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SET-1

Series SSO/2

Code No. **1/2/1**

Roll No. | | | | | | | |

Candidates must write the Code on the title page of the answer-book.

- Please check that this question paper contains **15** printed pages.
- Code number given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- Please check that this question paper contains **13** questions.
- **Please write down the Serial Number of the question before attempting it.**
- 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the students will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.

ENGLISH (Core)

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Time allowed : 3 hours *Maximum Marks : 100*

General Instructions :

(i) *This paper is divided into three Sections : A, B and C. All the sections are compulsory.*

(ii) *Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.*

(iii) *Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*

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SECTION A — (Reading) *30*

1. Read the passage given below carefully : *12*

1 For four days, I walked through the narrow lanes of the old city, enjoying the romance of being in a city where history still lives — in its cobblestone streets and in its people riding asses, carrying vine leaves and palm as they once did during the time of Christ.

2 This is Jerusalem, home to the sacred sites of Christianity, Islam and Judaism. This is the place that houses the church of the Holy Sepulchre, the place where Jesus was finally laid to rest. This is also the site of Christ's crucifixion, burial and resurrection.

3 Built by the Roman Emperor Constantine at the site of an earlier temple to Aphrodite, it is the most venerated Christian shrine in the world. And justifiably so. Here, within the church, are the last five stations of the cross, the 10^{th} station where Jesus was stripped of his clothes, the 11^{th} where he was nailed to the cross, the 12^{th} where he died on the cross, the 13^{th} where the body was removed from the cross, and the 14^{th}, his tomb.

4 For all this weighty tradition, the approach and entrance to the church is nondescript. You have to ask for directions. Even to the devout Christian pilgrims walking along the Via Dolorosa — the Way of Sorrows — first nine stations look clueless. Then a courtyard appears, hemmed in by other buildings and a doorway to one side. This leads to a vast area of huge stone architecture.

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5 Immediately inside the entrance is your first stop. It's the stone of anointing: this is the place, according to Greek tradition, where Christ was removed from the cross. The Roman Catholics, however, believe it to be the spot where Jesus' body was prepared for burial by Joseph.

6 What happened next ? Jesus was buried. He was taken to a place outside the city of Jerusalem where other graves existed and there, he was buried in a cave. However, all that is long gone, destroyed by continued attacks and rebuilding; what remains is the massive — and impressive — Rotunda (a round building with a dome) that Emperor Constantine built. Under this, and right in the centre of the Rotunda, is the structure that contains the Holy Sepulchre.

7 "How do you know that this is Jesus' tomb ?" I asked one of the pilgrims standing next to me. He was clueless, more interested, like the rest of them, in the novelty of it all and in photographing it, than in its history or tradition.

8 At the start of the first century, the place was a disused quarry outside the city walls. According to the gospels, Jesus' crucifixion occurred 'at a place outside the city walls with graves nearby ..... '. Archaeologists have discovered tombs from that era, so the site is compatible with the biblical period.

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9 The structure at the site is a marble tomb built over the original burial chamber. It has two rooms, and you enter four at a time into the first of these, the Chapel of the Angel. Here the angel is supposed to have sat on a stone to recount Christ's resurrection. A low door made of white marble, partly worn away by pilgrims' hands, leads to a smaller chamber inside. This is the 'room of the tomb', the place where Jesus was buried.

10 We entered in a single file. On my right was a large marble slab that covered the original rock bench on which the body of Jesus was laid. A woman knelt and prayed. Her eyes were wet with tears. She pressed her face against the slab to hide them, but it only made it worse.

On the basis of your understanding of this passage answer the following questions with the help of the given options : *1×4=4*

(a) How does Jerusalem still retain the charm of the ancient era ?

(i) There are narrow lanes.

(ii) Roads are paved with cobblestones.

(iii) People can be seen riding asses.

(iv) All of the above

(b) Holy Sepulchre is sacred to

(i) Christianity

(ii) Islam

(iii) Judaism

(iv) Both (i) and (iii)

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(c) Why does one have to constantly ask for directions to the church ?

(i) Its lanes are narrow.

(ii) Entrance to the church is nondescript.

(iii) People are not tourist-friendly.

(iv) Everyone is lost in enjoying the romance of the place.

(d) Where was Jesus buried ?

(i) In a cave

(ii) At a place outside the city

(iii) In the Holy Sepulchre

(iv) Both (i) and (ii)

Answer the following questions briefly : *1×6=6*

(e) What is the Greek belief about the 'stone of anointing' ?

(f) Why did Emperor Constantine build the Rotunda ?

(g) What is the general attitude of the pilgrims ?

(h) How is the site compatible with the biblical period ?

(i) Why did the pilgrims enter the 'room of the tomb' in a single file ?

(j) Why did 'a woman' try to hide her tears ?

