

# ENGLISH (Core)

*Time allowed : 3 hours*

*Maximum Marks : 100*

## **General Instructions :**

- (i) *The paper is divided into **three** sections : A, B and C. All the sections are compulsory.*
- (ii) *Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.*
- (iii) *Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*

## QUESTION PAPER CODE 1/1/1

### SECTION A

#### (READING)

**AI.** Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

1 In today's fiercely competitive business environment, companies need to communicate information pertaining to a whole range of issues in a lucid and precise manner to their customers.

2 This is particularly so in the case of companies which do business in areas such as manufacturing, information technology (IT), engineering products and services— companies whose products and services may not be understood by a customer not familiar with its technical aspects.

3 These communication materials are prepared in a company these days by 'technical writers' — people who can effectively communicate to an intended audience.

4 The skills of a technical writer are being increasingly sought for preparing marketing documents such as brochures, case studies, website content and media kits and for the preparation of a whole range of manuals. Though technical writers in a company do a good portion of such work, the trend now is to outsource technical writing to free-lancers.

5 Technical writing and writing text-books are poles apart. The former is aimed at those who do not have an in-depth knowledge about a product and hence should be direct and lucid. An overdose of technical terms and jargon would only add to the confusion of the customer.

6 The basic requirement for being a technical writer is near-total mastery over English language. A technical writer should be natural in creative writing and needs to be an expert in using Business English.

7 This simply means that those with a Bachelor's degree in English Literature alongwith a diploma/degree in Journalism and having a Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Applications (PGDCA) are ideal candidates for being employed as technical writers.

8 According to Joe Winston, Chief Executive Officer of 'I-manager', speaking ability is not imperative for a technical writer. All that one needs is the talent to write in a simple and effective manner. Many have inhibitions in speaking English but their writing skills would be very sharp.

9 Technical writing would be a good option for such people. If a candidate is to be assigned the task of preparing high-end technical manuals, he/she is required to have higher qualifications such as an M.A./M.Phil. in English Literature and a degree such as M.C.A.

10 Companies look for such qualifications because technical writers first need to understand the technical information themselves, before trying to communicate it in de-jargonised language to the potential customers.

11 However, it is also true that many companies provide rigorous on-the-job training to fresh technical writers before allowing them to graduate to high-end products.

12 Though the demand for good technical writers has risen sharply over the years, the emphasis is never on numbers but on skills.

13 They point out that even graduates of English literature are often found wanting when it comes to creative and effective writing.

14 Merely having the right mix of writing and comprehension skills is not sufficient. A technical writer should keep his 'writing blades' constantly sharpened. It means untold hours of reading up the latest in the technological trends and ceaseless honing of one's Business English and writing skills. The nature of technical writing is such that a writer has to be at the peak of his expressive powers in each piece of writing he produces.

15 A career in technical writing is seen as a good choice for women mainly because it is widely held that women are more adept at creative writing than men and the job does not entail 'graveyard shifts' or 'arduous travelling'.

16 A beginner can expect to be paid anywhere between Rs. 8,000 to Rs. 15,000 a month. Technical writers usually join as executive technical writers and then go on to become senior technical writers, team leaders, documentation heads and some even manage to make it to a management job within a decade. As in most private sector jobs, merit is the main criterion for rise in job and not necessarily the number of years one has put in.

- |     |       |  |       |
|-----|-------|--|-------|
| (a) | (i)   | What is the need of technical writing in today's world ?           | 1     |
|     | (ii)  | What is the nature of the job of a technical writer ?              | 2     |
|     | (iii) | Whom does the technical writing aim at ?                           | 1     |
|     | (iv)  | According to Joe Winston, who could be a technical writer ?        | 1     |
|     | (v)   | What should be the academic qualification of a technical writer ?  | 2     |
|     | (vi)  | Is technical writing a good career for women ? Give two reasons.   | 2     |
| (b) |       | Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following : | 3x1=3 |
|     | (i)   | clear (para 1)   |       |
|     | (ii)  | continuous/without stopping (para 14)                              |       |
|     | (iii) | difficult (para 15)  |       |

**A2.** Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

There are two problems which cause great worry to our educationists — the problem of religious and moral instruction in a land of many faiths and the problem arising out of a large variety of languages.

