SECTION-A (READING)

1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. (8 marks)

It was a chilly winter morning. I was about to leave for my office. I was just packing my bag when I heard the doorbell. When I saw through the peephole, I found a young, shabby looking girl with a small paper and some money in her hand. I opened the door, without speaking, she innocently gestured to me to read a paper, which she was holding.

I took the paper from her and started reading it. It said, “I am a deaf and dumb girl. My father died in the earthquake. I stay with my mother. She too is suffering from cancer. I am very poor. Please give me some money. God bless you!” Having read the paper, I felt sorry for her and gave her fifty rupees and some old clothes. She felt very happy.
After fifteen minutes, I left for my office. I had just reached the bus stop when I realized that I was duped. Oh! My God, I could not believe my eyes. I saw that same girl who had come to my house. She was not deaf and dumb. She was shouting at another girl. I felt terribly cheated and was shocked. When I approached her, she ran away. I was so deeply hurt that now I am reluctant to give money to any beggar.

Questions: 

(A) What was the narrator doing when the small girl came? 
(B) What did the small girl pretend to be? 
(C) What was written on the paper? 
(D) Why did the narrator feel duped? 
(E) What did the narrator decide after being duped? 
(F) Give the words from the passage which means the following. 
   (i) Worn out 
   (ii) Signal 
   (iii) Tricked 
   (iv) Unwilling 
   (v) Reached 
   (vi) One who cannot hear and speak

2. Read the following poem carefully and answer the questions that follow: (7 marks)

A BIRD CAME DOWN THE WALK

A bird came down the walk:
He did not know I saw;
He bit an angle-worm in halves
And ate the fellow, raw.

And then he drank a dew
From a convenient grass,
And then hopped sidewise to the wall
To let a beetle pass.

He glanced with rapid eyes

(2)
That hurried all abroad,
They looked like frightened beads, I thought
He stirred his velvet head
Like one in danger; cautious,
I offered him a crumb,
And he unrolled his feathers
And rowed him softer home
Than oars divide the ocean,
To silver for a seam,
Or butterflies, off banks of noon,
Leap, splash less, as they swim.

Questions:

(A) The bird ate a ...(i) .................................................................

The bird drank a ...(ii) .........................from grass.

The bird's eyes were like...(iii) .................................

The poet offered the bird a ...(iv) .................................

(B) What did the bird do when it saw a beetle? ............................... (1 mark)

(C) What did the bird do when it was offered a crumb? ......................... (1 mark)

(D) Pick any one word or phrase from the poem that suggests bird's fear. ............... (1 mark)

(E) The fine and smooth movement of the bird as it flies away is compared to the seamless rowing of a boat in an .......................... or the movement of the .......................... as they escape the midday heat by swimming in the liquid coolness of air. .............. (2×1/2=1 mark)

(F) Pick a word from the poem that means same as -
To look quickly or briefly ....................................................... (1 mark)

SECTION -B (WRITING)

3. Based on the biographical information given below, arrange the events in a chronological sequence. .......................................................... (4 marks)

(i) He then wrote many short stories and more than ten novels.

(ii) After some time he gave up his teaching career to become a writer.

(3) E-vi

P.T.O.
(iii) He received his higher education at Maharaja College in Mysore.
(iv) The famous Indian novelist R.K. Narayan was born in Chennai in 1906. His father was a headmaster.
(vi) Films and television serials have been made on some of his novels.
(vii) He received the prestigious Sahitya Academy and Padma Bhushan awards for his writings.
(viii) He began his career as a school teacher in a village.

4. You are Amit Singh, the head boy of Blue Bells School. Draft a notice for the students of classes VI to VIII about a day long visit to the Red Fort. Invent the necessary details. (5 marks)

5. Rewrite the following procedure of making mango shake, in the form of six instructions. (6 marks)

Two big mangoes are taken and peeled. They are then cut into small pieces. After that the pieces are put in a blender and a glass of milk is added. Two teaspoons of sugar are also mixed. It is then poured into glasses. Ice cubes are added and the mango shake is served.

6. You are Gita Nair. You went to the zoo with your friends last week. You are disturbed by the unhygienic conditions and the way the animals are kept there. Write a letter to your cousin expressing your concern and feelings. (10 marks)

(Hints: litter and garbage in places, small cages, food articles thrown around, dirty water to drink etc.)

SECTION-C (GRAMMAR)

7. Fill in the blanks using suitable modals. (3 marks)

(i) They ...............be at home now.
(ii) We ...............love our neighbour.
(iii) Soldiers ...............obey the orders of their officers.

8. Fill in the blanks with the Present Perfect Continuous form of the verb given in the bracket. (3 marks)

(a) Mike ...............(ride) a bicycle since morning.
(b) He ...............(drive) continuously for five hours.
(c) I ...............(try) to contact her all day.
9. Do as directed: (9 marks)
   (a) We helped ................ to some lemonade at the party. {reflexive pronoun}
   (b) The children cleaned the room ...................... {reflexive pronoun}
   (c) Unscramble the letters to get the name of a bird. EUTRLUV
   (d) My sister ................ a story in her class. {recited/narrated}
   (e) The cruel hunter ................ the bird’s nest. ‘pull’ phrasal verb
   (f) There was ................ (order) in the kingdom in the absence of the king. (add a prefix to form a word opposite in meaning)
   (g) While playing in the park, I dropped my keys on the .......... (floor/ground)
   (h) In the middle of the night, I heard someone ................ with pain. (groan/grown)
   (i) The children were very excited to go on an ................ to the museum. (voyage/excursion)

SECTION-D (Literature)

10. Answer any four questions in about 20-30 words. (4×2=8 marks)
   (i) Gopal was unable to see the Viceroy. Why? Give reason.
   (ii) Explain why the ant did not help the cricket?
   (iii) Were Sam and Bill able to buy the land? Why/Why not?
   (iv) In which season did the cricket go to the ant and why?
   (v) In the lesson ‘The Miracle Merchant’ who promises to make the miracle happen and why?

11. Answer the following in about 30-40 words: (3×3=9 marks)
   (i) How is the free bird different from the caged bird? (write at least three differences)
   (ii) John Bragger was a typical character. How?
   (iii) How does Louis try to frighten Jane?

12. Imagine you are Sam. Write a diary entry for the day you receive the letter from Ebenezer Dorset, describing your feelings after reading the letter. (120-130 words)

   OR

Think yourself as Gopal. Write a letter to your friend telling him about the ‘special occasion’ from beginning till the end. (120-130 words) (8 marks)

(5)