

Student name \_\_\_\_\_

Roll Number \_\_\_\_\_

Pre-Board Assessment-January 2024

Class – 12

Subject – English

Time: 3 Hrs.

M.M: 80

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**General Instructions:-**

1. The Question Paper contains **four** sections- Reading, Grammar, Writing Skills and Literature
  2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number in your answer sheet to indicate the option(s) being attempted.
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**SECTION-A (Reading Skills)**

**(15)**

**Attempt any one from (A) and (B) given below:**

**Q.1 Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

**1x10= 10 marks**

Public libraries in some respect serve the same purpose as educational institutions. It is the place where people come to collect material for reference work and for knowledge. It is really one of the most useful institutions in the world.

A library is normally well stocked with all types of books, including the rare ones, and also the expensive ones. Thus everyone has access to these books which otherwise would not be available, or probably be beyond the reach of the common man cost-wise. In this sense, libraries can afford to purchase the rare and expensive books, thus making them available to general public.

Libraries also have sets and volumes of dictionaries, encyclopaedias and other reference books which require a lot of storage space. So a library is an ideal place for such books. Since individuals cannot afford to possess all of them, they can avail of them in libraries.

A library is an ideal place to study and to make reference as there is silence and no disturbance. Tables and chairs are provided and one can study peacefully without any disturbance. Students and scribes are the ones who frequently visit libraries. New materials on different subjects are available there. Many established libraries in the West also stock computers, compact discs CD-ROMS, Xerox machines so that they can have print-outs of the necessary materials that are required for one's reference.

While many libraries are open to the public, some are exclusive, and by paying a nominal sum of money one can membership to it. By paying a small amount one can derive enormous benefits from it.

In every library there is a librarian who helps you to locate the book you seek. If a new book has been released and it is not there in the library, you can apprise the librarian about it, and he will soon make it available to you for reference. As good citizens, it will be each one's responsibility to see that books are handled with care to preserve them for prosperity

**Choose the correct option to answer the following (1-5) :**



1. Why do people come to public libraries?  
 (a) to gain knowledge                      (b) for collecting material for reference work  
 (c) to spend spare time                      (d) both (a) and (b)
2. What type of books are found in library other than general ones?  
 (a) rare ones                      (b) expensive ones  
 (c) torn ones                      (d) both (a) and (b)
3. Why do individuals visit public libraries?  
 (a) because they don't want any company  
 (b) because there is peace and silence  
 (c) Both (a) and (b)  
 (d) because they cannot afford to buy all the books.
4. What has one to do to visit an exclusive library?  
 (a) nothing  
 (b) has to get membership by paying money  
 (c) by making friends with the librarians  
 (d) by exchanging books
5. Why should one preserve the books of public libraries ?  
 (a) for their siblings                      (b) for their friends  
 (c) for prosperity                      (d) both (a) and (b)

**Answer the following questions briefly (6-10):**

6. What is the meaning of the word prosperity?
7. How is a common man benefitted by public library?
8. What can one do if a new book released is not available in the library?
9. Make another sentence using the word 'apprise'.
10. What is the responsibility of a good citizen?.

OR

Rights and duties are two sides of the same coin. One can't exist without the other. Duties without rights are merely slavery. Similarly rights without duties amount to lawlessness. In any civilized society, rights and duties must go side by side. But in today's world, everybody talks much about his rights. There is a great hue and cry if our rights are infringed. But nobody seems to bother much about his duties. That is why there is a great unrest in our present day life. Actually duties come first and rights afterwards. Many a time one man's rights is another man's duty and vice versa. For example, everyman has the right to have an undisturbed sleep. So it becomes the duty of the neighbours to not to tune their radio at too high pitch. If we want to enjoy our rights we should act in such a way that the rights of others are not trespassed. It can happen only if we take due account of our duties also. In short, rights and duties are complementary things and not contradictory.

It is difficult to agree on which rights should be guaranteed to a citizen. For example, does a child have the right to be educated in his/her mother tongue? Some enthusiasts may say, "Certainly". But others may say that while everyone must have a right to education, the government should not be enforced to spend money to employ teachers for the language of every group and community. Take another example. Does every adult have a right to a job ?



some will say, "Yes". Others will disagree and say that this is a privilege, not a right. They say that in these days of population explosion, it is not possible for any government to ensure full employment.

