

**Read the passage given below :**

(1) Tourists to Jammu and Kashmir have another attraction – a floating post office on the Dal Lake in Srinagar, the first in the country. 'Floating Post Office, Dal Lake' – claimed to be the only one such post office in the world – is built on an intricately carved maroon houseboat, fastened on the western edge of the Dal Lake.

(2) This post office lets you avail of all the regular postal services available in the country while being afloat. The seal used on everything posted from Floating Post Office is unique – along with the date and address, it bears the design of a boatman rowing a shikara on the Dal Lake. The special feature of this post office is that letters posted from here carry a special design which has the picturesque scenery of Dal Lake and Srinagar city. These pictures reach wherever these letters are posted to and hence promote Kashmir as a tourist destination across the world.

(3) This is actually a heritage post office that has existed since British times. It was called Nehru Park Post Office before 2011. But then the chief postmaster John Samuel renamed it as 'Floating Post Office'.

(4) The post office's houseboat has two small rooms – one serves as the office and the other a small museum that traces the philatelic history of the state postal department. It has a shop that sells postage stamps and other products.

(5) But for the locals, Floating Post office is more than an object of fascination. ` 1-2 crore is deposited per month in Floating Post Office by communities living in and around the Dal Lake. The lake has several islets that are home to more than 50,000 people.

(6) The greatest fear is the recurrence of 2014 like floods in which the houseboat had gone for a toss uncontrollably pushed by the flood. Rescue teams had to anchor it using special mechanism in a nearby highland. Then it was brought back on the Dal after the water receded. The biggest boon is that at no time of the year do you need a fan in this post-office !

**1.1 Answer the following questions on the basis of the passage you have read :**

- (i) What is the location of the Floating Post Office in Srinagar ?
- (ii) What is special about the seal used in the post office ?
- (iii) How is the post office helpful in promoting tourism ?
- (iv) Who renamed the post office as 'Floating Post Office' ?
- (v) What are the two rooms of the post office used for ?
- (vi) How is the post office beneficial to the locals ?
- (vii) What is the greatest fear that the post office has ?
- (viii) How is the post office a big boon to the people ?

**2. Read the passage given below.**

(1) It is an indisputable fact that the world has gone too far with the innovation of new technologies such as mobile phones, the internet and so on, due to which people are able to tour the cosmos virtually sitting at one place using their smart devices or other technological gadgets. Though mobile internet access is oftentimes hurried and short, it can still provide common internet features like alerts, weather data,

emails, search engines, instant messages, and game and music downloading.

(2) Due to the easy access of smart phones, communication has been very effective and instant. People are able to convey their message all around the globe to their loved ones without spending hefty sums of money. Adults are always fond of such gadgets and they always welcome and adopt such new technology readily. Further, young people have been able to broaden their minds and improve their skills by doing research on the Internet. For instance, they use smart phones to look up any new word they come across. As we know that most of the universities have online teaching provision and smart phones assist the students to complete their assignments on time.

(3) The mobile phone has been a lifesaver for a lot of people in case of an emergency. Likewise, use of smart phones can be of vital importance in preventing crimes in the society by providing information to the security forces in time.

(4) Nonetheless, for the young the use of mobile phone can be like an addiction and they can misuse it. Young people are also prone to getting involved in undesirable activities on the Internet. This might have adverse effect on their academic performance. Therefore, young people should always be monitored and made aware of its bad outcomes.

(5) Also a major contributor to its popularity is the availability of prepaid or pay as you go services from a phone shop or an online store. This allows subscribers to load text or airtime credits to their handsets by the use of their credit cards, debit cards or by buying a prepaid card from the network they subscribe to. This plan also doesn't commit a particular customer to a contract. If prepaid card is not that appealing to you, then you can opt to subscribe using the pay by month plan.

2.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions in 30-40 words each :

- (i) How are smart phones helpful in communication ?
- (ii) What are the benefits of mobile phones for the young generation ?
- (iii) How can mobile phones be considered 'lifesavers' ?
- (iv) How is a prepaid card useful to mobile phone users ?

2.2 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer any four of the following :

- (i) In para 1, synonym of 'innovation' is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (i) production                      (ii) sincerity
- (iii) invention                      (iv) prevention
- (ii) Mobile internet can provide access to :
- (i) telegram                      (ii) emails
- (iii) schools                      (iv) university
- (iii) Grown-ups should \_\_\_\_\_ the use of new technology by the young people.
- (i) reject                      (ii) criticizes
- (iii) monitor                      (iv) accept
- (iv) Meaning of the word 'adverse' in para 4 is :
- (i) positive                      (ii) negative
- (iii) admirable                      (iv) unguided

Q3. Your school, Vandan Public School, Dayanand Vihar, Chandigarh , requires some musical instruments. Write a letter to Sarswati Musical Pvt.Ltd. Shahadra placing and order for the same , on the behalf of the school principal (120 to 150 words)

Q4. Write a letter to the editor of a local daily complaining against the school-bus drivers for rash-driving and overcrowding of buses causing risk to the lives of innocent school children. You are Dipti/ Deepak, C-4C Janakpuri, New Delhi.

