



INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR
PERIODIC TEST III (2023-24)
ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (184)

CLASS: X

SET B

MAX. MARKS: 80

DATE: 05/12/2023

TIME: 3 HOURS

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections -READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION A: READING SKILLS (20 MARKS)**1. Read the following text.****10**

- (1) Humility treads the fine line between arrogance and self-deprecation. Humility, modesty and down-to-earth are synonyms derived from the Latin, 'humus', translatable as 'grounded or from the earth'. So, what makes someone humble? Are the humble meek or psychologically weak?
- (2) In today's stressful world, greatly concerned with the pursuit of happiness, a bit of humility can deliver great reserves of inner strength.
- (3) Gandhiji felt that humility is an essential virtue that must exist in a person for other virtues to emerge. To Swami Vivekananda, humility did not mean crawling on all fours and calling oneself a sinner. Instead, it meant recognizing and feeling oneness with everyone and everything else in the universe, without inferiority or superiority or any other bias.
- (4) Although humility is deeply revered in most spiritual traditions, in interpersonal narrative or management lingua, it hasn't found much salience. Fortunately, a great deal of management and psychological research today is devoted to the role of humility in character building and leadership.
- (5) From the interpersonal perspective, being humble facilitates trust, and builds relationships. The humble may be more talented, gifted, or skilled than anyone else and above all better learners and problem solvers. In fact, studies show that humility is more important as a predictive performance indicator than IQ. With humbleness comes a self-acceptance from grounding one's worth in one's intrinsic value as human beings rather than other trappings of power and wealth.
- (6) Is it possible to develop humility? We must first embrace our humanness and have an accurate understanding of our strengths and weaknesses. Expressing gratitude can induce humility in us, and humble people have a greater capacity for conveying gratitude.
- (7) Holding nature in high esteem, recognizing it as an overwhelming and awe-inspiring force reminds us of our own insignificance in the cosmic scale. Being curious and open to learning fosters humility. Emulating great people and imbibing from them what we lack in our own understanding can build our own reserves of humility. After all, as Socrates said, wisdom is, above all, knowing what we don't know.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. Choose the option that reiterates the author's claim about a recent study. 1
 - A. Humility enhances IQ
 - B. Performance enhances IQ
 - C. Humility enhances performance
 - D. IQ enhances humility
- ii. Based on your reading of the text, list ways to develop humility. Give your response in about 30-40 words. 2
- iii. What connection does the writer draw out between recognizing the power of nature and own self? 1
- iv. Select the option that aptly conveys the main idea of the passage. 1
 - A. Humility is nothing but truth, and pride is nothing but lying. - Saint Vincent de Paul
 - B. Humility is royalty without a crown. -Spencer W Kimball
 - C. There is no respect for others without humility in one's self. - Henri Frederic Amiel
 - D. True humility is staying teachable, regardless of how much you already know. - Anonymous
- v. State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE: 1

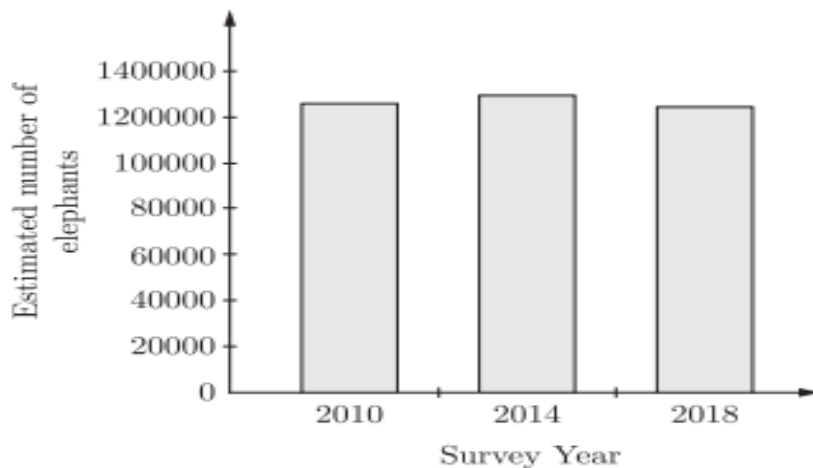
Gandhiji's view on humility is that humility is 'being spiritual'.1

