

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ENGLISH Paper – 1

(Two hours)

Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.

*You will **not** be allowed to write during the first **15** minutes.*

This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.

The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

*Attempt **all five** questions.*

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].

*You are advised to spend not more than **30** minutes in answering **Question 1**
and **20** minutes in answering **Question 2**.*

Question 1

*(Do not spend more than **30** minutes on this question.)* [20]

Write a composition (300 - 350 words) on any *one* of the following:

(a) Write an original short story entitled: “Lost and Found”.

(b) ‘Democracy cannot survive without education’.

Express your views either **for** or **against** this statement.

(c) You are a regular traveller in your school bus.

Describe what you see on your way home from school each afternoon.

Give details of the familiar sights and sounds you experience each day.

- (d) Imagine that you have changed your school recently.

Narrate your experiences on your first day in the new school. How did you feel at the end of the day?

- (e) Study the picture given below.

Write a short story or description or an account of what the picture suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it.



Question 2

(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.)

[10]

Select **one** of the following:

- (a) Your friend has been sick and has been unable to attend school for two weeks. An interschool drama competition took place during this period. Write a letter to your friend telling him/her about the event and your role in it.
- (b) You have accidentally left your suitcase behind when you got off the train. You only realised it after the train left the platform. Write a letter to the Station Master reporting your loss and request that the suitcase be located and kept till you claim it

Question 3

[5+5]

- (a) You are the President of a children's club in your locality.

You and your team are planning to organise a programme to celebrate Teachers Day.

Write a notice to be put up in the local Supermarket, giving details of the programme to create an awareness of the event.

- (b) Write an e-mail to the General Manager of the Supermarket seeking permission to display the notice and requesting a sponsorship for the event.

Question 4

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

He would have gone on worrying and worrying in this way if an unexpected **distraction** had not arrived in the form of a heavily loaded car bumping over the grassy bank, dodging between the coconut trees and raising a cloud of dust in the narrow path before it came to a standstill in front of **Mon Repos**, the white bungalow that stood empty most of the year. 5
It was the de Silvas, the family that came from Bombay to spend an occasional holiday in it and bring it suddenly to life for a few days. They had bought **Mon Repos** a year ago from the Vakils who had been one of the first Bombay families to build holiday cottages on the Thul beach. But they had grown too old and **frail** to come often and, after the house has 10
stood empty for several years, sold it to the de Silvas who were young and energetic and seemed heartily to enjoy life on the beach. Whenever they came, life changed for the family and the little hut, too. Immediately there was a hubbub, all kinds of excitement and expectations, and of course work to be done, employment to be had and wages. 15

Hari, Bela and Kamal stood by their door under the frangipani tree, tense with excitement watching and holding Pinto back as he barked at the

unfamiliar sight of a car and stranger till his voice was quite hoarse. There was a **commotion** in the marshy creek that separated the hut from the house, too – herons, egrets, kingfishers and moorhens all flapping into the dense greenery of the pandanus, the casuarina and the *bhindi* trees for shelter. 20

‘Do you think they have come here for good?’ Bela whispered.

‘Hunh – who would live here if he had a house in Bombay?’ Hari scoffed.

‘But look how much luggage they’ve brought – it can’t be just for a few days,’ Bella said, and it was true that an unbelievable number of boxes and bags and baskets were being taken out of the car, out of the boot and off the luggage carrier so that anyone would have thought they had come to stay forever. 25

- (a) Give the meaning of each of the following words as used in the passage. [3]
One word answers or short phrases will be accepted.

(i) *distraction* (line 2)

(ii) *frail* (line 10)

(iii) *commotion* (line 19)

- (b) Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words.

(i) Who were the Vakils? [2]

(ii) Why was the house more suited to the De Silvas? [2]

(iii) Who was Pinto? [1]

(iv) What effect did the noise have on the natural surroundings? [2]

(v) From Hari’s answer to Bela’s question what opinion does Hari have of Bombay? [2]

- (c) In not more than 50 words describe how the arrival of the De Silvas changed life for the family in the little hut. [8]

Question 5

- (a) Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. [4]

Do not copy the passage but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space.

Example:

(0) I _____ (slow) the car as I saw the new house.

Answer: slowed.

I _____ (1) (pull) up into the driveway _____ (2) (observe) the way they had _____ (3) (build) up the balcony. I _____ (4) (forgot) that the bricks of the house _____ (5) (be) chocolate brown. The new people _____ (6) (make) the tiny balcony into a study room. I _____ (7) (stare) at this house _____ (8) (remember) my childhood there.

- (b) Fill in each blank with an appropriate word: [4]

- (i) He hid the stolen goods _____ the floor boards.
- (ii) The teacher knew all _____ the problem.
- (iii) The boy sat still _____ the night waiting to be called.
- (iv) My grandmother would have fallen _____ if I had not caught her hand.
- (v) The sailor held on to the mast of the boat for fear of being blown _____ in the storm.
- (vi) All the boarders were taken _____ a walk today.
- (vii) Even though she slept _____ several mattresses she still felt the hard pea.
- (viii) Anup and Arun have quarrelled _____ a silly matter.

- (c) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence **without using** *and, but or so*. [4]

- (i) He practiced every day. He came first in the race.
- (ii) She did such intricate embroidery. Her eyesight was affected.
- (iii) Molly has a very good vocabulary. She reads a lot.
- (iv) They broke open door. They saw everything was in a mess.

- (d) Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence. [8]

- (i) “Will you lend me the book tomorrow?” Priya asked her classmate.
(Begin: Priya asked her classmate if.....)
- (ii) The teacher scolded him for coming late.
(Begin: He.....)
- (iii) It was so hot that the P.T. period could not be held.
(Begin: It was too)
- (iv) As soon as her song was over, I knew that she had won the competition.
(Begin: No sooner)
- (v) Our school sent up the best exhibit to the Town Hall.
(Re-write using: ‘better’)
- (vi) Visitors under eighteen were not allowed into the hall.
(Begin: Only visitors)
- (vii) As soon as the bell rang the children ran out.
(Begin: No sooner)
- (viii) They were asked to combine all their ideas into one document.
(Re-write using: ‘combination’)

