

2012
ENGLISH

Full Marks : 100

Time.: Three hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions.

GROUP-A (NEW COURSE)

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GROUP-B (OLD COURSE)

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(GROUP-A)

(For New Course)



SECTION A

(Reading Skills 20 Marks)

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow : 12

1. In 1889, the fifth session of the Indian National Congress was held in Mumbai. Leaders from all over the country were in the packed hall.
2. A bright-eyed pretty young lady with a glowing, intelligent face rose to address the gathering. It was unprecedented.
3. There were no loud speakers and people at the back could not hear her. They started surging forward. "Brothers, excuse me, my voice cannot reach you. But I am not surprised. For centuries, did you ever try to listen to the voice of a woman? Did you give her the strength to make her voice audible to you?"
4. The delegates had no answer.
5. There was more to come from the courageous young lady known as Pandita Ramabai. Till that day women hardly ever attended Congress sessions. It was Pandita Ramabai's



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effort that resulted in nine women delegates attending the 1889 session of the Congress.

6. She was not content to be a dumb delegate. She made a forceful speech on the resolution about the practice of cutting off the hair of widowed women. "You men are demanding the right of representation in British Parliament, so that you can voice the opinion of Indians. You have been crying hoarse in this very pandal for freedom of expression. Then why don't you give the same freedom to women in your families? Why do you force a woman to become ugly and dependent as soon as she becomes a widow? Does a widower ever do that? He has the freedom to do whatever he wants. Then why not the woman?"
7. One can say that Pandita Ramabai laid the foundation of the movement of women's liberation in India.
8. Ramabai never minced words. She had the courage of her conviction and stood by it. She had inherited this courage to defy social injustice from her parents, Pandit Anantshastri Dongre and Laxmibai Dongre.

9. Anantshastri was a great scholar. He defied society and taught Sanskrit to his wife and two daughters. "There is nothing in Shastras which prohibits women from learning Sanskrit", he maintained, and proved his contention by giving more than 300 references. But the orthodox scholars were not convinced. They ostracised him. Anantshastri did not care. He established his Ashram in the wilderness of Gangamul in Andhra Pradesh. His generosity and the unscrupulous behaviour of his elder son-in-law deprived him of all his assets. He was forced to live the life of a nomad, reciting and interpreting Puranas, Bhagwat and other holy books to people. The family survived on whatever little cash or grain offered by the audience.

10. Ramabai wrote :
"Two third of the audience consisted of women who never go empty-handed to discourse. They always offer something to the deity as well as to the Kirtankar or Kathakar. Men just ring the bell and do Namaskar. Thus, half of the expenditure of these temples is met by the generosity of women. Even then these priests and so-

called scholars consider women as obstacles in pursuit of knowledge. They deny women the right to learn. How ungrateful : what injustice!"

1. The family travelled around for sixteen years, and that helped to broaden Ramabai's outlook.
2. Right from childhood she could not stand injustice. One day she tried to save a little girl of nine from being burnt with the dead body of her husband. "If a woman has to burn and become sati, does man become sata after his wife's death?" She asked indignantly. The young girl's mother has no answer and simply said, "It is man's world. They make laws : women have to obey." "Why do women tolerate such laws?" countered Ramabai. "When I grow up, I will fight against these laws." And fight she did against every type of exploitation of women by men.

1.1. Answer the following questions :

- (i) Which session of the Indian National Congress was held in Mumbai in 1889?

1



P.T.O

- (ii) How many women delegates attended the 1889 session of the Indian National Congress? 1
- (iii) Who, according to the passage, laid the foundation of the women's liberation movement in India? 1
- (iv) How did Anantshastri defy the society? 2
- (v) "They ostracised him" (para 9) 1+1=2
- (a) Who are 'they' referred to here?
- (b) Explain the meaning of the sentence.
- (vi) Which incident made Ramabai fight against every type of exploitation of women by men? 2

1.2. Find words from the passage which mean the same as : 1×3=3

- (i) Crowd together (para 1)
- (ii) Unable to speak (para 6)
- (iii) refuse to obey (para 8)



