

**ENGLISH CORE PRACTICE PAPER (2020-21)**  
**CLASS-XII (Rationalised syllabus)**  
**SET-1**

**Time allowed: 3 Hrs.**

**Maximum Marks: 80**

**General Instructions:**

1. This paper is divided into two parts: A and B. All questions are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

**Part A (40 Marks)**

**READING**

(20 marks)

**1. Read the passage given below.**

**(1x10 = 10)**

Teresa said, "By blood, I am Albanian. By citizenship, an Indian. By faith, I am a Catholic nun. As to my calling, I belong to the world. As to my heart, I belong entirely to the Heart of Jesus." Fluent in five languages – Bengali, Albanian, Serbian, English and Hindi – she made occasional trips outside India for humanitarian reasons.

At the height of the Siege of Beirut in 1982, Teresa rescued 37 children trapped in a front-line hospital by brokering a temporary cease-fire between the Israeli army and Palestinian guerrillas.<sup>[61]</sup> Accompanied by Red Cross workers, she travelled through the war zone to the hospital to evacuate the young patients.

When Eastern Europe experienced increased openness in the late 1980s, Teresa expanded her efforts to Communist countries which had rejected the Missionaries of Charity. She began dozens of projects, undeterred by criticism of her stands against abortion and divorce: "No matter who says what, you should accept it with a smile and do your own work." She visited Armenia after the 1988 earthquake and met with Nikolai Ryzhkov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers.

Teresa travelled to assist the hungry in Ethiopia, radiation victims at Chernobyl and earthquake victims in Armenia. In 1991 she returned to Albania for the first time, opening a Missionaries of Charity Brothers home in Tirana.

By 1996, Teresa operated 517 missions in over 100 countries. Her Missionaries of Charity grew from twelve to thousands, serving the "poorest of the poor" in 450 centres worldwide. The first Missionaries of Charity home in the United States was established in the South Bronx area of New York City, and by 1984 the congregation operated 19 establishments throughout the country.

Teresa had a heart attack in Rome in 1983 while she was visiting Pope John Paul II. Following a second attack in 1989, she received an artificial pacemaker. In 1991, after a bout of pneumonia in Mexico, she had additional heart problems. Although Teresa offered to resign as head of the Missionaries of Charity, in a secret ballot the sisters of the congregation voted for her to stay and she agreed to continue.

**On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the eleven given below. (1x10 = 10)**

- I. “At the height of the Siege of Beirut in 1982, Teresa rescued 37 children.” This shows that mother Teresa is
  - a. Humanitarian
  - b. Indifferent
  - c. Self-seeker
  - d. Recipient
- II. Who travelled through the war zone to the hospital?
  - a. Red Cross workers
  - b. Teresa
  - c. Both a and b
  - d. Only b
- III. Teresa along with Red cross workers travelled through the war zone to the hospital because they wanted to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. evacuate the young patient
  - b. accompany the Red Cross Workers
  - c. rescued 37 children
  - d. fight the enemy on war front.
- IV. Choose the correct sequence of events.

Teresa travelled to assist

- i. earthquake victims in Armenia
  - ii. the hungry in Ethiopia
  - iii. radiation victims at Chernobyl
- a. iii, i, ii
  - b. ii, iii, i
  - c. i, ii, iii
  - d. ii, i, iii
- V. Find the word in the passage which mean “a group of people assembled for religious worship”
    - a. Humanitarian
    - b. Congregational
    - c. Brokering
    - d. Pacemaker

- VI. Teresa took a stand against \_\_\_\_\_ in her projects.
- abortion and divorce
  - men freedom
  - religious freedom
  - Armenian freedom
- VII. Which countries had rejected the Missionaries of Charity?
- Armenia
  - Missionaries
  - Communist Countries
  - Ethiopia
- VIII. Why did Teresa return to Albania in 1991?
- For security reasons
  - For fun
  - To help her sister
  - For opening a Missionaries of Charity
- IX. Why did Teresa travel to Ethiopia? (Chernobyl, Armenia).
- To help the radiation victims
  - To assist the hungry
  - For a live show
  - to go to United States
- X. What was the motto of her Missionaries of Charity?
- save the poor
  - save the child
  - serve the nation
  - serve the poorest of the poor
- XI. Who voted secretly for Teresa?
- Ethiopian people
  - sisters of congregation
  - Missionaries
  - Albanian people

