

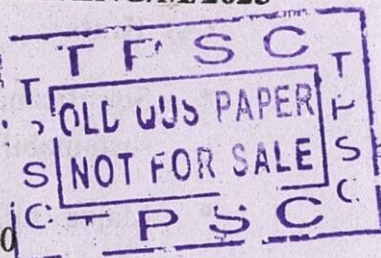
Total No. of printed pages = 20

TR/CMS-III/ENG/M/2025

ENGLISH

Paper : I

Full Marks – 100



Time – Two hours 30 minutes

The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions.

Candidates are required to answer in their own
words as far as practicable.

1. Write a paragraph on *one* of the following
topics : (Word limit 150 words) 15

(a) Impact of Technology on Education

Or

(b) The importance of Sustainable Living

Or

(c) The Influence of Social Media on Society

[Turn over

2. Draft a report on any one of the two topics on the basis of the points and material given below.
(Word Limit 150 Words) 20

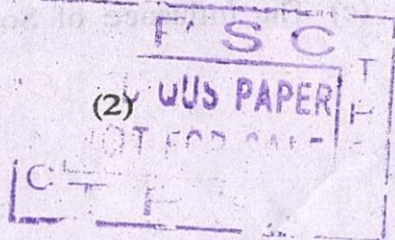
(A) Hints :

- Significance of electric vehicles in achieving sustainability goals.
- Major milestones and breakthroughs that contributed to their rise.
- Environmental benefits of electric vehicles compared to conventional vehicles.
- Challenges hindering widespread adoption (e.g., charging infrastructure, battery technology, cost).
- Government policies and incentives in promoting electric vehicles.

Or

(B) Hints :

- Impact of e-commerce on traditional business models.
- The contribution of e-commerce to GDP, job creation, and economic growth in various countries.



- Changes in consumer behavior and preferences due to e-commerce.
 - Advancements in logistics, payment systems, AI, and data analytics.
3. Write an draft e-mail on any one of the two subjects given below : (word limit 150 words)
- 15
- (a) Compose a formal complaint e-mail addressing a recent issue you faced with a product or service from an online retailer. Include details of the problem and your expectations for resolution.

Or

- (b) Draft an e-mail requesting permission for a leave of absence from work or school. Include the dates, reason for leave, and how your absence will be managed in your absence.
4. Read *one* out of the two passages given below and answer its comprehension questions :
- (A) DEEPFAKE VIDEOS OF many prominent personalities have been doing the rounds on social media platforms lately. Even Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently cautioned against the phenomenon, citing a deepfake video of him doing garba that he had seen recently.

Developed using artificial intelligence and machine learning algorithms, deepfakes are manipulated images, sounds and voices, generated to create realistic but fake representations of people, events, or scenarios. While some deepfakes are harmless or even entertaining, others can have serious negative consequences.

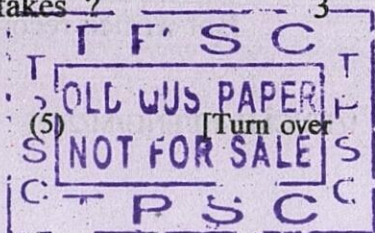
Jiten Jain, Director at cybersecurity firm Voyager Infosec, says not every deepfake can be classified as disinformation if it is generated with the consent of the people involved. He also points out the challenges in verifying the authenticity of these videos, especially when it comes to sensitive issues such as disseminating news. He cites the insufficient regulations around using the tech as the cause. "The existing rules... are not sufficient. We need a comprehensive overhaul of the IT law, where there are clear rules about who can use this, for what purpose it can be used, should it be licensed, what is the responsibility of the person generating the video, and the person who's getting the video generated. And what is the responsibility of the platform to take it down; who's responsible to flag it?" Jain says.

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It is in this context that IT minister Ashwini Vaishnaw recently said the government plans to discuss the matter with social media platforms. "We'll make sure that platforms make adequate efforts for preventing it (deepfakes), and cleaning up their system," he said.

