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Code Number 101



INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT  
MID-TERM EXAMINATION  
ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE

CLASS: X

Sub. Code: 101

Time Allotted: 3 Hrs

19.09.2017

Max. Marks: 80

**General Instructions:**

- (i) This paper is divided into three Sections: A, B, and C. All the sections are compulsory.
- (ii) Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
- (iii) Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions. Marks will be deducted if this limit is crossed.
- (iv) Attempt all questions of a section without mixing them with another section.

**SECTION A - (READING)**

20

**Read the passage given below carefully:**

8

1. It is customary for the British monarch to ride in a glided horse-drawn ornamental carriage for the opening of the parliament. This year, the Queen rode a brand-new Australian built carriage, made to commemorate her diamond jubilee. The coach, an exact copy of the earlier one, contains nearly a thousand years of British history in its various parts.
2. The state coach is only the second horse-drawn carriage to be built in more than a hundred years. The crafting of this coach took ten years to complete. It contains wood from Henry VIII's flagship the Mary Rose. The ship had sunk in 1545. Some more of the wood for the carriage has come from the very apple tree which had inspired scientist Isaac Newton to discover the theory of gravity. The glided portions of the carriage have been made from 400 books of gold leaf.
3. Apart from these fabulous components for building the carriage, State Coach is also constructed with parts of ships and metal from some of the greatest battles that England has won. The crown on the top of the carriage has been carved from the oak that was used to build the HMS Victory, Admiral Lord Nelson's flagship. In fact, it was this historic ship that in 1805, won the Battle of Trafalgar for England. From the piece of metal, from the casting of the Victory Cross, has also been built into the coach. The Victoria Cross incidentally was given during the Second World War as the highest award of military honour, and not just to British soldiers but to many soldiers of the Commonwealth, including India.
4. To make it a modern vehicle, the coach was fitted with six hydraulic stabilizers, covered in gold leaf, to ensure a smooth ride for the royal passengers. There are also electrically operated windows and heaters, as 21<sup>st</sup> century inclusions.

**Answer the following questions briefly.**

- (a) When does the British monarch ride in a horse-drawn coach?
- (b) What was unique about this year's ride?
- (c) Give two details about the coach.
- (d) What two historic sources have been tapped for its wood?
- (e) How have its gilded portions been crafted?
- (f) How is the State Coach linked with Admiral Nelson?
- (g) Where was the historic metallic component of the coach been sourced from?
- (h) What are the modern components of the carriage?

**2 Read the following passage carefully.**

12

1. Often we are called upon to dress up for a fancy dress party. A novel option is to dress up and go as a Goth. The original Goths were Germanic people who played a decisive role in the fall of the Roman Empire in Europe earlier than the 4<sup>th</sup> century. Today, being a Goth has become synonymous with dressing in a particular way fond of darkness and music that is different from punk music.
2. For the fancy dress one should start with putting on dark make-up, sport an unusual hairstyle and wear clothes that are fashioned from black velvet, with bits of lace and fishnet fringes here and there. The more authentic look would consist of wearing leather jackets or belts tinged with streaks of scarlet or purple, of laced gloves and lots of silver jewellery, specially lockets with images of occult figures or writings.
3. While most Goths wear black outfits one can even opt for dark red, violet, blue, green and even white. The idea is that one should feel good for if one is not at ease within, then the Goth image will not come through authentically. On the T- shirts the images of your favourite band, paired with black jeans, would give the right touch. A leather jacket over the T- shirt, studded with brass buttons or tin tacks would be a perfect compliment to the Goth look. To ensure that you come home with the best- dressed prize, you could pull out an old shirt, strip of one shoulder or cut the sleeve so that it hangs and shreds and show off your shoulders like a true Goth!
4. With the attire taken care of, it is time to turn one's attention to footwear. Uniform shoes or sneakers are too ordinary. You must totter about on high heeled sandals without spraining your ankles. Alternately borrow a pair of knee length black boots, wear it over your fitting black jeans and smarten it up with brass buckles and studs to give the correct look. Hair too must be given a particular type of grooming. Using a wig is a safe alternative for then one can dye it to a black or coppery hue and ruffle into an authentic untidy look for the party. A few strokes with a black eye lining pencil across the cheeks

and below the eyes complete the horror effect.

5. In the final stage, paint your fingernails the authentic Goth colour – black. It is a striking touch which will identify you as a perfect imitation of an ancient Goth.

