

DO NOT OPEN THIS TEST BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE ASKED TO DO SO

# 23-0009-AA TEST BOOKLET

( Time Allowed: 3 hours )

PAPER - A

( Maximum Marks: 300 )

## INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

*Read the instructions carefully before answering the questions: -*

1. This Test Booklet consists of **16(sixteen)** pages and has **72 (seventy-two)** items (questions).
2. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE EXAMINATION, YOU SHOULD CHECK THAT THIS BOOKLET **DOES NOT** HAVE ANY UNPRINTED OR TORN OR MISSING PAGES OR ITEMS ETC. IF SO, GET IT REPLACED BY A COMPLETE TEST BOOKLET.
3. **Please note that it is the candidate's responsibility to fill in the Roll Number and other required details carefully and without any omission or discrepancy at the appropriate places in the OMR Answer Sheet and the Separate Answer Booklet. Any omission/discrepancy will render the OMR Answer Sheet and the Separate Answer Booklet liable for rejection.**
4. Do not write anything else on the OMR Answer Sheet except the required information. Before you proceed to mark in the OMR Answer Sheet, please ensure that you have filled in the required particulars as per given instructions.
5. Use **only Black Ball Point Pen** to fill the OMR Answer Sheet.
6. This Test Booklet is divided into 2 (two) parts - **Part - I and Part - II.**
7. Both parts are **Compulsory.**
8. **Part-I consists of Multiple Choice-based Questions.** The answers to these questions have to be marked in the **OMR Answer Sheet** provided to you.
9. **Part-II consists of Conventional Type Questions.** The answers to these questions have to be written in the separate **Answer Booklet** provided to you.
10. In Part-I, each item (question) comprises of 04 (four) responses (answers). You are required to select the response which you want to mark on the OMR Answer Sheet. In case you feel that there is more than one correct response, mark the response which you consider the best. In any case, choose **ONLY ONE** response for each item.
11. After you have completed filling in all your responses on the OMR Answer Sheet and the Answer Booklet(s) and the examination has concluded, you should hand over to the Invigilator **only the OMR Answer Sheet and the Answer Booklet(s).** You are permitted to take the Test Booklet with you.
12. **Penalty for wrong answers in Multiple Choice-based Questions:**  
THERE WIL BE PENALTY FOR WRONG ANSWERS MARKED BY A CANDIDATE.
  - (i) There are four alternatives for the answer to every question. For each question for which a wrong answer has been given by the candidate, **one-third** of the marks assigned to the question will be deducted as penalty.
  - (ii) If a candidate gives more than one answer, it will be treated as a **wrong answer** even if one of the given answers happens to be correct and there will be same penalty as above to the question.
  - (iii) If a question is left blank. i.e., no answer is given by the candidate, there will be **no penalty** for that question.

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**PART - I**  
**(Multiple Choice-based Questions)**

*Instructions for Questions 1 to 50:*

- *Choose the correct answers for the following questions.*
- *Each question carries 3 marks.*

*[3x50=150]*

**Read the passage carefully and choose the correct answers for the questions given below: (3x10=30)**

Morality, good manners and intelligence are the key to success in any business. Moku was endowed with great intelligence. The future **held a great promise** for him. At school he was brilliant and passed his-final examination with flying colours. However, Moku was plagued by some undesirable traits in his character: he was prone to bouts of anger and was ill-mannered.

After school, he succeeded in setting up a publishing house which flourished because of his hard work and the huge sums of money he sank into the enterprise. As his business experienced a boom his products sold like hot cakes. His name became a household word.

It was at this crucial time that Moku's ill-manners began to come to the fore. Maybe his success got into his head and he would not take the advice of his managers nor draw on their expertise. Even when his workers had good suggestions for improvement, he would not listen, but treated them with **disdain**.

Gradually he began to sink under the weight of his own bad behaviour. He lost his customers and his profits dwindled. Consequently, his publishing business almost collapsed. He learnt the bitter lesson that because of his wrong attitude he was filling his mind with negative emotions, such as suspicion and hatred. He also lost the respect of his workers because he often quarrelled and fought with them.

