

SECTION A – READING SKILLS

1. i. Often/reactive approach.
 ii. Parents become reactive when they discover their children engaging in behaviours they disapprove of. Their reaction often involves lectures, and if that does not work, they resort to shouting and punishing their children, eliciting feelings of anger or indifference from them.
 iii. (d) Values and emotions.
 iv. The NHA focuses on reforming parents to reform children, as the mindset and actions of parents greatly influence their children's behaviour. By refusing to fuel negativity and emphasizing their child's positives, parents can nurture their wholesome seed and encourage positive behaviour. This redirects the child's energy away from negativity and towards their inherent good qualities.
 v. The passage states that parents following the NHA "look for every opportunity to energize the positive in the child". They give persistent appreciation even for smaller acts of goodness like sharing pizza, hard work in projects and standing up to bullies.
 vi. The "This approach" referred to in paragraph 5, is not just about noticing when the child is being good, it is about recognizing the child's worth at every step. It differs from the previous approach by going beyond reprimanding or praising for specific acts. Instead, it constantly validates the child's inherent qualities and strengths, which helps instil in the child a sense of self-worth and adheres them away from negativity.
 vii. (B) You demonstrated patience while teaching your junior.
 viii. (B) to stop criticizing.
 ix. (B) (c) and (e).
 x. What blossoms in a child depends on the seeds we nurture—either negative seeds or wholesome seeds.
2. i. True.
 ii. Essentials for digitization of education are:
 - Computer/computer hardware/computer software.
 - Internet.
 iii. (b) Teachers can enhance their teaching ability and provide more value to the students.
 iv. than ever in addressing educational disparity
 v. (b) crucial
 vi. (b) educating learners, job opportunities for educators and technical teams
 vii. it will impact the country's development
 viii. India's EdTech market size is expected to increase 3.7 times in the next five years.

SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

3. Lotus Valley Public School, Ahmedabad

NOTICE

Powered by QualCrypt

21 January 20XX

Theatre Workshop

The school is hosting a Theatre or Dramatics Workshop for senior students (Classes IX-XII) during the winter break, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the School Assembly Hall. To get yourself registered you need to pay ₹200. Interested students must submit their names and money in a labelled envelope to their class teachers by 25 January 2023.

Head Boy/Head girl

Sunil/Sunila.

OR

Drama Club

Oxford Public School, Bengaluru

7th November, 2023

NOTICE

Spread Joy This Children's Day!

Drama Club Members,

Let's celebrate Children's Day by bringing smiles to others! We're visiting Mahi Old age Home on (November 14th) Venue: Meet in the school lobby at 10:00 A.M.

We'll be performing a short skit and interacting with the residents. To add to the cheer, please contribute **vegetarian** snacks/fruits (enough to share).

Aman/Archana

President,

Drama Club

4. Springdales Public School,

Gurgaon.

25th Sept. 20XX

Sh. B.S. Bedi

2/27 Jorbagh

New Delhi

Sir,

Sub: To Inaugurate the T-20 Cricket Championship

Our school is organizing an inter-school T-20 cricket championship from 2nd Oct. to 8th Oct. 20XX. All the schools of the area are invited to participate and make it a grand successful tournament. Your presence in our midst will motivate and will inspire all of us. You are requested to inaugurate the championship on 2nd Oct. 20XX at 10 a.m. in our school premise. Kindly request you to spare some time from your busy schedule and confirm us by 30th Sept.

Yours faithfully,

Sachin Bansal,

Head Boy.

OR

Mrs. and Mr. Krishnamurthi
solicit your gracious presence
at the pre-wedding party to celebrate
their son's marriage
on 25th July 20xx
at 7:30 PM
at INVITATION BANQUET HALL
Model Town, Delhi – 110009

R.S.V.P.

Vinit Krishnamurthi

5. 121, Bank street

Kanpur

10th December, 20XX

The Editor

The Times of India

Kanpur

Subject: Simple weddings better than exuberant ones

Sir,

Through the medium of this letter, I would like to express my concern over the meaningless display of wealth during weddings these days. In the present day, lavish weddings have become a trend. Hotels, farmhouses and banquet halls are booked months in advance. Even lower-middle-class families are entertaining more than a thousand guests and consequently, they have to pay debts for months and sometimes for years too. No stone is left unturned to fulfill the desire of pretentiousness of being affluent in front of society. There is no denying of the fact that a wedding is indeed an important occasion but this moment of joy should not become a burden for families. We need to invite only our relatives and close friends for a wedding. An overcrowded gathering only leads to chaos and unnecessary expenditure. It is always better to have a simple wedding ceremony and an amount can be set aside to give to the couple to start their new life.

