

AMRITA VIDYALAYAM

HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION 2017 - '18

Class : VI

Marks : 80

Time : 2½ hrs

ENGLISH

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS :

1. This paper consists of three sections :

Section A **Reading** **(20 marks)**

Section B **Writing and Grammar** **(30 marks)**

Section C **Literature** **(30 marks)**

2. Attempt all questions.

3. Do not write anything on the question paper.

4. All answers must be correctly numbered as in the question paper.

5. Attempt all questions in each section before going on to the next section.

6. Read each question carefully and follow the instructions.

SECTION A - READING

1. Read the following passage carefully.

Kalpana Chawla was the first Indian-American girl, to go into space in 1997. Kalpana was born in Karnal, Haryana. She graduated as an aeronautical engineer in India and then went to the United States for a Master's degree. She later earned her Ph.D. in aerospace engineering. Kalpana was married to flight instructor Jean-Pierre Harrison. She was a qualified pilot and also a certified flight instructor. In 1994, she was selected as an astronaut. Kalpana Chawla's first space mission in the space shuttle 'Columbia' lasted for about 16 days. She was the first Indian American woman astronaut to blast off from the launch pad at Cape Canaveral, Florida. The crew performed many experiments in space. But while returning to earth, the space shuttle 'Columbia' carrying Kalpana and her crew met with a tragedy. It broke apart in flames on Saturday, 1st February 2003, killing all aboard. There was shock and disbelief in her home town. For millions of young Indians, the story of Kalpana Chawla, a girl from a small town who touched the skies, has become an inspiration. In a message that Kalpana sent from aboard the space shuttle, Columbia, to students of her college in Chandigarh, she said, "The Path From Dreams to Success Does Exist. May you have the vision to find it, the courage to get on to it Wishing you a great journey." Kalpana Chawla was a brave and intelligent girl. Her achievements are an inspiration to millions of young Indians.

1.1. On the basis of your reading of the above passage, answer the following questions as briefly as possible.

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- Where was Kalpana Chawla born?
- Mention the qualifications of Kalpana Chawla.
- Who was Kalpana's husband?
- From where did the space shuttle blast off?
- What happened to 'Columbia'?
- What message did Kalpana Chawla sent to the students of her college in Chandigarh?
- How many days did Kalpana's first space mission last for?
- When did Kalpana Chawla die?

2. Read the following passage carefully.

One day a hunter trapped a parrot, put it in a cage and took it home. The caged parrot was unhappy and would not eat anything. The hunter was sad seeing the parrot's condition and asked if he could do anything for it, short of releasing him. The parrot requested the hunter to go back to the place where he had trapped it and convey this news to its friend.

As soon as the second parrot heard what had happened, it dropped from its perch. The hunter brought this news back to the imprisoned parrot. He was startled when this parrot too dropped to the floor of the cage. Left with no choice, the hunter took the bird out. He was taken by surprise when the parrot flew away. The trapped bird had wanted a solution to free himself and the other parrot had provided the answer.

Usually when we are faced with problems that seem insurmountable, we give up and lament. But Lord Krishna does not agree with this attitude:

“Get help by approaching a knowledgeable person. He can help since he has seen the truth.” When we are in trouble, we become part of the problem. Another person who has nothing to do with our problems is in a better position to provide solutions.

The important thing to remember is that problems are not always insurmountable and if we approach God, nothing will be impossible. The best thing to do is to stay positive no matter what the circumstances are and look for help. One may be surprised by the outcome.

2.1. Answer the following. 8

- a) What was the first parrot's request to the hunter?
- b) How did the second parrot help in freeing the caged parrot?
- c) How do people generally react when faced with problem?
- d) What is Lord Krishna's advice for people suffering from problems?

2.2. Find a word from the passage that means the same. 4

- a) Something that cannot be overcome
- b) To be shocked or surprised
- c) Passionate expression of grief
- d) A feeling of helplessness or being held up

SECTION B - WRITING AND GRAMMAR

3. You went to buy vegetables from the market on your bicycle. You found a motor-cyclist who had met with an accident on the road while saving a pet dog. You provided him the first aid and took him to the nearby hospital. Make a diary entry mentioning further details. **5**

4. You have just come back from an exciting foreign trip. Write a letter to your cousin telling him / her about the fantastic time you had on the trip. **10**

5. Write a paragraph on 'Ill effects of fast food'. **5**

6. Add suitable predicate. 2

- a) The Prime Minister _____.
- b) Children _____.

7. Fill in the blanks with the correct option to make appropriate similes. 2

- a) The sea was as calm as a _____. (pond, river).
- b) The child felt as free as _____. (wind, birds)

8. Insert suitable articles in place of the slashes. 3

My neighbours own / cat and / dog. / cat is very young and / dog is very old. / two animals take care of each other. It is very touching to see / way the cat allows / dog to eat first. At night / cat pillows it's head on / dog's stomach. They look very nice together since / cat is / orange one and / dog is a dark brown.

9. **Fill in the blanks with the appropriate tense of the words given in brackets.** 2
- a) The earth _____ round its own axis. (rotate)
- b) I _____ my prayers now. (say)
10. **Change into present perfect tense.** 1
- a) The master opened the door of his heart to his disciples.

SECTION C - LITERATURE

11. **Answer the following questions.**
- a) "I was the first who heard that sweet voice, ten years ago." 2
- (i) Who heard the voice?
- (ii) Whose sweet voice was that?
- b) "Pity the bird that has wandered! Pity the sailor ashore!" 3
- What did the poet try to say through these lines?
- c) Make a list of the professions mentioned in the poem 'Future Plans'. 2
- d) "Do not answer back when I correct you," said the Headmistress. 3
- (i) What was the Headmistress's name? Whom was she addressing?
- (ii) What had prompted the Headmisstress to speak like this?
- e) "All the young faces were serious, but no one spoke or moved." Write the attitude of the family members towards Benjamin after talking with their father. 2
- f) How do you think the Robinsons felt when the captain and the crew abandoned the ship? 3
- g) "The tale of the Dragon cannot be true", said old Mrs. Greywhistle. What was the tale of the Dragon? 3
- h) Write the message you got from the poem 'Swift things are beautiful'. 2
- i) Why do you think father had a talk with the children? What was the outcome? 3
- j) "Oh, Hello! Why am I in the same room with that little peasant girl?" the new girl stormed. 2
- (i) Who was the new girl?
- (ii) Who was the 'peasant girl' she was referring to?
- k) Write the first 8 lines of the poem 'Swift things are beautiful'. 5