- vi. Based on the reading of the passage, write, in about 30-40 words, the meaning of humility according to the two great leaders of India. 2
- vii. The author uses the expression 'treads the fine line' to mean: (Paragraph 1) 1
- A. to create a borderline C. to discuss different options
- B. to strike a balance D. to take the path of one's choice
- viii. What does the author want to convey by describing power and money as 'trappings'? 1

2. Read the following text.

10

- (1) Elephant babies like coconut oil. This discovery has saved the life of hundreds of orphaned, unweaned elephants, left behind when their mothers were killed, victims of the ivory wars that have catastrophically reduced elephant populations across Africa.
- (2) The discovery came after two decades of efforts by the renowned conservationist Daphne Sheldrick, who has died aged 83. She devoted most of her life rescuing young elephants and releasing them back into the wild.
- (3) When she first made attempts to keep the orphaned babies alive, often at one or two years old, with other milk sources, they remained malnourished and faded into death. It was only after trying every combination she could find that she hit on one baby milk formula from Europe, which contained coconut oil that seemed to work. She and the elephants never looked back, and now more than 230 elephants in Kenya, and many others in Asia and other parts of Africa, are alive, and mostly in the wild, thanks to her hand-rearing.



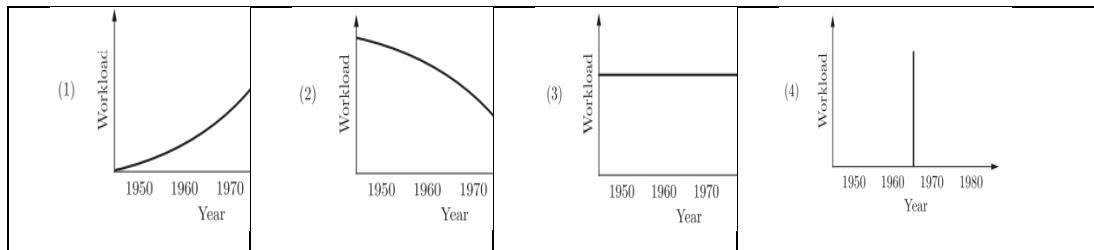
(4) Her work grew from her care of orphaned elephants found by her husband, David Sheldrick, chief warden at the Tsavo National Park in Kenya in the 1960s. By the time her sanctuary was well-established, in the late 70s and 80s, each elephant had its own stall, as otherwise they would disturb one another, was bottle - fed every three hours, and was given blankets, raincoats and sunscreen as needed. A keeper slept with each animal under a year old, alternating lest the babies grow too dependent.

(5) Often, the elephants arrived traumatized, having experienced the lethal violence and cruelty of poaching. It was crucial, in her view, to recognize their grief and help them to overcome it. "They are emotionally human animals, she told journalists. "You have to think in human terms. How does a child feel when it has lost its whole family and is suddenly in the hands of the enemy?"

(6) Throughout her life, Sheldrick championed the ability of elephants to communicate and their capacity for feeling. Once, she recounted how she wrenched the tusks from a newly killed bull elephant and threw them into the jungle, before the eyes of the poachers.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. What was the reason for the death of baby elephants? What was the reason that Daphne Sheldrick told journalists- “You have to think in human terms”? 2
- ii. Select the appropriate option to fill in the blank. While referring to the emotional side of the elephants, Sheldrick said that _____. 1
- A. they are babies B. they are weak
- C. they are like human beings D. they are like women
- iii. What attempts were made by Daphne Sheldrick to keep the orphaned elephant babies alive? 2
- iv. Substitute the word ‘trying’ from Paragraph 3, with ONE WORD similar in meaning, in the following, sentence:
- It was only after **trying** every combination she could find that she hit on one baby milk formula from Europe, which contained coconut oil that seemed to work. 1
- v. Complete the following analogy correctly with a word/phrase from Paragraph 2: 1
- Critical : crucial :: _____ : eminent
- vi. Select the chart that appropriately represents the workload of the conservationist Daphne Sheldrick through the given years, as per Paragraph 4. 1