Fortunately, Moku realized his plight and was determined to turn his life around. He joined the Praise and Worship Sanctuary and began to turn over a new leaf. His golden opportunity came one day, when he met two foreign businessmen who showed interest in his publishing industry.

Impressed by his knowledge and expertise, the foreigners formed a partnership with him and his publishing business began to grow again **in leaps and bounds**. People could not believe their eyes when they saw the change that had come in Moku's character.

Indeed, good behaviour is a **potent** advertisement.

1. What showed that Moku had a bright future?
  - (a) He was very respectful at school
  - (b) He was brilliant at school
  - (c) He had morality, good manners and intelligence
  - (d) He was an angry young boy

2. What accounted for Moku's initial success in business?
  - (a) He worked hard
  - (b) He invested huge sums of money into the business
  - (c) Only (a)
  - (d) Both (a) and (b)
  
3. Give two reasons why Moku's business almost collapsed.
  - (a) He failed to take the advice of his managers
  - (b) He treated his workers with contempt
  - (c) Only (a)
  - (d) Both (a) and (b)
  
4. How did Moku's bad behaviour affect him personally?
  - (a) He became more hard working
  - (b) His success increased manifold
  - (c) He became paranoid and lost the respect of his workers
  - (d) He gained the respect of his employees
  
5. Why did the foreign businessmen decide to form a partnership with Moku?
  - (a) They were impressed by his knowledge and expertise
  - (b) They were impressed by his behaviour
  - (c) They wanted to help his dwindling business
  - (d) They wanted to make profit out of his business
  
6. '*held a great promise.*' Which part of speech does the word '*held*' fall under?
  - (a) Noun
  - (b) Pronoun
  - (c) Verb
  - (d) Adverb
  
7. What is the figure of speech contained in the expression '*in leaps and bounds*'?
  - (a) Metaphor
  - (b) Simile
  - (c) Hyperbole
  - (d) None of the above
  
8. What is its meaning of the expression '*in leaps and bounds*'?
  - (a) Rapidly
  - (b) Incrementally
  - (c) Slowly
  - (d) Cautiously

9. Find the word similar in meaning to '*disdain*' as used in the passage -

- (a) Admiration
- (b) Contempt
- (c) Respect
- (d) Honour

10. Find the word opposite in meaning to '*potent*' as used in the passage -

- (a) Powerful
- (b) Feeble
- (c) Strong
- (d) Sweet

**Read the following passage carefully and choose the correct options for the questions given below: (3x10=30)**

Last Sunday, I happened to be a visitor at one of the big churches in the city. I was outside because I had arrived late and there was a big bar across the entrance to the auditorium. While outside, I witnessed an incident which I found **moving**. One of the members of the congregation who could not sit through the service was a toddler. He was a rather special child about three years old. He was just learning to walk. That day he was **having the time of his life**, running up and down the large church premises. The church was by a busy main road and every time he headed towards the gates; he was in danger of being crushed by a passing vehicle. Running alongside the little boy and **keeping pace with him** was his father. All this while, the father was never impatient nor did he shout at the boy to sit still.

This reminded me of another father I came across many years ago. His baby boy, Francis, was born with cleft lip which caused a large split in his face. The defect could be repaired but not until he was older. The parents were counselled and they took the baby home. But their troubles were just beginning. They lived in a house with several other tenants. The other tenants decided to make life unpleasant for the couple. Their **persistent** teasing and nasty comments nearly drove them away from the house. The rumour went around that the mother had given birth to a baby with a 'half face'. People would gather round the house just to laugh at the child and his parents. Some would call the mother names as she passed by. Things became so unbearable that something had to be done.

"I decided to put him in my taxi and work with him so that his mother would be spared all that trouble", the father said to me, as he **recounted** this sad story. The child occupied space in the car, which could have been taken up by a paying passenger. This certainly affected his daily earnings. Many fathers of children with clefts feel too embarrassed to allow them out of the house. Not this man. He would drive around the city with Francis in the front seat. This must have put off many passengers, scared by the face of little Francis.

