

**ENGLISH CORE PRACTICE PAPER (2020-21)  
CLASS-XII (Rationalised syllabus)  
SET-5**

**Time allowed 3 hours  
maximum marks 80**

**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.**

**PART-A**

**1. Read the passage carefully:**

1. The youth is a dynamo, an ocean, an inexhaustible reservoir of energy. But this energy cannot be kept caged in prison. Its basic nature is to flow, to express itself. The youth energy on the basis of the nature of its expression can be divided into four categories.

2. The vast majority of the youth today is with the establishment, whose formula of life is learn, earn, burn and enjoy. It means learn to operate the modern devices and employ them to earn the maximum amount of wealth to the point of burning the natural resources of the earth, as well as yourself out, and then enjoy your own funeral. This category of youth is intelligent, skilful and hardworking but it lacks insight and foresight. They are self-indulgent and any sense of moral code of conduct is alien to their nature. Neither are they able to see in depth, to find out whether there is a deeper

meaning and purpose to their human life, nor have they the capacity to look beyond the tips of their nose to find out the consequences of their way and approach, where it is leading them to. They are the ends into themselves and enjoyment is the motto of their life.

3. The second category of the youth in nature and approach is the same but as it is less privileged and less qualified and skilled; it has lesser opportunities for earning and enjoying. Such youth may be incited to be against the establishment. This opposition takes various forms. When it is well-organised and systemic it may take the form of political opposition and even go to the extent of expressing itself in unjust ways. When the opposition is not so intense and organised, it remains contended with giving verbal expression to its resentment periodically. The youth of the above two categories need to be shown the right path to positively channelise their energy.

4. The third section of youth is a sober and thoughtful class of people, which objectively observes and studies the phenomenon of development of the world. These youth find that man in his insatiable thirst for consumption has become blind and lost the sense of distinction between milk and blood. Today man in his mad rush for exploitation is sucking the blood of Mother Earth; leading to their destruction and is thereby digging his own grave. This responsible category of young people is looking for an alternative mode of development based on co-operation between man and man. This development based on mutual love, friendship and harmony is not only sustainable but leading to endless prosperity mutually. To bring about his natural revolution from death-movement to life-movement is the aim of this group.

5. The fourth and most vital group of youth which is going to steer humanity into the third millennium and act as the pioneer for the future development of planetary life is engaged in evolving a new way of life and releasing a new principle of global consciousness through a fundamental research in the science of life. The science of life is a new branch of knowledge which takes the whole man into account without dividing him into subjective and

objective halves of spirituality and physicality and does not treat him either as a refined (thinking) animal or an ethereal entity, having its base in some other non-physical world. It rather, recognises man as a basic unit of conscious life which has got immense, practically inexhaustible, possibilities and potentialities for evolution, development and growth. As per the Vedic formula, man is the micro-cosmos and his fullest flowering and enfoldment lies in his identification with the cosmos. (approx 530 words)

**1.1. On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer any ten of the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:**

(a) Which trait is lacking in the youth that is dexterous with the modern devices?

- (i) intelligence
- (ii) perseverance
- (iii) foresight
- (iv) skillfulness

(b) Which category of youth supports the view that man's growth lies in his identification with cosmos?

- (i) the youth that is responsible
- (ii) that which supports sustainable development
- (iii) youth that opposes the establishment
- (iv) youth that is self-indulgent and unscrupulous

(c) Which of the following options accurately describes the third category of youth?

- 1. Intelligent and skillful
  - 2. Thoughtful and observant
  - 3. Less intelligent and skillful
  - 4. Problem solver and caring
- (i) 1 and 3

- (ii) 2 and 4
- (iii) 3 and 4
- (iv) 1 and 4

(d) The thoughtful class of people wants cooperation between

- (i) man and man
- (ii) man and nature
- (iii) man and animals
- (iv) man and environment

(e) Which two categories of youth need to be shown the right path to help them channelise their energy?

- (i) first and third
- (ii) second and fourth
- (iii) first and second
- (iv) third and fourth

(f) As per the Vedic formula, man's fullest flowering and enfoldment lies in the.....

- (i) opposition of the cosmos
- (ii) cosmos
- (iii) identification with the cosmos
- (iv) none of these

(g) Which option represents the CORRECT traits of the fourth group of youth?

