Section A (Reading) 15 Marks

1. We have been brought up to fear insects. We regard them as unnecessary creatures that do more harm than good. Man continually wages war on them; for they contaminate his food, carry diseases, destroy his crops, sting or bite without provocation, fly uninvited into our homes or beat against our lighted windows. We live in dread not only of unpleasant ones like spiders or wasps, but of quite harmless ones like moths too. Reading about them increases our understanding without dispelling our fears. Knowing that the industrious ant lives in a highly organized society does nothing to prevent us from being filled with revulsion when we find hordes of them crawling over a carefully prepared picnic lunch.

2. No matter how much we like honey, or how much we have read about the uncanny sense of direction which bees possess, we have a horror of being stung. Most of our fears are unreasonable, but they are difficult to erase. At the same time, however, insects are strangely fascinating. We enjoy reading about them, especially when we find that, like the praying mantis, they lead perfectly horrible lives. We enjoy staring at them, entranced, as they go about their business. Who has not stood in awe at the sight of a spider pouncing on a fly, or a column of ants triumphantly carrying home a dead beetle?

3. Last summer I spent days in the garden watching thousands of ants crawling up the trunk of my prize tree. The tree has grown against a warm wall on a sheltered side of the house. I'm especially proud of it, not only because it has survived several harsh winters, but because occasionally it produces luscious peaches. During the summer I noticed that the leaves of the tree were beginning to wither. Clusters of tiny insects called aphids were to be found on the underside of the leaves. They were visited by a large colony of ants which obtained a sort of honey from them. I immediately embarked on an experiment which, though failed to get rid of the ants, kept me fascinated for twenty four hours. I bound the base of the tree with a sticky tape, making it impossible for the ants to reach the aphids. For a long time I watched them scurrying around the base in bewilderment. I even went at night to watch the ants swarming around the sticky tape without being able to do anything about it. I got up early morning thinking that the ants must have given up their efforts in despair. Instead, I found that they had discovered a new route. They were climbing up the wall of the house and then on to the leaves of the tree. I realized that I
had been completely defeated by their ingenuity. The ants had been quick to find an answer to my thoroughly unscientific methods.

1.1 On the basis of your reading, answer the following; 

   a) What is our general attitude towards ants?
      i) We fear them
      ii) We are repulsed by them
      iii) We are in awe of them

   b) What did the writer’s experiment prove?
      i) Ants are industrious insects
      ii) Ants are resourceful
      iii) Ants are hardworking

   c) Why does man try to exterminate insects?

   d) The writer feels that we share a love – hate relationship with insects because

   e) Why was the writer fond of his tree?

   f) What do the ants teach us in this extract?

1.2 Find words in the passage which mean the same as; 

   a) Moving or running hurriedly (Para 3)

   b) Large group (Para 1)

2. Read the passage and answer the questions that follows: 

1. Centuries ago, man discovered that removing moisture from food helps to preserve it, and that the easiest way to do this is to expose the food to sun and wind. In this way North American Indians produce pemmican (dried meat ground into powder and made into cakes), the Scandinavians make stockfish and the Arabs, dried dates and ‘apricot leather’

2. All foods contain water. Cabbage and other leafy vegetables contain as much as 93% water. Potatoes and other tubers – 80%, lean meat – 75% and fish, anything from 60% to 80%, depending on how fatty it is. If this water is removed, the activity of the bacteria, which causes food to go bad, is checked.

3. Fruit is sun dried in Asia Minor, Greece, Spain and other Mediterranean countries and also in California, South Africa and Australia. The methods may vary, but in general, the food is spread out in trays in drying yards in the hot sun. In order to prevent darkening, pears, apricots and peaches are exposed to the fumes of burning sulphur, before drying. Plums for making prunes and certain varieties of grapes for making raisins and currants are dipped in an alkaline solution in order to break the skin for drying.

4. Nowadays, most foods are dried mechanically. The conventional method of such dehydration is to put food in chambers through which hot air is blown at temperatures of about 100° C at entry and about 43° C at exit. This is the usual method for drying vegetables, minced meat and fish.

5. Milk, coffee, tea, soups and eggs can be dried by pouring them over a heated horizontal steel cylinder or by spraying them into a chamber, through which a current of hot air is passing. In the first case the dried material is scraped off the roller as a thin film, which is
then broken up into small, though still relatively coarse flakes. In the second process, it falls to the bottom of the chamber as a fine powder. Where recognizable pieces of meat and vegetables are required, as in soups, the ingredients are dried separately and then mixed.

6. Dried foods take up less room and weigh less than the same food packed in cans or frozen. They do not need to be stored at specific temperatures. For these reasons they are invaluable to soldiers, climbers and explorers, who have limited storage space. They are also popular with housewives as it takes so little time to cook them. Usually, it's just the case of replacing the dried-out moisture with boiling water.

