



INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR
TERM I EXAMINATION (2023 - 2024)
ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS: XII

MAX. MARKS: 80

DATE: 19 .9.2023

TIME: 3 Hrs.

General Instructions:

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

SECTION A: READING SKILLS

22

I Read the following text:

12

1. Among the natural resources which can be called upon in national plans for development, possibly the most important is human labour. Since the English language suffers from a certain weakness in its ability to describe groups composed of both male and female members, this is usually described as "manpower". Without a productive labour force, including effective leadership and intelligent middle management, no amount of foreign assistance or of natural wealth can ensure successful development and modernization.
2. The manpower for development during the next quarter century will come from the world's present population of infants, children and adolescents. Will they have the health, the education, the skills, the socio-cultural attitudes essential for the responsibilities of development?
3. For far too many of them, the answer is no. The reason is basic. A child's most critical years, with regard to physical, intellectual, social, and emotional development, are those before he reaches five years of age. During those critical formative years, he is cared for almost exclusively by his mother and in many parts of the world the mother may not have the capacity to raise a superior child because of her own poor health, her ignorance and her lack of status and recognition of social and legal rights, of economic parity of independence. One essential factor has been overlooked and ignored. The forgotten factor is the role of women. Development will be handicapped as long as women remain second-class citizen, uneducated without any voice in family or community, decisions without legal or economic status, and married when they are still practically children.
4. We can enhance development by improving 'women power'. Statistics show that the average family size increases in inverse ratio to the mother's years of education- is the lowest among college graduates, and the highest among those with only primary school training, or no education. Malnutrition is most frequent in large families. The principle seems established that an educated mother has healthier and more intelligent children, and that is related to the fact that she has fewer children.
5. The educational level of women is significant also because it has a direct influence upon their chances of employment, and the number of employed women forces has a direct bearing on both the gross national product and disposable income of the individual family. Disposable income influences food purchasing and therefore the nutritional status of the family. The fact that the additional income derives from the paid employment of women provides a logical incentive to restrict the family size.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

- i. Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option. **1**
Among the natural resources that can be called upon in national plans for development.....
 - A. the most important is certainly human labour.
 - B. the most important is possibly human labour.
 - C. the least developed is certainly human labour.
 - D. the least developed is undoubtedly human labour

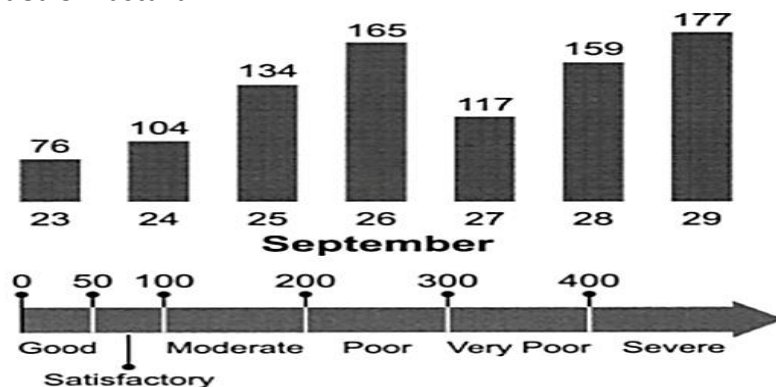
- ii. How is the average family size related to the education of the mother? **2**
- iii. What are the unavoidable factors required for the responsibilities of development? **2**
- iv. "...the number of employed women in a country's total labour force has a direct bearing on both the gross national product and disposable income of the individual family." In which of the following sentences does "bearing" have the same meaning as in this one? **1**
 - A. He is a man of dignified bearing.
 - B. These new facts have some bearing on the case.
 - C. It was supported by a beam with 4 inches of bearing upon the wall.
 - D. Because of the gaps between the parts, that fluid also acts as a bearing and cooling fluid.
- v. The writer would agree with the given statements based on paragraph three, EXCEPT: **1**
 - A. The role of women in development cannot be ignored.
 - B. Poor health and ignorance of a mother have little significance in moulding a superior child.
 - C. Development will be handicapped as long as women remain second-class citizens.
 - D. Uneducated women usually do not have any voice in their family or community.
- vi. Based on your understanding of paragraphs three and four, state why the educational level of women is significant. **2**
- vii. Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference, with respect to the following: **1**
The writer asks a striking question in paragraph two in order to highlight..... **1**
- viii. What can happen without a productive labour force, including effective leadership and intelligent middle management? **1**
- ix. Read the five headlines (a) -(e), given below: **1**
 - a. Empowerment of Women: An Asset for Development
 - b. Manpower in Society for Development
 - c. Economy Vs Manpower
 - d. Women: The Backbone of Society
 - e. The Educational Level of Women and the Nutritional Status of Family

