

GENERAL ENGLISH

Time allowed : Three Hours

Maximum Marks : 300

Question Paper Specific Instructions

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions :

All the questions are to be attempted.

The number of marks carried by a question / part is indicated against it.

*Answers must be written in **ENGLISH** only.*

You must not disclose your identity in any of your answers.

Q.1. Write an essay, in about 800 to 1000 words, on any **one** of the following topics : 100

- (a) The need for value-based education.
- (b) Government-public participation in Disaster Management.
- (c) Violence against women.
- (d) Ecotourism.

Q.2. (a) Write a letter to the publisher of the book you have recently bought, bringing to his notice some of the typographical errors in it and also the poor production quality of the book. 25

(b) Write a report on the plantation of trees in your city/town on the Environment Day. 25

Q.3. Write a précis of the passage given below in about one-third of its length, and give a suitable title to it. The précis should be written in your own language. 50

Mining companies are dumping more than 180 million tonnes of hazardous mine waste each year into rivers, lakes, and oceans worldwide, threatening vital bodies of water with toxic heavy metals and other chemicals poisonous to humans and wildlife. The amount of mine waste dumped annually is 1.5 times as much as all the municipal waste dumped in US landfills in 2009.

Mine processing wastes, also known as tailings, can contain as many as three dozen dangerous chemicals including arsenic, lead, mercury and processing chemicals such as petroleum by-products, acids and cyanide. Waste rock, the extra rock that does not contain significant amounts of ore, can also generate acid and toxic contamination. The dumping of mine tailings and waste rock pollutes waters around the world, threatening the drinking water, food supply and health of communities as well as aquatic life and ecosystems.

In a world where climate change, ocean acidification, overfishing and recurring tragedies like the Gulf of Mexico oil spill are already disrupting water and food supplies, polluting the world's waters with mine tailings is unconscionable — and the damage it causes is largely irreversible. No feasible technology exists to remove and treat mine tailings from oceans; even partial cleanup of tailings dumped into rivers or

lakes is prohibitively expensive. There is but one workable solution: Mining companies must stop dumping into natural bodies of water. In some cases, safer waste management options exist: putting dry waste in lined and covered landfills (a process called dry stacking) and putting tailings back into the pits and tunnels the ore came from (called backfilling). In other cases, even land-based tailings disposal is too risky. Some places where companies want to dump tailings are simply inappropriate for mining and should be no-go zones. The protection of such areas must be coupled with more efficient use of metals and support for sustainable development and livelihoods that do not endanger communities' health and safety.

A number of nations have adopted prohibitions or restrictions on dumping mine tailings in natural bodies of water. Nations with some restrictions on dumping — including the United States, Canada and Australia — are home to major mining companies that use practices internationally that they wouldn't be allowed to use at home. Even these national regulations, however, are being eroded by amendments, exemptions, and loopholes that have allowed destructive dumping in lakes and streams. Non-governmental initiatives to promote responsible mining by corporations can play an important role in helping close regulatory loopholes. Civil society organizations working to encourage more responsible mining are calling on mining companies to end water-based tailings dumping. In turn, the mining industry as a whole must share our collective responsibility to protect water and aquatic ecosystems by pledging not to dump mine wastes in Earth's most precious resource : water. (458 words)

Q.4. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below :

In the 1970s, Chipko activists in Tehri Garhwal used to sing a song, praising their hills as paradise, the place of Gods, where the mountains bloom with rare plants and dense cedars. Chipko began as a movement to save the indigenous forests of oak and rhododendron from being felled by the Forest Department. It soon became a wider assertion of local rights to the environment, protesting against inappropriate policies imposed on the hills by a distant plains-based State Government. That sense of alienation and exploitation grew into a broad-based campaign for regional autonomy. The state of Uttarakhand was formed in 2000, and many hoped that the region would finally chart a path of development that was in harmony with its unique ecology and culture.

