

**SECTION A: READING**

**A1. Read the given passage carefully:**

Perhaps the environmental crisis at hand has not yet touched your life, but the time is shortly to come. Recent NASA reports of a 60% loss of ozone over the Arctic provide an explanation for increased severity in the world's weather patterns which has only begun to affect us whether directly or indirectly. The social, political and economic implications are difficult to imagine as our ozone layer continues to thin, forests disappear and desertification is occurring at an alarming rate.

Today, almost 1 million acres of forests disappear each week. This alarming rate of deforestation is forcing many world economies to rethink their business and manufacturing practices. A seventy-foot tree cut for its lumber takes 65 years to replace. A seventy-foot bamboo cut for the market can be replaced in less than 3 months, and bamboo is officially recognized as the world's fastest growing plant. Some species can grow 3 feet per day! Driven by the constantly growing consumer demand for environmentally friendly products, bamboo is gaining momentum as a reliable source of high quality and durable green building material over traditional non-sustainable products. Bamboo is known to produce 30% more oxygen than a hardwood forest of comparable size while preventing erosion, restoring soil, providing sweet edible shoots and removing toxins from contaminated soil. Ecologists tout bamboo as a logical, renewable source of building material. Many promote bamboo planting for erosion prevention, and to reverse the effects of global warming. Being a grass, bamboo regenerates without replanting after harvesting. Traditional hardwood lumber trees, such as oak, maple, and birch, take 40-50 years to regenerate. In the meantime, there is less oxygen produced, less carbon dioxide consumed, and more soil runoff in the spot where those trees were harvested—all producing negative environmental effects. Our planet is suffering from resource depletion, habitat loss, species extinction, and ecosystem pollution. The choice of bamboo as the building material will greatly help reverse those negative trends.

**On the basis of your reading of the passage answer the following questions : (1X10=10)**

1. The increased severity in weather patterns is a result of \_\_\_\_\_
2. Many world economies have to give a second thought to \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) business practices (b) political practices  
(c) manufacturing practices (d) both (a) and (c)
3. World's fastest growing plant is \_\_\_\_\_.
4. A well grown tree can take up to to replace.  
(a) seventy feet (b) 65 years (c) 3 months (d) 3 feet per day
5. Bamboo is now gaining popularity as a reliable source of \_\_\_\_\_
6. The bamboo doesn't need \_\_\_\_\_ after harvesting.

7. Added qualities of bamboo except for producing O<sub>2</sub> is to  
(a) provide edible shoots (b) restore soil  
(c) remove toxins from soil (d) all of these
8. According to ecologists, bamboo can also  
(a) reverse effects of global warming (b) regenerate  
(c) deplete resources (d) both (a) and (c)
9. How do other hardwood lumber trees such as oak and maple produce negative environmental effects?
10. Choose a suitable title for the given passage.  
(a) Bamboo - A Boon to Ecosystem (b) Scientists Want More Lumber  
(c) Fast Growing Trees (d) We can Do Without Bamboo

**A2. Read the following passage carefully:**

1. The old lady was glad to be back at the block of flats where she lived. Her shopping had tired her and her basket had grown heavier with every step back home. In the lift her thoughts were on lunch and a good rest; but when she got out at her own floor, both were forgotten in her sudden discovery that her front door was open. A perturbed state of mind led her to trace the chronological events before stepping out to shop. She was thinking that she must reprimand the maid the next morning for such a monstrous piece of negligence when she remembered that she had gone shopping after her maid had left and she had turned both the keys in their locks. She walked slowly into the hall and at once noticed that all the room doors were open, yet following her regular practice, she had shut them before going out. Looking into the drawing room, she saw a scene of confusion on her writing desk.

2. It was as clear as daylight. Burglars had forced entry in her absence. Her first impulse was to go round all the room looking for the thieves, but then she decided that at her age it might be more prudent to have someone with her. So she went to fetch the porter from the basement. By this time, her legs were beginning to tremble, so she sat down and accepted a cup of very strong tea from the porter while he telephoned the police. As soon as her composure was regained she was ready to set off with the porter's assistance to search for any intruder who might be still lurking in her flat.

3. The old lady felt marginally relieved with the physical assistance of the porter in managing to investigate the burglar's attempt to plunder with noticeable facts. Though uncertain, with an apprehensive Marmot's burglar's existence in the premises, she kept her courage and willpower intact.

**On the basis of your reading of the passage answer the following questions : (1 x 10 = 10)**

1. What was the problem that shopping caused to the old lady?
2. What thoughts were going on in the old lady's mind in the lift?  
(a) The bags are heavy  
(b) To have a good lunch and relax  
(c) To find a burglar  
(d) To be surprised to find doors open
3. What was the first thing that the lady noticed after coming out of the lift?
4. After deciding to rebuke the maid, what did the old lady realize?

5. A perturbed state of mind What kind of mental state does the phrase describe?

(a) Bothered (b) Relaxed (c) Settled (d) Composed

6. What stopped her from going inside and checking the house herself?

7. What convinced her about the presence of burglars?

8. Why did she accept a cup of tea from the porter?

9. Arrange the events as they occurred in the given passage.

1. The lady had a very strong tea.

2. In the lift she thought about a good lunch.

3. The porter called the police.

4. The lady's writing desk was disorderly.

(a) 2, 4, 1, 3

(b) 1, 3, 2, 4

(c) 4, 2, 1, 3

(d) 1, 4, 2, 3

10. Find the word in para 1 that means the same as 'sequential'.

(a) Stepping

(b) Chronological

(c) Reprimand

(d) Marginally

### **SECTION B : WRITING**

B1. Your school has planned a two day educational trip to Varanasi for class VIII students. Write a notice in about 50 words for your school notice board giving all the necessary details. You are Head Boy / Head Girl, J.P. Narain Public School, Noida. (4)

**OR**

Read the following telephonic conversation between Mrs. Pandit and Shikha. Shikha is about to leave for school within five minutes and her mother is not at home for the moment. Write this message on behalf of Shikha in about 50 words.

