

Series REL-DS1

Code No. RSPL/2

Roll No.

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.

Section A—READING SKILLS**(20 Marks)****Reading Comprehension Through Unseen Passages****1. Read the following text. (10 Marks)**

1. A perennial plant refers to a type of plant that lives for more than two years, unlike annuals, which complete their life cycle within one growing season. Perennials have the ability to regrow year after year from the same root system, often producing flowers and seeds. These plants are a popular choice for gardens due to their longevity and the fact that they require less maintenance compared to annuals.
2. One of the defining characteristics of perennial plants is their ability to survive the winter season. While their above-ground foliage may die back, the root system remains alive and dormant underground. This allows the plant to conserve energy during harsh conditions and regrow when favourable conditions return in the following growing season. This cycle of dormancy and regrowth distinguishes perennials from annuals and biennials.
3. Perennials come in a wide variety of forms, including flowering plants, ornamental grasses, ferns, and even some vegetables and herbs. Some popular examples of perennial flowering plants include roses, lilies, daisies, peonies, and irises. These plants often provide beautiful blooms year after year, adding colour and visual interest to gardens. One advantage of growing perennials is that they often develop more extensive

root systems over time, which helps them access water and nutrients from deeper into the soil. This adaptability to various soil conditions allows perennials to thrive in a wide range of environments. Additionally, the established root systems of perennials make them more resistant to drought and erosion.

4. In terms of care, perennials generally require less maintenance than annuals. Once established, they typically need less frequent watering and fertilization. However, it is important to provide adequate care during the initial stages of planting to ensure their successful establishment. Pruning and deadheading spent flowers are often necessary tasks to maintain the health and appearance of perennial plants.
5. Perennials offer gardeners the advantage of a more permanent landscape design. Unlike annuals that need to be replanted each year, perennials provide a reliable foundation for a garden that can evolve and grow over time. With careful planning and selection, a well-designed perennial garden can provide a continuous display of colour and texture throughout the seasons.
6. In conclusion, perennial plants are long-lived plants that survive for more than two years. They have the ability to regrow year after year from the same root system, providing beauty and interest to gardens. Perennials come in various forms and offer advantages such as adaptability to different soil conditions and lower maintenance requirements. With their enduring nature, perennials are a popular choice for gardeners looking to create a lasting and vibrant landscape.

(434 Words)

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

(a) Which of the options given below substantiates the writer's statement that perennials are a popular choice for gardens due to their longevity and adaptability? (1)

- (i) Their root systems lie dormant in winter for survival.
- (ii) They are resistant to drought and erosion.
- (iii) They can survive in all types of environment.
- (iv) They provide colour and variety throughout the year.

(b) What are the chief reasons for the writer's preference for perennials over biennials and annuals? Rationalise your response in about 40 words. (2)

(c) Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)

Perennials have the ability to regrow year after year from the same root system owing to and often producing lively flowers and seeds throughout the year.

(d) The passage includes some words that are opposites of each other. From the sets (i)-(v) below, identify two sets of antonyms. (1)

- (i) evolve and grow (ii) drought and erosion
- (iii) alive and dormant (iv) planning and selection
- (v) perennials and annuals

(e) Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)

Perennials require adequate care during the initial stages of planting to ensure their successful establishment however,

(f) Based on the reading of the passage, examine, in about 40 words, how perennials provide a reliable foundation for a garden. (2)

(g) Which of these does not hold true for the perennials? (1)

- (i) They need to be replanted each year.
- (ii) They conserve their energy during harsh weather conditions.
- (iii) They need to be regularly pruned for better health.
- (iv) They stand apart due to the enduring nature of their systems.