The recent catastrophic rain, landslides and floods, and the consequent human tragedy, makes us look more closely and critically at Uttarakhand's development narrative. The story that is told — the state can produce wealth and welfare by using natural resources to the fullest — grossly misunderstands the nature of Himalayan ecology. First, the Himalayas are known to be geologically active. Earthquakes and glacial lake outbursts are natural hazards that accompany these processes. But the destructive power of these events has been eclipsed by man-made hazards that exponentially increase the instability of the Himalayan landscape. Cutting mountains for building roads often trigger landslides. Blasting tunnels through the mountains for river projects destabilizes an already fragile geology. The pressure of water in dam reservoirs induces tectonic shifts, multiplying the risk of earthquakes. Second, like the mountains, Himalayan rivers are dynamic entities. Blocking and diverting their path with dams and tunnels, dumping lakhs of truckloads of debris from construction sites and from landslides, and building close to the river channel, has disastrous consequences. The cloudburst that precipitated the recent disaster was a natural event, but the toll taken by the floods and landslides was made much worse by Uttarakhand's development strategy. It has become clear that our understanding of nature is poor, our ability to control and manipulate it poorer still. Nonetheless, we chose to forge ahead with building more concrete infrastructure because, in the short term, that's where the money lies. This is a warning to us that development has to incorporate the precautionary principle, anticipating potential harm and acting prudently to prevent it. This means a conservative approach to construction in the hills.

- (a) Answer the following questions on the basis of the above passage : 10×4=40
- (i) What was the objective of the people of Uttarakhand in agitating for a state of their own ? 10
 - (ii) Why is the Himalayan region thought to be geologically and ecologically fragile ? 10
 - (iii) How has man contributed to the instability of the Himalayan landscape ? 10
 - (iv) What should be the planning of development for such regions ? 10
- (b) Give synonyms of the following words : 5
- (i) indigenous
 - (ii) campaign
 - (iii) autonomy
 - (iv) hazard
 - (v) eclipse
- (c) Give antonyms of the following words : 5
- (i) alienation
 - (ii) regional
 - (iii) harmony
 - (iv) broad-based
 - (v) induce

- Q.5.** (a) Rewrite the following sentences after correcting grammatical errors in each : 1×10=10
- (i) He works hard lest he does not lose his job.
 - (ii) This cloth is inferior than that.
 - (iii) He made me to apply for the job.
 - (iv) Did he told you when he would return ?
 - (v) I need little sugar for tea.
 - (vi) My older brother does not play hockey.
 - (vii) I enjoy to tell jokes.
 - (viii) His uncle deals with pre-owned cars.
 - (ix) The officer came in just we were about to leave.
 - (x) Haven't you got nobody to help you ?
- (b) Make sentences, using the following words in such a way that the meaning of each word is clear in the context : 2×5=10
- (i) moral, morale
 - (ii) access, axis
 - (iii) forcible, forceful
 - (iv) flair, flare
 - (v) metal, mettle

- (c) Use the following idiomatic expressions in sentences in order to bring out their meaning : 2×5=10
- (i) give the game away
 - (ii) to face the music
 - (iii) hand in glove
 - (iv) in deep water
 - (v) to leave in the lurch
- (d) Make adjectives from the following words : 5
- (i) imagine
 - (ii) value
 - (iii) art
 - (iv) like
 - (v) comfort
- (e) Make nouns from the following words : 5
- (i) submit
 - (ii) deliver
 - (iii) complain
 - (iv) wise
 - (v) hope
- (f) Rewrite the following sentences as directed : 2×5=10
- (i) Rama said to her daughter, "Please come with me to the doctor's clinic."
(Change to indirect speech)
 - (ii) They are installing new computers in the office. (Change to passive voice)
 - (iii) I scored the highest marks in my class. I was given a prize.
(Combine in one sentence using 'for')
 - (iv) He drove back home late in the night. He was told not to do so.
(Combine in one sentence using 'despite')
 - (v) The gentleman is sitting in the front row. He is my father. (Combine in a complex sentence)