Q5. You intend to join coaching classes at International coaching center situated in Raipur. The institute specializes in teaching science to classes XI - XII. Write a letter of enquiry in 100-120 words addressed to the Administrator incharge of the institute seeking clarification about the timings, duration, staff, transport and other necessary details for joining the institute. You are Rajesh/ Rajni 2, Library Road Jabalpur.

Q6. In 200-250 words write a story based on the input given below:

A long wait for the bus – people impatient – a large crowd – a lot of confusion – felt the pocket being touched – looked around – caught the hand – and .....

Q7. Accidents happen when people violate traffic rules. Careless drivers cause suffering to themselves and to others. Write an article in 100 - 120 words on "Safe Driving".

Q8. Rearrange any four of the following word clusters to make meaningful sentences:

- (a) very exciting / can be / new country / travelling to / a
- (b) it / a lot of / before / actually requires / the visit / preparation
- (c) option / is / Light / travelling / best / the
- (d) also need / we / the local weather / in mind / to / keep
- (e) always / enriched / we / return / experience / the / with

Q9. Rearrange the following words/phrases to form meaningful sentences. Do any four.

- (i) work and play / things / different / parents see / as two
- (ii) is a of time / they / waste / think / that playing
- (iii) important / games / studies / are as / as
- (iv) a student / to both / proper / should / attention / pay
- (v) can / life / only / succeed / he / in / then

Q10. **Fill up the following gaps with suitable options:**

Now that (a) \_\_\_\_\_ (an/the/to/a) Board exams (Class XII) are over, you can breathe (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (on/for/so/in) relief. However, for many of you it (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (was/were/may/is) still 'not over' as you may (d) \_\_\_\_\_ (has/have/being/had) to prepare for entrance exams.

Q11. **Fill up the following gaps with suitable options:**

There was a panel discussion on television (a) \_\_\_\_\_ (more/for/of/about) news programmes. The host (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (introduce/introduced/introducing/was introduced) the topic and raised some questions. One of the participants, Alka, (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (saying/says/say/said) that though news programmes are (d) \_\_\_\_\_ (kept/keep/keeps/keeping) us well informed.

Q12. The following paragraph has not been edited. There is one error in each line Write the error and its correction as shown in the example.

		<i>Error</i>	<i>Correction</i>
Neil Armstrong was the commander for Apollo 11		e.g.	for of
He was the first to walk over	(a)	_____	_____
the moon. What many people do not knew	(b)	_____	_____
is that unlike most of their fellow	(c)	_____	_____
astronauts, he was the civilian	(d)	_____	_____
and not part of the military.			

Q13. The following paragraph has not been edited. There is one error in each line Write the error and its correction .

	Error	Correction
As dusk fall, the people who had gathered	(a) .....	/ .....
below a big shamiana to listen to the singers	(b) .....	/ .....
lit candles and were waiting for	(c) .....	/ .....
the quawwalis to begin. Even few noblemen	(d) .....	/ .....
from the court of Emperor was present.		

Q14. In the passage given below one word has been omitted from each line. Write the missing word and the word that comes before and the word that comes after it in your answer sheet. The first one has been done for you.

	Before / missing / after
Walking very beneficial to us	walking / is / very
We should get up early the morning	(a) ..... / ..... / .....
and go for a walk. Those are	(b) ..... / ..... / .....
used to for morning walks, will find it	(c) ..... / ..... / .....
impossible to remain bed in the	(d) ..... / ..... / .....
morning. For them it is not so much.	

Q15. The following paragraph has not been edited. One word has been omitted in each line. Write the omitted word along with the words that come before and after in your answer sheet.

	Before	missing	after
Satyajit Ray was born May 2, 1921.	a) .....	.....	.....
He came a distinguished family of writer	b) .....	.....	.....
and artists and showed great interest arts	c) .....	.....	.....
from a very early age. He directed more 36 films	d) .....	.....	.....
and documentaries. In addition directing movies	e) .....	.....	.....
Ray worked a fiction writer, critic and publisher.	f) .....	.....	.....
He revived children’s magazine, Sandesh.	g) .....	.....	.....
The magazine informative and entertaining.	h) .....	.....	.....