Vinod Singh, CTO of software company 'Concirrus', agrees that they pose a serious threat, but offers a word of caution. "While offering creative possibilities, they jeopardise information integrity and trust. Striking a balance between harnessing its potential and mitigating risks is crucial for its responsible evolution," he says, adding that tech firms have a responsibility towards preventing its misuse. He says, "It is up to us to decide how we want to use it and how we want to regulate it. We need to act fast, before it is too late"

- (a) Supply a suitable title to the passage. 3
- (b) What are deepfakes ? 3
- (c) Which deepfakes cannot be classified as disinformation ? 3
- (d) What is the main challenge in verifying the authenticity of deepfakes ? 3



- (e) Why is it necessary to strike a balance in the use of AI ?

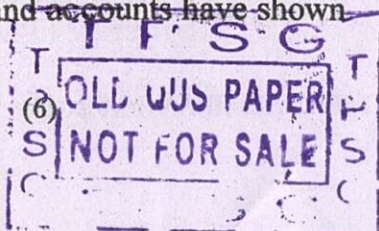
3

Or

- (B) OLD IS GOLD ; sometimes, silver is also gold. Especially when it concerns our babies and their meals. In many Indian homes, newborns are fed their first solids (and 'meals thereafter) from silver cups, plates and glasses. But the easy availability of plastic and silicone cutlery has edged out usage of silverware amid fears of metal poisoning in infants and the issues surrounding maintenance of silverware. But is silverware harmful for babies ? Not at all! In fact, it might be the best thing for your baby.

Extensive research conducted with metal experts and toxicologists for my book-For Bumpier Times-revealed that silverware is in fact very ideal for serving food to both children and people with infections. This is because silver metal is oligodynamic by nature, which allows it to kill several disease-causing microorganisms.

One cannot know for certain if our ancestors used silverware as a sign of wealth or knew about the metal's pathogen-killing properties. But written records and accounts have shown

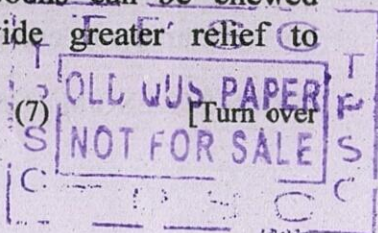


that the use of silverware has been on for several generations across the world.

Phoenicians and early settlers in the Americas dropped silver and copper coins into urns of water to make it suitable for drinking. To this day, treatment of drinking water in many poor countries and modern purifying systems still involve the usage of silver salts. The metal's pathogen-killing property also finds use in surgical dressings and disinfectants.

Any apprehension over using silverware for babies can be safely dismissed. The body can absorb silver only in the form of soluble salts and not in the form of the metal itself. So there is no harm done to the baby by serving food in a silver plate or bowl. However, if the food in the silverware is too acidic, silver ions can leach into the food. If this happens, no real harm can be caused to the human body as the amount leached into food is negligible. To be extra safe though, fill the plate or cup with food just before feeding the child.

Some doctors are of the opinion that giving silverware (at least the spoon) a total miss might not be such a bad idea. This is because plastic or silicone spoons can be chewed upon and thus provide greater relief to

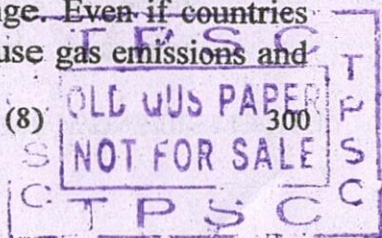


teething gums. A silicone spoon also causes lesser pain if accidentally jabbed against the mouth or gums of a fussy toddler. Also, food-grade plastic or silicone ware come in a range of attractive colours and designs that might be more efficient at getting a fussy child to swallow his or her food. But if you have any reservations about using your grandmother's silver cup or plate for your child, now is the time to shed them!