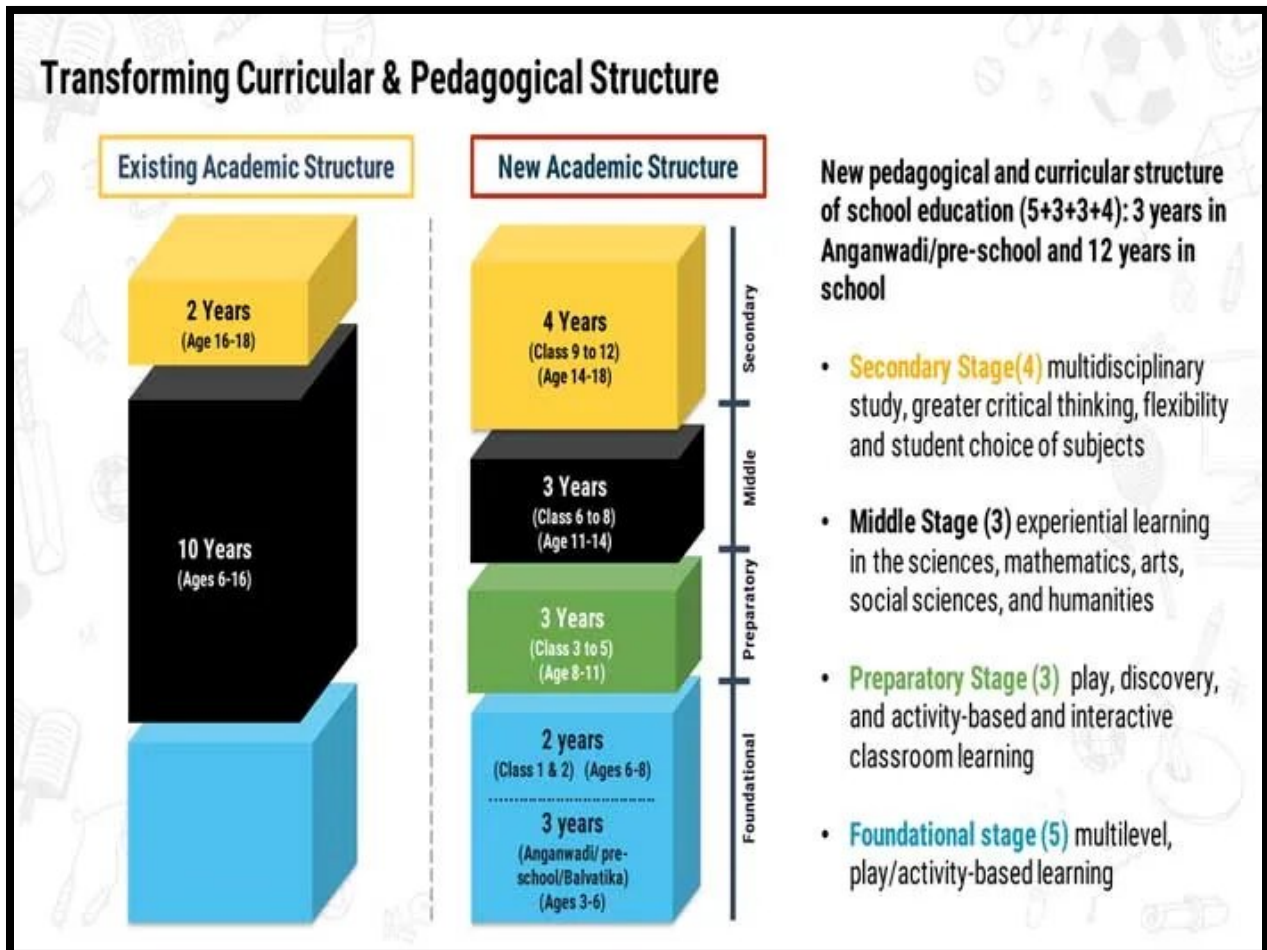
**2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.**

National Education Policy, 2020

The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 was approved by the Union Cabinet on 29th July 2020. NEP 2020 is the first education policy of the 21st century, which aims to address the many growing developmental imperatives of our country and is aligned to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The National Education Policy, 2020 is built on the foundational pillars of Access, Equity, Quality, Affordability and Accountability.

