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| <b>Roll Number</b> |  |  |
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Code Number 101 / 2



**INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT  
THIRD PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION  
ENGLISH**

CLASS: X  
08.02.2018

Sub. Code: 101

Time Allotted: 3 Hrs  
Max. 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

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

1. "Mum!" I shouted. "Are you okay?" I saw her little tent shuddering in the gale and listened closely for her response. Her voice was almost casual: "Oh, yes, I'm fine." That's my mother. It was the first night of our cycling trip through the interior of Iceland – a region so remote and inhospitable that for centuries, according to legend, it was abandoned.

2. The weather was decidedly hurricane-like, but Mum wasn't concerned. Months ago, I told her about my plan to pedal across Iceland. "It will be really difficult," I said. "The roads are unpaved and often washed out, and the wind is blowing constantly – sometimes so hard that it pushes you off the road." There was silence for a moment. Then she asked, "Can I come?" "Sure," I replied. "But like the rest of us, you have to train to do two 160 kilometers a day back-to-back." "Wow," she said, "I could never do that." I had more faith in my mother's physical abilities than she did.

3. I'd seen her raise six children and put in long hours doing physical labour on our small farm. "Sure you can," I told her, "Start tomorrow." What really concerned me was what I perceived to be her frustrating humility: I thought her too self-deprecating about her intellect just because she had not completed college. I felt. As I had grown into adulthood, the life I'd chosen seemed light-years away

from Mum's quiet existence, still caring for her children and her children's children.

4. Sometimes, on a visit home, I'd describe some recent trip I'd taken, and her blue eyes would shine with interest. So I couldn't help thinking this trek might revitalize Mum, who had started to slow down in her 50s. It might spice up what I saw as her humdrum life.

5. And it might be a boost to her tentative and retiring persona. Mum trained furiously, months in advance. As the trip roster was passed down to Mum, my good friend Allen and me, she stood as the most dedicated. Soon she was riding 8-100 kilometres per day, and was as strong a rider as Allen or me.

**1.1 Answer any eight of the following questions briefly: 8**

- a) How are the roads across Iceland described by the narrator? 1
- b) Why did the narrator have faith in his mother's physical abilities? 1
- c) Why had the narrator decided to take his mum on this trek? 1
- d) What had the narrator realized in his adulthood, about his life? 1
- e) What was the narrator's deep concern about his mother? 1
- f) How was the narrator and his friend sure about mum's preparation? 1
- g) Describe his mother's reaction on hearing of her son's trips? 1
- h) The antonym of the word 'exterior' is ..... (para 1) 1
- i) Find a word from the passage which means the same as '*continuously*'. (para 2) 1

**2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: 12**

1. Homemakers don't need to sweat out anymore in the humid weather for the new age homes are now at their command. With the world going automatic, homes now work at the press of a button.

2. With gadgets ruling every corner of your home, it won't be an exaggeration to say that gadgets or technology make your home self sustainable. That's why anyone who knows how to press the right buttons can be a homemaker. Take your laptop for instance. Is there anything that you can't do with your laptop by your side? You can check out websites from where you can order food. Search for solutions to any problems you are facing at home, to run the gadgets for example.

3. That's not all. Technology is assisting you at every step of the way. You want some coffee just command your coffee maker to do that for you. Press a button to get your room air conditioner to cool up your room. These days even before you can get back home, you can call up a certain number

and ask them to turn on your AC for you before you reach home. You don't even have to worry about waking up early to wash the clothes so as to allow the clothes enough time under the sun to dry up by the evening. Your super cool washing machine can do that task in half the time while you attend to some other chores at home. Vacuum cleaners also allow you to do something else like read a book or a newspaper while cleaning up your sofa.

4. Technology has allowed your sweet home to turn into a smart home, sweetly enough. Even on the entertainment front, you have your home theatre system creating that perfect cinema hall fantasy. Your fitness room makes sure you don't ever gain the pounds. Your music room rejuvenates you. The Jacuzzi in your super special bathroom gives you a spa kind of effect. And, when you aren't in the mood to cook in your hi-tech kitchen which is equipped with a double door refrigerator, a state-of-the-art microwave, automatic stove you just have to pick up the phone and place an order or better still, log on to the net in your wifi enabled home and do the same.

5. Once you finish your lunch or dinner, you can just put your dishes in the dish washer to wash and command technology to pull the curtains, automatically. And before you go off to sleep, you don't have to rush to lock the main door. Leave it to the press of yet another button and lock yourself in. So you see, you are safe, secure and comfortable in your 'smart' home. What more can you ask for? Practically nothing!

6. The good news is that the future homes will be much smarter than today. Researchers and technology experts are also working on concepts that will make it really easy for people with disabilities and the elderly to run the house on their own, without any external help, again thanks to technology. So, there'd be a future where all the appliances are networked together, where you'd just press a single button to start things up. And in that future, you won't require so many remote controls. There'd just be one!

