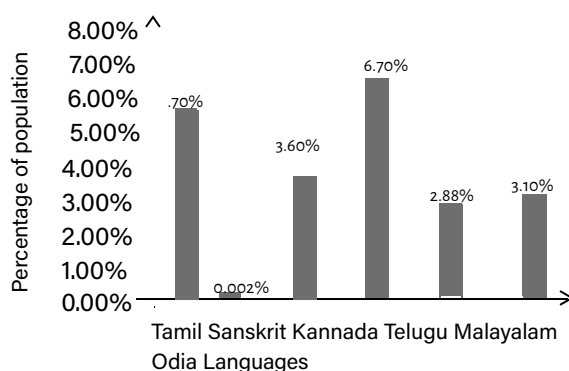


SECTION A : READING SKILLS

I. Read the following passage carefully.

- India is a country of many languages. The constitution recognises 22 languages officially, but over 121 unique languages have been identified in the country.
- To preserve and encourage the literary function of language, the government introduced 'classical languages' in 2004. According to the Ministry of Culture, a classical language is one that is at least 1,500 years old and has ancient, valuable literature recorded in it. Further, such a language is original and not derived from another language. Based on these guidelines, six languages have been classified as classical languages: Tamil, Sanskrit, Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam and Odia.
- The following graph shows the percentage of Indian people whose mother tongue is a classical language. This is as per data collected by the census of 2011. The census was not conducted in 2021 due to the pandemic.



- According to the graph, around 6.7% of the Indian population are native speakers of Telugu, whereas Sanskrit has been identified as a mother tongue by only 0.002% of the population, which is around 24,821 people. Malayalam has the second lowest number of native speakers, making up about 2.9% of Indians.
- The 2011 census data also noted that a majority of the native speakers reside in the area where their mother tongue originated. For example, 93% of Kannada speakers live in Karnataka. Similarly, 93% of Malayalam speakers live in Kerala.
- Balancing the preservation of culture and inclusivity is a delicate equation for a heterogeneous country like India. With growing awareness, concepts like 'classical languages' may help us achieve harmony.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.**A) Which of these pieces of information can be confirmed by reading the passage?**

- The number of people in India who speak Tamil.
 - Where the majority of native Sanskrit speakers live.
 - The reason Malayalam is considered a classical language.
 - When the idea of classical languages was introduced in India.
- a) Only (I) b) Only (IV) c) Only (I) and (II) d) Only (III) and (IV)

B) Fill in the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets. Based on the passage, the (functional/historical) value of a language is of utmost importance while (preserving/ categorising) it as a classical language.**C) Imagine that a committee was formed to ensure that classical languages have more native speakers by the time the next census is conducted. In 40 words, answer the following questions to help the committee achieve its objective.**

- Which classical language needs its attention most urgently and why?
- Which classical language would be THIRD on its priority?

D) State an example from the passage that shows that India is a 'heterogeneous country'. Answer in one sentence.**E) Why has the writer stated the following line in the passage? Give a reason.**

The census was not conducted in 2021 due to the pandemic.

F) Complete the sentence based on information from the passage.

If Tamil originated from Tamil Nadu, we can infer that of the native Tamil speakers would be living in Tamil Nadu.

G) Which of these hypothetical situations would help India achieve harmony? Justify your answer in about 40 words.

- a) if the majority of Indians who speak a classical language are settled abroad
- b) if more languages from remote and tribal areas of India are identified as classical languages
- c) if the percentage of Indians who are native Telugu speakers increases to more than 10 percent

H) Which of these sentences uses 'delicate' in the same way as paragraph (6) does?

- a) She looked beautiful in the dress with the delicate floral pattern.
- b) He was frequently admitted to the hospital due to his delicate health.
- c) This discussion will require careful consideration as it is a delicate matter.
- d) Please handle these delicate items carefully during transportation as they break easily.

SECTION B : WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR

GRAMMAR

II. Complete the following tasks, as directed. i. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter: Dear Sir

This is with reference to committee's letter of recommendation that _____ (highlight) the nominations for 'Safe Residential Area' award for this current year.

ii. Read the given sentence from a recipe review article. Identify the error and supply the correction in the sentence.

This delightful recipe must keep your hunger pangs at bay with its balanced spices and oriental flavour. Use the given format for your response.

error	correction

iii. Abhilash and Neha had a conversation about the inauguration of Neha's Dance Academy. Report Abhilash's question.

