

I TERM EXAMINATION 2023 - 24
CLASS X (ICSE)

Time : 2 hrs.

SUBJECT : ENGLISH LANGUAGE (PAPER I)

M.M. 80

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS :

- (i) You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes. This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.
- (ii) Attempt all five questions.
- (iii) The intended marks for questions or part of questions, are given in brackets. []
- (iv) You are advised to spend not more than 30 minutes in answering question 1 and 20 minutes in answering question 2.

Q.1 (Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question)

Write a composition (300 - 350 words) on any one of the following. [20]

- (a) Write an original story which illustrates the truth of the statement, "One lie leads to another."
- (b) Narrate how you celebrated the Children's Day in your school.
- (c) You had been waiting outside the examination hall. Describe what you saw and the sounds you heard when you arrived at the place. What were your feelings? Describe how the scene changed once you entered the hall and the examination started.
- (d) "Advertisements are a necessary evil."
Express your views either for or against this statement.
- (e) Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it. However, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



Q. 2 Select any one of the following.

- (a) Your class was taken to visit an old age home where you spent half a day with the residents. Write a letter to a friend telling him/her what you saw, how you felt and in what way you have changed since the visit.
- (b) Write a letter to the Municipal Commissioner of your city complaining against the proposal of converting the only park in your area into a multilevel parking space.

Q.3

- (a) You are the Head Boy/ Head Girl of your school. The school is organising an Inter house Painting Competition. Write a notice to be put up in your school informing students about it and inviting them to participate in the event. [5]
- (b) Write an email to a famous painter, requesting him to be the judge at the Painting Competition. [5]

cont.....2

Q.4 Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:-
Every Monday on his way back from work, Bipin Chowdhury would drop in at New Market to buy books. He had to buy at least five at a time to last him through the week. He lived alone, was not very social, had few friends and did not like wasting time in idle chat. Those who called in the evening got through their business quickly and left. Those who did not show signs of leaving would be told around 8 o'clock by Bipin Babu that he was under the doctor's order to have dinner at 8:30 p.m. After dinner, he would rest for half an hour and then turn into a book. This was a routine that had *persisted* unbroken for years. Today, Bipin Babu had the feeling that someone was observing him from close quarters. He turned around and found himself looking at a round-faced, meek-looking man who now broke into a smile.

'I do not suppose you recognize me.'

Bipin Babu felt ill at ease. It did not seem that he had ever encountered this man before. The face seemed quite unfamiliar.

'Have we met before?' Asked Bipin Babu.

The man looked greatly surprised. 'We met every day for a whole week. I arranged for a car to take you to the Hudroo Falls. My name is Parimal Ghose.'

"Ranchi?"

Now Bipin Babu realised this man was making a mistake. Bipin Babu had never been to Ranchi. He smiled and said, "Do you know who I am?"

The man raised his eyebrows and said, "Who does not know Bipin Chowdhury?"

Bipin Babu turned towards the bookshelves and said, 'You're making a mistake. I've never been to Ranchi.'

The man now laughed aloud.

"What are you saying, Mr. Chowdhury? You had a fall in Hudroo and cut your right knee. I brought you iodine. I had fixed up a car for you to go to Netarhat the next day, but you could not because of the pain in the knee. Cannot you recall anything? Someone else whom you know was also in Ranchi at that time, Mr. Dinesh Mukherjee. You stayed in a bungalow. You said you did not like hotel food. I'll tell you more: you always carried a bag with your books in it on your sightseeing trips. Am I right or not?"

Bipin Babu spoke quietly, his eyes still on the books.

'Which month in 1958 are you talking about?'

The man said, 'October.'

'No, sir,' said Bipin Babu. 'I spent October 1958 with a friend in Kanpur. You're making a mistake. Good day.'

But the man did not go, nor did he stop talking.

"Very strange. One evening I had tea with you on the veranda of your bungalow. You spoke about your family. You said you had no children and that you had lost your wife a *decade* ago."

When Bipin Babu had paid for the books and was leaving the shop, the man was still looking at him in utter disbelief.

Bipin Babu's car was safely parked in Betram Street. As he got into the car, he told the driver, 'Just drive by the Ganga, will you, Sitaram?' Driving up the Strand Road, Bipin Babu regretted having paid so much attention to the *intruder*. He had never been to Ranchi. He had an excellent memory. Unless he was losing his mind!