NEP 2020 recommends many transformational ideas for school education. The New Education Policy emphasized to ensure universal access to high-quality ECCE across the country in a phased manner. Special attention and priority will be given to districts and locations that are particularly socio-economically disadvantaged.

A 5+3+3+4 curricular and pedagogical structure based on cognitive and socio-emotional developmental stages of children has been proposed:









It also seeks to ensure foundational literacy and numeracy in a mission mode and a host of curricular changes and reduced content load in school education curriculum as well assessment reforms for holistic development of students. There will be no hard separations between arts and sciences, between curricular and extra-curricular activities, between vocational and academic streams, etc.

NEP 2020 promotes active pedagogy, development of core capacities and life skills, including 21st century skills, experimental learning at all stages, low stake board exams, holistic progress card, transformation in assessment to promote critical and higher order thinking among students, mainstreaming of vocational education and reforms in teacher education. NEP also puts focus on

empowerment of teachers and improving their recruitment, service conditions, transfer policy and career progression opportunities at all levels. The National Professional Standards for Teachers (NPST) will specify norms and standards for different levels of teachers. Recommendations are also made for using un-utilized capacity of school infrastructure to promote social, intellectual, and volunteer activities for the community and to promote social cohesion during non-teaching / schooling hours and schools to be used as a "Samajik Chetna Kendra". NEP 2020 recommends mother tongue/home language/local language, as medium of instruction at least till Grade 5 and at later stages, wherever possible. Policy envisages separation of regulatory, administrative and policy making functions to eliminate conflicts of interest and setting up of a State School Standards Authority. There is also a greater emphasis on technology to improve multiple aspects of education including learning, assessment, planning and administration.

**MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES IS NOW MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

<p><b>FOR SCHOOLS</b>  <b>From 10+2 to 5+3+3+4:</b> Current 10+2 structure in which policy covered schooling from Class 1 to 10 (age 6-16) and then Class 11-12 (age 16-18) gives way to 5 years of foundational education, 3 of preparatory, 3 of middle &amp; 4 years of secondary schooling</p> 	<p><b>FOR COLLEGES</b>  <b>SAT-Like College Test:</b> National Testing Agency to conduct common college entrance exam twice a year</p> 
<p><b>Multi-Stream:</b> Flexibility to choose subjects across streams; all subjects to be offered at two levels of proficiency</p>	<p><b>4-Year Bachelor:</b> 4-year multi-disciplinary bachelor's programme to be preferred; mid-term dropouts to be given credit with option to complete degree after a break</p> 
<p><b>Diluted Board:</b> Board exams to test only core competencies; could become modular (object and subjective) and will be offered twice a year</p>	<p><b>No Affiliation:</b> Over next 15 years colleges will be given graded autonomy to give degrees, affiliation with universities to end, so would be deemed university status</p>
<p><b>Multilingual:</b> 3-language policy to continue with preference for local language medium of instruction till class 8</p> 	<p><b>Fee Cap:</b> Proposal to cap fee charged by private institutions of higher learning</p> 
<p><b>Bag-Less Days:</b> School students to have 10 bag-less days in a year during which they are exposed to a vocation of choice (i.e. informal internship)</p>	<p><b>Going Global:</b> Top-rated global universities to be facilitated to come to India, top Indian institutions to be encouraged to go global</p> 

NEP recognizes the importance of teachers, as teachers truly shape the future of our children - and, therefore, the future of our nation.

**On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer Any Ten questions from the eleven that follow. [1 × 10 = 10]**

1. Which of the following is not one of the foundational pillars of NEP?
  - a. Equity
  - b. Affordability
  - c. Accountability

d. Magnanimity

2. NEP does not ensure

- a. foundational literacy
- b. numeracy
- c. reducing content load
- d. spoken English

3. In how many stages is school education divided according to NEP?

- a) three
- b) four
- c) two
- d) five

4. Which of the following is not part of NEP?

- a. No clear separation between Arts and Science
- b. No separation between curricular and extracurricular activities
- c. No segregation between vocational and academic streams
- d. No separation between curriculum and assessment

5. NEP does not promote

- a. Active pedagogy
- b. Developing life skills
- c. 21st century skills
- d. Experimental learning

6. NEP does not put focus on which of the following:

- a. Empowerment of teachers
- b. Service conditions of teachers
- c. Improvement in the recruitment of teachers
- d. Seminars and workshops for teachers

7. Which of the following options is incorrect?

- a. Schools can be utilized as Samajik Chetana Kendra.
- b. Local language can be used as the medium of instruction
- c. Social interaction with the community during off time promoted.
- d. Mother tongue is to be the medium of instruction only up to std. V.

