SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT – II

ENGLISH
(Language and Literature)

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum marks : 70

General Instructions :

(i) The Question paper is divided into three sections :

Section A — Reading 20 marks
Section B — Writing and Grammar 25 marks
Section C — Literature / Textbooks and Long Reading Text 25 marks

(ii) All questions are compulsory.

(iii) Marks are indicated against each question.
1. Read the passage given below:

Kausani is situated at a height of 6,075 feet in the Central Himalayas. It is an unusually attractive little town. It covers just about 5.2 sq. kms. It lies to the north of Almora in Uttarakhand’s picturesque Kumaon region.

Kausani provides the 300-km wide breathtaking view of the Himalayas. It is the most striking aspect of this place. Snow-capped peaks are spread in a stately row. They stare at you in silvery white majesty. The most famous peak on view is Nanda Devi, the second highest mountain in India. It is situated at a height of 25,645 feet and 36 miles away as the crow flies. The other famous peaks on view are Choukhamba (23,420 feet) and Trishul (23,360 feet). Then there are also Nilkanth, Nandaghunti, Nandaghat and Nandakot. On a clear day, the blue of the sky makes a splendid background to these peaks. At sunrise and at sunset, when the colour changes to a golden orange, the scene gets etched in your memory.

When Gandhiji visited this place in 1929, its scenic beauty held him spellbound. He named it the ‘Switzerland of India’. He prolonged his two-day stay to fourteen days, making time to write a book, ‘Anashakti Yoga’. The place where he was staying was originally a guest-house of the tea estate. It was renamed ‘Anashakti Ashram’ after the book.

Kausani is the birthplace of Sumitranandan Pant, India’s poet laureate. Its natural surroundings inspired many of his poems. Its tea gardens mingle with dense pine forests and fruit orchards. The area is also host to many fairs and religious ceremonies. If Uttarakhand is the abode of gods, Kausani is God’s own backyard. There is no traffic, no one is in a hurry. If serenity could be put on a canvas, the picture would resemble Kausani.

On the basis of your reading of the above passage, answer the following questions:

(a) Where is Kausani situated?
(b) What is the most striking aspect of Kausani?
(c) Which is the most famous peak on view from Kausani?
2. Read the passage given below:

1 I rested for a moment at the door of Anand Bhawan, on Market Road, where coffee-drinkers and tiffin-eaters sat still at their tables, uttering low moans on seeing me. I wanted to assure them, “Don’t mind me, you hugging the cash box — you are a coward, afraid even to breathe. Go on, count the cash, if that is your pleasure. I just want to watch, that’s all. If my tail trails down to the street, if I am blocking your threshold, it is because, I’m told, I’m eleven feet tip to tail. I can’t help it. I’m not out to kill — I’m too full. I found a green pasture full of food on my way. I won’t attack until I feel hungry again. Tigers attack only when they feel hungry, unlike human beings who slaughter one another without purpose or hunger.”

2 To the great delight of children, schools were being hurriedly closed. Children of all ages and sizes were running helter-skelter, screaming joyously, “No school, no school. Tiger, tiger!” They were shouting and laughing and even enjoying being scared. They seemed to welcome me. I felt like joining them. So I bounded away from the restaurant door. I walked along with them, at which they cried, “The tiger is coming to eat us; let us get back to school!”

3 I followed them through their school gate while they ran up and shut themselves in the school hall securely. I climbed up the steps of the school, saw an open door at the far end of a veranda, and walked in. It happened to be the headmaster’s room. I noticed a very dignified man jumping on the table and heaving himself up into an attic. I walked in and flung myself on the cool floor, having a special liking for cool stone floors.

4 As I drowsed, I was aware of cautious steps and hushed voices all around. I was in no mood to bother about anything. All I wanted was a little moment of sleep; the daylight was very bright.
On the basis of your reading of the above passage, answer the following questions:

(a) How did the diners at Anand Bhawan react on seeing the tiger?  

(b) When do tigers attack? In this context, how are human beings different from tigers?  

(c) Why were children happy and even enjoying being scared?  

(d) Why did the tiger follow the children?  

(e) Identify the word which means the same as ‘hugging’. (Para 1)  
   (i) counting  
   (ii) hiding  
   (iii) rubbing  
   (iv) holding tightly in the arms  

(f) Identify the word which means the same as ‘delight’. (Para 2)  
   (i) pleasure  
   (ii) fear  
   (iii) sorrow  
   (iv) nervousness  

(g) Identify the word which means the same as ‘dignified’. (Para 3)  
   (i) tall  
   (ii) honourable  
   (iii) terrified  
   (iv) tired  

(h) Identify the word which means the same as ‘drowsed’. (Para 4)  
   (i) felt sleepy  
   (ii) half asleep  
   (iii) being in deep sleep  
   (iv) lay awake
3. Pavements are meant for the pedestrians but these footpaths have been encroached upon everywhere in the city and the people are forced to walk on the crowded roads at the risk to their lives. Write a letter in 100 – 120 words to the Editor of The Times, drawing attention of the Government to the problem, telling how crores spent on the pavements for the benefit of pedestrians have gone waste. Request the Government to take strict action against the encroachers. You are Rama / Ram, 48 Kailash Colony, New Delhi.