There can be disagreement on such controversial issues, but there can be no disagreement on such things as the freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want and freedom from fear.

**Based on the Understanding of the passage, answer the questions that follow:**

- (i) What are two sides of the same coin mentioned in the passage?
  - (a) slavery and lawlessness
  - (b) freedom and rights
  - (c) rights and duties
  - (d) all of the above
- (ii) What place do rights and duties have in a civilized society?
  - (a) Rights come before duties
  - (b) Rights and duties go side by side
  - (b) Duties come before rights
  - (d) Rights and duties have no place
- (iii) Rights and duties are.....
  - (a) contradictory things
  - (b) complimentary things
  - (c) complementary things
  - (d) none of the these
- (iv) The synonym of 'restrict' given in the passage is :
  - (a) Complementary
  - (b) infringe
  - (c) Disagree
  - (d) trespass
- (v) Why is there great unrest in present-day life?
  - (a) because nobody seems to bother much about his duties
  - (b) because rights and duties go side by side
  - (c) because duties come before rights
  - (d) because there are neither rights nor duties
- (vi) Give the antonym of 'obedience' that is given in the passage.
- (vii) What does nobody seem to bother?
- (viii) Complete the following sentence: Rights and duties are.....
- (ix) What does not come first?
- (x) Give a suitable title to the passage.

**Q2. Read the following passage carefully and make notes on it using headings and sub-headings, Give an appropriate title to it :-** (4+1=5)

A vast blanket of pollution stretching across South Asia is cutting down sunlight by 10 per cent over India, damaging agriculture, modifying rainfall patterns and putting hundred thousands of people at risk. The startling findings of scientists working with the United Nations Environment Programme indicate that the spectacular economic growth seen in this part of the world in the past decade may soon falter as a result of pollution. Research carried out in India indicates that the haze caused by pollution might be reducing winter rice harvests by as much as 10 per cent, the report said. "Acids in the haze may, by falling as acid rain, have the potential to damage crops and trees. Ash falling on leaves can aggravate the impact of reduced sunlight on earth's surface. The pollution that is forming the haze could be leading to several hundred thousands of premature deaths as a result of higher levels of respiratory

diseases," it said. Results from seven cities in India alone, including Delhi, Mumbai, Ahmedabad and Kolkata, estimate that air pollution was annually responsible for 24000 premature deaths in early 1990s.

### SECTION-B (Grammar)

Q6. Attempt any two from each Sub-Part:-

10 marks

a) Fill in the blanks with the correct form of verb:

(i) He \_\_\_\_\_ (buy) it last month.

(a) brought

(b) was buying

(c) bought

(d) had bought

(ii) I \_\_\_\_\_ (finish) this work by tomorrow evening.

(a) have finished

(b) will finish

(c) was finishing

(d) had finished

(iii) He \_\_\_\_\_ (try) to solve this problem since yesterday.

(a) tried

(b) was trying

(c) will try

(d) has been trying

(B). Change the narration:-

1. Ram will say, "I saw my teacher in the park".

(a) Ram will say that he had seen my teacher in the park.

(b) Ram will say that he had seen his teacher in the park.

(c) Ram will say that he saw his teacher in the park.

(d) Ram will say that he saw my teacher in the park.

2. He said to me, "I am reading a novel".

(a) He said to me that he was reading a novel.

(b) He told me that he was reading a novel.

(c) He told me that I was reading a novel.

(d) He told me that he has been reading a novel.

3. The teacher said, "Don't make a noise".

(a) The teacher said to the boys do not make a noise.

(b) The teacher said to the boys that do not make a noise.

(c) The teacher ordered the boys not to make a noise.

(d) The teacher ordered the boys that do not make a noise.

(C). Fill in the blanks with suitable articles.

1. He is \_\_\_\_\_ active player of volleyball.

a) a

b) the

c) an

d) x

2. I read \_\_\_\_\_ Geeta every day.

a) a

b) the

c) an

d) x

3. John Keats was \_\_\_\_\_ great poet.

a) a

b) the

c) an

d) x

(D). Change the voice:-

1. They will have bought a pen.

a) A pen will be bought by them.

b) A pen will have been bought by them.