- A. Option 1 B. Option 2 C. Option 3 D. Option 4

- vii. Infer one reason for the following, based on information in Paragraph 4. 1
- Each elephant had its own stall.
- viii. Select the option that titles paragraphs 4-6 appropriately, with reference to information in the text. 1
- A. (1) National Park and Sanctuary (2) Cruelty of Poaching (3) Deep Sympathy
- B. (1) Zoological Park (2) Poaching as an Art (3) Deep Sympathy
- C. (1) National Park and Sanctuary (2) Concern for Tigers (3) Love for Animals
- D. (1) National Park (2) Passionate Towards Hunting, (3) Bird Sanctuaries

SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (20 MARKS)

GRAMMAR

10

3. Complete ANY TEN of the following twelve tasks, as directed.

- i. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter: 1
- Subject : Electricity problem in the locality
- Kindly _____ (publish) an article in your esteemed daily, so that the authorities take action against the situation.
- ii. Identify the error in the given sentence, and supply the correction. 1
- Neil Armstrong was an American astronaut and aeronautical engineer, and the first person to walking on the Moon.
- Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

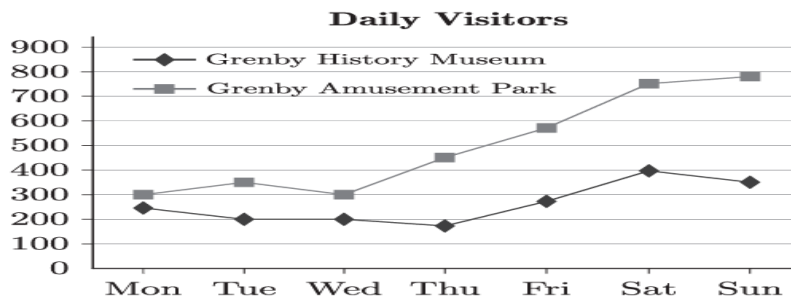
- iii. Transform the following direct speech into reported speech : 1
- I said to my friend, “Can I borrow your dictionary for one day ?”

4. A Write a letter to Superior Books Stall, Nai Sarak, New Delhi, in about 100 - 120 words, telling them that the books you had ordered have arrived, and the books are not in proper shape and a number of pages were missing. Ask for replacement of the books. You are Ankita/Akash, C-10 Vidyanagar, New Delhi. 5

OR

4. B Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily, in about 100 - 120 words, stressing the need for promoting digital literacy among individuals of all age groups. Discuss the benefits and challenges of digital technology, and propose initiatives to empower people with digital skills. 5

5. A The graph below shows the number of visitors to two different tourist attractions in the city of Grenby during one particular week. Write an analytical paragraph in 100 -120 words by selecting and reporting the main features, and making comparisons where relevant. 5



OR

5. B. Read the following excerpt from an article that appeared in the magazine section of a local daily: "Technology is addictive, and like any drug, it is especially effective on children. Be it cell phones, iPods, tablets, computers, or a simple television set, technology hooks children." Write a paragraph to analyse the given argument.

You could think about what alternative explanations might weaken the given conclusion and include rationale/evidence that would strengthen/counter the given argument. 5

SECTION C: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 MARKS)

6. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. 5

A. "Coorg, or Kodagu, the smallest district of Karnataka, is home to evergreen rainforests, spices and coffee plantations. Evergreen rainforests cover thirty per cent of this district. During the monsoons, it pours enough to keep many visitors away. The season of joy commences from September and continues till March. The weather is perfect, with some showers thrown in for good measure. The air breathes of invigorating coffee. Coffee estates and colonial bungalows stand tucked under tree canopies in prime corners." (Glimpses of India)

i. State TRUE or FALSE. 1

Only (b) correctly corresponds to the extract.

- (a) A debate is a formal discussion on a particular topic, usually with two or more people presenting different viewpoints and arguments.
- (b) A description is the pattern of narrative development that aims to make vivid a place, object character, or group.
- (c) An aside is a brief comment or remark made by a character directly to the audience, which is not intended to be heard by other characters on stage.
- (d) A Ballad is a short poem that tells a simple story and has a repeated refrain.

ii. Which is the best time to visit Coorg? Answer in about 40 words. 2

iii. What do you understand by the term colonial bungalow? 1

iv. What can be inferred from the given line? 1
“During the monsoons, it pours enough to keep many visitors away”

