

Section A (Reading)

I. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

A. It is common knowledge that school children are under great pressure to perform well in all fields, study ten subjects, play games and develop an impressive image. How do they manage? The skills, techniques and principles which they pick up while still young help them cope.

B. Two of the twentieth century's finest minds have lamented that schools are not teaching the basics of personal excellence or the science of success. Edward De Bono: "Almost all of what a child learns at school after the age of ten is totally irrelevant to his need in later life. Most schools do not teach thinking at all." The serious thesis of this article is that management must be taught as a school subject. The weightiest argument is that children are managers.

C. Many of the children are called upon to play directly three of the interpersonal roles: "Figurehead", "Leader" and "Liaison Officer". They do this while assisting teachers as monitors or class representatives or group leaders during educational tours and field work; while captaining teams on playgrounds; and while leading teams in quiz, debating and other competitions. Many more play these roles as surrogates.

D. The decision role of "Entrepreneur" and "Resource Allocator" may only occasionally be assigned to children. However, it is worth noting that, according to a recent survey in Delhi, a monthly allocation of up to ₹1,000 is available as pocket money to school children. Therefore, school children too need to have control over money and develop a sense of budget. If we add to these financial resources, the resources of time, information and intellect available to children, the first two decision roles are not irrelevant to them.

F. If you cannot see children as managers, they are managers in the making: Many of the management habits (e.g., using a to-do list), management skills (e.g., sensitive listening), management attitudes and values are formed early in life. Personality theorists believe that it is extremely difficult to change personality traits, styles of thinking and habits of behaviour once these are formed.

G. As in language learning, where basic aspects of language like pronunciation and rhythm are extremely resistant to learning after puberty, good management habits, attitudes and values are difficult to acquire in adulthood. In the fifties, even in the educationally advanced countries such as the US, Algebra was thought to be too abstract to be taught even in senior schools.

Now it is taught from upper primary classes onwards in both educationally progressive and developing countries. Computer skills, lateral thinking and swimming, often felt to be forbidden by adults are easily learnt by children. In fact, both research evidence and specialists' beliefs strongly support the view that children's ability to learn skills like swimming and creative thinking is much more developed than adults. Equally important, complex organisms.

- (a) learn what is necessary or pleasurable and
- (b) adapt themselves in ways that will serve their needs and interests with amazing enthusiasm, ease and effectiveness.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

1. The reason for pressure on children is:

- (A) common knowledge
- (B) absence of skills
- (C) choice between studies and games
- (D) performance demanded in all fields

2. What according to some educationists is lacking in school teaching?

- (A) Basics of personal excellence
- (B) Science of success
- (C) Thinking
- (D) All of these

3. The sense of budget among children is an indication towards their capability of performing:

- (A) interpersonal role
- (B) decision role
- (C) leading role
- (D) informational role

4. The article advocates teaching as a subject in school.

- (A) management
- (B) creative thinking
- (C) computer skills
- (D) swimming

5. The term used for a detailed critical inspection/study in Para 4 is:

- (A) intellect
- (B) resource allocator
- (C) survey
- (D) budget

6. Which subject was considered to be too intangible to be taught in higher schools

- (A) Algebra
- (B) Science
- (C) Computer
- (D) Language skills

(B) Answer the following questions as briefly as possible

1. The weightiest argument is that children are
2. The skills....., and principles that children pick while they are young help them cope in life.
3. Children play directly three of the interpersonal roles: "Figurehead", an "Liaison Officer".
4. According to a recent survey in, a monthly allocation of up to ₹ 1,000 is available as pocket money to school children.
5. lateral thinking and swimming, often felt to be forbidden by adults are easily learnt by children.

II. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

A. Every code of etiquette has contained three elements: basic moral duties; practical rules which promote efficiency; and artificial optional graces such as formal compliments to say, superiors on their generosity and importance.

B. In the first category, consideration for the weak and respect for age. Among the ancient Egyptians, the young always stood in the presence of older people. Among the Mpongwe of Tanzania, the young men bow as they pass the huts of the elders. In England, until about a century ago, young children did not sit in their parents' presence without taking permission.

C. Practical rules are helpful in such ordinary occurrences of social life as making proper introductions at parties or other functions so that people can be brought to know each other. Before the invention of the fork, etiquette directed that the fingers should be kept as clean as possible; before the handkerchief came into common use, etiquette suggested that, after spitting, a person should rub the spit inconspicuously underfoot.

D. Extremely refined behaviour, however, cultivated as an art of gracious living, has been a characteristic only of societies with wealth and leisure, which admitted women as the social equals of men.