Is your best friend helping you in this venture?

iv. Read the dialogue between Shabnam and her mentor, Sara, regarding her summer internship programme.

Sara: Why did you choose to participate in this internship programme?

Shabnam: Ah! I am convinced this programme has the potential to enhance my abilities.

Select the correct option to complete the reporting of the above dialogue.

Sara asked Shabnam in that internship programme. Shabnam sighed and exclaimed that she was convinced that programme had the potential to enhance her abilities.

- A. why to choose to participate
- B. to choose participation
- C. why he had chosen to participate
- D. with her choice in participating

v. Fill the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the concluding line of an issued circular by an Organisation, to its Managers.

A copy of the plan is enclosed and _____ (that/ then/ this) may be communicated to all Team Leaders for compliance.

vi. Identify the error and supply correction for the given sentence from a commercial company's current marketing strategy.

The company aimed at increasing authority in areas frequently visited by the clients.

Use the given format for your response.

error	correction

vii. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the closing line, from an analytical report.

In conclusion, this study explores the association among short-sleep pattern and overweight youngsters.

Option No.	error	correction
A	explores	explore
B	and	or
C	among	between
D	In	for

viii Complete the given narrative, by filling the blank with the correct option.

The experience of nursing an injured bird left me_____grateful for knowing the importance of being kind and compassionate to all creatures. D.feels

A. feeling B. having felt C. felt

ix. Report the dialogue between a vendor and his customer, by completing the sentence:

Vendor: It is nice to see you, Sir!

Customer: Yes, indeed! Unlike last month, I have been away for quite some time this month.

The vendor greeted his customer respectfully and mentioned that he was pleased to see him. The customer answered in the affirmative and explained that_____

x. Fill the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the live feed on a school news channel.

Congratulations Change Makers!

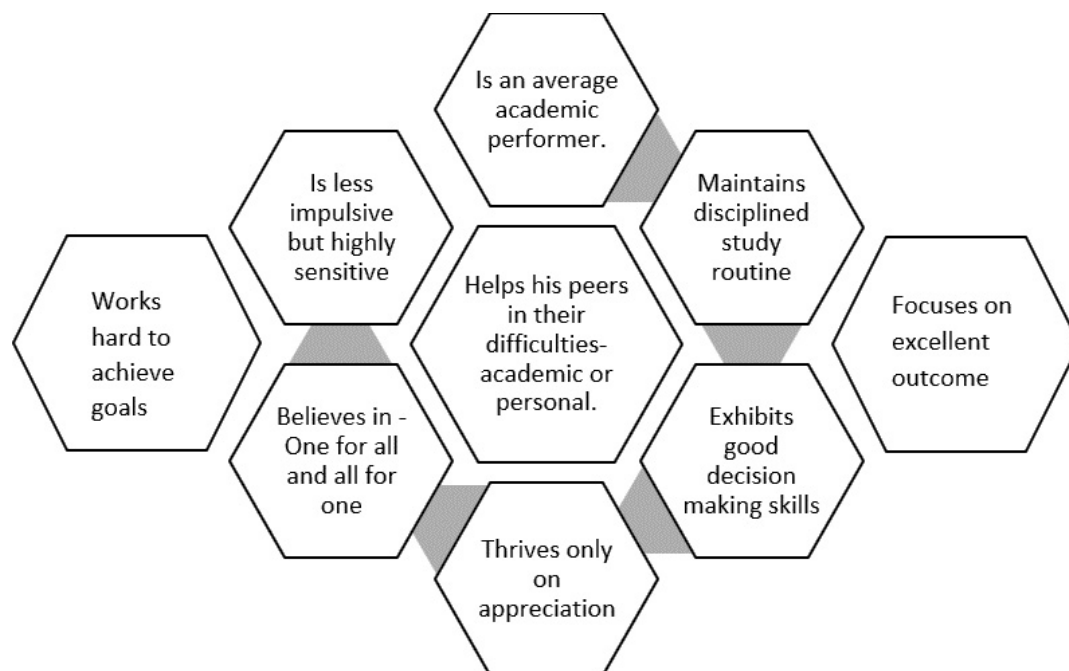
The regional competition awards have been announced and our school music club_____ the first prize.

A. had been won B. will win C. was winning D. has won

WRITING

III. As the head of the music department, write a letter to Delhi Music House placing an order for some musical instruments like Tabla, Harmonium, Guitar, and Flute. You are Ankita/Ajay of HPS School, Aliganj, Hyderabad. Format the order with the name of the instrument, the number of items required, and the preferred brand in a table form.

