SECTION A

READING COMPREHENSION

1. On the basis of your reading of the above excerpt, answer the following questions briefly.
   a) showed no enthusiasm.
   b) Dream States
   c) He felt that the book explained nothing.
   d) Both 1 & 2 are correct and 2 is the reason for 1.
   e) The man’s dream was about an alien.
   f) It was a dream which wasn’t clear.
   g) He didn’t want to talk about his dream.
   h) Give much importance to the science behind dreams.
   i) Any one of the following:
      • immerses the reader in the man's dream world
      • allows for a more empathetic understanding of his experience
   j) Any one of the following:
      • both experiences involve a sense of being trapped or confined.
        [Just as being lost in a maze involves being trapped within the maze's walls, the man's experience of consecutive dreaming involves being trapped within his own mind, unable to escape his dream state.]
      • both experiences involve a sense of seeking a way out or a path to resolution
        [Just as someone who is lost in a maze seeks a way out of the maze, the man in the story is seeking a way to break the cycle of consecutive dreaming and return to a normal state of consciousness.]
   k) he stayed silent for some time as if he searched for words.
   l) TRUE

12
In the passage, the man is unable to remember his current life while in his dream state, and his dreams are influenced by his memories and experiences. The dreams are described as "intensely real" and the man becomes lost in them, which suggests that his consciousness is fully immersed in the dream world. This blurring of reality and dream, memory and consciousness, suggests that our perceptions of the world are shaped by our subjective experiences and are not necessarily objective or fixed.

m) Any one of the following:
   - It suggests that not all dreams are equal or have the same significance.
   - It alludes to the idea that some dreams are merely the product of random brain activity while others may hold deeper meaning or insight into one's subconscious.

n) suggests that not only is he physically ill but mentally/emotionally drained

o) (a)

### 2. Based on your understanding of the poem, answer FOUR of five given questions.

| a) | (iii) . It suggests that the act of writing can be just as dangerous as using a weapon. [The potential impact that words can have on the world and highlights the responsibility that writers have to use their words wisely.] |
| b) | (i). The speaker admires his father's hard work and dedication to his task. [Throughout the lines, the speaker describes his father's work in detail and shows an appreciation for the effort and skill required to do it well. The final line, "Loving their cool hardness in our hands," suggests that the speaker has a positive association with the work and enjoys the results of their father's labour.] |
| c) | ...the boot to a part of a machine [implying that the foot is firmly and securely in place, like a component of a lever] |
| d) | (i). The setting is rural and quiet. [The description of the "clean rasping sound / When the spade sinks into gravelly ground" suggests a natural and peaceful environment, with no other sounds to drown out the sound of the digging. This description, combined with the image of the flowerbeds and potato drills, creates a picture of a rural and tranquil setting.] |
| e) | (Any one) → emphasizes the physical labour involved in the work, → creates a sense of rhythm and momentum in the poem → underscores the speaker's appreciation for the effort and skill required to do the work well → draws attention to the importance of the work and creates a sense of continuity and connection between past and present. |
3 **Read the passage given below.**

   a) If he were to set up a stall using the city space, he would be prohibited from hawking goods.
   b) TRUE [ it could have been a part of the study survey because the survey questionnaire included questions on the hazards faced by hawkers -paragraph 3]
   c) moneylenders can charge high interest rates
   d) Agree, because it cannot be prohibited as it provides income to the hawkers and various services to the citizens.

**SECTION B**  
APPLIED GRAMMAR & CREATIVE WRITING

4

(a) Books for the school are ordered by librarian every year.
(b) Everyone agrees that children worked very hard this year.
(c) No sooner did the teacher enter that she was greeted by her students.
(d) She is too busy to entertain her friends.
(e) Despite the very hot weather, Kevin stepped out to buy bread.
(f) Unless she goes for the auditions, she won’t be selected.
(g) I prefer eating fruit to unhealthy junk food.
(h) They cut down the tree ruthlessly.
(i) The old woman asked Arun if he could help her to cross the street.
(j) It was cruel of Shylock to demand a pound of his flesh.

5 **Attempt any three of the following four questions in 120-150 words each.**  
Credit to be given to the candidate’s creativity in presentation of ideas, appropriate use of language and skills of reasoning.

(a) The marks may be divided as
Content – 2 marks
Organisation – 1 marks (fluency, coherence, logical flow)
Expression – 2 marks (vocabulary, originality of ideas, grammatical accuracy)
(b) The marks may be divided as
Content – 2 marks
Organisation – 1 marks (fluency, coherence, logical flow)
Expression – 2 marks (vocabulary, originality of ideas, grammatical accuracy)
(c) The marks may be divided as
Content – 2 marks
Organisation – 1 marks (fluency, coherence, logical flow)
Expression – 2 marks (vocabulary, originality of ideas, grammatical accuracy)
(d) The marks may be divided as
Content – 2 marks
Organisation – 1 marks (fluency, coherence, logical flow)
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<th>Expression – 2 marks (vocabulary, originality of ideas, grammatical accuracy)</th>
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### SECTION C – TEXTBOOK & FICTION

#### 7 (i)

**7 (i) (a)**
- Frau Frieda
- She earned her living by working as a psychic—she sold her dreams
- Her body was crushed as a result of massive blow of the wave.
- Snake ring proved very important in the narrator recognizing the woman as Frau Frieda.
- No one bothered about the damaged car because they thought that there were no occupants—it was just a wreckage.

