

**Series REL-DS1**

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**Code No. RSPL/1**

**Roll No.**

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

- Please check that this question paper contains **20** printed pages.
- The 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 **11** questions.
- **Please write down the Serial Number of the question before attempting it.**

## **ENGLISH**

### **(Language & Literature)**

*Time allowed: 3 hours*

*Maximum Marks: 80*

#### **General Instructions:**

1. *The Question Paper contains THREE sections - READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE.*
2. *Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.*

**RSPL/1**

**1**

**P.T.O**

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**Reading Comprehension Through Unseen Passages****1. Read the following text.****(10 Marks)**

1. Parents in a small Irish town have come together to implement a collective decision regarding smartphone usage for their children. All eight primary schools in Greystones have joined parents' associations in adopting a code that prohibits children from having smartphones until they reach secondary school. The parents and schools aim to tackle concerns about smartphones fuelling anxiety and exposing children to inappropriate content, according to a report by Guardian.
2. Previously, the schools in the area had implemented restrictions or bans on smartphone use within their premises, but they still observed the impact of social media on children who owned smartphones, which also piqued the curiosity of their peers. The town-wide policy is designed to reduce the chances of a child having a smartphone peer and allows parents to present the code as a school rule, thereby shifting the responsibility away from themselves.
3. The code is still voluntary, and it is expected that not all parents will deny their primary schoolchildren access to smartphones. However, a sufficient number of parents have signed up to create a sense of critical mass, with the hope that this approach will become the new norm in the future. The impact of the code has been immediate for some parents, as it provides them with support and makes it easier to say no when they know that a significant majority of the class agrees with the restriction.

4. The report suggests that the initiative has gained attention within Ireland and from parents' associations abroad. Ireland's health minister has recommended the approach as a nationwide policy, emphasizing the need to protect children and young people from harmful interactions with the digital world.
5. The report cited an Irish Times article written by Donnelly, the health minister. He wrote, "Ireland can be, and must be, a world leader in ensuring that children and young people are not targeted and are not harmed by their interactions with the digital world. We must make it easier for parents to limit the content their children are exposed to."
6. The initiative in Greystones originated from children displaying increased anxiety levels, partly attributed to the challenges of adapting to the pandemic. Questionnaires circulated among parents led to a meeting of community stakeholders, ultimately resulting in the implementation of this town-wide policy.

While some children accept the pact and understand the reasons behind it, others express their desire for smartphones and the ability to connect with friends. However, they also acknowledge the potential risks and addiction associated with smartphone usage.

(414 Words)

**Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.**

**(1×10=10)**

- (a) Why does the writer say that some parents seem to need the code more than others? (1)
  - (i) It is easier for them to shift the responsibility from themselves.



- (ii) They also have to follow the school policy in this regard.
  - (iii) They can't afford a smartphone.
  - (iv) They have to conform to the rules of parents' associations.
- (b) What have the schools in Greystone done to tide over the failure of their earlier policy of banning smartphones on campus? Rationalise your response in about 40 words. (2)
- (c) Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)
- Some children in Greystones are adamant about not letting go off their smartphones but the silver lining in the initiative is that almost all children .....
- (d) The passage includes some word pairs that denote development stages similar in context. From the sets (i)-(v) below, identify two sets of word-pairs that do not belong here. (1)
- (i) Primary and Secondary School
  - (ii) Children and Parents/Adults
  - (iii) Children and Peers
  - (iv) Restrictions or Bans
  - (v) Town-wide and Nation-wide
- (e) Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)
- The new policy has also gained the support of parents' associations abroad and, therefore, it is hoped that this initiative will .....*
- (f) Based on the reading of the passage, examine, in about 40 words, why an active digital life was considered unsuitable for young children. (2)

- (g) Which of the following is odd one in the list of consequences associated with the new code of not giving primary students an access to smartphones? (1)
- (i) The code also removes exposure of children to peers with smartphones.
  - (ii) It helps parents to limit the digital content their children are exposed to.
  - (iii) Many children have accepted the code acknowledging the potential risks.
  - (iv) Most parents use the code to shift their responsibilities to school.
- (h) The statement given below has a word in bold. Replace it with a suitable word similar in meaning from the given passage. (1)
- The programme **intrigued** her interest enough to do some further research into the subject.*

**2. Read the following text.**

**(10 Marks)**

1. The DU which bagged the 14th rank in 2018 in NIRF rankings has climbed to the 22nd rank in 2022. Among the top colleges, the Miranda House and the Hindu College have retained their rankings by bagging the top two spots whereas ARSD, which secured the seventh position last year, has climbed a spot up beating LSR and SRCC. The rankings have been finalised on the basis of data from three years – 2019, 2020, and 2021.

