

Literary Passages—Prose

1. Avalon High (Excerpt)—by Meg Cabot

I have to say, when my parents broke the news about the sabbatical, the fact that they were quick to add, "And we're renting a house with a pool!" was the only thing that kept down the vomit that started coming up in my throat. If you are a child of professors, sabbatical is probably about the dirtiest word in your own personal vocabulary. Professors love sabbaticals. Their kids hate them.

And there's a pool. Having your own pool is a lot of responsibility, it turns out. I mean, every morning you have to check the filters and make sure they aren't all jammed up with leaves or dead moles. Once there was a snake. It was still alive. I pretty much draw the line at touching anything that is capable of sending paralyzing streams of poison into my veins, so I yelled to my parents that there was a snake in the filter basket.

My dad is the one who yelled back, "So? What do you want me to do about it?" "Get it out," I said. "No way," my dad said. "I'm not touching any snake." My dad grew up in the Bronx, where there aren't any snakes. He completely hates nature. Then, my mom, who grew up on a ranch in Montana and has no patience for my dad's screaming. Of course, I knew better than to tell my mom about the snake in the pool filter, because she'd probably have come out and snapped its head clean off right in front of me.

There's other stuff you have to do if you have your own pool, besides cleaning out the filter baskets. You have to vacuum the pool floor --this is kind of fun and you have to test the water all the time, for chlorine and pH. It's a lot like chemistry, only better, because when you're done, instead of a stinky mess like the kind I always ended up with last year in chemistry class, you get beautiful clear blue water.

I. On the basis of your reading of the poem given above, answer any ten of the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

(a) According to the author, why is having your own pool a responsibility?

- (i) because it has to be cleaned
- (ii) because it is always dirty
- (iii) because it needs to be protected from the outsiders
- (iv) because it attracts snakes which are poisonous

Ans. (i) because it has to be cleaned

(b) Where did the author find the snake?

- (i) Inside the pool
- (ii) Near the poolside
- (iii) In the filter basket of the pool
- (iv) In the tree near the pool

Ans. (iii) In the filter basket of the pool

(c) Based on your understanding of the passage, choose the option that lists the correct sequence of the given statements.

- 1. Author's father hated nature.
- 2. Once author found a live snake in the pool.
- 3. Professors love sabbaticals whereas their kids hate them.
- 4. After vacuuming the pool, you get clear blue water

Ans. (i) 3,2,1,4

(ii) 2,3,1,4

(iii) 4,1,3,2

(iv) 1,4,2,3

(d) Why did the author not tell her mom about the snake?

- (i) She would have screamed in fear
- (ii) She would have snapped its head right off
- (iii) She would have prohibited author from going into the pool
- (iv) She would have tamed the snake

Ans. (ii) She would have snapped its head right off

(e) Which image depicts the exact colour of water once the pool filter gets cleaned?



(i)



(ii)



(iii)



(iv)

Ans. (iii) Image

(f) What do the children of professors hate?

- (i) Coaching
- (ii) Sabbaticals
- (iii) regular classes
- (iv) Studies

Ans. (ii) Sabbaticals

(g) Apart from cleaning the filter baskets, what else does the author do to maintain the pool?

- (i) vacuum the pool floor
- (ii) test the water for chlorine and pH.
- (iii) Removing leaves and dead moles
- (iv) Both (i) & (ii)

Ans. (iv) Both (i) & (ii)

(h) What kind of gross stuff had the author touched while rescuing frogs?

- (i) Leaves
- (ii) Dead moles
- (iii) Snakes
- (iv) All of the above

Ans. (iv) All of the above

(i) Pick the option that states what did not happen when author yelled to her parents that there was a snake in the filter basket.

- (i) Her father took the snake out
- (ii) Her father denied doing anything
- (iii) Her father refused to touch the snake
- (iv) She didn't call her mother

Ans. (i) Her father took the snake out

(j) What was the piece of news that kept the author from throwing up?