(k) Find words from the passage which mean the same as: *1×2=2*

(i) A large grave (para 3)

(ii) Having no interesting features/dull (para 4)

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2. Read the passage given below : *10*

1 We often make all things around us the way we want them. Even during our pilgrimages we have begun to look for whatever makes our heart happy, gives comfort to our body and peace to the mind. It is as if external solutions will fulfil our needs, and we do not want to make any special efforts even in our spiritual search. Our mind is resourceful — it works to find shortcuts in simple and easy ways.

2 Even pilgrimages have been converted into tourism opportunities. Instead, we must awaken our conscience and souls and understand the truth. Let us not tamper with either our own nature or that of the Supreme.

3 All our cleverness is rendered ineffective when nature does a dance of destruction. Its fury can and will wash away all imperfections. Indian culture, based on Vedic treatises, assists in human evolution, but we are now using our entire energy in distorting these traditions according to our convenience instead of making efforts to make ourselves worthy of them.

4 The irony is that humans are not even aware of the complacent attitude they have allowed themselves to sink to. Nature is everyone's Amma and her fierce blows will sooner or later corner us and force us to understand this truth. Earlier, pilgrimages to places of spiritual significance were rituals that were undertaken when people became free from their worldly duties. Even now some

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seekers take up this pious religious journey as a path to peace and knowledge. Anyone travelling with this attitude feels and travels with only a few essential items that his body can carry. Pilgrims traditionally travelled light, on foot, eating light, dried chickpeas and fruits, or whatever was available. Pilgrims of olden days did not feel the need to stay in special AC bedrooms, or travel by luxury cars or indulge themselves with delicious food and savouries.

5 Pilgrims traditionally moved ahead, creating a feeling of belonging towards all, conveying a message of brotherhood among all they came across whether in small caves, ashrams or local settlements. They received the blessings and congregations of yogis and mahatmas in return while conducting the dharma of their pilgrimage. A pilgrimage is like penance or sadhana to stay near nature and to experience a feeling of oneness with it, to keep the body healthy and fulfilled with the amount of food, while seeking freedom from attachments and yet remaining happy while staying away from relatives and associates.

6 This is how a pilgrimage should be rather than making it like a picnic by taking a large group along and living in comfort, packing in entertainment, and tampering with environment. What is worse is giving a boost to the ego of having had a special darshan. Now alms are distributed, charity done while they brag about their spiritual experiences!

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7 We must embark on our spiritual journey by first understanding the grace and significance of a pilgrimage and following it up with the prescribed rules and rituals — this is what translates into the ultimate and beautiful medium of spiritual evolution. There is no justification for tampering with nature.

8 A pilgrimage is symbolic of contemplation and meditation and acceptance, and is a metaphor for the constant growth or movement and love for nature that we should hold in our hearts.

9 This is the truth!

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage answer the questions that follow with the help of the given options : *1×2=2*

(a) How can a pilgrim keep his body healthy ?

(i) By travelling light

(ii) By eating small amount of food

(iii) By keeping free from attachments

(iv) Both (i) and (ii)

(b) How do we satisfy our ego ?

(i) By having a special darshan

(ii) By distributing alms

(iii) By treating it like a picnic

(iv) Both (i) and (ii)

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Answer the following as briefly as possible : *1×6=6*

(c) What change has taken place in our attitude towards pilgrimages ?

(d) What happens when pilgrimages are turned into picnics ?

(e) Why are we complacent in our spiritual efforts ?

(f) How does nature respond when we try to be clever with it ?

(g) In olden days with what attitude did people go on a pilgrimage ?

(h) What message does the passage convey to the pilgrims ?

(i) Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following : *1×2=2*

(i) made/turned (para 3)

(ii) very satisfied (para 4)

3. Read the passage given below : *8*

It is surprising that sometimes we don't listen to what people say to us. We hear them, but we don't listen to them. I was curious to know how hearing is different from listening. I had thought both were synonyms, but gradually, I realised there is a big difference between the two words.

Hearing is a physical phenomenon. Whenever somebody speaks, the sound waves generated reach you, and you definitely hear whatever is said to you. However, even if you hear something, it doesn't always mean that you actually understand whatever is being said. Paying attention to whatever you hear means you are really listening. Consciously using your mind to understand whatever is being said is listening.

Diving deeper, I found that listening is not only hearing with attention, but is much more than that. Listening is hearing with full attention, and applying our mind. Most of the time, we listen to someone, but our minds are full of needless chatter and there doesn't seem to be enough space to accommodate what is being spoken.

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We come with a lot of prejudices and preconceived notions about the speaker or the subject on which he is talking. We pretend to listen to the speaker, but deep inside, we sit in judgement and are dying to pronounce right or wrong, true or false, yes or no. Sometimes, we even come prepared with a negative mindset of proving the speaker wrong. Even if the speaker says nothing harmful, we are ready to pounce on him with our own version of things.