I hope my letter gets some space in your newspaper so that, through this trusted medium, people understand that money should not unnecessarily be wasted on exuberant wedding celebrations but should be used to invest in building the foundation of a happy

married life.
Yours sincerely
Ram

OR

A-7, Shanti Park
Delhi
16 December 2019
The Manager
NCR Group of Hotels
Delhi

Subject: Application for the Post of Receptionist

Sir,

In response to your advertisement in the Hindustan Times dated December 20, 2019, for the post of a receptionist, I hereby offer my candidature for the same.

I possess the requisite qualifications and experience. I want to join your hotels to fully utilize my potential.

You may call me for an interview on any date at your convenience. I shall be able to join my duties at one month's notice if appointed. I am enclosing my detailed resume for your perusal.

Thank You

Sudha/Sudhir

Enclosure: Detailed Resume

Resume / Bio Data

- Name: Sudha / Sudhir
- Father's Name: Mr. Subhas
- Age: 25 Years
- Address: A-7, Shanti Park, Delhi
- Hobbies: Music, Net Surfing, Photography, Sports
- Languages Known: Hindi, English
- Nationality: Indian
- Educational Qualifications:
 - Passed Secondary Exam. from CBSE with 8.5 CGPA
 - Passed Senior Secondary Exam. from CBSE with distinction
 - Passed Graduation from Delhi University with first division
- Professional Qualification:
 - Diploma in Computers from Aptech with first division
- Experience:
 - Worked as a receptionist with the ABC group of companies for 2 years
- Expected Salary: Negotiable
- References:

- i. Dr. Mohit Aggarwal
(Surgeon), GTB Hospital, Delhi
- ii. Mr. Ashok Kumar
Principal
AB Public School, Delhi

6.

Rising Prices: An Ordeal for Common Man

Nalini

A rise in prices, economists say, is a sign of development and prosperity. However, during the last two decades, prices of almost all the essential commodities have been increasing at an alarming rate. These soaring prices have caused great unrest and frustration among the people. The people belonging to the middle class and the salaried people are hit hard.

The prices of petrol, cooking gas, kerosene oil, and several other items of daily use are increasing every year. Not only that, railway fares, airfares, and bus and taxi charges are also increasing regularly. There are many causes of the unprecedented rise in prices. Inflation, black marketing, hoarding, faulty credit system, overpopulation and improper system of distribution are some of the major causes of hike in prices.

There should be an equitable distribution through fair price shops. Shopkeepers should be directed to display the stock of essential commodities along with their prices. Those people who buy things in the black market should be punished. Production of food should be increased. Sincere efforts should be made to stabilize the prices of essential commodities. Let us hope that the government will be able to bring down soaring prices. What is needed is the right intention and the force of will.

OR

Revive Playtime: Symposium Highlights the Importance of Play

By John, Budding Journalist

Pune

September 11, 2024

The symposium on 'Play Time - The Vanishing Joy of Childhood' brought together students and teachers from various schools to discuss the critical role of play in children's development. The event emphasized that play shapes better personalities, builds physical and mental health, develops life skills, and keeps children in touch with nature.

Group discussions highlighted how playing makes children fitter and the benefits of unstructured play over high-tech toys. Participants argued that spontaneous group play fosters essential life skills such as teamwork, problem-solving, and creativity. Teachers shared insights on how unstructured playtime allows children to explore their environment and develop a deeper connection with nature.

The symposium concluded with a call to action for parents and educators to prioritize play in children's daily routines, ensuring they grow up to be well-rounded individuals. The event was a resounding success, shedding light on the importance of reviving playtime in today's fast-paced world.