TOPPERS' CHOICE	
Institute	Rank
Miranda House	1
Hindu College	2
Atma Ram Sanatan Dharma College	6
Lady Shri Ram Women's College	9
Kirori Mal College	10

2. The rankings have been carried out in various categories like overall, universities, colleges, and research institutions among others. The NIRF provides for ranking of institutions in five broad generic groups of parameters namely, teaching, learning and resources, research and professional practice, graduation outcome, outreach and inclusivity, and perception. It also took into account the number of research articles published and citations received by publications in this span.
3. DU has witnessed an improvement in all parameters, barring perception this time. Union Minister of State for Education R. R. Singh had said that a low student-teacher ratio could be one of the reasons for the varsity slipping in the rankings and recruitment was in progress.
4. ARSD scored 80 out of 100, in research and professional practice, the highest among all DU colleges; 100% placements and opening avenues for its scholars abroad. The perception score has gone up from 24 to 40. Miranda House wishes to improve on research outreach and inclusivity and 'doesn't wish to rest on past laurels' referring to their bagging the top spot for the seventh consecutive year. (259 Words)

**Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.**

- (a) Complete the following analogy appropriately, based on your understanding of paragraphs 1 and 2. (1)

*We can say that the NIRF ranking list based on different parameters is comparable with a report card given to a student at the end of a semester or a year because .....  
 ..... on the basis of predetermined parameters.*



- (b) Fill in the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of paragraph 2. (1)

*That the rank of Delhi University fell short of a few points on certain parameters like perception and the low student-teacher ratio is ..... (a fact/an opinion) because it is ..... (a subjective judgement/an objective detail).*

- (c) It can be safely concluded that NIRF rankings are comprehensive and balanced in their approach and cover a range of educational institutions in their ambit. Justify the following, in about 40 words. (2)

- (d) Based on the survey results, which two concern areas have been marked for improvement by Miranda House and ARSD despite showing either steady growth or maintaining their rank year after year? (1)

(i) .....

(ii) .....

- (e) In the passage, the author implies that it has taken Delhi University 5 years to move up its ranking between 2018 to 2022 from 14 to 22. State any one inference that can be drawn from this. (1)

- (f) Select the options that correctly display what 'citation' signifies. (Reference-Paragraph 2) (1)



Image (i)



Image (ii)

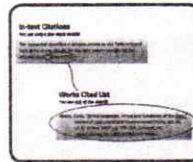


Image (iii)

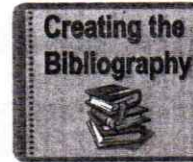


Image (iv)



Image (v)

- (g) Infer one benefit and one drawback of the report on the NIRF rankings according to you. Answer in about 40 words. (2)
- (h) Which of the following is the main takeaway from the rankings and their analysis mentioned in the passage? (1)
- (i) The competitive streak among the colleges and varsities will enhance their performance.
  - (ii) The competition will put unnecessary stress on the institutes and their resources.
  - (iii) The improved rankings will enhance hype about those institutes that register growth.
  - (iv) Those institutes that slip in the rankings will not get any admissions.

**Section B—WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (20 Marks)**

**GRAMMAR (10 Marks)**

- 3. Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed. (1×10=10)**

- (a) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter. (1)

Dear Sir

**Subject:** Rising Prices

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I wish to draw the attention of the government towards the rising inflation which ..... (made) life difficult for common man.



- (b) Read the given sentence from a recipe review article. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence. (1)

*Nigeria has seen an exodus among people in recent years, via regular and irregular routes, driven by recessions and record unemployment levels.*

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

- (c) Read the response of the daughter and report the question asked by her mother. (1)

*The daughter told her mother that she had a long face because her first job interview was the next day and she was worried sick.*

- (d) Read the dialogue between a husband and wife and select the correct option to complete the narration of their conversation. (1)

**Ryan:** I have invited my parents and siblings for dinner today.

**Renee:** Lovely! Then all of you can cook dinner for me too.

When Ryan told Renee that he ..... his parents and siblings for dinner that day, Renee exclaimed that it was lovely and remarked that ..... too.