(a) For each word given below choose the correct meaning (as used in the passage) from the options provided:

(i) Persisted

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| (a) kept on, repeated, continued | (b) stopped |
| (c) pressurized | (d) forced |

(ii) decade

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) a period of 12 years | (b) a period of 20 years |
| (c) a period of 10 years | (d) a period of 100 years |

[3]

- (iii) intruder
 (a) invited guest (b) uninvited relative
 (c) well wisher (d) unexpected/ uninvited guest

- (b) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:
- (i) How did Bipin Chowdhury find time to read five books in a week? [2]
 (ii) How did he get rid of visitors who stayed late? [2]
 (iii) What strong argument did Bipin Babu give to prove that he was not in Ranchi at that time? [1]
 (iv) What does Bipin Babu regret? [2]
 (v) What do you feel at the end of the passage about Bipin Babu? [2]

- (c) What memories of the trip does Parimal Ghose evoke to prove that Bipin Babu was indeed in Ranchi? Answer in not more than 50 words. [8]

- Q.5 (a) Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. [4]

The first economist to win the Nobel Prize, Amartya sen's story (1) (be) greatly inspiring. At first, Sen's appointment as the head of the Department at Jadavpur University (2) stir a hornet's nest. However, Sen's intelligence and abilities (3) (justify) the appointment. At the age of 23, he (4) (Publish) his first article. But fate (5) (plan) bigger things for the young man. At the time of his birth, who (6) (know) what (7) (lie) ahead of Amartya? Perhaps, his parents asking Nobel Laureate Tagore (8)(name) him had something to do with his future achievements.

- (b) Fill in each blank with an appropriate word : [4]

- (i) Monsoon has set _____.
 (ii) Jim has set _____ a factory.
 (iii) Ram is dealing _____ diamonds.
 (iv) The students didn't look up, but carried _____ writing.
 (v) My teacher enquired _____ my mother's health.
 (vi) The new government has brought _____ many changes.
 (vii) Courage will carry him _____ difficulties.
 (viii) The merchant ship is bound _____ Mumbai.

- (c) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using 'and', 'but' or 'so'. Choose the correct option. [4]

1. The delegates arrived. The meeting started immediately.
 (i) No sooner did the delegates arrive than the meeting started.
 (ii) No sooner did the delegates arrive, the meeting started.
 (iii) No sooner the delegates arrived than the meeting started.
 (iv) The delegates arriving, the meeting started.
2. My grandfather is very old. He is very active.
 (i) My grandfather is very active because he is old.
 (ii) Although my grandfather is very old, he is very active.
 (iii) Despite my grandfather is very old, he is very active.
 (iv) Although my grandfather is very active, he is old.
3. The boy tried with all his might. The car would not move.
 (i) The boy tried with all his might to move the car.
 (ii) The car would not move when the boy tried with all his might.
 (iii) In spite of trying with all his might, the boy could not move the car.
 (iv) The car could not be moved in spite of trying with all might by the boy.
4. Sonia asked a riddle. I was unable to solve it.
 (i) Sonia asked a riddle which I was unable to solve it.
 (ii) Sonia asked a riddle that I was unable to solve it.
 (iii) **I was unable to solve the riddle which sonia asked.**
 (iv) I was unable to solve the riddle when sonia asked.

(d) Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary but do not change the meaning of the sentences. Choose the correct option.

[8]

1. Jasdeep has probably forgotten his mother's birthday. (Begin : In ----)
 - (i) In all probability, Jasdeep has forgotten his mother's birthday.
 - (ii) In all probability, Jasdeep had forgotten his mother's birthday.
 - (iii) In all probability, Jasdeep forgot his mother's birthday.
 - (iv) In all probability, Jasdeep would have forgotten his mother's birthday.
2. Mr. Sharma advised the children not to go out in the cold. (End with : _____". said Mr. Sharma.)
 - (i) " Never go out in the cold, children", said Mr. Sharma.
 - (ii) " You should not go out in the cold, children", said Mr. Sharma.
 - (iii) " Do not go out in the cold, children", Said Mr. Sharma.
 - (iv) " You are advised not to go out in the cold, children", said Mr. Sharma.
3. She was beautiful and humble. (Begin : Not only)
 - (i) Not only was she beautiful but also humble.
 - (ii) Not only was she beautiful and humble.
 - (iii) Not only she was beautiful as well as humble.
 - (iv) Not only she was beautiful but humble also.
4. Why did she leave so late? (Begin : She ought.....)
 - (i) She ought to have left so late.
 - (ii) She ought not have left so late.
 - (iii) She ought to leave so late.
 - (iv) She ought not to have left so late.
5. The report was being examined by an expert. (Begin: An expert)
 - (i) An expert was examining the report.
 - (ii) An expert is examining the report.
 - (iii) An expert examined the report.
 - (iv) An expert will examine the report.
6. Greed seemed to have motivated him. (Begin : He seemed to)
 - (i) He seemed to be motivated by greed.
 - (ii) He seemed to had been motivated by greed.
 - (iii) He seemed to have motivated greed.
 - (iv) He seemed to have been motivated by greed.
7. As soon as she heard the news she rushed home. (Begin: No sooner)
 - (i) No sooner did she heard the news, she rushed home.
 - (ii) No sooner she heard the news than she rushed home.
 - (iii) No sooner did she hear the news than she rushed home.
 - (iv) No sooner did she hear the news then she rushed home.
8. Collecting stamps is one of Sana's interests. (Begin : Sana is)
 - (i) Sana is collecting stamps as she is interested in it.
 - (ii) Sana is interesting in collecting stamps.
 - (iii) Sana is interested at collecting stamps.
 - (iv) Sana is interested in collecting stamps.