

COMMON PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION 2017-2018
ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE

CLASS X

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

I. The question paper is divided into three sections:

SECTION A: Reading 20 MARKS

SECTION B: Writing and Grammar 30 MARKS

SECTION C: Literature 30 MARKS

II. All questions are compulsory.

III. You may attempt any section at a time.

IV. All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.

SECTION –A: READING (20 Marks)

Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

Physical health affects the mind and vice-versa. Which of the two is more important is like asking the age-old question: what comes first, the chicken or the egg. For our present subject, let us be clear that a sound mind in a sound body are prerequisites for high efficiency and good quality work in the office, factory or field, which lead to a sense of achievement and fulfilment.

2. Our health is, of course, important not only to us, but also to our families and even to our employers. No wonder then that companies everywhere have a stake in the health and fitness of their employees and are willing to spend considerable money towards this purpose. Japanese companies particularly excel in this and the more successful among them start off the day with a body bending and stretching session and even singing the company song designed to promote loyalty and motivation among the workforce! This is considered an important factor contributing to high productivity and quality. Here is a lesson which has been emulated elsewhere in the world and could work wonders in India. It is estimated that some 20,000 American firms have established in-house health clubs. Typical of these is the soft drink manufacturer Pepsi Cola, which has spent about \$2 million in setting up a health club at its head office in New York State. Such expenditure has proved to be a wise investment in achieving better efficiency and higher productivity. It has, indirectly, also helped reduce the premium on the health insurance of its staff. This business has grown so large that hundreds of consultancies have sprung up for the management of health clubs and fitness centres. In some cases, there is a nominal contribution by the employees on the premise they will value and use the facilities all the more. Some insurance companies have teamed up with employees in such ventures as better health contributes to a longer life and hence more premium! Though many firms in India have generous medical schemes, the movement towards health clubs and the like is yet to gain momentum.

1.1 Attempt any eight of the following questions on the basis of the passage you have read. (1x8=8)

- a) What are the prerequisites for high efficiency and good quality work?
- b) How do Japanese companies ensure loyalty and motivation?
- c) What do you mean by 'wise investment'?
- d) Why do companies have health clubs?
- e) What does it mean by saying that "the idea of having health clubs in companies is yet to gain momentum"?
- f) How do successful Japanese companies promote loyalty and motivation among the workforce?
- g) How has expenditure on employee's health proved to be a wise investment?
- h) Why have some insurance companies teamed up with employers?
- i) Why are the employers willing to spend money towards the fitness of their employees?

Q2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. You hope to do several things every day. At the end of each day, most of them are not done. You may be using a 'to-do-list' but discover in a short while that it is not helping you much. Tasks keep adding to it. In a few weeks, it starts looking like a list of things you will never do, and you feel stressed about it.

2. Making a to-do-list is not enough. It is useful only when you understand the key aspects of it and work on it further.

3. To begin with, recognize that a to-do-list is only a pool of tasks. It is just a raw collection that gives you no idea of how you will get to it. To make it useful you have to define the 'when'. Entering details about when you will do the different tasks, gives the to-do-list a meaning. When you begin creating a schedule, your focus shifts to how long you have to work on each task to complete it. This way you are forced to be realistic about your goals.

4. You cannot do all the tasks on the list on the same day. So, you should learn to prioritise. Rank the tasks using numbers or group them using letters of the alphabet, according to the order of importance. Now start working according to the schedule, where your schedule went wrong, by paying close attention to how you are spending the day.

5. Some of the possible reasons are: you waste time, made mistake in assessing how much time a task would take or deal with 'urgent' tasks frequently. If the reason is wasting time, learn to concentrate on your work. If you made a mistake in time assessment, prepare a more realistic schedule.

6. Another way to prioritise tasks is based on the creative energy they require. Separate the tasks into creative and boring ones. This approach helps you to stay productive even during cheerless parts of the day.

7. Making schedule for items in your to-do-list does not promise that all of them are accomplished. But you can at least be strategic about what is left behind and feel happy that you achieved what you accommodated in the finite space. This way you can begin the next day on a confident note rather than feeling helpless and frustrated about failing.

2.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer any four of the following questions in about 30-40 words each: (2x4=8)

- a) What makes a 'to-do-list' useful?

- b) Why is the 'to-do-list' described as a raw collection?
- c) What is 'prioritising'?
- d) How do you become realistic about your goals?
- e) What are the reasons for a wrong schedule?

