

ENGLISH CORE PRACTICE PAPER (2020-21)

Class XII (Rationalised Syllabus)

SET-3

M.M. : 80

Time allowed: 3 hours

General Instructions:-

1. *This paper is divided into two parts: A and B. All questions are compulsory.*
2. *Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.*
3. *Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions*

Section – A (40 marks)

Reading Comprehension (20 marks)

Q1. Read the passage given below. (1x10 = 10)

1. The lockdown has given us many lessons, one of these being cleaner environment. The gains were for all to see-deep blue sky, star filled nights and improved air quality. Let's not lose these gains. This festive season gift a breeze of clean air by presenting a purifying plant to your near and dear ones. Readily available and moderately priced, these plants have the ability to absorb toxic air. Here are some plants you can gift.

ARECA PALM (chrysalidocarpus lutescens): The plant with a rich tropical look needs bright filtered sunlight and moist soil. It is rated as the best air purifying indoor plant with the highest removal rate of formaldehyde. It is the most effective air humidifier plant. Date palm, bamboo palm and rhapsis palm are some others.

ASPARAGUS FERN (asparagus densiflorus): The small- sized, lush evergreen fern can be planted in a pot or hanging basket. It requires little care and flourishes indoors as well as out-doors. Just keep the soil moist. It absorbs benzene, toluene, octane and trichloroethylene.

DRACAENA (dracaena deremensis) : The cane like single stem plant has a strappy foliage. It is easy to maintain. Light fertilization, once a month, is enough. Filtered light is preferred. It helps remove xylene, formaldehyde and trichloroethylene.

BOSTON FERNS (nephrolepis exaltata 'bostoniensis'): These thrive best under filtered sunlight, moist soil and high humidity. The potted plant makes an adorable hanging basket in porches and

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patios. The stylish foliage is a stress buster. The plant significantly removes formaldehyde, benzene and xylene.

ELEPHANT EAR (philodendron domesticum): The plant with long arrow-shaped leaves makes it perfect for indoors. It prefers warm, humid and indirect light. The plant absorbs formaldehyde.

ENGLISH IVY (hедера helix): The fan- shaped silver green plant can fit in baskets, cling to walls, spread as ground cover and spill over planters. It helps to remove air- based mold and is an effective formaldehyde remover.

PEACE LILY (spathiphyllum ' mauna loa'): An easy to care plant, it prefers low light and moist soil. White flowers bloom during the rainy season. It has high transpiration rate and humidifies the air around. It is best for removing formaldehyde, benzene and certain VOCs that are emitted by paints.

MONEY PLANT(epipremnum aureum): The evergreen decorative vine can be grown in hanging baskets, trailed on support and planted in pots. Its low maintenance makes the plant a popular choice. It removes emissions like formaldehyde, xylene and benzene.

SPIDER PLANT(chlorophytum comosum): This houseplant is mostly grown in hanging baskets and pots indoors. It eliminates benzene, formaldehyde, carbon monoxide and xylene.

Source: The Tribune

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the eleven given below. (1x10 = 10)

i. According to the passage a purifying indoor plant is one of the best gifts as

- 1.it is not difficult to obtain
- 2.it is slightly expensive
- 3.it absorbs poisonous air
- 4.it can be bought online

- a. 1,2
- b. 2,3
- c. 1,3
- d. 1,4

ii. 'Readily' means the same as _____ (Paragraph 1)

- a. reluctantly
- b. easily
- c. seldom
- d. rarely

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iii. Which of the following are low maintenance plants?

1. Asparagus Fern
 2. Dracaena
 3. Peace lily
 4. Money plant
- a. 1,2,3
 - b. 2,3,4
 - c. 1,3,4
 - d. 1,2,3,4

iv. _____ is the most effective air humidifier plant.

- a. Areca Palm
- b. Dracaena
- c. Boston fern
- d. Elephant Ear

v. _____ removes stress and anxiety.

