

I TERM EXAMINATION - 2021-22

CLASS XII (CBSE)

SUBJECT- ENGLISH

Time : 3 hrs.

M.M.: 80

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Question paper is divided into two sections.
2. Each question is compulsory.
3. Write the answers within the prescribed word limit.

SECTION A (40 MARKS)

1. Read the Passage Carefully and Answer Any Ten Questions by Choosing The Correct Options. **(1X10=10)**

We live in an age of wonders and miracles. It has been called the 'Age of Science', and different aspects of our life that changed in the preceding centuries have been attributed to science. This is completely true, but it is only one side of the coin. The flip side is that as we have advanced more in the field of technology, something fundamental to humanity has been left behind. Values such as empathy and concern for our fellow human beings are gradually being eroded due to the onslaught of our ever-evolving lifestyles, aided by the marvels of technological advancements.

Take the example of the Internet. On one hand, access to information and knowledge at the click of a button is a veritable boon to everyone (especially students) and this has made our lives much simpler. On the other hand, it has severely limited actual contact with teachers, friends and elders. Thus, the learning that a person gains is incomplete as he or she cannot easily take the advice that another person can give on the basis of knowledge and practical experience that is at his or her disposal. Today, a small child can access and navigate the Internet with an ease that still astounds those from the older generation. But what is even more astounding is the neglect of the basic human traits of friendship, relationships and family values. Owing to all the technological advancements and the gadgets available today, children often miss out on the most enriching childhood experiences such as playing outdoor games with friends, which apart from being immensely enjoyable and physically exhilarating, also develop traits such as teamwork and discipline at an early age.

But now when the concept of friends is gradually being limited to virtual friends on social networking sites, one shudders to think of the implications for the personality development of a child because the time spent with computers or mobile phones for entertainment can never really substitute for the holistic benefits of outdoor play. Such examples can be found aplenty.

Now if we compare the hustle and bustle of modern city life and the peace and calm of a rustic village life, we can see that in cities, life is a race with a variety of factors. It is a race that everyone tries their level best to win, but nobody actually wins as it never ends.

As for me, I think this age of rapid development has created at least as many problems as it has solved, if not more. The reason is that the basic goal of life, which should be the pursuit of happiness has now been replaced by the pursuit of money. Money and happiness are considered analogous in our present society, but they actually are not so. In this mindless pursuit of money, nobody has time now to appreciate the beauty of life, which consists not of multi-billion dollar skyscrapers, but a simple act of kindness to someone in a time of need.

So there is an urgent need to stop for a moment and think about where we are actually heading - is it development or destruction? Do we have to wait until people have grown so much apart from each other that we cannot see the suffering of our own species due to our mindless greed, or can we still mend our ways?

To answer this question, I will take the help of that most magnificent of human feelings - hope. I sincerely wish that we, as the most intelligent species on earth, would take our fair share of responsibility and sincerely think about the path we should follow. Though mankind will possibly last for a long time thanks to its determination and sheer ingenuity, we have to make sure we do not lose our humanity somewhere along the way.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option.

1. According to the passage, it is like one side of the coin to say that life has changed owing to science as.
 - a) age of science has brought wonders and miracles.
 - b) different aspects of life have changed due to science.
 - c) there is another side of the coin to look at.
 - d) this side of coin is true and sufficient to look at.
2. Which of the following is not true about the internet?
 - a) Its an easy access to information and knowledge
 - b) It has made our lives simpler.
 - c) It has limited actual contact with teachers and friends.
 - d) It can easily give advice based on personal experience.
3. Internet hampers the holistic growth of a child by
 - a) encouraging human traits of friends, society and family
 - b) enriching childhood experiences of outdoor games
 - c) providing virtual friends and gadgets
 - d) developing teamwork and discipline
4. According to the passage, true happiness lies in
 - a) simple acts of kindness
 - b) rapid development
 - c) multi-billion dollar skyscrapers
 - d) pursuit of money
5. The word 'veritable' in para2 means-
 - a) actual
 - b) big
 - c) latest
 - d) perfect
6. Antonym of holistic is
 - a) agonistic
 - b) individualistic
 - c) optimistic
 - d) pessimistic
7. We cannot see the suffering of our own species due to our
 - a) mindless greed
 - b) happiness
 - c) selfish interest
 - d) all of these
8. It has severely limited actual contact with
 - a) teachers
 - b) friends
 - c) elders
 - d) all of these
9. Money and are considered analogous in our parent society but they actually are not so.
 - a) treasure
 - b) sadness
 - c) sufferings
 - d) happiness
10. Which word in para 3 means the same as 'surprise'?
 - a) astound
 - b) traits
 - c) exhilarating
 - d) none of these
11. The word in para 4 which means the same as 'trembles' is
 - a) shudders
 - b) implications
 - c) substitute
 - d) none of these

