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 **ST. JOSEPH’S COLLEGE, BANGALORE- 27**

**END SEMESTER EXAMINATION - MAY 2023**

**IV SEMESTER GENERAL ENGLISH L1 GE 422 SPECIAL COURSE (LEISURE, IDENTITY AND WRITING - SPORTS)**

**This paper is for students who have chosen the SPECIAL COURSE: SPORTS WRITING**

**TIME: 2 hours Max marks: 60**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

**1. This question paper has THREE printed sides.**

**2. You will lose marks for exceeding word limits.**

**3. Please write SPORTS SPECIAL on the front page of your answer booklet.**

**3. You are allowed to use a dictionary during the examination.**

**PART A**

1. Read the article “Women and Sports during Victorianism” published by the blog *Point Ellice House: Victorian Legacy of British Columbia*.

In the Victorian times (19th century), very few women participated in sports activities. In contrast, men had dominated the sports world. For instance, in Canada, men’s athletic clubs were very successful. These clubs thrived in Toronto as well as in Montreal. The involvement of men in sports clubs led to the formation of the National Sports Association. The government played a substantial role to systematize the rules and regulations of sports leagues and competitions.

It is important to note that the formation of the National Sports Association did not do anything significant to promote women in sports. It seemed that the Victorian era maintained the legacy of philosophy about women’s mental and physical frailty. Consequently, these clubs did not welcome women to take part in sports. In addition, there was a small number of sports clubs for women. Nonetheless, the year 1858 saw the formation of the Montreal Ladies Archery Club.

While women did not participate in most of the sporting activities, the government had organized some recreational and frivolous opportunities for affluent families. Women from rich families participated in ice boating, skating, toboggan, and sleigh parties in the winter season. Similarly, foxhunting, horseback riding, fishing, picnics, boating, and croquet were some of the leisure activities for women in the summer season. Some women tried skating on hockey rinks as well as roller-skating on floors made of wood.

Likewise, the National Sports Association organized a number of athletic competitions but then again, very few women partook in them. The popular sporting events for women in the 1870s were pedestrianism and walking matches. In 1879, in one match, two female opponents walked 40 kilometers around a fine pathway in a hall in Montréal. The winner was Miss Jessie Anderson, who covered the distance in five hours and twenty-two minutes.

Women also competed in trendy water regattas, which had organized many events for Canadian girls and women. This provided many opportunities for the indigenous women, for instance, they participated in the canoe race and other similar events. The government made new reforms in sports legislation. The introduction of the new Indian Act had limited the old-fashioned activities and ceremonials. This act primarily emphasized the advocacy for Canadian sports of European origin for indigenous people. Similarly, The Indian Act tended to restrict the participation of women in games.

However, the last quarter of the 19th century was relatively important for women. Women from the middle and upper class largely participated in sporting events such as tennis, curling, and golf. It was that time when women revolutionized Canadian sports by forming separate clubs. In 1881, women sporting clubs in collaboration with the government organized the first annual tennis tournament for women. The event was held in Montreal and a large number of women participated in it. The government of Canada formed the women's section of the Royal Montreal Golf Club in 1892.

The year 1894 saw the formation of the first-ever women curling club in Canada. This Auxiliary Club attracted a large number of female players from all over the country. The club facilitated training and skill-building services for their female members. Moreover, the first national golf championship for women was played in 1901, which was a successful event of the year.

**I.A. Answer ANY THREE of the following questions in about 150 words each. (3x10=30)**

1. What does the word ‘frivolous’ refer to in the passage? What would you replace the word ‘frivolous’ with? Why?
2. What does the author state about the sports that were promoted among the indigenous people in Canada? What does it say about the opportunities provided to the indigenous community?
3. The author states that ‘middle and upper class women largely participated in sports such as Tennis, Curling and Golf’. Is sports a leisurely activity practiced by a specific class of people? Give reasons.
4. Do you think there is an overemphasis of European sports in events such as the Olympics? What do you think is the reason for this? Discuss.

**II. Answer ANY TWO questions in about 200 words each. (2x15=30)**

1. “It is hard to disagree with W. Somerset Maugham’s view that ‘there are few things so pleasant as a picnic lunch’. Even if ants and wasps occasionally join the fun, picnics are the very epitome of innocent pastoral delight.” Has going to picnics and playing outdoor games with friends and family lost its relevance as a weekend activity as against roadtrips? What are the different kinds of games that are played at a picnic? Discuss by narrating your personal experience of picnicking.
2. “The traditional sport of Lagori is seeing massive revival in India thanks to the launch of a new tournament - Indian Lagori Premier League (ILPL). In an age where computer games have made its way into many households, the Karnataka Amateur Lagori Association (KALA) is bringing back the much loved game in a new avatar. KALA, an associated body of the Amateur Lagori Federation of India (ALFI) introduced the sport in Mysuru with several youngsters showing a keen interest in the sport.” Discuss your experience of playing a traditional Indian sport. Do you think traditional sports like Lagori can compete with popular sports like football and cricket? Give reasons for your response.
3. “*Shikar* (hunting as a sport)in India during British rule evolved from a simple pastime into a method of brutal colonial governance. Hunting became a tool by which the forests and jungles that were subjugated by the British became cash cows by way of over extraction of resources…Hunters were mostly military, government officials, and other members of the British elite. There have been many such military officers infamous for their encounters with man-eating tigers that were glorified in their homeland of England.” Why do you think a colonial sport like *Shikar* has come to represent masculinity? How did colonialism change the idea of sports in India? Discuss by giving an example.

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