

Time : 3 hrs. 15 min.

English Class | 12

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) I tried to explain that I could not buy the basket but extended the gratuity as a substitute. I realized at once what offence I had given. This child of nine-dressed in rags and on the edge of starvation, raised her chin, reached into the basket, and with all the pride and graciousness of a lady handed the money back to me. There was only one thing I could do, I bought the basket. She wiped her eyes, smiled and dashed down the platform, headed for some grass hut that would have at least thirty cents that night.

Ans. Reference to the context : These lines have been taken from the lesson 'A Girl with a Basket' written by William C. Douglas. He had bought four baskets. He did not need more. So he could not buy the girl's basket. In order to get rid of the girl, he put some money in her basket as free gift. This was not liked by the girl. In these lines author tells us all that was happened.

Explanation : The author says that he had no room for more articles. He was quite unable to balance all the articles which he bought during his journey. He did not want anything more to be purchased. But the refugee girl wanted that he should buy her basket. On account of his inability, he took out a handful of change not more than fifteen cents and put it into her basket, she looked to be requesting him to buy the basket. He tried to explain her that he was quite unable to buy her basket. Therefore, he wanted to give this amount as charity. At this the girl did not accept the money as gratuity. Then, the author could understand what offence he had committed to her.

(b) I cannot go so far as that in Christian charity and civility. But I recognize a more distant relationship. Fortune has made us fellow

travellers on this summer night. I have interested you and you have entertained me. The obligation is mutual and it is founded on the fundamental fact that we are fellow mortals. The miracle of life is ours in common and its mystery too.

Ans. Reference to the context : These lines have been taken from the lesson 'A Fellow Traveller' written by A.G. Gardiner. The author compares life to a journey. We do not know from where we come and where we shall go. In this way the author gives a philosophical touch to his thoughts. He speaks over the secret of life.

Explanation : The writer do not follow the principle of christianity of charity etc. Then the writer recognised that he and the mosquito were the fellow travellers. Then he said that they were fellow mortals. He was a mortal and the mosquito was also a mortal. This was the relation between them. As fellow mortals they were much nearer to each other. Life is a remarkable event. It is full of secrets which nobody can know. This life belonged to both of them. As both of them were equally ignorant about the end of life, which is like a journey.

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

(a) 'Magnanimity has its limits,' who said this and why ?

Ans. 'Magnanimity has its limits' was said by the author because he was continuously disturbed by a mosquito during the journey in a railway compartment. He tried to flick him away again and again. But he came again and disturbed him. So he get annoyed.

(b) Why did Phatik run away from school ?

Ans. Everyday the teacher used to cane him unmercifully. So he run away from school.

(c) What could our women do in ancient times ?

Ans. In ancient India women were authorised to study the Vedas. They were also authorised to the chanting of the Gayatri Mantra. They had the ceremony of Upanayana performed for them.

3. Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with the most suitable words given within the brackets : $4 \times 1 = 4$

(a) They also have a for independence.
(*compassion, passion, attraction, satisfaction*)

Ans. passion

(b) Justice demands it and the court it.
(*orders, directs, decides, awards*)

Ans. awards

(c) It was an immense to the mother to get rid of Phatik. (*relief, comfort, peace, painless*)

Ans. relief

(d) The whole face of India is altering but the cultural tradition
(*changes, perishes, continues, ceases*)

Ans. continues

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

(a) What made Sanku steal the gold watch ?

Ans. Sanku was very poor. His earning was only one rupee per day. He was in need of more money. He was in heavy debt. He planned to solve his money problems by stealing the gold watch of his factory engineer.

(b) What advice did the astrologer give to the stranger?

Ans. The astrologer advised the stranger to go back to his village as early as possible because he saw that stranger's life was in too much danger. He added that the stranger should never travel southward again.

(c) How did the child feel when his first demand was not fulfilled ?

Ans. The first demand of the child was for a toy. He wanted to have a toy. His father looked at him red-eyes in his familiar tyrant's way.