- (i) Going on a picnic
- (ii) Renting a house with a pool
- (iii) News of sabbatical
- (iv) Thought of cleaning the pool

Ans. (ii) Renting a house with a pool

(k) Pick the option that states the feelings of the author when his parents broke the news of sabbaticals?

- 1. Fear
- 2. Hatred
- 3. Amusing
- 4. Disheartening

Ans. (iv) 2 & 3

(i) 1 & 4

(ii) 1 & 2

(iv) 2 & 3

2. Harry Potter (Excerpt)—by J. K. Rowling

October arrived, spreading a damp chill over the grounds and into the castle. Madam Pomfrey, the nurse, was kept busy by a sudden spate of colds among the staff and students. Her Pepper up potion worked instantly, though it left the drinker smoking at the ears for several hours afterwards. Ginny Weasley, who had been looking pale, was bullied into taking some by Percy. The steam pouring from under her vivid hair gave the impression that her whole head was on fire. Raindrops, the size of bullets thundered on the castle windows for days on end; the lake rose, the flower beds turned into muddy streams, and Hagrid's pumpkins swelled to the size of garden sheds.

Even aside from the rain and wind it hadn't been a happy practice session. Fred and George, who had been spying on the Slytherin team, had seen for themselves, the speed of those new Nimbus Two Thousand and Ones. They reported that the Slytherin team was no more than seven greenish blurs, shooting through the air like missiles. As Harry squelched along the deserted corridor, he came across somebody who looked just as preoccupied as he was. Nearly Headless Nick, the ghost of Gryffindor Tower, was staring morosely out of a window, muttering under his breath, "..... don't fulfill their requirements..... half an inch, if that....."

"Hello, Nick," said Harry. "Hello, hello," said Nearly Headless Nick, starting and looking round. He wore a dashing, plumed hat on his long curly hair, and a tunic with a ruff, which concealed the fact that his neck was almost completely severed. He was pale as smoke, and Harry could see right through him to the dark sky and torrential rain outside.

"You look troubled, young Potter," said Nick, folding a transparent letter as he spoke and tucking it inside his doublet. "So do you," said Harry. "Ah," Nearly Headless Nick waved an elegant hand, "a matter of no importance..... It's not as though I really wanted to join.....Thought I'd apply, but apparently I 'don't fulfill requirements' -"

I. On the basis of your reading of the poem given above, answer any ten of the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

(a) From where was the steam pouring out of Ginny Weasley's body?

- (i) Under her ears
- (ii) Under her hair
- (iii) Under her arms
- (iv) Under her nose

Ans. (ii) Under her hair

(b) Who was affected by the outbreak of cold?

- (i) Madam Pomfrey
- (ii) Staff
- (iii) Harry
- (iv) Nick

Ans. (ii) Staff

(c) Based on your understanding of the passage, choose the option that lists the correct sequence of the given statements.

1. Hagrid's pumpkins swelled to the size of garden sheds.
2. The ghost of Gryffindor Tower, was staring morosely out of a window, muttering under his breath.
3. Harry could see right through him to the dark sky and torrential rain outside.
4. The steam pouring from under Ginny's vivid hair gave the impression that her whole head was on fire.

- (i) 2,1,3,4
- (ii) 4, 1, 2, 3
- (iii) 3,2,4,1
- (iv) 1,4,2,3

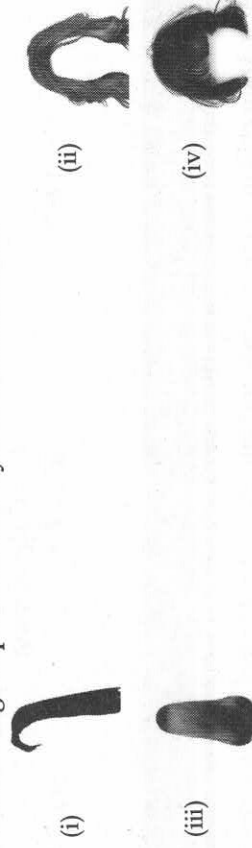
Ans. (iii) 4, 1, 2, 3

(d) How did Madam Pomfrey's potion affect the staff and students?