**Shikha:** Hello, this is Shikha Gupta. Who is it please?

**Mrs Pandit:** I am Mrs Pandit speaking from Arya Enclave. I want to speak to your mother urgently.

**Shikha:** She has just gone out. If there is some message I shall give her.

**Mrs Pandit:** OK, then. Please tell your mother about me. Mrs Kaushlaya and Mrs Sampat were to come today to your house at 2.30 pm. But they shall not be coming. Ask your mama to reach Mrs Gupta's house in Green Park at 3 pm. This is urgent.

**Shikha:** You needn't worry, aunt. I shall leave this message before I go to school.

**Mrs Pandit:** Thank you, dear.

**Shikha:** You are most welcome.

**B2. Complete the story using your own imagination in about 150 words.**

(5)

Raman and his friend go out to a lake side to enjoy a picnic. On reaching there they hire a boat and start rowing. Suddenly they heard a loud cry of a boy or a girl. They immediately rushed .....

**OR**

Write a diary entry about a nightmare you had just before the night of your Maths test and how it made you feel in about 150 words.

**B3. Write a letter to Editor complaining about the increasing water pollution in Saryu river.**

(5)

**SECTION C : GRAMMAR**

**C1. Rearrange the group of words/ phrases into meaningful sentences:-**

(1X2=2)

- a) Camera/ results as/ give/ an ordinary camera/ as good/ a digital/ does not
- b) promote/ will surely/ our tourism/ such services/ sector

**C2. Fill in the blanks using appropriate determiners.**

(0.5X4=2)

- a) \_\_\_\_\_ persons can keep a secret. (the few/ few/ little/ a little)
- b) I do \_\_\_\_\_ work than Ramesh (many/ all/ more/ some)
- c) \_\_\_\_\_ of the two girls has won a prize. (every/ each/ most/some)
- d) I haven't \_\_\_\_\_ ball to play with. (some/ many/ any/ much)

**C3. Rewrite the sentences by replacing the incorrect prepositions with the correct ones. (0.5X4=2)**

- a) It is advisable to consult a doctor after you take any medicine on your own.
- b) The school will be closed on Monday to Thursday.
- c) In Sunday morning we go to a church near our house.
- d) It has been raining since 2 hours.

**C4. Fill in the blanks using suitable modals.**

(1X3=3)

- a) \_\_\_\_\_ you achieve your goal! (May/ Will)
- b) Students \_\_\_\_\_ disobey their teachers (mustn't/ needn't)
- c) I \_\_\_\_\_ visit temples with my parents when I was young. (could/ used to)

**C5. Change the sentences into passive voice.**

(1X3=3)

- a) The library has organised a story telling competition.
- b) We may buy this bungalow next month.
- c) Do you know that lady in blue dress?

**C6. Put these sentences into indirect speech.**

(1X4=4)

- a) Preeti said to Anita, "Aren't you going to some hill station this summer?"
- b) Sahil said to his sister, " I went to the airport to see Ratnesh off to London last night."
- c) Suraj said to Kartik, "When did you return from your tour to Goa?"
- d) The art teacher said to Raman, "Show me some of your artwork."

**SECTION : D - LITERATURE**

D1. Answer the following questions with reference to the given lines:

(3X3=9)

i) **“Across the fields, behind the house,**

**To seek the brook, if it still runs.”**

- a) Name the poem and the poet.
- b) Where and why was the poet seeking the brook?
- c) What activities did the poet and the other family members do while seeking for the brook?

ii) **“I’ve balm for bruised hearts,**

**Brother, sleep for aching eyes.”**

- a) Name the poet. Who is ‘I’ referred here?
- b) Why is the poet so nostalgic?
- c) What do the words ‘bruised hearts’ and ‘aching eyes’ tell us about the poet?

iii) **“I think you might have told me and not have let me make such a fool of myself.”**

- a) Who spoke this line to whom?
- b) How did the speaker make a fool of himself?
- c) How was the speaker rewarded for his mistake?

D2. Answer the following questions in 40 to 60 words:

[3x1=3]

- a) Did Uriah accept David’s offer for teaching Latin, Yes/No? Why?
- b) Why was the Long Nosed One jailed?
- c) How should we deal with success and failure?

D3. Answer the given questions in 60 to 80 words:

[3x2=6]

- a) Why was David uncomfortable and wished to be out of Uriah’s house?
- b) How does the poet in the poem ‘Going for Water’ create a magical atmosphere in the woods?
- c) Give any two instances where Pooter feels embarrassed.

D4. Justify, giving appropriate examples:

[2x2=4]

- a) Millionaire models are rare enough but model millionaires are rarer still.
- b) The World- renowned nose is a satire on the society.

D5. Give the character sketch of **any two** of the given characters:

[2x2=4]

- a) Uriah                      b) Mr. Pooter                      c) Hughie Erskine                      d) Farmerson

D6. Do as directed:

[2x2=4]

- a) If you can fill the unforgiving minute with sixty seconds worth of distance run. Explain.
- b) Describe the beauty of the Westland in the spring season.