

English Class | 12

Time : 3 hrs. 15 min.

M.M. : 100

● **Instruction:** First 15 minutes are allotted for the candidates to read the question paper.

Note : This paper is divided into Section A and Section B. Both the sections are compulsory.

Section A

1. Explain with reference to the context any *one* of the following passages : 10

(a) In this world of human affairs, there is no worse nuisance than a boy at the age of fourteen. He is neither ornamental, nor useful. It is impossible to shower affection as on a little boy, and he is always, getting in the way. If he talks with a childish lisp, he is called a baby, and if he answers in a grown way, he is called impertinent. In fact any talk at all from him is resented. Then he is at the, unattractive growing age.

Ans. Reference to the context : These lines have been taken from the lesson 'The Homecoming' written by R.N. Tagore. These lines show the feelings of a teenager child. What situations he/she has to face?

Explanation : In this extract the narrator says that teenage specially age of fourteen in itself is a worse thing. A boy of this age is not considered gorgeous nor useful. It is not possible to shower love on him. He is always felt himself as an obstacle in someone's way. If he talks in a childish way he is called a baby but if he speaks in a manner, he is not respected. In fact, whatever he speaks makes angry to others. Then, he does not get any attraction at his growing age.

(b) You are living in an age when there are great opportunities for women in social work, public life and administration. Society requires women of disciplined minds and restrained manners. Whatever line of work you undertake, you should bring to it an honest, disciplined mind. You will then succeed and have the joy of your work.

Ans. Reference to the context : These lines are taken from the lesson 'Women's Education' written by S. Radhakrishnan. Dr S. Radhakrishnan is talking about the kind of education which is required for our women.

Explanation : The author says that there are many opportunities for women at present. They have great chance in social work. They can work in public life that is they can work in politics. They can find good positions in administration. Our society is in need of such women those who have disciplined minds and controlled manners.

The writer advises us if we want to succeed and enjoy our work, it is necessary that work should be done by honest and disciplined mind.

2. Answer any *one* of the following questions in not more than 30 words : 5

(a) What are the three important qualities of a valuable life ?

Ans. The three important qualities of a valuable life are self control, charity and compassion. Without these qualities life is worthless.

(b) What do you understand by social service as a religious duty ?

Ans. The meaning of 'social service' as a religious duty is that we should serve all human beings of the society without caring for their caste, religion, colour and higher or lower rank.

(c) What is utility of faith in life ?

Ans. The secret of health is a pure heart and a well-planned mind. The secret of success is an unflinching faith and a wisely-directed aim of life. The secret of power is to keep under control with will power the dark horse (evil) of desire.

3. Fill in the blanks in the following sentences, with the most suitable words given within the brackets : 4 × 1 = 4

(a) The double minded man is in all his ways. (free, rigid, unstable, stable)

Ans. unstable

(b) I am anxious that our great should be studied. (scholars, classics, writers)

Ans. classics

(c) Hindu civilization will, we believe its continuity. (maintain, retain, destroy)

Ans. retain

(d) I cannot kill you, but I can you. (replace, redress, reprieve, return)

Ans. reprieve

4. Answer any *two* of the following questions in about 30 words each : $5 + 5 = 10$

(a) Why did the astrologer leave the village ?

Ans. The astrologer was forced to leave the village as he had stabbed a man in his young age and pushed him into a well thinking him to be dead.

(b) How can you say that Sanku was not a professional thief ?

Ans. By nature Sanku was not a thief, but poverty made him turn a thief. His soul cursed him for doing so. This way it can be said that Sanku was not a professional thief.

(c) Describe the plight of the child, after he loses the company of his parents as given in the story 'The Lost Child'.

Ans. The story tells us that a child cannot enjoy anything in the absence of his parents when the child knows that they have been lost.

5. Explain with reference to the context any *one* of the following extracts : 10

(a) His state is kingly,
Thousands at His bidding speed,
And past over land and ocean without rest,
They also serve, who only stand and wait.

Ans. Reference to the context : This last stanza of the poem 'On His Blindness' is composed by John Milton. He expresses the firm belief in God.