1. Intelligent  
Hardworking  
Haughty

2. Privileged  
Qualified  
Vile

3. Pioneer  
Futurist  
Refined

4. Skilled  
Ethereal  
Lethargic

- (i) option 1
- (ii) option 2

- (iii) option 3
- (iv) option 4

(h) How does the dissatisfied youth express itself?

- (i) engage in political opposition
- (ii) engage in wrong doings
- (iii) engage in immoral acts
- (iv) All of the above

(i) Modern youth can be divided in -----categories.

- (i) three
- (ii) four
- (iii) two
- (iv) one

(j) Which word in the passage means same as 'important'? (para 5)

- (i) pioneer
- (ii) entity
- (iii) vital
- (iv) ethereal

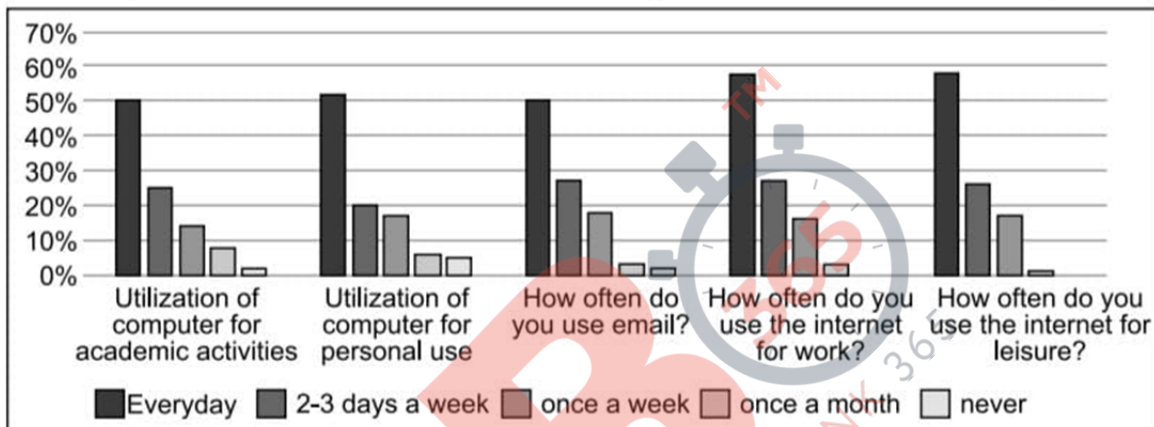
(k) Which of the following options accurately describes the second category of youth?

1. less privileged and less skillful
2. intelligent and skillful
3. thoughtful and observant
4. may resort to unjust ways and can be incited against the establishment

- (i) 1 and 3
- (ii) 2 and 4
- (iii) 3 and 4
- (iv) 1 and 4

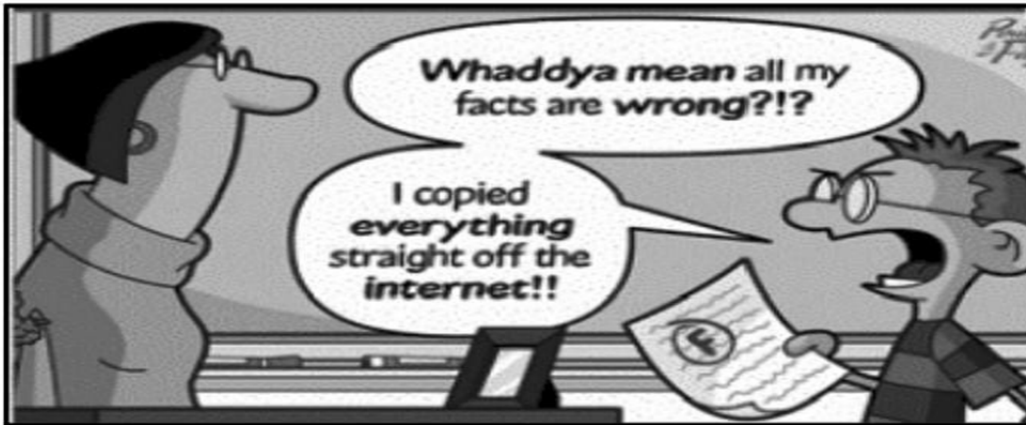
**2. Read the passage given below.**

1. The present generation is well updated in the use of internet and computers. The rapid development in computer technology and increase in accessibility of the internet for academic purposes has changed the face of education for everyone associated with it. Let's look at the data arising out of a recent survey that was done to ascertain the time spent on utilisation of the computer and internet:



2. At present, many schools and universities have been implementing internet-based learning, as it supplements the conventional teaching methods. The internet provides a wide variety of references and information to academics as well as scientific researchers. Students often turn to it to do their academic assignments and projects.