2. Read The Passage Carefully And Answer Any Ten Questions by Choosing the Correct Options. (1X10=10)

We are what we eat. The type of food we eat has both immediate and long-term effects on us, at all the three levels - the body, the mind and the spirit. Food which is tamasik (i.e. stale or leftover) in nature is bound to generate stress as it tends to upset the normal functioning of the human body. Freshners should be avoided. Taking piping hot tea/milk or steaming hot food, whenever available, must be preferred. Excessive use of condiments also disturbs one's usually calm attitude. Further, it is a mistaken belief that smoking or drinking, even in moderation, relieves stress. Simple meals with one or two food items, rather than too many lavish dishes, are advisable. Also, vegetarian diet is preferable. Although it is customary to serve fruits with food items, it is not the right thing to do. This is because different kinds of digestive secretions are produced by the stomach for variant food items. Mixing up too many varieties of food items in one meal creates problems for the digestive system. In fact, any one type of fruit, preferably taken in the morning is better.

On an average, we eat almost three to four times the quantity of food than we actually need. A lot of body's energy is used up for digesting the excess food. It is said that after a particular level of food intake, the 'food actually eats one up'.

It is always good to eat a little less than your 'full-stomach' capacity. Besides, never eat food unless you are really hungry. To have dinner at 8 or 9 pm after a heavy snack around 5 or 6 pm in the evening is asking for trouble. In fact, skipping a meal is always good if the stomach is upset. There are varying views on the benefits of fasting, but we will not discuss them here. However, giving a break to one's stomach, at least once a week, by having only fruit or milk, etc. may be worth a try. While a little bit of water taken with meals is all right, drinking 30 to 60 ml of water with food is not advisable. Water, taken an hour or so before or after meals, is good for digestion. One's diet must be balanced with all the required nutrients for a healthy living.

Also remember, excess of everything is bad. Related to the problem of stress, excessive intake of salt is definitely out. Too much of sugar, fried food and chilies are not good either. Over-indulgence and excessive craving for a particular taste/type of food generates rajasik (aggressive) or at worst, tamasik (dull) tendencies. An even more important aspect of the relationship between food and stress lies not so much in what or how much we eat but how the food is taken. For example, food eaten in great hurry or in a state of anger or any other negative state of mind is bound to induce stress. How the food is served is also very important. Not only the presentation, cutlery, crockery etc. play a role, the love and affection with which the food is served is also significant. Finding faults with food while it is being eaten is a bad habit. It is better not to eat the food you do not like, rather than finding faults with it. It is good to have regular food habits. Workaholics who do not find time to eat food at proper meal time invite stomach ulcers. One must try to enjoy one's food, and therefore, eating at the so-called lunch/dinner meetings is highly inadvisable. Every morsel of food should be enjoyed with a totally peaceful state of mind. Food and discussions should not be mixed. There are accepted ways to 'charge' the food we eat. Prayer is perhaps 'the best method for energizing the food and it does definite additional good at no extra cost. By: Lt. Gen. M.M. Walia.

On the basis of your reading of the passage, select the most appropriate answer from the given options.

