

CLASS: X
TIME: 3 Hours

SUBJECT: English
MAX. MARKS: 80

General Instructions:

- This paper consists of three sections
 - Section A - Reading 20 marks
 - Section B - Writing and Grammar 30 marks
 - Section C - Literature 30 marks
- All questions are compulsory.
- Marks are indicated against each question.

Section A – Reading

1. Read the passage carefully and answer the following questions carefully:

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Then all the windows of the grey wooden house (Miss Hilton used to live here. She expired last week), were thrown open, a thing I had never seen before.

At the end of the day a sign was nailed on the mango tree : FOR SALE. Nobody in the street knew Miss Hilton. While she lived, her front gate was always locked and no one ever saw her leave or saw anybody go in. So, even if you wanted to, you couldn't feel sorry and say that you missed Miss Hilton. When I think of her house I see just two colours. Grey and green. The green of the mango tree, the grey of the house and the grey of the high iron fence that prevented you from getting at the mangoes.

If your cricket ball fell in Miss Hilton's courtyard you never got it back. It wasn't the mango season when Miss Hilton died. But we got back about ten or twelve of our cricket balls. The house was sold and we were prepared to dislike the new owners even before they came. I think we were a little worried. Already we had one resident of the street who kept on complaining about us to our parents. He complained that we played cricket on the pavement; and if we were not playing cricket, he complained that we were making too much noise anyway.

One afternoon when I came back from school, Pal said, "Is a man and a woman. She pretty pretty, but he ugly like hell." I didn't see much. The front gate was open, but the windows were shut again. I heard a dog barking in an angry way.

One thing was settled pretty quickly. Whoever these people were they would never be the sort of people to complain that we were making noise and disturbing their sleep. A lot of noise came from the house that night. The radio was going at full volume until midnight when the radio station closed down. The dog was barking and the man was shouting. I didn't hear the woman.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, complete the statements that follow:

1X8=8

- Nobody went into Miss Hilton's house because her front _____ .
- Her house had only two colours, (i) _____, and (ii) _____ .
- Why couldn't the boys enter to collect their cricket ball?
- What feelings did the children have for the new neighbours?
- What was the complaint of the residents?
- Describe the new owners of the house .
- How was the first night different from the expectations of the children ?
- Other than the dog ,who else was there in the house ?

2. Read the passage given below:

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1. During our growing up years we as children were taught - both at home and school - to worship the photos and idols of the Gods of our respective religions. When we grew a little older, we were to read holy books like the Bhagwad Gita, Bible and Quran; we were told that there are a lot of life lessons to be learnt from these holy books. We were then introduced to stories from our mythologies which taught us about ethics and morality -what is good and what is bad. I also learnt to be respectful towards my parents who made my life comfortable with their hard work and love and care, and my teachers who guided me to become a good student and a responsible citizen.

2. Much later in life, I realised that though we learn much from our respective holy books, there is a lot to learn from our surroundings. This realisation dawned upon me when I learnt to enquire and explore. Everything around us - the sun, the moon, the stars, rain, rivers, stones, rocks, birds, plants and animals - teach us many valuable life lessons.

3. No wonder that besides the scriptures, in many cultures nature is also worshipped. The message that we get is to save our environment and maintain ecological balance. People are taught to live in harmony with nature and recognise that there is God in all aspects of nature.

4. Nature is a great teacher. A river never stops flowing. If it finds an obstacle in its way in the form of a heavy rock, the river water fights to remove it from its path or finds an alternative path to move ahead. This teaches us to be progressive in life, and keep the fighting spirit alive.

5. Snakes are worshipped as they eat insects in the field that can hurt our crops, thus protecting the grains for us. In fact, whatever we worship is our helper and makes our lives easy for us. There are many such examples in nature, but we are not ready to learn a lesson. Overcome with greed, we are destroying nature. As a result, we face natural disasters like droughts, floods and landslides. We don't know that nature is angry with us.

6. However, it is never too late to learn. If we learn to respect nature, the quality of our life will improve.

2.1 Answer briefly the following questions:

2X4=8

- What are we taught in our childhood and growing up years?
- Why should we respect our parents and teachers?
- What message do we get when we worship nature?
- How does a river face an obstacle that comes in its way?

