

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY.

ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT:

25% LIMITED DEPARTMENTAL COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION: 25/4/89:

TIME: 3 Hours.

Max.Marks: 100

PAPER-I.
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1. Write an essay (in 300 words) on any one of the following topics:- 15

- (a) Life of a Locomotive Driver.
- (b) The use and abuse of trade unions.
- (c) The autobiography of a Rupee.

2. Write a paragraph each (in 100 words) on any two of the following topics:- 10

- (a) A bad workman quarrels with his tools.
- (b) Nothing succeeds like success.
- (c) A stitch in time saves nine.
- (d) An idle man's brain is a devil's workshop.

3. Make a precis of the following passage to a third of its length and give an appropriate title. 10

" We are a country of white elephants. We sink hundreds of crores into huge projects and then watch them go to seed. Thirty years ago, we put up big steel plants - big in relation to our capabilities - which have now become a byword for inefficiency. The plants did not cost much, for thirty years ago, inflation was something that happened in Argentina or Brazil, labour was inexpensive - which it is now not - and the raw materials were available next door. This was not the case in Japan or South Korea, which went on to become the world's leading steel countries although they have neither coal nor iron ore nor limestone. When there are no problems, we create them. Take the Narmada Valley Project in Gujarat, where a huge dam is coming up. Narmada may be a river of the hoary past but there is not much of it when you actually visit the site. At the place where a firm of Contractors are erecting the dam, said to be the tallest in that part of the world, Narmada is more like a brook singing its way through

the rocks lining the Valley. The dam and the underground power station that goes with it - is only the beginning of the vast enterprise that will ultimately cost something like Rs.20000 crores and change the face of Gujarat.

At the moment, ofcourse, people doing the work are facing problems including problems created by some of their own workers who are on strike. The number is small - not more than 150 or so out of a total of about 1000 - but one thing can lead to another and often does. There is an organisation called 'Narmada Bachao', which meets from time to time and threatens to bring the whole thing to a halt. And there are labour unions, operating from Baroda, which is 100 kilometres away. And there is also the perennial issue of oustees, families, which will have to be evacuated from the site and given land elsewhere, and which may not like to move from their ancestral households. What does one do when one is only a contractor summoned to do a job to the best of his ability and who is not really involved in the issues? However, since he has taken the contract and will be there for the next 7 or 8 years, for it is a big contract worth almost 500 crores or may be 800 crores by the time it is all over, he is involved, whether he likes it or not. Strikes slow down his work and upset his schedules and costs go up. Ultimately the common man has to foot the bill as he often does.

In most countries big Projects are preceded by public enquiries held by a judge or a person of eminence. It is so in USA or UK or Switzerland. They investigate as to which villages or towns are going to be affected by the setting up of an industry or a Project. People vote for or against the Project. Recently a tourist project was to be set up in Basle, Switzerland, but the people voted it out. The Government had to bow to the wishes of the public.

In India, we take the common man for granted. The Narmada Project was cleared by a Secretary in New Delhi. Heaven knows if the Secretary had seen the project site. The people were certainly not consulted vaguely even. Were the environmentalists consulted? Were the local bodies taken into confidence? Perhaps not. Inquiries into important matters in India are generally secret affairs. Justice Thakkar held the Inquiry in Camera. On the

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contrary, the Warren Commission Inquiry into Kennedy's murder was held in Public and any citizen could tender evidence.

Now that the Narma Project is through, there is not much point in asking the Contractors to take the rap. The delay in execution, which is arising due to friction between various parties and people, will push up the costs and affect the viability of the Project. A month's delay will increase the cost by 100 crores - enough to pay all the affected families, if that is the bone of contention. The main thing is to keep the project going and control the costs. This is what the Japanese do. The Chief Executive and the lowly worker rub shoulders, live in the same tent and eat the same type of lunch. The Project will be completed ahead of time. Let us take a leaf from the Japanese Book.!! "

4. Use the following expressions in sentences of your own:-

- (a) Red rag to the bull.
- (b) Take to one's heels.
- (c) Hobson's choice.
- (d) Red herring.
- (e) Hand in hand.

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5. Do as directed:-

- (a) Who teaches you English?
(Change the voice).
- (b) He agreed to my proposal.
(Change the voice).
- (c) I have just met his son. He is a Lawyer. (Combine to form a complex sentence).
- (d) He will miss the train. It is certain.
(Combine to form a complex sentence).
- (e) He confessed that he was guilty.
(Change into a simple sentence).
- (f) The thief saw a policeman. He ran away at once. (Combine using 'as soon as').

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- (g) The firemen arrived. Several houses had been destroyed by then. (Combine using 'before').
- (h) He was very weak. He could not even stand up. (Rewrite using 'so... that...').
- (i) He should work hard. Otherwise he will fail. (Combine using a negative).
- (j) He offered me a job. I did not accept it. (Use 'offer' as a noun and rewrite the sentence).

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE.

6. Give the expanded form of the following:-

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- (a) NCERT (b) SAARC (c) BENELUX
- (d) TNT (e) NPT.

7. Match the following: (items in A with items in B):

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Group-A.	Group-B.
(1) Victoria Falls.	(a) Konarak.
(2) Albert Hall.	(b) London.
(3) Shantivana.	(c) USSR.
(4) Baku.	(d) Zambia.
(5) Black Pagoda.	(e) Tanzania.
	(f) Delhi.
	(g) Udaipur.

8. Write briefly on any five of the following:
(not more than 3 lines).

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- (a) Halley's Comet (b) Endocrine glands
- (c) Dynamo (d) Laser (e) Free Port (f) Esperanto
- (g) Euthanasia (h) Clearing house.

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9. Name the authors of the following books:- 5
(a) Gone with the Wind. (b) Doctor Zhivago.
(c) Good Earth. (d) Grapes of Wrath.
(e) Pride and Prejudice.
10. With what game do you associate the following terms? 5
(a) Cue. (b) Finesse. (c) Tee. (d) Regatta.
(e) Double fault.
11. With what games/sports do you associate the following persons? 5
(a) Jehangir Khan. (b) Wilson Jones. (c) Diana
Eduljee. (d) Thoiba Singh. (e) Carl Lewis.
12. What are the following famous for ? 5
(a) Dr. Joseph Lister. (b) Prem Nazir.
(c) Pingali Venkaiah. (d) Ringo Starr.
(e) Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels.
13. In which book(s) do the following characters appear? 5
(a) Long John Silver. (b) Mr. Micawber.
(c) Prof. Moriarty. (d) Psmith. (e) Paul Drake.
14. Why were the following persons in the news in recent times? 10
(a) Salman Rushdie. (b) N.S. Sidhu.
(c) Pandit Ravi Shanker. (d) Florence Joyner.
(e) R.S. Pathak.