3. However, research on the Net is very different from traditional library, and the differences can cause problems. The Net is a tremendous resource, but it must be used carefully and critically.



4. According to a 2018 Academic Student e-book Experience Survey, conducted by LJ's research department and sponsored by EBSCO, when reading for pleasure, almost 74% of respondents said they preferred print books for leisure whereas, 45% of respondents chose e-books rather than the printed versions, for research or assignments.

5. When asked what e-book features make them a favourite for research, the respondents were clear. Having page numbers to use in citations, topped the list (75%); followed by the ability to resize text to fit a device's screen (67%); the ability to bookmark pages, highlight text, or take notes for later reference (60%); downloading the entire e-book (57%); and allowing content to be transferred between devices (43%) were the varied responses. (approx 270 words)

**On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer Any Ten questions from the eleven that follow. [1 × 10 = 10]**

- (a) According to the passage, one of the reason for the recent transformation of education is the:
- (i) techno-efficiency of the present generation
  - (ii) expanse of courses on technology
  - (iii) simplification of the teaching and learning method
  - (iv) easy availability of the internet

(b) Pick the option that lists statements that are NOT TRUE according to the passage.

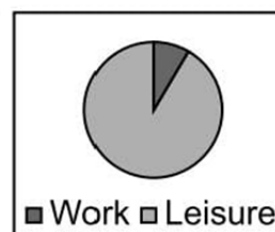
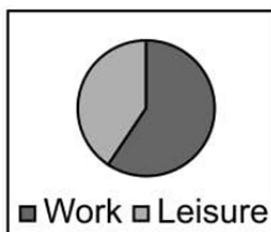
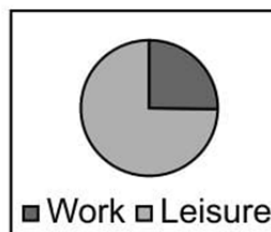
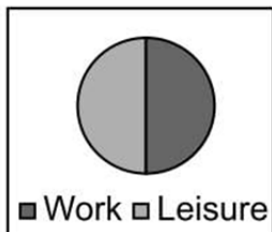
1. Internet-based education can only complement familiar methods of education.
2. Net-based learning will replace face-to-face education.
3. The resources that the net provides are a danger to the education system.
4. The current times has seen a rise in the convenience of using the internet for academic purposes.

- (i) 1 and 2
- (ii) 3 and 4
- (iii) 2 and 3
- (iv) 1 and 4

(c) The word 'tremendous', as used in paragraph 3, means the same as

- (i) 'expensive'
- (ii) 'renowned'
- (iii) 'innovative'
- (iv) 'incredible'

(d) Based on the graphical chart in the passage, choose the option that correctly states the depiction of internet usage for work and for leisure, for once a month.





- (i) option 1
- (ii) option 2
- (iii) option 3
- (iv) option 4

(e) "... but it must be used carefully and critically." The idea of being careful and critical while using the internet, is mainly a reference to

- (i) hardware malfunction
- (ii) plagiarism
- (iii) troubleshooting
- (iv) virus threats

(f) Based on the given graphical representation of data in the passage, choose the option that lists the statements that are TRUE with respect to the usage of email.

1. The everyday usage of email is more than the everyday usage of computer for personal use.
2. About 18% people use email once a week
3. There are a smaller number of email users using it 2-3 times a week than the ones using it once a month.
4. Less than 5% of people never use the email.

- (i) 1 and 3
- (ii) 2 and 4
- (iii) 1 and 2
- (iv) 3 and 4

(g) Based on the given graphical chart, pick the option that lists the area of zero response from respondents

- (i) never using the internet for work
- (ii) daily use of the computer for academic activities
- (iii) writing and receiving emails once a week
- (iv) using the internet for personal tasks once a month

(h) In the cartoon, the student's reaction reveals that he is.....

