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DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATIONS

DEPARTMENTAL TEST FOR AUDIT SUPERINTENDENTS OF HIGHWAYS  
DEPARTMENT – FIRST PAPER (PRECIS AND DRAFT)

(Without Books)

Maximum Time : 2.30 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

**IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS**

**DESCRIPTIVE TYPE**

Read the following instructions carefully before beginning to answer the questions.

1. Answers in excess of the prescribed number of questions appearing at the end of the answer book will not be valued.
2. In case of doubt, English version is the final.

**Answer ALL the questions.**

- I. Write an essay on any ONE of the following topics in not more than 6 pages. (30)
  - (a) India of my dreams
  - (b) The importance of Road Transport in India
  - (c) The responsibility of social media sites
- II. Make a précis of the following passage reducing it to one third of its length: (20)

The English word 'flag' plausibly expresses the idea of something that flaps in the air. It seems to be of Teutonic German origin and, perhaps, came into use around the middle of the sixteenth century. The word evolved through different European languages such as the Dutch 'vlag', the Scandinavian 'flagg', the Danish 'flag' and the German 'flagge', and signifies a piece of cloth, bunting or a similar material displaying the insignia of a kind, an army, an office of authority, a community or an important individual. A flag in the classical sense, is mostly oblong or square in shape, attached to a staff. In modern times, most frequently, a flag is rectangular, varying in size, colour and device. There are no definite rules about the size of a flag. The width is, however, usually greater than the breadth.

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A flag is more than just a mere piece of cloth attached to a staff. The very sight of it arouses powerful emotions, patriotism and pride in any citizen. Indeed, there is something so compelling about the National-flag that people make even the supreme sacrifice of life for its sake. While any other flag stands as a symbol of faith in a family, a community or a clan, the National-flag stands for the whole nation, its ideals and aspirations, its hopes and achievements. It is a beacon of hope and courage, inspiring people to unite and defend the honour of their motherland. Rarely have flags been used to such a powerful propaganda effect as in the massive and impressive parades of the Swastika, seen in Nazi Germany during the 1930s.

Flags are a part of everyday life. They have become increasingly important and are used by countries, international bodies, organisations, companies, cities and provinces throughout the world as powerful and evocative symbols. The modern world is accustomed to seeing a newly born nation celebrate its independence by means of a grand flag-hoisting ceremony. In recent times, the political upheavals in the former Yugoslavia, the former USSR and South Africa led to redefining of their boundaries and national identities. Consequently, new states were born, and with them were born new flags.

- III. (a) You have gone for a trip to Ooty. Write a letter to your friend describing the fun and adventures that you had enjoyed during the trip. (1 × 15 = 15)
- (b) Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper on the inappropriateness of the content on television channels and how it affects children's psyche. (1 × 15 = 15)
- IV. Make a note on the following passage: (20)

Sugar has been considered as a foodstuff since the 8th century and was obtained in Europe and the East. Sugarcane was grown in the South of France and in Spain. Sugarcane plantations were created in the Carribean too.

The German apothecary, Andreas Marggraf had an idea of extracting sugar from beet. He ground some beets and obtained the juice. He filtered it and through heating, evaporated the liquid. The crystalline residue had the taste of sugarcane. Franz Karl Achard, Marggraf's pupil, planted beet on his land. Friedrich Wilhelm III, King of Prussia, became interested in beet and established in 1802, the first sugarbeet refinery in Cunern, in Silesia.

In 1811, France could not get its supply of sugarcane from the British. To meet the demand for sugarcane, Delessert set up a small refinery at Passy, to obtain sugar which was crystalline and could be marketed. This prompted Napoleon to set up nearly 40 sugarbeet refineries all over France. Gradually, the whole of the West, realizing its economic advantages, adopted sugarbeet and sugarcane.



The Americans, Church and child, founded the first sugarbeet refinery in the US in 1838. The pulp and treacle, left after the treatment is used as animal feed. The treacle is also used in the production of citric acid by fermentation.

According to apothecaries and doctors, sugar is a sedative. Until the beginning of the 20th century, insomniacs were treated with a glass of sugar water. Sugar crystals were compared to precious stones.

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