

CSM—2/23
PART—I/PAPER—II
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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Time : 3 Hours

Full Marks : 250

The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks.

*Answer **all** questions.*

- 1. Write an essay (of 800–1000 words) on any one of the following topics :** 80

- (a) The role of education in shaping a better society.
- (b) The digital age : A personal boon or a social bane?
- (c) The role of youth in shaping the future of society.
- (d) We are the change we seek.

- 2. Identify the most appropriate word to be used in the sentences below :** 20

- (a) You must _____ (accept/except) responsibility for your actions.
- (b) The _____ (affect/effect) of the medicine will be noticeable after a week.
- (c) The author made nuanced _____ (allusions/illusions) to historical events.
- (d) She received many _____ (complements/compliments) on her presentation.
- (e) He offered legal _____ (council/counsel) to those in need.
- (f) The engineers had to _____ (device/devise) a way to make it work.

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- (g) The teacher tried to _____ (elicit/illicit) responses from the students.
- (h) Please _____ (ensure/insure) that you have prepared well for the exam.
- (i) It is against my school's _____ (principle/principal) to lie.
- (j) The bird remained _____ (stationary/stationery) near its dead pair.

3. Correct the errors :

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- (a) She don't like apples.
- (b) The cat chased it's tail.
- (c) He go to school every day.
- (d) There is many books on the table.
- (e) The movie was more better than I expected.
- (f) She has been working since two hours.
- (g) Each of the students are responsible.
- (h) I didn't saw him yesterday.
- (i) This is the worse day of my life.
- (j) She is used to wake up early.

4. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate prepositions :

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- (a) She is allergic _____ peanuts.
- (b) We are excited _____ the concert.
- (c) He is interested _____ learning French.

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- (d) The meeting will take place _____ Monday.
(e) The gift was made _____ hand.
(f) She excels _____ problem-solving.
(g) They are resistant _____ change.
(h) I find no solution _____ hand.
(i) We went _____ a hike last weekend.
(j) The keys are _____ my pocket.

5. Rewrite/fill the underlined word in each sentence below according to the directions given in the brackets : 10

- (a) The bottle is [empty].
(Use antonym)
- (b) The [descend] took us three hours.
(Use antonym)
- (c) His [honest] behaviour cost him promotion.
(Use suffix to form antonym)
- (d) He has _____ MBA from Harvard University.
(Use the correct article)
- (e) The man _____ saved the child is a hero.
(Use the correct pronoun)
- (f) His [flexible] won us the project.
(Use the correct form)
- (g) Her approach to the proposal was [ambiguity].
(Use the correct form)
- (h) Brunch = Breakfast + _____.
(Identify the blended word)

(i) Infomercial = Information + _____.

(Identify the blended word)

(j) The company [to be] expanding.

(Use the present tense form)

6. Rewrite the sentences according to the directions given in the brackets : 10

(a) Parvati asked, "Will you visit me here tomorrow?"

(Reported Speech)

(b) The _____ of the children was evident from their smiles.

(Use the appropriate form of the word 'happy')

(c) By the time we arrive, the movie _____.

(Use the correct form of the verb 'to start')

(d) If I _____ about the meeting, I would have attended.

(Use the correct form of the verb 'to know')

(e) I wish I _____ more time to complete the project.

(Use the subjective mood using 'to have')

7. Rewrite the sentences according to the directions given in the brackets : 10

(a) The chef cooked the meal.

(Turn the sentence into passive voice)

(b) Lion is a large animal. Elephant is a large animal.

(Combine the sentences by using comparative degree of adjective)

(c) The doctor came. The patient was already dead.

(Combine the sentences by using past perfect tense)

(d) The suitcase is heavy. She cannot carry it.

(Combine the sentences using 'too')

(e) She completed the task. She exceeded expectations.

(Combine the sentences by using 'not only/but also')

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8. Supply the missing word :

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(a) At the meeting, he told a joke to _____ the ice and make everyone feel comfortable.

(b) Sarah hit the nail on the _____ when she identified the main issue in the project.

(c) I accidentally let the _____ out of the bag about the surprise party.

(d) The old man joked that he wasn't ready to kick the _____ just yet.

(e) To finish the assignment on time, he had to _____ the midnight oil for three days straight.

9. Frame sentences with the following idioms :

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(a) Call off

(b) Give up

(c) Put off

(d) Look into

(e) Take after

10. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

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Space exploration has long been a frontier of human curiosity and ambition. Since the launch of the first artificial satellite, Sputnik 1, by the Soviet Union in 1957, humanity has made remarkable strides in exploring the cosmos. The Apollo 11 Mission in 1969 marked a historic milestone when Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin became the first humans to walk on the Moon. Today, space exploration is driven by both Government agencies, such as NASA and ESA and private companies like SpaceX, which aim to push the boundaries of human knowledge and capability.