Explanation : Patience says to Milton that God does not need work done by everybody. Man should not complain. Patience then advises him further. God is like a king. He has a very large number of servants. On his command thousands of fairies and angels run on land and the sea. God recognises them too who are ready but get no chance. God feels that everyone who is ready to carry out His command has really served Him.

(b) Who hath his life from rumours freed,
Whose conscience is his only retreat,
Whose state neither flatterers feed,
Now ruin make oppressors great,
Who envies none, whom chance doth raise,

Ans. Reference to the context : These lines have been taken from the poem 'Character of a Happy Life' composed by Sir Henry Wotton.

The poet points out some qualities which are essential for a happy life. He is so strong that nothing can touch him.

Explanation : The happy man is above rumours. He is not influenced by them. If he has to face a position of danger or difficulty he is protected and guided by his conscience. His mind is always balanced. Flattery does not fill him with vanity and when he is ruined he is not so sad that his enemies may feel victorious.

6. Give the central idea of *one* of the following poems : 7

(a) Character of a Happy Life

(b) A Lament

(c) My Heaven.

- Ans.** (a) Character of a Happy Life
(Sir Henry Wotton)

A man is happy if he is not subject to another's will. He is not a slave to his passions. He does not fear death and public criticism. He works as his conscience says. He does not envy the progress of others. He does not harm others. For him joys and sorrows are alike. He is content with what he has.

(b) A Lament
(P.B. Shelley)

The poet is sad and depressed. He has lost his youth and its joys. He remembers them and feels disappointed. Death is approaching him slowly which will snatch his life and its joys from him.

(c) My Heaven
(Rabindranath Tagore)

The poet desires for ideal perfection in his motherland. He wants real and spiritual freedom. He wants his countrymen to be fearless, self-respecting and free from narrow loyalties. Men should be perfectly reasonable and should always try for perfection. His country will then be a heaven in itself.

7. Define any *one* of the following figures of speech with two examples : $2 + 2 = 4$

(a) Metaphor

(b) Personification

(c) Oxymoron.

Ans. (a) Metaphor: Metaphor is an implied simile. In it two things of different kinds are compared.

Example: (i) Infancy is the dawn of life.

(ii) Life is but a walking shadow.

(b) Personification: By this figure we give intelligence and personality to inanimate things.

Example: (i) The moon veiled her face.

(ii) Let not ambition mock their useful toil.

(c) Oxymoron: In this figure two contradictory qualities are predicted at once of the same thing.

Example: (i) Life is bitter sweet.

(ii) And having nothing, he hath all.

Section B

8. (a) Change any *one* of the following sentences into indirect form of speech : 2

(i) The traveller said, "Can you tell me the way to the nearest inn ?" "Yes", replied the peasant, "do you want one in which you can spend the night ?" "No" replied the traveller, "I want only a meal."

(ii) The boy said to the principal "Thank you sir, your advice will certainly guide me."

Ans. (i) The traveller asked him if he could tell the way to nearest inn. The peasant replied in affirmative and asked if he wanted one in which he could spend the night. Traveller replied in negative and said that he wanted only a meal.

(ii) The boy thanked the principal as his advice would certainly guide him.

(b) Combine any one of the following as directed within the brackets : 2

- (i) She heard the news. She fainted.
(simple sentence)
- (ii) He is very poor. He cannot buy a scooter.
(complex sentence)

Ans. (i) Hearing the news she fainted.
(ii) He is so poor that he cannot buy a scooter.

(c) Transform any one of the following sentences as directed within the brackets : 2

- (i) The children sang the National Anthem very cheerfully.
(into Passive voice)
- (ii) Her younger brother is not so intelligent as she is.
(into Comparative degree)

Ans. (i) The National Anthem was sung very cheerfully by the children.
(ii) She is more intelligent than her younger brother.

(d) Correct any two of the following sentences :

$$2 \times 1 = 2$$

- (i) The gentry of this town is not invited.
(ii) My sympathies are always with the poor.
(iii) Mohan says that he is superior than me.
(iv) Neither of those children have taken your pen.