- (i) had invited, all of them could cook dinner for her
- (ii) has invited, all of them can cook dinner for her
- (iii) was inviting, all of them should cook dinner for her
- (iv) will be inviting, all of them could cook dinner for her

- (e) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct word given in the bracket, to complete the concluding line of an issued circular by an Organisation, to its Managers. (1)

*As per the advisory issued by the government, regular service of the buses and their proper disinfection .....  
..... (ought/must/have to/need to) be ensured.*

- (f) Identify the error and supply correction for the given sentence from an article on the political changes in a country. (1)

*The winning party had been dragged to court after the recent presidential election, which was marred by anomalies and allegations of vote rigging. *rigged**

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

- (g) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a news report. (1)

*Migrants can have automatic rights to healthcare and other benefits in Brazil, but African migrants often face racism and struggle to find well-paid work.*

Option no.	Error	Correction
(i)	can have	have
(ii)	rights	right
(iii)	to	for
(iv)	but	and

- (b) Complete the given narrative, by filling in the blank with the correct option. (1)

*I had never seen the ocean before but I used to watch documentaries about storms and I had seen big ships rocked from side to side by waves.*

- (i) were rocking                      (ii) rocking  
(iii) rocked                          (iv) are rocked

- (i) Read the conversation between two friends, Hema and Saumya. Complete the sentence by reporting Saumya's reply correctly. (1)

Hema enquired, "Aren't you feeling well? You look so pale."

Saumya said, "I have a terrible headache. It is making me giddy."

Hema, wondering about her friend looking pale asked about her well-being to which, Saumya replied that .....  
.....

- (j) Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line, from an article on environment. (1)

*In this way, we ..... wage the war against environmental destruction with a two-pronged approach of rationality and sensibility, and someday, win the battle altogether.*

- (i) will                                      (ii) can  
(iii) might                                  (iv) could



- (k) Complete the line from a poem on nature, by filling in the blank with the correct option. (1)

*And I ..... along the contours  
of leaves that have no name. Here  
where the air is wet and the light is cool...*

- (i) had travelled (ii) have travelled  
(iii) travelled (iv) have been travelled
- (l) Identify the error on a shop's hoarding and supply the correction, for the following notification put up by the railways. (1)

**Note:** All sleeper-class passengers are requesting to wait  
in the lounge next to the ticket counter.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

### WRITING SKILLS

(10 Marks)

**Note:** All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

4. (A) You are Mira Malik, the coordinator of the ABC Public School, Mohali, Sector- 2, Chandigarh. Write a letter to place a bulk order for school uniform to M/S Sinha Garments, Zirakpur Chowk, Chandigarh. Supply all necessary details as required. (5)

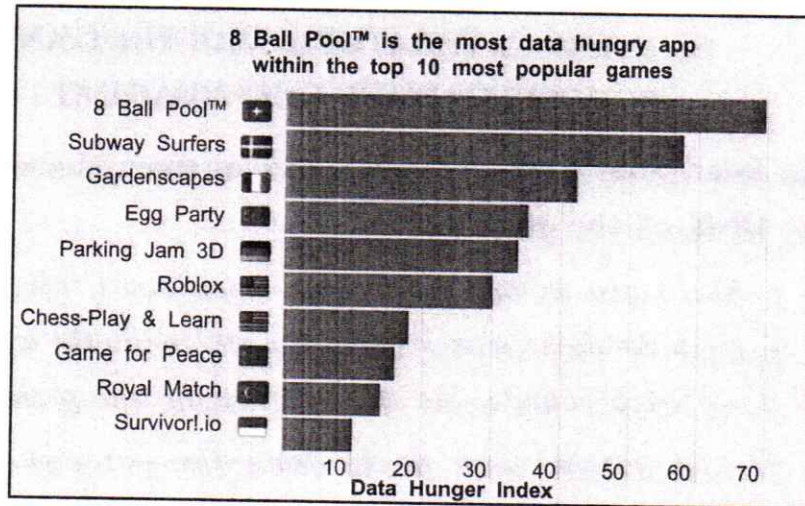
OR

(B) You are Deepti/Deepak of 15, Esplanade Road, Bengaluru.