- (a) Supply a suitable title to the passage. 3
- (b) When is silver as valuable as gold ? 3
- (c) What has edged out the use of silverware ?
3
- (d) Why is silverware ideal for serving food ?
3
- (e) Which property of silver invited its use for medical purposes ? 3

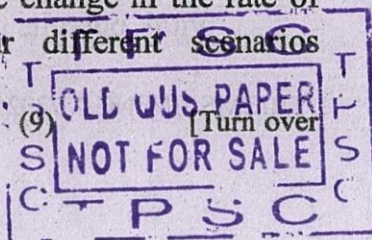
5. (A) Read the passage and make its precis with a suitable title. $3+12=15$

The rate at which the West Antarctic ice sheet is melting will accelerate over the coming decades and is now an unavoidable consequence of climate change. Even if countries manage to cap greenhouse gas emissions and



limit global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, the target adopted by world leaders in the 2015 Paris Agreement, melting will increase three times faster over the rest of the 21st century than it did during the 20th. "It looks like we've lost control of the melting of the West Antarctic ice sheet," said Kaitlin Naughten, a researcher at the British Antarctic Survey. "If we wanted to preserve it in its historical state, we would have needed action on climate change decades ago." Enough water is locked up in the West Antarctic ice sheet to trigger up to five metres of sea level rise. Currently, the biggest contribution to sea level rise from this region appears to come from floating ice shelves in the Amundsen Sea, which are melting as a result of warmer temperatures in the Southern Ocean. Naughten and her colleagues ran simulations on a supercomputer to predict how much of this melting could still be avoided by reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Taking into account climate events and variability, Tsuch as the global effects induced by El Niño, the researchers found little change in the rate of ice loss among four different scenarios

1/TR/CMS-III/ENG/M/2025



outlined in the Paris Agreement. The three scenarios predicting the lowest rise in mean global temperature-1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and between two and three degrees Celsius above preindustrial levels-had nearly identical effects on the rate of melting in the Amundsen Sea. The scenario foreseeing the highest rise in mean global temperature, which is deemed unlikely to occur but would lead to 4.3 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, diverged from the lower three, but only after 2045, when it projected more ice melting than the other scenarios. Until then, estimated melting was comparable for the four scenarios. The findings are bleak, but predicting the consequences of climate change may help us prepare for them. "The bright side is that by recognising this situation in advance, the world will have more time to adapt to the sea level rise that's coming," Naughten said. Our actions to limit greenhouse gas emissions may not come in time to prevent the collapse of the West Antarctic ice sheet, but slowing the rate of sea level rise is still a vital pursuit.

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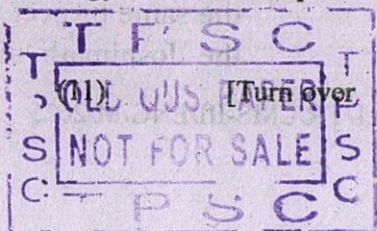
Or

(B) Make a summary of the following passage.

15

The spectre of floods looms before us, yet we build houses by rivers," wrote the Hindi poet Dushyant Kumar. The poet died in 1975, but his words turned out to be prophetic. They translated into what happened a few months ago in Joshimath and in many other places across Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh over the past few years in how a blatant disregard for nature worsened an already erratic weather pattern, how houses crumbled and lives were swept away.

The Joshimath disaster is attributed to a hydropower project which involved some deep digging and the subsequent bursting of an aquifer. Ravi Chopra, a scientist who focuses on the interactions between technology and society, said that despite the charm of hydropower, its flaws were recognised early on. "Engineers neither understand nor care for the ecosystem of the river which is dramatically impacted. Their teaching has never incorporated ecology", said Chopra.



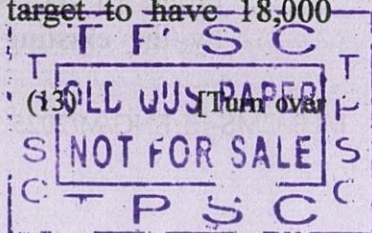
One of the biggest drawbacks of such projects is that in the distance between a powerhouse and the river anywhere between 4km to around 20km-the river dries up. As water is forced into a tunnel, aquatic life trapped in it dies because of a lack of oxygen. They, however, have advantages over large dams like the one in Tehri-where the rim of the reservoir shows the signs of a series of landslides triggered by the slow seepage of water into the surrounding rock fissures. Better scientific understanding since 2006, when the dam was commissioned, have rung alarm bells over the possibility of its destruction as it lies over a major geological fault zone. If that were to happen, the force of the water would wipe off habitations 100km downstream. "Dams on faults are like time bombs. We must abandon projects in areas which are acutely sensitive," said Chopra.