What we should ideally do is listen first with full awareness. Once we have done that, we can decide whether we want to make a judgement or not. Once we do that, communication will be perfect and our interpersonal relationship will become so much better. Listening well doesn't mean one has to say the right thing at the right moment. In fact, sometimes if words are left unspoken, there is a feeling of tension and negativity. Therefore, it is better to speak out your mind, but do so with awareness after listening to the speaker with full concentration.

Let's look at this in another way. When you really listen, you imbibe not only what is being spoken, but you also understand what is not spoken as well. Most of the time we don't really listen even to people who really matter to us. That's how misunderstandings grow among families, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters.

(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 – 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*

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4. Chennai Book Society is going to organise a week-long book fair in the city during the coming autumn vacation. It has requested your school for volunteers to manage various counters. As Secretary, Cultural Club, Chennai Public School, write a notice in about 50 words inviting the names of those who want to help. You are Lalith/Latha. *4*

OR

Very soon your school is going to be a centre for CBSE examinations. You have seen that during lunch break students of junior classes keep going around the examination rooms and make all kinds of noises. You are Navtej/Navita, Head Boy/Head Girl, Akash Public School, Ajmer. Write a notice in about 50 words warning such students not to go near the examination rooms.

5. You are the Principal, Akash Public School, Ajmer. Yesterday you received a letter of enquiry from Mr. P.L. Sharma resident of 12, Abu Bakr Road, Dubai who wants his daughter, Navita, at present studying in class VIII, Indian School, Dubai to be admitted to your school next year in class IX. He wants to know all about your school. Write a letter in 120 – 150 words to Mr. Sharma. *6*

OR

You are Navtej/Navita, 114, Mount Kailash, Kanpur. Write an application along with a personal résumé in 120 – 150 words in response to the following advertisement.

> WANTED a trained PGT (English) at least second class M.A. Preference to those with public school experience. Apply to Manager, Akash Public School, Ajmer by 15th March, 2015.

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6. On Teacher's Day, your Principal has asked you to deliver a speech in the morning assembly on 'The role of a teacher in society'. Write your speech in 150 – 200 words. You are Navtej/Navita. *10*

OR

More industrial production means availability of more goods, better life style, lower prices, more jobs, etc. However, a higher standard of living can be achieved only at a cost — depletion of raw materials and air and water pollution. Write a debate in 150 – 200 words either for or against the motion — 'Standard of living can be raised, but only at a great cost'. You are Navtej/Navita.

7. Within a few months you will be joining a college. How do you look at college life ? Is it freedom from strict discipline imposed on you by the school ? A carefree life with no worries of completing assigned home work. Or, is it the beginning of responsible preparation for a brilliant career ? Write an article in 150 – 200 words on what you think of college life. You are Navtej/Navita. *10*

OR

The time we spend on watching TV — most of it is spent on watching commercials. Most of the newspaper space in also taken up by advertisements. What is luxury for most of us is described as a need. We are made to buy things we don't really require. Write an article in 150 – 200 words on 'Advertisements — their role in a common man's life'. You are Navtej/Navita.

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8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow : *4*

I looked again at her, wan,
pale
as a late winter's moon and felt that
old
familiar ache, my childhood's fear,
... ...

(a) Who is 'her' ? *1*

(b) Why did the poet look at 'her' again ? *1*

(c) What was the poet's childhood fear ? *1*

(d) Identify the figure of speech used in these lines. *1*

OR

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.

(a) Why is the class dim ? *1*

(b) Why is the child called 'sweet and young' ? *1*

(c) What does the child want to enjoy ? *1*

(d) What is the significance of the phrase, 'other than this' ? *1*

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9. Answer any ***four*** of the following questions in 30 – 40 words each : *3×4=12*

(a) How did Gandhi show that he cared for the cultural and social backwardness of Champaran villages ?

(b) How was Saheb's life at the tea stall ?

(c) What will happen when Aunt Jennifer is dead ?

(d) Life is full of sorrows. What brings joy in it ? (A Thing of Beauty)

(e) How did the Tiger King 'kill' the hundredth tiger ?

(f) Who did Dr. Sadao think the survivor from the sea was when he first saw him ?

10. Answer the following question in 120 – 150 words : *6*

'We Too are Human Beings' highlights high caste – low caste discrimination in society. How do low caste people suffer on account of this ? What advice is given to Bama to overcome this problem ?

OR

How did Dr. Sadao help the American POW to escape ? What humanitarian values do you find in his act ?

11. Answer the following question in 120 – 150 words : *6*

The order from Berlin aroused a particular zeal in the school. Comment.

OR

What happened at the YMCA swimming pool which instilled fear of water in Douglas' mind ?

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12. Answer the following question in 120 – 150 words : *6*

Silas Marner lost his hoard of gold. Describe the circumstances under which his 'gold' is restored to him in the form of Eppie.