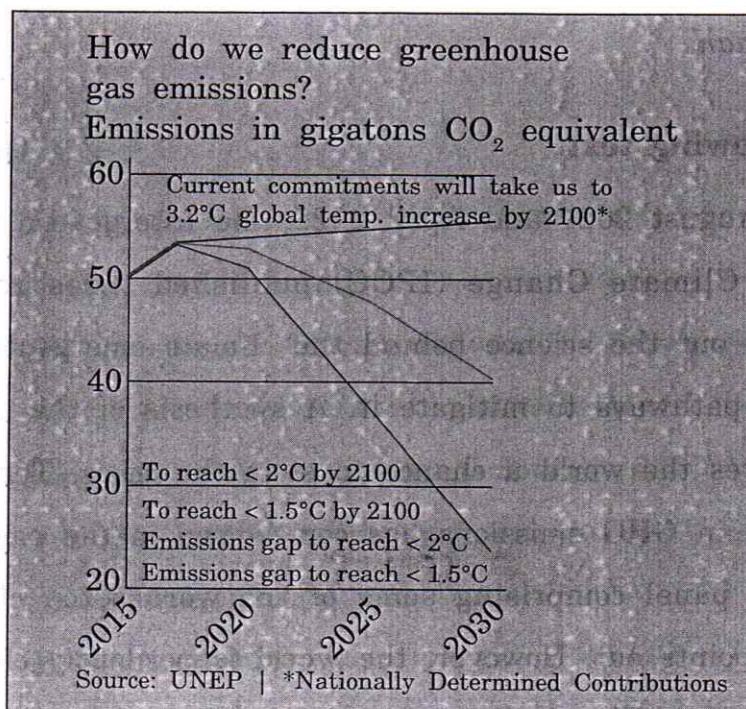
(h) The statement given below has a few words missing. Fill in the blank with suitable word/words from the passage. (1)

The media gave coverage to those events that touched the lives of the privileged few rather than the common man.

2. Read the following text. (10 Marks)

1. Between August 2021 and April 2022, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) published three reports which laid out the science behind the climate emergency and suggested pathways to mitigate it. A synthesis of the earlier studies gives the world a chance to stem the crisis. The pace of increase in GHG emissions has come down in the past five years, the panel comprising some of the world's top climate scientists points out. However, the world is perilously close to exhausting its carbon budget.

2. “The threshold beyond which the climate crisis becomes irreversible” could be breached by the first half of the 2030s, IPCC’s modelling shows. The Paris Climate Pact had agreed to check global temperature rise to 2°C above pre-industrial limits and “pursue efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels”. IPCC’s studies have consistently borne out the salience of the pact’s “more desirable target” and most countries today are on the same page about the 1.5°C limit. To limit temperature increase below the breakdown level, temperatures must peak by 2025 and decline by 43 per cent in the next five years, scientists on the panel have underlined. In a business-as-usual scenario, temperatures could rise to well above 2°C by the end of this century. Mitigation efforts currently underway need fast-tracking to avert cataclysmic climate outcomes.



3. The good news is that the world has the toolkit for the purpose. There is also near consensus on the links between the recent extreme weather events — Pakistan floods, Hurricane Ian in the US, heatwaves, and wildfires in North America, Australia, and parts of Europe, the unpredictability of the monsoon in India, and the challenges faced by small island nations.

(280 Words)

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

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

According to an economist, "The price of commodity X reached a peak before falling a little and then maintaining the same level." We can say that this statement is comparable with the opinion of the scientists studying climate change and trying to

.....

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

The author's take on climate change taking an optimistic turn with the words that the world has a toolkit to mitigate this calamity on our planet is

(a fact/an opinion) because implementing the proposals of the IPCC in time is (a subjective judgement/an objective detail) that cannot be wished away.

(c) The member-countries in the IPCC are on the same page when it comes to the links between the recent natural calamities unleashing destruction on the earth. Justify the following, in about 40 words. (2)

(d) Which two concerns have been red-flagged off by the IPCC report modelling? (1)

(i)

(ii)

(e) Study the statement: "*The threshold beyond which the climate crisis becomes irreversible*" could be breached by the first half of the 2030s, IPCC's modelling shows." State any one inference that can be drawn from this. (1)

(f) Select the option that incorrectly displays what 'cataclysmic' signifies. (Reference-Paragraph 2) (1)



Image (i)

Image (ii)

Image (iii)

Image (iv)

Image (v)

(g) Infer one benefit and one drawback of the world's efforts to mitigate and reverse the climate change in recent years as brought to light by the IPCC's reports. Answer in about 40 words. (2)

(h) Which of the following refers to the 'salience of the pact's "more desirable target" as mentioned in the passage? (1)

(i) The world should pool in efforts to limit warming to 2°C above pre-industrial levels.