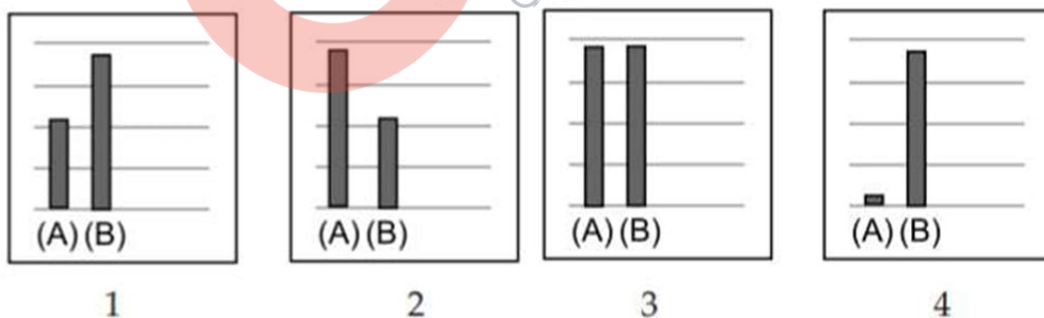
- (i) indignant
- (ii) apologetic
- (iii) obedient
- (iv) inquisitive

(i) Which of the following statements is NOT substantiated by information in paragraph 4?

- (i) About three-quarters of the respondents preferred print books for recreational reading
- (ii) A little less than a 50% of the respondents voted for e-books for research or assignments
- (iii) More than 50% respondents stated enjoying both versions of books for leisure reading
- (iv) The survey was intended for understanding the e-book experience among students

(j) According to the 2018 survey, which is the option that correctly displays the features of :

- (A) page numbers for use in citation and
- (B) content transfer between devices respectively



- (i) option 1
- (ii) option 2
- (iii) option 3
- (iv) option 4

(k) Arrange the given e-book features preferred for research from the least favourite to the most favourite, from the following:

1. downloading the entire e-book.
2. choosing page numbers in citations.
3. highlighting text.
4. resizing text to fit the screen.

- (i) 1, 3, 4, 2
- (ii) 3, 2, 1, 4
- (iii) 2, 4, 3, 1
- (iv) 4, 1, 2, 3

### **LITERATURE (20 marks)**

**3.** Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY TWO of the three given by answering the questions that follow. [4 + 4 = 8]

**(A)** Food is more important for survival than an identity. "If at the end of the day we can feed our families and go to bed without an aching stomach, we would rather live here than in the fields that gave us no grain," say a group of women in tattered saris when I ask them why they left their beautiful land of green fields and rivers. Wherever they find food, they pitch their tents that become transit homes. Children grow up in them, becoming partners in survival. And survival in Seemapuri means rag-picking. Through the years, it has acquired the proportions of a fine art. Garbage to them is gold. It is their daily bread, a roof over their heads, even if it is a leaking roof. But for a child it is even more.

(a) The phrase 'transit homes' refer to the dwellings that are:

- (i) unhygienic
- (ii) inadequate
- (iii) fragile
- (iv) temporary

(b) Identify the figure of speech used in the sentence "Garbage to them is gold".

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

(c) Choose the term which best matches the statement 'Food is more important for survival than an identity'?

- (i) immorality
- (ii) necessity
- (iii) obligation
- (iv) ambition

(d) What does 'acquired the proportions of a fine art' mean?

- (i) rag-picking has regained its lost status.
- (ii) a segment of rag pickers are skilled in fine arts.
- (iii) rag-picking has attained the position of a skill.
- (iv) only a few people are experts in rag-picking.

**(B)** They had merely heard that a Mahatma who wanted to help them was in trouble with the authorities. Their spontaneous demonstration, in thousands, around the courthouse was the beginning of their liberation from fear of the British. The officials felt powerless without Gandhi's cooperation. He helped them regulate the crowd. He was polite and friendly. He was giving them concrete proof that their might, hitherto dreaded and unquestioned, could be challenged by Indians. The government was baffled. The prosecutor requested the judge to postpone the trial. Apparently, the authorities wished to consult their superiors.

(a) The officials felt powerless because

- (i) of Gandhi's refusal to cooperate with them.
- (ii) of Gandhi's polite and friendly behaviour.
- (iii) the crowd was listening only to Gandhi.

(iv) the crowd was getting violent.

(b) The demonstration proved that the

(i) policies of the British had failed.

(ii) dread instilled in the hearts of Indians had begun to lessen.