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

(a) But a smooth and steadfast mind,
Gentle thoughts, and calm desires,
Hearts with equal love combined
Kindle never-dying fires;
Where these are not, I despise,
Lovely cheeks or lips or eyes.

Ans. Reference to the context : These lines have been taken from the poem 'The True Beauty' composed by Thomas Carew. The poet says that beauty of mind and heart is higher than physical beauty and is everlasting. Beauty without these qualities is worthless.

Explanation : The poet finally tells that beauty of mind and heart is greater and lasting than physical beauty. The poet has already told us about a woman with physical charms. Now he tells us about a woman who has better qualities. A noble woman's mind is healthy and stable. She never thinks of fierce things. Her desires are free from all harms. They are simple

and pure. She loves equally to all human beings. The love that a man feels for her will be true and permanent. A woman who does not have these virtues is hateful even if she is beautiful.

(b) This man is free from servile bands,
Of hope to rise or fear to fall;
Lord of himself, though not of lands
And having nothing, he hath all.

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 suggests how a man can lead a happy life. He should be honest. He gives up passion. He is free from rumours. He envies none. He prays God every day.

Explanation : A happy man is free from chains of slavery. He does not entertain the hope to rise. He has no fear to fall. He possesses self-control, though he has no material possession. He does not have worldly things, but he has all the qualities of good life.

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

(a) A Lament

(b) My Heaven

(c) The Song of the Free.

Ans. (a) 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.

(b) 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.

(c) The Song of the Free
(Swami Vivekanand)

The poet has faith in the divine character of human soul. The world is full of pain and misery, troubles and difficulties. If we have faith in God, we need not be afraid of all these things. Our soul should reach towards its goal which is great soul, God. As a matter of fact, the ups and downs of life give him an opportunity to show his best quality of character.

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

(a) Personification

(b) Metaphor

(c) Oxymoron.

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

Example: (i) Laughter holds both her sides.

(ii) Opportunity knocks at the door but once.

(b) **Metaphor:** It is an implied simile. In it two things of different kinds are compared.

Example: (i) Life is a dream.

(ii) She is a fen of stagnant water.

(c) **Oxymoron:** Two contradictory qualities in this figure of speech are predicted at once of the same time.

Example: (i) He is an innocent criminal.

(ii) Fair is foul and foul is fair.

Section B

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

(i) Ramu said to me, "The sun sets in the west."

(ii) My friend said to me, "Had you gone to your college yesterday?"

Ans. (i) Ramu told me that the sun sets in the west.

(ii) My friend asked me if I had gone to my college the previous day.

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

(i) Sadhana is very weak. She cannot walk properly. (simple sentence)

(ii) Subham did not go to Nainital. His father did not go to Nainital. (compound sentence)

Ans. (i) Being very weak Sadhana cannot walk properly.

(ii) Neither I went Nainital nor his father went there.

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

(i) The Taj is more beautiful than any other building in India. (into positive degree)

(ii) He would have written a letter to his father. (into passive voice)

Ans. (i) No other building is as beautiful as the Taj.

(ii) A letter would have been written by him to his father.

(d) Correct any two of the following sentences : 2 × 1 = 2

(i) She dares not stop me.

(ii) I wish, I was the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh.

(iii) A number of sums has been solved.

(iv) Dipu has been living in this house from 2018.

Ans. (i) She does not dare to stop me.

(ii) I wish, I were the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh.

(iii) A number of sums have been solved.

(iv) Dipu has been living in this house since 2018.

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

(i) Bring to book

(ii) A lame excuse

(iii) Child's play

(iv) Get rid to

(v) Herculean task.

Ans. (i) **Bring to book :** The culprit is brought to book by the judge for his crime.

(ii) **A lame excuse :** He mumbled some lame excuse about having gone to sleep.

(iii) **Child's play :** To win a gold medal in Olympic Games is not a child's play.

(iv) **Get rid of :** People have not fully get rid of their superstitions in our country.