Ans. (i) The gentry of this town are not invited.
(ii) My sympathy is always with the poor.
(iii) Mohan says that he is superior to me.
(iv) Neither of those children has taken your pen.

9. (a) Use any three of the following idioms / phrases in your own sentences so as to bring out their meanings clearly : $3 \times 1 = 3$

- (i) All the sundry (ii) Black and white
(iii) To get rid of (iv) Nip in the bud
(v) Hue and cry.

Ans. (i) **All and sundry** : Rita was fondly known to all and sundry at ceremonial parade.
(ii) **Black and white** : Before starting business partnership deed should be but in black and white.
(iii) **To get rid of** : We should get rid of our bad customs and usages.
(iv) **Nip in the bud** : Evil should be nipped in the bud.
(v) **Hue and cry** : It is useless to make hue and cry on spilt milk.

(b) Write antonyms of the following words :

$$3 \times 1 = 3$$

- (i) ample (ii) cheerful (iii) wild.

Ans. (i) meagre (ii) gloomy (iii) civilized.

(c) Write synonyms of the following words :

$$3 \times 1 = 3$$

- (i) brave (ii) corrupt (iii) fatal.

Ans. (i) fearless (ii) dishonest (iii) deadly.

(d) Substitute one word for the following expressions : $3 \times 1 = 3$

- (i) A selfish person who always thinks of himself
(ii) One who speaks on behalf of others
(iii) Child born after the death of his father.

Ans. (i) egotist
(ii) spokesperson
(iii) posthumous.

(e) Use the following words in sentences of your own so as to bring out the difference in their meanings clearly : $1 + 1 = 2$

(i) Judicial (ii) Judicious.

Ans. (i) **Judicial**: The two states has different *judicial* and political systems.

(ii) **Judicious**: They made *judicious* use of government incentives.

10. Translate the following into English : 10

भालू एक जंगली जानवर है। वह जंगल का राजा तो नहीं है, किन्तु शेर की तरह ही खूंखार होता है। पेड़ों की घनी छाया में, नदी के किनारे रहना, भालू को ज्यादा पसन्द है। अपने रहने के लिए भालू जमीन में मांद बनाता है। शरीर पर बहुत सघन लम्बे बाल होने के कारण उसे बहुत गर्मी लगती है। भालू पालने के लिए, पालने वाले को शासन से अनुमति लेना आवश्यक है। यह मांसाहार पर अधिक निर्भर करता है। मदारी इसे नचाता है। इसकी नाच छोटे बच्चों को बहुत आकर्षित करती है। इसकी नाक और मुख से निकलने वाली आवाज बड़ी डरावनी होती है।

Ans. Bear is a wild animal. He is not a king of the jungle but is fierce like lion. Mostly bear likes to live in dense shade of trees near the rivers. He digs den in the earth to live in. Due to long dense hair on body he suffers from the heat. To keep this animal as pet it is mandatory to take permission from the government. He lives mostly on non-vegetarian food. The jugglar causes him to dance. His dance attracts the little children. The voice coming out of his nose and mouth is very terrifying.

11. Write an essay on any one of the following topics in about 200 words : 12

- (a) The Aim of Your life
(b) Vocational Education.
(c) Science: Its uses and Abuses
(d) Types of People Your Dislike
(e) Place of Mother in Society.

Ans. (a) **The Aim of My Life**

Introduction : One has to fix an aim in life to be successful. An aimless life is practically no life at all. A person without aim is like a ship without a rudder. The aim puts one into action. It is therefore imperative that we should have an aim from the very beginning when our formal education begins. We must choose a profession by evaluating our qualities of head and heart.

Choice of profession : Choosing a right profession is the key to success in our future life. Gone are the days when choosing a profession as a career was not taken seriously. The son of one's profession chose the same profession, i.e. a farmer's son became a farmer; a carpenter's son chose to be a carpenter. It is not possible now as there are innumerable choice of profession out of which one can choose depending upon one's talents and aptitude and lead a happy life.

