

SEAL

**R/J/E/C/EXAM.  
2021**

100268

**GENERAL ENGLISH**

Time : 3 hours ]

[ Full Marks : 100

- Note** : (i) Read the instructions carefully and follow them.  
(ii) The figures in the right-hand margin indicate full marks for the questions.  
(iii) Answer **all** questions.

1. Write an essay on *any one* of the following topics in about 400 words : 25
- (a) Reality shows and teenagers : Pros and Cons  
(b) The effects of rapid urbanization in North-East India  
(c) Digital platforms : Uses and Abuses
2. You have noticed that recently there has been a sudden rise in the number of fast food counters along the footpath of the town. Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper drawing the attention of the concerned authorities towards the hazards posed by such mushrooming of fast-food eateries. 15
3. Read the given passage and answer the questions that follow :

Perseverance has been at the root of all good products of art. The completion of a piece of art, whether it is in sculpting or painting or architecture has always been a process of maturity that comes only with a lot of effort placed systematically over a long period of time. The sharpening of any form of art, or for that matter the mastering of any skill requires a lot of persistent and painstaking effort. There is no shortcut way for anyone who wishes to cultivate any form of art seriously. There will always be hurdles in the way of an artist. These hurdles may be of various kinds ranging from failure in the initial attempts to accomplish a piece of art as planned and desired or in the form of adverse criticism by others. A true artist must take all these hurdles as an integral part of initiation and maturity in the arena of art and continue with one's efforts.

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There is also the issue of monetary constraints as financial success does not always follow art at the beginning stage. There was a time when it used to take a considerable period for anyone to be recognized as an artist and even this does not come to everyone. So, if one were to choose art as a career, he or she must be ready to withstand the hardships at the beginning. Today, however, the advantages of a connected world have eased this problem to a great extent. Online platforms have become a potential source for showcasing talent to a wider audience. As a result, choosing one's career as an artist has the possibility of turning into a lucrative prospect.

- (a) Why does the author say that perseverance is at the root of all good art? 3
- (b) What are the various types of hurdles that an artist may have to face? 3
- (c) What advantage does the artist of today have over the artist in the past? 3
- (d) Suggest a suitable title for the passage. 1
- (e) Find the word(s) from the given passage that has/have similar meanings with the following words : 1×5=5
- (i) Continuous, (ii) Limitations, (iii) Methodically, (iv) Skill, (v) Attractive

4. Expand the idea conveyed by *any one* of the given expressions : 15

- (a) The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence
- (b) Uneasy lies the head that wears the crown
- (c) A bird in hand is worth more than two in the bush

5. Rewrite *any five* of the following sentences as directed : 2×5=10

- (a) Each of the scholars have done well.  
( Rewrite the sentence correctly )
- (b) Could you submit the fee in time?  
( Change the voice of the sentence )
- (c) This is the best cafeteria in town.  
( Change into the positive degree of comparison )
- (d) He is not well. He has applied for leave.  
( Combine into a single sentence )
- (e) The teacher said, "Students, I shall provide you the notes tomorrow".  
( Change the mode of narration )
- (f) None but the brave deserve the fair.  
( Rewrite as an affirmative sentence )
- (g) Surely I know the rules of the game.

( Ask a question to get the given sentence as an answer )

6. Choose the correct alternative : 1×5=5
- (a) A \_\_\_\_ of soldiers passed by the town this morning. ( regiment / band )
- (b) The judge found the man innocent and \_\_\_\_ of the charge. ( convicted / acquitted )
- (c) Logs were floating \_\_\_\_ the river during flood. ( on / in )
- (d) The Wright Brothers \_\_\_\_ airplane. ( discovered / invented )
- (e) The \_\_\_\_ of the elephant is very expensive. ( tusk / task )

7. Punctuate the following passage and underline the edited parts : 5

They had played together in infancy they had worked together in manhood they were now tottering about and gossiping in the evening of life and in a short time they will probably be buried together in the neighbouring churchyard.

8. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs given in brackets : 2×5=10

- (a) I \_\_\_\_ (hear) her singing as I passed by her house.
- (b) The game \_\_\_\_ (start) before we reached the stadium.
- (c) Please do not \_\_\_\_ (forget) to post the letter.
- (d) He was watching the rain clouds \_\_\_\_ (gather) in the horizon.
- (e) The heavy rain last night \_\_\_\_ (wash) away all the dead leaves.

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