OR

How did Griffin make himself completely invisible at 'Coach and Horses' ?

13. Answer the following question in 120 – 150 words : *6*

Godfrey Cass is good-natured but weak-willed. Comment.

OR

As a scientist, how is Kemp different from Griffin ?

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SET-2

Series SSO/2

Code No. **1/2/2**

Roll No. | | | | | | | |

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ENGLISH (Core)

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Time allowed : 3 hours *Maximum Marks : 100*

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SECTION A — (Reading) *30*

1. Read the passage given below carefully : *12*

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2 This is Jerusalem, home to the sacred sites of Christianity, Islam and Judaism. This is the place that houses the church of the Holy Sepulchre, the place where Jesus was finally laid to rest. This is also the site of Christ's crucifixion, burial and resurrection.

3 Built by the Roman Emperor Constantine at the site of an earlier temple to Aphrodite, it is the most venerated Christian shrine in the world. And justifiably so. Here, within the church, are the last five stations of the cross, the 10^{th} station where Jesus was stripped of his clothes, the 11^{th} where he was nailed to the cross, the 12^{th} where he died on the cross, the 13^{th} where the body was removed from the cross, and the 14^{th}, his tomb.

4 For all this weighty tradition, the approach and entrance to the church is nondescript. You have to ask for directions. Even to the devout Christian pilgrims walking along the Via Dolorosa — the Way of Sorrows — first nine stations look clueless. Then a courtyard appears, hemmed in by other buildings and a doorway to one side. This leads to a vast area of huge stone architecture.

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5 Immediately inside the entrance is your first stop. It's the stone of anointing: this is the place, according to Greek tradition, where Christ was removed from the cross. The Roman Catholics, however, believe it to be the spot where Jesus' body was prepared for burial by Joseph.

6 What happened next ? Jesus was buried. He was taken to a place outside the city of Jerusalem where other graves existed and there, he was buried in a cave. However, all that is long gone, destroyed by continued attacks and rebuilding; what remains is the massive — and impressive — Rotunda (a round building with a dome) that Emperor Constantine built. Under this, and right in the centre of the Rotunda, is the structure that contains the Holy Sepulchre.

7 "How do you know that this is Jesus' tomb ?" I asked one of the pilgrims standing next to me. He was clueless, more interested, like the rest of them, in the novelty of it all and in photographing it, than in its history or tradition.

8 At the start of the first century, the place was a disused quarry outside the city walls. According to the gospels, Jesus' crucifixion occurred 'at a place outside the city walls with graves nearby ..... '. Archaeologists have discovered tombs from that era, so the site is compatible with the biblical period.

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9 The structure at the site is a marble tomb built over the original burial chamber. It has two rooms, and you enter four at a time into the first of these, the Chapel of the Angel. Here the angel is supposed to have sat on a stone to recount Christ's resurrection. A low door made of white marble, partly worn away by pilgrims' hands, leads to a smaller chamber inside. This is the 'room of the tomb', the place where Jesus was buried.

10 We entered in a single file. On my right was a large marble slab that covered the original rock bench on which the body of Jesus was laid. A woman knelt and prayed. Her eyes were wet with tears. She pressed her face against the slab to hide them, but it only made it worse.

On the basis of your understanding of this passage answer the following questions with the help of the given options : *1×4=4*

(a) How does Jerusalem still retain the charm of the ancient era ?

(i) There are narrow lanes.

(ii) Roads are paved with cobblestones.

(iii) People can be seen riding asses.

(iv) All of the above

(b) Holy Sepulchre is sacred to

(i) Christianity

(ii) Islam

(iii) Judaism

(iv) Both (i) and (iii)

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(c) Why does one have to constantly ask for directions to the church ?

(i) Its lanes are narrow.

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(iii) People are not tourist-friendly.

(iv) Everyone is lost in enjoying the romance of the place.

(d) Where was Jesus buried ?

(i) In a cave

(ii) At a place outside the city

(iii) In the Holy Sepulchre

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Answer the following questions briefly : *1×6=6*

(e) What is the Greek belief about the 'stone of anointing' ?

(f) Why did Emperor Constantine build the Rotunda ?

(g) What is the general attitude of the pilgrims ?

(h) How is the site compatible with the biblical period ?

(i) Why did the pilgrims enter the 'room of the tomb' in a single file ?

(j) Why did 'a woman' try to hide her tears ?

(k) Find words from the passage which mean the same as: *1×2=2*

(i) A large grave (para 3)

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2 Even pilgrimages have been converted into tourism opportunities. Instead, we must awaken our conscience and souls and understand the truth. Let us not tamper with either our own nature or that of the Supreme.

3 All our cleverness is rendered ineffective when nature does a dance of destruction. Its fury can and will wash away all imperfections. Indian culture, based on Vedic treatises, assists in human evolution, but we are now using our entire energy in distorting these traditions according to our convenience instead of making efforts to make ourselves worthy of them.