My ambition : Everyone, irrespective of whether he is rich or poor, old or young, intelligent or dull dreams of a rich future life. Some people want to be administrators, some wish to be doctors, engineers, defence officers, professors, advocates etc. keeping in mind my aptitude and taste, I wish to be a doctor. It has been my dream since my childhood.

Reasons for my choice : I may be called an orthodox in my aim of life since my family tradition goes in favour of my choice. Both my parents are doctors. This profession may give me a chance to be blissful by rendering service to lessen the pains of the sick and ailing patients. I do not want to serve in a hospital in the city. I plan to start a dispensary in a remote village where medical facilities are beyond poor man's reach. I shall give them free medicine.

Conclusion : This is my dream; and I pray to God to fulfil my ambition. Since sincerity and devotion will be my guiding factors, I am sure of my success.

(b) Vocational Education

Today we live in a new age in which democratic values are recognized. Democracy means that every individual shall be given equality of opportunity. The son of the poor man will have as good a chance as the son of the rich man.

To pick out those who show special aptitude is not an easy task. From the school stage children will have to be carefully watched and their special interests studied. No two human beings are alike just as no two petals of a flower are exactly the same. We have to make a rough classification of students according to their aptitudes.

A extravert child is sociable, does not like to be alone, plays games and takes part in debates. The introvert child will be suitable for professions which call forth activity of the mind. Perhaps if a child is not too much of an extrovert and not too much of an-introvert he may become an administrator, a politician, a statesman or an ambassador.

In this way we will be able to determine a child's vocation in life. We all like change and hate monotony. If a child is told that he is to be a teacher and must take to reading hard, a time will come when he will begin to hate the sights of books. We must not force our decision upon our child. We must be perfectly right and be doing everything in the child's interests.

We have a bright future for vocational training in India. Vocational training in schools, colleges and universities is the slogan. Government can employ only a limited number but the pace with which the industrialization of India is proceeding and its foreign trade going up millions of young man can be absorbed. The sooner younger generation learn some trade, some vocation the better it is.

(c) Science: Its Uses and Abuses

Introduction : The modern age is the age of science. Science has made impossible things possible. We cannot think of anything without science. It is very useful to us in every walk of life.

Uses of electricity : The invention of electricity is a great boon. It is now used to cook our food, to wash our clothes and to light our houses and streets. It runs our trains. The electric fan, the heater, the press, the radio, the television *etc.*, make our life comfortable. It is useful and helpful for industries and for medical science. Electricity runs huge machines in factories which yield maximum production to fulfil the needs of growing population.

Wonders of medical science : Science has helped doctors in fighting diseases. Radium, Sulpha drugs and X-rays are wonderful inventions of science. Radium cures cancer. Injections and vaccinations check diseases. It gives eyes to the blind, tongues to the dumb, legs to the lame and ears to the deaf. It even changes sex and produces testtube babies.

Means of transport : Science has invented many new means of transport and communication. The invention of trains, motor cars and aeroplanes has shortened distance. It has saved time and money. It has made travelling easier, cheaper and swifter.

Some wonderful scientific inventions :

(a) Telephone : Telephone and telegraphy are wonderful inventions. We can talk with our relatives and friends living thousands of miles away.

(b) Means of amusement : Gramophone is another invention of science. It enables us to hear the voice of persons, living or dead. The radio, the cinema and the television amuse us. We get news of current affairs of the world.

(c) Different machines : Science has given us different types of machines. They increase production. The tractors and other implements are used in cultivation.

Conclusion : Science has also invented many destructive things. Atom bombs and jet fighters rain death. Thus it is a great boon in peace and a great curse in war. It is a good servant but a bad master.

(d) Types of People I Dislike

Meeting our near and dear ones fills our heart with pleasure. We look forward to their visit. In the same way these are some people to whom we do not like to meet. I also have some reservation for such people. I hate the company of such bad persons.

