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Total printed pages : 04
Total printed questions : 13

General instructions:

- 1.This paper is divided into three sections: A, B, C, and D. All sections are compulsory.
- 2.Separate instructions are given with each section and questions, wherever necessary.
Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
- 3.Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION A – READING (20 marks)

1.Read the passage given below and then answer the questions which follow:

1 "Humanism is a progressive philosophy of life that, without supernaturalism, affirms our ability and responsibility to lead ethical lives of personal fulfillment that aspire to the greater good of humanity."- Humanist Manifesto III, 2003

2 The divine, in various forms, has played a central role in many cultures throughout human history. Human cultures across time have wondered how to find the divine, how to know the divine, and how to please the divine. Humanists reject this focus. Placing human beings firmly in the center of their worldview, Humanists ask: "How, in this one life we have, might we make the most of our time here for ourselves and for others?" For Humanists, human concerns come first; they trump tradition, dogma, or creed. Humanists seek to discover what best promotes humans flourishing while leaving behind those beliefs and practices that would prevent humanity from achieving its full potential. This drive to improve human life can be expressed in three core values: reason, compassion, and hope. Humanists value reason, or the use of the intellect and practices like the sciences and philosophy, as the best way to generate accurate knowledge about the world we inhabit. They reject supernatural explanations for phenomena. They are driven by compassion, or the idea that all people—regardless of nationality, ethnicity, race, creed, sexual identity or other characteristics – are fundamentally of equal moral worth. Humanists also look to the future in hope, believing that human beings, if working together, can build a better world.

3 Some people consider Humanism to be a "religion", while others do not. Generally the term "Humanism", when used today without qualifier, references a nonreligious life-stance, that is, a set of *values*, not *how* those values are expressed or practiced. Some distinguish between "Secular Humanism" and "Religious Humanism." "Religious Humanists" might express their Humanism in ways more common to traditionally religious individuals, for example meeting together to discuss values and celebrate certain ceremonies. Some like to maintain a connection to the cultural elements of a religious tradition they have experienced and may continue to participate in religious

culture while maintaining strictly Humanist beliefs and values. “Religious Humanists” are still Humanists—they are atheists (or agnostic, skeptics etc.), they are secularists, and they reject the supernatural. If there is a difference between “secular” and “religious” Humanists it is in how they *express* and *practice* their Humanist life-stance. The life-stance is the same in both cases.

4 Humanists seek inspiration from many sources. The boundless beauty of the cosmos filled Humanist scientist Carl Sagan with reverential awe. Philosopher Bertrand Russell found the rigors of geometry “dazzling as first love”. Ernestine Rose, a social reformer and activist, found her bliss in her work to promote women’s suffrage and abolitionism. Margaret Sanger sought to change attitudes regarding reproductive rights, founding Planned Parenthood. And Gene Roddenberry, creator of *Star Trek*, expressed his Humanism with a hopeful vision of human life among the stars.

5 Wherever human beings reach out to better understand the universe and our role within it, wherever human concerns are placed above the will of a God or the needs of a tradition, wherever people believe that a better world is possible in *this* life, Humanism lives.

1.1 Answer the following questions choosing the most appropriate options: (6x1=6)

- i) Humanists reject the idea that_____.
a)humans are compassionate b)God is the centre of our lives
c)logical reasoning is mandatory d)humans are equal
- ii) Humanism lives_____.
a) where God lives b) where tradition lives
c) where human concerns are placed above the will of God
d) where God is place above human concerns
- iii)Humanists are driven by_____.
a) belief in supernatural b) sense of despair
c) belief in equality of moral worth d) belief in God
- iv) Pick out a word from the passage which is a synonym of ‘Doctrine’ (para 2)
a) creed b) dogma c) tradition d) ethnicity
- v) The word ‘religious humanist’ implies
a) being completely secular
b) being completely religious
c) going to religious places of worship
d) meeting to discuss values and celebrate ceremonies
- vi) Pick out a word from the passage which is an antonym of ‘accept’ (para 3)
a)discuss b) celebrate c) reject d) identity

1.2 Answer the following questions briefly:

(1x6=6)

- a) What do you understand by the word 'divine'?
- b) Who are humanists?
- c) How can human life be improved?
- d) Why can't humanism be considered a religion?
- e) Who are those humanists who have been inspired by various sources? Give two examples.
- f) What are the similarities between 'Religious Humanists' and 'Secular humanists'?