8. Which of the following options is correct?

- a. In NEP, emotional development of children has been disregarded.
- b. Socio-economically disadvantaged children have been ignored.
- c. NEP recognizes the importance of teachers
- d. As per NEP, teachers play a minor role in the nation building.

9. In the whole passage which profession has been given top-most importance for shaping the future of our children?

- a. Engineering
- b. Politics
- c. Medical
- d. Teaching

10. Which of the following words in the paragraph - 1 is the synonym of the word 'fairness'?

- a. Accountability
- b. Affordability
- c. Equity
- d. Aligned

11. Which option does not represent the CORRECT focus of NEP?

i) active pedagogy Rote learning	ii) 21st century skills experimental learning	iii) low stake board exams holistic learning	iv) higher order thinking critical thinking
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### LITERATURE

(20 marks)

**3. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY TWO of the three given by answering the questions that follow. (4+4=8)**

(A) "I have nothing else to do," he mutters, looking away.

"Go to school," I say glibly, realising immediately how hollow the advice must sound. "There is no school in my neighbourhood. When they build one, I will go."

"If I start a school, will you come?" I ask, half-joking. "Yes," he says, smiling broadly.

A few days later I see him running up to me. "Is your school ready?"

"It takes longer to build a school," I say, embarrassed at having made a promise that was not meant. But promises like mine abound in every corner of his bleak world.

- i. The phrase “Go to school” is \_\_\_\_\_ statement by the speaker.
  - a. casual
  - b. funny
  - c. serious
  - d. thoughtful
  
- ii. The speaker was embarrassed because she.....
  - a. made a false promise
  - b. kept her promise
  - c. made forget what she said
  - d. changed her statement
  
- iii. “I have nothing else to do.” Who is the speaker?
  - a. Anees Jung
  - b. Saheb
  - c. Mukesh
  - d. Savita
  
- iv. “I say glibly, realising immediately how hollow the advice must sound.” Pick the option in which the meaning of ‘glibly’ is NOT the same as it is in the passage.
  - a. We talk glibly of equality of opportunity.
  - b. When natural philosophers referred to laws of nature, they were not glibly choosing that metaphor.
  - c. Both a and b.
  - d. None of the above

**(B)**

On each trip across the pool a bit of the panic seized me. Each time the instructor relaxed his hold on the rope and I went under, some of the old terror returned and my legs froze. It was three months before the tension began to slack. Then he taught me to put my face under water and exhale, and to raise my nose and inhale. I repeated the exercise hundreds of times. Bit by bit I shed part of the panic that seized me when my head went under water.

- i. These lines reflect narrator’s \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. perseverance
  - b. apathy
  - c. indifference
  - d. idleness
  
- ii. The instructor finally succeeded in relieving the narrator of his \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. idleness
  - b. indetermination
  - c. tension
  - d. indolence



- iii. The narrator was working hard as swimming is a good exercise.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  - c. May be
  - d. Can't say
- iv. From the passage, give a word or a phrase which has the same or nearly same meaning as 'controlled'
  - a. froze
  - b. seized
  - c. returned
  - d. slack

(C) "But Daddy, then he said about the other little animals run *away!*"

"All right. He said, 'But Mommy, all the other little animals run away,' and she said, 'I don't care. You smelled the way a little skunk should have and I'm going to take you right back to that wizard,' and she took an umbrella and went back with Roger Skunk and hit that wizard right over the head."

- i. "But Daddy, then he said about the other little animals run *away!*" Who said these words?
  - a. Jack
  - b. Jo
  - c. Skunk
  - d. Owl
- ii. Skunk is facing crisis of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. social acceptance
  - b. identity
  - c. finances
  - d. orientation
- iii. In the above lines, the mother took Roger Skunk back to the wizard because she wanted
  - a. to hit the wizard for changing his smell to roses.
  - b. to hit the wizard for changing his smell to bad smell.
  - c. the wizard to change the smell back to lily.
  - d. the wizard to change the smell back to roses.
- iv. Mother hit the wizard with \_\_\_\_\_ right over the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. stick, back
  - b. umbrella, back
  - c. stick, head
  - d. umbrella, head

**4. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY ONE of the two given by answering the questions that follow. (1X4=4)**

(A) Far far from gusty waves these children's faces.

