

# AMRITA VIDYALAYAM

## HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION 2017 - '18

Class : VII

Marks : 80

Time : 2½ hrs

### ENGLISH

*This paper consists of 4 sections :*

*Section A - Reading (20 marks)*

*Section B - Writing (20 marks)*

*Section C - Grammar (20 marks)*

*Section D - Literature (20 marks)*

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS :**

- 1. Attempt all questions.*
- 2. Do not write anything on the question paper.*
- 3. All answers must be correctly numbered as in the question paper.*
- 4. Attempt all questions in each section before going to the next section.*
- 5. Read each question carefully and follow the instructions.*
- 6. Strictly adhere to the word limit allotted for each question. Marks will be deducted for exceeding the word limit.*

### SECTION A - READING

#### 1. Read the following passage carefully.

India lost its first ever woman astronaut in Kalpana Chawla, when the Space Shuttle Columbia came apart immediately after its re-entry into the earth's atmosphere. Travelling at a speed of 20,000 km/hour, the shuttle exploded 200,000 feet over Texas just fifteen minutes before it was supposed to land. With the shuttle blown to smithereens, the seven astronauts on board met a tragic end. There were speculations that the cause of the tragedy was the possible damage to the heat resistant tiles on the left wing of the shuttle.

Kalpana Chawla was aptly named. She had imagination in abundance. She dared to dream and dream big.

When she joined engineering, there were only seven girls in the entire engineering college and she was the first girl to go into Aerospace Engineering.

She topped the aeronautical course and USA beckoned her. In 1984, she did her MS in Aeronautical Engineering from the University of Texas. In 1988, she joined NASA's Research Centre in the area of powered life computational fluid dynamics.

Kalpana had always been a good teacher herself, sponsoring and hosting students on the visits to USA as part of NASA's exchange programme so that the next generation of astronauts would be ready to take over the baton when the time came. In an e-mail message from the Space Shuttle Columbia, she told students of the Punjab Engineering College, "The path from dreams to success does exist. May you have the vision to find it, the courage to get on to it and the perseverance to follow it."

#### 1.1. On the basis of your reading of the above passage, complete the following sentences. 4

- The shuttle carrying Kalpana Chawla exploded in mid-air because \_\_\_\_\_.
- Kalpana Chawla was aptly named because \_\_\_\_\_.
- She was called by USA because \_\_\_\_\_.

d) NASA carries out student exchange programme to \_\_\_\_\_.

**1.2. Answer the following.**

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- a) Who was Kalpana Chawla?
- b) How did Kalpana Chawla meet her end?
- c) What course did Kalpana join in her engineering college?

**2. Read the following poem carefully and answer the questions that follow.**

When you unfurl your flag  
Remember history unfolds  
Traditions and glory unfold  
All that you hold dear  
Unfolds  
Before you -  
and you watch it fly high  
to you, it's just a flag  
To me - it's history  
It is stories past and present  
told and untold  
It beckons you  
Listen to the meaning behind  
the anthem.  
Hear the hope and the pain  
See the sacrifice and rise  
To meet  
The challenges  
That loom ahead  
large as life  
Break through the web  
of strife and strain  
And release India  
from  
The growing pain  
of discord and division  
Rise with this mission.

**2.1. Answer the following questions.**

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- a) What happens when you unfurl the flag?
- b) What is the meaning behind the National Anthem?
- c) What are the challenges that loom ahead?

**2.2. Find words from the poem that mean the same as the following.**

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- a) past customs and habits                      b) calls                      c) an act of giving up                      d) disunity

**SECTION B - WRITING**

3. You are Geetanjali / Govind, the Head Girl / Boy of Bhavans Public School, Gulbarga. Write a notice in about 50 words informing the students of classes VII to X about an inter-class debate competition to be held in the first week of November. Give the necessary details.

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4. You are Raman studying at Bharati Boarding School, Sonapat. Write a letter to your father telling him why you could not get good marks in the First Terminal Tests.

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5. Given below is a profile of Dr. K.P Sharma. Write a short bio-sketch of him. You can take the help of the clues given below. 6
- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Age           | - 69 years, robust physique.   |
| Height/Weight | - 175 cm, 75 kg.   |
| Family        | - one son – settled abroad, two daughters (married), two grandsons.                                    |
| Likes         | - visiting hill stations, listening to old film-songs, affection to the needy, great love for animals. |
| Dislikes      | - cheats, dishonesty, lies, showmanship of money.  |

### SECTION C - GRAMMAR

6. Fill in the blanks with the correct pronouns from the brackets. 3
- Did you bring \_\_\_\_\_ (something / everything) you need for the trip?
  - Grandfather could not stop \_\_\_\_\_ (himself / myself) from buying unusual pets.
  - I don't have \_\_\_\_\_ to do today. (something / anything)
7. Identify the subjects and predicates from the given sentences. 4
- The shopkeeper wants the umbrella.
  - The lyrics were written by Gulzar.
8. Fill in the blanks with the correct verbs that agree with the subjects. 4
- The group \_\_\_\_\_ (is / are) enjoying the sport very much.
  - One of the boys \_\_\_\_\_ (were / was) chosen for the marathon.
  - A thousand rupees \_\_\_\_\_ (are / is) a large sum of money.
  - Most people \_\_\_\_\_ (dislikes / dislike) cold food.
9. Fill in the blanks with the simple past or the past perfect forms of the verbs within the brackets. 4
- The shoes \_\_\_\_\_ clean because I \_\_\_\_\_ them in the morning. (look, polish)
  - Mamta \_\_\_\_\_ cooking when the telephone \_\_\_\_\_. (finish, ring)
10. Fill in the blanks with 'for' or 'since'. 3
- I have been watching some children play \_\_\_\_\_ fifteen minutes.
  - I hear that the train has been held up \_\_\_\_\_ 10 am.
  - I have known him \_\_\_\_\_ six years.
11. Change the tense of the verbs as directed within the brackets. 2
- The cake is ready. (into simple past)
  - The movie is starting. (into present perfect)

### SECTION D - LITERATURE

12. Answer the following questions. 2
- Why did the ticket collector ask grandfather to pay Tutu's fare? 2
  - What did Chotan say to make Nilu think she was slightly crazy? 3
  - Explain the line "Their magic moments never gone". 3
  - What message do you get from the lesson "A hard word"? 2
  - Why was Chotan initially impressed with Baro didi? 3
  - What was the reaction of all the women when the dacoits demanded their jewellery? Contrast this to Baro didi's reaction? 3
  - Quote the eight lines of the poem "The Flint". 4