Section A  
(Reading – 20 Marks)

Q1. Read the following passage carefully:

BRIDGE ACROSS ERAS

Long before the Chrysler or the Empire State Buildings glinted in the Sun, and even before the Statue of Liberty was unveiled, a marvel of modern engineering became Big Apple's most enduring and appealing landmark, The Brooklyn Bridge.

The Brooklyn Bridge, the oldest and longest suspension bridge in the world and along with its two Stately 275-foot stone towers, is often dubbed as the ‘Eighth Wonder of the World’. It is a 1,825 meters steel-wire engineering marvel that links Manhattan with Brooklyn. On it, on an average 145,000 people drive, walk or bike everyday. For long it has been one of the city’s most popular, recognizable and photogenic sights. And yet, it is more than just a national landmark.

At a time when American women were still struggling for voting rights, equality etc., and when everywhere they were asked ‘to do more and talk less’, a spirited Ms. Emily Warren Roebling did exactly what pleased her in the full glare of public gaze. She was, ‘wife, mother, lecturer, student, world traveller and club woman’ who, by chance, became ‘the first woman field engineer’ and pioneering example of independence.

Emily’s brilliant engineer father-in-law, John Augustus Roebling designed the bridge. But during the construction, a series of mishaps occurred including his death due to tetanus. Emily’s husband, Col. Washington, who was familiar with his father’s bridge construction projects, took over. However, while working on the giant granite anchorages that were being built in caissons or watertight chambers, he was hit by a debilitating disease that paralysed him.

With that the onus fell on Emily to complete the bridge. The intelligent lady was
familiar with the nuances of “strength of materials, stress analysis, cable construction and in calculating catenary curves” — things she learnt from her father-in-law, brother and husband. Then with Washington directing her, often with “spyglass” trained out of the window, Emily communicated with the project team, and with the regulatory authorities, to bring the project to completion. When the bridge finally opened in the spring of 1883, it saw the most ‘exuberant public celebration of era’. As thousands of citizens noisily cheered and paparazzi were out in full force with their new fangled photography half-tone engraving process, US President Chester Arthur along with demure Emily grandly led the first ceremonial ride across the bridge.

Today, as a symbol of the Roebling’s legacy and honour to this amazing woman, the bridge proudly credits her on a plaque; “Back of every great work we can find the self sacrificing devotion of a woman.”

Source - THE HINDU.

I

On the basis of your reading complete the sentences given below:-

(a) The Brooklyn Bridge has been ____________

(b) It was designed by ____________

(c) Colonel Washington was not able to continue with the work started by his father because ____________

(d) Emily Roebling had learnt from her father-in-law, husband and brother ____________

(e) The first ceremonial ride across the bridge was led by ____________

II

Give very short answers:-

(f) When was the bridge opened for public?

(g) How was Emily honoured for her accomplishment?

(h) Why is the passage titled ‘Bridge Across Eras’?

III

Find the synonyms of the words given below, from the passage :-

(i) responsibility (para5)

(j) weakening (para 4)

Q2. Read the following passage carefully:

The New Domino’s Arrives

Bruce Horowitz writes in USA Today that Domino’s Pizza is changing its pizza recipe. It will be a completely new pizza with a different crust, cheese and sauce.

Some observers say that the company is taking a big risk with such a total
Out—did the sparkling waves in glee;
A poet could not be but gay,
In such a jocund company!
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils

By William Wordsworth

(a) The poet was __________
   (I) moving like a cloud
   (II) wandering like a cloud
   (III) hiding like a cloud
   (IV) thinking like a cloud

(b) The poet saw some __________
   (I) daffodils near the lake.
   (II) daffodils in the forest
   (III) daffodils in his garden.
   (IV) daffodils on the milky way

(c) The number of flowers is compared with
   (I) the number of leaves.
   (II) the number of stars.
   (III) the number of clouds
   (IV) the number of people in a crowd
(d) ‘in sprightly dance’ means

(I) in a free dance
(II) in a forceful dance
(III) in a lively dance.
(IV) in a frightful dance.

(e) The company of flowers was

(I) cheerful.
(II) sad.
(III) pathetic.
(IV) of no use.

Section B
(Writing – 25 Marks)

Q4. You are Hrishidev. You receive the following telephone call when your sister is not at home. As you are going out, write a message for her so that she could do the needful. Put the message in a box. (50 words)

Soumya: Hello! Is it 9900228833?
Hrishidev: Yes, may I know who is speaking?
Soumya: I’m Soumya. May I talk to your sister?
Hrishidev: I’m sorry, she has gone to the market. Have you any message to convey?
Soumya: Please tell her to reach the dance class at 5 p.m as the dance teacher wants to go for a picnic at 7 p.m.
Hrishidev: Sure, I’ll convey the message.
Soumya: Thank you, so much.

Q5. Read the information about Jonathan Swift and write a description in about 100 words.

Jonathan Swift
Birth - 1667 in Dublin, Ireland.
1694 - Became a clergyman.
Famous literary works:

1704 - 'Tale of a Tub' got recognition from people.

1726 - Gulliver's Travels. (Best known book)

1745 - died.

Q6. You recently visited a book fair which was organized in your city by the Book Worm Club. You feel that such events are really required as reading habit is dying fast among the youngsters these days. Write an email to your friend describing the fair and your experience of visiting the same in about 120 words. You may take help of the clues given. The format of email is given.