2.2 Give the meanings of the words given below, as used in the passage, with the help of the options that follow:

1x4=4

(e) guided (Para 1)

- answered
- advised
- fought
- polished

(f) explore (Para 2)

- search
- frequent
- describe
- request

(g) valuable (Para 2)

- (i) proper
- (ii) desirable
- (iii) available
- (iv) useful

(h) harmony (Para 3)

- (i) beauty
- (ii) friendship
- (iii) discomfort
- (iv) honesty

Section –B (Writing and Grammar)

3. You are Prabhu Kumar/Parvati of I7E, Ravi Dass Road, Kochi. Write a letter in 100-120 words to the editor of a newspaper about the nuisance caused by loudspeakers in the city during examination days drawing attention of the concerned authorities to the problem. **8**

OR

You are Pratibha/Rahul of Class X. Write an article in 100-120 words on '*Ill effects on students of too much of television*'. You can use the following clues :

- Increasing addiction
- A great variety of programmes
- Easy availability
- Neglect of studies
- Drop in academic performance
- Result – poor physical and mental health

4. Write a story in 150 – 200 words based on the following outline :

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A stag, thirsty — a pool of clear water — reflection — saw his horns — proud of them — his thin legs — ashamed — hunter's dogs — ran — horns caught in a tree — dogs very near — pulled his horns free — ran for his life — legs saved him.

OR

Complete the story in 150 – 200 words which begins as :

It was my fifteenth birthday. My parents were very happy. Some of my class-fellows had agreed to come.

.....

5. Fill in any four of the blanks in the paragraph given below with the help of options that follow:

1 X 4 = 4

The modern student (a) _____ the importance (b) _____ physical exercise. He spends one to two hours in open air (c) _____ he takes part in different sports. However, care should (d) _____ not to overstrain (e) _____ body.

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| (a) (i) understood | (ii) understand | (iii) have understand | (iv) understands |
| (b) (i) of | (ii) by | (iii) from | (iv) with |
| (c) (i) how | (ii) which | (iii) where | (iv) why |
| (d) (i) be taken | (ii) took | (iii) takes | (iv) has taken |
| (e) (i) a | (ii) an | (iii) the | (iv) some |

6. The following paragraph has not been edited. There is an error in each line. Write the error as well as the correction as shown in the example. Do any four. **1 X 4 = 4**

Error Correction

In the prisoner's room a candle is burning dimly. A prisoner himself sat by the table. Only him back, the hair by his head, and his hands are visible from outside through any window.

e.g. is	was
(a) _____	_____
(b) _____	_____
(c) _____	_____
(d) _____	_____
(e) _____	_____

7. Rearrange the following words/phrases to form meaningful sentences. Do any four. **1 X 4 = 4**

- (i) work and play / things / different / parents see / as two
- (ii) is/ a /of time / they / waste / think / that playing
- (iii) important / games / studies / are as / as
- (iv) a student / to both / proper / should / attention / pay
- (v) can / life / only / succeed / he / in / then

Section –C (Literature)

8. Read the following extract and answer the following questions given below: **1 X 4 = 4**

**Belinda tickled him, she ticked him unmerciful,
Ink, Blink and Mustard, they rudely called him Percival,
They all sat laughing in the little red wagon
At the realio, trulio, cowardly dragon.**

- (a) Who was tickled by Belinda?
- (b) Why did she tickle 'him'?
- (c) Who are Ink, Blink and Mustard?
- (d) Why did they all laugh at 'him'?

OR

**“But, please, Stephen Stepanovitch, how can they be yours ? Do be a reasonable man !
My aunt's grandmother gave the Meadows for the temporary and free use of your
grandfather's peasants. The peasants used the land for forty years and got accustomed to
it as if it was their own, when it happened that**

- (a) Who is the speaker of the above lines?
- (b) Why did his aunt's grandmother give the meadows ?
- (c) Why did the peasants treat the land as their own ?
- (d) What light do these lines throw on the speaker's character ?

9. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each :

- (a) What kind of a girl was Peggy ?
- (b) What are the three things that can't happen in a treeless forest ?
- (c) What went wrong when Horace Danby robbed at Shotover Grange ?
- (d) Why was Bholi's father worried about her ?
- (e) How does the necklace change the course of the Loisel's life?

10. Attempt any one out of two long answer type questions in 100-120 words :

8

A. People should always try to live within their means. Aspirations have no limits but one should never forget the ground realities. Elaborate on the basis of chapter, "The Necklace".

OR

B. Simple moments prove to be very significant and save the rest of the day of the poet from being wasted. Explain on the basis of the poem 'Dust of Snow'.

11. Answer the following question in 200-250 words :

10

Describe the importance of the diary in Anne Frank's life.

OR

What problems do Margot and Anne face with regard to the way their parents treat them ?

OR

Helen Keller's determination to study and compete with the normal children helps her to enter Radcliffe College. What does this show about her personality ?

OR

Describe how Miss Sullivan succeeds in helping Helen Keller achieve her aim in life.

