Cataract is the major cause of blindness, which is also caused by a damage to the cornea. It occurs more often in old age. As one starts growing old, the lens of the eye hardens, loses its transparency and becomes opaque. It obstructs the light rays from entering the eye.

The onset of cataract blurs the vision. Sometimes, the cataract patient sees multiple images instead of a single object image. Because of the gradual development of cataract, the afflicted person loses his/her vision and the world becomes dark to him/her.

The development of cataract is a complex process. However, the following factors can be attributed to its formation. Cataract generally develops in old age but sometimes, children are born with cataract because of hereditary defect. Eye injuries too, can cause cataracts.

People exposed to sun rays for longer periods develop cataract earlier than others. Researchers opine that the smoke inhaled while smoking carries substances internally damaging the eyes.

Ultraviolet radiation, invisible to the human eye, is linked to skin cancer. The victim loses vision and the world becomes dark to him.

**Answer the following questions:**

(1) Why does the lens of the eye become opaque in old age?
(2) How does cataract affect its victim ultimately?

(3) How is smoking responsible for the development of cataract?

Choose the correct option: 

(4) What is the major cause of blindness?

(a) cataract  
(b) brightness  
(c) sun  
(d) all of the above

(5) How does one detect cataract in early stages?

(a) vision becomes blurred  
(b) sees multiple images in place of one  
(c) (a) or (b)  
(d) none of the above

(6) When does cataract generally occur?

(a) young age  
(b) childhood  
(c) old age  
(d) all of the above

(7) Find words from the passage which mean the same as ‘that through which light cannot enter’ (para 1):

(a) immunity  
(b) cataract  
(c) opaque  
(d) damaging

(8) Find words which mean the opposite of ‘complex’:

(a) difficult  
(b) offended  
(c) hope  
(d) simple

(9) Find words which mean the opposite of ‘internally’:

(a) externally  
(b) extreme  
(c) specific  
(d) inner
Q.2 Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: (4)

In India, as perhaps in many other countries of the world, trees have been held in veneration since ancient times. Our rishis of yore retired to forests to meditate and to do penance amidst trees “far from the madding crowd”. Our forefathers loved trees and forests so much so that, they even deified and worshipped them as abodes of Vrikshadevata and Vanadevata. Many of them were not cut without good reason. In ancient India, groves of trees and flower gardens were reared with loving care.

In ancient Sanskrit literature, there are many references of young maidens kicking the Ashoka tree to make it flower. But in fact, the kick could be administered by anyone. The method seems to work, though nobody really knows why? Some say the kick interrupts the flow of water upwards, triggering a defence mechanism which causes the tree to flower.

In western countries people beat their walnut trees to encourage them to bear fruit. It is believed that a good beating ensures a good crop of walnuts. Like the Ashoka, the Walnut too is a tall tree. Perhaps all tall trees benefit occasionally from a beating sound.

In parts of Uttar Pradesh, they resort to another strategy to get mango trees to flower. If a tree has not given fruit in a particular year, the owner, accompanied by three or four friends, walks menacingly towards it with an axe and loudly announces his intention of cutting down the tree. His friends persuade him not to do so. When he has gone they berate the tree for not giving fruit and advise it to give plenty of fruit the next time if it wants to live. The method is said to give good results.

Answer the following questions: (1 x 2 = 2 marks)

1. Why did Rishis retire to forests?

2. Why are walnut trees beaten in Western countries?

Choose the correct option; (1/2x4=2 marks)

3. Vrikshadevata and Vanadevata are referred to:
   1. The Sky
   2. The Sun
   3. The Earth
   4. The Trees

4. In ancient times, young maidens used to kick which tree?
   1. The Ashoka
   2. The Walnut
   3. The Banyan
   4. The Neem

5. One similarity between Ashoka and Walnut trees is that both are
   1. thick trees
   2. strong trees
   3. weak trees
   4. tall trees

6. The word ‘menacingly’ in the passage means
   1. penance
   2. threateningly
   3. encourage
4. amidst

SECTION - B
WRITING (12)

Q3. You are Manjeet Rana, a student of class X, Govt. Hr. Secondary School, Chamba. Write an application to the Principal of your school requesting him for remission of fine.
Or

You are Reeta, write a letter to your younger brother, advising him to avoid bad company.

(4)

Q4. Write a short paragraph on any of the given topic:
Himachal Pradesh
The Happiest Day of My Life
A House on Fire

(4)

Q5. You are Prince, the Secretary, Eco Club of Modern Public School, Nurpur. Your school is celebrating Environment Day on 5th June, 2022. Write a notice for the school notice – board inviting students to give their names to participate in the quiz competition to the undersigned.