- (i) The potion had an adverse effect on them.
- (ii) The staff and the students began feeling extremely warm.
- (iii) It left the drinker smoking at the ears for several hours.
- (iv) The drinker immediately began feeling nauseate.

Ans. (iii) It left the drinker smoking at the ears for several hours.

(e) Which image depicts the hair style of headless Nick?



Ans. (iv) Image

(f) What report did Fred and George give about the Slytherin team?

- (i) They told that it was a slow team.
- (ii) They reported that it was no more than seven greenish blurs.
- (iii) They reported that it was shooting through air like guns.
- (iv) They said that that the speed of the team was indescribable.

Ans. (ii) They reported that it was no more than seven greenish blurs.

(g) What turned into muddy streams ?

- (i) The Lake Rose
- (ii) The flower beds
- (iii) Garden
- (iv) Street

Ans. (ii) The flower beds

(h) Why was Nearly Headless Nick unhappy?

- (i) It was raining heavily outside.
- (ii) He didn't fulfill the requirement to join the hunt.
- (iii) Harry had scolded him.
- (iv) He didn't want to join the hunt.

Ans. (ii) He didn't fulfill the requirement to join the hunt

(i) Pick the option that tells what Nearly Headless Nick was not wearing which concealed the fact that his neck was almost completely severed.

- (i) A dashing hat
- (ii) A tunic with a ruff
- (iii) A bright coloured tie
- (iv) All of the above

Ans. (iii) A bright coloured tie

(j) How could Harry see right through Headless Nick?

- (i) Nick was wearing an invisible dress.
- (ii) Nick was transparent like glass.
- (iii) Nick was pale as smoke.
- (iv) Nick was very lean.

Ans. (iii) He was pale as smoke.

(k) Pick the option that states the feelings of the Nearly Headless Nick, the ghost of Gryffindor Tower, when he was staring out of a window, muttering under his breath?

- (i) Resentful
- (ii) Honoured
- (iii) Relaxed
- (iv) Disturbed

Ans. (i) Resentful

3. Black Beauty (Excerpt)—by Anna Sewell

Lord W..... was much put out when he learned what had happened; he blamed York for giving way to his mistress, to which he replied that in future he would much prefer to receive his orders only from his lordship; but I think nothing came of it, for things went on the same as before. I thought York might have stood up better for his horses, but perhaps I am no judge. Ginger was never put into the carriage again, but when she was well of her bruises, one of the Lord W's younger sons said he should like to have her; he was sure she would make a good hunter.

As for me, I was obliged still to go in the carriage, and had a fresh partner called Max; he had always been used to the tight rein. I asked him how it was that he bore it. "Well," he said, "I bear it because I must; but it is shortening my life, and it will shorten yours too if you have to stick to it." "Do you think," I said, "that our masters know how bad it is for us?"

"I can't say," he replied, "but the dealers and the horse-doctors know it very well. I was at a dealer's once, who was training me and another horse to go as a pair; he was getting our heads up, as he said, a little higher and a little higher every day. A gentleman who was there asked him why he did so. "Because," said he, "people won't buy them unless we do."

The London people always want their horses to carry their heads high and to step high. Of course it is very bad for the horses, but then it is good for trade. The horses soon wear up, or get diseased, and they come for another pair."

I. On the basis of your reading of the poem given above, answer any ten of the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

(a) Who got the bruises on its body?

- (i) Ginger
- (ii) Max
- (iii) Lord W's younger son
- (iv) York

Ans. (i) Ginger

(b) What kind of horses do the London people want?

- (i) who can run fast.
- (ii) who carry their heads high.
- (iii) who are well-bred
- (iv) who are white in colour

Ans. (ii) who carry their heads high.

(c) Based on your understanding of the passage, chose the option that lists the correct sequence of the given statements.

