The Botanic Garden at Tanglin is the oldest garden and park in Singapore. It is 139 years old. The first home of the Botanic Gardens was at Fort Canning where the early British Government stood. Sir Stamford Raffles, the founder of modern Singapore, planted spices. Later, the gardens were moved to Tanglin.

Singapore was the first place in South East Asia to grow rubber. It was in the Botanic Gardens that Henry Ridley, its director, planted the first rubber seeds from Brazil. From Singapore, rubber planting was introduced to Malacca, where it was successful and spread to other Malaysian states. Today, you can see many huge rubber plantations in Malaysia.

There are many interesting places in Botanic Gardens. The National Orchid Garden is an important area, for it is there that new orchids are bred. You can see many varieties, including Singapore’s national flower, Vanda Miss Joaquin.

People who want to learn about plants can do so at the School of Horticulture. There is also a library where you can read about plants. Other places of interest include a small Japanese garden, a sundial garden, a lotus pond and a few large lakes.

On Sundays, you can see children feeding breadcrumbs to the fish and ducks in lakes. Adults jog or practice t’ai-chi. Sometimes, bands and orchestras perform open air concerts in the evening for those who are interested in music.

A1.1. Choose the correct answer and write it in the answer sheet:  (1x3=3)

(i) Pick out the statement which is not true.
   a. The Botanic Gardens first started at Tanglin.
   b. The Botanic gardens is 139 years old.
c. The Botanic gardens first started at Fort Canning.

d. The Botanic Gardens is the oldest park in Singapore.

(ii) Who planted the first rubber seeds at the Botanic Gardens?

   a. Sir Stamford Raffles
   b. Miss Joaquin
   c. Henry Ridley
   d. The Prime Minister

(iii) Children feed the fish and ducks with _____________.

   a. spices
   b. breadcrumbs
   c. rubber
   d. orchids

A1.2. Answer the following:  

   (i) What did Sir Stamford Raffles plant at the original Botanic Gardens?
   (ii) Where did rubber planting spread to from Singapore?

A2. Read and understand the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

For millions of years the Earth's atmosphere has not changed very much. Layers of gases have protected the Earth from the harmful effects of the sun's rays. But now things are changing. Every day we burn huge amounts of wood, coal, oil and gas. When they burn, these fuels give off a gas called carbon dioxide.

Plants use CO₂ to make food, but there's already too much for them to use. So the extra gas just stays in the atmosphere. Carbon dioxide acts like a greenhouse roof. It lets the heat of the sun through to the Earth, but doesn't let it escape back into space. The heat is trapped, and the Earth warms up. This warming is called the greenhouse effect. There's another reason for Earth's warming up. The ozone layer is being damaged. Ozone is a kind of gas in the atmosphere. A layer of ozone protects the Earth from the harmful rays of the sun. Chemicals used in aerosol sprays, refrigerators, some plastic and other products drift up to the ozone layer. These chemicals damage the ozone layer so that more of the heat and harmful rays from the sun can reach the Earth.

If the Earth goes on warming up, some of the ice at the North and South Poles could melt. There could be flooding of low-lying land, and many living things would not be able to get used to a warmer climate. Scientists believe the ozone layer will eventually repair itself if we stop using harmful chemicals. The most important thing is to make sure less carbon dioxide goes into the atmosphere. That way, the North and South Poles will stay icy cold.
A2.1. Find words in the passage which mean the same as:

   a. stop and retain in. (para 2) ___________________________
   b. a substance packed under pressure (para 2) ______________
   c. slow movement caused by a current (para 2) ____________
   d. occurring or existing in due course (para 3) ______________

A2.2. Find words in the passage which mean the opposite of the following:

   a. tiny / small (para 1)
   b. freed / released (para 2)

A2.3. Answer the following as briefly as possible:

   a. Why is extra CO₂ piling up in the atmosphere?
   b. How is the ozone layer being damaged?
   c. Write the disasters which can be caused by the melting of the polar ice?
   d. “That way” (second last line of para 3). Which way is the author referring to?

A2.4. The earth is warming up. This is happening due to certain reasons. State two such reasons.

A3. Read the extract from an essay by A G Gardiner called ‘Etiquette’.

Etiquette is a set of rules which help us to keep good relations with others. We show our good behavior by observing these rules of etiquette. All rules of etiquette are not necessarily the same everywhere. Every group of people has its rules of etiquette. In the West, people shake hands when they meet. Long long ago, men shook hands to express something. It was a gesture to show that they wished to be friendly. Shaking hands with friends when you meet them is very common in the West.

We greet one another in different ways. English people say, “Good morning’ or ‘Good afternoon’. The French say, ‘Bon jour’ or ‘Bon soir’ and the Germans say, ‘Guten morgen’ or ‘Guten tag’. They all mean the same. Here in India, we greet people in a different way. We say, ‘Namaste’, or ‘Salam aleykum’. Younger people touch the feet of their elders when they meet and seek their blessings.

Some of the basic rules of etiquette are common to all the countries. When anyone helps an old or a blind man to cross a busy street, or gives up his seat to an elderly lady in the bus, it is an instance of good manners that springs from a kind heart. Consideration and respect for everything and everyone make life smooth and happy. We need to observe the rules of etiquette at home, in school, in the playground, in the street, in public places and in offices and factories.