1. Tamsik food influences a person by
 - a) generating stress
 - b) making a person energetic
 - c) generating large amount of energy
 - d) making a person bold

2. Generally what incorrect belief do people practise at the table?
 - a) Smoking helps to digest food.
 - b) Smoking or drinking even in moderation relieves stress.
 - c) Pickles add to taste.
 - d) Condiments help to enhance appetite.
3. The writer says that the 'food actually eats one up' because the
 - a) Digestion takes too much time.
 - b) Excessive intake of food takes a lot of body's energy to digest it.
 - c) Food sustains the body.
 - d) Person becomes healthy.
4. Rajasik tendencies are generated due to:
 - a) Over indulgence in fried food.
 - b) Too much use of spicy food.
 - c) Over indulgence and excessive craving for a particular taste.
 - d) Excess of everything.
5. Here, the word 'charge' means

a) to impose or ask as a price or fee	b) to attach by rushing violently against
c) to accuse formally	d) to feel full of vigour
6. What does 'induce' mean?

a) Reduce	b) Cause, influence
c) Aggressive	d) To intake
7. should be avoided.

a) fresheners	b) cigarettes
c) tobacco	d) sweets
8. It is always good to eat less than your capacity.

a) full stomach	b) work
c) work out	d) none of these
9. Water taken an hour or so before or after meals is good for

a) digestion	b) good health
c) excretion	d) healthy heart
10. Find the word in para 1 which means the same as 'to avoid extremes'

a) estimation	b) mean
c) moderation	d) modulation
11. Find the word in para 6 which means the same as 'not worth recommending'

a) worthless	b) useless
c) inadvisable	d) none

3. Read the extracts given below and attempt Any Two of the three given by answering the questions that follow. (4+4=8)

A. Food is more important for survival than an identity. "If at the end of the day we can feed our families and go to bed without an aching stomach, we would rather live here than in the fields that gave us no grain," say a group of women in tailored saris when I ask them why they left their beautiful land of green fields and rivers. Wherever they find food, they pitch their tents that become transit homes. Children grow up in them, becoming partners in survival. And survival in Seemapuri means rag-picking. Through the years, it has acquired the proportions of a fine art. Garbage to them is gold. It is their daily bread, a roof over their heads, even if it is a leaking roof. But for a child it is even more.

- 1) The phrase 'transit homes' refer to the dwellings that are
 - a) unhygienic
 - b) temporary
 - c) inadequate
 - d) fragile
 - 2) Identify the figure of speech used in the sentence 'Garbage to them is gold'.
 - a) hyperbole
 - b) simile
 - c) synecdoche
 - d) personification
 - 3) Choose the term which best matches the statement 'Food is more important for survival than an identity.'?
 - a) immorality
 - b) necessity
 - c) obligation
 - d) ambition
 - 4) What does 'acquired the proportions of a fine art' mean?
 - a) Rag-picking has regained its lost status.
 - b) A segment of rag-pickers are skilled in fine arts
 - c) Rag-picking has attained the position of a skill
 - d) Only a few people are experts in rag-picking
- B) Then I hurried by as fast as I could go, the blacksmith Wachter, who was there, with his apprentice, reading the bulletin called after me.
1. Who was hurrying fast?
 - a) The villager
 - b) Franz
 - c) M. Hamel
 - d) Bub
 2. Where was 'I' hurrying fast to?
 - a) school
 - b) temple
 - c) park
 - d) market
 3. What was the bulletin that Wachter was reading?
 - a) about lost battles
 - b) the orders of commanding officers
 - c) the draft
 - d) all of these
 4. Which word means the same as 'learner' in the a extract
 - a) apprentice
 - b) novice
 - c) probationer
 - d) trainee
- C) Jo was starting to fuss with her hands and look out of the window, at the crack of day that showed under the shade. She thought the story was all over. Jack didn't like women when they took anything for granted; he liked them apprehensive, hanging on his words. "Now, Jo, are you listening?" "Yes." "Because this is very interesting. Roger Skunk's mommy said, 'What's that awful smell?' "Wha-at?" "And, Roger Skunk said, 'It's me. Mommy, I smell like roses.' And she said, 'Who made you smell like that?' And he said, 'The wizard,' and she said, 'Well, of all the nerve. You come with me and we're going right back to that very awful wizard.'"
1. Choose the option that best demonstrates the relevant traits of Jo and Jack respectively, based on the extract provided.
 - a) curious and irritable
 - b) patient and irritable
 - c) curious and lethargic
 - d) patient and lethargic
 2. "Jo was starting to fuss with her hands". This means that Jo was
 - a) feeling anxious
 - b) getting restless
 - c) feeling lazy
 - d) fighting sleep
 3. Jo's "What-at?" indicated what she was feeling. Pick the option that correctly states these feelings.

