

SECTION A – READING SKILLS

1.
 - i. (ii) Worked on the improvement of their lives
 - ii. The plane crash in 1975 led to the turning point in the author and his father's life. Author's mother and my youngest sister Belinda were flying on that plane to join his father in the Himalayas.
 - iii. The author's father came out of the dark phase in his life by engaging himself in social service.
 - iv. (iii) intensity
 - v. (i) He proved to be an excellent mountaineer
 - vi. The author considered himself to be lucky because he could learn from his father's experiences.
 - vii. Because he was born in a family of mountaineers.
 - viii. You shall climb mountains
 - ix. (ii) outskirts
 - x. In 1975, the narrator's mother and youngest sister, Belinda, were killed when their small airplane crashed shortly after take-off from Kathmandu while they were flying to join the narrator's father in the Himalayas.
2.
 - i. True : if the statement agrees with the information.
The statement aligns with the information provided in paragraph 1, which states that less than 20 percent of teens report reading a book, magazine, or newspaper daily for pleasure, while more than 80 percent say they use social media every day.
 - ii. (d) The research aims to investigate the significant shift in teenagers' media consumption habits, particularly the decline in time spent on traditional media like books, newspapers, and magazines, in favor of digital media.
 - iii. time on digital media has displaced time once spent on reading or watching TV. This indicates a significant shift in media consumption habits towards digital platforms.
 - iv. Yes, the researchers of the study added tenth and eighth graders to the survey deliberately in order to get a better and more comprehensive understanding of how teens are using digital media. By including younger teens in the survey, the researchers were able to get a more accurate picture of how digital media is impacting teens of all ages.
 - v. (b) The concluding sentence emphasizes the challenge young people face in focusing for long periods and engaging with long-form text due to their over-reliance on digital media. Therefore, the text underscores the importance of reading long texts as a core competency for analysis and application.
 - vi. pleasure
 - vii. Although it is true that digital media has become increasingly popular with teenagers, there is evidence that suggests that the amount of time spent reading books and watching TV has not decreased as drastically as suggested. A study published by the American Psychological Association in 2019 showed that, although digital media use has increased, the amount of time spent reading books and watching TV has remained relatively stable.
 - viii. (a) The statement in para 6 implies that the time spent on digital media is diminishing the time that could have been allocated to traditional media such as print books and newspapers.

SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

NATIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL, RAMNAGAR

NOTICE

Change in School Timings

4th January 20XX

Students are hereby informed that with effect from 20th of January, school shall start at 9 AM instead of 8 AM, due to certain contractual issues with the private buses plying for the school. Timings will remain as it is until these issues are completely resolved. . Any inconvenience caused is deeply regretted.

3. Principal

OR

Resident Welfare Association

Navi Mumbai

Notice

12 August 2023

Water Supply Disruption

In light of essential pipeline repair and maintenance, residents are informed of a temporary water service suspension from Friday, 18 August, 8:00 a.m., until Sunday, 20 August, 9:00 a.m. Water tankers will be available on R.W.A. premises from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. during these days.

Anuj/Anu
Secretary
Saket Kunj
Saket, Navi Mumbai

Pratibha Kapoor Hospital
Patiala

13 October 2023
St. Ann's Senior Secondary School
TVS Nagar
Chennai

Subject: Acceptance of invitation for giving a speech on health -A dietary journey.

Sir,

I sincerely thank you for giving me the supreme chance to educate the senior secondary students on the crucial topic like health. I request you to kindly share other details like the time, date, and venue where the event will be organised. I look forward to attending the event.

Best regards,
Dr. B.L Kapoor

OR

C/71, Azadpur
Palghat

29 April, 2023

AK- 91, Shalimar Bagh
New Delhi

Dear [Cousin's Name],

Thank you so much for inviting me to your housewarming party. I am thrilled to hear about your new home and can't wait to celebrate with you. I will be there on 27th May at 1 p.m. on the given address. Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Best regards,
[Akshat/Ankita]

5. B-7/9, Mall Road Delhi

14th March, 20XX

The Editor The National Times New Delhi

Subject: Importance of Women Education

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I would like to draw the attention of one and all towards the importance of women's education. Women are the pillars on which the growth and development of a family, society, and nation depend. But she is the victim of patriarchal outlook and conservative mindset in the society. She is not given much importance in the field of education. This is more so in rural India. People do not take into consideration that both genders have equal interests and are equally efficient in learning. Imparting education to women will make them financially independent. More opportunities for farming girl children should be introduced. I request you to publish this letter of mine so that people may think over it and start educating their girl child also. Initiatives should be taken to spread awareness regarding the education of females for their better tomorrow.