(v) **Herculean task :** It is a herculean task for scientists to invent a vaccine against COVID-19.

(vi) **Without rhyme or reason:** Many soldiers were killed at Galvan outpost in Ladakh without rhyme or reason.

(b) Write antonyms of the following words : 3 × 1 = 3

(i) cheap (ii) honesty (iii) cowardice.

Ans. (i) costly

(ii) dishonesty

(iii) fearless.

(c) Write synonyms of the following words : 3 × 1 = 3

(i) bane (ii) battle (iii) disgrace.

Ans. (i) curse

(ii) struggle

(iii) disrepute.

(d) Substitute one word for the following expressions : 3 × 1 = 3

(i) A crowd of listeners

(ii) Legal end of a marriage

(iii) That which cannot be read.

Ans. (i) audience

(ii) divorce

(iii) illegible.

(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) stair (ii) stare.

Ans. (i) **Stair:** We walked up a flight of stairs.

(ii) **Stare:** George continued to stare her beautiful face.

10. Translate the following into English : 10

जर्मनी के सम्राट फ्रेडरिक यह जानकर बहुत चिंतित हो उठे कि उनके देश की आर्थिक स्थिति दिनोदिन दयनीय होती जा रही है। उन्होंने एक दिन राज्य के कर्मचारियों को विचार-विमर्श के लिए बुलाया। उन्होंने उनसे पूछा कि राज्य के खजाने की आय कम होने का क्या कारण है? दरबार में यह प्रश्न उठते ही सन्नाटा छा गया। अचानक एक वयोवृद्ध नागरिक ने कहा, सम्राट की आज्ञा हो तो मैं इस प्रश्न का उत्तर देने को तैयार हूँ। वृद्ध ने कहा कि प्रजा से वसूले गए कर की राशि सरकारी कोष तक पहुँचते-पहुँचते चौथाई रह जाती है। सम्राट की शंका का समाधान हो गया। उन्होंने अगले ही दिन भ्रष्ट कर्मचारियों की छँटनी कर दी।

Ans. Frederick the emperor of Germany became worried to know that his country's economic condition

was deteriorating day by day. One day he summoned state officials for discussion. He asked them what was the reason of lessening of the income of state exchequer. Pin-drop silence was overspread throughout the royal court. Suddenly a senior citizen spoke, "With the permission of emperor I am ready to answer the puzzle." The senior citizen said that only one-fourth amount reached the state exchequer from the tax collected from people. The suspicion of the emperor was removed. The very next day he removed his corrupt officials.

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

- (a) Corona : A Global Challenge
- (b) Sound Pollution
- (c) Merits and Demerits of Television
- (d) Role of Media in Democracy
- (e) The Utility of Job-oriented Education.

Ans. (a) Corona : A Global Challenge

Introduction : Covid-19 (Corona Virus Disease 2019) is a huge global health crisis of our time. It was first identified in December 2019 in Wuhan city of China. It is thought to have originated in a sea food market where wildlife was sold illegally. Scientists have pointed to either bats or snakes as possible sources. The WHO declared it a pandemic on March 11, 2020. Since its emergence, it has caused a large number of deaths across the world. There is no known cure for Covid-19 yet.

Symptoms and spread : Fever, dry cough and difficulty in breathing are the common symptoms of Covid-19. Fatigue, sore throat, muscle pain and less of smell can also be seen in Covid-19 patients. The incubation period of Covid-19 is thought to be between 1 and 14 days. Infected patients can be asymptomatic, which means they do not show any symptoms despite being infected. This is why so many people get infected.

Prevention : Regularly washing our hands with soap and water, covering our mouth and nose with masks and maintaining social distancing are the preventive steps to avoid the infection of Covid-19. We should not touch our mouth, nose or eyes with unwashed hands and we must wear a mask while talking to someone or going out. We should try to keep a distance of six feet from others.