Write a letter to the Editor of 'Deccan Herald' about rising prices of essential commodities—from vegetables to milk to lentils and cooking oil. It has become extremely unviable for the poor and the middle class to survive. Give some suggestions on how to control the price rise.

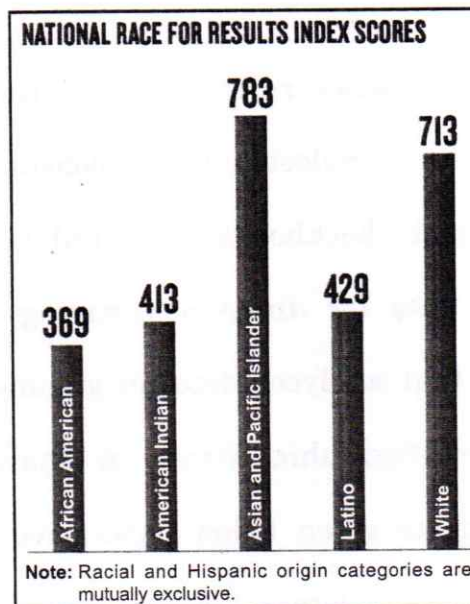
5. (A) Data hungriness refers to the tendency among mobile applications to collect and use consumer data through subtle pop-ups and checkboxes. External parties can also use the collected data for direct advertising purposes. Surfshark, a company that analyses data on gaming apps has released the following infographic. Write an analytical paragraph based on the image given below. Also give suggestions on how to combat this problem.

(5)



OR

- (B) A recent report 'National Race for Results Index Scores' published in America has brought to light how children are progressing on key milestones in education, completion of college and even work across racial and ethnic groups at the national and state levels. Children of Afro-American, Asians, South Americans, White Americans and Native Americans were taken into account as also the jobs of their parents. Based on the bar graph given below, write an analytical paragraph.



**Section C—LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND  
SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT**

**(40 Marks)**

6. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. (5)

(A) *In two weeks he had been transformed into a lithe, hard-muscled animal; he was keeping up well with the pack, stretching out in great bounds, his chest almost brushing the ground.*

*I carried him back along the passage to the front of the house. The chauffeur was still holding the car door open and*



*when Tricki saw his mistress he took off from my arms in a tremendous leap and sailed into Mrs Pumphrey's lap. She gave a startled "Ooh!" And then had to defend herself as he swarmed over her, licking her face and barking.*

*(A Triumph of Surgery)*

- (a) State any one inference about Tricki's show of emotions from the given context. (1)

*And then had to defend herself as he swarmed over her, licking her face and barking.*

- (b) Which of the explanations given below can be applied to this statement that captures Tricki's mood? (1)

*The chauffeur was still holding the car door open and when Tricki saw his mistress he took off from my arms in a tremendous leap and sailed into Mrs Pumphrey's lap.*

- (i) Tricki had not enjoyed his stay at the vet's hospital.
- (ii) He was relieved to be rescued from the big, shaggy dogs.
- (iii) Tricki had recognised his dog-parent and was wildly happy to see her.
- (iv) He wanted to go home and be pampered again.

- (c) '*...he was keeping up well with the pack, stretching out in great bounds, his chest almost brushing the ground.*' Which treatment had transformed Tricki? Elaborate in about 40 words, with reference to the extract. (2)

- (d) Which phrase would correctly substitute '*lithe*' in the given sentence from the extract? (1)

*He (Tricki) had been transformed into a lithe, hard-muscled animal.*

OR

(B) *The moment the letter fell into the mailbox, the postmaster went to open it. It said: "God: of the money that I asked for, only seventy pesos reached me. Send me the rest, since I need it very much. But don't send it to me through the mail because the post office employees are a bunch of crooks. Lencho."*

(A Letter to God)

- (a) Analyse the extract and fill in the blank: The tone and the mood of the letter written by Lencho shows that he was ..... and ..... but ..... (1)
1. unhappy                      2. curious                      3. hopeful  
4. suspicious                      5. frustrated                      6. thoughtful
- (i) 1 and 6 but 4                      (ii) 1 and 5 but 6  
(iii) 1 and 5 but 3                      (iv) 2 and 3 but 5
- (b) With what expectation did the postmaster open the letter sent by Lencho? Answer in about 40 words. (2)
- (c) Lencho calls the post office employees '*a bunch of crooks*'. Which of the following constructions belongs to the same category as this one? (1)
- (i) thick as thieves                      (ii) a bag of bones  
(iii) a school of whales                      (iv) a bundle of nerves
- (d) Interpret the importance of the letter written by Lencho to God. (1)

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.