A3.1. State whether the following statements are true or false.

   1. Etiquette is a set of rules which teach us to be sociable.
2. The rules of etiquette are same in all cultures.
3. It is important for us to have consideration for everyone.
4. We only need to observe the rules of etiquette in a social gathering.
5. Good manners spring from a kind heart.
6. Consideration for others makes life enjoyable.

A3.2. Answer the following questions: (1x2=2)
1. What kind of good manners can you show in a market place and in a train?
2. What does shaking hands indicate?

Section B (Writing)

B1. Given below are some notes about Abraham Lincoln, the American President. Write a short bio-sketch of Abraham Lincoln with the help of these notes. (5)
1809 Born in the Big south fork of Nolin Creek, Kentucky, USA.
1828 Had a chance to see slavery in operation for the first time. Vows to hit slavery hard.
1834 Elected to the legislature.
1838 Elected again.
1860 Republican Party nominates him as a candidate for the Presidency. Elected as a President.
1865 Succeeded in getting passed the thirteenth amendment to the Constitution which ended slavery forever.
April 14, 1865 Assassinated.

B2. A free eye-check-up camp is going to be organised by your school. Write a notice for your school notice board in about 50 words. Give details about the venue, date, time, the eye-specialist who has been invited etc. You are Reena / Raman the Head Girl/Boy (5)

B3. You have noted a disturbing trend among children. They spend more time watching television than in reading books. Write an article in about 100-120 words on ‘Impact of TV watching on Reading.’ (10)

B4. A riot has taken place in your town/city and a curfew has been imposed. Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper, expressing your views on the incident. Suggest ways in which citizens can maintain unity in diversity in the country. (10)

Section C- (Grammar)

C1. Rearrange these words and phrases to form meaningful sentences: (1X3=3)
1. daily life/ is/ in/ electricity/ our/ useful/ very
2. electricity/ gadgets/ by/ domestic/ are run/ many

3. of electricity/ water/ an/ conductor/ is/ excellent

C2. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction against the correct question number. (.5x8=4)

Vishnupuram is a small town at the Western a) coast of India. It is not yet polluting by b) too many tourism. The place is superb c) for its scenic beautiful and exhilarating climate d) The fort on a hill on the beach remind us of the e) time when it was built too defend the place f) from foreign sea- robbers. Various article exhibited g) in the museum remind us off the time when h) the people of the place had trade relations with many countries of the world.

C3. Omitting (A word is omitted in each line. Insert a slash between the words where the omitted word should be and write the word): (½x8=4)

Indiscriminate felling trees has aggravated many a) atmospheric problems. Despite so awareness campaigns b) people have not put end to this ruthless c) practice cutting trees. They forget that d) trees sustain the air giving us the oxygen e) we breathe. So their importance our lives f) can certainly not ignored. We do not realize g) that by disturbing ecological balance in nature h) we are ourselves breaking down our life support system.

C4. Punctuate the following: (4)
guru govind singh was a great scholar as well as a great poet his command over persian and sanskrit was amazing
C5. Read the given conversation and complete the report that follows. (1x5=5)

Patient: Good morning, doctor.
Doctor: Good morning. How are you feeling now? Did you sleep well last night?
Patient: Yes, Sir. What a sound sleep it was!
Doctor: That’s fine. Take this yellow tablet after breakfast. Drink a lot of water.

The doctor greeted the patient and asked (a) __________. He enquired (b) __________. The patient replied respectfully that he had. He exclaimed with surprise that (c) _________. The doctor called that fine. Then he advised the patient (d) ___________. He reminded him to (e) ________________.

Section D (Literature)

D1. It is perfectly absurd your saying that your name isn’t Ernest. (1x3=3)
a. Who says this and to whom?
b. Who denies that his name is not Ernest?
c. Why does the speaker say that an aunt be allowed to decide the matter for herself?

D2. So if all do their duty they need not fear harm. (1x3=3)
a. Who is the speaker?
b. Why does he say this?
c. Do you think that he believes that his life will change, or is it a false hope?

D3. They build a nation’s pillars deep
And lift them to the sky. (1x3=3)
a. Who is ‘they’ in this line?
b. How are a nation’s pillars built ‘deep’?
c. How are a nation’s pillars lifted to the ‘sky’?

D4. Answer the following questions: (3x5=15)
Q1. How does Tom enjoy his freedom in his dreams?
Q2. How did Mr. Chips feel on the first day of his job?
Q3. Describe the policeman on the beat.
Q4. What are the things that do not make a nation strong?
Q5. How did Jeevsiidi help Chanakya?

D5. Think and answer: (2)
Is a sense of duty more important than friendship? Write down your views.

D6. Dhan Nanda felt that Chanakya had an air of arrogance which enraged him and on his orders he was dragged by the guards of Dhan Nanda across the cold marble floor of the courtroom and was thrown out of the palace gates. Imagine you are Chanakya. Write a diary entry describing your feelings due to mentioned incident. (4)