

Reg No : .....

**ALL KERALA COMMON MODEL EXAMINATION 2023 - 24**

**ENGLISH CORE [ 301 ]**

**Time Allowed:** 180 Minutes

**Maximum Marks:** 80

**General Instructions:**

1. 15 minute prior reading time allotted for Q - paper reading.
2. The Question Paper contains THREE sections - READING, WRITING and LITERATURE.
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number in your answer sheet to indicate the option/s being attempted.

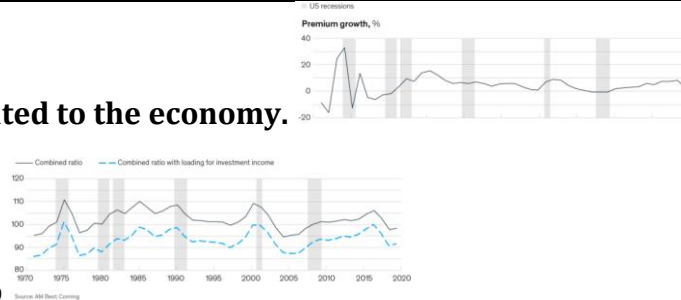
| <b>SECTION A – READING SKILLS</b> |   |      |
|-----------------------------------|---|------|
| 1                                 | <p><b>Read the text carefully and answer the questions:</b> Hundreds of thousands of years ago giant mammoths still roamed the earth and the surface of the earth was covered by dense forests. Men took shelter in caves and covered their bodies with animal skins. At that time, dogs became man’s best friend. At first, they followed man on his hunting trips and waited to get whatever scraps it could get, from the kill its master made. Then the instinct for companionship made it adopt man as its leader. Soon, the man began to train dogs to help him during the hunt, to carry his burdens, and to give him companionship as he sat by the fireside in the evenings. These changes took place much before recorded history came into practice. These findings can only be confirmed by the study of the bones of primitive dogs that lay beside the bones of primitive men in caves. As the history of the dog goes back to a time when records were not maintained, it is impossible to be sure of these happenings. Some scientists believe that dogs are the result of a mating between wolves and jackals. Other scientists say that some species of dogs descended from wolves while others descended from jackals. Some even go on to say that dogs descended from coyotes and foxes. A widely held theory is that the modern dogs that we keep as pets descended from a remote common ancestor. This last substantiates the differences in size and appearance between various breeds of dogs. Other evidence of the wild ancestry of dogs is the built of their bodies, which is very distinctly adopted for speed and strength. Together with their keen sense of smell, hearing qualities, it becomes obvious that they have wild hunters in their genes. From the time when recorded history began, there have been references to dogs in them. There are images of dogs on Egyptian tombs that are 5000 years old. The Egyptians considered their dog as the sacred and the whole family would go into mourning if the dog in an Egyptian home died. Today, the dog is an indispensable part of our lives. For hundreds of young, healthy blind people, the dog is their seeing eye. A seeing - eye dog is usually a German shepherd dog. It</p> | [12] |

takes three months to train a guide dog. First, come to the obedience exercise repeated daily as 'setting up exercises'. Then a U – shaped leather harness is buckled on and the dog learns to walk at the left of the trainer. The dog is taught to stop and wait at the curb, watch traffic, and let the cars pass. Before the dog is passed on to a blind master, a final check is made. Then the blind master and his dog train together for four weeks before they go home to work smoothly as a team.

1. Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option. Dogs became man's best friend at an early age by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. hunting food for his master
  - b. being a constant companion
  - c. protecting man from mammoths
  - d. not letting the man feel alone in dark caves
2. Comment on any two theories about the origin of dogs as given in paragraph four. (2 Marks)
3. List the ways in which historians come to know that man and dog were historical companions. (**Clue:** Think about the evidences and findings)
4. Select the option that conveys the opposite of 'unfasten', from words used in paragraph 8.
  - a. buckled
  - b. taught
  - c. curb
  - d. master
5. What makes us believe that dogs have a wild ancestry?
  - a. Many varieties of dogs
  - b. Differences in the body built
  - c. Differences in strength and stamina
  - d. Sense of smell and hunting skills
  - a. Only A
  - b. Only Band C

