

**B.A. (GENERAL) (CBCS)
(BAG)**

**Term-End Examination
December, 2022**

BEGLA-138 : READING AND SPEAKING SKILLS

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer *all* questions.

SECTION A

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

Education and Educationists

Philosophy of Education is a label applied to the study of the purpose, process, nature and ideals of education. It can be considered a branch of both philosophy and education. Education can be defined as the teaching and learning of specific skills, and the imparting of knowledge, judgement and wisdom, and is something broader than the societal institution of education we often speak of.

Many educationists consider it a weak and woolly field, too far removed from the practical applications of the real world to be useful. But philosophers dating back to Plato and the Ancient Greeks have given the area much thought and emphasis, and there is little doubt that their work has helped shape the practice of education over the millennia.

Plato is the earliest important educational thinker, and education is an essential element in “The Republic” (his most important work on philosophy and political theory, written around 360 B.C.). In it, he advocates some rather extreme methods : removing children from their mothers’ care and raising them as wards of the State, and differentiating children suitable to the various social groups, the highest receiving the most education, so that they could act as guardians of the city and care for the less able. He believed that education should be holistic, including facts, skills, physical discipline, music and art. Plato believed that talent and intelligence is not distributed genetically and thus is to be found in children born to all classes, although his proposed system of selective public

education for an educated minority of the population does not really follow a democratic model. Aristotle considered human nature, habit and reason to be equally important forces to be cultivated in education, the ultimate aim of which should be to produce good and virtuous citizens. He proposed that teachers lead their students systematically, and that repetition be used as a key tool to develop good habits, unlike Socrates' emphasis on questioning his listeners to bring out their own ideas. He emphasized the balancing of the theoretical and practical aspects of subjects taught, among which he explicitly mentions reading, writing, mathematics, music, physical education, literature, history, and a wide range of sciences, as well as play, which he also considered important.

Questions :

- (a) How would you categorize the above mentioned passage based on what you have learned about the different types of texts ? Provide sound reasons to justify your response.

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- (b) Based on your understanding of different techniques used by authors to achieve intended goals in different types of texts like expository, argumentative, etc., what strategy or technique do you think has been used to convey the message and to what effect ? 3
- (c) What according to you is the objective or the purpose of writing in such a language and structure ? 3
- (d) What do you understand by Philosophy of Education ? 3
- (e) What are the major differences and similarities between Plato and Aristotle on the topic of education ? 2
- (f) Do you agree or disagree with Plato that talent and intelligence are not distributed genetically ? Justify your answer with sound reasons. 4
- (g) Who according to you, from the above mentioned educationists is the most relevant today ? Justify with sound reasons to support your answer. 4

2. Divide the following words syllable-wise using a hyphen to mark syllable boundaries and mark primary stresses.

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- (a) anxiety
- (b) behaviour
- (c) caricature
- (d) determine
- (e) excessive
- (f) helicopter
- (g) independence
- (h) catastrophe

SECTION B

3. What are the six types of knowledge in a comprehension passage and the SCROL technique of reading for comprehension ? 10
4. What are the five major abilities of a skilled reader ? How can readers of a poem distinguish between 'meaning' and 'significance' ? 10
5. Briefly discuss the aims of developing reading skills and mention 'the known' as well as 'the unknown' elements of reading a text. 10
6. Briefly discuss the various 'linguistic levels of comprehension'. What is meant by "reading between the lines" in comprehension ? 10
7. What are the elements that contribute to a sound plot according to E.M. Forster ? 10

OR

Explain in detail, with examples, the different types of texts. 10

SECTION C

8. Write a formal dialogue between a teacher and a student on the importance of study. 10

OR

Write a formal dialogue between a teacher and a student who has not done his/her assignment on time. 10

9. Rohan and Sonu are two best friends who have not been able to meet each other due to the pandemic. Both of them are going to meet each other today evening at Sonu's house with a plan to watch a movie of their choice. Create an informal conversation on behalf of Rohan persuading Sonu to step out of the house so that both of them can enjoy an evening stroll. 10
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