- c) A pen would have been bought by them.
- d) a pen will have to be bought by them.

**2. Are you making a good plan?**

- a) Is a good plan made by you?
- b) Is a good plan being made by you?
- c) Was a good plan made by you?
- d) Was a good plan being made by you?

**3. She accused him of theft.**

- a) He is accused of theft by her.
- b) He was accused of theft by her.
- c) He had been accused of theft by her.
- d) None of the above.

**(E). Fill in the blanks with appropriate Modals**

1. There \_\_\_\_\_ be a famous shop here.  
a) Should                      b) may                      c) used to                      d) can
2. \_\_\_\_\_ we leave now, please?  
a) might                      b) may                      c) should                      d) would
3. We walked fast lest we \_\_\_\_\_ miss the bus.  
a) should                      b) could                      c) ought to                      d) need.

**SECTION-C (Writing Skills)**

**(15)**

**Q4. Attempt any one of the following ( word limit 50 words):**

**(5)**

- a) Suppose your name is Rita/Ramesh . you are secretary of History Club of your school. Your school is planning an educational tour to Rajasthan during summer vacations. Write a notice for the same informing all the students by developing necessary details.
- b) You want to sell your washing machine which you bought last year and is in excellent condition. Draft an advertisement to be published in a local daily under classified columns
- c) Design a poster creating awareness on the need to grow more trees.

**Q5. Attempt any one of the following**

**(5)**

- (a) Your school has observed a Road Safety Week recently. Write a report on the same as the student editor of your school magazine in 120-150 words.
- (b) Write an article in about 120 words on 'Corruption in Public Life'.

**Q6. Attempt any one of the following:**

**(5)**

- (a) The sector road leading to your society is always filled with water due to lack of proper drainage especially. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the Editor, The Tribune drawing attention of the concerned authorities to this problem of the residents. You are Ms. Jyotsna of Sector 82 , Gurgaon..



(b) Write an application to the management of Rohini International school to apply for the position of councillor.

#### SECTION-D Literature

(40)

7. Attempt any one of the two extracts (A) and (B) given below: 5 marks

(A) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

My acquaintance with the barefoot rag pickers leads me to Seemapuri, a place on the periphery of Delhi yet miles away from it, metaphorically. Those who live here are squatters who came from Bangladesh back in 1971. Saheb's family is among them. Seemapuri was then a wilderness. It still is, but no longer empty. In the structures of mud, with roofs of tin and tarpaulin, devoid of sewage, drainage or running water, live 10,000 rag pickers.

#### QUESTIONS:

- Name the chapter from which these lines have been taken.
  - The Last Lesson
  - Lost spring
  - The Rattrap
  - Deep Water
- Name the writer of the passage.
  - William Douglas
  - Anees Jung
  - Louis Fischer
  - None of the above
- Which place is situated in the periphery of Delhi?
  - Dhaka
  - Bangladesh
  - Seemapuri
  - Mumbai
- Where did the squatters come from?
  - Delhi
  - Mumbai
  - Dhaka
  - Bangladesh
- How many rag pickers live in the periphery of Seemapuri?
  - 5,000
  - 10,000
  - 20,000
  - 15,000

OR

My American publisher said while she loved my book, she didn't expect to sell more than 3000 copies in a country where nobody has seen a cathedral or studies Latin. So I was given an advance for 3000 copies, but in the end it sold two or three million in the U.S. A lot of books have been written about the medieval past far before mine. I think the success of the book is a mystery. Nobody can predict it.