(ii) The carbon budget of the world should be extended or increased.

- (iii) Temperatures must peak by 2025.
- (iv) The world should pool in efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

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 brackets, for the given portion of a letter. (1)

Subject: Human dependence on technology

Dear Sir

Through this letter, I wish to highlight our excessive dependence on technology which (be) steadily but surely (turn) us into slaves.

(b) Identify the error in the given sentence, about the treatment of a thief after a crime in a residential area and supply the correction. (1)

Most people will hand over the thief to the police so as to get rid of him but not our RWA Secretary; he invited him home for tea.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

(c) Rishabh told his teacher that he had a fever the previous day and that's why he had not submitted the project. Report the question asked by his teacher. (1)

(d) Read the dialogue between two friends discussing a recent travel experience. (1)

Som: A European tourist whom I met recently, wanted to be a Himalayan monk for the rest of his life.

Ron: Are you referring to that story about you meeting a European tourist with a strange desire?

When Som talked about a European tourist who wanted to be a Himalayan monk for the rest of his life Ron questioned him meeting a European tourist with a strange desire.

- (i) if he were referring to that story about him
- (ii) if he is referring to that story about him
- (iii) If he was referring to that story about him /
- (iv) was he referring to that story about him

(e) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the description of a property available on the market being shown to a client by a dealer. (1)

Owing to the property enjoying a panoramic view of the ridge, it has always commanded the highest rent in of the city.

- (i) those parts
- (ii) these parts
- (iii) several parts
- (iv) all parts

(f) Identify the error in the given sentence, from a pilot's story on making a difficult landing and supply the correction. (1)

I saw the runway slowly appearing and taking shape before my eyes and before I can doubt my luck I saw two straight lines of lights in front of me.

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 story. (1)

He would not be sad for the loss of his reputation and his honour, but the loss of money would kill him instantly.

Option no.	Error	Correction
(i)	would	will
(ii)	be	remain
(iii)	for	at
(iv)	of	in

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

The best way to mitigate the financial stress on the government treasuries to initiate policy reforms in the banking and insurance sector.

(i) Report the dialogue between a teacher and a student, by completing the sentence. (1)

Teacher: Time and again, I have seen men and women take risks and give their lives for an idea.

Student: What is the point of giving up your life because your idea will die with you?

When a teacher remarked that she had seen men and women take risks and give their lives for an idea, a student questioned

(j) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the text of an email. (1)

All employees are advised to keep alert for any urgent emails and check their inboxesthis weekend.

- (i) time and time
- (ii) for time to time
- (iii) between time to time
- (iv) from time to time

(k) Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given piece of advice. (1)

He give that money he found in the street to charity.

- (i) has to
- (ii) need not
- (iii) ought to
- (iv) could

(l) Identify the error and supply correction, for the following instructions on a board in a cinema hall. (1)

EMERGENCY EXIT! MINDS THE STEP!!

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.

