

SET – 4**Series : ONS/1****Code No. 28****Roll No.**

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Candidates must write the Code on the title page of the answer-book.

- Please check that this question paper contains **11** printed pages.
- Code number given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer-book by the candidate.
- Please check that this question paper contains **6** questions.
- **Please write down the Serial Number of the question before attempting it.**
- 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question paper. The question paper will be distributed at 10.15 a.m. From 10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., the students will read the question paper only and will not write any answer on the answer-book during this period.

ENGLISH (Elective) – (N)*Time allowed : 3 hours**Maximum Marks : 100***General Instructions :**

- Question Nos. 1 – 4 are compulsory.*
- Attempt either Question No. 5 or 6.*
- Your answers should be to the point. Stick to the given word limit.*

SECTION – A**20 Marks****(READING)**

1. (A) Read the passage given below and complete the statements that follow : **10**

- (1) After Rana Sanga, his sons Ratna Singh and Vikramjeet sat on the throne one after the other. Before Uday Singh occupied the throne, Banveer who was enthroned as well as dethroned by the nobles of the kingdom ruled Mewar. All three of them brought about such a mess that the fall of Chittor seemed imminent. The reigns of all the three kings were quite eventful but devoid of any glory. By the time Uday Singh sat on the throne, the distinction that Chittor had of being an invincible fort no longer held water.

- (2) Pratap was about 12 years old when Uday Singh after a difficult struggle liberated Chittor from Banveer who had occupied the throne unlawfully. But at that time, Mewar was neither prosperous nor secure. The entire kingdom was fear-stricken. The whole system was in disarray. Sher Shah proceeded towards Chittor within four years of the coronation of Uday Singh. The situation was not such as to enable the kingdom for a direct confrontation. When Sher Shah reached Jahajpur, Uday Singh handed over the keys of Chittor fort to him. The ploy worked well. Chittor was not attacked and the sway of Uday Singh over his kingdom remained intact. Sher Shah's representative in Chittor also did not interfere much. After the death of Sher Shah, he was driven away from there. But now Chittor had stooped down to such an extent that even the king had to rethink. He brought about certain fundamental changes in his policies.
- (3) Till then, the entire Mewar had to be put at stake for the protection of a fort at an open place. The policy was altered. A new capital was developed at Udaipur, which was surrounded by mountains and was more secure than Chittor. People from insecure places were brought to settle down in the vicinity of Udaipur. New construction work was undertaken and once again, an effort was made to bring back the glory of Mewar. Even if he did nothing for Mewar, Uday Singh tried his best to bring laurels of peace and security to his kingdom.
- (4) However, soon Akbar turned all the initiatives of Mewar upside down. He could not tolerate its rising influence. Without defeating it, Akbar would not be able to expand his empire in the manner he wanted to. Besides, he wanted to teach a lesson to other Rajput kings by capturing Mewar. Till then, Amer had joined hands with the Mughal emperor but Jodhpur, Bikaner, Jaisalmer etc. were still outside his sphere of influence.

- (5) Akbar attacked Chittor in 1567. However, Uday Singh had already left Chittor with his family and important nobles before the aggression. Akbar sent his men to arrest the king but Rana could not be traced. It seemed difficult to capture Chittor. When Akbar failed to compel Chittor to surrender even after two months of siege, he got the weaker parts of the fort demolished by cannons. Yet he could not get hold over the fort. Suddenly, one day Jaimal, a guard of the fort was shot dead with a gun. This incident changed the fortune of Mewar. A decisive battle was fought under the leadership of Patta. A great number of women and children sacrificed their lives by following the tradition of *Jauhar*. The siege had commenced on 23rd October. The army of Mewar itself ended the siege by opening the gates of the fort. A fierce battle ensued. The brave sons of Mewar threw themselves into the battle like their mothers and sisters. Akbar was victorious. But such a lengthy siege angered him so much that in utter disgust, he ordered his army to kill 30,000 innocent civilians of Chittor. There was no rationale for a genocide of this sort after victory. Hence this incident remains as a blot on the otherwise distinguished character of Akbar.
- (6) Anyway Akbar's foresight proved right. Within two-three years of the fall of Chittor, Ranthambor, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Jaisalmer all surrendered before the might of this powerful king. Following them, almost all other big and small kingdoms of Rajasthan also accepted the supremacy of Delhi. Todd has written that in the previous century, the Hindu society had come to acquire a new form. They were quietly consolidating their might in the remaining areas of the empire between the Yamuna and the Ganga. In fact, Amer and Marwar had become so powerful that the latter all alone could withstand the aggression of Sher Shah. Many smaller kingdoms on either side of the river Chambal quietly gained strength. In such a scenario, a strong and brilliant leader was required to get back the power. Rana Sanga did have such elements of leadership in his personality as made people follow him naturally. His family as well as Rana Sanga himself was respected throughout the country. That's why the princely states accepted him as their leader. They could have got such leadership from Pratap, the grandson of Sanga, had Uday Singh not dropped in or Pratap's contemporary Mughal emperor had been anyone less illustrious and diplomatic than Akbar.