Identify the option that displays the headline/s that DOES/ DO NOT correspond with occurrences in the passage.

 - A. b only
 - B. c only
 - C. a & c
 - D. b & c

II Read the passage given below. 10

1. Delhi's air quality is gradually deteriorating and may turn "poor" by the first week of October, with stubble burning likely to start contributing soon. The local dust is the primary factor now, with north-westerly winds raising dust over the past couple of weeks. "Delhi has seen no rain recently and conditions are dry. Local sources are also contributing, leading to a spike in pollution. Stubble burning is not playing a significant role yet, but may contribute next month," added Srivastava.



2. "The overall Delhi AQI is in the middle-end of the moderate category as forecast. "Stubble burning has started in some regions of Punjab and Haryana. Similar fire events were observed in late September in 2019 as well, but they did not impact Delhi's air quality as the region experiences south-westerly winds during that time. Satellite-derived fire events' data over the last few years indicate that stubble burning reaches a peak between the end of October and early November. During this period, the wind direction changes to north-westerly, which aids in carrying smoke from farm fires in Punjab and Haryana to NCR and beyond," added Kurinji.
3. Delhi has been witnessing its cleanest year in terms of air quality, with the lockdown contributing to a major extent. The capital has already recorded five "good" air days this year, the most since 2015, when the AQI was launched. Four such days were recorded in the month of August alone.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

- i. Write whether the following statement is true or false. 1
The local dust emanating from the north-westerly winds is the prime contributor to the current pollution, as the rains over Delhi have been delayed by the past few weeks.
- ii. Select the option that conveys the most likely reason for Delhi's AQI being in the middle of the moderate category. 1
 - A. Fire events did not impact the climate as the region experiences south-westerly winds at this time.
 - B. Fire events do not occur as the region has south-westerly winds blowing.
 - C. Fire events are doused as the south-westerly winds are blowing at this time.
 - D. Fire and wind are blowing simultaneously in the region at this time.
- iii. Complete the sentence based on the following statement. 1
 Satellite data as regards stubble burning has shown that _____.
 - A. stubble burning reaches a peak from the end of October to early November
 - B. stubble burning is a ritual from the end of October to early November
 - C. all stubble burning takes place from mid-October to early November
 - D. stubble burning is a peak-season event
- iv. What phenomenon is seen during the stubble burning time? 1
- v. Give the reasons why Delhi has been witnessing clean air in recent times. 2
- vi. What are the responses to Delhi's clean air quality? 2
- vii. Complete the sentence by selecting the most appropriate option. 1
The passage makes for a clear case of _____.
 - A. Delhi's air quality being linked to air pollution
 - B. Delhi's air quality being linked to stubble burning and wind
 - C. Delhi's air quality affected by the north-westerly winds
 - D. Delhi's air quality being dependent on the weather
- viii. Complete the sentence appropriately. 1
The falling of rain in Delhi _____.
 - A. helps to keep Delhi's air quality satisfactory.
 - B. helps to keep India's air quality satisfactory.
 - C. helps to keep Delhi's air quality unsatisfactory.
 - D. helps to increase water quality

III

SECTION B: CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

18

Note: All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purposes.