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

Shahtoosh is the name given to a specific kind of shawl, which is woven with the down hair of the Tibetan antelope (chiru), by master craftsmen and women of Kashmir, Northern India. The Shahtoosh shawl is now a banned item with possession and sale being illegal in most countries for the Chiru is an endangered species under CITES. However, the weaving of Shahtoosh shawls continues in secret in Kashmir due to high demand by western buyers. The estimated market value of one Shahtoosh shawl in the western market is around \$5000–6000. Shahtoosh is the world's finest wool having the lowest micron count, followed by Vicuna and Pashmina.

These shawls were originally very few and could only be woven by master artisans to weave the delicate hair which measured between 7 and 10 microns. These factors made shahtoosh shawls very precious. Shahtoosh shawls are so fine that a large shawl can be passed through a wedding ring, leading to them also being known as 'ring shawls.'

The Tibetan antelope or *Chiru* lives in one of the harshest environments on earth, at an altitude of over 5,000 metres. Their special type of down fur, which is both very light and warm, allows them to survive in the freezing conditions of the plateau where they gather at one point of the year. They are migratory animals - moving down from Mongolia to Tibet - and traditionally followed closely by the nomads, who also make that journey every year. The nomads would hunt the antelope for all that it provided them - hide, meat, bones, horns and fur pelts - in short, everything that the nomads needed to sustain them through their journey. The incredible fineness and brittleness of Shahtoosh fibre makes it virtually impossible to handle - and this is where the master weavers of Kashmir played their role. With their expertise in hand processing Pashmina or Kashmiri Cashmere wool, they could weave shawls from Shahtoosh of the most exquisite quality, and thus the Shahtoosh shawl was born. When the British (of British India) traveled to Kashmir in Summer, they realised the worth of Pashmina and shahtoosh shawls and introduced them to the world, which led to greater demand for these products. Subsequently, the antelope was hunted down specifically for its fur, and their numbers have dropped accordingly from nearly a million (estimated) at the turn of the 20th century to less than 75,000 today. The numbers continue to drop yearly. This led to the antelope now being listed as an endangered species and given the highest possible level of legal protection, whereby no commercial trade in shahtoosh is permitted. The selling or owning of shahtoosh was made illegal in all countries that signed the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species. Many countries, including the USA, China, Pakistan and India, are cracking down on those

involved in the shahtoosh trade. Although shahtoosh is banned under the agreement, illegal hunting and selling of shahtoosh is still a serious problem in Tibet.

a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes using headings and sub-headings. Use recognisable abbreviations where necessary. (5)

b) Make a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words using the notes made. Also suggest a suitable title. (3)

SECTION - B (WRITING) (20 Marks)

3. You wish to sell your car as you are being transferred to another city. Draft a suitable advertisement in about 50 words to be published in the classified columns of The Hindustan Times.

(OR)

You wish to rent out your newly constructed flat located at East Delhi. Draft an advertisement in not more than 50 words to be published in the Hindustan Times under the classified columns. You are Sumit / Sumita of Mayur Vihar, New Delhi. (4)

4. You are Ravi Malhotra. You have just completed your Masters in Mass Communication.

You come across an advertisement in The Times of India looking for Journalists for a new magazine named 'Onlooker'. Write a covering letter along with your bio data to the Manager, H R Department, Onlooker, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, Delhi 110001.

(OR)

Draft an application along with bio data for the post of a Trained Graduate Teacher in History, for St. Margaret Sr. Sec. School, S. P. Mukherjee Marg, Delhi 110006, in response to an advertisement in the Times of India. You are Raveena / Ravikant residing at 15, Darya Ganj, Delhi. (6)

5. The cities of Delhi and Beijing share the dubious honour as the world's most polluted capitals. A few months ago, Beijing issued a red-alert for pollution. The Chinese administration immediately sent cars off the roads, shut factories and urged schools to close. In Delhi, the government amidst great opposition decided to implement the odd even plan and shut schools for a period of fifteen days. However, are these measures sufficient to bring down the dangerously high levels of pollution? Write a speech in about 150 to 200 words to be delivered in the school assembly sharing your concerns about the problems related to pollution and suggesting concrete measures to tackle the problem.