- (7) Arguably, Akbar was the greatest of Mughal emperors. He is among one of the greatest rulers of the world thanks to his character and deeds. In the contemporary world, there was none to match his eminence. He was brave, clever and competent. He obtained successes one after another as if he were endowed with some supernatural power.
- (8) Akbar had changed his policies towards the Rajputs. By the time Pratap rose to power, he wanted to avoid bloodshed as much as possible. He had granted enough autonomy to his subordinate Rajput kings in internal affairs. He had given them the same status in his durbar as enjoyed by the Mughal nobles. This policy softened the aggressive character of Akbar.
- (a) The mess in Mewar was created by _____. (1)
- (b) When Uday Singh came to the throne of Mewar, Chittor was no longer _____. (1)
- (c) Sher Shah did not attack Chittor because Uday Singh _____. (1)
- (d) A new capital of Mewar was established at Udaipur because _____. (1)
- (e) The main contribution of Udai Singh to Mewar was that he brought _____ to his kingdom. (1)
- (f) By capturing Mewar, Akbar wanted to teach a lesson to the rulers of _____. (1)
- (g) Fortunes of Mewar changed when _____. (1)
- (h) Akbar became an eminent ruler because he was _____. (1)
- (i) Find words from the passage which mean the same as each of the following : (1 × 2 = 2)
- (i) repute / importance (para 7)
- (ii) freedom (para 8)

(B) Read the poem given below and answer the questions that follow :

2 × 5 = 10

Behold her, single in the field,

Yon solitary Highland Lass !

Reaping and singing by herself;

Stop here, or gently pass !

Alone she cuts and binds the grain,

And sings a melancholy strain;

O listen ! for the vale profound

Is overflowing with the sound.

No nightingale did ever chant

More welcome notes to weary bands

Of travellers in some shady haunt,

Among Arabian sands:

A voice so thrilling ne'er was heard

In spring-time from the cuckoo-bird,

Breaking the silence of the seas

Among the farthest Hebrides.

Will no one tell me what she sings ? –

Perhaps the plaintive numbers flow

For old, unhappy, far-off things,

And battles long ago :

Or is it some more humble lay,

Familiar matter of to-day ?

Some natural sorrow, loss, or pain,

That has been, and may be again ?

Whate'er the theme, the Maiden sang

As if her song could have no ending;

I saw her singing at her work,

And o'er the sickle bending;

I listened, motionless and still;

And, as I mounted up the hill,

The music in my heart I bore,

Long after it was heard no more.

- (a) What is the lonely Highland girl singing ? What does the poet want us to do ? 2
- (b) What is the effect of her singing on the valley ? 2
- (c) How does the poet compare her song to that of the nightingale ? 2
- (d) What guess does the poet make about the subject of her song ? 2
- (e) What effect did her song have on the poet ? 2

SECTION – B

30 Marks

(CREATIVE WRITING AND APPLIED GRAMMAR)

2. (a) (i) Prepare a speech in **80-100** words on the topic, 'Honesty is the best policy'. **5**
- (ii) Number of vehicles on the roads is increasing day by day. This is one main cause of air pollution. Write an article in **80-100** words on the topic, 'Use of public transport can reduce air pollution'. **5**
- (b) Despite several laws against child labour in our country, we find small boys (under 14) working at roadside food stalls, cycle/motorcycle repair shops etc. At the same time in agriculture, in home based industries we find children helping their parents to earn a living. Write in **150-200** words a debate either for or against the topic, 'Child labour is unavoidable in Indian conditions'. **10**

OR

Write an article in about **150-200** words on 'Importance of public healthcare system'. Use the following hints :