#### 7 (i) (b)

- Dr. Margolin
- Grey thinning hair, stooped
- Very careful about his public image—how he appeared to others—took great pride in appearance
- (ii) Disguise
- His uncles had been perished during the Jewish Genocide in Germany.
- Dr. Margolin was a skilled and respected physician—was a poor man’s son who had risen in life due to his hard work and intelligence—was called a prodigy in childhood.

#### OR

### 7 (ii) Suggestive Responses

**7. (ii) (a)**
- The central message of the poem is that the qualities of Mercy, Pity, Peace, and Love are divine and should be revered in all people, regardless of race or religion. The poem suggests that these virtues are the essence of God and that they exist in every human being.
- The repetition of "Mercy, Pity, Peace, and Love" throughout the poem emphasizes the importance of these virtues and reinforces the idea that they are divine. The repetition also creates a sense of unity and continuity throughout the poem.
- "The human form divine" refers to the idea that the qualities of Mercy, Pity, Peace, and Love are not only divine, but also inherent in human beings. Blake believed that God was present in every person and that we all have the potential to embody these virtues.
- The poem reflects Blake’s religious beliefs and philosophy in several ways. Blake was a Christian mystic who believed that God was present in every person and that the qualities of Mercy, Pity, Peace, and Love were divine. He also
believed in the importance of compassion and unity across cultures and religions, as reflected in the poem.

(e) The poem addresses the themes of compassion and unity across cultures and religions by suggesting that the qualities of Mercy, Pity, Peace, and Love are universal and that they exist in every human being.

(f) divine

OR

7.(ii) (b)
(a) The central message of the poem is that love is fleeting and prone to change, much like the shadows that follow us throughout the day. The speaker suggests that as our love grows and matures, it becomes less subject to the whims of fate and more stable and enduring.

(b) The shadows in the poem symbolize the fleeting nature of love and the transience of human life. The speaker suggests that just as our shadows change throughout the day, so too does our love evolve and grow.

(c) "Love's philosophy" refers to the idea that love is a complex and ever-changing emotion that is difficult to understand or predict. The speaker suggests that just as philosophy seeks to understand the nature of existence, so too does love seek to understand the nature of human relationships.

(d) The poem reflects Milton's view of love and relationships as being complex and subject to change. The speaker suggests that love is often driven by passion and impulse, but that it can also be a source of stability and endurance as it matures over time.

(e) The poem uses imagery and figurative language to convey its message by comparing love to the shadows that follow us throughout the day. The use of metaphors and similes, such as comparing love to a child or a game, adds depth and complexity to the speaker's message.

(f) diligent

8
Suggestive Responses
(a) W. B. Yeats establishes several fundamental contrasts past to present, present to future, bound to free. Poet is keenly aware of his ageing while the swans seemed to have not changed at all.

(b) Dr. Margolin did not want to attend the wedding at Brownsville as he would have to report early to the hospital on Monday Morning. Furthermore, he disliked the fact that Jewish laws and customs were distorted in such events.

9
Suggestive Responses
(a) Eveline let go of the opportunity to escape as she feels a sense of obligation to her family and home. She is afraid of the unknown thus, prospect of leaving everything she knows behind and starting a new life in a foreign country with a man she barely knows is overwhelming.

(b) Neruda is being compared to the Renaissance Popes, who were known for being gluttons. Neruda, too was fond of eating and took extreme pleasure in tasting, observing and discussing food. His wife would put an enormous bib around him to save his clothes from the sauce. Renaissance Popes were known for being corrupt.

10
Suggestive Responses
(a) The river Alph in "Kubla Khan" is significant as a symbol of the creative power of the human imagination. The speaker describes the river as "holy" and originating from a "cavern" before flowing through "measureless" and "sacred" grounds. This
imagery suggests that the river is a source of divine inspiration and creativity, and that it represents the deep subconscious or mystical realm of the human mind. The river is also associated with the process of artistic creation, as the speaker describes the "ancestral voices prophesying war" that he hears while under the influence of the river's magical power. The fact that the river is eventually interrupted by a "mortal" and "damsel" who forbid the speaker from completing his vision suggests that the limits of human imagination are always subject to the restrictions of the physical world. In this way, the river Alph represents both the limitless potential and the inherent limitations of human creativity.