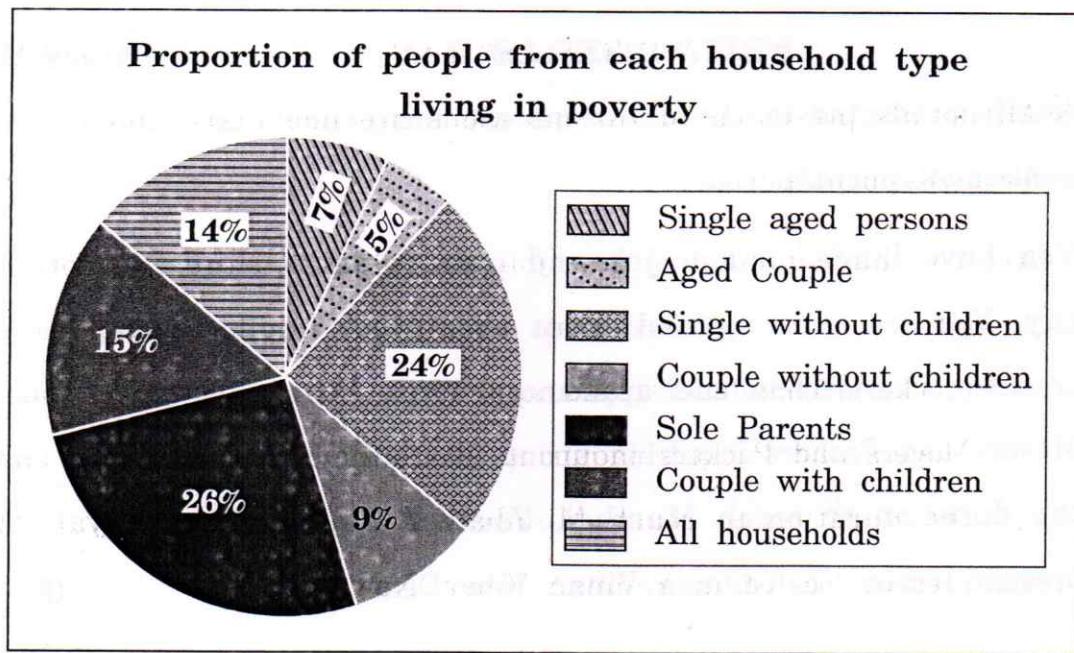
4. (A) You have landed a new job and plan to shift to another city. You are quite worried about your fragile crystal ware, crockery, chandeliers, and appliances. Write a letter to Sabu Movers and Packers inquiring about the rates, insurance and the duration to reach Mumbai. You are Rajeev Goyal, at present located in Yamuna Vihar, New Delhi. (5)

OR

(B) Write a letter to the Editor, 'The Hindu' about the need for 'Green Housing Complexes' in the cities. Such a move will eventually help ease the heating in urban areas and also make the cities beautiful, clean, and green. This is the need of the hour. Pen your thoughts as Raman/Renu, a resident of Rajaji Nagar, Hyderabad. Invent other necessary details as required.

5. (A) Working families in the United Kingdom (just like many other countries in the world) have come under increasing financial

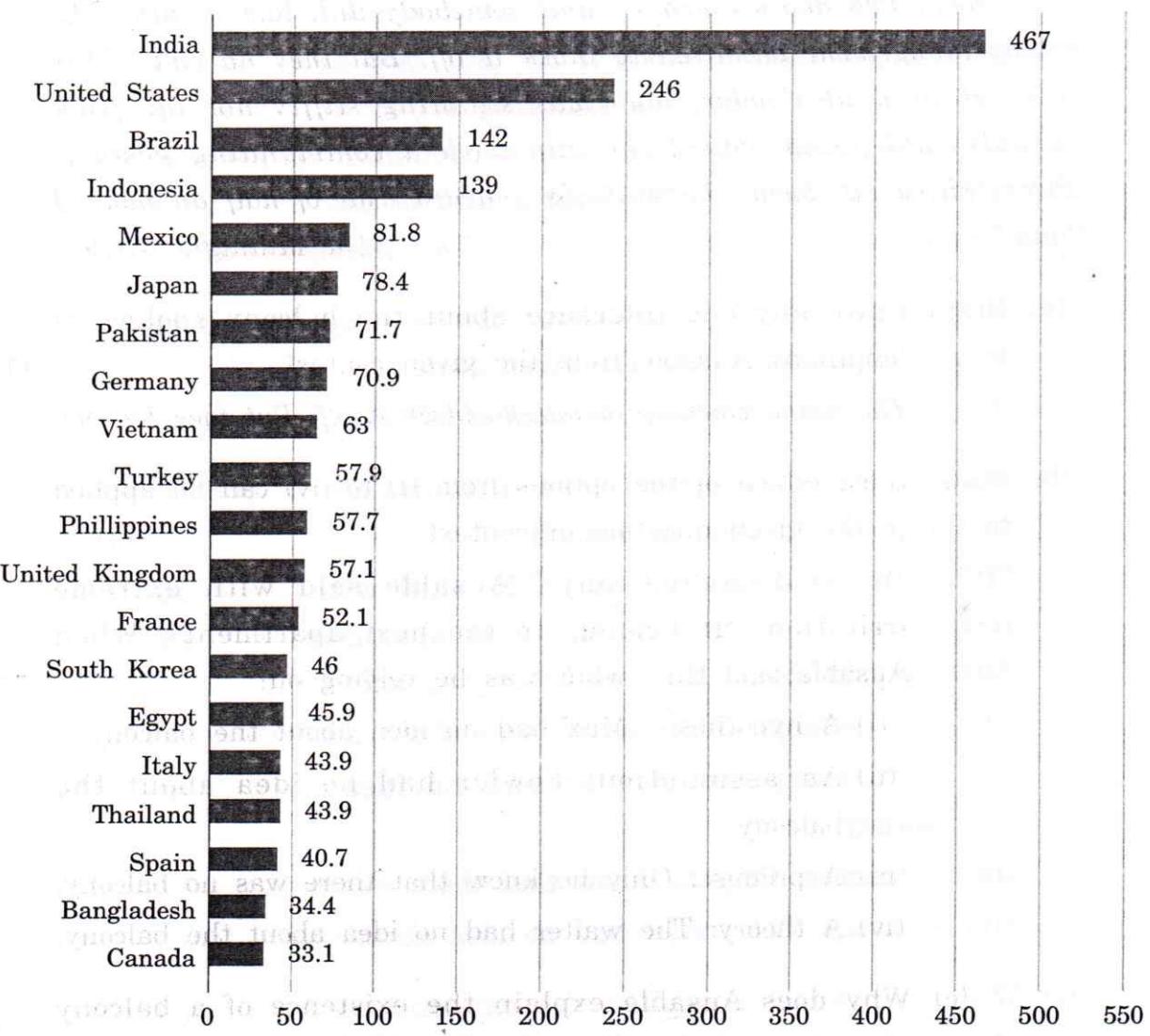
pressure during the last 25 years from soaring property prices, rent hikes and crippling childcare costs. The pie chart given below shows the proportion of people from different types of households living in poverty in the UK. Write an analytical paragraph based on the analysis of the given data. (5)