1. terror	2. surprise	3. ignorance	4. displeasure	5. joy	6. approval
a) 1 and 3	b) 2 and 4				
c) 3 and 6	d) 4 and 5				

4. Mommy says, 'Well, of all the nerve.' This reveals her
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a) approval, surprise and pleasure. | b) pleasure, hope and approval |
| c) betrayal, disapproval and hurt | d) shock, anger and disapproval |

4. Read the extracts given below and attempt Any One of the two given by answering the questions that follow. (1x4=4)

A. On sour cream walls, donations, Shakespeare's head. Cloudless at dawn, civilised dome riding all cities. Belled, flowery, Tyrolese valley. Open-handed map Awarding the world its world. And yet, for these Children, these windows, not this map, their world. Where all their future's painted with a fog,

- i. What does the expression - sour cream walls - suggest?
 1. display of donated artifacts on the walls.
 2. badly maintained walls.
 3. wall-to-wall furniture.
 4. a poor choice of paint for walls.
- ii. The map of the world in the classroom symbolizes
 1. hopes and aspirations of the children
 2. travel plans of the school authorities
 3. a world that is unconnected to the children
 4. interconnectivity within the world
- iii. The expression, Shakespeare's head is an example of

1. pun	2. satire
3. parody	4. irony
- iv. In the extract, 'future's painted with a fog' suggests that the
 1. classroom is as foggy as the paint on the walls
 2. beautiful valleys are not part of the children's future
 3. life ahead for the slum children is as unclear and hazy as fog
 4. fog often finds itself in the classrooms through broken windows

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 realised with pain that she was as old as she looked but soon put that thought away."

- i. Where was the poet coming from?

a. home	b. office
c. bank	d. none
- ii. Where was the poet's mother?

a. at her home	b. sitting beside the poet in the car
c. in the hospital	d. travelling to Cochin
- iii. How does the poet describe her mother?

a. old and pale	b. ageing
c. ashen like that of a corpse	d. all of these
- iv. What thoughts did the poetess drive away?

a. her mother's death	b. her mother's declining health
c. her ageing mother	d. all of these

5. Attempt ANY EIGHT questions from the ten given below. (1x8=8)

- i. The story THE LAST LESSON highlights which human tendency?

1. male chauvinism	2. procrastination
3. courage	4. cowardice
- ii. What does the Third Level signify?
 1. A human tendency to escape from the harsh realities of the present to past happy times.
 2. A third way on Grand Central Station

3. A third gate on Grand Central Station
 4. none
- iii. Spender's use of imagery in 'His eyes live in a dream, of squirrel game, in free room, other than this', brings out
 1. the similarity between the frail bodies of a squirrel and the children in the classroom
 2. the contrast between studying in the dreary classroom and playing outside freely
 3. the comparison of the dingy home of the squirrel and the dreary classroom
 4. the difference between the games of the squirrel and those of the children
 - iv. In which languages has Kamla Das written stories and novel?
 1. English and Tamil
 2. English and Hindi
 3. English and Urdu
 4. English and Malayalam
 - v. Concluding his last lesson by writing 'Vive la France!' on the blackboard shows that M. Hamel
 1. was overwhelmed with emotions
 2. wanted to distract all attending class that day
 3. was keen on not leaving the country
 4. wanted to teach French participles through it
 - vi. How did Saheb respond towards narrator's assurance of opening a school for him?
 1. empathy
 2. wonder
 3. sympathy
 4. joy
 - vii. What did Franz find on reaching the school?
 - a. people were dancing
 - b. school was closed
 - c. police patrolling
 - d. strange quietness
 - viii. Saheb's discarded and worn out tennis shoes are
 1. an indication to procure different ones
 2. a dream come true
 3. a sign of his poverty
 4. an insult to the sport itself
 - ix. In the poem, My Mother at Sixty-six, all that the poet did was smile and smile and smile..... Her smile is
 1. sudden, in response to her mother's
 2. meaningful and loaded with love
 3. accompanied with tears of farewell
 4. put on to cheer her mother

SECTION -B (40 marks)

WRITING

6. Attempt ANY ONE of the following. (1x3=3)

(A) You are Sameera/Sameer, the owner of Pink Power, a cafe run only by women. You are looking for an interior designer to design the interiors of the cafe. Draft a suitable advertisement for the same, in about 50 words to be published in the classified columns of the National Daily, the local newspaper.