- 1 Attempt EITHER ONE from A and B given below:** 4

A. Your school is organizing a SPICMACAY (Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music

and Culture Amongst Youth) programme on the occasion of World Dance Day wherein the renowned Bharatanatyam dancer, Ms. Radhika Subrahmanyam will be giving a lecture demonstration. As the President of the Cultural Society of your school, draft a **notice** in about **50 words**, informing the students about the same. You are Ritika/Rohan of SB School, Jaipur.

OR

- B. You are the Secretary of the Literary Association of your school. Write a **notice** in not more than **50 words** for your school notice board, giving details of the proposed inauguration of the Literary Association of your school. You are Karan/Kavita of Jain, Vidyashram, Cuddalore.

2 Attempt EITHER ONE from A and B given below:

4

- A. You are Shalini Sharma/ Shailesh Sharma. As Principal of Delhi Public School, Gwalior, draft a **notice** in not more than **50 words** informing students of the change in school timings with effect from the 1st of May. State valid reasons for the change.

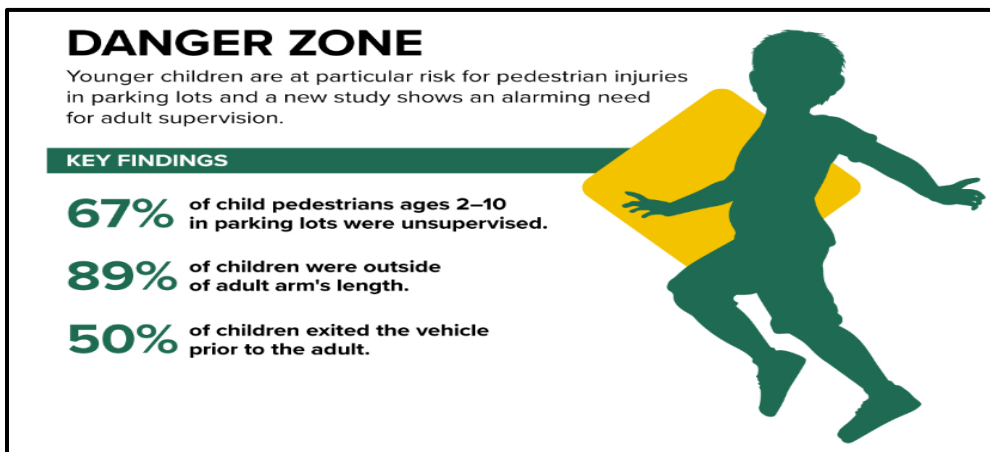
OR

- B. You have found an expensive geometry box in the school playground. Draft a **notice** in not more than **50 words** for the school notice board. You are Rani, Class XII, Angel School, Faridabad.

3 Attempt EITHER ONE from A and B given below:

5

- A. A recent study shows that parking lots present a high risk of injury, and even death in children due to lack of attention. Write a **letter to the Editor**, the Deccan Times, Bangalore about the safety of children at Parking places. Offer your suggestions. You are Anoop/Ritu, 24 Hennus Road, Bangalore. (120-150 words)



OR

- B. You are Bharat Sharma, B-120, Malviya Nagar, Delhi. Read the advertisement given below and write a **job application** to the Director. (120-150 words)

PRINCIPAL REQUIRED
Royal Public School Delhi is looking for a professionally qualified dedicated and experienced female/male PGT with strong academic, administrative & communication skills for the vacant position.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Qualification: M Phil/MSc/MA/Med with First Division (Regular Studies Preferred) ○ Experience : Minimum 10 years of Academic & Administrative ○ Age : 35 – 50 years
Eligible candidates send CV along with 2 passport-size photographs and complete testimonials to the following address by 25 th January 2023. The interview date will be intimated later.
20 Wing, Mayur Vihar, Delhi Ph. No. 01 26xxxx

4 Attempt EITHER ONE from A and B given below.

5

A. Travel is an important part of a man's education. It enables a person to learn manners, customs, languages and history of different people and places and also widens the circle of one's acquaintances. Write an article in 120-150 words on "Travel, an Important Source of Education".