Taking up the education of children, we see that they should be trained to love one another, to be kind and helpful to all, to be tender to the lower animals and to observe and think right. The task of teaching them how to read and write and to count and calculate is important, but it should not make us lose sight of the primary aim of moulding personality in the right way.

For this, it is necessary to call into aid, culture, tradition and religion. But in our country we have, in the same school, to look after boys and girls born in different faiths and belonging to families that live diverse ways of life and follow different forms of worship associated with different denominations of religion. It will not do to tread the easy path of evading the difficulty by attending solely to physical culture and intellectual education. We have to evolve a suitable technique and method for serving the spiritual needs of school children professing different faiths. We would thereby promote an atmosphere of mutual respect, a fuller understanding and helpful co-operation among the different communities in our society. Again we must remain one people and we have therefore to give basic training in our schools to speak and understand more languages than one and to appreciate and respect the different religions prevailing in India. It is not right for us in India to be dissuaded from this by considerations as to overtaking the young mind. What is necessary must be done. And it is not in fact too great a burden.

Any attempt to do away with or steamroll the differences through governmental coercion and indirect pressure would be as futile as it would be unwise. Any imposition of a single way of life and form of worship on all

children or neglect of a section of the pupils in this respect or barren secularisation will lead to a conflict between school and home life which is harmful. On the other hand, if we give due recognition to the different prevailing faiths in the educational institutions by organising suitable facilities for religious teaching for boys and girls of all communities, this may itself serve as a broadening influence of great national values.

- (a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it in points only, using headings and sub-headings. Also use recognisable abbreviations, wherever necessary (minimum 4). Supply a suitable title to it. 5
- (b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. 3

**SECTION B**  
**(ADVANCED WRITING SKILLS)**

- B1.** You want to dispose of your car, as you are going abroad. You are Harish of No. 10, Kailash Ganj, Lucknow. Draft an advertisement to be published in the daily, 'The Hindustan Times', under classified columns. 5

**OR**

You are Sajjanraj, S/o Sh. Dharmaraj of Greater Kailash, New Delhi. Your father wants you to draft a formal invitation to be sent on the occasion of your sister, Anita Raj's marriage. Prepare the invitation.

- B2.** You are Roshan / Roshini, Secretary of Cultural Club, Hyderabad Public School, Hyderabad. As a member of N.G.C. (National Green Corps), write a report, in 100 -125 words for your school magazine, about the activities organised by your club for greening of the environment. 10

**OR**

You have attended a seminar on how to decrease the burden of studies on school-going children. Write a report in 100-125 words for your school magazine. You are Ravi/Raveena of Guru Nanak Public School, Kanpur.

- B3.** Your younger brother, Suresh, needs your advice for the preparation of his Secondary School Examination. Write a letter to him giving some tips in brief. You are Ramesh / Reena, staying at Kotagiri Public School Hostel, Kotagiri. 10

**OR**

Write a letter to the Editor, 'The New Indian Express' drawing attention of the concerned authorities to the misused and poorly maintained subways in Chennai. Give your suggestions. You are Ram / Rani living at 10, Kamraj Street, Chennai.

- B4.** You are Manoj / Meena. Write an article in 150 - 200 words on the following : 10  
Value education should be made a part of the curriculum in schools. Highlight the steps taken by your school in this direction.

**OR**

Your experience of going to school when suddenly it started raining heavily.

**SECTION C**  
**(TEXT BOOKS)**

- C1.** (a) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow :

If this belief from Heaven be sent,  
If such be Nature's holy plan,  
Have I not reason to lament  
What Man has made of Man ?

- (i) Identify the poet. 1  
(ii) What is Nature's holy plan ? 1  
(iii) What is the poet's lament ? 2

**OR**

He came, not understanding, and obeyed, and stretched  
His hand and took the sacred vessel. Lo ! it shone  
With thrice its former lustre, and amazed them all !

- (i) Whom does 'he' refer to ? Why did he come ? 2  
(ii) What is it that he did not understand ? 1  
(iii) Why did the sacred plate shine with thrice its lustre ? 1
- (b) Answer the following in 30 - 40 words each : 3×2=6  
(i) What does Tagore mean by "burden of ages" ?  
(ii) Why does Hardy call war "quaint and curious" ?  
(iii) What does the poet want to relearn in the poem, 'Once upon a Time' ?