Going by that logic, the Tapovan-Vishnugad hydropower project in Chamoli should have been abandoned. In February 2021, a glacial burst swept away the main dam and more than 140 workers trapped in tunnels were either found dead or are still missing, it is the same project that is believed to be behind the Joshimath disaster.

Equally concerning is the Char Dham Pariyojana (CDP), the Rs.12,000 crore project to build a 889km-long, all-weather road linking Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamunotri, the four major shrines in Uttarakhand. Hemant Dhyani, a member of the Supreme Court's High Powered Committee (HPC) on the CDP, said that the body in its report of 2000 had agreed on most points, except for the critical aspect of road width. The under construction road is 10m wide-something that can only be achieved by a vertical cutting of the slopes, massive tree felling and the accumulation of mass muck.

Dhyani said it was a tragedy that the dhams (pilgrimage centres) were being viewed in terms of daam (monetary value). "The ecosystem services that the Himalayas provide, such as catering to the water needs of half the country's population through rivers that arise in the Himalayan basin cannot be weighed on the same scale as revenue generation."

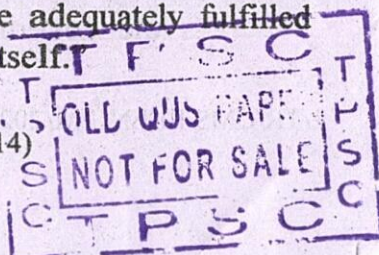
Of the many ironies that lie behind the CDP is its breakup into 53 projects, each less than 100km in length, thereby negating the need for environment impact assessment. Another is the government's target to have 18,000



people visit the dhams per day, when the HPC has recommended a maximum of 6,000 people.

In 2012, the Union ministry of environment declared the watershed area along the stretch of river Bhagirathi an eco-sensitive zone (ESZ). Such areas are ecologically important and are to be protected from industrial pollution and unregulated development. In 2018, the Uttarakhand government objected to the designation as 'anti-development? Land use change was thus approved to meet local needs, including infrastructure development in larger public interest and national security. It also allowed the cutting of hills in the area and construction on steep slopes. The CDP will pass through this protected area, too.

There is little to defend the need for an all-weather road as all the dhams, each located above 3,200m, are buried under snow for almost six months. The other argument in its favour, that of catering to the Army's needs, was negated by India's first chief of defence staff, the late General Bipin Rawat, who had, in a press interaction, said, "The requirements of the Army are adequately fulfilled by the existing road itself."



Mallika Bhanot, a volunteer at Ganga Ahvaan, a citizens' forum which monitors the Bhagirathi ESZ said, "This sacrosanct land and its cultural sanctity is an opportunity, not a burden for the government. Its policies should be designed to enhance and not destroy this sanctity. How does it even make sense to put up a statue of Adi Shankaracharya at Kedarnath after you destroy a village he set up?"

Bhanot's reference is to Haat village in Charnoli. Haat and the Lakshmi Narayan temple complex in it were set up by Shankaracharya who also settled a community of Gaur Brahmins in it to carry out the temple rituals. For those who could not make the arduous climb to Badrinath, paying obeisance at the temple at Haat would invoke the same blessings.

Yet, in 2016, the Tehri Hydro Development Corporation started dumping debris from the Vishnugad-Pipalkoti hydropower project, around the temple. Within no time it reached a height that obscured the temple's spire. An INTACH report of September 2022 noted, "Destruction... perpetrated at the moment, will not just obliterate an ancient site but also harm... the institution of the Badrinath Yatra and the legacy of Adi Shankaracharya."

But as Dushyant Kumar wrote, it is not our souls that are broken, it is the mirrors offered to us ordinary folks that are cracked. And in their reflection we gaze helplessly at the march of a broken, misguided technology.

6. Choose the correct word to fill in the blank (answer any two) : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- (a) Choose the correct form of the verb in the sentence :

“By the time I get there, she _____ her work.”