1. One of the Lord W's younger sons said he should like to have Ginger.

- Dealer was getting our heads up, as he said, a little higher and a little higher every day
- Max had always been used to the tight rein.
- The horses soon wear up, or get diseased, and they come for another pair.

(iv) 4,2,3,1

(iii) 2,4,3,1

Ans. (i) 1,3,2,4

(ii) 3,1,2,4

(i) Ginger

(ii) Max

(iii) Max

(d) Who was the writer's new partner in the carriage?

(i) Lord W's younger son

(ii) York

(e) Which animal's autobiography has been described in the passage?



(i)



(ii)



(iii)



(iv)

Ans. (ii) Image

(f) The reason for which the Lord W's younger sons want Ginger was

(i) it was beautiful

(ii) it was young

(iii) it would make a good hunter

(iv) it could win races

Ans. (iii) it would make a good hunter

(g) What did the traders do when the horses were of no use for them?

(i) they would sell them in the butcher houses

(ii) they would replace them with other horses

(iii) they would use them for carrying loads

(iv) they would leave them in the woods

Ans. (ii) they would replace them with other horses

(h) How is the tight rein harmful for the horses?

(i) It might strangle them

(ii) it might leave bruises on their body

(iii) it might shorten their lives

(iv) it might suffocate them to death

Ans. (iii) it might shorten their lives

(i) Pick the option that tells what do not happen to horses when they carry their heads high and step high?

(i) they are substituted

(ii) they wear up

(iii) they are diseased

(iv) they feel proud

Ans. (iv) They feel proud

(j) The tight rein is bad for the horses. Who among the following knew it well?

(i) The traders

(ii) The doctors

(iii) The owner

(iv) The rider

Ans. (ii) The doctors

(k) Pick the option that states the condition of the horses?

(i) Miserable

(ii) Wretched

(iii) Dismal

(iv) All of the above

Ans. (vi) All of the above

4. The Kitemaker (Excerpt)—by Ruskin Bond

He, Mehmood the kite maker, had in the prime of his life, been well-known throughout the city. Some of his more elaborate kites once sold for as much as three or four rupees each. At the request of the Nawab, he had once made a very special kind of kite, unlike any, that had been seen in the district.

It consisted of a series of small, very light paper disks trailing on a thin bamboo frame. To the end of each disc, he fixed a sprig of grass, forming a balance on both sides. The surface of the foremost disc was slightly convex, and a fantastic face was painted on it, having two eyes made of small mirrors. The discs, decreasing in size from head to tail, assumed an undulatory form and gave the kite the appearance of a crawling serpent. It required great skill to raise this cumbersome device from the ground, and only Mehmood could manage it.

Everyone had heard of the 'Dragon Kite' that Mehmood had built, and word went round that it possessed supernatural powers. A large crowd assembled in the open to watch its first public launching in the presence of the Nawab. At the first attempt, it refused to leave the ground. The discs made a plaintive, protesting sound, and the sun was trapped in the little mirrors, making of the kite a living, complaining creature.

Then the wind came from the right direction, and the Dragon Kite soared into the sky, wriggling its way higher and higher, the sun still glinting in its devil-eyes and when it went very high, it pulled fiercely on the twine, and Mehmood's young sons had to help him with the reel. Still, the kite pulled, determined to be free, to break loose, to live a life of its own. And eventually it did so. The twine snapped, the kite leaped away towards the sun, sailing on heavenwards until it was lost to view.

I. On the basis of your reading of the poem given above, answer any ten of the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

(a) Which option shows that Mehmood had been well known throughout the city.

(i) He made very decorative kites.

(ii) His kites were liked by all.

(iii) He was Nawab's personal kitemaker.

(iv) His kites once sold for as much as three or four rupees each.

Ans. (iv) His kites once sold for as much as three or four rupees each

(b) What belief did everybody bear about the 'Dragon Kite'?

(i) It was made of dragon's wings.

(ii) It had magical influences.

(iii) It possessed supernatural powers.

(iv) It would reach God.