OR

Prime Minister in his Independence Day speech has linked his ‘Clean India’ project to Mahatma Gandhi’s 150th birth anniversary celebrations in 2019. It is a great idea to pay tribute to the Father of the Nation. Write an article in 100 – 120 words, appreciating the PM’s focus on ‘Clean India’, and mentioning the measures people can take to make this project of ‘Clean India’ a great success. You are Rama / Ram.

4. Complete the story in 150 – 200 words from the outline given below : 

A parrot on a beautiful tree by the river, — had happy times — the tree falls sick and dries up — nothing to eat, leaves also fall off — the parrot still happy and contented and stays on —

Lord Indra flies down in the form of a swan to test his friendship — ‘nothing on your tree, come, and join me on my tree’. — “ no, all these days this tree has fed my family and me — was with him in good days and I’ll stay with him in his bad days,” — parrot’s wish is granted — the story has a happy ending.

OR

Complete the story in 150 – 200 words which begins as the following :

Two friends were walking back home through a forest. It was quite dark. They could hardly see their way. Suddenly they saw a pair of bright eyes shining in the dark. ....
5. Read the passage given below and fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate words from the given options: 

Air is the most essential need of man. In (a) ____ absence of air man cannot live more than (b) ____ minutes. The tragedy (c) ____ the present age is that, of all the environmental factors, air is the most affected.

(a) (i) a 
(ii) the 
(iii) this 
(iv) his 

(b) (i) some 
(ii) the few 
(iii) a few 
(iv) few 

(c) (i) of 
(ii) for 
(iii) from 
(iv) in 

6. The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each line against which a blank has been given. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet against the correct blank number as given in the example. Remember to underline the word that you have supplied. 1×4=4

The accident had occurred in midnight, e.g. in (-) _______ _________.

while Sudha and his mother were on their (-) _______ _________.

way to Chennai from a pilgrimage-centre (-) _______ _________.

of Vayalur. Their bus collide (-) _______ _________.

head-on to another bus. (-) _______ _________.
7. Rearrange the following words and phrases into meaningful sentences. One has been done for you as an example.  

Example:

is concerned / a large proportion / with animals / of children’s books /
A large proportion of children’s books is concerned with animals.

(a) such themes / this / are timeless / is because /
(b) with all / have been / age groups / animal stories / popular /
(c) animal stories / the young / humanised / like / very much /

SECTION C

(Literature / Textbooks and Long Reading Text) 25 marks

8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:  

“Do you know that over eighty crore cups of tea are drunk every day throughout the world?” Rajvir said.

“Whew!” exclaimed Pranjol. “Tea really is very popular.”

The train pulled out of the station. Pranjol buried his nose in his detective book again. Rajvir too was an ardent fan of detective stories, but at the moment he was keener on looking at the beautiful scenery.

(a) How do we know that tea is very popular?
(b) Rajvir was a great fan of reading detective stories. Why didn’t he like to read at that moment?
(c) What is the meaning of the word, ‘keener’?

OR

Then she began to cry and tears flowed from her eyes in a helpless flood. She kept her head down as she sat in her corner, not daring to look up at the girls, who, she know, were still laughing at her.

(a) Who is ‘she’?
(b) Why were the girls laughing at her?
(c) What does the word, ‘daring’ mean?
9. Answer the following questions in 30 – 40 words each :  

(a) What happened when Maxwell took Mijbil to the bathroom? What does it tell us about Mijbil?

(b) Give examples to show that Valli was a good planner.

(c) How did the Loisels replace the necklace?

(d) How did Ebright’s mother help him in becoming a scientist?

10. Answer the following in 80 – 100 words:

The play, ‘The Book That Saved the Earth’ conveys the message that misunderstanding of cultural differences between various races can cause confusion and conflict. Based on your reading of the play, write how such confusion and conflicts can be checked so that peace and harmony is maintained.

OR

In the poem, ‘Animals’ the poet writes, ‘Not one is dissatisfied, not one is demented, with the mania of owning things.’ Taking ideas from the lines of the poem, ‘Animals’, mention the values we human beings should imbibe for a happy life.

11. Answer the following in 150 – 200 words:

Describe Anne’s relationship with her parents.

OR

What were the reasons for growing intimacy between Anne and Peter?

OR

Helen’s feelings towards the Bible move from, ‘Somehow it failed to interest me’ to ‘I love it as I love no other book’. Comment on this change in Helen’s attitude towards the Bible and how it takes place.

OR

Give a brief character sketch of Arthur Gilman.