SECTION C - LITERATURE

7. i. As bold and fearless
ii. Because they live in dense green forests
iii. Aabb
iv. move about or leap
v. a. (1) is true but (2) is false.
vi. Chivalric

OR

- i. (A) Beauty provides security and peace.
ii. Because it is a joy forever. It never fades nor is it ever devalued.
iii. The phrase "a bower quiet" suggests the quality of peace and harmony/good health/sweet dreams/quiet breathing.
iv. True
v. (B) sweep.
vi. (A) rejuvenation
8. i. Charley had asked for two tickets to old Galesburg in 1894's time. He asked for a pair of tickets for himself and his wife.
ii. When Charley offered money to the booking clerk, the latter stared at Charley because the booking clerk (a) **thought it wasn't money**.
iii. Charley was portrayed to be an (d) **escapist**. He always desired to get away from the harsh realities of the world because he was an escapist
iv. 'If you're trying to skin me' suggests to rob or cheat someone.
In this sentence, the individual is cautioning someone against attempting to steal or deceive him for money.

OR

- i. (b) Derry; Mr. Lamb
ii. (b) People are repulsed by his appearance.
iii. When I look in the mirror, and see it, I'm afraid of me **because of my reflection that reminds me of my ugliness and makes me feel depressed and scared.**
iv. According to Derry, Mr. Lamb, like everyone else, would feel sympathetic towards him, but he would also harbor fear towards him because of his appearance. The statement indicates a deeper complexity to his character beyond mere sympathy or pity.
9. i. "Revived unpleasant memories and stirred childish fears."
ii. The writer tries to learn by paddling with water wings and watching and imitating the other boys.
iii. (A) Unpleasant memories.
iv. Confidence and fear.
v. Douglas aped the other boys to learn how to swim by observing and mimicking their techniques.

vi. It recounts the personal experiences and emotions of the narrator, providing a first-person perspective on overcoming fear.

OR

i. Gandhi agreed to the settlement to demonstrate that the landlords were not above the law and to restore the peasants' rights and self-respect.

ii. unanimously.

iii. The settlement forced the landlords to surrender part of their money and prestige, making them acknowledge the peasants' rights and reducing their dominance.

iv. (C) The landlords had to refund the money.

v. The peasants realized that they had rights and defenders and that they could challenge unjust practices and demand fair treatment.

vi. The landlords considered themselves superior and not accountable to legal or ethical standards.

10. Answer any five of the following questions in 40-50 words each:

(i) The crofter was kind and generous as he lived all alone. He wanted to talk to someone. Being a generous host he offered food, tobacco and played cards with the Peddler.

(ii) The poet's parting words of assurance and her smiles provide a stark contrast to the old familiar ache or fear of childhood. Her words and smiles are a deliberate attempt to hide her real feelings. The parting words: "See you soon, Amma" give an assurance to the old lady whose 'ashen face' looks like a corpse. Similarly, her continuous smiles are an attempt to overcome the ache and fear inside her heart.

(iii) According to the poet, the city folks are mean and selfish. They refuse to extend any kind of support to the rural poor. Although they are rich, yet they are very possessive about their money. The city folks are so carried by their lifestyle that they have no time to stand and appreciate nature's beauty. They show no compassion and concern for the poor villagers.

(iv) Sophie found in her brother, Geoff, a patient listener to all her fantasies. Also, she thought that there were many things about his life that only he knew, and she also wanted to know about them. This made her long for his affection.

(v) The visit of Stephen Spender raised many queries and doubts in the minds of those who were working in Gemini Studios. His name was unfamiliar, and his credentials too were unconfirmed. No one could understand his speech, so everyone wondered why he had come to a film studio that made Tamil films for simple people who had no interest in English poetry.

Years later, when Asokamitran was out of Gemini Studios, he bought a pile of brand-new books at a reduced price from a footpath in front of Madras Mount Road Post Office. In a book 'The God That Failed' six eminent writers had described their journeys into communism. It was in this book that he came across the name of Stephen Spender and finally discovered the identity of the English visitor to the Studios.

(vi) Umberto Eco considered himself an academic scholar first and then a novelist. He wrote more scholarly articles as compared to novels; and he attended academic conferences over meetings of Pen Clubs and writers. According to him, he was a university professor who wrote novels on Sundays.

11. Answer any two of the following questions in 40-50 words each:

(i) Antarctica is very much unique as well as specific than other parts of the globe. It is completely devoid of human markers and more than 90 per cent of the earth's total ice-volumes are stored on this sub-continent. In the beginning there was no life except flora and fauna. There are neither trees nor buildings. So we lose all earthly sense of perspective and time there. There is a day of 24 hours.