(OR)

You are deeply disturbed by the newspaper reports regarding the rising cases of death on the roads due to negligence, aggression and even apathy of the public. Write an article for your school magazine in about 150 to 200 words highlighting this problem and suggesting ways to stop these tragic deaths. (10)

SECTION – C (GRAMMAR)

(10 marks)

6. In the passage given below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it against the correct blank number in your answer sheet. (4)

Three Men in a Boat published in 1889, a humorous account a)
 _____ by English writer [Jerome K. Jerome](#) a two-week boating holiday b)
 _____ on the [Thames](#) [Kingston upon Thames](#) to [Oxford](#) and back c)
 _____ to Kingston. The book was initially to be a serious d)
 _____ travel guide, with accounts of local history the e)
 _____ route, but the humorous elements took over the point f)
 _____ where the serious somewhat sentimental passages g)
 _____ a distraction to the [comic novel](#). h)

7. Complete the following passage by filling the most appropriate word in each blank : (4)

If you eat a lot of food in a short amount of time on a regular basis, you might have binge eating disorder (BED). It can (a) _____ your health in a lot of ways, but two of the main risks are weight gain and (b) _____. Two-thirds of those with BED are obese, though average-sized people can have it, too. Overeating can lead to (c) _____. That means your body can't use the (d) _____ insulin correctly, which makes your blood sugar levels harder to control. Over time, _____ this can damage your kidneys, your eyes, and your heart. Many health problems (e) _____ to BED - obesity, high cholesterol, high triglycerides (fat in your blood), and yo-yo weight gain and loss -- also raise the risk of trouble with your (f) _____. That's the small (g) _____ that sits _____ under your liver. The most common problem is gallstones, the buildup of (h) _____ or bile in _____ the organ.

8. Re-arrange the following words/phrases to form meaningful sentences: (2)

- a) making / a / bag less / is / reality / technology / education
 b) one tenth / should be / an ideal / body weight / of / the / child's / school bag

SECTION - C (LITERATURE) (30 Marks)

9. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: (3x1=3)

We speak like strangers, there's no sign
Of understanding in the air.
This child is built to my design
Yet what he loves I cannot share.

- a) Who does 'we' refer to?
- b) Why have 'we' become like strangers?
- c) Explain the phrase, 'This child is built to my design'.

(OR)

When did my childhood go?
Was it when I found my mind was really mine,
To use whichever way I choose,
Producing thoughts that were not those of other people.

- a) What does the poet wonder about in the above lines?
- b) Explain the phrase, 'when I found my mind was really mine.'
- c) What were his thoughts like earlier?

10. Answer any three of the following questions in about 50-60 words each: (3x3=9)

- a) How did Andrew Manson successfully revive the stillborn baby?
- b) Who is a sadist? Why doesn't Taplow agree with Frank when he refers to Mr. Crocker Harris as a 'sadist'?
- c) What was the 'glowing reference' that the Mathematics teacher gave about Albert?
- d) The king in the 'Tale of Melon City' has been described as 'Just and Placid'. Do you agree? Why/ why not?

11. Answer the following question in about 150 words:

A mother's position in a family is very often undermined and taken for granted. Analyse how the chapter 'Mother's Day' sensitizes readers towards this issue.

(OR)

'Are we to leave to our successors a scorched planet of advancing deserts, impoverished landscapes and an ailing environment?' Where was this question raised and what is its implication? (6)

12. Answer the following question in about 150 words:

Analyze how Virginia became the Harbinger of peace and love in the novel 'The Canterville Ghost.

(OR)

Attempt a character sketch of Sir Simon Canterville. (6)

13. Answer the following question in about 150 words:

Describe the funeral scene of Sir Simon as depicted in the story.

(OR)

Discuss the devices that Oscar Wilde uses to evoke humour in the novel 'The Canterville Ghost'.

(6)

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