- 2.1 Answer any four of the following questions briefly: 8**
- a) How have the homemakers changed the new age homes to be? 2
  - b) What has technology allowed homes to be? 2
  - c) How can the laptop assist you? 2
  - d) What can you expect on the entertainment front? 2
  - e) What kind of a future can we look forward to? 2

- 2.2 On the basis of your reading of the passage, fill in any two of the following blanks with appropriate words 2
- a) Before you go off to sleep, you don't have to rush to lock the main door, being assured of a \_\_\_\_\_ 1
- b) The researchers and technology experts are working on \_\_\_\_\_ 1
- c) In the future, all the appliances \_\_\_\_\_ 1

- 2.3 Find a word in the passage which conveys similar meaning as the following. (any 2) 2
- a) supportive (paragraph 2) 1
- b) devices (paragraph 2) 1
- c) enlivens (paragraph 4) 1

**SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR 30**

3. a) You plan to join an advanced course in 'Spoken English' offered by the British Council. You are Anston / Larisa of Mayflower Apts. Patparganj, Kolkota. Write a letter to the Manager, English Language Teaching Institute, requesting to send you the information on the courses offered, fees, transportation and the duration etc. Invent other necessary details. (100-120 words) 8

**OR**

b) You are Rohit / Marushka of 246 Andrews Park, New Delhi. Your telephone is out of order for the past two weeks. You have already made many complaints to the local office but in vain. Write a letter of complaint to the General Manager, Mahlva Nagar Telephone Services, New Delhi. (100-120 words)

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. 10

a) Roshini, and two other friends decided to go trekking with the Rotary Women's Club. They were quite excited. They packed their back packs and left early morning, to avoid the peak morning rush but as they headed .....

**OR**

b) My heart was filled with excitement to meet my father after a long gap of six years. Having settled in the US, I'd always desired to bring him here but now finally all seemed well. Just another week to go and.....

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. 4

Since the beginning of human existence, people (a) \_\_\_\_\_ over the world have expressed their emotions and ideas (b) \_\_\_\_\_ the medium of dance. The word ‘folk’ means people. Folk dances express the moods and feelings of (c) \_\_\_\_\_ common people. Different religions (d) \_\_\_\_\_ India have their own dances. (e) \_\_\_\_\_ dance is accompanied by music and songs of the region to where it belongs.

- a) (i) all(ii) whole(iii) much (iv) more  
b) (i) in(ii) into(iii) through (iv) of  
c) (i) the(ii) a (iii) an (iv) some  
d) (i) at (ii) of (iii) for (iv) from  
e) (i) Each (ii) All (iii) Whole (iv) Many

6. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Fill in ***any four*** of the following blanks. Write the answers in your answer sheet against the correct blank numbers. 4

- a) Tipu waited patiently, hoping that the British will reason  
b) with the Raja of Travancore and things would be resolving peacefully.  
c) But when the English did not indicate some interest  
d) with the proceedings, Tipu marched towards  
e) the defense lines but the battle took place on December 29, 1789.

7. Rearrange ***any four*** of the following word clusters to make meaningful sentences. 4

- a) heal/ diseases/ modern drugs/ can/ a wide range of  
b) form of/ drugs/ capsules, / these/ come in/ creams/ tablets, / and solutions/ the/ pills,  
c) orally/ some/ injected into/ some/ the blood stream/ are taken/ are/ and  
d) are/ applied over/ of the body/ some/ the diseased part / soothe/ to / heal / and  
e) cure / is / better / prevention / than/ remember / we / that / must / consequently

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. 4

Day after day, day after day,  
 We stuck, nor breath nor motion;  
 As idle as a painted ship  
 Upon a painted ocean

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| a) Who was stuck and where?                               | 1 |
| b) What was the reason for their misfortune?              | 1 |
| c) Name the figure of speech used in the third line.      | 1 |
| d) How does the poet express the idea of remaining still? | 1 |

**OR**

I rather choose  
 To wrong the dead, to wrong myself and you,  
 Than I will wrong such honourable men.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| a) Who speaks these lines and to whom?                     | 1 |
| b) When are these lines spoken?                            | 1 |
| c) Who are the honourable men?                             | 1 |
| d) What honourable deed have the honourable men performed? | 1 |

9. Answer any four of the following Questions in 30-40 words each. 8

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| a) What is the theme of the poem, 'Not Marble, nor The Gilded Monuments'?                   | 2 |
| b) How was Sebastian's memory been saved in the computer?                                   | 2 |
| c) How did 'The Writer's Inspiration Bureau' function?                                      | 2 |
| d) What are the three things that grandfather Abel Merryweather plans to do on Monday next? | 2 |
| e) Why does Mrs. Packletide say that the incidental expenses were so heavy?                 | 2 |

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

After her brothers' visit, Lucia writes a page in her diary about her past life and her present situation.  
 As Lucia write this diary.

**OR**

Michael's heart starts pounding and he wonders how Michael Shultz entered the psycho-driven games like 'Wildwest' or 'Warzone'. Michael writes a letter to his friend describing to him how he received a 'real' message from the 'real' Sebastian Shultz. Write this letter.

11. **A. Answer the following question based on prescribed novel text for extended reading in about 10 200-250 words.**

**The Diary of a Young Girl**

11. A. i. What are Anne's views about the Laws that restrict the Jews' freedom?

**OR**

11.A. ii. Write the pen portrait of Mr. Van Dann

- B. Answer the following question based on prescribed novel text for extended reading in about 200-250 words.**

**Story of My Life**

11.B. i Describe in your own words Helen's first Christmas after Miss Sullivan came to Tuscumbia.

**OR**

11.B. ii. Give a character-sketch of Anne Sullivan as an ideal teacher.

**End of the Question Paper**