2.1 Make notes on the passage in any suitable format, using recognizable abbreviations. Give a suitable title to your notes.  5 Marks

2.2 Write a summary of the passage based on your notes  2 Marks

Section B (Writing) 20 Marks

3. You are Anjali / Amit, Secretary, Welfare Association, ABC Colony, Chennai. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words for the notice board informing the residents that there would be no water supply for two days in your colony due to major pipe-line repair work.  5 Marks

OR

You are Anjali/Amit. Secretary, Greenland Enterprises Ltd. Delhi-6. Your Chairman has asked you to draft an advertisement for the vacant posts of one accountant and two office assistants. Draft the Ad in not more than 50 words.

4. Recently the Scouts and Guides Troup of Maharani G.D. School, Jaipur visited an Old Age Home. Narrating your experience with the aged, write a report in about 150 – 200 words for your school magazine. You are Anjali/Amit, the school leader.  8 Marks

OR

Students usually come to school without taking breakfast and eat junk food from the school canteen. This habit has started to affect them adversely, both in academics and sports. Write a speech in about 150 – 200 words, to be given at your school assembly about the necessity of a balanced diet. You are Anjali/Amit

5. You are Anjali/Amit living in Hse No.7322, Sector 14, Chandigarh. You have seen an advertisement in the newspaper for the post of a Software Engineer in National Software Company, Bangalore. Write an application for the job to the manager of the company.  7 Marks

OR

You are Anjali/Amit of House No. 101, Sector 22, Pune. Write a letter to the Editor of the local Newspaper, about the misuse and poor maintenance of the public park in your colony.  7 Marks
Section C {Grammar} 10 Marks

6. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the corrected one in your answer sheet as illustrated below:

\[ \frac{1}{2} \times 8 = 4 \text{ Marks} \]

He awkward shook hands with Vimal.
I was silent. How could I explained to
Vimal that he have been so
blinded with that false puffed up
image of himself that he cannot
even recognized a joke! Now
he took everything in a test
of physical strong. I only
hope that he can understand
the truth about himself.

e.g. awkward – awkwardly
a) ............
b) ............
c) ............
d) ............
e) ............
f) ............
g) ............
h) ............

7. Fill in the blanks in the following conversation with meaningful clauses:

1x4=4 Marks

Sheela : Tomorrow is my birthday. I want to bake a cake. Please tell me how (a) ............
Radha : I've many recipes. Tell me what (b) ............
Sheela : I'm very fond of chocolate cakes.
Radha : Let me know when (c) ............, so that I can come and help you.
Sheela : Oh! Thanks a lot! That's (d) ............!

8. Rearrange the following jumbled phrases to form meaningful sentences : 1x2 = 2 Marks

Know/you/why/come/down/to/winter/in/do/birds/countries/hot
e.g. Do you know why birds come down to hot countries in winter ?

a) covered/snow/ in/lands/the/in/North/the/get
b) fly/south/to/and/frost/they/starvation/escape/ the

Section D { Literature } 35 Marks

9. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: 4 Marks

'A sweet face,
My mother's that was before I was born.
And the sea, which appears to have changed less,
Washed their terribly transient feet.'

a) What reminds the poet of her mother's face ?
b) What does the sea represent in the poem?
c) Mention the poetic device applied in the above lines.
d) What is the theme of the poem ?
OR

‘Where did my childhood go?
It went to some forgotten place,
That’s hidden in an infant’s face,
That’s all I know.’

a) Name the poem and the poet. 1
b) How does the poet feel about the loss of his childhood? 1
c) Explain ‘some forgotten place.’ 1
d) Is the poet still a child or a grown up? 1

10. Answer any FIVE of the following in about 40 words each  2 x 5 = 10 Marks

a) Give a brief description of the Wavewalker.
b) How did Amenhotep IV initiate one of the strangest periods in the history of ancient Egypt? c)
Frank says, “Bad luck. Still there’s one comfort.” Elucidate.
d) What made the boys return the horse in the end?
e) Why did the narrator of the story decide to forget the Address?
f) How did Einstein hope to get admission in an Italian college without a diploma?

11. Answer the following in 125 – 150 words;  6 x 1 = 6 Marks

- “No generation has a freehold on this earth. All we have is a life tenancy – with a full repairing lease.” Explain with reference to the lesson ‘The Ailing Planet.’

OR

- In spite of the humour involved, the play, Mother’s Day succeeds in addressing a very common social issue. Comment.

12. Answer the following in about 125 – 150 words:  8 Marks

- ‘The ghost comes across as a cruel human being, but a sentimental ghost.’ Give evidence to prove this statement.

13. Answer the following in about 100 – 130 words :  7 Marks

- Discuss the ghost’s reaction when he encountered another ghost?