Like rootless weeds, the hair torn round their pallor:

The tall girl with her weighed-down head. The paper-

seeming boy, with rat's eyes. The stunted, unlucky heir

Of twisted bones, reciting a father's gnarled disease,

His lesson, from his desk. At back of the dim class

One unnoted, sweet and young. His eyes live in a dream

Of squirrel's game, in tree room, other than this.

- i. These lines are talking about
  - a. students of a school in slum
  - b. children in a poor household
  - c. students of a school in town
  - d. children in a rich household
- ii. Find the example of simile from the extract
  - a. the paper seeming boy, with rat's eyes
  - b. children's faces like rootless weeds
  - c. his eyes live in a dream
  - d. reciting a father's gnarled diseases
- iii. "The stunted, unlucky heir of twisted bones" means he.....
  - a. was short and bony
  - b. inherited disability
  - c. inherited money
  - d. was muscular and strong
- iv. The poetic device in "far far from" is
  - a. Resonance
  - b. Metaphor
  - c. Personification
  - d. Repetition

**Or**

**(B)** A thing of beauty is a joy forever  
Its loveliness increases, it will never  
Pass into nothingness; but will keep  
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep  
Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing.

- i. A beautiful thing does not “pass into nothingness” because \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. with the passage of time, beauty increases
  - b. beauty is eternal and lives forever
  - c. both a and b
  - d. only a
- ii. “a quiet bower for us” means a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. shady thicket to stay alert
  - b. dark grove to work hard
  - c. peaceful place to sleep
  - d. dubious plantation to sing song
- iii. ‘Quiet breathing’ signify the sense of.....
  - a. being near to death
  - b. breathlessness
  - c. sadness
  - d. peace and serenity
- iv. The poem \_\_\_\_\_ is written by \_\_\_\_\_ and the rhyme scheme of the quoted lines is \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. A Thing of Beauty by John Keats, aabbc
  - b. A Thing of Beauty by William Wordsworth, aabbc
  - c. Beauty is Joy Forever by John Keats, ababc
  - d. Beauty is Joy Forever by Lord Byron, aabbc

**5. Attempt ANY EIGHT questions from the ten given below. (1X8=8)**

- i. Franz thinks: “will they make them sing in German even pigeons?” What could this mean?
  - a. German would use brutal force and manhandle everything
  - b. Harsh and stringent orders will be passed
  - c. The Germans would rob France of its native tongue.
  - d. When people are deprived of their essence even the surroundings are affected.

- ii. "Trees Sprinting" is a poetic device. It is \_\_\_\_\_
- Repetition
  - Assonance
  - Metaphor
  - Personification
- iii. The outcome of Gandhiji's the meeting with the official enquiry commission was that \_\_\_\_\_
- the commission rejected Gandhiji's proposal
  - a compensation of 25% was set
  - a compensation of 50% was set
  - the commission accepted the proposal of landlords
- iv. According to Neruda, a huge silence does good to us. With reference to the poem 'Keeping Quiet' which one of the following is true?
- Silence leads to retrospection
  - Silence means total inactivity
  - Death is the ultimate silence
  - Silence leads to sleep
- v. It is clear that the speaker looks at Aunt Jennifer's tigers with.....
- empathy
  - wonder
  - sympathy
  - gratitude
- vi. Mr. Lamb in the end dies after falling from the.....
- root
  - branch of a tree
  - ladder
  - table
- vii. How did Charley make sure that he had actually travelled to the past?
- By going to a party organized by a famous personality
  - By going to a bus stand and read the bus number
  - By walking over a newsboy and glancing at 'the World'
  - By watching television in a nearby shop.
- viii. Dr Sadao was not sent abroad along with the troops because \_\_\_\_\_
- Sadao was inefficient
  - Sadao did not get visa to go abroad
  - the ailing General trusted only Sadao
  - the ailing General distrusted Sadao
- ix. The Governor received an important call while the exam was going on. The call was from \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans' mother

- b. the magistrate court
  - c. the general court
  - d. Evans' friend
- x. The peddler accepted Edla's invitation because of her \_\_\_\_\_
- a. compassionate and merciless attitude
  - b. stern and friendly nature
  - c. compassionate and friendly nature      vicious and callous attitude

## **PART B**

6. Principal, Sunrise Global School, Delhi requires a receptionist for her school. Draft a suitable advertisement in about 50 words to be published in the classified columns of a national newspaper giving all the necessary details of qualifications and experience required in the receptionist.