Ans. (iii) It possessed supernatural powers.

(c) Based on your understanding of the passage, choose the option that lists the correct sequence of the making of kite.

1. The surface of the foremost disc of the kite was slightly convex.

2. The discs, decreasing in size from head to tail, assumed an undulatory form.

3. Mehmood had once made a very special kind of kite.

4. A fantastic face was painted on it.

Ans. (ii) 1,4,3,2

(iii) 3,1,4,2

(iv) 2,4,1,3

(v) 3,4,2,1

Ans. (ii) 3,1,4,2

(d) Who requested Mehmood to make the kite?

(i) The Nawab

(ii) His sons

(iii) The public

(iv) His relatives

Ans. (i) The Nawab

(e) Which image depicts the appearance of the special kite made by Mehmood?



(i)



(ii)



(iii)



(iv)

Ans. (iv) Image

(f) Why did it require great skill to raise the kite from the ground?

(i) because it had magical powers.

(ii) because it was too bulky.

(iii) because it was torn from the corner.

(iv) because nobody in the city knew to fly kites.

Ans. (ii) because it was too bulky

(g) The two eyes on the face of the kite were made of which shiny material?

- (i) Gold
- (ii) Silver
- (iii) Mirror
- (iv) Foil

Ans. (iii) Mirror

(h) How much did the kite maker earn for his elaborate kites?

- (i) three or four rupees
- (ii) two rupees
- (iii) Four rupees
- (iv) one rupee

Ans. (i) three or four rupees

(i) Pick the option that tells what did not happen at the first attempt when the dragon kite was launched?

- (i) It refused to leave the ground.
- (ii) The Sun was trapped in little mirrors.
- (iii) The discs made a lovely sound.
- (iv) The kite looked like a living, complaining creature.

Ans. (iii) The discs made a lovely sound.

(j) What happened to the kite eventually when the wind came from the right direction?

- (i) It soared very high.
- (ii) It dropped down.
- (iii) It was torn.
- (iv) It disappeared from the view.

Ans. (iv) It disappeared from the view.

(k) Pick the option that states the feelings of the large crowd that assembled in the open to watch the kite's first public launching in the presence of the Nawab.

- (i) Curiosity
- (ii) Apathy
- (iii) Anxiety
- (iv) Remorse

Ans. (i) Curiosity

5. Jacob the Great !

Jacob hated finishing things almost as much as he loved starting them. As a result, he had gotten into a million hobbies and activities, but he never stuck with any of them long enough to get any good. He begged his mother for months for a guitar so that he could play Black Eyed Peas songs to Angie, a girl he liked, but after he finally got one for Christmas, he found out that guitars don't play themselves. He took a few lessons, but strumming the strings hurt his fingers and he didn't like holding the pick, so now the fivehundred dollar guitar lives under his bed.

After reading an advertisement on the back of one of his comic books, Jacob decided that he wanted a Wonder Sweeper 5000 metal detector, so that he could find buried pirate treasure. So he mowed lawns all summer and didn't spend his money on ice-cream like his younger brother, Alex. He saved it all in a shoe box in his closet. Then he shoveled driveways all winter, and he didn't spend his money on candy and chips like his classmates. By the time spring came, he had saved \$200, and he purchased the Wonder-Sweeper 5000 metal detector. He beeped it around the park for a while, but he soon found out that no pirates had ever set sail in his neighborhood, and if they had, they didn't leave any treasure. Even though he found a key ring, forty-seven cents, and all the bottle caps he had thrown, he buried the metal detector in his closet. Given Jacob's history with hobbies, it was no surprise that Jacob's father was reluctant to buy him a magician's kit for his birthday. "Geez, Jacob... You sure you wouldn't, rather I could get you more guitar lessons?" He suggested. Jacob was insistent. "Dad, you've got to get me the magician's kit. This time I'll stick with it for real. I promise! Come on, Dad," Jacob begged. Jacob's father sighed and then replied, "Oh, I don't know, Jacob. Things are awfully tight right now."