OR

(B) In 2022, YouTube was among the most downloaded mobile entertainment apps worldwide, with 154 million downloads from global users. Study the infographic given below and analyse the popularity of YouTube in terms of the number of viewers it has amassed country-wise all over the world. Write your findings in an analytical paragraph with a suitable heading in not more than 120 words.

Leading countries based on YouTube audience size as of July 2023 (in millions)



**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) “It’s not my balcony,” Ausable said with extreme irritation. “It belongs to the next apartment.” He glanced explanatorily at Fowler. “You see,” he said, “this room used to be part of a large unit, and the next room — through that door there —

used to be the living room. It had the balcony, which extends under my window now. You can get onto it from the empty room two doors down — and somebody did, last month. The management promised to block it off. But they haven't." Max glanced at Fowler, who was standing stiffly not far from Ausable, and waved the gun with a commanding gesture. "Please sit down," he said. "We have a wait of half an hour, I think."

(The Midnight Visitor)

(a) State any one inference about the balcony spoken at length by Ausable from the given context. (1)
The management promised to block it off. But they haven't.

(b) State which of the options from (i) to (iv) can be applied to the given question or context. (1)
"It's not my balcony," Ausable said with extreme irritation. "It belongs to the next apartment." When Ausable said this, what was he relying on?
(i) A hypothesis: Max had no idea about the balcony.
(ii) An assumption: Fowler had no idea about the balcony.
(iii) A premise: Only he knew that there was no balcony.
(iv) A theory: The waiter had no idea about the balcony.

(c) Why does Ausable explain the existence of a balcony at such great length to Fowler? Elaborate in about 40 words, with reference to the extract. (2)
"It had the balcony, which extends under my window now. You can get onto it from the empty room two doors down — and somebody did, last month. The management promised to block it off. But they haven't."

(d) Max told Fowler that they had to wait for a good thirty minutes for a paper to arrive. The paper here refers to (1)

OR

(B) "Marriage gifts are meaningless without the sweet bread known as the 'bol' just as a party or a feast loses its charm without bread. Not enough can be said to show how important a baker can be for a village. The lady of the house must prepare sandwiches on the occasion of her daughter's engagement. Cakes and 'bol' are a must for Christmas as well as other festivals. Thus, the presence of the baker in the village is absolutely essential." *(Glimpses of India: A Baker from Goa)*

(a) Breads are a very important part of the culture of the people in Goa. Which of the given options does not corroborate the statement? (1)

- (i) Bol are central to marriage celebrations and festivals.
- (ii) Festivals especially Christmas are incomplete without cakes.
- (iii) Every house has its own furnace in Goa.
- (iv) Special sandwiches are made on a daughter's engagement.