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

The small village of Somnathpur contains an extraordinary temple, built around A.D. 1268 by the Hoyasalas of Karnataka, one of the most prolific temple builders. Belur and Helebid are among their better known works. While these suffered during the invasions of the 14th Century, the Somnathpur temple stands more or less intact in the near-original condition. This temple captivates with the beauty and vitality of its detailed sculpture, covering almost every inch of the walls, pillars and even railings. It has three shikharas and stands on a star-shaped, raised platform with 24 edges. The outer walls have a profusion of detailed carvings : the entire surface run over by carved plaques of stone. There were vertical panels covered by exquisite figures of gods and goddesses with many incarnations being depicted. There were nymphs too, some carrying an ear of maize (a symbol of plenty and prosperity). The elaborate ornamentation, very characteristic of Hoyasala sculptures, was a remarkable feature. On closer look — and it is worth it — the series of friezes

on the outer walls revealed intricately carved caparisoned elephants, charging horsemen, stylized flowers, warriors, musicians, crocodiles and swans.

The temple was actually commissioned by Soma Dandanayaka or Somnath (he named the village after himself), the minister of the Hoyasala King, Narasimha III. The temple was built to house three versions of Krishna. The inner centre of the temple was the Kalyana Mandapa. Leading from here were three corridors, each ending in a shrine, one for each kind of Krishna – Venugopala, Janardana and Prasanna Keshava, though only two remain in their original form. In the darkness of the sanctum sanctorum I tried to discern the different images. The temple's sculptural perfection is amazing, and it includes the doors of the temple and the three elegantly carved towers.

2.1. Make notes of the above passage using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable short forms also wherever necessary (minimum 4). Supply an appropriate title to it. 5

2.2. Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. 5

SECTION B

(Advanced Writing Skills 35 Marks)

3. Water is precious and we should stop wastage. Prepare a poster in not more than 50 words urging people to employ various methods of rain water harvesting in their own locality. 5

Or

You are Pramila / Priyam, the sports secretary of Kokrajhar Senior Secondary School, Kokrajhar. Write a notice suitable for your school notice-board giving the details for participation of students in a football tournament to be organized by your school. (Word limit : 50 words). 5

1. You attended the Edufair, 2011, organized by The Assam Tribune Pvt. Ltd. in Guwahati in which some top colleges and universities of India participated and gave information about their Undergraduate and Postgraduate programmes. Write a detailed account of the fair in 100-125 words. You are Parveen / Pravin: 10



Or

You are an eyewitness to a road accident in which a school-going boy was killed and many passengers were injured. As a press reporter of The Assam Tribune write a report about the accident in **100-125 words**. You are Ayesha / Sanjoy. 10

5. Write a letter to the editor of The Sentinel drawing attention of the authorities concerned regarding the poor condition of the roads in your locality. You are Rashmi / Manab living in Changsari, Kamrup. 10

Or

You are Arunava. You have seen the advertisement for the post of English teacher in Model Public School, Jorhat. Write an application for the post in response to the advertisement. Give your bio-data also. 10

6. You are Nandini / Nabin. Write an article in **150-200 words** for a newspaper on "the role of Youth in combating corruption in the society." 10



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Or

Write a short speech in about **200 words** on preservation of bio-diversity in the North-East of India. 10

SECTION C

(Textbooks 45 Marks)

Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow :

- (a) "The polished traffic passed with a mind ahead,
Or if ever aside a moment, then out of sorts.
At having the landscape marred with the artless paint
Of signs that with N turned wrong and S turned wrong
Offered for sale wild berries in wooden quarts,
Or crook-necked golden squash with silver warts,
Or beauty rest in a beautiful mountain scene,
You have the money, but if you want to be mean,
Why keep your money (this crossly) and go along."

- (i) How did the traffic pass? 1
(ii) Why did one turn out of sorts? 1

(iii) What are the two things that were sold in that stand? 1

(iv) What should one do if one wants to be mean? 1

Or

(b) "Driving from my parent's home to Cochin last Friday morning, I saw my mother, beside me, doze, open mouthed, her face ashen like that of a corpse ..."