Thanking you
Yours sincerely
Taruna

OR

C-40, Ashok Vihar
New Delhi
1 April 2019
The Advertiser
Box. No. 8365
C/o The Times of India
New Delhi
Dear Sir,

Subject: Application for the post of sales assistant

In response to your advertisement published in 'The Times of India', dated 20 March 2019, stating the requirement of young and fresh graduates as sales assistants, I offer my candidature for the same.

I have passed my B. Com. (Hons) from S.R.C.C. Delhi, securing 75% marks. I am a zestful and potential student of 21 years. The challenges that the above-mentioned post offers me are big and I am excited to face them under the guidance of your expert team with full enthusiasm for my personal growth and the organisation as well. I enjoy sound health and pleasing personality. I have a reasonably good command over both Hindi and English and possess convincing power and good communication skills which, I hope, make me eligible for this position.

If selected, I shall certainly prove myself worthy of the post. If you find my profile worthy of it, please feel free to call me at any time suitable to you. I would be glad to come in for an interview.

Yours truly

Chetan Sharma

BIO-DATA

Name	Chetan Sharma
Father's Name	Sh. Mohan Lal Sharma
Address	C-40, Ashok Vihar, New Delhi
Date of Birth	15 September 1998
Educational Qualifications	(i) B.Com (Hons.) in the year 2019 (75%) (ii) CBSE (10+2) Passing year 2016 (83%)
Salary Expected	Rs.15,000pm + perks
Marital Status	Unmarried
Language Known	Hindi, English

6.

How to Provide Proper Healthcare to the Common Man

by Karuna

We all know that a common person faces many problems regarding health in India. Every day a common man is exposed to so many unhygienic places as well as contaminated air and food.

Health care has always remained farce in the government hospitals, where lack of common facilities and technology is often observed. The basic requirements needed for the patients are ignored let alone the inclusion of high technology. As health is a matter of serious concern, everyone has the right to get proper healthcare. It is ironical that not all of us are so fortunate as the infrastructure in the government and municipal hospitals are very poor, and doctors do not work with as much dedication as they do at their own personal clinics. Sanitation problems are also seen in public hospitals. The commercialisation of healthcare is good only for the people who can afford the best care, but we must be able to distinguish between mere advertising and marketing of few products done by companies for money making and their actual utility. Similarly, some provisions should be made in all private hospitals for the impoverished, common people and all those who need help and care. These provisions may be provided to BPL cardholders, persons having low annual salary, and similar other people. The government should also have some arrangement for the poor to subsidise costly medicines. They may do so by making pharmaceutical companies reduce their prices suitably. Such measures will definitely help in providing better healthcare to the common man.

OR

Diamond Jubilee of India's Independence

by Anita

Gwalior, 17th August, 20XX: This year our school celebrated the Diamond Jubilee of India's independence with great fervour and fanfare at the National Stadium. It was most heartening to see the zest and zeal of the students and the teachers to ensure the

success of the show. Dr Ashok Vetal, Minister of Education, was the chief guest. He initiated the programme by unfurling the national flag. Our chairman then, through his speech, welcomed all the distinguished guests and parents. After his speech, our students put up a colourful and extravagant display of dance, music and drama depicting the various cultures and traditions of the different states of India. Everyone present there appreciated and applauded the efforts taken by students to highlight India's 'Unity in Diversity'.

The chief guest gave away the prizes after the cultural show. He appreciated the commendable efforts taken by the teachers and students to host such a wonderful programme to celebrate the free spirit of independent India. The show concluded after our principal presented the vote of thanks.

SECTION C - LITERATURE

7. i. II and IV
ii. All I said was, see you soon, Amma
iii. pale
iv. pale as a late winter's moon
v. I is true, but II is false
vi. The poetess hides her fear, anxiety and worries about being separated from her mother behind her face and assures her mother with her smile.

OR

- i. The farmers dashed hopes
ii. vain
iii. stop
iv. All of these
v. c. (2) is the reason for (1).
vi. childish longing
8. i. All of these
ii. To walk slowly
iii. ten
iv. That the speaker could be easily distracted.