(b) What makes the marriage gifts meaningless? Answer in about 40 words. (2)

(c) The word 'sandwich' is named after the Earl of Sandwich who loved eating sandwiches. Read the following descriptions (i)-(iv) and identify the one that does not correspond to the name of a person in its origin as shown in the extract. (1)

- (i) It is Murphy's Law.
- (ii) Maintain the temperature at 200 Fahrenheit.
- (iii) We are leaving for the Indira Gandhi International Airport
- (iv) Stop acting like Scrooge!

(d) What is the traditional name of bakers in Goa and what made them different from other people in appearance? (1)

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

(A) *Some say the world will end in fire*

Some say in ice.

From what I've tasted of desire

I hold with those who favour fire

(Fire and Ice)

(a) Complete the statement with appropriate words. (1)

In the lines, 'Some say the world will end in fire/Some say in ice', 'fire' and 'ice'

(b) What is the speaker's mood when he talks of '*what I've tasted of desire*'? (1)

(c) State which of the terms given below, can be applied to the statement taking into account the poet's belief system. (1)

The above stanza ponders over whether the world will end due to fire or ice.

(i) It is a hypothesis.

(ii) It is an irrefutable belief.

(iii) It is a debatable issue.

(iv) It is a scientific theory.

(d) Comment on the poet's use of language in these lines in 40 words. (2)

OR

(B) *It sits looking*

over harbour and city

on silent haunches

and then moves on.

(Fog)

(a) In what way does the language used in this poem challenge traditional ideas of what poetry should be? (1)

(b) What is the significance of the use of symbols and metaphor to describe the fog in the poem and how does this contribute to the overall mood of the poem? Answer in about 40 words. (2)

(c) Pick out the most unsuitable options that cannot be used to complete the blanks given below. (1)

The fog's entry is and as it makes an exit.

- (i) silent/silently
- (ii) quiet/ quietly
- (iii) unobtrusive/unobtrusively
- (iv) quite/ quietly

(d) Identify the type of imagery used in the lines of the poem. (1)

8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words. (4x3=12)

(a) Whose dog turns out to be superior? How? (*The Proposal*) (3)

(b) What is the role/ importance of punctuation marks in language? Why has the poet used the exclamation mark after Amanda? Connect it to the title of the poem. (*Amanda!*) (3)

(c) Describe Anne Frank's love for her grandmother. (*From the Diary of Anne Frank*) (3)

(d) According to Kisa Gotami what is the greatest grief in life? (*The Sermon at Benares*) (3)

(e) What is the irony in the mention of 'water hole' and 'plump deer' by Leslie Norris? (*A Tiger in the Zoo*) (3)

9. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words. (2x3=6)

(a) "Science shows a connection between structure and function." Show this to be so, for the spots Richard Ebright saw on Monarch pupas. (*The Making of a Scientist*) (3)

(b) How did Mme Loisel now know the life of necessity according to the author? *(The Necklace)* (3)

(c) How did Think Tank misinterpret innocent nursery rhymes? *(The Book That Saved the Earth)* (3)

10. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. (1×6=6)

(A) How are Anne Frank and Valli similar in character? Elaborate with reference to the chapters '*From the Diary of Anne Frank*' and '*Madam Rides the Bus*'.

OR

(B) Read the given quote by Buddha from '*The Sermon at Benares*': "*Death is an indispensable truth of life. It comes to one and all.*" Prepare a speech with reference to the given quote and compare it with Amanda's desire to wish for an orphan's life. How does the Buddha differ in his perspective about death from Amanda?

11. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. (1×6=6)

(A) Do you think parents like Mrs. Pumphrey exist? If yes, is it a good thing to pamper children? Why or why not? (*A Triumph of Surgery*)

OR

(B) How did the power of invisibility change Griffin? What impression do you form of Griffin after reading the story, '*Footprints without Feet*'?

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