Or

Good health plays an important role in the life of a student. Student should not neglect their health. Good health is essential for a good performance in studies as well. Write an article on the topic, ‘How can students keep fit and healthy?’

(4)

SECTION – C
GRAMMAR (8)

Q6. Choose the proper non-finites to complete the following sentences: (1/2X2=1)

1. I made him ................ (do) it again.
   a. doing
   b. to do
   c. did
   d. done

2. It is easy ................ (make) mistakes.
   a. to make
   b. make
   c. making
   d. will make

Q7. Choose the proper sentence-connectors to complete the following sentences: (1/2X2=1)

A. He can run faster ................ his brother.
   (a) Though
   (b) If
   (c) than
   (d) Although

B. She sang ................ she worked.
   (a) while
   (b) whether
   (c) but
Q8. Fill in the blanks with suitable modals (1/2 x 4 = 2)

Need, can, must, may

a) ............ God bless you!
b) He ........... come to me anytime he liked.
c) You ............... meet me tomorrow.
d) You ........... not write to me.

Q.9 Do as Directed: (1/2 x 4 = 2)

1is/pleasure/full/youth (re-arrange the jumbled words into meaningful sentences)

a) Pleasure is full of youth.
b) Full pleasure is of youth.
c) Youth is full of pleasure.
d) none of the above

2) Complete the following sentence using the most appropriate tense form of the verb given below:
She always ................. the truth.

(a) speaks
(b) was speaking
(c) spoke
(d) had spoken

3) Choose the most appropriate answer:
He says, "Ram likes coffee". (change the Narration)

a) He says Ram liked coffee.
b) He said that Ram likes coffee.
c) He says that Ram likes coffee.
d) He says that Ram is liking coffee.

4) Choose the most appropriate answer:
I know her. (change the Voice)

a) Her is known to me.
b) She is known to me.
c) Is she known by me.
d) None of the above.
Q10. There is a word missing in each line/sentence. Write the missing word along with the one that come before and the one that comes after it. (1/2X4=2)

More than two-thirds the world’s e.g. two-third’s of the large cities are areas sensitive ........................................
global warming and rising sea level. ........................................
Millions of people face risk ........................................
of being swamped floods. ........................................

SECTION – D

LITERATURE (20)

Q11. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: (1X4=4)

During our childhood in Goa, the baker used to be our friend, companion and guide. He used to come at least twice a day. Once, when he set out in the morning on his selling round, and then again, when he returned after emptying his huge basket. The jingling thud of his bamboo woke us up from sleep and we ran to meet and greet him. Why was it so? Was it for the love of the loaf? Not at all. The loaves were bought by some Paskine or Bastine, the maid-servant of the house! What we longed for were those bread-bangles which we chose carefully. Sometimes it was sweet bread of special make.

i) How did the author look upon the baker in his childhood?
ii) Why does the author call the baker his guide?
(iii) What did the children long to have from the baker?

a) Bread- bangles
b) Pizza
c) Buns
d) All of the above

(iv) Pick out the word which is the opposite of 'special':

(a) character (b) Profound (c) ordinary (d) Incorrigible

Q12. Read the stanza given below and answer the questions that follow: (1X3=3)

I think I could turn and live with animals, they are so placid and self-contain’d,
I stand and look at them long and long.
(i) Name the poem and poet.

(ii) Who is "I" in the stanza.
   (a) tiger
   (b) Walt Whitman
   (c) animal
   (d) Woolf

(iii) What does the speaker wish to do?
   (a) to live with the "Animals"
   (b) to feed animals
   (c) to set the animals free
   (d) none of the above

Q.13. What did Maxwell do to transport Mijbil to England?

   Or
   What did Valli see on her way that made her laugh?

Q.14. What do you know about the life of Buddha before he left his home?

   Or
   Draw a brief character-sketch of Chubukov.

Q.15. What does the poet say about the treeless forest?

   Or
   The poet in the poem, ‘For Anne Gregory’ conveys that we should given importance to the inner beauty and not to the physical appearance. Elaborate with reference to the poem.


   or

   Bholi is a child different from others. This difference makes her an object of neglect and laughter. Elaborate.

Q.17. Why was the 20th century called the ‘Era of the Book’?

   Or

   Why do you think the neighbours were anxious to meet the lawyer?