OR

- i. Seeing the messenger, Hana was apprehensive of Dr. Sadao's arrest.
ii. (b) there was a medical emergency
iii. (b) her fear
iv. exhausted
9. i. it is his last French lesson.
ii. a. (1) Can be inferred from the extract but (2) cannot.
iii. Perplexed
iv. Items like a stick and grenadier are now variable.
v. German,
vi. Thunderclap

OR

- i. The big loss the children face working there is the losing of the brightness of their eyes.
ii. illusory and indistinct.
iii. i and iv
iv. Firozabad has emerged as a nascent producer of bangles in the country.
v. Every other family in Firozabad is engaged in making bangles.
vi. Simile
10. Answer any five of the following questions in 40-50 words each:
- (i) Douglas' introduction to the YMCA pool revived his childhood fear of water. He recalled how he got frightened, knocked-down and buried under the water by powerful waves at the beach when he was four years old.
- (ii) In "Keeping Quiet," Pablo Neruda advocates for moments of stillness, asserting that during these pauses, destructive behaviours, wars, and self-misery can subside. The poem urges a reconnection with nature and the rediscovery of one's inner identity, fostering kindness and respect. Even in apparent silence, Neruda suggests, the potential for life persists, envisioning a world where even fishermen spare whales, and the entire planet thrives.

- (iii) Generally 'wedding band' is a symbol of joy and happiness. But in case of Aunt Jennifer, it has become a symbol of torture and oppression. Her marriage has become a painful burden to carry. Her 'wedding band' has brought her a world of pain, misery and torture. She has lost her freedom.
- (iv) Sophie didn't want to talk to Jansie about Danny Casey because she knew that Jansie was mostly interested in others affairs. She liked to spread the rumors about people in the neighborhood. Sophie knew that she could not hold anybody's secret and would reveal it to everyone.
- (v) The Moral Re-Armament Army presented two plays 'Jotham Valley' and 'The Forgotten Factor' in a very professional manner. The people at Gemini Studios saw the plays over and over again. Though the message was plain, the costumes and sets were the first rates. These plays ran several shows in Madras and left a great impact on the studios and on Madras in general. For some years almost all Tamil plays imitated the scenes of sunrise and sunset of 'Jotham Valley'.
- (vi) Despite getting famous as a novelist, Umberto Eco always associated himself with the academic community. He has written only five novels as compared to the forty scholarly works of non-fiction. He considers himself a university professor who writes novels on Sundays. When he presented his first Doctoral dissertation in Italy, one of the professors was impressed by the way he told the story of his research, including his trials and errors.

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

- (i) Trishani Doshi set foot on the Antarctic continent. He found it the most appropriate place to understand and study the earth's present, past and future. It is a giant supercontinent. It has no human population except ice-caves. Its receding glaciers and falling ice shelves filled him with relief.
- (ii) In The Tiger King by Kalki, the Dewan had brought a tiger from the People's Park in Madras and kept it hidden in his house. When the Maharaja threatened him with dire consequences, he understood that the only way to save himself was to 'plant' a tiger for the kill. So, he and his aged wife dragged the tiger to the forest where the king was hunting.
- (iii) Tishani Doshi's entire experience of visiting Antarctica was nothing short of a revelation. It made her wonder about the "beauty of balance in play on our planet". She hopes the new generation will understand their planet better and save it from annihilation. The planet's ecosystem and its balance that took millions of years to form can be soon destroyed. Scientists warn that a further depletion in the ozone layer will affect the activities of the phytoplankton.

12. **Author:** That day I had asked Saheb jokingly that if I opened a school, would he attend it? I was unaware of the fact that I was unknowingly making a hollow promise to the boy. Has something like this happened to you, Edla?

Edla: Yes, I remember a similar incident. Once a peddler came to our forge and I went to invite him for Christmas Eve. As I saw him, I could sense fear in his eyes forthwith. Yet, I promised him that he could leave freely after spending Christmas Eve with us. But I knew that the reason for his fear could either be a robbery or jailbreak, and I realized that I had made a promise that I might not be able to keep.

Author: What did you do then?