(b) The play delves into the issue of caste discrimination. Prakriti is treated as an outcast due to her birth, and she is forced to live on the margins of society, deprived of many basic rights and opportunities. The play highlights the injustice of this system, showing how it perpetuates inequality and hinders social progress. The play also deals with the issue of gender discrimination. It shows how it can impact women’s sense of self-worth and identity. Prakriti, who is a woman as well as an outcast, is further ostracized by society, and the play explores the ways in which this affects her psyche and her sense of self. The play also explores the theme of identity, particularly the question of how one's social identity intersects with one's personal identity. Prakriti struggles with her identity as an outcast, and her encounters with Ananda, a Buddhist monk, prompt her to question her sense of self and her place in the world.

Suggestive Responses

11
(a) The title suggests that Raja is not just a character, but rather a symbol for the town of Malgudi. Raja is untamed, wild nature that exists in the world and serves as a reminder of the importance of preserving our natural environment.

(b) The event serves as a powerful commentary on the cruelty of keeping wild animals in captivity for entertainment purposes. It also highlights the danger inherent in interacting with them, as they are inherently unpredictable.

(c) The word Marga means way and the word Ayya is an honorific suffix used in southern parts of India. The name Margayya thus means the one who guides and shows the way to others.

(d) Margayya’s house was situated on Vinaayk Mudali marg and bore the address 14 D. It was a famous landmark and was one of the earliest house to be built there. It was on the outskirts of the town beside a cremation ground.

12
(a) Raja is a symbol of the untamed wilderness and natural world that exists outside of human civilization. Narayan uses Raja to explore the tension between civilization and the natural world, and to suggest that our relationship with the environment is a fundamental aspect of our humanity.

(b) Narayan uses humor to offset the seriousness of the novel's themes, and to explore the absurdity of the human-animal relationship. The comic moments in the novel serve to humanize the animal characters, and to highlight the ways in which human behavior can seem nonsensical from an outsider's perspective.

(c) The book financial expert presents a realistic and detailed picture of the father-son relationship. Margayya and his son Balu share a fraught relationship. Being an
only child, he was pampered in childhood and thus became a menace for them. Margayya failed in imparting moral values and life lessons, thus ruining him.

(d) Margayya sold the manuscripts of Bed Life by Dr. Pal for whatever cash he had and was assured that the book named Domestic Harmony would sell in thousands if the right publisher was found. Madan Lal agrees to publish it on a 50-50 partnership. The book becomes popular and Margayya hits a fortune.

13 Suggestive Responses

(a) It is a traveling circus that features a wide range of acts and performances, including acrobats, clowns, trapeze artists, and animal acts. The circus is known for its colorful and lively atmosphere, and it attracts crowds of people wherever it goes. One of the most popular acts in the Grand Malgudi Circus is Raja the tiger, who is kept in captivity and forced to perform in a cage. The novel explores the ways in which these animals are treated by their handlers, highlighting the cruelty and mistreatment that can occur in circuses. Despite its popularity, the Grand Malgudi Circus is also depicted as somewhat seedy and run-down, with characters who are often down on their luck and struggling to make ends meet. This adds to the novel's overall sense of melancholy and introspection, characters grapple with questions of identity, purpose, and morality against the backdrop of the colorful and chaotic circus world.

(b) The novel explores the complex and often fraught relationship between humans and animals, highlighting the cruelty and mistreatment that animals can face at the hands of humans. Through its personification of Raja, the novel validates the experiences and emotions of animals who are too often neglected by their captors, promoting cultures of nonviolence between humans and animals. Tiger’s idyllic, natural life is brutally interrupted when hunters kill all of Raja’s cubs. By demonstrating Raja’s profound grief at the loss of his children, Narayan encourages the reader to think of tigers as creatures with emotions not so different from our own. Through the stark juxtaposition between Raja's life in the wild and in captivity, Narayan encourages the reader to treat animals as fellow creatures with all the wants, needs, and feelings that we have and to ultimately let them be free in the wild.

(c) Value points

Lakshmi Holmstrom in “The Novels of R. K. Narayan” Calcutta: Writers Workshop Publication, 1973, comments “Different abilities and values are opposed and matched until Pal becomes a “nightmare to Margayya”. Pal truly becomes a nightmare for Margayya as he accelerates his downfall. His book’s purpose as he stated was to create happiness in the world and prevent tragedies relating to ill-matched couples. Though he was crucial in lifting Margayya’s economic status but also took him away from Saraswati’s way. He became Balu’s constant companion and initiated him into immoral activities of playing cards, drinking alcohol and womanizing Margayya’s spar with Pal ended with disastrous implications for Margayya and he lost all his wealth and became poor. He is the cause for the ruin of Margayya’s son, spreads rumours about him and brings about his decline.

(d) Value points
A man whom the goddess of wealth favours need not worry much. He can buy all
the knowledge he requires. He can afford to buy all gifts that Goddess Saraswathi
holds in her palm” In the financial expert human and divine realma are
interconnected and manifest themselves at various junctures. Margayya’s sacred
little ledger contained a symbol of Goddess Saraswati and it transformed Margayya.
Having got fame, he becomes a new devotee of Goddess Laxmi
Having lost his original name Krishna, in fact has also lost his own way. Though he
gains material wealth but loses his soul and fails to give moral values to his
son. Ultimately after losing everything, he returns to Goddess Saraswati