



## Writing Skills Test

### Instructions to examinees:

- (i) Answer all **THREE** questions.
- (ii) Answer in **black** pen only.

### Q.1 Write an essay of approximately 300 words on any one of the following topics:

- (i) Effects of COVID-19 on education
- (ii) Pakistan as a place for tourism
- (iii) Importance of vocational training in Pakistan
- (iv) Should Plastic bags be banned?

Your essay will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Introduction and conclusion.
- Quality of text, use of idioms and phrases.
- Language, vocabulary, organization and logical presentation of ideas.

(15)

*(Word count also carries mark)*

### Q.2 Write a précis of 125-135 words of the following passage. *(Word count carries mark)*

Pelé and Diego Maradona, both were honoured as the players of the 20<sup>th</sup> century by Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA).

Pelé and Maradona - two players who wore the number 10 shirt. But that is where the similarity ends. The Brazilian and the Argentinian were totally different footballers and totally different people. Here Pelé, the striker whose territory was the penalty box, a player who scored goals for fun and became Minister of Sports, is a quiet type of person. There Maradona, possibly the most complete player ever, playmaker and goal scorer, technically brilliant, unpredictable and impulsive, both on and off the field, a player plagued by a variety of problems for many years.

Pelé and Maradona fascinated the world of football. Both thrilled fans and experts alike. However, comparing Pelé and Maradona is like comparing apples and pears. The two South Americans played in totally different eras. The rhythm of the game, the tactics on the pitch, the influence of the media and the make-up of the teams in which they demonstrated their fantastic abilities were different.

Yet one thing is certain, they were both brilliant. They made their mark on the world game like no others, two stars from traditional footballing nations that have been rivals from the very beginning. In their time Pelé and Maradona delighted millions of match-going and armchair fans, giving them many unforgettable hours of pleasure and always upholding the spirit of fair play.

Pelé spent more than half his footballing life at Santos FC, with whom he won ten Brazilian Championships. He won the World Cup three times with Brazil, the first time in 1958 at the age of 17. He scored a fantastic 1281 goals in 1363 official matches.

Maradona, who led SSC Napoli out of anonymity to two Italian championships and a UEFA Cup win. He won the 1986 World Cup for Argentina virtually single-handed and played in the World Cup final again in 1990. He knew every footballing trick in the book, whose mastery of the ball was virtually unrivalled; a master of the short pass, the long ball, the free-kick and the penalty; an incomparable leader on the pitch, a player who was to be stopped only by foul means and his own capriciousness. Finally, Maradona's career prematurely ended by taking illegal substances.

(10)

Q.3 Core is one of the leading super markets in the New City. It has nine branches across the New City with more than 500 support staff and 50 plus managerial staff. Majority of support staff are responsible for placing and maintaining goods in relevant racks while the rest serves at cash counters.

With the outbreak of COVID-19, the government of New City imposed complete lockdown in March 2020. The government gradually started relaxing the lockdown restrictions from August 2020. But before the restrictions were completely lifted, the second wave of COVID-19 hit the New City in October 2020. The government again imposed restrictions to curb the outbreak of COVID-19 and allowed to open the stores, like Core, for limited hours under strict SOPs.

COVID-19 has severely damaged Core's business operation. A number of its staff member were detected COVID positive and consequently it had to shut down three of its branches for several days. Government authorities also slapped heavy fine on two of its branches besides sealing them for violation of SOPs. Core is on the verge of closing five of its branches and is planning to layoff large number of its employees.

Ahsan Wani, the Chief Executive and owner of Core, has appointed Mahir Sani, a business development consultant, to advise on how Core may handle the current crisis and restore its prime.

Assuming that you are Mahir, prepare a report highlighting the challenges faced by Core. Also suggest the measures to overcome these challenges. You may assume necessary details.

Core's head office is situated at 314 Triangle Towers, Silk Road, New City while Mahir's office is at 02 Next Level, Mars Street, New City.

(15)

(THE END)