- C2.** Answer the following in 30 - 40 words each : 5×2=10

- (a) What changes did the Gandhian movement bring about in the status of the Indian women ?  
(b) Why is a machine compared to a Djinn ?  
(c) What suggestions does Max Mueller give to the students studying law at Cambridge ?  
(d) How, according to Edmund Burke, has a new nobility risen ?  
(e) How does Mrs. Bouncer explain the smell of tobacco smoke in Cox's room? What was the reaction of Cox ?

- C3.** Answer the following in 125 - 150 words : 10  
‘The Price of Flowers’ is an apt title. Do you agree ? Justify

**OR**

Give a character-sketch of the jailor of the Silver Jail.

- C4.** Answer the following in 125 - 150 words : 7  
“A prudent reserve is as necessary as a seeming openness is prudent.” Elucidate with reference to your lesson ‘On Conduct in Company’.

**OR**

Bring out the element of humour in the story, ‘Barin Bhowmik’s Ailment’.

- C5.** Answer the following in 30-40 words each : 4×2=8
- (a) What were the misconceptions generally associated with the handicapped in the ancient times ?
  - (b) What does John Gresham decide finally ?
  - (c) Why is there a need for the youth in the modern age to be academically inclined ?
  - (d) What happened to the Wang village after the Japanese attack ?

**QUESTION PAPER CODE 1/1**

**SECTION A**

**(READING)**

- A1.** Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

1 Smoking is the major cause of mortality with bronchogenic carcinoma of the lung and is one of the factors causing death due to malignancies of larynx, oral cavity, oesophagus, bladder, kidney, pancreas, stomach and uterine cervix and coronary heart diseases.

2 Nicotine is the major substance present in the smoke that causes physical dependence. The additives do produce damage to the body — for example, ammonia can result in a 100-fold increase in the ability of nicotine to enter into the smoke.

3 Levulinic acid, added to cigarettes to mask the harsh taste of the nicotine, can increase the binding of nicotine to brain receptors, which increases the ‘kick’ of nicotine.

4 Smoke from the burning end of a cigarette contains over 4000 chemicals and 40 carcinogens. It has long been known that tobacco smoke is carcinogenic or cancer-causing.

5 The lungs of smokers collect an annual deposit of 1 to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pounds of the gooey black material. Invisible gas phase of cigarette smoke contains nitrogen, oxygen and toxic gases like carbon monoxide, formaldehyde, acrolein, hydrogen cyanide and nitrogen oxides. These gases are poisonous and in many cases interfere with the body's ability to transport oxygen.

6 Like many carcinogenic compounds, they can act as tumour promoters or tumour initiators by acting directly on the genetic make-up of cells of the body leading to development of cancer.

7 During smoking, within the first 8—10 seconds, nicotine is absorbed through the lungs and quickly 'moved' into the bloodstream and circulated throughout the brain. Nicotine can also enter the bloodstream through the mucous membranes that line the mouth (if tobacco is chewed) or nose (if snuff is used) and even through the skin. Our brain is made up of billions of nerve cells. They communicate with each other by chemical messengers called neurotransmitters.

8 Nicotine is one of the most powerful nerve poisons and binds stereoselectively to nicotinic receptors located in the brain, autonomic ganglia, the medulla, neuro-muscular junctions. Located throughout the brain, they play a critical role in cognitive processes and memory.

9 The nicotine molecule is shaped like a neurotransmitter called acetylcholine which are involved in many functions including muscle movement, breathing, heart-rate learning and memory. Nicotine, because of the similar structure with acetylcholine when it gets into the brain, attaches itself to acetylcholine sites and produces toxic effect.

10 In high concentrations, nicotine is more deadly. In fact one drop of purified nicotine on the tongue will kill a person. It has been used as a pesticide for centuries.

11 Recent research studies suggest that acute nicotine administration would result in increased dopamine release from the brain, producing perceptions of pleasure and happiness, increased energy and motivation, increased alertness, increased feeling of vigour during the early phase of smoking.

12 However, notwithstanding these superficial effects, research shows that the relationship between smoking and memory loss is strongest in people who smoke more than 20 cigarettes each day and this is not specific to the socio-economic status, gender and a range of associated medical conditions. Smoking

may speed up age related memory loss and the details are not yet clear. Some studies suggest that repeated exposure to high nicotinic smoke related to the 'Brain-wiring' is nothing but neuro-biochemistry that deals with complex interaction among genetic experience and bio-chemistry of brain-cells.