OR

You are Rubina/Rehman, head girl/boy of your school. It has been decided to organise a workshop, on 'how to deal with stress during board exams' for the students of class X & XII and their parents. This workshop would be conducted by the school counselor. Write a notice in about 50 words, informing the participants about the workshop.

7. The literary club of RPVV Lajpat Nagar is organising a literary festival 'Thinking Out of the Box'. You are the famous writer Ruskin Bond and you have been invited to be the guest of honour at the function. Write the reply accepting the invitation in not more than 50 words.

OR

The principal of your school is retiring this month. The students and the teachers want to give him a farewell party. Draft a formal invitation for the same in not more than 50 words.

8. You are Amit/Amita. You are pained by the deteriorating air quality in Delhi. Write a letter to the Editor of 'The Indian Express' on the topic 'Grow More Trees to Reduce Pollution'. You may use the cues given below along with your own ideas.

- Increase of pollution
- Cutting down of trees
- Increase of respiratory diseases because of the lack of oxygen
- Benefits of trees
- Human's dependency on trees for survival

OR

You came across an advertisement in ‘The Times of India’ regarding the post of a graphic designer. Draft an application in about 120-150 words for the post of the same in response to the advertisement giving your resume. You are Drishta/ Drishti of 34, Jung Pura, Delhi.

**XYZ Media**

**Graphic Designer Required**

Needed young and dynamic graphic designer to create engaging and on-brand graphics for a variety of media at XYZ Media. Candidates should possess a creative flair and the ability to convert requirements into design along with an outgoing personality and good communication skills. Apply within seven days of the advertisement to the HR Manager

9. The increasing stress and today’s lifestyle has affected the people a lot. They are becoming the victim of many ailments and diseases and the only way to curb it, is to stay healthy. Write an article on the topic ‘Health and Fitness’ in 120-150 words. You are Nandan/Nandini. You may use the cues given below along with your own ideas.

- Healthy mind resides only in a healthy body
- Avoid junk food
- Regular exercise, proper sleep
- Prime Minister’s initiative of International Yoga Day
- Eat healthy and stay fit

**OR**

Cultural Society of your school, Daisy Dales Public School, East of Kailash organised an adult literacy camp in the neighbourhood. Write a report in 120-150 words on the camp for your school letter. You are Rajan/ Rajni, Secretary. You may use the cues given below along with your own ideas.

- Date of the camp
- Location of the camp
- Number of volunteers
- Atmosphere of the camp
- Amenities provided to the participants

## LITERATURE

(24 marks)

### 10. Attempt ANY FIVE out of the six questions given below, in 30-40 words each. (2x5=10)

- i. What changes did the little Franz undergo after M. Hamel's announcement?
- ii. What was the sentiment expressed by the tramp in the letter that he left for Edla? Why did he sign himself as Captain von Stahle?
- iii. Why was Gandhiji's trial delayed?
- iv. What was Kamla Das' fear as a child? Why does it surface when she was going to the airport?
- v. How does our state of mind change if we maintain silence and suspend activity for a while?
- vi. 'The tigers represent Aunt Jennifer's spirit and her hands represent her reality.' How?

### 11. Attempt ANY TWO out of the three questions given below in 30-40 words each.

(2 x2=4 )

- i. Which article in Mc Leery's suitcase played perhaps the most significant role in Evans' escape and how?
- ii. How does the narrator describe Galesburg, Illinois?
- iii. What was the dilemma faced by Dr. Sadao and Hana after encountering the injured American soldier?

### 12. Attempt ANY ONE of the following questions in 120-150 words (1x5=5)

a. Our language is a part of our culture and we are proud of it. Describe how regretful M. Hamel and the village elders are for having neglected their native language.

Or

b. Self – reliance, Indian Independence and help to sharecroppers were all bound together. Elucidate with reference to the lesson "Indigo".

### 13. Attempt ANY ONE out of the following questions in 120-150 words (1x5=5)

Both Derry and Mr. Lamb suffer from handicaps, yet their attitude to life is totally different. Discuss.

Or

Do you think third level was a medium of escape for Charley? Why?