2.2 On the basis of your reading of the passage, fill in any two of the following blanks with appropriate words/phrases: (1x2=2)

- a) If your schedule goes wrong and the reason is wasting time, you have to
- b) Separating the tasks help you to stay.....
- c) You can begin the next day on a confident note instead of feeling

2.3. Find a word in the passage which conveys similar meaning as the following: Attempt any two of the following. (1x2=2)

- a) a plan of procedure
- b) requiring immediate action
- c) dissatisfaction due to the unfulfillment of one's desire

SECTION B: WRITING AND GRAMMAR (30 Marks)

3.a) Use of mobile phones has increased considerably. Consequently, the number of road accidents have increased. Also, the performance of students at academics has worsened. Write a letter to the editor of a local daily expressing your concern on this issue. You are Mohith/ Mahitha of B 86 Mall Apartments, Ahmedabad (8 marks)

3.b) bad

Or

You bought a colour television from Sharda Enterprises, Shikanagar, Andrapradesh. The product had one-year guarantee, but the television is not working properly after one month. Write a letter to the Sales Manager, Sharda Enterprises asking for a replacement.

4. Write a short story, in about 200-250 words, with **any one set of the cues** given in the boxes below. Give a suitable title to the story.

Starving boy given a glass of milk instead of just water.....offers to pay woman.....replied mother had taught her never to accept anything for a kind act done.... years later boy now a doctor.....finds her a patient whom he treats back to healththen he pays her hospital bill saying: 'paid in full with one glass of milk' the woman recognizes him and thank him.

Or

Going for long walks has always been a passion with me. As usual I was walking amongst the thick green forest till I heard that voice.....

5. Fill in **any four** of the following blanks choosing the most appropriate option from the ones given below. Write the answers in your answer –sheet against the correct blank numbers. 1x4=4

A solar-powered plane will(a)..... flown around the world next year. The plane(b)..... its inaugural test from Payem airport (c) Switzerland and

returned safely (d)two hours. The plane is a two-seater aircraft (e)
of carbon fibre.

- (a) (i) is (ii) be (iii) am (iv) are
 (b) (i) had (ii) has (iii) have (iv) have been
 (c) (i) into (ii) at (iii) in (iv) under
 (d) (i) in (ii) into (iii) inside (iv) after
 (e) (i) make (ii) making (iii) made (iv) makes

6. The following passage has not been edited. One word has omitted in each line. Write the missing word in **any four** sentences of the given paragraph, along with the word which comes before and the word which comes after it. 1x4=4

	Before	Missing	After
A compass is extremely simple device.	(a) .....	.....	.....
It allows a ship steer a selected course.	(b) .....	.....	.....
A magnetic compass works because Earth	(c) .....	.....	.....
is like a giant magnet, surrounded a huge	(d) .....	.....	.....
magnetic field. The magnet the compass	(e) .....	.....	.....
is generally called a needle.			

7. Read the given conversation and complete the following passage: Attempt **any four**. 1x4=4

Aditi : Hi Rita! When did you come back from the U. S?
 Rita : Last week.
 Aditi : How was your trip?
 Rita : It was marvelous and thrilling.
 Aditi : Was it cold out there?

Aditi greeted Rita and asked her (a) Rita replied (b)
 Aditi then asked her (c) Rita said (d) Aditi
 asked(e)

SECTION C LITERATURE (30 Marks)

8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. Write the answer in your answer sheet in one or two lines only.

(a) *And immediately I regretted it.*

I thought how paltry, how vulgar what a mean act!

I despised myself and the voices of my accursed human education.

- (a) What was the mean act?
 (b) Why did the poet despise himself?
 (c) What is the poet regretting?
 (d) Why does he call his education 'accursed'?

Or

(b) *"The doctors were doing all they could, but in our hearts, we knew we needed a miracle."*

- (a) Who is the speaker?
 (b) Who does 'our' refer to?
 (c) Why was a 'miracle' needed?
 (d) What does the speaker mean by 'miracle'?

9. Answer **any four** of the following Questions in 30-40 words each (2x4 = 8)

- 9.(a) How did Decius succeed, and Calpurnia fail in their goals?
 9.(b) What were the blessings which the mariners experienced when the albatross arrived on the ship?

- 9.(c) What does the poet mean by 'the living record'? How does it survive the ravages of time?
- 9.(d) 'Ali is a true example of love, faith and sacrifice'. Elaborate.

9.(e) Why did Helen trouble the narrator of 'A Shady Plot'?

10. Attempt **any one** of the two-following long answer type questions in 100-120 words. 8 Marks

10.1 Hardships and difficult situations can break a person's spirit. It is the wise and strong who make it through such times. How do you apply this thought to the boys of Verona?

10.2 Or

Compare and contrast Henry's character with that of his wife. Support your answer with evidence from the play.

11 A) Answer the following question based on prescribed novel text for extended reading in about 200-250 words: (10 Marks)

The Diary of a Young Girl

11.A) i) Describe the role of the diary in Anne's life?

Or

11.A) ii) The horror of the war is one of the major themes of 'Diary of a Young Girl'. Comment.

Or

11 B) Answer the following question based on prescribed novel text for extended reading in about 200-250 words: (10 Marks)

The Story of My Life

11.B) i) How did Helen learn that nature is not always kind? Give your views. Explain in your own words.

Or

11.B) ii) Helen Keller's name made it to Time's 100 list of The Most Important People of the Century. Discuss.