13 'NO' is a unique molecule which plays a role in a number of beneficial and some of the harmful brain and body mechanisms, for example, synapse formation, drug tolerance and local regulation of cerebral blood flow, Parkinson's disease etc. It is also found that people who smoke more cigarettes a day have poorer memories in middle age than non-smokers.

14 Some experts say that smoking is linked to memory problems because it contributes to narrowed arteries that restrict blood-flow to the brain. One of the causes of memory decline in relation to the brain function could be the nerve cell death or decreased density of interconnected neuronal network due to loss of dendrites, the tiny filaments which connect one nerve cell to another. Abstinence from smoking is essential, not only to avoid this systemic effect but also to reduce the ill-effects on the environment.

- |         |   |       |
|---------|---|-------|
| (a) (i) | How is smoking the major cause of mortality ?               | 2     |
| (ii)    | What in a cigarette makes the people addicted to it ?       | 1     |
| (iii)   | What are neurotransmitters ?                                | 2     |
| (iv)    | How does nicotine produce toxic effect ?                    | 2     |
| (v)     | According to the experts, how is smoking linked to memory ? | 2     |
| (b)     | Find words from the above passage which mean the same as :  | 3×1=3 |
| (i)     | death (para 1)  |       |
| (ii)    | energy/force (para 11)                                      |       |
| (iii)   | endurance (para 13)   |       |

**A2.** Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

The first Olympics was held at Olympia in Greece in 776 B.C. The prestige and glory of the Olympics spread far and wide. With the advent of Christianity the games lost their importance, as it was believed that they encouraged pagan worship in temples built to honour the Greek gods. It was Theodosius I who ordered the total destruction of the Olympia Sanctuary's temples and other structures in the year 394 A.D., which ended the era of the ancient Olympic games.

It was due to the efforts of Baron de Coubertin that the modern Olympics of the modern era began in 1896 and were held every four years except during the two World Wars.



The International Olympic Committee (IOC) was constituted in 1894. It had 15 representatives including Coubertin. The first Olympic medal was won by America's James Connolly in triple jump. The Marathon was the most important event and was won by a Greek named Spiridon Louis.

Olympia is a small village situated near the west coast of the Peloponnese Peninsula of Greece. It is noted for its archaeological ruins which are related to the temples for worship of Greek gods and the ancient Olympic stadium.

The visitor is impressed by the grandiose ruins, which show temple foundations, ruins of the temple of Zeus, the tall columns, the altars and art objects that dot the site. Some of these objects are placed in the Archaeological museum. Another museum displays objects like stamps, photographs, documents, flags, maps and trophies belonging to the modern Olympics.

The games sought to bring various warring groups together in an atmosphere of friendly rivalry and competition. So a sacred truce would be called for the duration of the games that had assumed pan-hellenic importance.

Some of the events included in the games were foot-racing, wrestling, chariot-racing and horse-racing. The names of the victors along with the name of events would be recorded for posterity. For the victors, it was the laurel wreath that was important as it signified their superior performance.

At the modern Olympics the sacred flame is lit at Olympia using sun power, by Greek maidens dressed in white. The event is presided over by a Greek priestess. The flame is then carried in a torch that travels across nations. The importance of the Olympic movement has been recognised over centuries as it brings people together in a spirit of friendly competition.

- (a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary. 5
- (b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. 3

## SECTION B

### (ADVANCED WRITING SKILLS)

- BI.** You are the General Manager of a leading industrial concern. You need a Chartered Accountant for your office. Draft an advertisement in not more than 50 words to be published in *The Times of India*, New Delhi, under the classified columns. 5

### OR

You are Rakesh / Raveena, Head Boy / Head Girl of Oasis Public School, Bareilly. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words for the school notice board, asking the students to give their names for taking part in the Inter-Class Swimming Competition.

- B2.** You are Amrit / Anita of the Sigma Youth Organisation. You witnessed the ghastly accident of the Punjab Mail at Bhusaval. Write a report, in 100 - 125 words, of the disaster for your organization's newsletter. 10

**OR**

'Each One Plant One' campaign was organised by you to celebrate Vanamahotsava Day on 10 November. As Secretary of your school, Armada Public School, Delhi, write a report in 100 — 125 words for your school magazine. You are Ankit / Ankita of Delhi.

