

Instructions:

- i) This paper has been divided into 3 sections:
Section A – Reading (5 marks)
Section B – Writing and Grammar (7marks)
Section C – Literature Textbook (8 marks)
- ii) Attempt all the questions in their respective sections.
- iii) Attempt your paper neatly.

SECTION - A : READING

1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

There is something disarming about Maria Sharapova, something at odds with her ready smile and glamorous attire. And that something in her lifted her on Monday, 22 August 2005 to the world number one position in women's tennis. All this happened in almost no time. Poised beyond her years, the Siberian born teenager took just four years as a professional to reach the pinnacle. However, the rapid ascent in a fiercely competitive world began nine years before with a level of sacrifice few children would be prepared to endure. Little Maria had not yet celebrated her tenth birthday when she was packed off to train in the United States. That trip to Florida with her father Yuri launched her on the path to success and stardom. But it also required a heart-wrenching two-year separation from her mother Yelena. The latter was compelled to stay back in Siberia because of visa restrictions.

The nine-year-old girl had already learnt an important lesson in life-that in tennis excellence would only come at a price. "I used to be so lonely," Maria Sharapova recalls. "I missed my mother terribly. My father was working as much as he could to keep my tennis-training going. So, he couldn't see me either. Because I was so young, I used to go to bed at 8 p.m.

The other tennis pupils would come in at 11 p.m. and wake me up and order me to tidy up the room and clean it. Instead of letting that depress me, I became more quietly determined and mentally tough.

I learnt how to take care of myself. I never thought of quitting because I knew what I wanted. When you come from nothing and you have nothing, then it makes you very hungry and determined ... I would have put up with much more humiliation and insults than that to steadfastly pursue my dream."

On the basis of your reading of the passage answer the following questions : (5)

- a) How many years did Sharapova take to reach the pinnacle as a professional?
- b) Whom did Maria Sharapova miss terribly? Why?
- c) What penalty did Maria Sharapova have to pay, being younger than the other players?
- d) What was Maria Sharapova's greatest sacrifice in her path to success?
- e) Find the word from the passage that means the same as:
 - i) Resolute
 - ii) Peak/ highest point

SECTION - B : WRITING AND GRAMMAR

2. You are Anup Singh, a resident of Civil Lines, Delhi. You can't bear the noise pollution caused in the name of religion. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily highlighting the urgent need for putting a blanket ban on the use of loudspeakers at night for religious purposes. (3)

3. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet as given below against the correct blank number. (3)

	Incorrect	Correct
The Taj Mahal, situated in the	a) _____	_____
bank of river Yamuna was the most	b) _____	_____
beautiful mausoleum in a world.	c) _____	_____
Its minarates and domes stands	d) _____	_____
testimony for the greatness of	e) _____	_____
Mughal architecture. Although it have lost	f) _____	_____
its pure white colour it attracts lot of tourists.		

4. Rearrange the following words to make a meaningful sentence. (1)

a) friends / I / my / were / grandmother / and / good

b) sing song / she said / prayers / her morning / monotonous / a / in / voice

SECTION - C: LITERATURE

5. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: (3)

*Through primrose tufts, in that sweet bower
The periwinkle trailed its wreaths;
And it is my faith that every flower
Enjoys the air it breathes.*

a) Name the poem and the poet.

b) What is the faith of the poet?

c) Why does the mood of the poet change?

6. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words. (3)

a) Who was the hermit? What did the king do in order to meet the hermit?

b) What according to the poet is „Nature“s holy plan“?

c) How did the king and the bearded man become friends?

7. Answer the following question in 50- 60 words. (2)

What were the three questions that troubled the king? How did he eventually get the answer to his questions?