre-colonial India was principally an agricultural country, it was able to generate employment outside agriculture for large numbers of skilled and unskilled labourers performing the most miscellaneous kinds of labour. Iron mining was widespread; there were copper mines in Rajasthan and diamond mines in Golkunda. Salt was mined in western Punjab and obtained by evaporation from the Sambhar Lake and various other localities. Agricultural products were turned into manufactures in the villages and towns for different markets, both local and long-distance. Cotton textiles dwarfed all other products, undoubtedly employing the largest number of people after agriculture, as cotton-carders, spinners (mostly women), dyers, printers and washers. The artisan's position in the economy varied.

There was, first, the hereditary artisan in the village, who met the needs of the villagers and obtained, besides customary payments for specific work, small allotments of village lands. He was thus an essential cog in the wheel of the much debated Indian 'village community'. But when the artisan looked for a consumer outside the village, he had to enter the market as an independent producer. The weavers, for example, would bring their wares produced in the villages to a fair or market for sale to merchants.

5. Correct and rewrite any *five* of the following sentences : [2×5=10]

- (a) After finishing this work, you can go to home.
- (b) In the ritual, water collected from several rivers and lakes were poured into a large vessel.
- (c) There are no any dull students in this class.
- (d) I have told you the truth, isn't it?
- (e) Please ask him what is he doing nowadays.
- (f) My uncle bought a lot of furnitures from that shop.

6. Rewrite any *five* of the given sentences, making appropriate changes in accordance with the instructions given in brackets : [2×5=10]

- (a) Mt. Everest is the highest mountain peak in the world.  
(Rewrite the sentence using the positive degree, without changing the meaning)
- (b) Who but Gandhi could do such a thing?  
(Rewrite the sentence as an affirmative sentence, without changing the meaning)
- (c) He asked for permission to enter the room.  
(Rewrite the sentence, using the direct form of narration)
- (d) Everyone there celebrated the victory of the team.  
(Change the voice of the sentence)
- (e) He was a clever thief. That day he was caught.  
(Combine the two sentences into one)
- (f) Everyone considered him a truthful person.  
(Rewrite the sentence, using a synonym for 'truthful')

7. Make sentences using the phrases / idioms given below (any *five*) :

[1×5=5]

- (a) Hard and fast
  - (b) Once in a while
  - (c) Spill the beans
  - (d) Up in arms
  - (e) Not cut out for
  - (f) In the air
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