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|   | <p>c. Only B, C and D</p> <p>d. All of these</p> <p>6. Some records share that since recorded history began, there have been references to dogs in them. Based on your understanding of paragraph six, list the importance of dogs in an Egyptian family. (2 Marks)</p> <p>7. How can a dog be a "seeing - eye" for a blind man? ( 2 Marks)</p> <p>8. Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference, with respect to the following:_____ are considered to be ancestors of dogs (paragraph 4).</p> <p>9. Which of the following conclusions, suggested in paragraph five, can be inferred?</p> <p>a. Wild ancestry of dogs</p> <p>b. Similarity in their size and appearance</p> <p>c. They are trained to be wild hunters</p> <p>d. Only a few breed has keen sense of smell</p>   |      |
| 2 | <p><b>Read the text carefully and answer the questions:</b> Since its creation in the 17th Century , insures have amassed polices in each class of risk they cover. Thanks to technology, insures now have access to more information about the risks that individuals run. Car insures have begun to set premiums based on how actual drivers behave, with “telematic” tracking devices to show how often they speed or slam on the brakes. Analysts at Morgan Stanley, a bank, predict that damage to insured homes will fall by 40 - 60% if smart sensors are installed to monitor, say, frayed electrical wiring. Some health insures provide digital fitness - bands to track policy holders vital signs – and give discounts if they lead a healthier life. But the data can only go so far. Even the safest driver can be hit by a falling tree: people in connected homes still fall off ladders. But the potential gains from smart insurance are large. First, giving people better insights into how they are managing risk should help them change their behaviour for the better. Progressive, an American car insurer, tells customers who use its trackers where they tend to drive unsafely; they crash less often as a result. Second, pricing will become keener for consumers. The insurance industry made \$338 billion in profits last year. More accurate risk assessment should result in lower premiums for many policyholders. Third , insurers should be able to spot fraud more easily, by using data to verify claims. <b>Over the past 50 years, the US personal auto insurance market has not</b></p> | [10] |

generally correlated to the economy.



Combined ratio, %

Mckinsey & Company But two worries stand out. One is a fear that insurers will go from being with to ones that watch your every move. The other, thornier problem is that insurers will cherry pick the good risks, leaving some people without safety net or to be taken care of by the state. Forgone privacy is the price the insured pay receiving personalised pricing. Many people are indeed willing to share the data, but individuals should always have to opt in to do so. Some worry that this safeguard may not be enough :the financial costs of not sharing data may be so great that people have no real choice over whether to sign up. The second concern is the worry that more precise underwriting will create a class of uninsurable people, selected out of insurers businesses because they are too high a risk. For some types of cover, that would be a reasonable outcome. People who choose to drive like maniacs should have a hard time getting insurance. By the same token, it makes sense to offer rewards, in the form of discounts to premiums, to customers who behave well. Incentivising people to eat better, exercise regularly, drink in moderation and avoid smoking would reap huge health dividends. Where things get harder is with risks that individuals can not control. There are few things that people have less choice about than their genes. One option is to distort the market by requiring insurers to be blind to genetic data. In 2011, for example, Europe banned insurers from using gender to calculate annuities. Now that a man's shorter lifespans are no longer taken into account that has led to lower payments. Until the interplay between nature and nurture is better understood, it is right to be cautious. Insurers should be able to take note of customers' behaviour, but not exploit information from genetic testing. However, as data analysis and the understanding of genetics improve, that line will only become harder to hold.

1. Does the following statement agree with the information given in the passage? The insurance industry faces challenges regarding the use of personal data **Select from the following:** True - if the statement agrees with the information False - if the statement contradicts the information Not Given - if there is no information on this.
2. What do you think about the author's opinion about Progressive, an American car insurer company? ( 2 Marks)
3. Which of the following is/ are outcome(s) of smart insurance?

- a. Create awareness about one's behaviour
- b. Infringes on a policy holder's privacy
- c. Discriminates among consumers based on their behaviour

- a. Only iii
- b. Only ii& iii
- c. Only i& ii
- d. All i, ii& iii

4. Complete the sentence based on the following statement. Insurers now have access to more data about the risks that people take. This is because of \_\_\_\_\_.

5. Which of the following is the central idea of the passage?

- a. Today, customers have plenty of innovative insurance products to choose from.
- b. Insurance companies access to and use of personal data is both promoting and risky.
- c. Of all the insurance products health insurance is the most innovative and controversial.
- d. Using genetic data to access a customer's insurance premium is immoral.