THE BENEFITS OF TRAVEL IN EDUCATION

Among Many

- ✓ **Encourages their willingness to know, learn and explore**
- ✓ **Increases confidence and independence**
- ✓ **More collaborative and sensible behavior**
- ✓ **Increase Global Awareness**
- ✓ **Gain content knowledge in a memorable way**
- ✓ **Advance 21st Century Skills**
- ✓ **Develop healthy self-concept**
- ✓ **Build lifelong relationships**
- ✓ **Open doors of opportunity**
- ✓ **Pushes them to adapt to new situations**

OR

B. As part of an Entrepreneurship project, the commerce students of your school recently launched a product called Oatlicious. They not only set up a company to produce the product but also designed its advertising and marketing strategy. Write a **report** in about **120-150 words** for your school magazine giving details of the enterprise and its launch. You are Anmol/Anjali of Graham Public School, Indore. Use the following Clues:

- ✓ **Company, Rules & Regulations**
- ✓ **Conducted Market Research**
- ✓ **Guaranteeing product innovation**
- ✓ **Catchy name for product**
- ✓ **Suitable price - right for everyone**
- ✓ **Utilize a "Try It Before You Buy It" strategy**
- ✓ **Marketing & Advertising Plan**
 - **Create brand awareness & influence consumer preferences**
 - **Establish and maintain brand recognition**
 - **Perceived value & long-term goals**
 - **Correct distribution channels & grab more market share**

IV Read the given extracts to attempt the questions with reference to context.

1 Attempt EITHER ONE of the two extracts given.

1X6=6

A. *'Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing
A flowery band to bind us to the earth,
Spite of despondence, of the inhuman dearth
Of noble natures, of the gloomy days,
Of all the unhealthy and o'er-darkened ways
Made for our searching: yes, in spite of all,'*

i. Which poetic device is used in the phrase 'noble nature'?

1. simile 2. alliteration 3. metaphor 4. transferred epithet 5. hyperbole

Choose the most appropriate option:

A. Both 1 and 2

B. Only 2

C. 2 and 3

D. 4 and 5

ii. Identify the phrase from the extract that suggests the following.

The things of beauty bind us to the earth with a beautiful connection.

iii. Which the option is NOT an example of 'unhealthy and o'er darkened ways'?

A. Adopting an optimistic approach in life.

B. Trials and tribulations in our life.

C. People achieve their goals by dishonesty.

D. People adopt unfair means to achieve their goals.

iv. Complete the following analogy correctly.

Every morrow : consonance : : flowery band : _____.

v. The Earth without the beautiful things is a place full of despair and unpleasantness.

But, the _____ created by human beings ushers hope in their lives.

vi. Pick and write a synonym of 'encircling' from the extract.

OR

B. "Driving from my parent's home to Cochin last Friday morning,
I saw my mother beside me doze, open mouthed,
her face ashen like that of a corpse and realized with pain
that she was as old as she looked but soon
put that thought away,..."

i. Choose the option that displays the same poetic device as used in the line "her face ashen like that of a corpse".

A. O, my Love is like a red, red rose.

B. The breeze kissed my cheek.

C. Rays of sunshine danced through the trees.

D. Two sunflowers move in the yellow room

ii. What does the phrase "of a corpse" mean?

A. A fallen log

B. Dead body of a human

C. Dead body of an animal

D. Dead plants

iii. The theme of the given extract is _____.

iv. When the poet says that "driving from my parent's home to Cochin", she means that she is moving from her parent's home to Cochin _____. (Answer in ONE word)

v. How did the poet put the sad thought away?