- a. Elephant Ear
- b. Boston Ferns
- c. English Ivy
- d. Money Plant

vi. If you want to remove organic chemicals that are given out by paints, then you should buy

- a. Spider Plant
- b. Elephant Ear
- c. Peace Lily
- d. Dracaena

vii. 'Flourish' has the same meaning as _____. (Paragraph 5)

- a. Thrive
- b. Patios
- c. Porches
- d. Foliage

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viii. Match the following:

A

B

1. Elephant Ear	1. Fan shaped silver
2. Peace Lily	2. White flowers
3. English Ivy	3. Arrow shaped leaves

- a. 1,2,3
- b.3,2,1
- c.2,3,1
- d.3,1,2

ix. Match the following:

A

B

1. Peace Lily	1. single stem plant
2. Money Plant	2. beautiful hanging baskets for courtyard
3. Boston Ferns	3. flowers bloom during rainy season
4. Dracaena	4. evergreen vine

- a. 4,2,1,3
- b.1,2,3,4,
- c. 3,4,2,1
- d.2,1,3,4

x. Which of the following statement(s) is/ are incorrect:

- 1. Little amount of formaldehyde is eliminated by Boston Ferns.
- 2. Areca Palm is considered to be the best indoor plant that can decontaminate air.
- 3. Peace Lily can attach itself to the walls and spills over planters.

- a. 1 only
- b. 1 and 2
- c. 1 and 3
- d. 3 only

xi. The most appropriate title for the article is

- a. Gift a plant
- b. How to grow indoor plants
- c. Low-maintenance plants
- d. Areca Palm

Q2. A Read the passage given below.

“ Hunger and under nutrition cannot and should not be fixed by mere calorie provision. All stakeholders must pay attention to making balanced healthy diets which are climate- friendly, affordable and accessible to all.” Shweta Khandelwal, Head of Nutrition Research, Public Health Foundation of India.

India ranked 94 among 107 nations in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2020 and was in the ‘serious’ hunger category with experts blaming poor implementation processes, lack of effective monitoring, soiled approach in tackling malnutrition and poor performance by large states behind the low ranking.

Nepal in 73rd and Sri Lanka in 64th position were in ‘moderate’ hunger category, the report showed.

Seventeen nations, including China, Belarus, Ukraine, Turkey, Cuba and Kuwait, shared the top rank with the GHI scores of less than five, the website of the Global Hunger Index, and tracks hunger and malnutrition, said on Friday. According to the report released on Friday, 14 percent of India’s population was undernourished.

It also showed the country recorded a 37.4 per cent stunting rate among children under five and a wasting rate of 17.3 percent. The under- five mortality rate stood at 3.7 percent.

Wasting is children who have low weight for their height, reflecting acute under-nutrition. Stunting is children under the age of five who have low height for their age, reflecting chronic under nutrition.

Data from 1991 through 2014 for Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Pakistan showed that stunting was concentrated among children from households facing multiple forms of deprivation, including poor dietary diversity, low levels of maternal education, and household poverty.

During this period, India experienced a decline in under-five mortality, driven largely by a decrease in deaths from birth asphyxia or trauma, neonatal infections, pneumonia, and diarrhea, the report stated.

“However, child mortality, caused by prematurity and low birth-weight, increased particularly in poorer states and rural areas. Prevention of prematurity and low birth-weight is identified as a key factor with the potential to reduce under- five mortality in India through actions such as better ante-natal care, free vaccination, education, and nutrition as well as reductions in anaemia and oral tobacco use,” it said.

Experts think that poor implementation processes, lack of effective monitoring and soiled approaches to tackling malnutrition often result in poor nutrition indices.

Source: The Tribune

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On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the eleven given below. (1x10 = 10)

- i. According to the passage, one of the reasons for India's poor ranking in GHI 2020 is
- lack of result oriented supervision
 - lack of financial resources
 - high population
 - lack of human resource to tackle it
- ii. Identify the statement that is NOT TRUE according to the passage.
- India performed better than Cuba and Kuwait
 - Hunger and malnutrition is tracked by the website of GHI
 - Sri Lanka ranked higher than Nepal
- 1 & 2
 - 1 only
 - 2 only
 - 2 & 3
- iii. The word 'moderate', as used in paragraph 2, means the same as
- very serious
 - extreme
 - critical
 - within reasonable limits
- iv. According to the report, 14% of India's population is undernourished which means if India's population is 138 crore, then _____ people are undernourished.
- 19.32 crore
 - 18 crore
 - 16.26 crore
 - 21 crore
- v. If a child's body weight is considered too low to be healthy, he is suffering from _____
- Wasting
 - Stunting
 - both a & b
 - neither a nor b
- vi. Stunting reflects chronic under-nutrition. 'Chronic' means an illness which
- is persisting for a long time
 - cannot be cured
 - is not serious
 - is infrequent

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vii. The stunting rate among children under five is lower than the wasting rate.

