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Code Number 101



INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT  
MID TERM EXAMINATION  
ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE

CLASS: IX

Sub. Code: 101

Time Allotted: 3 Hrs.

13.09.2017

Max. Marks: 80

**General Instructions:**

1. *This paper consists of three sections: all sections are compulsory.*
2. *Separate sections are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.*
3. *Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions. Marks will be deducted if this limit is crossed.*
4. *Attempt all questions of a section without mixing them with another section.*

**SECTION-A (READING) 20 MARKS**

1. **Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:**

8

One of the major reasons why individuals become vulnerable to disease and stress at an early age, is the pressure they inflict on themselves in an effort to fulfill their high ambitions or misplaced priorities.

We exist today in a competitive world and are compelled to set high standards in needs and ambitions for ourselves. While, we should strive to be productive and motivated, it's essential that we balance our output with our necessary wants and not set unrealistic targets for ourselves. For doing so, in the long term may create physical and mental problems that would prevent us from enjoying the benefits of our aspirations.

It is fundamentally necessary for our holistic development to re-appraise our aspirations and pursue only firm priorities. Such priorities include firm time allocations for exercise, leisure, family, spiritual inquiry, reading etc. in synergizing these activities along with our work objectives, we will definitely be more focused and productive. More importantly, we will contribute to our holistic health.

The pressure of living in contemporary urban environment, linked to our various work commitments, sometimes leads to a lifestyle, wherein we flow along at a very frantic pace. Even housewives in large metros have very busy routines and very little time to nurture themselves. In adopting several holistic techniques to keep our mind, body and soul in balance, we should include the necessity of short holidays, every few months. Such sojourns give us the very vital opportunity of recharging our energies and taking a break from the continuous pressures of our urban lifestyle, wherein, even just coping with the traffic, is enough to send our blood pressure shooting.

We must always take the initiative of driving out to the countryside for a few days of peace, quiet and meditation. In such situations, a natural healing of the body takes place. Additionally, just breathing air, which has a high oxygen content, every few months, does wonders for our holistic health and decongests many of the blocks in our 'Chakras.'

**1.1 Answer the following questions:**

1. What is the main reason of tension and diseases in individuals? 1
2. What should we do to be productive and motivated? 1
3. What are 'only firm priorities' according to the writer? 1
4. How can one contribute to holistic health? 1
5. How does a natural healing of the body take place? 1
6. Why is urban environment linked to the lifestyle we lead? 1
7. What happens when we set unrealistic targets? 1
8. Find words from the passage which means the same as 'stay away for sometime' 1

**2 Read the passage given below and answer the questions / complete the statements that follow: (2x4) + (1x4) 12**

It is rare to find someone with good technical and communication skills. You can get far ahead of your colleagues if you combine the two early in your career. People will judge, evaluate, promote or block you based on your communication skills. Since habits form by repeating both good and bad forms of communication, learn to observe great communicators and adopt their styles and traits- in written and verbal forms. The art of listening and learning from each and every interaction, is another secret recipe. Develop the subconscious habit of listening to yourself as you speak and know when to pause.

Learning what not to say is probably more important than learning what to say. As your career develops, you will realize that the wise speak less. Speak when you have value to add,



else refrain. Poorly constructed emails with grammatical errors are acceptable between friends, but they should be seriously avoided while communicating formally with your seniors. Avoid any communication in an emotional state when you might say things you will later regret. One unnecessary word uttered at the wrong time or place can ruin a relationship, career or even your life. Such is the power of words. If such a thing happens, you should immediately apologize, else it may haunt you for life.

Another problem to overcome is speaking too fast. Since our minds are working faster than our speech, we are inclined to speak fast. This does not necessarily mean that the person hearing it will get it any faster. On the contrary, it is always the reverse. So slow down, and think before you speak. "When I get ready to speak to people," Abraham Lincoln said, "I spend two-thirds of the time thinking what they want to hear and one-third thinking of what I want to say." Adding humour and wit is also essential. But realize that not all jokes are not funny and observe certain boundaries. Never say anything that could offend. Remember you are not a comedian, who must offend as many people as you can, to be witty.