(i) Where was the poet driving to? 1

(ii) What did she notice when her mother sat beside her? 1

(iii) Find words from the passage that mean 'sleep lightly' and 'dead body'. 1

(iv) Why was her mother's face like that of a corpse? 1

8. Answer *any three* of the following questions in 30-40 words : 2×3=6

(i) How is a thing of beauty a joy forever?

(ii) What will counting upto twelve and keeping still help us achieve?

(iii) What is the 'childish longing' that the poet refers to in the poem 'A Roadside Stand'? Why is it 'vain'?

(iv) Why has the mother been compared to the 'late winter's moon'?

9. Answer *any five* of the following questions : 1×5=5

(a) "I started for school very late that morning". Who is the 'I' here?

(b) Who is the author of "Lost Spring"?

(c) What does Mukesh want to be?

(d) Who is Sir Edward Gait?



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- (e) Where was the Y.M.C.A. pool?
- (f) Who was Rajkumar Shukla?
- (g) What does Sophie want to have when she grows up?

10. Answer *any five* of the following questions in 30-40 words : $2 \times 5 = 10$

- (a) Why did little Franz want to spend his day out of doors?
- (b) What are M Hamel's views about the French language?
- (c) Is Saheb happy working at the tea stall? Why?
- (d) What is the significance of bangles in an Indian Society?
- (e) How did Douglas make sure that he had conquered the old terror?
- (f) Why do you think Gandhi considered the Champaran episode to be a turning-point in his life?

- (g) What job is Geoff engaged in? Does he entertain wild and impractical dreams like his sister?

11. Answer *any one* of the following questions in 80-100 words : $5 \times 1 = 5$

- (a) What was the order from Berlin? How did that order affect the people of Alsace, particularly M. Hamel and his students?
- (b) Describe the miserable plight of the people of Firozabad.

2. Answer *any one* of the following questions in 125-150 words : $7 \times 1 = 7$

- (a) Describe the narrator's journey to end of the Earth – the Antarctic region, and his experience during the journey on the success of "Students on Ice" programme of Geoff Green?

- (b) 'Though both Mr Lamb and Derry suffer from a physical disability, their attitude to life is different.' Justify the relevance of this statement with reference to the story, "On the Face of it."



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13. Answer *any four* of the following questions in 30-40 words : $2 \times 4 = 8$

- (a) What was Gondwana ?
- (b) How has Antarctica remained relatively pristine ?
- (c) Why and how did Derry enter Mr Lamb's garden ?
- (d) Why aren't there any curtains at the windows of Mr Lamb's house ?
- (e) What was Zitkala-Sa's idea regarding short, shingled hair ?
- (f) When did Bama experience untouchability ?



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(GROUP-B)
(For Old Course)

Answer either GROUP-A or GROUP-B.
GROUP-C is Compulsory for all Candidates.

GROUP-A

4. Read *any two* of the following Passages and answer the questions given below them :

5+5=10

A. The conductor pulled the bell and the bus stopped. "This bus doesn't go on until that dog is brought out." And he stepped on the pavement and waited. It was his moment of triumph. He had law on his side and a whole busful of angry people were under the harrow. His embittered soul was having a real holiday.

The storm inside rose high. "Shameful"; "He's no better than a German"; "Why isn't he in the army?" "Call the police"; "Let's all report him"; "Let's make him

give us our tares back..." For everybody was on the side of the lady and the dog.

Questions :

- (i) Who is the Conductor referred to here ? 1
- (ii) Why did the bus stop ? 1
- (iii) What is the storm referred to in the Passage ? 1
- (iv) What was the Conductor waiting for ? 1
- (v) Write a sentence of your own using 'holiday' as a verb. 1

B. He put away his pans and trays and his lamp, and prepared himself for a life of retirement. When all his savings were exhausted he went to one Restaurant Kohinoor from which loudspeakers shrieked all day, and queued up for a job. For twenty rupees a month he waited eight hours a day at the tables. People came and went, the radio music from somewhere frayed his nerves, but

he stuck on, he had to. When some customer ordered him about too rudely, he said, "Gently, brother I was once a hotel-owner myself". And with that piece of reminiscence he attained great satisfaction.