One of the most significant achievements in recent years is the exploration of Mars. NASA's Perseverance Rover, which landed on Mars in February 2021, is tasked with searching for signs of ancient microbial life and collecting rock samples for future return to Earth. Similarly, the Ingenuity helicopter, the first aircraft to achieve powered flight on another planet, has demonstrated the potential for aerial exploration in extraterrestrial environments. Meanwhile, the European Space Agency's ExoMars program aims to further investigate the Red Planet's surface and subsurface for evidence of past or present life.

Beyond Mars, the exploration of the outer solar system has yielded groundbreaking discoveries. NASA's Voyager 1 and Voyager 2 probes, launched in 1977, have travelled beyond the heliosphere and entered interstellar space, providing invaluable data about the outer planets and the boundaries of our solar system. More recently, the New Horizons mission captured detailed images of Pluto in 2015, revealing a complex and dynamic world with icy mountains and a thin atmosphere.

Space exploration also extends to the study of distant galaxies and the origins of the universe. The Hubble Space Telescope, launched in 1990, has revolutionized astronomy by capturing stunning images of distant stars, galaxies and nebulae. Its successor, the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST), launched in December 2021, is designed to peer even further into the cosmos, studying the formation of the first galaxies and the atmospheres of exoplanets.

Despite these achievements, space exploration faces significant challenges, including high costs, technological limitations, and the risks posed to human life. However, international collaborations and advancements in technology continue to drive progress. The future of space exploration holds immense promise, with plans for crewed missions to Mars, the establishment of lunar bases, and the search for habitable exoplanets. As humanity ventures further into the cosmos, the quest to understand our place in the universe remains as compelling as ever.

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- (a) What is the significance of the Ingenuity helicopter in the context of space exploration?
- (b) What have the Voyager 1 and Voyager 2 probes achieved since their launch in 1977?
- (c) How has the Hubble Space Telescope contributed to our understanding of the universe?
- (d) What are the primary goals of the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) and how does it differ from the Hubble?
- (e) What challenges do space exploration face and how are these being addressed?
- (f) Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the role of private companies like SpaceX in the future of space exploration?
- (g) What does the passage imply about the importance of studying exoplanets and distant galaxies in the context of humanity's quest to understand the universe?

11. Make a précis of the following passage. You need not add a title :

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The Kalinga War (262-261 BCE), fought between the Maurya Emperor Ashoka and the kingdom of Kalinga, represents a significant turning point in Ashoka's reign and personal philosophy. This conflict stemmed from Ashoka's ambition to expand his empire, but the brutal consequences of the war drastically altered his perspective on power and governance. Historical accounts suggest that the battle resulted in tremendous devastation, with approximately 100000 casualties and widespread suffering among civilians. The horrors witnessed by Ashoka during and after the war led him to a transformative realization : true leadership should not be attained through violence or the subjugation of others.

Ashoka experienced a profound moral awakening, renouncing his previous ambitions for territorial conquest. He turned to the teachings of Buddhism, embracing its core principles of ahimsa (non-violence), compassion and respect for all living beings. This philosophical shift had immediate implications for his governance. Ashoka prioritized welfare, justice, and the well-being of his subjects over militaristic endeavours. He enacted policies aimed at protecting individuals' rights, abolished capital punishment, and promoted religious tolerance, fostering harmony among the diverse populations of his empire.

Ashoka's renewed commitment to non-violence and ethical leadership was further illustrated through his edicts, which he inscribed on pillars distributed throughout his realm. In these inscriptions, he advocated for peace, mutual respect, and the importance of ethical conduct in everyday life. This approach not only sought to nurture a more enlightened citizenry but also aimed to reduce conflicts among various communities. Ashoka's transformation significantly influenced the spread of Buddhism, both within his empire and beyond. As a patron of the faith, he established monasteries, commissioned Buddhist missionaries, and pursued diplomatic efforts to promote peaceful coexistence with neighbouring states. His dedication to spreading Buddhist teachings was pivotal in shaping the cultural and spiritual landscape of Asia.

Ashoka's transition from a warrior king to a compassionate ruler underscores the power of introspection and moral awakening in leadership. The Kalinga War left an indelible mark on his legacy, illustrating the nuanced relationship between personal transformation and societal progress, ultimately emphasizing the value of compassion over conquest in governance and human interactions. His story remains relevant for contemporary discussions on peace, ethics, and the enduring impact of leadership choices.

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