- B3.** You are Karthik / Krithika of Chennai. Of late, chain-snatching incidents are increasing in the city. Write a letter to the Editor of *The New Indian Express* drawing the attention of the concerned authorities. Also give suggestions. 10

**OR**

You could not visit your sister at Nepal due to certain unavoidable circumstances. Write a letter to your sister explaining and regretting your inability. You. are Madhavan / Madhavi of Kochi, Kerala.

- B4.** 'Games and sports should be made compulsory in schools.' Do you agree ? Write an article in 150 — 200 words to be published in a local daily. 10

**OR**

'Are we happier than our ancestors ?' Write an article in 150 — 200 words to be published in your school magazine.

**SECTION C**  
**(TEXT BOOKS)**

- C1.** (a) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow :

"I shot him dead because —  
Because he was my foe,  
Just so : My foe of course he was :  
That's clear enough :"

- (i) Name the poem. 1  
(ii) What did 'I' do ? 1  
(iii) What was 'clear enough' ? 2

**OR**

There will be no thrice —  
For then I find doors shut on me.

- (i) Name the poem. 1
- (ii) Who is the poet talking to ? 1
- (iii) What will happen if 'I' go the third time ? Why ? 2
- (b) Answer the following in 30 - 40 words each : 3×2=6
- (i) What are the shackles that Tagore speaks of and why does he call them shackles of slumber ?
- (ii) Why does Wordsworth become sad when he thinks about the activities of man ?
- (iii) What does the poet want to convey by "beauty in small proportions" in 'The Noble Nature' ?
- C2.** Answer the following questions in 30 — 40 words each : 5×2=10
- (a) What information about the girl did the waitress give to Mr. Gupta ?
- (b) What was responsible for Box's encounter with Cox ?
- (c) Why is there a craze for machines in nations which have a long tradition of artistic excellence ?
- (d) According to Bhai Parmanand, what is the worst punishment in jail ? Why ?
- (e) For what two major charges did Edmund Burke want to impeach Warren Hastings ?
- C3.** Answer the following in 125 - 150 words : 10
- What status did women enjoy in ancient India ? Why were they among the most backward in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries ?

**OR**

"India occupies a place second to no other country." Why does Max Mueller say so ? Explain.

- C4.** Answer the following in 125 - 150 words : 7
- "The youth of a nation is always the fountainhead of its idealism." Explain with reference to your lesson 'Youth and the Tasks Ahead'.

**OR**

Mrs. Wang had immense faith in humanity. Do you agree ? Substantiate your answer with examples from the text.

**C5.** Answer the following in 30 - 40 words each :

4×2=8

- (a) How did Baldwin manage to be loyal to Mr. Gresham without sacrificing his principles ?
- (b) How has the media helped in spreading awareness about the capabilities of the challenged ?
- (c) What were the banker's fears when he realized that the lawyer was about to win the bet ?
- (d) What had the narrator seen on the wall of his room ? What was peculiar about it ?

**EXPECTED ANSWERS/VALUE POINTS**

**SECTION A (READING)**

**A 1. COMPREHENSION PASSAGE**

- (a) (i) – to communicate technical aspects to customers in a lucid style  
– to help a customer  
(any one) 1 mark
- (ii) – to prepare marketing documents such as brochures, case studies, website content, media kits / a range of manuals  
(Full marks to be allotted if the child writes – to prepare marketing documents) 2 marks
- (iii) At those who do not have an in-depth knowledge about a product 1 mark
- (iv) – anyone talented to write in a simple and effective manner /  
– somebody who has near – total mastery over English language  
– natural in creative writing and an expert in writing Business English  
– someone with a Bachelor’s degree in English Literature along with a diploma / degree in Journalism and having a post graduate diploma in computer applications (PGDCA)  
(any one) 1 mark
- (v) – higher qualifications such as M.A. / M. Phil in English Literature and a degree such as MCA. 2 marks
- (vi) Yes  
– women are more adept at creative writing than men.  
– job does not entail “graveyard shifts” / or arduous travelling  
(any two) 2 marks
- [Note: If a child writes NO and gives logical point in support of his statement marks are to be awarded]
- (b) (i) clear – lucid 3 marks  
(ii) continuous / without stopping – constantly / ceaseless  
(iii) difficult – arduous