Questions :

- (i) Who is 'He' referred to here ? 1
- (ii) Why did he prepare himself for a life of retirement ? 1
- (iii) Why did he join the Restaurant ? 1
- (iv) Find a word in the passage that means 'remembering a past experience'. 1
- (v) Write a sentence of your own using the verb form of 'satisfaction'. 1

C. Strangers to modern life, humble and proud, these hard-up aristocrats inhabited the top floors in houses that seemed asleep. From top to bottom of

those evenings, the tenants were tired, but money seemed scarce on the first as on the sixth floor.

The everlasting Prejudices, the preoccupation with their rank, the anxiety not to fall from it, haunted these families, formerly brilliant, and ruined by their menfolk's inaction, Hector de Gribelin met in this society a young girl, noble and poor like himself, and married her.

Questions :

- (i) Who are strangers to modern life ? 1
- (ii) What is the 'anxiety' referred to here ? 1
- (iii) Why were the families ruined ? 1
- (iv) Give the noun forms of the words 'young' and 'poor'. $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1$
- (v) Write a sentence of your own using the verb form of the word 'preoccupation'. 1



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15. Answer *any one* of the following questions :
1×5=5

- (a) Why is the study of humanities important ? 5
- (b) What was the cause of the trouble in the bus as you find in the lesson, "All about a dog." 5
- (c) "What these folk do not see is that I sit before the oven practically all day frying all this stuff."
 - (i) Who said this ? 1
 - (ii) Who were 'these folk' ? 1
 - (iii) What did they say ? 1
 - (iv) What does 'all this stuff' refer to ? 2

16. Answer *any five* of the following questions :
2×5=10

- (a) How was the night in the lesson "All About a Dog" ? 2

- (b) What was done by the little animal when there was a noisy quarrel in the bus? 2
- (c) What did the lady with the dog do when the conductor went to the help of the driver? 2
- (d) How was Mr. Gribelin brought up in his early years? 2
- (e) Why did the servant-girl look at her master with admiration? 2
- (f) What was the advice of the doctor to Hector when the injured woman was taken to the Chemist's? 2
- (g) How should teachers and students work in a University? 2
- (h) What is the misleading conception about science? 2
- (i) Where and when did Rama run his 'establishment'? 2
- (j) Why is it said that Rama had, as if, four arms? 20



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17. Answer *any five* of the following : 1×5=5

- (a) What is compared to the "Summer's rain" as you find in the poem 'To Daffodils'? 1
- (b) What request does the poet make to daffodils? 1
- (c) Who is addressed as 'Friend' by the poet of "Sonnet (London, September 1802)"? 1
- (d) The word 'rapine' means
 (i) theft
 (ii) dacoity
 (iii) robbery
 (Choose the correct option) 1
- (e) Why are the flowers in the poem 'The Cloud' thirsty? 1
- (f) How are the green plains whitened? 1
- (g) Where does the poet find 'Autumn' sitting carelessly? 1
- (h) Who is the poet of the "Village Song"? 1

18. Answer *any two* of the following : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- (a) Write after the poet the Water of Jamuna. 2
- (b) Why did the maiden delay to come back from the Jamuna ? 2
- (c) What does the cloud provide for the sweet buds ? 2
- (d) What, according to the poet, is plain living and high thinking ? 2
- (e) Why is 'Autumn' a 'Close bosom-friend' of the Sun ? 2

19. Answer *any two* of the following : $3 \times 2 = 6$

- (a) Why is the maiden afraid of death as you find her in the poem "Village Song" ? 3
- (b) What, according to the poet, are the similarities between man and the daffodils ? 3

(c) Why does the poet say, "We must run glittering like a brook" ? 3

(d) How does the poet personify Autumn in his poem 'To Autumn' ? 3

GROUP-B

20. Read *any two* of the following Passages and answer the questions given below them :
5+5=10

- A. He always arrived in time to catch the cinema crowd coming out after the evening show. A pretender to the throne, a young scraggy fellow sat on the spot until he arrived and did business, but our friend did not let that unduly bother him. In fact he felt generous enough to say, 'Let the poor rat do his business when I am not there'. This sentiment was amply respected and the pretender moved off a minute before the arrival of the Prince among Caterers.