**2.1 Answer the questions briefly :**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| a) Why is it necessary to have good communication skills?                          | 8 |
| b) How can communication skills be developed?                                      | 2 |
| c) What did Abraham Lincoln practice, before communicating? How do our minds work? | 2 |
| d) Why should you be careful when you tend to be humorous?                         | 2 |

**2.2 Read and do as directed:**

(1x4)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| a) Find the word similar in meaning to 'control oneself.'     | 4 |
| b) Give the antonym of 'boredom' on the basis of your reading | 1 |
| c) What is meant by 'evaluate'? ( para.1 )                    | 1 |
| d) 'Such is the power of words' Explain ( para.3 )            | 1 |

**3**

**SECTION-B (WRITING & GRAMMAR) 30 MARKS**

You are Sanil / Shweta, while on a holiday, you noticed how young children of your age, are still made to work and robbed of all rights of a normal childhood. Express your feelings in a diary in about 100-120 words. 8

**OR**

Write an article on the topic 'Importance of Road Safety' for your school e-magazine in 100-120 words.

4 An old man had two daughters whom he loved very much. He wanted to know how much they really loved him and so one day, he called them and asked.....Complete the story in 200-250 words using your creativity, to make it interesting. 12

5 Read the paragraph and complete the same with **one word** only. Write only the correct answer against the correct blank numbers in your answer sheet. 3  
Sea water a) ..... fresh water or rainwater is very salty b) ..... taste. The saltiness c) ..... due to the presence of d) ..... minerals in sea water. The total amount of dissolved minerals is termed e) ..... salinity and measured in grams f) ..... salt in a kilogram of salt water.

6 In the following passage one word is missing in each line. Write the missing word against the question number with the word that precedes and follows it. Underline the word that forms your answer. 4

In those early days, when first men eg. when at first  
wandered about, it used to very cold. a) -----  
This period called the Ice Age. People b) -----  
must found it very difficult to live. Naturally c) -----  
they lived only there were no glaciers. d) -----  
We told by scientists and geographers that e) -----  
at that time the Mediterranean completely f) -----  
land locked. Life was difficult one and all. g) -----  
How then they survive with their basic needs? h) -----

7 **Rearrange the words and phrases to form meaningful sentences.**  
a) very / deforestation / to / can prove / damaging to / be / Mother Earth  
b) is / it / important / protect / to / our / environment  
c) we / must / that / live / trees / us / without / understand / cannot

### SECTION-C (TEXTUAL QUESTIONS) 30 MARKS

8 **Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:** 4  
A. **Reference to context :**  
“ Till last by Philip’s farm I flow  
To join the brimming river,  
For men may come and men may go,  
But I go on forever.”



- a) Name the poetic devices used in the given stanza. 1
- b) What does 'I go on forever' suggest? 1
- c) Where does its journey end? 1
- d) Explain the last two lines of the poem. 1

**OR**

- B.** "If you got what you want, do you realize what would happen?" 1
- a) Who is the speaker? Whom is this statement made to? 1
  - b) What does the speaker want 'you' to realize? 1
  - c) How long would they be able to occupy it? 1
  - d) What is the speaker not in favour of buying? 1

**9 Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:** 8

- a) What does 'road' symbolize in the poem? How important is it to take a right decision in life? 2
- b) 'A dog is man's faithful companion.' Discuss this statement with reference to Duke's role in his master's life. 2
- c) How did grandmother pay her respect to her teacher? How did she explain her action to the surprised young girl? 2
- d) Where does the nightingale sing? What is its effect? Why is the reaper's song compared to the bird? 2

**10 Answer the following question 100 -120 words :** 8

- A.** Who is better in business – Juliette or Gaston? Why? Give supporting facts from the drama, 'Villa For Sale.' How can you save yourself from such people?

**OR**

- B.** '...his wrath was changed to wailing' Describe Lord Ullin's grief and anguish. Do you agree that anger is a vice? Justify the statement in context with the poem, 'Lord Ullin's Daughter'

**11 Answer the following question in 150 – 200 words:** 10

- A.** Skyresh Bolgolam, hated Gulliver. Why did he conspire against Gulliver?

**OR**

- B.** How does Gulliver describe the Lilliputians and their ways of life.

~~~~~ End of the Question Paper ~~~~~