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6 This is how a pilgrimage should be rather than making it like a picnic by taking a large group along and living in comfort, packing in entertainment, and tampering with environment. What is worse is giving a boost to the ego of having had a special darshan. Now alms are distributed, charity done while they brag about their spiritual experiences!

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7 We must embark on our spiritual journey by first understanding the grace and significance of a pilgrimage and following it up with the prescribed rules and rituals — this is what translates into the ultimate and beautiful medium of spiritual evolution. There is no justification for tampering with nature.

8 A pilgrimage is symbolic of contemplation and meditation and acceptance, and is a metaphor for the constant growth or movement and love for nature that we should hold in our hearts.

9 This is the truth!

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage answer the questions that follow with the help of the given options : *1×2=2*

(a) How can a pilgrim keep his body healthy ?

(i) By travelling light

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(b) How do we satisfy our ego ?

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Answer the following as briefly as possible : *1×6=6*

(c) What change has taken place in our attitude towards pilgrimages ?

(d) What happens when pilgrimages are turned into picnics ?

(e) Why are we complacent in our spiritual efforts ?

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(i) Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following : *1×2=2*

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3. Read the passage given below : *8*

It is surprising that sometimes we don't listen to what people say to us. We hear them, but we don't listen to them. I was curious to know how hearing is different from listening. I had thought both were synonyms, but gradually, I realised there is a big difference between the two words.

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Diving deeper, I found that listening is not only hearing with attention, but is much more than that. Listening is hearing with full attention, and applying our mind. Most of the time, we listen to someone, but our minds are full of needless chatter and there doesn't seem to be enough space to accommodate what is being spoken.

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OR

Very soon your school is going to be a centre for CBSE examinations. You have seen that during lunch break students of junior classes keep going around the examination rooms and make all kinds of noises. You are Navtej/Navita, Head Boy/Head Girl, Akash Public School, Ajmer. Write a notice in about 50 words warning such students not to go near the examination rooms.

5. You are the Principal, Akash Public School, Ajmer. Yesterday you received a letter of enquiry from Mr. P.L. Sharma resident of 12, Abu Bakr Road, Dubai who wants his daughter, Navita, at present studying in class VIII, Indian School, Dubai to be admitted to your school next year in class IX. He wants to know all about your school. Write a letter in 120 – 150 words to Mr. Sharma. *6*

OR

You are Navtej/Navita, 114, Mount Kailash, Kanpur. Write an application along with a personal résumé in 120 – 150 words in response to the following advertisement.

> WANTED a trained PGT (English) at least second class M.A. Preference to those with public school experience. Apply to Manager, Akash Public School, Ajmer by 15th March, 2015.

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6. On Teacher's Day, your Principal has asked you to deliver a speech in the morning assembly on 'The role of a teacher in society'. Write your speech in 150 – 200 words. You are Navtej/Navita. *10*

OR

More industrial production means availability of more goods, better life style, lower prices, more jobs, etc. However, a higher standard of living can be achieved only at a cost — depletion of raw materials and air and water pollution. Write a debate in 150 – 200 words either for or against the motion — 'Standard of living can be raised, but only at a great cost'. You are Navtej/Navita.

7. The life of a student has become more sedentary than earlier. Pressure of studies, indulgence in internet, games on mobile phones — there is no time for him to play games in the field. Write an article in 150 – 200 words on 'Importance of games and sports in the life of a student'. You are Navtej/Navita. *10*

OR

Prices of food articles are rising. Floods, droughts, extremes of temperature cause shortages. Greed of the middlemen, wastage at the farm and spoilage during transit all add to the misery of the common man. Write an article in 150 – 200 words on 'Rising food prices and how to control them'. You are Navtej/Navita.

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8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow : *4*

I looked again at her, wan,
pale
as a late winter's moon and felt that
old
familiar ache, my childhood's fear,
... ...

(a) Who is 'her' ? *1*

(b) Why did the poet look at 'her' again ? *1*

(c) What was the poet's childhood fear ? *1*

(d) Identify the figure of speech used in these lines. *1*

OR

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.

(a) Why is the class dim ? *1*

(b) Why is the child called 'sweet and young' ? *1*

(c) What does the child want to enjoy ? *1*

(d) What is the significance of the phrase, 'other than this' ? *1*

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9. Answer any ***four*** of the following questions in 30 – 40 words each : *3×4=12*

(a) How is Gandhi critical of the lawyers ?

(b) Describe Mukesh as an ambitious person.

(c) What will possibly be the effect of keeping quiet ?

(d) How is Aunt Jennifer different from her tigers ?

(e) How did the Tiger King manage to retain his kingdom ?

(f) Why did Dr. Sadao seek Hana's help to treat the U.S. soldier ?