(ii) The doctor saved the life of the prisoner of war because as a doctor, he was taught to save the lives of others whenever they would need him.

(iii) Tishani Doshi is a sun-worshipping South Indian and for her to spend two weeks in a place where 90 percent of the Earth's total ice volumes are stored is a chilling prospect, not just for circulatory and metabolic functions, but also for the imagination.

12. **Owner of a roadside stand:** Your bangles are pretty. Tell me about your experience in this business.

Bangle Maker: Thank you. I have been making bangles for as long as I can remember. It's a family business, and we have been doing it for generations. But it's not an easy business. The cry of not having money to do anything except carry on the business of making bangles, not even enough to eat, rings in every home. We barely make enough to survive.

Owner of a roadside stand: I understand. It's tough out here for small businesses. But I have to say, your bangles are beautiful. Have you ever thought about expanding your business?

Bangle Maker: We have tried, but it's not easy. We don't have the resources to expand, and we don't have the connections to get our products to the city. It's a struggle just to make ends meet.

Owner of a roadside stand: I know what you mean. I come from a small village too. But I started this roadside stand, and it's

been doing well. Far from the city, we make our roadside stand and ask for some city money to feel in hand. It's not much, but it's enough to survive.

Bangle Maker: That's impressive. Maybe I should try something like that.

Owner of a roadside stand: You should. You have a great product, and people would love to buy it. You just need to find a way to get it out there. Don't give up on your dreams.

Bangle Maker: Thank you for the encouragement. I will think about it.

OR

Dear William,

I recently read your autobiographical book "Of Men and Mountains" and was truly inspired by your journey of conquering fear. Your determination and resilience in facing your deepest fears are commendable.

In my poem "Keeping Quiet," I speak of the importance of stillness and introspection. I urge people to take a moment of silence to reflect on their actions. Your journey of conquering fear required you to delve into introspection and confront your fears head-on. Your determination and courage are truly remarkable.

I appreciate how you have shown that fear is not something to be avoided or ignored, but rather something to be confronted and conquered. Your story serves as an inspiration to others who may be rushing against the timeline, fearing the unknown. You have shown that it is possible to overcome our fears and live life to the fullest.

People often fear death in vain, as it is destined for all. However, they fail to identify the real fear that holds them back from truly living. Your journey exemplifies the importance of facing our fears and embracing life with open arms.

I hope your story will inspire people who are rushing against the timeline. Your efforts to conquer fear are truly commendable, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

Warmly,

Pablo Neruda

13. The king has now doubled the land tax this week. We are under a constant state of terror fearing what crazy step would he take now. He came to know his fate that a tiger will be the cause of his demise when he was only ten days old prince. Later when he became the Maharaja of Pratibandapuram at the age of twenty, he issued a proclamation not to kill the tigers except by himself. Since then, his quest for tigers began. He managed to kill only seventy tigers until his forests became extinct. Then he married a princess whose father had a large forest cover full of tigers. There he killed more and reached ninety-nine tigers. Now he has gone insane not finding the hundredth one. Being a man of authority, he has been misusing his power by being cruel towards the innocent beast.

This insane man is unaware of the fact that nobody can alter fate. People may call him to be a brave, courageous king but I personally think he lacks worldly wisdom. He is such a self-centered person that he sacrificed everything (wife, son, subject) for killing tigers.

OR

Injustice in any form cannot escape being noticed even by children. The world has been gripped in a web of stratification, oppression, and discrimination at many levels. While the adults have grown used to this, the innocence of childhood does not understand hatred and prejudice. That is why my observant sister Bama found the sight of the old man of our community handling a snack pack in a very strange manner and then offering it to the landlord amusing. But when I had to reveal the reality behind this strange way of carrying the packet to this inquisitive girl, she was fraught with disgust grows angry over the upper caste people. She got so infuriated at being discriminated but I tried to convince her that our Dalit community could uplift their identity through education or else they would be always looked down upon.

Any blooming soul like Bama, when subjected to such evil practices, their sensitive minds and hearts are deeply affected. Perplexed, they often resist in their own simple ways.