First of all I do not like the guests who happen to come by chance or who are uninvited. So an unwelcome guest gives me lot of trouble and distress. Such a person turns out to be a big chatterbox. He becomes talkative about useless happenings.

The custom of dowry has caused a lot of sufferings to the society. I hate such greedy fellows who make dowry a necessary condition for marriage. These people should believe in dignity of labour and take pride in possessing things by their hard earned money.

The big screen has its own drawbacks. The excessive use of vulgarity in language and sex misguides the immature minds. I hate such persons who are indulged to follow the thrill and the romance of the films.

I also dislike the person who is not an ideal neighbour. A lady always visiting her neighbours and backbiting others is harmful. Her pleasure is criticising others and spreading rumours. I dislike such type of ladies who are undesirable characters for me.

I also dislike the persons who come and waste my time. They talk long and meaninglessly. They speak the topic in which I am least interested. I hate flatterers who are cheap and talk in over-sweet tones.

(e) Place of Mother in Society

Introduction : My mother is highly educated. She is religious. She recites the Ramayana, the Gita and the Vedic *mantras*. She performs Yajna on every Sunday. Thus she makes the home hygienic and full of religious fervour.

Welfare of the family : My mother had a clear vision of the true welfare of the family. We never saw her wavering in the face of difficulties. She remained as firm as a rock all her life. I still remember “For the hand that rocks the cradle, is the hand that rules the world.”

Perfect training given by her : She made us rise early, bathe in cold water and take exercises in the open air. This is why we are healthy and strong.

She gave us some biographies of the great men. They taught us the influence of their mother on them. History is full of such examples. Shivaji, Sir Walter Scott and M.K. Gandhi were what their mothers made them. So it was with Abraham Lincoln. He wrote, “All that I am, and hope to be, I owe to my mother.”

Home as training hub : Home is the first training school of a child. He gets his education here. A child learns and imbibes the qualities of its parents, while still in the womb. The glaring example of this is Abhimanyu. He learnt the strategy of breaking *Chakravyuh* in the womb. My mother is always cheerful, happy and jolly.

Child psychology : My mother knows the child psychology. If we put some questions to our father, he scolds us. He says he has no time to answer such silly questions. But our mother listens to our problems and solves them lovingly. This is why Thomas Alva Edison found in his mother his best teacher. She gives us everything on time. She manages the home so well that everything goes on smoothly.

When my father comes home from office, she serves him properly. She gives him breakfast and tea. She is very particular about my father. She knows he is the bread-earner.

Conclusion : My mother is everything for us. She is a mother, a nurse, a doctor, a teacher, a caretaker, an efficient administrator, and what not.

12. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

Speech is a great blessing but can also be a great curse. It helps us to make our intentions and desires known to fellows, it can also, if we use it carefully, make our attitude completely understood. A slip of tongue or the use of an unusual word or an ambiguous word, and so on may create an enemy, where we had hoped to win a friend. Again different classes of people use vocabularies and the ordinary speech of an educated man, may strike an uneducated man as showing pride. Unwillingly we may use a word which bears a different meaning to our listener from what it does to men of our own class. Thus speech is not a gift to use lightly without thought but one which demands careful handling. Only a fool will express himself, alike to all kinds and conditions of men.

Questions :

- (a) How can speech be a great blessing? 2

Ans. Speech can be a great blessing if it is pronounced carefully and is understood in the proper sense as desired by speaker.

- (b) How can speech be a great curse? 2

Ans. If we use speech carelessly, it will make our attitude completely misunderstood. Then speech turns to be a great curse.

- (c) Explain the underlined portions. $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}$

Ans. (i) slip of tongue or use of an unusual word or an ambiguous word : slip of tongue, unusual word and ambiguous word all these three create similar effect and the speaker's words produce other meaning than the meaning he likes to convey.

- (ii) speech is not a gift to use lightly without thought : speech is a unique gift of Nature, but it can harm the whole scenario if ambiguous meaning is delivered, so each word should be used in proper context.

- (d) Give a suitable title to the above passage. 1

Ans. Suitable title to the passage:
‘Speech as a Great Blessing’.