10. Answer the following question in 120 – 150 words : *6*

'We Too are Human Beings' highlights high caste – low caste discrimination in society. How do low caste people suffer on account of this ? What advice is given to Bama to overcome this problem ?

OR

How did Dr. Sadao help the American POW to escape ? What humanitarian values do you find in his act ?

11. Answer the following question in 120 – 150 words : *6*

How did Douglas' experience at the YMCA pool affect him ? How did he get over this effect ?

OR

Why did the ironmaster invite the peddler to his home ? Why did the latter decline it ?

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12. Answer the following question in 120 – 150 words : *6*

Silas Marner lost his hoard of gold. Describe the circumstances under which his 'gold' is restored to him in the form of Eppie.

OR

How did Griffin make himself completely invisible at 'Coach and Horses' ?

13. Answer the following question in 120 – 150 words : *6*

Godfrey Cass is good-natured but weak-willed. Comment.

OR

As a scientist, how is Kemp different from Griffin ?

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SET-3

Series SSO/2

Code No. **1/2/3**

Roll No. | | | | | | | |

Candidates must write the Code on the title page of the answer-book.

- Please check that this question paper contains **15** printed pages.
- Code number given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- Please check that this question paper contains **13** questions.
- **Please write down the Serial Number of the question before attempting it.**
- 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the students will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.

ENGLISH (Core)

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Time allowed : 3 hours *Maximum Marks : 100*

General Instructions :

(i) *This paper is divided into three Sections : A, B and C. All the sections are compulsory.*

(ii) *Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.*

(iii) *Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*

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SECTION A — (Reading) *30*

1. Read the passage given below carefully : *12*

1 For four days, I walked through the narrow lanes of the old city, enjoying the romance of being in a city where history still lives — in its cobblestone streets and in its people riding asses, carrying vine leaves and palm as they once did during the time of Christ.

2 This is Jerusalem, home to the sacred sites of Christianity, Islam and Judaism. This is the place that houses the church of the Holy Sepulchre, the place where Jesus was finally laid to rest. This is also the site of Christ's crucifixion, burial and resurrection.

3 Built by the Roman Emperor Constantine at the site of an earlier temple to Aphrodite, it is the most venerated Christian shrine in the world. And justifiably so. Here, within the church, are the last five stations of the cross, the 10^{th} station where Jesus was stripped of his clothes, the 11^{th} where he was nailed to the cross, the 12^{th} where he died on the cross, the 13^{th} where the body was removed from the cross, and the 14^{th}, his tomb.

4 For all this weighty tradition, the approach and entrance to the church is nondescript. You have to ask for directions. Even to the devout Christian pilgrims walking along the Via Dolorosa — the Way of Sorrows — first nine stations look clueless. Then a courtyard appears, hemmed in by other buildings and a doorway to one side. This leads to a vast area of huge stone architecture.

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5 Immediately inside the entrance is your first stop. It's the stone of anointing: this is the place, according to Greek tradition, where Christ was removed from the cross. The Roman Catholics, however, believe it to be the spot where Jesus' body was prepared for burial by Joseph.

6 What happened next ? Jesus was buried. He was taken to a place outside the city of Jerusalem where other graves existed and there, he was buried in a cave. However, all that is long gone, destroyed by continued attacks and rebuilding; what remains is the massive — and impressive — Rotunda (a round building with a dome) that Emperor Constantine built. Under this, and right in the centre of the Rotunda, is the structure that contains the Holy Sepulchre.

7 "How do you know that this is Jesus' tomb ?" I asked one of the pilgrims standing next to me. He was clueless, more interested, like the rest of them, in the novelty of it all and in photographing it, than in its history or tradition.

8 At the start of the first century, the place was a disused quarry outside the city walls. According to the gospels, Jesus' crucifixion occurred 'at a place outside the city walls with graves nearby ..... '. Archaeologists have discovered tombs from that era, so the site is compatible with the biblical period.

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9 The structure at the site is a marble tomb built over the original burial chamber. It has two rooms, and you enter four at a time into the first of these, the Chapel of the Angel. Here the angel is supposed to have sat on a stone to recount Christ's resurrection. A low door made of white marble, partly worn away by pilgrims' hands, leads to a smaller chamber inside. This is the 'room of the tomb', the place where Jesus was buried.

10 We entered in a single file. On my right was a large marble slab that covered the original rock bench on which the body of Jesus was laid. A woman knelt and prayed. Her eyes were wet with tears. She pressed her face against the slab to hide them, but it only made it worse.

On the basis of your understanding of this passage answer the following questions with the help of the given options : *1×4=4*

(a) How does Jerusalem still retain the charm of the ancient era ?

(i) There are narrow lanes.

(ii) Roads are paved with cobblestones.

(iii) People can be seen riding asses.

(iv) All of the above

(b) Holy Sepulchre is sacred to

(i) Christianity

(ii) Islam

(iii) Judaism

(iv) Both (i) and (iii)

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(c) Why does one have to constantly ask for directions to the church ?

