A.1 Read the following passage carefully:

Aesthetically arranged flowers in simple decorative containers indicate your taste to interiors and helps to create the right ambience in a room. Flowers to match or contrast the colour scheme of your decor lend a specific character to your premises.

Flowers can be placed in a living room, dining table, study or bathrooms. Different flowers for each room create homeliness. They make the room look beautiful and serene. Flowers can motivate a student to concentrate, embellish a dining table with an aura of happiness and relax the diners. Fresh flowers though especially flowers are not available throughout the year. Roses and Gladioli go pale in the summers and shrink quickly. If you want to create the effect of flowers in your environs, without having to worry about their maintenance go for artificial flowers.

With the availability of artificial flowers, one does not have to rush out to purchase fresh flowers at early hours too. The only trick is to know the art of arranging them. Once you have the arrangement right, to lift up your spirits and enhance the colour and brightness in your living room.

Artificial flowers that look real from a distance can be made of silk, crepe, velvet or synthetic paper. Some of the imported flowers have a natural sheen and unless you touch them it is difficult to make out if they are real. This is particularly true for artificial greens - shrubs, money plants, creepers, plants and trees- these look good in hotel lobbies and restaurants.

But if you purchase artificial flowers in the hope that they will last a lifetime, you are sadly mistaken. “They may not wilt as quickly as natural flowers but will require your attention for their maintenance” says Roop Sagar, owner of flower shops at the Maurya Sheraton and Radisson Hotels.

Owing to the dust in our environment and the dust storms in summers, artificial flowers attract dirt and have to be cleaned delicately. In the monsoon months, on the other hand, dampness robs them of the sheen and they appear listless. Vacuum cleaning and soft handling restores them to their original shape and charm. “After cleaning, they require fresh arrangement with fillers like dried leaves.” Adds Roop.

On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it, using headings & subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary (minimum 4).

Make a summary of the passage in about 80 words.

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

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage complete the statements given below with the help of options that follow:

Pondicherry as a seaside resort has an enchanting ambience, not felt anywhere else in India. It is a blend of spiritual aura, French colonial heritage, Tamil culture and the cosmopolitan flair of many
nationalists in a small, vibrant town. The inherent ambience of Pondy, as it is fondly called becomes most evident in the oldest part of the town. Colonial buildings some of which were built in the 18th century, line the clean streets and house the French institutions, private homes, businesses and the famous Sri Aurobindo Ashram. Quiet beaches and peaceful resorts to the north and south balance the town’s bustling, yet easy going life.

It is also the perfect base to explore the rich destinations around it. Auroville, the International City of Unity with Matrimandir as its centre, has a dome which has the largest man made crystal in the world at the top of the dome. The crystal filters the harsh sunlight and lets in soothingly sufficient light into the meditation hall. Anchor yourself in Pondy and find in your reach the imposing Gingee Fort, the holy temple of Kanchipuram, Tiruvannamalai and Chidambaram, the heritage sculptures and magnificent rock temples of Mamallapuram and the lush hill stations of Yercaud and Kodaikanal.

Monuments are plenty in Pondy and each one has a story to tell. The AayiMandapam at the centre of the park was built during the reign of Napoleon III in France and named after a 16th century courtesan Aayi, who demolished her house and built a water tank instead. This to appease a passing king who had mistaken her candle lit home for a holy place. This reservoir served French engineers later to bring water to the town.

Pondicherry is best accessible by road from Chennai, Bangalore and even from Kerala. It has wide choice of hotels, beach resorts for the easy going tourists and families, heritage hotels for those who want to experience something more than the present, high class commercial hotels for the corporate visitor and the neat Ashram Guest Houses for the spiritual seeker.

Pondy has a lot to offer to the shoppers and is fast becoming a favourite shopping destination. It is soft on your purse with taxes either low or non existent. It is known for its traditional doll making and textiles and silks. But it is also the birth place of several of several world class brands in leather, pottery, aromatics, fashion and handmade paper. The proliferation of exquisite decor boutiques and export quality antique furniture galleries is the latest trend.