(iii) dealings with the Indian citizens had been unsuccessful.

(iv) might of the British had not been understood by Indians.

(c) Which style, from those given below, is being used by the author, when he says, "Apparently, the authorities wished to consult their superiors."?

(i) humorous

(ii) dramatic

(iii) sarcastic

(iv) persuasive

(d) Gandhiji's behaviour towards the British prior to the proposal of postponement of the trial was that of.

(i) indifference

(ii) calm acceptance

(iii) ignorance of consequences

(iv) polite helpfulness.

(C) Jo was starting to fuss with her hands and look out of the window, at the crack of day that showed under the shade. She through the story was all over. Jack didn't like women when they took anything for granted; he liked them apprehensive, hanging on his words. "Now, Jo, are you listening?" "Yes." "Because this is very interesting. Roger Skunk's mommy said, 'What's that awful smell?' "Wha-at?" "And, Roger Skunk said, 'It's me, Mommy. I smell like roses.' And she said, 'Who made you smell like that?' And he said, 'The wizard,' and she said, 'Well, of all the nerve. You come with me and we're going right back to that very awful wizard.'"

(a) Choose the option that best demonstrates the relevant traits of Jo and Jack respectively, based on the extract provided.

(i) curious and irritable

- (ii) patient and irritable
- (iii) curious and lethargic
- (iv) patient and lethargic

(b) "Jo was starting to fuss with her hands". This means that Jo was

- (i) feeling anxious
- (ii) getting restless
- (iii) feeling lazy
- (iv) fighting sleep

(c) Jo's "Wha-at?" indicated what she was feeling.

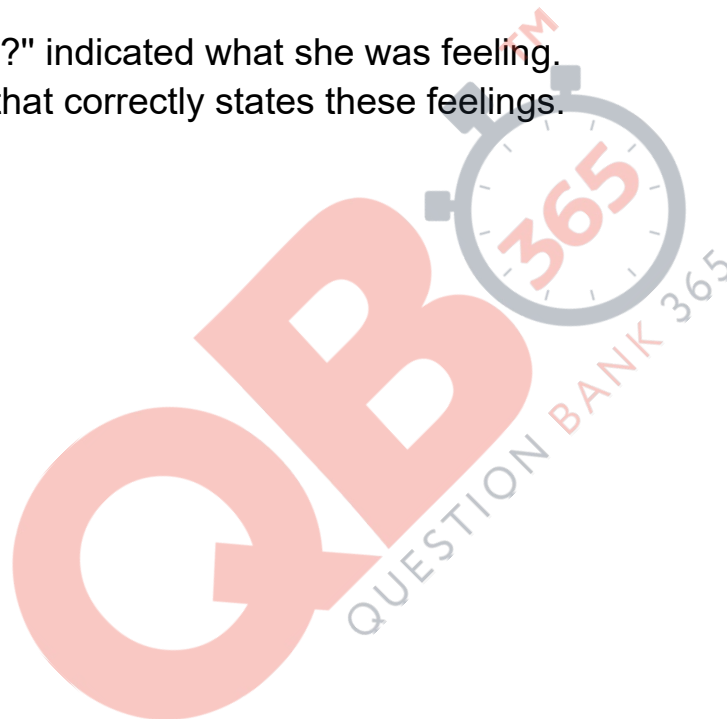
Pick the option that correctly states these feelings.

1. terror
2. Surprise
3. ignorance
4. displeasure
5. joy
6. approval

- (i) 1 and 3
- (ii) 2 and 4
- (iii) 3 and 6
- (iv) 4 and 5

(d) Mommy says, "Well, of all the nerve." This reveals her

- (i) approval, surprise and pleasure.
- (ii) pleasure, hope and approval
- (iii) betrayal, disapproval and hurt.
- (iv) shock, anger and disapproval.



**4. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY ONE of the two given by answering the questions that follow. (1 × 4 = 4)**

(A) On sour cream walls, donations. Shakespeare's head,  
Cloudless at dawn, civilised dome riding all cities.  
Belled, flowery, Tyrolese valley. Open-handed map  
Awarding the world its world. And yet, for these  
Children, these windows, not this map, their world,  
Where all their future's painted with a fog,

(a) What does the expression - sour cream walls - suggest?

- (i) display of donated artefacts on the walls.
- (ii) badly maintained walls.
- (iii) wall-to wall furniture.
- (iv) a poor choice of paint for walls.