**\*Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow.**

Q16 “Some say the world will end in fire

Some say in ice.

From what I’ve tasted of desire

I hold with those who favor fire”.

(a) What is the poet’s opinion of the world in these lines?

(b) What is the poet’s opinion about the world?

(c) What is the contradictory opinion of public?

(d) How are ice and fire similar to each other though they have contradictory traits?

Q17.”But if it had to perish twice I think I know enough of hate To say that for destruction ice Is also great And would suffice.”

(a) What does ‘it’ refers to in the first line?

(b) What do you mean by ‘perish’?

(c) What does ice stand for?

(d) What would be the cause of destruction?

Q18.” But he’s locked in a concrete cell

His strength behind bars,

Stalking the length of his cage,  
Ignoring visitors.”

- (a) Who is ‘he’ in the poem ?
- (b) Why is he ignoring visitors ?
- (c) Here ‘stalking’ means
- (d) Where is the tiger locked

Q 19.”He is learning, well behind his desperate eyes,  
The epistemology of loss, how to stand up  
Knowing what every man must one day know  
And most know many days, how to stand up.”

- (a) What is the boy learning?
- (b) Why are boy’s eyes desperate?
- (c) What do you mean by ‘epistemology of loss’?
- (d) What every man needs to know one day?

Q 20. “My head is full of whispers which tomorrow will be silent. Listen. The glass is breaking.  
The trees are stumbling forward into the night. Winds rush to meet them. The moon is broken  
like a mirror, its pieces flash now in the crown of the tallest oak”.

- (a) Why would the whispers be silent tomorrow?
- (b) Why are the trees stumbling?
- (c) Which word in the stanza means the same as ‘Quiet’?
- (d) Which poetic device has been used in the sixth line of the stanza?

Q 21.” In life, every man has twin obligations- obligations to his family, to his parents, to his wife  
and children; and he has an obligation to his people, his community, his country. In a civil and  
humane society, each man is able to fulfil those obligations according to his own inclinations  
and abilities. But in a country like South Africa, it was almost impossible for a man of my birth  
and colour to fulfil both of those obligations. In South Africa, a man of colour who attempted to  
live as a human being was punished and isolated.”

- (a) What are the obligations that every man has in life?
- (b) Why was it impossible for a coloured man to discharge his obligations?
- (c) Find the word in the passage which has same meaning as ‘duty’.
- (d) A word synonymous with intentions’ is ..... in the passage.

**\* Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words:**

Q22. What freedom meant to Mandela in childhood?

Q23. What did Mandela think for oppressor and oppressed?

Q24. Write the sum and substance of the poem “**The Ball Poem**”.

Q25. “Money is external”. What does the poet mean by this expression?

Q26. Why did the poet not offer the boy money to buy another ball?

Q27. Describe the first flight of the young seagull.

Q28. Describe Anne’s love for her grandmother.

Q29. Why did Maddie write a note to Peggy and then tore it?

Q30. How did Peggy and Maddie try to amend for their behavior towards Wanda?

Q31. What is the importance of breads for the Goans?

Q32. How has the Coorgi tradition of courage and bravery recognised in modern India?

Q33. What did Rajvir see while looking outside from the train?

Q34. What, according to the writer, is the ‘ real play’ of the otter?

Q35. Mention any two of Ebright’s contributions to the world of science.

Q36. How did the visible man become invisible? What did he do then?

Q37. How did Horace Danby plan his robberies?

Q38. Why did Max’s face turn black with anger? What did he want Ausable to do?

- Q39. What did Anil and Hari agree upon to be the mode of payment?  
Q40. What made James Herriot expect a call from Mrs Pumphrey?

**Answer the following questions in about 120-150 words:**

- Q41. Write the character sketch of Anne Frank.  
Q42. What impression do you form of Wanda Petronski on the basis of reading the lesson 'The Hundred Dresses'?  
Q43. How can you say that Maddie is an emotional girl ? Compare and contrast Maddie and Peggy.  
Q44. How did Ebright's mother help him in becoming a scientist?  
Q45. Richard Ebright displayed a well-rounded personality. Do you agree? Elucidate in the context of the given text  
Q46. Why do you think the otter was not friendly at first with the narrator? Can you relate this to the human nature as well?  
Q47. Griffin was not a true scientist as he misused his scientific discovery. Illustrate this point by giving two incidents from the story.  
Q48. Horace was clever but the lady in red was cleverer. Do you agree with this statement? Justify your answer.  
Q49. Money can't make a man as much as education can. Elucidate the statement with reference to 'The Thief's Story'.  
Q50. Compare and contrast the characters of Ausable and Max.