2.1 Choose the most appropriate options from the following :

(a) Pondy’s ambience is unique because
   (i) Sri Aurobindo Ashram is there
   (ii) its lifestyle is easy going and peaceful
   (iii) it’s a blend of different cultures and heritage.
   (iv) there are beaches in the north and south of town

(b) Which one of the following is a reminder of Pondy’s French connection ?
   (i) the Matrimandir
   (ii) the Aayi Mandapam
   (iii) the Sri- Aurobindo Ashram
   (iv) the Gingee Fort

(c) The monument at the centre of the Park is famous because
   (i) it was made by Napoleon III
   (ii) it is the only monument with a story
   (iii) earlier it was a candle – lit holy place
   (iv) Aayi, a courtesan, built it to appease a king

(d) Pondy’s heritage hotels are meant for those who
   (i) want a stay with a spiritual touch
   (ii) want a luxurious stay
   (iii) want a low budget stay
   (iv) want to experience life of the past

(e) Shoppers are attracted to Pondy because
   (i) it offers beautiful soft purses
   (ii) they can learn traditional doll-making
(iii) taxes are low or absent
(iv) it is turning into a shopping destination

(f) The word proliferation (para 5) means the same as
(i) rapid increase
(ii) rapid decrease
(iii) diminishing profitability
(iv) rising importance

Answer the following questions briefly:
Q.1 What is so special about Matrimandir?
Q.2 Mention any two factors which make Pondicherry a dream destination for any tourist.
Q.3 How did the Aayi Mandapam get its name?
Q.4 Pondicherry is a shopper's delight. How?
Q.5 Find words from the passage which mean the same as each of the following:
(i) impressive to look at (Para 2)  (ii) to calm or pacify (Para 3)

SECTION B (WRITING SECTION AND GRAMMAR SECTION)

B.1. The National Integration Council needs a poster to promote national unity and communal harmony. Draft an attractive poster.

B.2. On behalf of the Principal of your school, draft an advertisement inviting applications for the post of PGT (English) teacher.

B.3. During the summer break you went on a trekking and camping trip to Himachal Pradesh with your friends. Write a factual description in about 150-200 words narrating your joys of trekking, the open air camp life and adventures of the group.

B.4. Your school plans to launch its community radio soon. On behalf of the Principal of your school write a notice announcing the decision and inviting the students to appear for audition.

B.5. You are Akriti/Akrit living at Bandra, Mumbai. Last month you bought a 4G mobile phone with a year long guarantee. Unfortunately, the set has developed a snag and is no longer working. Write a letter to the Customer Care Manager of the manufacturer complaining against the defective set and asking for a replacement. Quote the cash memo number, model and date of purchase.

B.6. Terrorism is no more a local issue. It is a global concern now. Write a letter to the Editor of a leading newspaper voicing your concern and views on the issue which needs immediate redressal. You are Chris Harris, living in Alaknanda Apartments, Adarsh Nagar, New Delhi.


B.8. Outside the gate of your school there are few food carts. They don't deserve strict hygienic standards. You have observed that so many students go to them immediately after the school is over. This can create health problems. As Headboy/Headgirl of your school, write a speech in 150-200 words on “Healthy Food” to be delivered in the morning assembly.

B.9. Rob, the multi-faceted artist-anchor of the programme M.A.D of the POGO channel held an Art and Craft workshop in your school during the summer vacation. Write a report of the event in about 150-200 words.
B.10. Today Indian media, both print and electronic has become very active. All major newspapers and TV channels have taken on the problems of corruption, bribery, violence, terrorism, crime and violation of human rights. You strongly feel that this is a good sign for Indian Democracy. Write an article in 150-200 words on “Media as Watchdog of our Democracy”.

B.10 You are Neeraj/Neerja Principal of Model Secondary School, Pune. Your school has just started a music department. Write a letter to the Manager of Melody House, Pune wholesale suppliers of musical instruments, placing an order for musical instruments for the school. Ask for a discount on the catalogue prices. (120-150 words).

B.11 The Nilgiris Senior Secondary School is holding an interschool debate on the topic, “School bullies are a menace; they should be expelled.” You will be participating from your school in the debate. Write your debate in 150-200 words choosing a stand for or against the motion.

B.12 Rearrange the following words to make meaningful sentences.

(a) Society/is/discipline/of/foundation/the very
(b) Obey/a soldier/ or/ the orders/a child/a student/ must
(c) fit and/the body/games/look active/and/ develop/keep it/ make a person
(d) you/ pass/can’t/ unless/the/you/examination/ hard / study
(e) effect/we/in/did/much/sales/last/not/year/improvement

B.13 Transform the following sentences as directed:
1. He is too proud to beg. (use so ___ that)
2. Shakespeare is the famous of all writers in English. (change into comparative degree)
3. The audience loudly cheered the Mayor’s speech. (change into passive form)
4. God will heed the cry of the humble. (change into negative)
5. A screw driver (place) inside a coil and a direct current (pass). (change the verbs in the bracket to the passive form)
6. “You should help your old parents.” (change the narration)
7. Walk carefully lest you ________stumble. (use a modal)
8. We do not borrow money. We do not lend money. (combine into compound sentence)
9. He met his old classmate. He is a judge now. (combine into complex sentence)
10. How ________money you want? (use numeral determiner)