- Life getting stressful, competition for jobs, family relationships getting complicated
- More people fall ill
- Medical help getting more and more expensive
- The poor, even the middle class can't afford it
- So, the need for more government dispensaries and hospitals

3. (a) In the paragraph given below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the words that come before and after it. Ensure that the word that forms your answer is underlined. $\frac{1}{2} \times 10 = 5$

		Word before	Missing word	Word after
One day I reached the pond,		day	<u>when</u>	I
I found already occupied	(i)	—	—	—
by buffaloes. Their owner,	(ii)	—	—	—
a boy, a little older I,	(iii)	—	—	—
was swimming the	(iv)	—	—	—
middle the pond. Instead	(v)	—	—	—
of climbing out on to bank,	(vi)	—	—	—
he pulled upon the	(vii)	—	—	—
back of one his buffaloes	(viii)	—	—	—
and stretched naked body out	(ix)	—	—	—
on animal's back.	(x)	—	—	—

- (b) Read the conversation given below and complete the paragraph that follows : $1 \times 5 = 5$

Kartik : Nalini, may I ask you for a favour ?

Nalini : Yes, you may. What can I do for you ?

Kartik : I want your history notes.

Nalini : I shall bring them tomorrow.

Kartik : I shall be thankful for that.

Kartik asked Nalini if (i). Nalini agreed that he might and enquired of him (ii). Kartik said that he (iii). Nalini replied that (iv). Kartik said that (v).

(TEXT FOR DETAILED STUDY)

4. (a) Choose any **two** of the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow

in **50-60** words each :

4 × 2 = 8

- (I) She had consented to go away, to leave her home. Was that wise ? She tried to weigh each side of the question. In her home anyway she had shelter and food ; she had those whom she had known all her life about her.

(i) Who is she ? Where had she agreed to go to ? **2**

(ii) Why did she want to leave home ? **2**

- (II) Two shadowes went

Along with us, which we ourselves produced ;

But, now the Sunne is just above our head,

We doe those shadowes tread ;

And to brave clearnesse all things are reduc'd.

(i) How do shadows before noon differ from shadows at noon ? **2**

(ii) What do the two kinds of shadows represent ? **2**

- (III) For the first time in my life I heard such words; for the first time I poured water into his cupped hands – the hands of a man the very dust of whose feet I would never have dared to touch.

(i) Who is 'I' ? What words did 'I' hear ? **2**

(ii) What effect did the words have on him/her ? **2**

(b) Answer any **two** of the questions given below in **80-100** words each : **5 × 2 = 10**

- (i) Why did the narrator in 'I Sell my Dreams' decide to leave Vienna never to return again ?
- (ii) Why did captain Hagberd come to settle down at Colebrook ?
- (iii) In his poem, Kubla Khan, Coleridge describes a vision he once saw. What did he see in that vision ?

(c) Answer any **two** of the questions given below in **120-150** words each : **6 × 2 = 12**

- (i) Quite often Tao Ying did not bother to buy a bus ticket. Why ? When and why did she decide to buy one even for her son ?
- (ii) How is slavery of man to man hateful ?
- (iii) What criticism did Manjula, a writer in Kannada, face when she wrote a novel in English ?

SECTION – D

20 Marks

(FICTION)

Note : Attempt either question no. **5** or **6** :

5. (a) Answer the questions given below in **80-100** words each : **5 × 2 = 10**

- (i) What does Raja tell us about his life in the zoo ?
- (ii) How does Raja establish that a tiger is superior to a lion ?

(b) Answer any **one** of the following questions in **150-200** words : **10**

- (i) Raja led a carefree life in the forest before he met a tigress. Comment.
- (ii) A Tiger for Malgudi. Why does Malgudi need a tiger ? Comment on the significance of the title.

6. (a) Answer the questions given below in **80-100** words each : **5 × 2 = 10**

- (i) What impression do you form of Arul Doss, the peon at the Co-operative Bank ?
- (ii) Describe the incident in which Margayya's child burnt his fingers.

(b) Answer any **one** of the questions given below in **150-200** words : **10**

- (i) Describe the three ways in which Margayya helped the villagers to secure loans from the Co-operative Bank.
- (ii) Margayya in dealing with Madan Lal proved to be a good business man. How did he negotiate the terms of his partnership with him ?