#### QUESTIONS:-

- Name the chapter this passage has been taken from.
  - The Last Lesson
  - Indigo
  - The Interview
  - Poet and Pancakes
- Name the speaker of the above lines.
  - Anees Jung
  - Umberto Eco
  - Asokamitran
  - A.R. Barton



3. According to the speaker, the huge success of the novel is.....
- (a) Impossible (b) rare  
(c) both (a) and (b) (d) a mystery
4. What do you think was the content of the novel?
- (a) the modern age (b) the ancient times  
(c) the medieval age (d) the post-independence period
5. what did the American publisher think of the Speaker's novel?
- (a) she expected it to sell 300 copies  
(b) she didn't expect it to sell more than 3000 copies  
(c) that it was a fabulous novel  
(d) None of the above

**8 Answer any one of the following in about 120-150 words: 5**

Explain the significance of the title "Lost Spring" giving elaborate description of childhood period of Saheb and Mukesh. (Lost Spring)

**OR**

How have different writers and celebrities reacted to the concept of interview? Give a brief account of various views expressed by different celebrities. (The Interview)

**9 Answer any four questions in about 40- 50 words 2x4 = 8 marks**

- (i) What did Mr Hamel say about the French language?  
(ii) How is Mukesh's attitude to his situation different from that of his family?  
(iii) Why did Rajkumar Shukla go to meet Gandhi ji?  
(iv) How does Eco find time to write so much?  
(v) What were Sophie's plans after school?

**10. Attempt any one of the two extracts (A) and (B) given below:**

**5 marks**

**(A) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:**

A thing of beauty is a joy forever  
Its loveliness increases, it will never  
Pass into nothingness: but will keep  
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep  
Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing,  
Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing

- (i) Name the poem and the poet.
- (a) 'Keeping Quiet' by John Keats  
(b) 'My Mother at Sixty-six' by Kamala Das  
(c) 'Keeping Quiet' by Pablo Neruda  
(d) 'A Thing of Beauty' by John Keats
- (ii) Whose loveliness increases day by day ?
- (a) A bower quiet  
(b) A thing of beauty  
(c) Quiet breathing  
(d) none of the above



- (iii) What does the word 'morrow' mean ?  
 (a) the previous day (b) the next day  
 (c) the day after tomorrow (d) None of the above
- (iv) What does the speaker suggest about a "thing of beauty"??  
 (a) It brings temporary joy (b) It fades into nothingness  
 (c) It is a source of everlasting joy (d) It is only appreciated in the moment
- (v) What happens when we are surrounded by beautiful things?  
 (a) we get good health (b) we can sleep peacefully  
 (c) we can breathe well (d) all of the above

OR

The polished traffic passed with a mind ahead,  
 Or if ever aside a moment, then out of sorts  
 At having the landscape marred with N turned wrong and S turned wrong  
 Offered for sale wild berries in wooden quarts

- (i) What does polished traffic stand for?  
 (a) for rich people of the city who passed by them in their cars  
 (b) for branded new cars  
 (c) for newly polished cars  
 (d) none of the above
- (ii) Who is the poet of this poem?  
 (a) John Keats  
 (b) Robert frost  
 (c) William Wordsworth  
 (d) None
- (iii) What is being sold on roadside stand?  
 (a) Furniture (b) cosmetics  
 (c) Diesel and petrol (d) wild berries and golden squash
- (iv) Why was roadside stand built?  
 (a) so that people can wait there  
 (b) To make it a bus stop  
 (c) to earn some money  
 (d) none of these
- (v) Why do rich people who passed that way in their cars look at the landscape?  
 (a) to buy some items  
 (b) to point at the wrongly marked N and S directions  
 (c) to appreciate their hard work  
 (d) to soothe the villagers

11. Answer any two questions in about 40-50 words

2x3= 6 marks



(a) "Kamala Das' mother loves her very much". Support your answer with reference to the poem. ( My Mother at Sixty Six)

(b) How, according to Keats, does a thing of beauty give us the reason to live and love the life? (A Thing of Beauty)

(c) What was the Plea of the folk who had put up the roadside stand? (A Roadside stand)

**Q12. Answer any one of the following in about 80-100 words.**

Why did the Tiger King take a vow to kill one hundred tigers? How do you see the story as a satire? Elaborate.

**OR**

How does Dr.Sadao rise above the narrow prejudices of race and country for assisting a human being in need?

**13. Answer any three questions in about 40-50 words: 3x2= 6 marks**

- (i) What does the third level refer to in the story?
- (ii) What is the aim of the program 'Students on Ice'?
- (iii) Why did the servants leave Sadao's house?
- (iv) How does Derry's attitude towards life change?