6. Which of the following is true in the context of the passage?

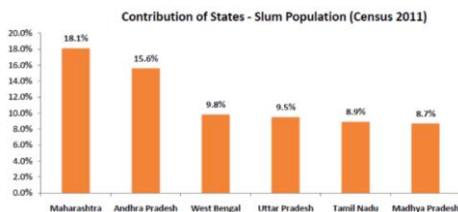
- a. Technology has made it easier to commit insurance fraud.
- b. Insurance has been around for less than a century
- c. The American insurance industry is the largest in the world.
- d. None of the given statements is true in the context of the passage.


7. Why do some health insurance companies give their customers digital fitness bands? ( 2 Marks)

8. Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option. Huge health \_\_\_\_\_ would result from encouraging people to eat better, exercise frequently, consume alcohol moderately, and give up smoking.

- a. dividends

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|   | <p>b. earnings</p> <p>c. insurance</p> <p>d. All of these</p>   |     |
|   | <b>SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS</b>  |     |
| 3 | <p>You are Praveen/Prabha. As the secretary, Science Club of your school writes a notice informing students about an Inter - School Science Exhibition and encouraging them to participate in it.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>You are the Secretary of the Residents’ Welfare Association of Sahyog Colony, Delhi. Write a notice in not more than 50 words informing the residents of the colony that there will be no water supply in their area for about a day due to maintenance work.</p>   | [4] |
| 4 | <p>You are Mr. Ajay Gupta of 7 Park Avenue, Delhi. Draft a reply of refusal expressing inability to attend a house warming party hosted by your colleague.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>You are Michelle/Michael D’Souza, an eminent educationist. Nav Vihar School, Bengaluru has completed 25 years of commendable service to society. You have received an invitation from the Principal of the school, Nandini Tyagi to attend its Silver Jubilee Celebrations on Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Draft a letter of acceptance in about 50 words, accepting the invitation.</p>  | [4] |
| 5 | <p>Lack of job opportunities in the rural areas is forcing people to migrate to cities. Every big city thus has a number of slums in it. Life in these slums is miserable. Write a letter in 120 - 150 words to the Editor of a national newspaper on how we can improve the living conditions in these slums. You are Aditi/Aditya, F112, Mall Road, Delhi.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>You are Ketan Pandey of 63, Civil Lines, Delhi. You saw an advertisement in ‘The Hindu’ for the post of Accountant in a reputed school. Write an application in 120 - 150 words to the Jindal Public School, New Delhi, giving your detailed bio</p> | [5] |



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|   | <p style="text-align: center;">  </p> <p>- data.</p>  |     |
| 6 | <p>You are Raman/Ruchika. Write an article in 150 - 200 words for your school magazine on the topic, 'Life without modern gadgets'.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>You are Keshav/Karuna, Head Boy/Girl of Vidhyapeet, Bengaluru. You and two more students represented your school at the national level CBSE Quiz Competition at Delhi recently. Write a report for your school magazine in 100 - 125 words on the programme and your team's performance.</p>   | [5] |
|   | <p><b>SECTION C - LITERATURE</b></p>   |     |
| 7 | <p><b>Read the text carefully and answer the questions:</b> "A roadside stand that too pathetically pled, It would not be fair to say for a dole of bread, But for some of the money, the cash, whose flow supports The flower of cities from sinking and withering faint."</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Why is it unfair to say that these people are begging for a <b>dole of bread</b> ?       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Because they are unreasonably begging for money</li> <li>b. Because they have something to sell</li> <li>c. Because they don't have anything to sell</li> <li>d. As they shamelessly beg for bread</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Identify the phrase that suggests the following: They plead to the rich city dwellers to buy something.</li> <li>3. The poor people look at the city money for their       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. survival and betterment</li> <li>b. sorrow and misery</li> <li>c. growth and opportunity</li> </ol> </li> </ol> | [6] |

d. well being

4. Complete the following analogy correctly. Do NOT repeat from used example. A roadside stand that too pathetically pined : personification :: Flower of Cities : \_\_\_\_\_
5. Fill the blank with an appropriate word, with reference to the extract. The word which signifies the poor condition of the owner of the stand \_\_\_\_\_.
6. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to (1) and (2) given below. (1) The poor people are expecting passersby to buy goods from them. (2) They want to earn money for their betterment.
  - a. (1) is true but (2) is false.
  - b. (2) is true but (1) is false.
  - c. (2) is the reason for (1).
  - d. Both (1) and (2) cannot be inferred from the extract.