I. On the basis of your reading of the poem given above, answer any ten of the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

(a) How did the five hundred dollar guitar suddenly become useless for Jacob?

- (i) It didn't give perfect notes
- (ii) Jacob's fingers got hurt
- (iii) The strings got broken
- (iv) Jacob was unable to play it perfectly

Ans. (ii) Jacob got bored of it

(b) For whom did Jacob want to play Black Eyed Peas songs?

- (i) Angie
- (ii) Angela
- (iii) His mother
- (iv) His father

Ans. (i) Angie

(c) Based on your understanding of the passage, choose the option that lists the correct sequence of the given statements.

1. Jacob decided that he wanted a Wonder Sweeper 5000 metal detector.
2. For Jacob's father things were awfully tight right now.
3. Jacob found out that guitars don't play themselves. He took a few lessons.
4. By the time spring came, Jacob had saved \$200.

- (i) 4,1,2,3
- (ii) 3,1,4,2
- (iii) 1,4,2,3
- (iv) 2,4,1,3

Ans. (ii) 3,1,4,2

(d) From where does Jacob get the idea of a metal detector?

- (i) One of his friends possessed that.
- (ii) He read an advertisement on the back of one of his comic books.
- (iii) From a commercial hoarding.
- (iv) He saw it in a boy's hand in the playground.

Ans. (ii) He read an advertisement on the back of one of his comic books.

(e) Among the following things, which image represents the thing Jacob found through his metal detector?



(i)



(ii)



(iii)



(iv)

Ans. (i) Image

(f) What did Jacob do to get the guitar he wanted?

- (i) He cooked food for his parents.
- (ii) He scored good marks in the exam.
- (iii) He mowed lawns.
- (iv) He begged his mother.

Ans. (iv) He begged his mother.

(g) Why did Jacob want to buy Wonder Sweeper 5000 metal detector?

- (i) So that he could practice for a skit in a program.
- (ii) So that he could use it as a prop in annual function.
- (iii) So that he could find the lost keys of cupboard.
- (iv) So that he could find buried pirate treasure.

Ans. (iv) So that he could find buried pirate treasure

(h) What did Jacob want as his birthday gift?

- (i) A guitar
- (ii) A magician's kit
- (iii) A metal detector
- (iv) A gadget to do his homework

Ans. (ii) A magician's kit

(i) Pick the option that tells what Jacob didn't do to save money for buying the metal detector?

- (i) Jacob mowed lawns all summer.
- (ii) He didn't spend his money on ice-cream like his younger brother, Alex.
- (iii) He shoveled driveways all winter
- (iv) He spent the money only on chocolates and chips.

Ans. (iv) He spent the money only on chocolates and chips.

(j) When did Jacob buy the metal detector?

- (i) During summers
- (ii) In the spring
- (iii) In the winters
- (iv) After his exams

Ans. (ii) In the spring

(k) Pick the option that states the mentality of Jacob from the story?

- (i) Fickle mindedness
(ii) Firmness
(iii) Insistence
(iv) Predictable

Ans. (i) Fickle mindedness

6. At Home in India—An Interview with Ruskin Bond

There are many among us who, given the opportunity to leave India, are only too happy to go. But whenever I have had the chance to go away, I have held back. Or something has held me back. What is it that has such a hold on me, but leaves others free to where they will, sometimes never to come back? A few years ago, I was offered a well-paid job in a magazine in Hong Kong. I thought about it for weeks, worried myself to distraction, and finally, with a great sigh of relief, turned it down.

My friends thought I was crazy. They still do. Most of them would have jumped at a comparable offer, even if it had meant spending the rest of their lives far from the palm fringed coasts or pine-clad mountains of this land. Many friends have indeed gone away, never to return, except perhaps to get married, very quickly, before they are off again! Don't they feel homesick, I wonder.