- (i) will finish (ii) will have finished
(iii) will be finishing (iv) would finish

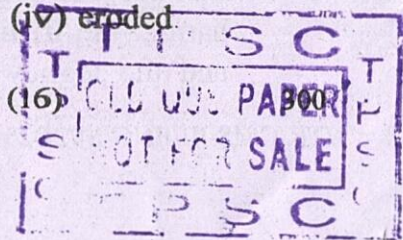
- (b) Choose the appropriate word to fill in the blank :

“Her unconditional support _____ in his success.”

- (i) resulted (ii) results
(iii) resultant (iv) resulting

- (c) The salt spray has gradually _____ the bridge.

- (i) spoilt (ii) ravaged
(iii) demolished (iv) eroded



(d) the pilot was _____ injured, he died within half an hour.

(i) seriously (ii) fatally

(iii) fatefully (iv) vitally

7. Correct any *four* of the following sentences :

1×4=4

(a) They are yet to decided about buying a new house.

(b) My brother plays football good.

(c) The informations you gave me was wrong.

(d) He didn't knew about the meeting yesterday.

(e) I am looking forward to meet you soon.

(f) The book is laying on the table.

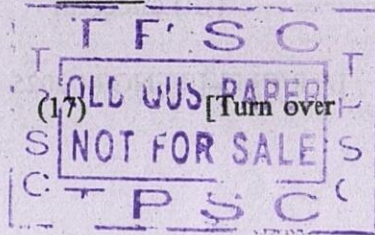
8. Write the correct preposition to fill in the blanks :

(any *four*)

1×4=4

(a) The children were playing _____ the park until it started to rain.

(b) She was very surprised _____ the news of her promotion.



(c) I have been working here _____ five years now.

(d) We are planning to go to the beach _____ the weekend.

(e) The restaurant is located _____ the corner of the street.

(f) He is very skilled _____ playing the piano.

9. Choose the correct option that gives the correct meaning of the underlined phrase/idiom in the sentences : (answer any two) $2 \times 2 = 4$

(a) You may rush from pillar to post, but you stand no chance of getting what you want without a bribe.

(i) be very busy

(ii) go to all post boxes and post offices

(iii) go to many offices and post letters.

(iv) rush in all directions and suffer much harassment.

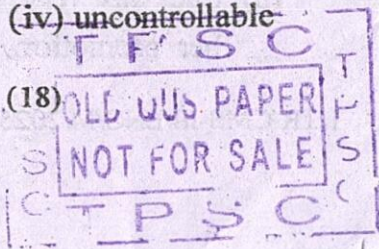
(b) At a party, he is always in high spirits.

(i) talkative

(ii) drunk

(iii) cheerful

(iv) uncontrollable



(c) He made my day by telling me how important I was to him.

(i) gave me great pleasure

(ii) displeased me

(iii) spoiled my day

(iv) made me resentful

(d) After getting selected for the job, he has been putting on airs these days.

(i) wearing costly clothes

(ii) travelling only by air

(iii) putting on weight

(iv) becoming very boastful.

10. Choose the word that means the SAME Or NEARLY THE SAME of the word in Capitals (any two) :

1×2=2

(a) UBIQUITOUS

(i) rare

(ii) constant

(iii) widespread

(iv) isolated

(b) ESOTERIC

(i) Commonplace

(ii) obscure

(iii) unpopular

(iv) accessible

(c) TENACIOUS

(i) Persistent

(ii) weak

(iii) indecisive

(iv) fragile

(d) SANGUINE

(i) pessimistic

(ii) gloomy

(iii) cheerful

(iv) defiant.

11. Choose the most appropriate antonym of the following words : (answer any two) $1 \times 2 = 2$

(a) AMELIORATE

(i) improve

(ii) worsen

(iii) enhance

(iv) elevate

(b) PROFOUND

(i) significant

(ii) shallow

(iii) deep

(iv) serious

(c) DILIGENT

(i) hardworking

(ii) careless

(iii) thorough

(iv) industrious

(d) CACOPHONY

(i) harmony

(ii) dissonance

(iii) noise

(iv) melody.