- a. True
- b. False
- c. Partially true
- d. not mentioned

viii. The common reason for wasting and stunting among children is

- a. Parents' lack of support
- b. Severe malnourishment
- c. Environment
- d. Lack of awareness

ix. Under- five mortality rate has _____ in our country .

- a. dropped
- b. increased
- c. neither increased nor decreased
- d. risen drastically

x. Following actions are to be taken to reduce under- five mortality rate in our country:

- 1. better education
 - 2. better nutrition
 - 3. free vaccination
 - 4. better ante-natal care
- a. 1,2 &3
 - b. 2,3 &4
 - c. 1,2,&4
 - d. 1,2,3 &4

xi. According to experts, _____ and _____ can grapple with the problem of malnutrition.

- a. Better execution of plan and its supervision
- b. Free food grain supply
- c. More plans and projects
- d. Foreign aid

Literature

(20 marks)

**3. Read the extract given below and answer any two of the questions that follow:
(4+4 = 8)**

3.1 ‘Why not organize yourselves into a cooperative?’ I asked a group of young men who have fallen into the vicious circle of middlemen who trapped their fathers and forefathers. ‘Even if we get organized, we are the ones who will be hauled up by the police, beaten and dragged to jail for doing something illegal.’

(i) To whom does ‘I’ refer to?

- a. Anees Jung b. Stephen Spender
c. Alphonse Daudet d. William Douglas

(ii) ‘young men’ refers to

- a. middlemen b. bangle makers
c. bureaucrats d. policemen

(iii) The word ‘**vicious**’, as used in paragraph means the same as

- a. brutal b. pleasant
c. benevolent d. inexplicable

(iv) They are beaten and dragged to jail because

- a. they are doing something illegal b. they want to get organized
c. they violate the rules d. they flout law and order

3.2

“The experience had a deep meaning for me, as only those who have known stark terror and conquered it can appreciate. In death there is peace. There is terror only in the fear of death, as Roosevelt knew when he said, “All we have to fear is fear itself.”

(i) The opposite of ‘**conquered**’ is

- a. lost b. encountered
c. witnessed d. experienced

(ii) “The experience had a deep meaning for me”. Which experience does he refer to?

- a. developing fear of water and then conquering it b. learning swimming from an instructor
c. Roosevelt’s inspiring quote d. swimming in Wentworth lake

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(iii) "All we have to fear is fear itself." This line signifies that

- a. fear paralyzes the much needed efforts, to convert retreat into advance.
- b. fear is the only thing we need to avoid.
- c. we have to be scared of fearful things
- d. generally fear is unavoidable

(iv) Choose the option that best demonstrates the relevant traits of Douglas

- a. jealous and timid
- b. determined and optimistic
- c. resourceful and stubborn
- d. ambitious and witty

3.3 Now Sadao remembered the wound and with his expert fingers he began to search for it. Blood flowed freshly at his touch. On the right side of his lower back Sadao saw that a gun wound had been reopened. The flesh was blackened with powder. Sometime, not many days ago, the man had been shot and had not been tended. It was bad chance that the rock had struck the wound.

(i).Who was wounded?

- a. Sadao
- b. Hana
- b. soldier
- d. Yumi

(ii).Which word best suits 'trained' in the extract?

- a. touch
- b. tended
- c. expert
- d. expert

(iii).What kind of wound the man had?

- a. it was a knife stab
- b. it was an injury
- c. it was a gunshot
- d. it was due to spikes on rocks

(iv) How old was the wound?

- a. a few days old
- b. a month old
- c. a week old
- d. several days old

4. Read the extract given below and answer any one of the questions that follow:

(1x4 = 4)

4.1. It would be an exotic moment
without rush, without engines,
we would all be together
in a sudden strangeness.

(a) What will happen if there is no rush or running of engines?