Today, Francis is a healthy eighth-year-old. After the repair of the cleft, he has become his father's pride and joy.

11. What incident did the writer find moving?
- (a) One of the members of the congregation who could not sit through the service
  - (b) A rather special child just learning to walk
  - (c) The spectacle of a patient father assisting his vulnerable child to have fun
  - (d) A child born with cleft lip which caused a large split in his face
12. State the quality which the two fathers have in common.
- (a) They felt embarrassed because of their disadvantaged children
  - (b) They both had no love and patience for their disadvantaged children
  - (c) They both had love and patience for their disadvantaged children
  - (d) None of the above
13. What is the writer's attitude to the two fathers?
- (a) He feels pity for them
  - (b) He is jealous of their courage and patience
  - (c) He admires their courage and patience for their children in their difficult moments
  - (d) None of the above
14. Exactly what picture does the writer paint of Francis's neighbours?
- (a) He presents them as loving
  - (b) He presents them as cruel and unfeeling
  - (c) He presents them as welcoming and kind hearted
  - (d) He presents them as indifferent
15. How did Francis cause financial loss to the father?
- (a) His disfigured face scared potential passengers away
  - (b) He occupied one seat of the taxi
  - (c) Only (b)
  - (d) Both (a) and (b)
16. '*he was having the time of his life.*' What is the meaning of this expression?
- (a) He was running late
  - (b) He time for life was over
  - (c) He was having great fun
  - (d) He was running short of time
17. Find the word similar in meaning to '*persistent*' as used in the passage -
- (a) Broken
  - (b) Honest
  - (c) Unrelenting
  - (d) Disruption

18. Find the word similar in meaning to '*recounted*' as used in the passage

- (a) Count again
- (b) Narrated
- (c) Ended
- (d) Repeated

19. Find the word opposite in meaning to '*moving*' as used in the passage

- (a) Uninteresting
- (b) Exciting
- (c) Thrilling
- (d) Stirring

20. '*keeping pace with him.*' What does the phrase mean?

- (a) Keep a safe distance from him
- (b) Try to move ahead of him
- (c) Move at the same speed as him
- (d) None of the above

**Choose the correct option that can replace the underlined words/phrases: (3x5=15)**

21. I am sure they will fight with all their might for their rights.

- (a) Tooth and nail
- (b) With all rage
- (c) Resorting to violence
- (d) Very cowardly

22. We were in a hurry. The road being zigzag we had to take a short cut to reach in time.

- (a) To cut a portion of the road
- (b) To cut off a corner
- (c) To go fast
- (d) To take an alternative route

23. I cannot get along with a man who plays fast and loose.

- (a) Has a loose tongue
- (b) Live a life of ease and luxury
- (c) Behaves in an unreliable and insincere way
- (d) Does not know how to behave

24. The scientist worked for a long time to arrive at the formula.

- (a) A witching hour
- (b) A jiffy
- (c) Nose to the grindstone
- (d) Donkey's years