B.14 The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incorrect</th>
<th>Correct</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I saw the leopard when I am crossing the small stream. As I cross the stream and begun climbing the hill, the grunting and chattering increases, as though the langurs was trying to warn me of some hidden danger. The tiger was not look toward me, but it must have sense my presence.</td>
<td>(a) ________ ________ (b) ________ ________ (c) ________ ________ (d) ________ ________ (e) ________ ________ (f) ________ ________ (g) ________ ________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B.16 Read the following conversation and complete the following dialogues:

Saurabh: (a)_________
Aditya: No, I missed the opportunity. What was the attraction of the exhibition?
Aaditya: Oh no! I wanted to buy some original children literature. Were Hindi translations of best sellers, available?
Saurabh: There was a separate stall.

SECTION C (LITERATURE)

HORNBILL

CHAPTER 1 The Portrait of a lady

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:

Q.1 Describe the last moments of Khushwant Singh’s grandmother?
Q.2 Why did the grand mother always accompany the author to school?
Q.3 What impression does the author form about his grandfather from his portrait?

Long Answer Question:

1. “The author and his grandmother shared a deep bond of mutual love, trust and friendship.” Discuss their relationship in view of this statement.

CHAPTER 2 We’re not afraid to die

Short Answer Questions:

Q.1 What was the message contained in Sue’s card?
Q.2 What does the author mean by saying “honung our seafaring skills”? How did he do it?
Q.3 Why did the captain call Ille Amsterdam the most beautiful island in the world?

Long Answer Question:

1. Briefly trace the journey of ‘Wavewalker’ from Plymouth, England to Ille Amsterdam.

CHAPTER 3 Discovering Tut: The Saga Continues

Short Answer Questions:

Q1. What lavish gifts were the dead body of Tut given? Why?
Q2. What did the CT scan of Tut’s mummy reveal?
Q3. How can we say that Tut was accorded a burial in March or April?

Long Answer Question:

1. How has Tut’s mummy fascinated the scientists and commoners alike over the previous decades?

CHAPTER 4 Landscape of the Soul

Q1 Why did Confucius and Zhuangzi incorporated old Chinese tales in their books?
Q2 What do ‘mountain’ and ‘water’ represent in “Shanshui”?
Q3 How has Nek Chand been honoured internationally?

Long Answer Question:

1. What lesson does the story of the master Blacksmith Quinten Metsysteach?
CHAPTER-5 The Ailing Planet: The Green Movement’s Role

Short Answer Questions:

Q1. What is man’s ethical obligation towards the planet Earth?
Q2. What is the question raised by the First Brandt Report? What are its implications?
Q3. Briefly explain Lester.R.Brown’s concept of earth’s biological systems.

Long Answer Question:

1. What is Sustainable Development? What is its significance in the modern world?

CHAPTER-6 The Browning version

Short Answer Questions:

Q1 Why do you think Taplow believes Crocker Harris is hardly human?
Q2 What job does Millie Crocker Harris give Taplow to do?
Q3 Why is Frank not very enthusiastic on hearing that Taplow wishes to join Science?

Long Answer Question:

Describe Taplow’s meeting with Frank in your own words.

CHAPTER-7 The Adventure

Short Answer Questions:

Q1 Which important war is mentioned in the chapter “The Adventure”? How did its outcome influence the course of history in reality?
Q2 What kind of a ruler did Vishwas Rao turn out to be?
Q3 Why did Professor Gaitonde send an apology to the organisers of Pune seminar?

Long Answer Question:

1. Write about Professor Gaitonde’s experience in the Azad Maidan. What do you find peculiar about it?

CHAPTER-8 Silk Road

Short Answer Questions:

Q1 How did the first night in Darchen prove to be troublesome for the author?
Q2 Why does Nick Middleton call the salt lake a hub of activity? What did he see there?
Q3 Give two examples to show that Tsetan was a very expert driver.

Long Answer Question:

1. Describe Middleton’s meeting with Norbu. How did it benefit both?

POEM- A Photograph

All three stood to smile through their hair
At the uncle with the camera. A sweet face,
My mother’s that was before I was born

(i) Who are the ‘three’ referred to in these lines?
(ii) Why did they stand still?
(iii) What time period is referred to in these lines?
(iv) When and why is the narrator recollecting this moment?
POEM - The Voice of the Rain

And who art thou? Said I to the soft falling shower,
Which strange to tell, gave me an answer, as here translated:
I am the Poem of Earth, said the voice of the rain.
   (i) What makes the poet ask the rain, ‘who art thou’?
   (ii) Why does the poet feel it strange to hear the rain speak?
   (iii) Explain “I am the Poem of Earth”.
   (iv) Why does the rain call itself “Poem of Earth”?