**2.1 Answer the following questions briefly.**

8

- (a) Who were the original Goths?  
(b) Define the clothing for a modern-day Goth look.  
(c) How can you use your present clothes to create a Goth look?  
(d) Describe the final touches needed to complete the Goth look.

**2.2 Answer the following questions by choosing the correct options given below.**

2

- (a) The term 'novel' means \_\_\_\_\_  
(i) a certain type of reading matter      (ii) a new idea  
(iii) a long drawn story      (iv) an old idea  
(b) An 'authentic' look is one that is \_\_\_\_\_  
(i) close to the original look      (ii) far from the original look  
(iii) a look that is artificial      (iv) a made-up look

**2.3 Find words in the passage that mean:**

2

- (a) supernatural (para 2)  
(b) move in a feeble or unsteady way (para4)

**SECTION B - WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR) (30 marks)**

- 3 Write a letter to the Editor of a local newspaper highlighting ways and means of saving water. 8  
(Word limit 120- 150 words)

**OR**

You are Rakesh Kumar of 160, Majestic Road, Bangalore. You bought a Silkon Microwave from 'Comfort Zone', Das Market, Bangalore. Having used it for a month you find that the heat is not uniformly spread which spoils the taste and texture of the food. Moreover you find that it is making a rattling sound while heating. Write a letter of complaint to the Sales Manager of the firm complaining about the problem and requesting him for the piece to be replaced. (120-150 words)

4 Complete the story in about 150-200 words with the help of outlines given. 10

Outline: Floods had brought life to a standstill in the remote town of OZ in Austria-lives and property worth lakhs destroyed- local educational institutions had volunteered for flood relief duties. While local business had downed shutters, a brave baker had carried on, till the flood waters threatened to damage his factory...

5 Fill in the blanks using one word in each blank. 4

A ban (a) \_\_\_\_\_ European imports (b) \_\_\_\_\_ India's Alphonso mango, prized (c) \_\_\_\_\_ its aroma and buttery flesh, (d) \_\_\_\_\_ drawing anger from Indians in Britain, who say the move deprives them of summer's sweetest flavours.

6 The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each of the lines. Write the incorrect word and the correction. 4

	Incorrect	Correct
(a) Facebook, with more then 1.2 billion users,	_____	_____
(b) is celebrated its 10 <sup>th</sup> birthday this year.	_____	_____
(c) The company was launching by	_____	_____
(d) Mark Zuckerman at February 4 <sup>th</sup> ,2004 in Harvard University.	_____	_____

7 Rearrange the following words/ phrases to make meaningful sentences. 4

- (a) classes are held/ Shantiniketan/ open air/at/the/in
- (b) sit/ under the trees/ students/ on/ the/ ground/ the
- (c) founded/ Rabindranath Tagore/ by/ was/ it/ the great poet
- (d) fills/ peace and quiet/ with/ the place/ any one

### SECTION C (Literature Textbook & Novel) (30 Marks)

8 Read the given extracts and answer the following questions: 4

Round the decay

Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare

The lone and level sands stretch far away.

- a) What is the colossal wreck mentioned in the passage?
- b) What does the term 'wreck' tell us?
- c) Where was the statue located?
- d) Name the Poem and Poet.

**OR**

Every day the frog who'd sold her  
Songs for silver tried to scold;  
"You must practice even longer  
Till your voice, like mine, grows stronger.

- a) "frog who'd sold her" Explain
- b) Why did the frog scold and command the nightingale?
- c) What are the two character traits of the frog that emerge through the above lines?
- d) Name the Poem and the Poet.

**9 Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words. (Any 4)**

**8**

1. Why did the narrator ask the two boys, "What do you do with your money?"
2. How was tiger shooting arranged?
3. Why did Ali cease to be a Shikari?
4. Why has the mirror been called a 'four- cornered god'?
5. What is the fate of the monuments and statues?

**10 Answer the following questions in 120 – 150 words.**

**8**

Imagine you are Abel Merryweather. Write a diary entry expressing your shock at the exposure of your selfish daughters.

**OR**

What is the central idea of the poem, 'The Frog and the Nightingale'? What message does the poem convey to the reader?

**11 Answer the following questions in 200 - 250 words.**

**10**

How did Helen cope with darkness and silence after her illness?

**OR**

How did Helen learn about the dark side of nature and how did she overcome her fear of climbing?

**End of the Question Paper**