25. She wanted the agreement in black and white.

- (a) Orally
- (b) In disclosure
- (c) In detail
- (d) In writing

**Choose the correct option which can be substituted for the given sentences. (3x5=15)**

26. A statement that is absolutely clear.

- (a) Unequivocal
- (b) Ambiguous
- (c) Confused
- (d) Clean

27. A person who eats too much.

- (a) Sensualist
- (b) Omnivore
- (c) Reveler
- (d) Glutton

28. A person who insists on something.

- (a) Disciplinarian
- (b) Stickler
- (c) Instantaneous
- (d) Boaster

29. To remove all objectionable matters.

- (a) Expurgate
- (b) Censure
- (c) Edit
- (d) Photoshop

30. One whose attitude is 'Eat, Drink and be Merry'.

- (a) Cynic
- (b) Materialistic
- (c) Epicurean
- (d) Stoic

**Choose the appropriate synonyms for the given words: (3x3=9)**

31. Consort

- (a) Partner
- (b) Convoy
- (c) Guide
- (d) Mentor

32. Collateral

- (a) Pathetic
- (b) Tiresome
- (c) Magnanimous
- (d) Guarantee

33. Daunt

- (a) Encourage
- (b) Intimidate
- (c) Madness
- (d) Fair

**Choose the appropriate antonyms for the following words: (3x2=6)**

34. Aversion

- (a) Avoidable
- (b) Hatred
- (c) Beautiful
- (d) Liking

35. Gregarious

- (a) Glorious
- (b) Horrendous
- (c) Antisocial
- (d) Similar

**Choose the correct missing words to complete the following paragraph: (3x5=15)**

The tiny state \_\_\_\_\_ (36) Sikkim nestled in the Himalayas in north eastern India \_\_\_\_\_ (37) been leading a green revolution of its own kind. Despite \_\_\_\_\_ (38) small and isolated and with its people \_\_\_\_\_ (39) their lives in extreme tough mountainous terrain, Sikkim has \_\_\_\_\_ (40) as one of India's environmental leaders.

36.

- (a) at
- (b) of
- (c) by
- (d) in

37.

- (a) had
- (b) have
- (c) has
- (d) is



38.  
(a) being  
(b) of  
(c) to  
(d) with

39.  
(a) leads  
(b) lead  
(c) led  
(d) leading

40.  
(a) emerging  
(b) emerges  
(c) emerged  
(d) emerge

**Rearrange the words into cohesive sentences: (3x5=15)**

41. (A) I wanted to tell her (B) not to talk to him (C) not listen to me (D) but she would  
(a) ABCD  
(b) ABDC  
(c) ADBC  
(d) BCAD
42. (A) I was certain (B) the management meeting (C) be allowed to attend (D) that subordinates would not  
(a) ABCD  
(b) ABDC  
(c) ADCB  
(d) BCDA
43. (A) The student (B) in listening to his teacher's (C) was not interested (D) explanation about his poor performance in class  
(a) ABCD  
(b) ACBD  
(c) ADCB  
(d) BCDA
44. (A) Essay writing (B) to develop good writing skills (C) is important (D) for kids  
(a) ADBC  
(b) BCDA  
(c) DBCA  
(d) ACDB

45. (A) Water pollution (B) the presence of (C) in the water bodies is called (D) unwanted particles  
(a) BDCA  
(b) ACDB  
(c) BCAD  
(d) DCBA

**Out of the four options given, find the one which is wrongly spelt: (3x5=15)**

46.  
(a) Admirer  
(b) Governor  
(c) Bearer  
(d) Conquerer

47.  
(a) Bereft  
(b) Chef  
(c) Mischeif  
(d) Theft

48.  
(a) Superstition  
(b) Surveillance  
(c) Survey  
(d) Surround

49.  
(a) Immitate  
(b) Immigrant  
(c) Imminent  
(d) Eminent

50.  
(a) Asleep  
(b) Weap  
(c) Heap  
(d) Deep

**PART - II**  
**(Conventional type Questions)**

Use the following words to make sentences to bring out their meaning clearly. Do not change the form of the words. (3x5=15)

51. Ironic    52. Maneuver    53. Dissipate    54. Liaison    55. Corroborate

Use the following idioms/phrases to make sentences to bring out their meaning clearly. Do not change the form of the words. (3x5=15)

56. jump on the bandwagon                      57. by the skin of her teeth                      58. bat the air

59. the best thing since sliced bread                      60. give it a whirl

Rewrite the following sentences as directed without changing the meaning. (3x10=30)

61. "Please don't go away," Tapas said. (Change into **indirect speech**)

62. The hunter killed the elephant. (Change into **passive voice**)

63. You should read the entire story. (Change into **direct speech**)

64. I am reading the newspaper now. (Change into **future continuous tense**)

65. We leave for Kolkata by the morning bus. (Change to **simple past tense**)

66. The proposed project generated \_\_\_\_\_ (considerate/ considerable) interest.  
(Choose the **correct word**)

67. She arrived early but they did not let her enter the meeting.  
(Rewrite the sentence using '**though**')

68. The children were playing on the road because there was no traffic.  
(Rewrite using '**so**')

69. She constantly gets punishment from the teachers at school. (Identify the **tense**)

70. Shaurya is a child who cannot stay still at one place. (rewrite using '**unable to**')

**71. Write an essay in about 450 words on ANY ONE of the following topics: (55)**

- A. Is social media making us less social?
- B. Can Artificial Intelligence (AI) replace humans?
- C. Is global climate change caused by humans?