I am almost paranoid at the thought of going away and then being unable to come back. This almost happened to me when, as a boy, I went to England, longed to return to India, and did not have the money for the passage. For two years I worked and saved like a miser (something I have never done since) until I had enough to bring me home. And 'home' wasn't parents and brothers and sisters. They were no longer here. Home, for me, was India. So what is it that keeps me here? My birth? I take too closely after a Nordic grandparent to pass for a typical son of the soil.

Hotel receptionists often ask me for my passport. 'Must I carry a passport to travel in my own country?' I ask. 'But you don't look like an Indian,' they protest. 'I'm a Red Indian,' I say. India is where I was born and went to school and grew to manhood. India was where my father was born and went to school and worked and died. India is where my grandfather lived and died. Surely that entitles me to a place in the Indian sun.

I. On the basis of your reading of the poem given above, answer any ten of the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

(a) What did the narrator do when he was offered a well-paid job in Hong Kong?

- (i) He readily accepted it.
(ii) He refused to join it.
(iii) He asked for more salary.
(iv) He asked for the placement in Indian city.

Ans. (ii)

(b) When author was a boy, why couldn't he come back to India from England?

- (i) His parents forbade him.
(ii) The British government didn't permit him.
(iii) He fell short of money.
(iv) Due to bad climatic conditions England.
(v) He fell short of money.

Ans. (iii)

(c) Based on your understanding of the passage, choose the option that lists the correct sequence of the given statements.

- Hotel receptionists often ask me for my passport.
- Author was almost paranoid at the thought of going away from India.
- And 'home' wasn't parents and brothers and sisters.
- Author's friends thought he was crazy.

(i) 1,3,2,4

(ii) 4,2,3,1

(iii) 3,1,2,4

(iv) 3,2,4,1

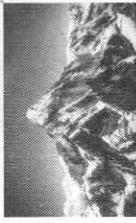
Ans. (ii)

(d) What is 'Home' for the author?

- (i) Where his parents live.
(ii) Where his friends reside.
(iii) India
(iv) Where he gets emotional

Ans. (iii)

(e) Which image shows the picture of the place where author lives?



(i)



(ii)



(iii)



(iv)

Ans. (i) Image

(f) When the author turned down the job offer in Hong Kong, what did his friends think about him?

- (i) He did quite a sensible thing.
(ii) He was crazy.
(iii) He was impractical.
(iv) He was a calculable person.

Ans. (ii) He was crazy.

(g) According to the author, what holds him on to stay back in India?

- (i) The job offered didn't attract him.
(ii) The land
(iii) His grandparents' memories
(iv) The fear of not returning back to India

Ans. (ii) The land

(h) How was author so different from his friends?

- (i) Unlike his friends, the author wanted to leave India later on.
(ii) His friends' homesickness.
(iii) Their willingness to work abroad.
(iv) Their inclination towards their motherland.
(v) Their willingness to work abroad.

Ans. (iii)

(i) Pick the option that mentions what does not make the author think that he belonged to India?

- (i) He was born in India.
(ii) He went to school in England.
(iii) His father worked and died in India.
(iv) His grandfather lived in India.

Ans. (ii)

(j) What did the author inherit from his Nordic grandparents?

- (i) Their brilliant mind
(ii) Their music
(iii) Their looks
(iv) Their artistic quality

Ans. (iii)

(k) Pick the option that states the feelings of the people when they are offered jobs outside India?

- (i) Insipidness
(ii) Tardiness
(iii) Helplessness
(iv) Enthusiasm

Ans. (iv)

7. Dynamism of India

India has been able to make the most of globalization and has gained a pivotal role. It provides the example of an economy which has allied dynamism and equilibrium. The past year offers the two-fold satisfaction of a spectacular 7.5 per cent growth rate and inflation under control. Thanks to the size and dynamism of its domestic market, it can project itself into the future with confidence.

India is now the biggest international service provider in information technologies, and this at a time when the western countries are experiencing a real shortage of manpower in this very field. A scientific power, India, today, is also a key player in space research. Thanks to the excellence of the Indian Space Research Organization, it is the forefront of technologies for launchers and the construction of satellites.