Wide variety of books available under one roof - lucrative offers & schemes for children - got an opportunity to meet some famous authors - bought some rare and expensive books at nominal rates - enriching experience

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Dear [Name]

[Body of the email]

Regards

Name

Q7. Massive poaching in the past two years has wiped out the entire tiger population at many of the tiger reserves in India. The recent headline of one of the leading newspapers screamed "Only 1411 tigers left in India". Write an article titled 'Falling Numbers' raising your concerns about the fast disappearing tiger population in our country and what should be done to save the species from extinction.

Section C
(Grammar – 20 Marks)

Q8. Complete the passage by choosing the correct options from those given in
brackets.

Chennai was (a)_________ first Indian city to have suburban rail established in 1930. Chennai is well-connected by (b)_________ train network. In spite of this history, Chennai (c)_________ not boast of a strong train culture. The problem lies not in the infrastructure (d)_________ in access to these stations. Effective transportation (e)_________ the basis of a successful city. The Metro Rail comes as a breath (f)_________ fresh air to the city. The Metro line by itself (g)_________ do magic. What is (h)_________ is to create an integrated transportation system that feeds into the Metro network.

(a) (i) a (ii) the (iii) an (iv) few
(b) (i) its (ii) many (iii) their (iv) some
(c) (i) did (ii) do (iii) does (iv) will
(d) (i) and (ii) but (iii) for (iv) to
(e) (i) remain (ii) remained (iii) remaining (iv) remains
(f) (i) of (ii) for (iii) in (iv) to
(g) (i) can (ii) cannot (iii) will (iv) won’t
(h) (i) important (ii) importance (iii) importantly (iv) importance’s

Q9. Complete the following paragraph using suitable option from the ones given below:

A young man was apprenticed to a quack. Surgery (a) ______ by almost anyone. Crude methods of treatment (b) ______. Many deaths (c) ______ thus. Now, those crude methods (d) ______ due to progress in surgery.

(a) (i) practised (ii) is practised (iii) was being practised (iv) was practised
(b) (i) is adopted (ii) were adopted (iii) are adopting

(4 marks)
Q10. Look at the words and phrases below. Rearrange them to form meaningful sentences. Write the correct sentences in your answer sheet.

extremely dry / are places / that are / deserts

Deserts are places that are extremely dry.

(a) the / in these places / less than / annual rainfall / is / 25 cm
(b) deserts / for / like Sahara / remain / years / dry
(c) burning hot / the day / such deserts / are / during
(d) the same / freezing cold / deserts are / at night

Q11. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each of the nine lines. Write the incorrect word and the correction as given in the example. Also underline the correct word you have supplied.

This is not to say there were
no limits on how fastly a human
being can run or how many
weight a person may lift or how
well one can do the particular task. The
point is: we really know what this

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limits are. Therefore, few of us (g) __________
too often set our individual limits for (h) __________
below which we could actually achieve. (i) __________

Q12. Read the dialogue given below and complete the paragraph that follows: (4 marks)

Mother: What are you doing?

Geeta: I am watching TV.

Mother: When is your next paper?

Geeta: It is on Monday.

Mother: Then why are you not studying?

Mother asked Geeta (a) __________. Geeta replied that (b) __________. At that mother asked her (c) __________. Geeta said that it was on Monday. Mother asked her then (d) __________.

Section D
(Literature – 25 Marks)

Q13. A. Read the extract and answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate options. (3x3=9 marks)

And fast before her father’s men

Three days we’ve fled together,

For he should find us in the glen,

My blood would stain the heather.

1. The poet’s name is __________
   (i) John Keats
   (ii) P.B Shelley
   (iii) Thomas Campbell
   (iv) William Wordsworth

2. Before her father’s men - ‘her’ refers to __________
   (i) Ullin’s daughter
   (ii) the queen
3. The tone of the speaker here is ____________.
   (i) hasty
   (ii) panicky
   (iii) happy
   (iv) anxious

B. Read the given extract and answer the following questions.
When two fellows stare at each other day in, day out, and one can't move and the other can't talk, boredom sets in.

(1) Who are the two fellows referred to here?
(2) Why is 'one' unable to move?
(3) How do they finally manage to overcome the boredom?

C. Read the given extract and answer the following questions.
Juliette : One hundred francs!
Maid : Yes, Madme. And as you only pay me four hundred a month, I can't very well refuse, can I, Madame?

(1) What is the significance of 'one hundred francs'?
(2) What quality of the maid is revealed in the above dialogue?
(3) What can't the maid refuse?

Q14. Answer any four of the following questions in about 30-40 words each (2x4=8 marks)

(i) What guesses does the poet make about the theme of the Solitary Reaper's song?
(ii) What do the two roads stand for in the poem The Road Not Taken?
(iii) What special characteristics did Duke exhibit to prove that he was an extraordinary dog?
(iv) What made the grandmother identify herself with the novel's protagonist?
(v) Juliette says '"... now I have one thought that is to get the wretched place off my hands, I would sacrifice it at any price. ' Does she stick to her words? Why/Why not?

Q15. Answer the following questions in about 150 words.
'I want to be independent'. What does it tell you about the theme of 'How I Taught my Grandmother to Read'?
OR

Imagine yourself as the poet Wordsworth. You had a wonderful experience listening to the song of the highland girl while out for a walk in the countryside. Write an article expressing the feelings evoked by her song.