Covid-19, in fact, is much more than a health crisis. It is also an unprecedented socio-economic crisis. We all need to come together and work hard or it may have devastating social and economic effects. As the world continues to grapple with Covid-19 pandemic, countries like New Zealand, Tanzania, Fiji and some others have declared themselves to be Covid-19 free.

Conclusion : India, despite having the second largest population in the world, has done remarkably well to keep the spread of Covid-19 as well as the death toll under control. The whole world is racing against time to prepare a vaccine for Covid-19. Countries like the

United States, Russia, Germany, Britain, India and a few others have made breakthroughs. Human trials of Covid-19 vaccine are going on and results are very encouraging. Soon, we will be back running on the track of growth and peace.

(b) Sound Pollution

Introduction: The life on this earth is sustained by a sort of balance created by nature. However, this balance created by nature is so delicate that if a part of it is destroyed, disturbed or diminished, it will be found that the whole is destroyed.

Environmental pollution : The increasing interference of man with the elements of nature such as air, water, forests, wild life etc. has greatly disturbed our environment. The result is that we are living in an age of pollution. We breathe polluted air, drink polluted water, eat polluted food and live in the midst of a polluted environment. Human survival, nay entire life spectrum and progress, are at stake due to this all pervading pollution. Who is responsible for this ? It is said that developed countries are the most responsible for it.

Deterioration in ecology : Experts say that India has 21 per cent of its total area under forests against a desired 33 per cent. Illegal felling of trees by forest contractors in league with official and politicians is going on unchecked.

Our wild life is being recklessly destroyed for selfish ends. With fast dwindling of forests and wild life, there has been a serious deterioration in the quality of life and ecology. Indiscriminate felling of trees and destruction of forests are causing disastrous floods, soil erosion, frequent drought, spread of desert area, landslides, loss of crops and a huge damage to life and property every year.

Sound pollution : Rapid industrialization and increasing the population of big towns and cities have polluted our rivers, lakes and seas. All industrial waste and sewage are being discharged into these water sources and dirty and deadly carbon and smoke of the factories and vehicles into air. The vehicles plying on roads cause large scale pollution.

Noise pollution caused by machines, vehicles, railways, factories and loudspeakers etc. especially in big cities has made life hellish.

Dangerous situation : What a terrible damage man has done and is constantly doing to his environment; damage that will eventually destroy him and all that he has made. Nobody can save him from this danger of extinction.

Remedial measure : Students can play an important role in checking the menace of environmental pollution. They can generate environmental awareness in the people. They can explain the importance of ecological preservation to one and all. They can warn the people that if cautious steps are not taken the earth may no more remain fit to support life.

Conclusion : Ultimately the solution lies in re-establishing the broken link between man and nature. The responsibility of greening the country and preserving environment rests on all citizens. If they want to save themselves, they must save their environment.

(c) Merits and Demerits of Television

There was once a time when people looked forward to the lazy evenings. They had a simple choice of programmes on Doordarshan. It was entirely upto them—to watch or not to watch the selected presentations. Today, the Satellite Television has stormed the media world of information and entertainment. This fast and sudden change is a welcome surprise. Interesting, now, the people don't know what to watch and what not to watch.

The satellite television has entered our homes and is there to stay. Today, Television has emerged as a new frontier in international relations be it economic, political or cultural. It has acquired a great significance as it provided enormous opportunities of knowing the 'latest' and the 'best' world over. The round the clock news, music, entertainment, sports and information channels are the desired visual delights.

The Satellite network has made us reach far in generating enormous amount of information. STAR Television (Satellite Television Asia Region), has its diversified channels. The news on BBC channel is eagerly awaited. Sadly enough the Doordarshan coverage is hardly satisfying as compared to the latest, immediate and in-depth news analysis on BBC Service. The non-stop Music Television, MTV, hits out at the latest top numbers, videos and once upon a time oldie-goldies. Sports Channel, Star Sports and ESPN cover the live presentation of almost every event anywhere in the world. STAR WORLD with its Santa Barbara. The Bold and The Beautiful, Riviera, Remington Steele, Hill Street Blues, The Wonder Years, Talks shows and movies etc. hold the viewers' attention. The Zee TV and Aaj Tak have also revolutionised the communication scenes in the country. The whole set up is a threat to the Doordarshan.