(b) The map of the world in the classroom symbolizes

- (i) hopes and aspirations of the children.
- (ii) travel plans of the school authorities
- (iii) a world that is unconnected to the children.
- (iv) interconnectivity within the world.

(c) The expression, Shakespeare's head is an example of

- (i) pun
- (ii) satire
- (iii) parody
- (iv) irony

(d) In the extract. 'future's painted with a fog' suggests that the

- (i) classroom is as foggy as the paint on the walls.
- (ii) beautiful valleys are not a part of the children's future.
- (iii) life ahead for the slum children is as unclear and hazy as fog.

(iv) fog often finds itself in the classrooms through broken windows.

OR

(B) We have imagined for the mighty dead;  
All lovely tales that we have heard or read;  
An endless fountain of immortal drink,  
Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink.

(a) The phrase immortal drink refers to

- (i) blessings of our ancestors
- (ii) the teachings of nature
- (iii) a life-giving force
- (iv) the beauty of heaven.

(b) "All lovely tales" evoke the feeling of

- (i) sadness and nostalgia
- (ii) only nostalgia
- (iii) inspiration and pride
- (iv) only pride

(c) The rhyme scheme of the above extract is:

- (i) aabb
- (ii) abab
- (iii) aaab
- (iv) abbb

(d) The literary device used by the poet in the following lines

is..... : An endless fountain of immortal drink, Pouring unto us  
from the heaven's brink.

- (i) personification
- (ii) allegory
- (iii) imagery
- (iv) synecdoche



**5. Attempt Any Eight questions from the ten given below:**

(a) What does the poet mean by saying that beautiful things ' never pass into nothingness'

- (i) beautiful things never Shine
- (ii) beautiful things never boast
- (iii) beautiful things never hide
- (iv) beautiful things never fade away

(b) Choose the statement that is NOT TRUE with reference to Douglas:

- (i) Douglas's fear kept him away from leisurely activities in water.
- (ii) the fall in the pool at YMCA taught Douglas a life lesson.
- (iii) the fear of drowning was the source of Douglas's anxiety and terror.
- (iv) Douglas decided to practice relentlessly to overcome his fear.

(c) Spender's use of imagery in "His eyes live in a dream, of squirrel game, in tree room, other than this", brings out.

- (i) the similarity between the frail bodies of a squirrel and the children in the classroom.
- (ii) the contrast between studying in the dreary classroom and playing outside freely.
- (iii) the comparison of the dingy home of the squirrel and the dreary classroom.
- (iv) the difference between the game of the squirrel and those of the children.

(d) Keats celebrates trees as a "boon" in the poem A Thing of Beauty. With reference to this statement, which of the following options is NOT TRUE?

- (i) trees give us sustenance.
- (ii) trees provide relief from heat.
- (iii) trees help keep the Earth clean.
- (iv) trees appear beautiful to the eye.

(e) Concluding his last lesson by writing 'Viva la France!' on the blackboard shows that M. Hamel

- (i) was overwhelmed with emotions.
- (ii) wanted to distract all attending class that day
- (iii) was keen on not leaving the country
- (iv) wanted to teach French participles through it.

(f) Rajkumar Shukla's efforts resulted in Gandhiji's fight for the farmer's cause. This showcases that he was

- (i) meticulous and kind
- (ii) sincere and curious
- (iii) enterprising and persistent
- (iv) respectful and congenial

(g) It is clear that the speaker in Aunt Jennifer's Tigers has an attitude of.....towards her.

- (i) empathy
- (ii) wonder
- (iii) sympathy
- (iv) gratitude

(h) 'Keeping Quiet' uses fishermen to symbolize man's

- (i) persistent pollution of the natural environment
- (ii) rapid degradation of human values
- (iii) limitless exploitation of natural resources
- (iv) constant participation in acts of terror

(i) Saheb's discarded and worn out tennis shoes are

- (i) an indication to procure different ones.
- (ii) a dream come true.
- (iii) a sign of his poverty
- (iv) an insult to the sport itself.

