

**SET
A**

Duration: 1.30 hrs.

Full Marks: 35

Time: 15 mins.

Marks: 10

$$1 \times 10 = 10$$

Choose the correct answer from the following:

Objective

1. Select the synonym of "capricious":
 - a. Predictable
 - b. Whimsical
 - c. Stable
 - d. Constant
2. Select the synonym of "alacrity":
 - a. Hesitation
 - b. Slowness
 - c. Eagerness
 - d. Indifference
3. Select the synonym of "tenacious":
 - a. Weak
 - b. Persistent
 - c. Unyielding
 - d. Flexible
4. Select the antonym of "prodigal":
 - a. Lavish
 - b. Extravagant
 - c. Frugal
 - d. Reckless
5. Select the antonym of "obstinate":
 - a. Stubborn
 - b. Flexible
 - c. Rigid
 - d. Firm
6. Spot the Error:
 - a. No sooner did she reach
 - b. the station when
 - c. the train departed
 - d. No error
7. Spot the Error:
 - a. Each of the students
 - b. in the classroom were given
 - c. a certificate for participation
 - d. No error
8. What does the idiom "Hit the nail on the head" mean?
 - a. Hurt someone intentionally
 - b. Fail to understand something
 - c. Do or say something exactly right
 - d. Make a mistake
9. Select the correct meaning of "Let the cat out of the bag":
 - a. To release something unwanted
 - b. To accidentally reveal a secret
 - c. To escape a difficult situation
 - d. To spoil something intentionally

10. Select the meaning of the phrase "Through thick and thin":
- a. Only during good times
 - b. In all circumstances
 - c. During difficult times only
 - d. Throughout the day

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(Descriptive)

Time : 1 Hr. 15 Mins.

Marks : 25

[Answer question no.1 & any two (2) from the rest]

1. Write a Precis of the following passage reducing it to 1/3 of its original length:

5

In recent decades, the issue of environmental conservation has grown increasingly urgent. The rapid industrialization, urban expansion, and technological advances that define modern society have brought about profound transformations in our natural landscapes, leading to deforestation, air and water pollution, and biodiversity loss. Environmentalists argue that the earth's ecosystems, which have evolved over millions of years, are being severely disrupted, placing countless species on the brink of extinction and altering weather patterns in ways that could be catastrophic for human life. Despite clear warnings from scientists, conservation efforts face significant obstacles, including political and economic interests that prioritize short-term gains over long-term sustainability.

One of the most critical challenges in environmental conservation is balancing economic development with ecological preservation. For many developing nations, natural resources are essential for economic growth, with industries such as mining, agriculture, and manufacturing being major contributors to national GDP. However, reliance on these industries often leads to the unsustainable exploitation of forests, rivers, and oceans. Policymakers frequently find themselves in a dilemma, as conserving the environment might mean limiting economic opportunities for their populations. This conflict underscores the need for sustainable development strategies that allow economic progress without compromising the planet's health.

Additionally, public awareness and engagement play crucial roles in conservation. While environmental campaigns have brought attention to the dangers of climate change, pollution, and habitat destruction, changing individual behaviours and lifestyle choices remains challenging. For instance, reducing plastic use, recycling waste, and conserving water and energy are relatively simple actions individuals can take. Yet, widespread adoption of these practices is difficult, as convenience often overrides conservation. Moreover, misinformation and scepticism regarding climate science continue to hinder progress. Educational initiatives that emphasize the tangible impacts of environmental degradation are essential to foster a culture of conservation.

International cooperation is another vital component of environmental conservation. Many environmental issues, such as climate change and pollution, are global in nature and require joint action across borders. Institutions like the United Nations have introduced agreements like the Paris Climate Accord to encourage nations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. However, the effectiveness of such agreements is often compromised by a lack of commitment from some countries, economic disparities, and geopolitical tensions. Wealthier nations, which are often the largest polluters, have a greater responsibility to support environmental initiatives financially and technologically, yet they are sometimes reluctant to fulfil these obligations.

In conclusion, environmental conservation is a complex issue with multiple dimensions, including economic, political, and social challenges. A concerted effort is required from governments, organizations, and individuals to protect our planet's ecosystems. Sustainable development, public awareness, and international cooperation are essential for effective conservation, but they require genuine commitment and cooperation. While progress is being made, much more needs to be done to ensure that future generations inherit a healthy, sustainable world. (500 words)

2. You are the secretary of the Student Cultural Council at your college. Recently, your college organized an inter-college cultural fest titled "Harmony 2024," featuring events like dance, music, drama, and art competitions, along with seminars on cultural heritage. Write a detailed report on the event, covering aspects like planning, participation, key highlights, challenges faced, and the impact of the event on students and the college's reputation. Your report should be suitable for publication in your college magazine. 10
3. You are the head of the Student Union at your college. Recently, students have voiced concerns over limited access to library resources, especially in preparation for exams and research projects. Many students feel the library hours are too short, the available seating is insufficient, and there is a lack of updated digital resources. Write a formal application to the Principal requesting an extension of library hours, an increase in seating capacity, and an enhancement of digital resources. In your application, justify each request with specific examples and propose feasible solutions to address the concerns of students. 10
4. Write a paragraph within 250 words:
"The Impact of Technology on Human Relationships" 10
5. Write a paragraph within 250 words:
"The Role of Failure in Personal Growth" 10