(i) Its lanes are narrow.

(ii) Entrance to the church is nondescript.

(iii) People are not tourist-friendly.

(iv) Everyone is lost in enjoying the romance of the place.

(d) Where was Jesus buried ?

(i) In a cave

(ii) At a place outside the city

(iii) In the Holy Sepulchre

(iv) Both (i) and (ii)

Answer the following questions briefly : *1×6=6*

(e) What is the Greek belief about the 'stone of anointing' ?

(f) Why did Emperor Constantine build the Rotunda ?

(g) What is the general attitude of the pilgrims ?

(h) How is the site compatible with the biblical period ?

(i) Why did the pilgrims enter the 'room of the tomb' in a single file ?

(j) Why did 'a woman' try to hide her tears ?

(k) Find words from the passage which mean the same as: *1×2=2*

(i) A large grave (para 3)

(ii) Having no interesting features/dull (para 4)

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2. Read the passage given below : *10*

1 We often make all things around us the way we want them. Even during our pilgrimages we have begun to look for whatever makes our heart happy, gives comfort to our body and peace to the mind. It is as if external solutions will fulfil our needs, and we do not want to make any special efforts even in our spiritual search. Our mind is resourceful — it works to find shortcuts in simple and easy ways.

2 Even pilgrimages have been converted into tourism opportunities. Instead, we must awaken our conscience and souls and understand the truth. Let us not tamper with either our own nature or that of the Supreme.

3 All our cleverness is rendered ineffective when nature does a dance of destruction. Its fury can and will wash away all imperfections. Indian culture, based on Vedic treatises, assists in human evolution, but we are now using our entire energy in distorting these traditions according to our convenience instead of making efforts to make ourselves worthy of them.

4 The irony is that humans are not even aware of the complacent attitude they have allowed themselves to sink to. Nature is everyone's Amma and her fierce blows will sooner or later corner us and force us to understand this truth. Earlier, pilgrimages to places of spiritual significance were rituals that were undertaken when people became free from their worldly duties. Even now some

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seekers take up this pious religious journey as a path to peace and knowledge. Anyone travelling with this attitude feels and travels with only a few essential items that his body can carry. Pilgrims traditionally travelled light, on foot, eating light, dried chickpeas and fruits, or whatever was available. Pilgrims of olden days did not feel the need to stay in special AC bedrooms, or travel by luxury cars or indulge themselves with delicious food and savouries.

5 Pilgrims traditionally moved ahead, creating a feeling of belonging towards all, conveying a message of brotherhood among all they came across whether in small caves, ashrams or local settlements. They received the blessings and congregations of yogis and mahatmas in return while conducting the dharma of their pilgrimage. A pilgrimage is like penance or sadhana to stay near nature and to experience a feeling of oneness with it, to keep the body healthy and fulfilled with the amount of food, while seeking freedom from attachments and yet remaining happy while staying away from relatives and associates.

6 This is how a pilgrimage should be rather than making it like a picnic by taking a large group along and living in comfort, packing in entertainment, and tampering with environment. What is worse is giving a boost to the ego of having had a special darshan. Now alms are distributed, charity done while they brag about their spiritual experiences!

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7 We must embark on our spiritual journey by first understanding the grace and significance of a pilgrimage and following it up with the prescribed rules and rituals — this is what translates into the ultimate and beautiful medium of spiritual evolution. There is no justification for tampering with nature.

8 A pilgrimage is symbolic of contemplation and meditation and acceptance, and is a metaphor for the constant growth or movement and love for nature that we should hold in our hearts.

9 This is the truth!

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage answer the questions that follow with the help of the given options : *1×2=2*

(a) How can a pilgrim keep his body healthy ?

(i) By travelling light

(ii) By eating small amount of food

(iii) By keeping free from attachments

(iv) Both (i) and (ii)

(b) How do we satisfy our ego ?

(i) By having a special darshan

(ii) By distributing alms

(iii) By treating it like a picnic

(iv) Both (i) and (ii)

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Answer the following as briefly as possible : *1×6=6*

(c) What change has taken place in our attitude towards pilgrimages ?

(d) What happens when pilgrimages are turned into picnics ?

(e) Why are we complacent in our spiritual efforts ?

(f) How does nature respond when we try to be clever with it ?

(g) In olden days with what attitude did people go on a pilgrimage ?

(h) What message does the passage convey to the pilgrims ?

(i) Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following : *1×2=2*

(i) made/turned (para 3)

(ii) very satisfied (para 4)

3. Read the passage given below : *8*

It is surprising that sometimes we don't listen to what people say to us. We hear them, but we don't listen to them. I was curious to know how hearing is different from listening. I had thought both were synonyms, but gradually, I realised there is a big difference between the two words.