Edla: I fulfilled my promise. I could see that the peddler was a good man who had made some wrong choices in life. I wanted to give him a chance to start afresh. And I'm glad I did. He left us the next day, but he left behind a letter thanking us for our kindness. It was a small gesture, but it meant a lot to me.

Author: That's inspiring, Edla. I wish I could have done the same for Saheb. But the reality is that building a school takes time and resources, and I didn't have either. It's easy to make promises, but it's hard to keep them.

Edla: I understand. But sometimes, it's the small gestures that matter. You could have helped Saheb in other ways, like teaching him some basic skills or introducing him to someone who could help him. The important thing is, to be honest, and sincere in your intentions.

Author: You're right, Edla. I should have been more honest with Saheb and not made promises that I couldn't keep. I will try to do better in the future.

Edla: That's all we can do, my dear. Learn from our mistakes and try to do better. Life is a journey, and we're all learning as we go along.

Author: Thank you for your wise words, Edla. I will keep them in mind.

Edla: You're welcome, my dear. I'm always here if you need someone to talk to.

Author: Thank you, Edla. You're a true friend.

Edla: And so are you, my dear. Take care.

OR

Beauty, in its various forms, has long captivated the minds and hearts of poets and thinkers throughout history. John Keats and Pablo Neruda, two renowned poets, explore the concept of beauty in their works, drawing attention to the enduring nature of its allure and the tranquility it brings.

In Keats' poem, he presents the idea that beauty will never "pass into nothingness." It will always remain, providing a serene

refuge for us. This notion of eternal beauty resonates with the idea of a "bower quiet," a peaceful sanctuary where one can find solace and rest. Keats further describes this state as a sleep full of sweet dreams, health, and quiet breathing. It evokes a sense of tranquility and inner peace that beauty can bring.

Similarly, Neruda's poem emphasizes the beauty of quietness. He invites the reader to keep quiet while he counts up to twelve, suggesting that in moments of silence, one can attain inner clarity and a deeper understanding of oneself and the world. The act of keeping quiet allows for introspection and reflection, enabling one to find peace and stillness amidst the chaos of life.

The common connection that runs through these phrases is the idea of finding serenity and tranquility through beauty and quietness. Both Keats and Neruda highlight the importance of embracing moments of stillness and appreciating the enduring allure of beauty. They remind us of the value of finding solace in the simple pleasures of life and the significance of inner peace. In a world filled with noise and distractions, it is essential to pause, reflect, and appreciate the beauty that surrounds us. Whether it is the timeless beauty that Keats describes or the quietness that Neruda advocates, these moments of respite allow us to rejuvenate our souls and find balance in our lives.

In conclusion, the writings of Keats and Neruda offer profound insights into the enduring nature of beauty and the tranquility it brings. They remind us to cherish moments of stillness, appreciate the beauty that surrounds us, and seek inner clarity. By embracing these concepts, we can find solace, peace, and a deeper connection with ourselves and the world around us.

13. The moment I noticed that I was not alone as the old man could see me, I wanted to leave. But an interesting rather "peculiar" conversation kept me glued. I looked for secluded places as my self-confidence did not allow me to face the world. But I was surprised to see that Mr. Lamb did not find anything strange in me. He did not show any dislike or horror, which generally people expressed at first glance.

I noticed that like me, the old man also had a disfigured body part that attracted mockery. Yet, he did not give in and was living his life happily. Mr. Lamb spoke words of encouragement, hope, and zest for life, which no one had ever spoken to me. He made me aware of his physical strength and explained the importance of emotional well-being. This realization drew me closer to the old man.

OR

I went to America because of my father because his prime concern was my education, so I was sent to America at the age of 22. I was there to study surgery and medicine. I was there for eight years and returned to Japan when I was thirty. I became famous not only as a surgeon but also as a scientist before my father died. But my experience in America was not so good. I found that the Americans were full of prejudice, and it had been bitter to live in it, knowing himself to be superior to them. An ignorant and dirty old woman, at last, consented to house me in her miserable home. She was repulsive to me even in her kindness. The only kind people I found there were one of my American professors and his wife who were anxious to do something for their few foreign students. I am grateful to him for two reasons, first because he taught me well, and second because I met Hana, my wife, at their place.



AI POWERED
LEARNING



CONCEPT
MASTERY



PERFORMANCE
FOCUSED



EXCELLENCE
DRIVEN

— A C A D E M Y —
— THINK BEYOND LIMITS. —

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