E. In fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, a wealthy and leisured society developed an extremely complex code of manners, but the rules of behaviour of fashionable society had little influence on the daily life of the lower classes. Indeed many of the rules, such as how to enter a banquet room, or how to use a sword or handkerchief for ceremonial purposes, were irrelevant to the way of life of the average working man who spent most

of his life outdoors or in his own poor hut and most probably did not have a handkerchief certainly not a sword, to his name.

Yet the essential basis of all good manners does not vary. Consideration for the old and the weak and the avoidance of harming or giving unnecessary offence to others is a feature of all societies everywhere and at all levels from the highest to the lowest. You can easily think of dozens of examples of customs and habits in your own daily life which come under this heading.

(a) On the basis of your reading the passage, make notes using recognisable abbreviations wherever necessary. Use a format you consider suitable, and supply a suitable title.

(b) Make a short summary of the passage in about 50 words.

SECTION –B(GRAMMAR AND WRITING)

III Read the sentences. Choose the correct option according to the directions given in brackets.

Fill in the blanks with the appropriate options given below.

It was a cold wintry night. It(i) since morning. A traveller somehow managed to reach a secluded farm house after the night(ii) He knocked at the door and waited for somebody(iii) the door. Perhaps the tired farmer(iv) to sleep after the day's hard labour in the rice fields and there was no response in spite of the repeated knocks.

(i) (a) raining (b) rained (c) was raining (d) had been raining

(ii) (a) has fallen (b) had fallen (c) is falling (d) falls

(iii) (a) open (b) opening (c) has opened (d) to open

(iv) (a) to go (b) is going (c) had gone (d) goes

IV. You want to sell your newly built flat. Draft a suitable advertisement in not more than 50 words to be published in the classified columns of the 'The Assam Tribune' giving all necessary details. You are Niranjan of Nabin Nagar, Guwahati. Word Limit – 50 words.

V. As the manager of 'Excellent Coaching Centre' run by you, prepare a poster calling the attention of students desirous of attending IIT, CPMT coaching to join your coaching centre.

VI. There was a time when children could be seen playing outdoor games like Hide and Seek, Football, etc. But now-a-days they are very much pre-occupied with chatting on mobiles, surfing the internet and watching TV. Outdoor games are very necessary as they keep one physically fit. Write a speech to be delivered in the morning assembly on 'Games are very necessary for holistic growth' in about 120-150 words.

VII. "Our large population is not a cause of poverty but an asset, a resource." Write a debate in 120-150 words either for or against the motion.

SECTION-C LITERATURE

VIII. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow.

A. A sweet face :

My mother's that was before I was born.

1. What is poet referring to as 'a sweet face'?

- (A) Poet is referring to her mother's photo graph with her cousins.
- (B) Poet is referring to her mother in front of her.
- (C) Poet is referring to her mother's cousin.
- (D) None of the above

2. When was the photograph taken?

- (A) Before the birth of poet
- (B) At the time of birth of poet
- (C) After the birth of poet
- (D) After graduation of poet

3. How has the poet described his mother's face?

- (A) Sad
- (B) Ugly
- (C) Sweet
- (D) Pleasant

IX. Answer the following questions in 40-50 words each.

- (a) Give a brief account of the sounds and movements of the goldfinch on the top.
- (b) When was the photo taken? What did it show?
- (c) What led Professor Gaitonde to believe that 'history has taken a different turn' perhaps before 1857 ?

X. Answer any one of the following questions in about 40-50 words

(a) How does Mrs. Fitzgerald perform the trick of changing her personality with that of Mrs. Pearson?

(b) Comment on the title of Marga's story 'The Address.'

XI. Answer the following question in about 120-150 words

Everyone on board did contribute to save Wavewalker. Justify.

XII. Answer the following question in about 120-150 words

Describe the narrator's experience of early morning ride with his cousin Mourad.

English September Exam Syllabus

Reading Section

- Comprehension Passage
- Note Making

Writing Section

- Classified Ads
- Poster Writing
- Speech Writing
- Debate Writing

Grammar Section

- Gap filling
- Reordering of Sentences

Transformation of sentences

Literature Section

Hornbill

- The Portrait of a Lady
- We Aren't Afraid to Die
- Discovering Tut: the Saga Continues
- The Adventure
- A Photograph
- The Laburnum Top
- The Voice of the Rain
- Childhood

Snapshots

- The Summer of a Beautiful White Horse
- The Address
- Mother's Day