OR

B. This, I was to learn, is a characteristic of otters; every drop of water must be, so to speak, extended and spread about the place; a bowl must at once be overturned, or, if it will not be overturned, be sat in and splashed in until it overflows. Water must be kept on the move and made to do things; when static it is wasted and provoking. Two days later, Mijbil escaped from my bedroom as I entered it, and I turned to see his tail disappearing round the bend of the corridor that led to the bathroom. (Mijbil the Otter)

i. Why did Mijbil escape from the bedroom to the bathroom? 1

ii. Select the option that correctly captures the application of the word ‘round’ as used in the extract. 1

A. Rohan lives round the corner of our school neighbourhood with his parents.

B. The best quality pearls are the ones that are lustrous and perfectly round in shape.

C. We were lost for an hour on the road and just driving round and round on the expressway.

D. The kids were insistent on riding a merry go round in the amusement park.

iii. How according to the author does Mijbil react when he sees water? Provide a brief explanation in about 30-40 words. 2

iv. Fill in the blank with ONE WORD only.

Mijbil’s _____ comes through clearly when the author mentions his habit of constantly keeping water on the move. 1

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. 5

A. The fog comes on little cat feet.

It sits looking over harbour and city

on silent haunches and then moves on. (Fog)

i. Highlight any two characteristics of fog from its description in the poem. 1

ii. How does the poet compare fog to a cat? Answer in about 40 words. 2

iii. Why do you think fog is a free verse poem? 1

A. It has only six lines.

B. It has no regular rhyme scheme.

C. It is divided in two paragraphs.

D. Both (A) and (B)

iv. Comment, in detail, on the significance of the closing phrase of the poem- ‘moves on’. 1

OR

B. He stalks in his vivid stripes

The few steps of his cage

On pads of velvet quiet

In his quiet rage

He should be lurking in shadow

Sliding through long grass

Near the water hole where plump deer pass. (A Tiger in the Zoo)

i. Name the poetic device used in the fourth line of the given extract is _____. 1

ii. What is the significance of the use of the phrase ‘quiet rage’ to describe the mood of the tiger in the poem and how does this word choice contribute to the overall mood and tone of the poem? Answer in about 40 words. 2

iii. Complete the sentence with the appropriate option. 1

According to the extract, the poet wishes for the tiger to be ‘sliding’ through the foliage as this would _____.

(a) keep the prey unsuspecting of the predator’s footsteps

(b) aid in camouflaging the presence of the predator before it rushes in

(c) help the predator pounce on the prey comfortably without getting tired

(d) support the predator's vision as it eyes its prey

iv. Identify the type of imagery used in the lines of the poem.

1

8. **Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words each. 4x3=12**
- A. The poem 'Fire and Ice' uses the metaphor of the end of the world to characterize this destruction. Do you agree? Support your answer with reasons. (Fire and Ice)
 - B. 'Money is external.' What does the poet John Berryman mean by these words? (The Ball Poem)
 - C. How did Anne justify her being a chatterbox in her essay? (From the Diary of Anne Frank)
 - D. Why does the postmaster send money to Lencho? Why does he sign the letter 'God'? (A Letter to God)
 - E. Explain how hunger is nature's strongest motivator in the story His First Flight. (Two Stories about Flying)

9. **Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words each. 2x3=6**
- A. How did Ebright's mother encourage his interest in learning? (The Making of a Scientist)
 - B. "How foolish people are when they own valuable things" Support your answer with instances from "A Question of Trust".
 - C. Why did Hari Singh change his name every month? (The Thief's Story)

10. **Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. 1x6=6**
- A. How does Amanda tackle the nagging nature of her parents? Explain with examples from the poem 'Amanda!'. What values does it portray about Amanda?

OR

- B. Valli's visit to the town has been disclosed and mother gives her a scolding. Develop a conversation between Valli and her mother emphasizing how important it is to follow the instructions given by the elders. (Madam Rides the Bus)

11. **Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. 1x6=6**
- A. Those who are satisfied with what they have are happy in life. Those who aspire more than what they can afford ruin their life. Matilda was one such person. If she were content with her life she would have led a happy life. Elaborate on the basis of the chapter 'The Necklace.'

OR

- B. "Intentions always do not justify actions,". Analyze this quote with reference to "The Question of Trust".

*****THE END*****