Today, undoubtedly, there is enormous variety and choices for TV viewers. It is a frenzied maze of switching channels. Moreover, with the satellites and dish antennas it is no more possible or desirable to check the flow of information and entertainment from the neighbouring countries. Doordarshan has better pull up its socks and bring about extensive changes in its programmes and presentations to level with the performances called for. The cable boom has presented a variety to satisfy the viewers who believe that change is the spice of life.

(d) Role of Media in Democracy

Social media is a new phenomenon worldwide and is here to stay. Social media has enabled people to be connected in real time and is bringing out new facets of people interest, engagement and behaviour.

From trivia to disasters, information reaches people as it happens and is keeping them engaged like never before. But how they express or react thereafter, makes social media a double-edged sword.

One of the early cases of misuse of social media came to the government's attention, when morphed pictures and videos of earthquake victims began to go viral on social media. Miscreants were morphing these images to show that these were Muslim victims of civil riots in Assam and Myanmar. This was done to provoke further riots by vested interests and it did bring a reaction.

At the individual level, social media is full of examples where a relationship gone sour results in one of the partners uploading intimate pictures, videos or information, in revenge against their former partners. Whatever the subsequent legal consequences, the damage to the victim's reputation is instant and in some cases, results in fatal consequences.

Another fall out of social media is the evolution of all types and genres of porn and its easy access by minors, which is resulting in rapidly changing social behaviour and redefining morality, especially amongst the younger generation.

Social media could work as a development catalyst or could become a national threat. The government must act now and fast before this dinosaur turns into a Jurassic Park.

(e) Utility of Job-oriented Education

India is witnessing the age of science and technology. There is huge demand for technical education in modern age. The pattern of life evolving in this age is very much different from the one we would find in our society. Technical education imparts knowledge of specific trade, craft or profession.

General education has been substituted by professional technical education in many cases. Technical education offers good opportunity for employment and successful career.

Technical education can meet the expanding demands of expanding society and to meet its multiplying demands. Instead of bare hands we must use machines and technological devices for all-round development.

Science and technology alone can produce the specialized armies for making and operating the modern machines. In free India, the education was thoroughly reorganized again stressing the importance of science and technology. This brought about total regeneration. Quite a number of regional engineering colleges, institutes of technology, and centres for researches on science came into existence all over the country.

It is heartening to find even our schools introducing new syllabus making science and vocational courses compulsory. Right from the beginning our students today are shown the way in which they can explore avenues of their choice and participate in the march towards human progress.

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

Though the whole history of mankind is dotted with the deeds of injustice and cruelty, the events of famines and plagues and the furies of wars, the good deeds of daring spirits are so numerous and overwhelming that they shine out distinctly from the pages of history. The great dreamers, doers and builders have led the world from darkness to light and from destruction to construction. The tales of their heroic deeds have come down from generation to generation and inspired people to work for human progress. The lesson of history is that truth and love always win and tyrants and murderers are always defeated. All great spiritualists have called upon people to follow

the path of love and peace. The U.N. charter also underlines and need of peace and human dignity in life. Mahatma Gandhi also advocated the need of trust and affection, truth and non-violence for the solution of human conflicts and disputes.

Questions :

- (a) How the whole history of mankind is dotted? 2

Ans. The whole history of mankind is dotted with the deeds of injustice and cruelty, the events of famines and plagues and furies of war.

- (b) What is the lesson of history to mankind? 2

Ans. The lesson of history to mankind is that truth and love always win and tyrants and murderers are defeated.

- (c) (i) What did Mahatma Gandhi advocate for? 1

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

Ans. (i) Mahatma Gandhi advocated the need of trust and affection, truth and non-violence.

- (ii) Suitable title : 'Peace and Human Dignity'.