(5)

(A) *Though to distinguish beasts of prey*

*A novice might nonplus,*

*The Crocodile you always may*

*Tell from the Hyena thus:*

*Hyenas come with merry smiles;*

*But if they weep they're Crocodiles.*

(How to Tell Wild Animals)

- (a) Fill the blank with suitable words to complete the statement.

(1)

*The hyena and a crocodile are dissimilar to each other because ..... but they are similar because .....*

- (b) How has the poet used literary devices to enrich the description in the given stanza?

(2)

- (c) Which of the following sayings does not match the conduct of the animals in the given stanza?

(1)

- (i) The essence of lying is in deception, not in words.
- (ii) Don't judge a book by its cover.
- (iii) Appearances are deceptive.
- (iv) A pretty face doesn't mean a pretty heart.

- (d) The poet says, 'A novice might nonplus.' Is this expression correct? Comment on the poet's use of language in this line in about 40 words.

(2)



OR

(B) *In a world of possessions. People will take*

*Balls, balls will be lost always, little boy.*

*And no one buys a ball back. Money is external.*

*He is learning, well behind his desperate eyes,*

*The epistemology of loss, how to stand up*

*Knowing what every man must one day know*

*And most know many days, how to stand up.*

*(The Ball Poem)*

- (a) In what context does the poet say that 'Money is external'? (1)
- (b) What is the significance of the use of symbolism by the poet to describe loss, responsibility, and survival in the given extract and how does it contribute to the overall mood and tone of the poem? Answer in about 40 words. (2)
- (c) Complete the sentence with the appropriate option. (1)
- If one were to choose an option that best fits the essence of the given extract, it would be*  
.....
- (i) Responsibility is self-taught.
- (ii) Out of sight, out of mind.
- (iii) Time once lost, is forever.
- (iv) Better safe, than sorry.
- (d) To what effect has the poet used the poetic device 'apostrophe' in the given extract? (1)

8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words.

(4×3=12)

- (a) What do you think would have been Chubukov's reaction on hearing the reason for which Lomov had come to his house?

(*The Proposal*) (3)

- (b) What is the difference between God's attitude toward a young woman and the attitude of humans toward her?

(*For Anne Gregory*) (3)

- (c) How does Rajvir describe the tea garden at Dhekiabari?

(*Tea from Assam*) (3)

- (d) Flying is a natural act in birds. Then why was the young seagull exhausted by the strange exercise?

(*Two Stories about Flying - His First Flight*) (3)

- (e) What does the poet want to convey through the poem 'Dust of Snow'?

(*Dust of Snow*) (3)

9. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.

(2×3=6)

- (a) Why did Hari Singh tell lies about cooking?

(*The Thief's Story*) (3)

- (b) Why did Griffin have to burgle a clergyman's house in Iping?

(*Footprints Without Feet*) (3)

- (c) Why do Bholi's parents accept Bishamher's marriage proposal?

Give three reasons.

(*Bholi*) (3)

10. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about

100-120 words.

(1×6=6)

- (A) Robert Frost in the poem, 'Dust of Snow', brings out the importance of the right attitude in life. Our attitude towards a circumstance evokes different responses – either positive or negative. Mijbil, the Otter showed great talent for adaptability to the changing circumstances in its life as did the crow in the poem. Analyse the statement with reference to the poem, 'Dust of Snow' and the story, 'Mijbil the Otter'.

OR

- (B) Death can be liberating. In what way did the Buddha change Kisa Gotami's understanding of life, death, and loss? Why do you think Kisa Gotami understood this only the second time? Did it also take Mandela time to grasp the fact that freedom is precious or did he understand it implicitly and immediately? Analyse with reference to the chapters 'The Sermon at Benares' and 'Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom'.

11. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about

100-120 words.

(1×6=6)

- (A) Describe the landlord's and his wife's experience with the strange scientist, Griffin. (Footprints Without Feet)

OR

- (B) "Horace Danby was good and respectable – but not completely honest" – explain the statement based on your understanding of his character. (A Question of Trust)



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