Questions :

- (i) When did the person arrive ? 1



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(ii) What is the 'spot' referred to here ?

1

(iii) How was the 'sentiment' respected ?

1

(iv) What did not bother 'our friend' ?

1

(v) Give the adjective forms of 'unduly' and 'amply'. $\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{2}=1$

B. A University is essentially a Community of students and teachers. The two have to work together for the one single purpose of advancing knowledge and disseminating it. If they are at any time distracted from this straight path of pursuing truth for its own sake and get led away, there will be a jeopardy to the Community of the University. I have no doubt, here the teachers and the students are working together.

Your Vice-Chancellor asked us to forget all the incidents of last year and if you are noble, you will not only forget but

forbear and adopt an attitude of forgiveness towards all the incidents of the past.

Questions :

(i) What, according to the author, is a University ?

1

(ii) What is the 'straight path' referred to here ?

1

(iii) What attitude should the students adopt ?

1

(iv) Find a word in the Passage that means 'diverted'.

1

(v) Give the noun forms of 'noble' and 'adopt'.

$\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{2}=1$

C. They had to be fed once during the night, at midnight, and again at dawn, and so we worked out a system of night duties, one week on, one week off, between four keepers. I must say that I rather enjoyed the night duties. To pick



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one's way through the moonlit park towards the stable where the baby deer were kept, you had to pass several of the cages and paddocks, and the occupants were always on the move. The bears, looking twice as big in the half-light, would be snorting to each other as they shambled heavily through the riot of brambles in their cage, and they could be persuaded to leave their quest for snails and other delicacies if one had a bribe of sugar-lumps.

Questions :

- (i) Who are 'They' here? 1
- (ii) What was the system of night duties? 1
- (iii) How did the bears behave? 1
- (iv) Which word in the passage means a state of complete disorder? 1
- (v) Give the noun form of the words 'move' and 'persuade'. $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1$



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21. Answer *any one* of the following questions : 5

- (a) Describe how the business of Rama was finished. 5
- (b) Narrate the role of Father David in the preservation of the specific species of deer named after him. 5
- (c) Why is it necessary to provide education in science and technology? 5

22. Answer *any five* of the following questions : 2×5=10

- (a) When can people claim to be really free? 2
- (b) What fundamental principles of religion are embodied in our Constitution? 2
- (c) What kind of goal should every graduate take? 2
- (d) Where did Rama do his business? 2

(e) What did Rama do with his chutney ? 2

(f) Where were Rama's customers drawn from ? 2

(g) Why did Hector meet with an accident ? 2

(h) How did Madame Simon pass her days in the nursing home ? 2

(i) What did happen to the herd of Pere david deer in their country of origin ? 2

(j) Why was the French missionary one day looking down into the forbidden park ? 2



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(c) What is an antique land ? 1

(d) What is the nature of job of a sculptor ? 1

(e) What is done by a gleaner ? 1

(f) Make a sentence of your own with 'in the wink of an eye'. 1

(g) What is the thing a child is doing as we find him in the poem 'From a Railway Carriage' ? 1

(h) How do the stations appear from a railway carriage ? 1

23. Answer *any five* of the following : 1×5=5

(a) What is, according to Wordsworth, a 'Sordid boon' ? 1

(b) "And are up-gathered now like _____ flowers."

