

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

This question paper is divided into three sections.

Section A	Reading	6 marks
Section B	Writing & Grammar	8 marks
Section C	Literature	6 Marks

**Section – A (Reading)**

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: (6 marks)

Sanskrit was considered as "Dev Bhasha", "Devavani" or the language of the Gods by ancient Indians. The word sanskrita, meaning "refined" or "purified," is the antonym of prakrita, meaning "natural," or "vulgar." It is made up of the primitive sounds, and is developed systematically to include the natural progressions of sounds as created in the human mouth. Jawaharlal Nehru has said that Sanskrit is a language amazingly rich, efflorescent, full of luxuriant growth of all kinds, and yet precise and strictly keeping within the framework of grammar which Panini laid down two thousand years ago. It spread out, added to its richness, became fuller and more ornate, but always it stuck to its original roots. The ancient Indians attached a great deal of importance to sound, and hence their writing, poetry or prose, had a rhythmic and musical quality. Our modern languages of India are children of Sanskrit, and to it owe most of their vocabulary and their forms of expressions.

Sanskrit is the oldest and the most systematic language in the world. The vastness and the versatility, and power of expression can be appreciated by the fact that this language has 65 words to describe various forms of earth, 67 words for water, and over 250 words to describe rainfall.

The Sanskrit grammarians wished to construct a perfect language, which would belong to no one and thus belong to all, which would not develop but remain an ideal instrument of communication and culture for all peoples and all time. Swami Vivekananda had said, "The only solution to be reached was the findings of a great sacred language of which all others would be considered as manifestations and that was found in Sanskrit."

Panini's Sanskrit grammar, produced in about 1300 BCE is the shortest and the fullest grammar in the world.

- 1.1 Answer the following questions briefly:

- What does the word "Sanskrit" mean?
- To whom do we owe the credit of preparing the perfect grammar of Sanskrit language?
- Why are the verses of ancient Sanskrit rhythmic?
- What did Swami Vivekananda feel about this language?
- Find a word from the passage which means the same as 'visible expressions.'
- Find a word from the passage which is the antonym of the word 'artificial'.

### Section – B (Writing and Grammar)

2. Write a short story in about 100 to 120 words with the beginning given below. (4 marks)  
Provide a suitable title to the story.

Siddharth was happy travelling by the train to his native place to attend his sister's wedding. He had every reason to be in high spirits. Just a month ago he was totally frustrated as nothing was going well in his life...

3. The following passage has not been edited. Write the word and the correction in your answer sheet, against the correct blank number. ( $\frac{1}{2} \times 4 = 2$  marks)

The word safari come from the Swahili language.  
Do you know what a Safari was? It is a jungle  
where you can go and watch and take pictures  
for the large animals like lions and tigers in their  
natural homes. It is not a zoo because the animals their  
roam freely and are not in cages.

- a) \_\_\_\_\_  
b) \_\_\_\_\_  
c) \_\_\_\_\_  
d) \_\_\_\_\_

4. Rearrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences. ( $1 \times 2 = 2$  marks)
- a) your reading / is a / speeding / up / scanning / tool for / useful  
b) other / to find / you / a hurry / it allows / information in / details and

### Section - C (Literature)

5. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: ( $3 \times 1 = 3$  marks)

Round the decay  
Of that colossal wreck boundless and bare  
The lone and level sands stretch far away.

- a) What does "colossal wreck" refer to?  
b) Identify the poetic device used in the above lines.  
c) What is the message conveyed through these poetic words?

6. Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each: ( $3 \times 1 = 3$  marks)
- a) What was the purpose of the visit made by Helen the ghost? (Shady Plot)  
b) What priceless words of advice did Patol Babu, in his moments of dilemma, recall?  
c) How did the arrival of the albatross cheer the sailors? (Rime of the Ancient Mariner)

-X-X-X-X-X-X-