- vi. Which of the following is an apt title for the extract?
 - A. Painful Parting
 - B. Concern for Motherhood
 - C. Mother's Eternal Love
 - D. My Parents

2 Attempt EITHER ONE of the two extracts given.

1X4=4

A. *"You say the man escaped?" the General asked faintly. He had been operated upon a week before, an emergency operation to which Sadao had been called in the night. For twelve hours Sadao had not been sure the General would live. The gall bladder was much involved. Then the old man had begun to breathe deeply again and to demand food. Sadao had not been able to ask about the assassins. So far as he knew they had never come. The servants had returned and Yumi had cleaned the guest room thoroughly and had burned sulphur in it to get the white man's smell out of it. Nobody said anything. Only the gardener was cross because he had got behind with his chrysanthemums.*

- i. In which of the following options can the underlined words NOT be replaced with 'faintly' as it is used in the extract?
 - A. Bring him to emergency—the doctor told softly.
 - B. The manager scolded the employee just feebly.
 - C. He seemed to be in a trance and spoke vaguely.
 - D. The lawyer argued weakly for the client and he lost his case.
- ii. ".....the gardener was cross" What does this mean?
- iii. Why was Sadao not able to ask the General about the assassin?
- iv. What made the servants return home?

OR

B. *"Sometimes I think Grand Central is growing like a tree, pushing out new corridors and staircases like roots. There's probably a long tunnel that nobody knows about feeling its way under the city right now, on its way to Times Square, and maybe another to Central Park. And maybe..... because for so many people through the years Grand Central has been an exit, a way of escape maybe that's how the tunnel I got into... But I never told my psychiatrist friend about that idea."*

- i. What were the speaker's feelings when he described the Grand Central?
 - A. he was shocked
 - B. he was fascinated
 - C. he got anxious
 - D. he got upset
- ii. What is it that he did not tell his psychiatrist friend?
- iii. Identify the figure of speech used in the sentence 'pushing out new corridors and staircases like roots'.
- iv. What does the narrator mean by Grand Central has been an exit?

3 Attempt EITHER ONE of the two extracts given.

1X6=6

A. *Listening to them, I see two distinct worlds—one of the family, caught in a web of poverty, burdened by the stigma of caste in which they are born; the other a vicious circle of the sahumars, the middlemen, the policemen, the keepers of law, the bureaucrats and the politicians. Together they have imposed the baggage on the child that he cannot put down. Before he is aware, he accepts it as naturally as his father. To do anything else would mean to dare. And daring is not part of his growing up. When I sense a flash of it in Mukesh I am cheered. "I want to be a motor mechanic" he repeats.*

- i. How would you describe the condition of "the child"?
 - 1. abysmal
 - 2. superb
 - 3. burdened
 - 4. Manageable

- A. Options 4 only
 - B. Options 3 and 4
 - C. Options 2 and 3
 - D. Options 1 and 3
- ii. The word in the extract which means the same as 'brutal' is _____.
 - iii. The two distinct worlds mentioned here are _____.
 - iv. The phrase 'stigma of caste' here refers to the _____.
 - v. How does the second world, the vicious one, impose baggage on the child?
 - vi. Author says, "I am cheered" It suggests that she is happy as _____
 - a. he is passionate about driving and likes to be a mechanic.
 - b. he is just like other boys in his place and surrenders to his fate.
 - c. he is daring and different from all the members of his family.
 - d. he has to work as a mechanic to earn his livelihood.

OR

B. *"I swam the crawl, breast stroke, side stroke, and back stroke. Only once did the terror return. When I was in the middle of the lake, I put my face under and saw nothing but bottomless water. The old sensation returned in miniature. I laughed and said, "Well, Mr. Terror, what do you think you can do to me?" It fled and I swam on. Yet I had residual doubts. At my first opportunity, I hurried west, went up the Tieton to Conrad Meadows, up the Conrad Creek Trail to Meade Glacier, and camped in the high meadow by the side of Warm Lake. The next morning, I stripped, dived into the lake, and swam across to the other shore and back — just as Doug Corpron used to do. I shouted with joy, and Gilbert Peak returned the echo. I had conquered my fear of water."*