OR

(B) You are Rachael/Rueben, President of the Wellness Cell of your school. You decide to organize a workshop, to raise awareness of the importance of mental health. This workshop would be conducted by the school counsellor. Write a notice in about 50 words, informing the students of class XI-XII about the workshop.

7. Attempt ANY ONE of the following. (1x3=3)

(A) You are Dr. Stanzin, a certified art therapist from Leh. You have been invited by G.D. Public School, Jammu, to conduct a seminar for students on 'Art Therapy the Way Forward'. This seminar is to introduce students to the usefulness of art in dealing with personal and social problems. Write your reply, in about 50 words accepting the invitation.

OR

(B) You are Rukmini/Raja of R-201, Mayur Vihar, Delhi., You have opened up a new coaching centre catering to all subjects for class XII. Prepare a draft of formal invitation for the purpose.

8. **Attempt ANY ONE of the following. (1x5=5)**

You are Shubha/Krushna Mohanty, residing in Subhadra Apartments, Bhuvneshwar, Orissa. You have observed, with increasing concern, that garbage collection continues to be done without segregation in your neighborhood. Write a letter to the editor of The Real Times, Bhuvneshwar, in about 120-150 words, explaining your concern along with the rationale behind the importance of garbage segregation.

OR

You are Aami/Ajoy Sarkar of 83, Model Town, Guwahati, Assam. You are a sports enthusiast. Rangshala School, Guwahati, has advertised the requirement of a Sports teacher, in the local newspaper. You are excited and decide to apply for the post. Write a letter in 100-120 words, responding to the given advertisement, submitting your candidature with a detailed bio-data.

9. **Attempt ANY ONE of the following. (1x5=5)**

While reading about new places and searching for them online has its merits, the advantages of actually travelling to various destinations far exceed them. Write an article in 120-150 words for the magazine Travel Times, evaluating both these options. You are Amrit/Amit.

OR

Ranikhet district, Uttarakhand, on the occasion of Basant Panchami celebrations had organized a three-day cultural festival. You are Bhupinder/Priyanka Bhisht. Your newspaper had deputed you to cover the inaugural event of this festival. So write a report about the same in 120-150 words.

LITERATURE (24 marks)

10. **Attempt ANY FIVE out of the six questions given below, in 30-40 words each. (2x5=10)**

- i. In the chapter THE LAST LESSON, why were the old men of the village present in the classroom?
- ii. Justify the title of the lesson The Lost Spring.
- iii. Kamala Das speaks of 'an old familiar ache....' What do you think is the reason for this feeling?
- iv. Comment on the significance of the villagers sitting at the back in M.Hamel's classroom.
- v. 'Little has moved with time, it seems, in Firozabad.' State any one reason why the writer says this.
- vi. What does Stephen Spender want for the children in the slum?

11. **Attempt ANY TWO out of three questions given below in 30-40 words each (2x2=4)**

- i. In his letter to Charley, Sam writes, '..... then I got to believing you were right.' What could have made Sam begin to believe?
- ii. How does Jo want the story to end and why?
- iii. What makes Jack feel caught in an ugly middle position.

12. **Attempt ANY ONE of the following questions in 120-150 words. (1x5=5)**

- (a) How was M Hamel a different teacher while delivering his last lesson?
- (b) It is illegal to employ children in the bangle industry. Even then many children are employed in this industry in Firozabad. Why?

13. **Attempt ANY ONE out of the following questions in 120-150 words. (1x5=5)**

- (a) How does Charley the narrator describe the third level at Grand Central Station?

OR

- (b) With respect to the events in the story, 'Should Wizard Hit Mommy', who would you support, Wizard or Mommy? Why?