- (i) it will be boring
- (ii) people will suffer a lot
- (iii) it will be a moment of tranquility
- (iv) life will come to an end

(b) Why is the moment called 'exotic'?

- (i) there will be pollution free environment
- (ii) as all of us will be enveloped in quietness
- (iii) flora and fauna will grow
- (iv) there will be miracles happening all around

(c) What is the poetic device used in the phrase 'sudden strangeness'?

- (i) imagery (ii) alliteration
- (iii) antithesis (iv) repetition

(d) Which strangeness is the poet talking about?

- (i) feeling of loneliness
- (ii) Feeling of oneness with their fellow human beings
- (iii) feeling of depression
- (iv) terrible feeling of total silence

4.2.On their slag heap, these children
Wear skins peeped through by bones and spectacles of steel
with mended glass, like bottle bits on stones.
All of their time and space are foggy slum.
So blot their maps with slums as big as doom.

(a) Which two images are used to describe the slums?

- (i) foggy slum & wear skins (ii) spectacles of steel & Foggy slums
- (iii) foggy slums & slums as big as doom (iv) slag heap & slums as big as doom

(b) What sort of life do these children lead?

- (i) carefree
- (ii) happy
- (iii) deprivation
- (iv) dependent

(c) What is the figure of speech used in 'So blot their maps with slums as big as doom'.

- (i) analogy
- (ii) simile
- (iii) personification
- (iv) hyperbole

(d) What type of spectacles do these children wear?

- (i) the glasses of the spectacles are broke
- (ii) they wear steel rimmed spectacles
- (iii) they wear repaired spectacles
- (iv) all of the above

5. Answer any eight of the following questions: (1x8=8)

(a) M. Hamel blamed himself for.....

- (i) not having taught enough French to his students
- (ii) not being strict
- (iii) not being responsible
- (iv) giving students a holiday at times

(b) Saheb did not go to school as.....

- (i) he had no money to pay fees
- (ii) there was no school in his neighbourhood
- (iii) he wanted to earn money
- (iv) he had problems comprehending his school work

(c) The peddler's cherished pastime was to think.....

- (i) philosophically about the world.
- (ii) of plans to rob people
- (iii) of people whom he knew were caught in the dangerous snare
- (iv) richly of himself

(d) What was the written communication about, that Gandhiji received from the magistrate?

- (i) a warrant for arrest by the court
- (ii) to give up the fight
- (iii) not to hold demonstrations
- (iv) Lieutenant-General had decided to drop the case against him.

(e) In peddler's view, _____ leads people to several griefs. (Chapter-The Rattrap)

- (i) temptation

- (ii) acquaintances
- (iii) friends
- (iv) poverty

(f) Around which aspect, the story 'The Third Level' does not revolve?

- (i) fantasy vs imagination
- (ii) psychoanalytical criticism
- (iii) escapism vs harsh reality
- (iv) imagination and wish fulfilment

(g) 'Evans Tries an O Level' can be described as a.....

- (i) conflict between government and accused
- (ii) compromise between officials and criminal
- (iii) satire on the judicial system
- (iv) psychological battle of wits

(h) What did Jo want to listen from her father the next day after Skunk was given his original smell back?

- (i) Jo wanted her father to change the ending of the story.
- (ii) she wanted the wizard to hit mommy Skunk on her head.
- (iii) she wanted the wizard to leave Roger with the smell of roses.
- (iv) all of these

(i) Mr. Lamb used to spend much of his time in the garden because.....

- (i) the garden kept him busy.
- (ii) he liked his garden very much.
- (iii) he didn't want anyone to enter his garden.
- (iv) his house was too small.

(j) What did the Governor tell the Secretary of the Examination Board about Evans?

- (i) Evans was one of the stars at the Christmas concert
- (ii) Evans could imitate celebrities
- (iii) Evans was a congenital kleptomaniac
- (iv) all of these

Section B

(40 Marks)

Writing (16 Marks)

6. Attempt ANY ONE of the following.

(1×3 = 3)

(A) You are Manish/Manisha. You have planned a two-week online course to help the children of your Group Housing Society in Delhi, acquire the oral communication skills. Prepare a notice for the society's notice board, stating the objective of the course, giving necessary details of the course and motivating the children of the society to join the course.