(j) In the poem, My Mother at Sixty-six, all that the poet did was smile and smile and smile.....Her smile is:

- (i) sudden, in responses to her mother's
- (ii) meaningful and loaded with love
- (iii) accompanied with tears of farewell
- (iv) put on to cheer her mother

**Section B (40 Marks)**

**WRITING (16Marks)**

**6. Attempt ANY ONE** of the following. (1X3=3)

(A) Every year in the month of February at the central park of the city, a flower show is held. Your school has received a circular from Central Park, Noida Authority, Noida inviting students to visit it. Write a notice in about 50 words informing students about the show and advising them to go and enjoy it. You are Neha/Naveen, Head Girl/ Head Boy of Surya Public School, Noida.

Or

(B) you have recently constructed a house with all the facilities in a posh area of Vasundhara, Ghaziabad. You have decided to give it on rent. Draft a suitable advertisement for the 'To Let' column of a local daily, in not more than 50 words. Write all the necessary details of the house. You are Sakshi Verma of 15/ 350, Vasundhara, Ghaziabad. Your mobile no. Is xxxxxxxxxxxx.

**7. Attempt ANY ONE** of the following. (1X3=3)

(A) You are the Secretary of the Science Society of your school. Write a letter to the President of Science Society of IIT Delhi inviting him to deliver a lecture on the inventions of science for the students.

Or

B) Your friend Priyansh has invited you to attend the wedding of his sister Jaya. You find that you have an important paper of pre board examination on the day of the wedding. Thus, you cannot attend the event. Write in about 50 words an informal reply to the invitation expressing your regret. You are Reeva/ Rajan, 56, Railway Colony, Tilak Bridge, Delhi.

**8. Attempt ANY ONE** of the following. (1X5=5)

**QB365 - Question Bank Software**

(A) You are Raj/Rani, Secretary of Harmony Residents' Welfare Association, Gagan Vihar, Delhi and are very concerned about the environmental degradation and pollution in your locality. Write a letter to the Editor 'The Times of India' throwing light on the problems faced and giving suggestions for improving the health and hygiene of the people in your locality.

Or

(B) Surya Public School, Ahmedabad requires two sports coaches, one male and one female. Each should be a degree holder in physical education with at least 2 years of coaching experience with children. You have seen their advertisement and you know you have these qualifications. Write an application in 120- 150 words along with your resume. You are Swarna/ Swayam, 2/264 MG Road, Ahmedabad.

**9. Attempt ANY ONE of the following.** (1X5=5)

(A) To have a fair complexion is an obsession in our society. The demand for fair brides in matrimonial columns and the sale of fairness creams are evidence enough. Write an article in 120 to 150 words, giving your views on 'Beautiful mind, better than a fair complexion.' You are Shimon. Use the following cues:

\*The west people like to tanned\* fair complexion, only skin deep \*beautiful mind \*attitude to life \*behaviour in society etc.

Or

(B) You are Shivam/ Shivani, student editor of your school magazine 'Srijan'. Write a report in 120- 150 words on the ZOnal Cricket Tournament held in the playground of ABC School, Palam Vihar, last week. Your report should include details such as participating teams, parents, SMC members, cheerful environment, decoration of the playground, large crowd of cheering students and prize distribution.

**LITERATURE**

(24 marks)

**10.** Attempt **ANY FIVE** out of the six questions given below in 30-40 words each. (2X5=10)

- i. What had been put up on the bulletin board?
- ii. What does the title 'Lost Spring' convey?
- iii. Which character traits of Douglas helped him conquer his fear of water?
- iv. Why are the young trees described as 'sprinting'?
- v. What does the poet want for the children of the slums? How can their lives be made to change?
- vi. How according to Pablo Neruda, can keeping quiet change our attitude to life?

**11.** Attempt **ANY TWO** of the three questions given below in 30-40 words each. (2X2=4)

- i. How did Charley often get lost on the Grand Central station?
- ii. What forced Dr Sadao to be impatient and irritated with his patient?
- iii. Why did Mr. Lamb not pull and throw out his weeds?

**12.** Attempt **ANY ONE** of the following questions in 120 -150 words.

(1X5=5)

(A) Give an account of Gandhi's efforts to secure justice for the poor indigo sharecroppers of Champaran?

Or

(B) The story 'The Rattrap' focuses on human loneliness and the need to bond with others. Explain.

**13.** Attempt **ANY ONE** of the following questions in 120-150 words.

(1X5=5)

(A) Which issue is being highlighted in the story 'Should Wizard hit Mummy?'

Or

(B) Humanity transcends over patriotism. Discuss with reference to the lesson the enemy.