This economic vitality has developed on the basis of a strong concern for social justice. In the face of inequalities that still remain and could be increasing, India has given priority, to poverty reduction, job creation and support of the agricultural sector. Your country has shown that economic growth and concern for the greater good are not incompatible. India, however, does not only offer an economic model. It stands as an example for nations that show due respect for cultural identities.

This represents a major challenge as globalisation has inherent in it, two-fold risk. First of all, there is the risk of domination of certain forms of thinking, of certain ways of life and expression. The diversity of cultures, religions, traditions and memories is an essential component of the richness of our world. If we are not careful, it could die one day. Then there is the risk of confrontation of identities. Lack of respect for what people stand for, can nurture claims of nationalists and fundamentalists.

I. On the basis of your reading of the poem given above, answer any ten of the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

(a) How is India now the biggest international service provider in information technologies?

- (i) Unemployed youth are more in number in India
- (ii) Western countries have a shortage of manpower in this very field.
- (iii) People outside India are not willing to work .
- (iv) Indian youth is more educated.

Ans. (ii) Western countries have a shortage of manpower in this very field.

(b) How could India be able to bring inflation under control in the past year?

- (i) Due to its size and dynamism of its domestic market
- (ii) Due to its natural resources.
- (iii) Due to its geographical conditions.
- (iv) Due to its intellectual crop of youth.

Ans. (i) The size and dynamism of its domestic market

(c) Based on your understanding of the passage, choose the option that lists the correct sequence of the given statements.

1. A scientific power, India, today, is also a key player in space research.
2. The diversity of cultures, religions, traditions and memories is an essential component of the richness of our world.
3. India provides the example of an economy which has allied dynamism and equilibrium.
4. India stands as an example for nations that show due respect for cultural identities.

- (i) 1,4,3,2
- (ii) 3,2,1,4
- (iii) 2,1,3,4
- (iv) 3,1,4,2

Ans. (iv) 3,1,4,2

(d) Why did the speaker thank the Indian Space Research Organization?

- (i) It is the forefront of technologies for launchers and the construction of satellites.
- (ii) The group of scientists working together are quite balanced.
- (iii) It is leading in producing rockets.
- (iv) Indian scientists are very intelligent.

Ans. (i) It is the forefront of technologies for launchers and the construction of satellites.

(e) According to the passage which image shows India's direction of focus for development?



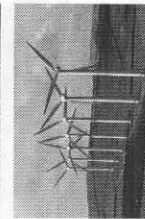
(i)



(iii)



(ii)



(iv)

Ans. (i) Image

(f) In which context did the speaker says "your country has shown that economic growth and concern for the greater good are not incompatible"?

- (i) He is complaining
- (ii) He is appreciating.

Ans. (ii) He is appreciating

(g) In which respect has India set an example for nations?

- (i) Social equality
- (ii) Cultural identity
- (iii) Economic growth
- (iv) Religious fairness

Ans. (ii) Cultural Identity

(h) To whom does the writer shows his gratitude for placing India at the forefront of technologies for launchers and the construction of satellites?

- (i) Indian scientists
- (ii) Indian technology
- (iii) Indian Space Research Organization
- (iv) Indian Government

Ans. (iii) Indian Space Research Organization

(i) Pick the option from the passage that tells that inspite of inequalities, India has not given priority to.....

- (i) Poverty reduction
- (ii) Job creation
- (iii) Support to the agricultural sector
- (iv) Women education

Ans. (iv) Women education

(j) What would happen to diversity of cultures, religions, traditions and memories if we do not remain careful?

- (i) They would spread fast
- (ii) They would die
- (iii) They would pass on to others
- (iv) They would not flourish

Ans. (ii) They would die

(k) Pick the option that tells about the writer's feelings when he talks about the two fold risks of globalization?

- (i) Fear
- (ii) Concern
- (iii) Anxiety
- (iv) All of these

Ans. (iv) All of these

□□