(playing / sleeping / dancing) 1

(Fill in the blank with the correct option)

24. Answer *any two* of the following questions : 2×2=4

(a) Where did the maiden go and why did she delay there ? 1+1=2

(b) How does Keats present Autumn sitting by the cider press ? 2

(c) Why did Ozymandias ask the mighty to despair? 2

(d) Make *two* sentences with the following : 1+1=2

(i) Sordid

(ii) boon

25. Answer *any two* of the following questions :

3×2=6

(a) Why does Wordsworth say, "The world is too much with us"? 3

(b) What did the traveller see in the desert? 3

(c) What, according to Keats, constitutes the music of Autumn? 3

(d) What does the maiden speak about her brother and mother as you find her in the poem "Village Song"? 3

GROUP-C

(Compulsory for all Candidates)

26. Answer the following questions : 8+7=15

(a) Describe what happened on the second visit of Akaky to Petrovich. 8

Or

How did Efim and Elisha get ready for the Pilgrimage? What did they think and do as they started on their Pilgrimage? 4+4=8

(b) Describe, in your own words, how the women and the peasants discussed and recalled all that Elisha had said and done during his stay in their hut. 7

Or

Why was Akaky advised to apply to a prominent personage instead of going to the police? How did the prominent personage strive to increase his importance? 3+4=7

27. Change the form of narration in the following sentences : $2+2=4$

- (a) Ramen told his brother not to run in the Sun. The brother replied that he would be coming soon.
- (b) Mita asked her father, "When shall I come back?" Father replied, "Come as early as possible."

28. Change the voice of *any two* of the following sentences : $1+1=2$

- (a) When did you see me?
- (b) She is laughing at me.
- (c) You are known to me.
- (d) Enter by this door.



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29. Rewrite *any five* of the following sentences using the verbs given in brackets in their correct tense forms : $1 \times 5 = 5$

- (a) Honesty (be) the best policy.

(b) He has done his work and (take) rest now.

(c) She (sleep) when I went to see her.

(d) A black and white dog (bark) now.

(e) The boy (come) home this morning.

(f) The bell (ring) before the teacher came.

(g) If I (be) a bird, I would fly in the sky.

(h) He (come) in a few minutes.

30. Rewrite *any four* of the following sentences filling in the blanks with appropriate prepositions : $1 \times 4 = 4$

(a) He was absent _____ the meeting.

(b) The man was accused _____ theft.

(c) They begged _____ help from her.

(d) Do not boast _____ your wealth.

- (e) You are competent _____ the post.
 (f) I disagree with you _____ this point.
 (g) Sugar is now imported _____ India.
 (h) The man robbed me _____ my money.

31. Make sentences to illustrate the use of *any five* of the following : $1 \times 5 = 5$

above all ; by the by ; for the sake of ; in a fix ; in view of ; on the contrary ; over and above ; with a view to ; bone of contention ; crying need.

32. Rewrite the sentences as directed : *(any five)* $1 \times 5 = 5$

- (a) He is the best boy in the class.
(Make it a positive sentence)
 (b) How beautiful the rose is !
(Make it an assertive sentence.)



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- (c) I shall always remember you.
(Make it negative without changing the meaning.)

- (d) He is a very good boy.
(Make it interrogative without changing the meaning)

- (e) He replied very quickly.
(Rewrite the sentence using 'reply' as a noun)

- (f) I am sure of passing.
(Turn into a complex sentence)

- (g) He could not but do so.
(Rewrite the sentence replacing 'but' with 'help')

- (h) I am a great fool
(Add a question tag)

- (i) Do it now.
(Change into passive voice)

33. Prepare a report on *any one* of the following
(The answer should be based on the hints given)

A. A road accident recently occurred.

Hints :

- (i) Date, time and place.
- (ii) Casualties
- (iii) Rescue operation
- (iv) Road blockade
- (v) Relief measures



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B. Flag hoisting ceremony in your institution.

Hints :

- (i) Date, time and occasion
- (ii) Guests and invitees
- (iii) Participation of students
- (iv) The Chief Guest's speech
- (v) Closing Ceremony.

34. Write a short paragraph on *any one* of the following topics : 5

- (a) Assam is a land of beauty.
- (b) My future plan.
- (c) The book I like the most.
- (d) Physical exercise.

35. Write a letter to your friend inviting him / her to attend a function at your place. 10

Or

Write a story of your own with the given outline and supply a moral. 10

Outline :

A fox falls into a well — cannot get out — a goat comes — the fox praises the water and invites the goat — the goat jumps down — the fox leaps upon its horns and gets out of the well — the goat remains behind.

— x —