

108/DM/18

<i>Register Number</i>									
----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

**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

**Answer ALL the questions.**

- I. Write an essay on any ONE of the following topics in not more than 6 pages. (30)
- (a) Value – Oriented Education is the need of the day.
  - (b) The problem of Environmental Pollution.
  - (c) World’s Economic Ideology – A Reappraisal.
- II. Make a precis of the following passage reducing it to one third of its length: (20)

It was in 1820 that a little girl was born among the Italian hills and was called Florence after her birth place. She and her sister spent more of their childhood in two beautiful country houses in England, owned by their parents Mr. and Mrs. Nightingale who were wealthy and cultured people. Their life was pleasant and care free, for they had many friends and relations. But Florence was not always happy. She used to keep a diary, and from this it can be seen that she was not like the ordinary small girl, content with books and dolls, or with open air sports and pony-rides. She had a great longing to be of use to people who were ill, and she was always welcome at a sick-bed for even when a child, she seems to have had a natural gift of healing.

**[Turn over**

As she grew older, she found pleasure in looking after her poor sick neighbours, but this did not satisfy her. She wanted to find work, where she could have more scope for her powers, and wished to fit herself properly to take up sick – nursing, which she felt to be her mission in life. It was not thought right in those days, however, for a young woman of good family and with plenty of money to have a profession, and when Florence begged her mother to let her leave home so that she might be trained as a nurse, Mrs. Nightingale refused to listen to such an unheard-of request. It was enough for her daughters to learn to speak foreign languages, to play the piano, and to write graceful letters.

- III. (a) Write a letter (in about 200 words) to a friend describing your journey. Imagine you are at this moment travelling by train. (1 × 15 = 15)
- (b) Write a letter to your friend expressing your opinion on the necessity or redundancy of taxation. (1 × 15 = 15)
- IV. Make a note on the following passage: (20)

In the story “Rikki- tikki- Tavi”, by Rudyard Kipling, a young English boy living in India rescues a young mongoose from drowning. Later in the story, the grateful, brave mongoose saves the lives of the boy and his parents by killing two cobras that plan to kill the humans.

Scientists who became interested in the mongoose proved that, just as Kipling said, mongooses could kill poisonous snakes. The Mongoose is a small animal, similar to a ferret, that makes its home in Africa and some parts of Asia. Cobras and other poisonous snakes are only part of the Mongoose’s strange daily menu. Mongooses also feed on rodents, including rats, and insects, including wasps. A Mongoose will even eat a scorpion.

Many people think that Mongooses are immune to the poisonous venom of a snake. Others believe that Mongooses know from where to find a plant to eat that will help a snake’s venom from being harmful. But a Mongoose only succeeds in killing a poisonous snake because it is faster than the snakes. When a Mongoose attacks a snake, it bites through the snake’s spine right behind its head. The Mongoose then holds on to the snake’s head until the snake has completely stopped struggling.

In the past, people brought Mongooses to Hawaii and the West Indies, hoping that they would kill some of the rats and snakes on those islands. Instead, the Mongooses hunted rare birds that were easier to catch and kill than rodents and reptiles. Because of the Mongooses’ unpredictable eating habits, they are allowed in the United States only for zoos and scientific research.