OR

(B) You plan to sell your bike. Draft a suitable advertisement, in not more than 50 words, to be published in the classified columns of 'The Hindustan Times', Delhi. Mention the details of the motorcycle. You are Ramesh of 15, Greater Kailash, New Delhi. Your mobile no. is xxxxxxxxxx.

7. Attempt ANY ONE of the following.

(1×3 = 3)

(A) As secretary of the literacy club of St Anne's School, Ahmedabad, draft a formal invitation in not more than 50 words for the inauguration of the club in your school.

OR

(B) You are Akshya/ Aakriti. You have been invited as a speaker in a seminar on 'Fundamental Rights of Children,' organized by a Lions Club of your district. Respond to the secretary of the club by accepting their invitation.

8. Attempt ANY ONE of the following.

(1×5 = 5)

(A) Read the advertisement given below and write a suitable application along with your resume in response to it. Sign yourself as Neha/Nitin.

Wanted Office Assistant cum Administrator, preferably a commerce graduate, with minimum two years of experience in a concern of repute. Knowledge of computer is a must. Good communication and command over written and spoken English is desired. Apply within 10 days to the Manager, Tulip India Ltd, Muzaffarnagar.

OR

(B) People are migrating from rural areas to the cities in search of jobs. Consequently in the fast expanding cities, children find that their playing fields are shrinking or simply vanishing. Write a letter to the editor of a local daily drawing the attention of the authorities to this issue. Make suggestions to cope with this situation. You are Amit/Amita Jain, 15 Mall Road, Delhi.

9. Attempt ANY ONE of the following.

(1×5 = 5)

(A) You are disturbed to watch the portrayal of women in TV serials. Write an article in 120-150 words, to be published in 'The Times of India', expressing your views on the issue. You may use the cues given below along with your own ideas. You are Rajan/Rajani

- skewed portrayal of the women
- portrayed as a house breaker
- conspirator or vamp
- content of TV serials to be regulated
- image of the Indian woman is tarnished.

OR

(B) You witnessed a programme performed by differently-abled persons. You were very much impressed by their performance and were emotionally touched. Highlighting their talent, the reaction of the judges to their performance etc., prepare a report in 120-150 words for your school magazine. You are Nihal/Nandini, Student Editor of the magazine.

- performed in front of a live audience
- displayed their talent in the fields of music and dance
- audience and the viewers enthralled
- wheelchair-bound boys and girls performed 'Bharatnatyam'
- got a standing ovation from the judges
- perfection, zest and enthusiasm added an extra touch to their performance
- more such opportunities will give them self-confidence

Literature

(24 marks)

10. Attempt ANY FIVE out of the six questions given below, in 30-40 words each.

(2×5 = 10)

- What is the significance of the parting words of the poet and her smile, in My Mother at Sixty six?
- What did Douglas learn from his near drowning experience?
- Why does Keats associate 'grandeur' with 'the mighty dead'?

- iv. The crofter can be called as a generous host. Why?
- v. What was extraordinary about Mr. Malkani, a govt. teacher? (Indigo)
- vi. The tigers created by Aunt Jennifer are symbolic of her aspirations. How?

**11. Attempt ANY TWO out of the three questions given below in 30-40 words each.
(2 x2 = 4)**

- i. How did the writer indicate that Dr Sadao's father was a very traditional and conventional man?
- ii. Why did Evans not take off his hat when Jackson ordered him to do so?
- iii. In his letter to Charley, Sam writes, '.....then I got to believing you were right.' Why do you think Sam starts believing what Charley has been telling him?

12. Attempt ANY ONE of the following questions in 120-150 words (1x5 = 5)

- (A) Explain "M Hamel was an epitome of patience that day- A true patriot." (Chapter- The Last Lesson)
- (B) Most of us do not raise our voice against injustice in our society and tend to remain mute spectators. .(Comment on the basis of the chapter Lost Spring)

13. Attempt ANY ONE out of the following questions in 120-150 words (1x5 = 5)

- (A) What is your stance regarding the two different endings to the Roger Skunk story?
- (B) 'Mr. Lamb in spite of his bravado and friendly behaviour is a lonely man.' Comment.