Hearing is a physical phenomenon. Whenever somebody speaks, the sound waves generated reach you, and you definitely hear whatever is said to you. However, even if you hear something, it doesn't always mean that you actually understand whatever is being said. Paying attention to whatever you hear means you are really listening. Consciously using your mind to understand whatever is being said is listening.

Diving deeper, I found that listening is not only hearing with attention, but is much more than that. Listening is hearing with full attention, and applying our mind. Most of the time, we listen to someone, but our minds are full of needless chatter and there doesn't seem to be enough space to accommodate what is being spoken.

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We come with a lot of prejudices and preconceived notions about the speaker or the subject on which he is talking. We pretend to listen to the speaker, but deep inside, we sit in judgement and are dying to pronounce right or wrong, true or false, yes or no. Sometimes, we even come prepared with a negative mindset of proving the speaker wrong. Even if the speaker says nothing harmful, we are ready to pounce on him with our own version of things.

What we should ideally do is listen first with full awareness. Once we have done that, we can decide whether we want to make a judgement or not. Once we do that, communication will be perfect and our interpersonal relationship will become so much better. Listening well doesn't mean one has to say the right thing at the right moment. In fact, sometimes if words are left unspoken, there is a feeling of tension and negativity. Therefore, it is better to speak out your mind, but do so with awareness after listening to the speaker with full concentration.

Let's look at this in another way. When you really listen, you imbibe not only what is being spoken, but you also understand what is not spoken as well. Most of the time we don't really listen even to people who really matter to us. That's how misunderstandings grow among families, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters.

(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 – 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*

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4. Chennai Book Society is going to organise a week-long book fair in the city during the coming autumn vacation. It has requested your school for volunteers to manage various counters. As Secretary, Cultural Club, Chennai Public School, write a notice in about 50 words inviting the names of those who want to help. You are Lalith/Latha. *4*

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OR

More industrial production means availability of more goods, better life style, lower prices, more jobs, etc. However, a higher standard of living can be achieved only at a cost — depletion of raw materials and air and water pollution. Write a debate in 150 – 200 words either for or against the motion — 'Standard of living can be raised, but only at a great cost'. You are Navtej/Navita.

7. The number of cars that a country produces every year is one way of measuring its prosperity. At the same time what the vehicles lead to are traffic jams, air pollution, road rage, an unhealthy competition in the middle class to own more and newer cars. What are your views on the issue — Private cars or Public transport ? Describe them in an article in 150 – 200 words. You are Navtej/Navita. *10*

OR

Students of class XII, not only do they prepare for Board examination but also for entrance examinations. For the sake of preparation they have to divide their time between the two. How to manage their time, caught between the two goals, becomes a problem for them. Write an article in 150 – 200 words on 'How should a student manage his time ?' You are Navtej/Navita.

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8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow : *4*

I looked again at her, wan,
pale
as a late winter's moon and felt that
old
familiar ache, my childhood's fear,
... ...

(a) Who is 'her' ? *1*

(b) Why did the poet look at 'her' again ? *1*

(c) What was the poet's childhood fear ? *1*

(d) Identify the figure of speech used in these lines. *1*

OR

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.

(a) Why is the class dim ? *1*

(b) Why is the child called 'sweet and young' ? *1*

(c) What does the child want to enjoy ? *1*

(d) What is the significance of the phrase, 'other than this' ? *1*

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9. Answer any ***four*** of the following questions in 30 – 40 words each : *3×4=12*

(a) What kind of gold did the people of Seemapuri look for in the garbage ? (Lost Spring)

(b) Why did Gandhi tell the court that he was involved in a 'conflict of duties' ?

(c) How do we get joy from life which is otherwise full of sorrows ? (A Thing of Beauty)

(d) For Aunt Jennifer, what do the tigers symbolise ?

(e) What made the chief astrologer place his finger on his nose ? (The Tiger King)

(f) On the seventh day after the American soldier was found by Dr. Sadao two things happened. Why did Hana feel scared of the second ?

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10. Answer the following question in 120 – 150 words : *6*

'We Too are Human Beings' highlights high caste – low caste discrimination in society. How do low caste people suffer on account of this ? What advice is given to Bama to overcome this problem ?

OR

How did Dr. Sadao help the American POW to escape ? What humanitarian values do you find in his act ?

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11. Answer the following question in 120 – 150 words : *6*

Describe the efforts made by Douglas to overcome his fear of water.

OR

It is normal for adolescents to fantasise and indulge in hero worship. How far is it true of Sophie ?

12. Answer the following question in 120 – 150 words : *6*

Silas Marner lost his hoard of gold. Describe the circumstances under which his 'gold' is restored to him in the form of Eppie.

OR

How did Griffin make himself completely invisible at 'Coach and Horses' ?

13. Answer the following question in 120 – 150 words : *6*

Godfrey Cass is good-natured but weak-willed. Comment.

OR

As a scientist, how is Kemp different from Griffin ?

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