

ENGLISH

Paper 1

(Two hours)

Answers to this paper must be written on the paper provided separately.

You will **not** be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.

This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.

The time given at the head of this paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

Attempt all four questions. The intended marks for questions are given in brackets [].

You are advised to spend not more than 35 minutes in answering Question 1 and 20 minutes in answering Question 2.

Question 1

[25]

Write a composition (350-400 words) on any one of the following.

1. 'Experience is the best teacher.' Narrate an incident from your life that will clearly bring out the truth of this statement.
2. Narrow roads, big cars, road rage. All these account for accidents waiting to take place. Discuss the situation and suggest ways to ensure safer roads.
3. The long summer's day was drawing to a close. I sat back and recollected the events of that morning...Continue the story.
4. How has your schooling prepared you for the future?
5. Study the picture given below. Write a story, description or account of what the picture suggests to you. There must be a clear connection between your composition and the picture.



Question 2

[10]

- a) Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper praising the newspaper for its excellent coverage of the news.
- OR
- b) Write a letter to your cousin telling him about the most interesting activity or project you undertook this year.

Question 3

Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow.

He collapsed right in the middle of a packed courtroom. He was one of the country's most distinguished trial lawyers. He was also a man who was as well known for the three-thousand-dollar Italian suits which draped his well-fed frame as for his remarkable string of legal victories. I simply stood there, paralyzed by the shock of what I had just witnessed. The great Julian Mantle had been reduced to a victim and was now squirming on the ground like a helpless infant, shaking and shivering and sweating like a maniac.

Everything seemed to move in slow motion from that point on. "My God, Julian's in trouble!" his paralegal screamed, emotionally offering us a blinding glimpse of the obvious. The judge looked panic-stricken and quickly muttered something into the private phone she had had installed in the event of an emergency. As for me, I could only stand there, dazed and confused. *Please don't die, you old fool. It's too early for you to check out. You don't deserve to die like this.*

The bailiff, who earlier had looked as if he had been embalmed in his standing position, leapt into action and started to perform CPR on the fallen legal hero. The paralegal was at his side, her curls framing her face, offering him soft words of comfort, words which he obviously could not hear.

I had known Julian for seventeen years. We had first met when I was a young law student hired by one of his partners as a summer research intern. Back then, he'd had it all. He was a brilliant, handsome and fearless trial attorney with dreams of greatness. Julian was the firm's young star, the rain-maker in waiting. I can still remember walking by his regal corner office while I was working late one night and stealing a glimpse of the framed quotation perched on his massive oak desk. It was by Winston Churchill and it spoke volumes about the man that Julian was:

Sure I am that this day we are masters of our fate; that the task which has been set before us is not above our strength; that its pangs and toils are not beyond my endurance. As long as we have faith in our own cause and an unconquerable will to win, victory will not be denied us.

- a) Five words have been given below. Give the meaning of each word as used in the passage. One word answers or short phrases will be accepted. [5]

i) witnessed ii) squirming iii) embalmed iv) regal v) perched

- b) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:

- i) Name the different people present in the courtroom as per the passage. Also mention whether the named person is male or female. [5]
- ii) What was the author's reaction to Julian's collapsing? [2]
- iii) Between the author and Julian, who was senior? Which line(s) in the passage suggest this? [2]
- iv) What does the phrase "suits which draped his well-fed frame" tell us about Julian in terms of his size? [1]

- c) Summarize in not more than 60 words exactly what took place in the court room. [8]

- d) Give your summary a suitable title. [2]

A) Transform as directed.

[5]

1. Possessing the skills she does, she is not proud. (Use: although)
2. During the riots, life was miserable for those near the main road. (Use: misery)
3. They said to us, 'Why don't we meet at five?' (Rewrite in indirect speech)
4. They have asked me to come for a written assessment tomorrow. (Begin: I...)
5. His judgement is perfect. He makes no mistakes. (Combine in the best way.)

B) Fill in the blanks with an appropriate word.

[5]

1. Excellence is synonymous _____ the Jesuits.
2. Activists came out onto the streets _____ support of the cause.
3. Destiny has marked them _____ greatness.
4. He has been enrolled _____ a municipal school.
5. I now fully realize the extent _____ the damage.

C) In the following passage, fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word in brackets.

[5]

All citizens in the national capital will have to carry a photo identity card with them when they 1. _____ (move) about in the city from January 15 onwards. The trigger for this 2. _____ (seem) Orwellian move is the growing incidence of terror acts across the country. The police 3. _____ (conduct) random checks and anyone 4. _____ (not carry) an I-card would have to convince them of their bona fides. The requirement 5. _____ (spring) on citizens rather suddenly it would seem.

D) Choose the correct option.

[5]

1. Neither of the brothers (were/was) _____ willing to give in.
 2. My (ancient/ aged/old) _____ aunt stays with us.
 3. He (burnt his fingers/ was caught on the wrong foot) _____ when he stole a pie from the larder.
 4. They (brought about/ brought on) _____ a great change in just a few months.
 5. The artist (and philosopher/and the philosopher) _____ in him come out through his works.
- _____