POEM - Childhood

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 of those of other people
But my own, and mine alone
Was that the day!
   (i) When did the poet feel that his mind was really his?
   (ii) What happened to his thoughts earlier?
   (iii) What major decision has the poet taken?
   (iv) What discover does the child make about his faculty of thinking?

POEM - Father to Son

Silence surrounds us, I would have
Him prodigal, returning to
His father’s house, the home he knew,
Rather than see him and move
His world. I would forgive him too,
Shaping from sorrow a new love.
   (i) Why don’t the father and the son exchange any words with each other?
   (ii) How does the poet expect ‘this child’ to behave?
   (iii) What does the father complaint about?
   (iv) Identify the figure of speech used.

POEM - The Laburnum Top

Till the goldfinch comes, with a twitching chirrup
A suddenness, a startlement, at a branch end.
Then sleek as lizard and alert and abrupt,
She enters the thickness
   (i) What is the situation till the arrival of the goldfinch?
   (ii) Why is the goldfinch startled?
   (iii) Mention the figure of speech in the third line.
   (iv) Whom the goldfinch is compared to?

SNAPSHOTS

CHAPTER - 1 The Summer of the beautiful white horse.

Short Answer Questions:

Q.1 Why does the narrator suggest to Mourad that they should keep the horse with them for a year?
Q.2 Why did the boys return the horse to its rightful owner?
Q.3 How did uncle Khosrove react when the farmer said that he had got his horse back?
LONG ANSWER QUESTION:
1. What was Mourad and the narrator’s tribes known for? How did the two boys stay away from their tribal traits?

CHAPTER 2: The Address

Short Answer Questions:
Q.1 Why did the narrator finally decide to forget the address?
Q.2 Give evidence from the story that the narrator is a keen observer.
Q.3 What was the suggestion made by Mrs. Dorling to Mrs. S? What made the latter agree to it?

Long Answer Question:
1. It is not easy to let go of the past memories and possessions. Do you agree? Discuss with reference to the story “The Address”.

CHAPTER 3: Ranga’s Marriage

Short Answer Questions:
Q.1 How does the narrator account for the absence of Hosahalli village on any map?
Q.2 Why did Shyama take Ranga to the astrologer? What was the outcome?
Q.3 Why did the crowd in front of Ranga’s house melt away like a lump of sugar in mouth after seeing Ranga?

Long Answer Question:
1. How did the narrator help in materializing the marriage of Ranga and Ratna?

CHAPTER 4: Albert Einstein at school.

Short Answer Questions:
Q.1 Why did Yuri going back to his lodgings not cheer up Einstein?
Q.2 The history teacher’s and head teacher’s view of Einstein vastly differed from Mr. Koch’s view. How?
Q.3 Do you think Doctor Ernst Weil is ethical in giving Einstein a false certificate of nervous breakdown? Give reasons.

Long Answer Question:
1. Einstein was in conflict with the established norms and values of his school days. Discuss with reference to the story.

CHAPTER 5: Mother’s day

Short Answer Questions:
Q.1 What support do Doris and Cyril expect from their father George? How does he disappoint them?
Q.2 How do people at the club make fun of George? Why?
Q.3 Bring out a comparison between Mrs. Pearson & Mrs. Fitzgerald?

LONG ANSWER QUESTION:
1. Justify the title Mother’s day.
CHAPTER-6 The Ghat of the only World

**Short Answer Questions:**

Q1. What did Amitav feel like when he was asked to write about Shahid?
Q2. What do you know about Shahid as a poet?
Q3. Both Amitav and Shahid were friends. What strengthened their friendship?

**Long Answer Question:**

1. Justify the title- The Ghat of the only world.

CHAPTER -7 Birth

**Short Answer Questions:**

Q.1 What dilemma did Andrew face soon after the birth of Morgan’s child.
Q.2 What is meant by the statement ‘I’ve done something real at last’?
Q.3 Finally what did Manson do to bring back the still born to life?

**Long Answer Question:**

1. What were Andrew’s views on marriage? What real picture of married relationships did he notice all around him?

CHAPTER -8 The Tale of Melon City

**Short Answer Questions:**

Q.1 Why did the king order the workers to be hanged?
Q.2 Were the people happy and satisfied at the choice of their ruler?
Q.3 What is ironical about the king’s order of hanging “someone” immediately?

**Long Answer Question:**

1. “The people of Melon City were foolish, but their king was even more foolish”?