**72. Make a précis of the following passage in about one-third its length. The précis should be written in your own language. (35)**

A healthy lifestyle is a valuable asset that everyone should strive to achieve. It encompasses a broad spectrum of factors, including balanced nutrition, regular exercise, adequate sleep and stress management. The actual definition of healthy living is the steps, actions and strategies one puts in place to achieve optimum health. Healthy Living is about taking responsibility for your decisions and making smart health choices for today and for the future.

A healthy lifestyle isn't just diet and exercise. Today we go over the components of leading a healthy lifestyle and how it's important to lead a balanced life. In general, most would agree that a healthy person doesn't smoke, is at a healthy weight, eats a balanced healthy diet, thinks positively, feels relaxed, exercises regularly, has good relationships and benefits from a good life balance. Living a healthy lifestyle not only increases your lifespan but also improves the quality of your life. A healthy lifestyle includes regular exercise, a healthy diet, taking good care of self, healthy sleep habits, and having a physically active daily routine. Lifestyle is the most prevailing factor that affects one's fitness level.

The food we consume plays a crucial role in determining our overall health. An unhealthy diet is associated with an increase in obesity and cardiovascular diseases and is related to diabetes, certain cancers and morbidity disabilities. A balanced diet rich in fruits, vegetables, lean proteins, and whole grains provides the necessary nutrients for our body to function optimally. Limiting the intake of processed food, sugar, and saturated fats can significantly reduce the risk of chronic diseases such as diabetes and heart disease. It's important to understand that there isn't a one-size-fits-all diet, and individual nutritional needs can vary based on age, gender, and physical activity level.

Regular physical activity is another integral component of a healthy lifestyle. It can range from high-intensity workouts to low-impact exercises like walking or yoga. The key is consistency and finding an activity that you enjoy. Regular exercise not only strengthens the body but also enhances mental health by reducing anxiety and depression. The World Health Organization recommends at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity or 75 minutes of vigorous-intensity physical activity per week. Not getting enough physical activity can lead to heart disease – even for people who have no other risk factors. It can also increase the likelihood of developing other heart disease risk factors, including obesity, high blood pressure, high blood cholesterol, and type 2 diabetes.

Adequate sleep is often overlooked in the pursuit of a healthy lifestyle. However, it's during sleep that our bodies repair and regenerate cells, consolidate memory, and release hormones that regulate growth and appetite. Lack of sleep can lead to a weakened immune system, cognitive issues, and mental health disorders. Adults should aim for 7 to 9 hours of sleep per night for optimal health. The cumulative long-term effects of sleep loss and sleep disorders have been associated with a wide range of deleterious health consequences including an increased risk of hypertension, diabetes, obesity, depression, heart attack, and stroke.

In our fast-paced world, stress is an inevitable part of life. However, chronic stress can lead to serious health problems, including heart disease and depression. Chronic worry and stress can negatively affect virtually every organ system in the body and has been shown to cause numerous health problems. Therefore, effective stress management is essential. Techniques such as mindfulness, meditation, deep breathing, and yoga can help to reduce stress levels. It's also important to maintain a positive mindset and take time for leisure activities that bring joy and relaxation. You may feel pulled in different directions and experience stress from dealing with work, family and other matters, leaving little time for yourself. Learning to balance your life with some time for yourself will pay off with big benefits - a healthy outlook and better health.

In conclusion, achieving a healthy lifestyle doesn't require drastic changes. Small, incremental adjustments in diet, physical activity, sleep, and stress management can lead to significant improvements in health over time. Remember that it's not about perfection, but rather progress towards a healthier, happier you. By adopting a healthy lifestyle, you're investing in your most valuable asset - your health.

**(Total word count of the passage - 696)**

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