- i. Select the option that completes the given sentence appropriately.
'The old sensation was of _____.'
 - A. being lost
 - B. being unconscious
 - C. being caught by the storm
 - D. drowning in water
- ii. Write the suitable word from the extract to complete the following analogy.
I: Douglas :: It: _____.
- iii. "Gilbert Peak returned the echo" What was echoed?
- iv. Based on the above extract, choose the statement that is TRUE for the narrator.
 - A. 'I' has been drowned in his fear.
 - B. 'I' has surrendered to his fear.
 - C. 'I' has conquered his fear.
 - D. 'I' has not conquered his fear
- v. Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that the writer had a little bit of doubt and he overcame it.
- vi. Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract.
Douglas was not sure that all the terror had left because _____.

V Answer ANY FIVE of the following in about 40-50 words each:

5X2=10

- i. What forces conspire to keep the workers of the bangle industry of Firozabad in poverty?
- ii. "What a thunderclap these words were to me" What were those words? How did they affect Franz?
- iii. In "The Last Lesson", the literary device of contrast is employed at the beginning and at the end of the lesson in a very striking manner. Explain.
- iv. Imagery in poetry generally functions as the poem's backbone or grounding rod because images are used to evoke a reader's gut-level response. Comment on the use of imagery in the poem 'A Thing of Beauty'.
- v. Explain Douglas' statement: "The instructor was finished. But I was not finished".
- vi. 'Life is what it is all about'. How is keeping quiet related to life?

VI Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40-50 words each: 2X2=4

- i. Dr Sadao was compelled by duty as a doctor to help the enemy soldier. What made Hana, his wife, sympathetic to him in the face of open defiance from the domestic staff?
- ii. The story Tiger King is a social satire. What aspects of society are satirised in the story?
- iii. What arguments does Charley offer to show his disagreement with the psychiatrist's diagnosis?

VII Answer EITHER ONE of the following in about 120-150 words. 1X5=5

- i. ***“Your visions will become clear only when you can look into your own heart. Who looks outside, dreams; who looks inside, awakes.”— C.G. Jung***

Most of the problems faced today by human beings are due to the fact that humans rarely look inside themselves. Pablo Neruda elucidates this idea in the poem ‘Keeping Quiet’. After reading the poem you are deeply influenced and decide to make a diary entry. Write it in about 120-150 words

OR

- ii. ‘The Lost Spring’, describes the aspirations and dreams of the youth and the pain of unfilled promises and shattered dreams.

Imagine yourself to be a motivational speaker who has to address high school children. Write this address in about 120-150 words elaborating on occurrences from the lesson to inspire your audience and convince them about the importance of having the freedom to pursue and achieve one's own dreams.

VIII Answer EITHER ONE of the following in about 120-150 words. 1X5=5

- i. *Derry: You think..... ‘Here’s a Boy’. You look at me...and then you see my face and you think ‘That’s bad , That’s a terrible thing. That’s the ugliest thing I ever saw. You think, Poor boy. But I’m not. Not poor.When I look in the mirror and see it, I’m afraid of me.*

Though this is the lament of a disfigured teen, many teenagers go through a phase where they have a complex about their appearance and they do not like to be underestimated or pitied. You have been asked to address your peers and share:

- ✓ The ways these kinds of feelings can burn one from the inside and make them social misfits
- ✓ The importance of understanding each individual's challenges and experiences, finding out their positive aspects and talents

Compose this draft, with reference to the Lesson “On the Face of It”

You may begin this way:

Good morning, everyone.

As I stand here to motivate the peer group facing challenges, my thoughts took me to Derry, ...

You may end this way:

To conclude, I’d like to say that ...?

OR

- ii. ***Take care of small things and the big things will take care of themselves.*** Instead of ignoring things whether big or small, do care for things to make them more sustainable. You wish to include a cameo for the above statement's explanation in your upcoming blog post. (A cameo is a short description that neatly encapsulates someone or something).

As a part of the research, discuss the statement in relation to Antarctica in about 120-150 words.

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