**OR**

**Read the text carefully and answer the questions:** .... and felt that old familiar ache, my childhood's fear, but all I said was, see you soon, Amma, all I did was smile and smile and smile ...

1. What did the poet do after the security check?
  - a. The poet stood a few yards away from her mother and looked at her face again
  - b. The poet stood a few yards near her mother and looked at her face again
  - c. The poet stood a few yards away from her mother and thinking about her
  - d. None of these
2. What was the childhood fear that now troubled the poet?
  - a. Fear of losing her mother
  - b. Examination fear
  - c. Fear of undergoing a surgery
  - d. Fear of leaving her home town



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|   | <p>3. What do the poet's parting words suggest?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Optimism</li> <li>Reassurance</li> <li>Nostalgia</li> <li>All of these</li> </ol> <p>4. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below.(1) The poet had already experienced such pain. (2) She smiles to conceal her pain.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) can be inferred from the extract but (2) cannot.</li> <li>(2) can be inferred from the extract but (1) cannot.</li> <li>Both (1) and (2) can be inferred from the extract.</li> <li>(2) is the reason for (1) and can be inferred from the extract.</li> </ol> <p>5. Name the poetic device used in the line, <b>all I did was smile and smile and smile.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Simile</li> <li>Alliteration</li> <li>Metaphor</li> <li>Transferred Epithet</li> </ol> <p>6. The poet is gripped by the _____ of the past and _____ of the future without her mother.</p> |     |
| 8 | <p><b>Read the text carefully and answer the questions:</b> I was walking home from school one day, an old bag hanging from my shoulder. It was actually possible to walk the distance in ten minutes. But usually it would take me thirty minutes at the very least to reach home. It would take me from half an hour to an hour to dawdle along, watching all the fun and games that were going on, all the entertaining novelties and oddities in the streets, the shops and the bazaar.</p> <p>1. <b>The entertaining novelties</b> as stated in the passage include</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A performing monkey</li> <li>Stunt performances</li> <li>Puppet shows</li> </ol>   | [4] |

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|   | <p>d. All of these</p> <p>2. The word <b>dwadle</b> as used in the extract means</p> <p>a. To Push</p> <p>b. To walk slowly</p> <p>c. To delay deliberately</p> <p>d. To put off</p> <p>3. Complete the sentence appropriately, with reference to the extract. The distance from the school to the speaker's house could be easily covered within _____ minutes.</p> <p>4. What nature of the speaker can be discerned from the given extract?</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>Read the text carefully and answer the questions:</b> He was flung up out of the ocean - flung, it seemed, to his feet by a breaker. He staggered a few steps, his body outlined against the mist, his arms above his head. Then the curled mists hid him again. "Who is that?" Hana cried. She dropped Dr. Sadao's arm, and they both leaned over the railing of the veranda.</p> <p>1. The synonym of leaning.</p> <p>a. inclined</p> <p>b. Straighten</p> <p>c. Forget</p> <p>d. rise</p> <p>2. Who was he?</p> <p>3. How did he come out of the ocean?</p> <p>4. Who said: <b>Who is that?</b></p> <p>a. Hana</p> <p>b. Tom</p> <p>c. Dr. Sadao</p> <p>d. Old General</p> |            |
| 9 | <b>Read the text carefully and answer the questions:</b> In his hand is a steel canister. "I now work in a tea stall down the road," he says, pointing in the   | <b>[6]</b> |

distance. "I am paid 800 rupees and all my meals." Does he like the job? I ask. His face, I see, has lost the carefree look. The steel canister seems heavier than the plastic bag he would carry so lightly over his shoulder. The bag was his. The canister belongs to the man who owns the tea shop. Saheb is no longer his own master!

1. What is Saheb holding while on his way?
  - a. Rag picking bag
  - b. A pair of different colour shoes
  - c. A gold coin
  - d. A steel canister
2. Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that the new job impacted Saheb. (Clue: a phrase)
3. Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract. The steel canister seems heavier than the plastic bag he would carry so lightly because \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Replace the underlined word with its antonym from the extract. Saheb was no longer his own  
servant  
now.
5. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below. (1) Saheb was now having a job and a master. (2) The author is happy to find that Saheb is now having a full-time job.
  - a. (1) Can be inferred from the extract but (2) cannot.
  - b. (1) cannot be inferred from the extract but (2) can.
  - c. (1) is true but (2) is false.
  - d. (2) is the reason for (1).
6. When the author met Saheb the second time, Saheb was:
  - a. wearing tennis shoes
  - b. barefoot
  - c. cheerful

- d. wearing uniform

**OR**

**Read the text carefully and answer the questions:** For a moment I thought of running away and spending the day out of doors. It was so warm, so bright! The birds were chirping at the edge of the woods; and in the open field back of the sawmill the Prussian soldiers were drilling. It was all much more tempting than the rule for participles, but I had the strength to resist, and hurried off to school.

1. Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract. The \_\_\_\_\_ seemed boring to the narrator.
2. What were the Prussian soldiers doing?
  - a. Drilling in the open field back of the sawmill
  - b. Chirping at the edge of the woods
  - c. Drilling in the open field back of the sand - mill
  - d. Both (i) and (ii)
3. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below. (1) The narrator gave in to the distractions that day. (2) The day offered all possible temptations to the narrator.
  - a. (1) Can be inferred from the extract but (2) cannot.
  - b. (1) cannot be inferred from the extract but (2) can.
  - c. (1) is true but (2) is false.
  - d. (2) is the reason for (1).
4. Select the suitable word from the extract to complete the following analogy: Courage: Strength:: Endure: \_\_\_\_\_
5. **For a moment I thought of running away and spending the day out of doors** . Why did he think so?
  - a. Because he was late for school
  - b. Because he did not prepare anything for the test
  - c. Because he was afraid of M. Hamel's scolding
  - d. All of these
6. Replace the underlined word with its synonym from the extract. The

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|    | <p>distractions were<br/>alluring<br/>to the narrator.</p>  |      |
| 10 | <p><b>Answer any five of the following questions in 40 - 50 words each:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Why did Douglas go to Lake Wentworth in New Hampshire? How did he make his terror flee?</li> <li>2. Which is the exotic moment that the poet refers to in 'Keeping Quiet'?</li> <li>3. Why are Aunt Jennifer's hands 'terrified'?</li> <li>4. What was the social status of Sophie and Jansie? What were their reactions about their future?</li> <li>5. Why was Subbu considered number two at Gemini Studios? <b>(Poets and Pancakes)</b></li> <li>6. What was Lewis Carroll's opinion on interviews and autographs?</li> </ol>   | [10] |
| 11 | <p><b>Answer any two of the following questions in 40 - 50 words each:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How was Antarctica a chilling prospect for a South Indian, Tishani Doshi? <b>(Journey to the End of the Earth)</b></li> <li>2. Why did the Maharaja have to pay a bill of three lakh rupees to the British company of jewellers in Calcutta?</li> <li>3. How is Antarctica a crucial element in the debate on climate change? <b>(Journey to the End of the Earth)</b></li> </ol>  | [4]  |
| 12 | <p>Franz from The Last Lesson and the peddler from The Rattrap demonstrate the importance of learning from our mistakes to evolve into better people. Imagine that Shubhangi, your friend, feels as if she has made a mistake by not taking her academics seriously. Write an essay to Shubhangi in 120 - 150 words discussing instances from the two texts to give her an insight into the human tendency to make mistakes and learn from them. You may begin like this: Shubhangi, all of us have made mistakes at one point or another in our lives. After all, to err is human.....</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>Based on your understanding of the poem A Thing of Beauty, which is regarded as one of the best creations of the famous romantic poet Keats, create an analytical paragraph on the given proposition. If judged on humanistic traits, characters like <b>Edla</b> in The Rattrap, <b>Gandhi</b> in Indigo, and <b>Hamel</b> in The Last Lesson can be considered the epitome of beauty. Substantiate your justification</p> | [5]  |

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|    | in the context of the respective lesson.  |            |
| 13 | <p>Mr. Lamb kept on telling Derry to think of the positive things. You as a grown - up Derry, recount the story narrated by Mr. Lamb to convince him to think positively. You may begin like this: My childhood days were surrounded by negativity until I met Mr. Lamb who became my inspiration. I remember once he narrated to me a story of a man who locked himself up in his room...</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>In the story <b>The Enemy</b> by Pearl S. Buck, conflicting ideas arise in Dr. Sadao's mind after he brought the wounded American soldier home. In an attempt to resolve this conflict, he contemplates this dichotomy. As Sadao, create a diary entry mulling over this incident and finally resolving it. You may begin this way: From the day I found the wounded soldier outside my house my mind was vexed with a web of conflicts...</p> | <b>[5]</b> |