IV. Tsering, of class X, is contesting for the post of the Junior School Captain, in the upcoming student council elections. Given below is her character traits' graphic, shared in the public domain, by the school counsellor, for the awareness of student voters, at school.



All Tsering's peers have been asked to write a paragraph in about 120 words, analysing these traits, to either support or oppose her candidature. As one of her peers, write this analytical paragraph, by

	selecting some of the traits that support your analysis.	
	SECTION C : LITERATURE	
V.	Read the given extract and answer the questions.	
	<p>The question he tried to answer was simple: What is the purpose of the twelve tiny gold spots on a monarch pupa?</p> <p>"Everyone assumed the spots were just ornamental," Ebright said. "But Dr Urquhart didn't believe it."</p> <p>To find the answer, Ebright and another excellent science student first had to build a device that showed that the spots were producing a hormone necessary for the butterfly's full development. This project won Ebright first place in the county fair and entry into the International Science and Engineering Fair. There he won third place for zoology. He also got a chance to work during the summer at the entomology laboratory of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. (<i>The Making of a Scientist</i>)</p>	
	<p>i) State any one inference about Dr Urquhart from the given context: <i>Everyone assumed the spots were just ornamental," Ebright said. "But Dr Urquhart didn't believe it."</i></p> <p>ii) State TRUE or FALSE. None of the terms (a) -(d) below, can be applied to the question - What is the purpose of the twelve tiny gold spots on a monarch pupa? a) A hypothesis - a proposed explanation for a phenomenon b) An assumption - something that is taken for granted or assumed to be true without proof c) A premise - a proposition that forms the basis of an argument d) A theory - a well-substantiated explanation for a natural phenomenon</p> <p>iii) Ebright's approach towards finding the purpose of the gold spots on a monarch pupa was highly effective. Elaborate in about 40 words, with reference to the extract.</p> <p>iv) Which phrase would correctly substitute 'a chance' , in the given sentence from the extract. <i>He also got a <u>chance</u> to work during the summer at the entomology laboratory of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.</i></p>	
VI.	Read the given extract and answer the questions.	
	<p>But if it had to perish twice, I think I know enough of hate To say that for destruction ice Is also great And would suffice. (<i>Fire and Ice</i>)</p>	
	<p>i) Fill the blank with one word. When the speaker says that ice could also bring about the end of the world , he refers to _____, as the means for destruction.</p> <p>ii) What does the speaker's alignment with those who favour ice, suggest?</p> <p>iii) Which of the following best describes the speaker's attitude towards destruction caused by ice? A) Indifferent B) Fearful C) Dismissive D) Respectful</p> <p>iv) Comment on the poet's use of language in these lines.</p>	
VII.	Answer the following questions, in about 40-50 words.	
	<p>a) Justify the opinion that the traditional baker and his bread play a significant role in the cultural and social fabric of Goan society. (<i>Glimpses of India-I</i>) b) How does Leslie Norris use vivid imagery and metaphorical language in <i>A Tiger in the Zoo</i>, to effectively depict the confinement and oppression, experienced by the captive tiger. c) Kitty was a trusted friend to Anne. Elaborate. (<i>From the Diary of Anne Frank</i>)</p>	
VIII.	Answer the following questions, in about 40-50 words.	
	<p>a) The story, <i>A Triumph of Surgery</i> is a powerful example of the importance of saying "no". Explain. b) The various elements of Robert Arthur's writing style work together to create a sense of tension, uncertainty, and suspense, well-suited to the mystery and suspense genre of the story, <i>The Midnight Visitor</i>. Comment, with reference to any one element.</p>	

IX.	<p>Answer the following question, in about 100-120 words.</p> <p>You have been asked to present an evaluation of the approaches of the mothers of both, the baby seagull and Amanda, towards helping their children. Write this presentation draft including your insights, in about 120 words, comparing the approaches of both parents.</p>	
X.	<p>Answer the following question, in about 100-120 words.</p> <p>A character arc is the transformation or development of a character throughout a story and refers to the changes a character undergoes as a result of their experiences, challenges, and interactions with other characters.</p> <p>In the light of the above information, trace the character arc of the thief in Ruskin Bond's <i>The Thief's Story</i>, in about 120 words.</p>	