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INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT
FIRST PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION 2023
ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS: XII

Max.Marks: 80

28/11/2023

MARKING SCHEME			
SET	QN.NO	VALUE POINTS	MARKS SPLIT UP
I.	1.	i) c) By transferring the fruits of toil to the next generation	1
		ii) b) It helps a nation to navigate its path and achieve its goals.	1
		iii) (c) Desultory	1
		iv) (b) Unity in diversity is what will make our nation great	1
		v) (a) “A person is a coward because they think they are”–gives the correct meaning of the given sentence.	1
		vi) (c) ‘Visionary’ and ‘confident’ are the qualities that the author displays while talking about taking the necessary steps to build our nation’s strength	1
		vii) (d) ‘Driving’ means exerting force or motivating force.	1
		viii) (a) According to the paragraph 7, the author advises to strengthen the nation’s technological strength.	1
		ix) (c) The quote in option (c) best expresses the central idea of the passage	1
		x) b) Freedom of India	1
		xi) The passage describes: <u>how one generation transfers the fruits of its efforts to the next generation.</u> Each generation contributes to the national vision, and the <u>succeeding generations work to achieve these goals.</u> This process continues, leading the nation to climb steps of glory and gain strength over time.	1
		xii) The second national vision proposed in the passage is a “ <u>Developed India.</u> ” This vision envisions India <u>becoming one of the largest economies in the world,</u> with a high standard of living, quality education and healthcare, national security, and <u>enhanced competence in key areas.</u> <u>It aims to bring prosperity to the countrymen.</u>	1

	2.	<p>i) b) False - If the statement contradicts the information.</p> <p>ii) to be better than their competitors / because there is competition among enterprises</p> <p>iii) (c) when there are chances to get financial gratification</p> <p>iv) team spirit and work environment</p> <p>v) Suggested value points: - (anyone of the following)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - they are more affected in 6 out of 10 factors surveyed - they are scoring higher in most factors - they are scoring higher in the following factors: chance for personal development, relaxed work environment. - promotion aspects, job security and monetary benefits. <p>vi) d) happy</p> <p>vii) respect from colleagues</p> <p>viii) - There are numerous factors affecting job performance: (anyone)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One possible method to increase motivation is the salary. - The graph shows there are other factors affecting job performance. - Job satisfaction, - relaxed working environment and promotion prospects are some other reasons why an employee may perform better. <p>(ix) (any two) Team spirit, competent boss, respect from colleagues and job satisfaction.</p> <p>(x) (c) Happiness</p>	<p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p>
	II	SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS	18
	3.	NOTICE: (4 Marks: Format: 1 / Content: 2 / Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar: 1).	4
	4.	<p>INVITATION: A. Card format of Invitation.</p> <p>B. Reply - Formal letter format.</p> <p>(Format: 1 / Content: 2 / Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar:1)</p>	4
	5.	<p>A. Job Application</p> <p>B. Letter to the Editor</p> <p>(Format: 1, Content: 2 /Language quality:1, Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar:1)</p>	5
	6.	<p>A. Article for School Magazine.</p> <p>B. Report for local daily</p> <p>(Format: 1, Content: 2 /Language quality:1, Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar:1)</p>	5

III		SECTION C: LITERATURE	40
	7.	<p>A.</p> <p>(i) (d) tigers</p> <p>(ii) (a) heart of stone</p> <p>(iii) (b) They are confident and graceful.</p> <p>(iv) (d) dominating</p> <p>(v) (c) her desire for freedom and escape from her marriage</p> <p>(vi) Option (b) is correct.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>B.</p> <p>(i) (any one) - She makes this comparison because it highlights her mother's mortality/the ageing face reminds her that her mother will die someday.</p> <p>- Her mother's face lacks colour due to old age, so it looks 'ashen' like a corpse would normally appear.</p> <p>(ii) c. It adds to the imagery of the speaker's mother appearing dead.</p> <p>(iii) (any one) - the stillness of old age and the spirit of youth</p> <p>- the reminder of mortality and the energy of youth/life</p> <p>- the mood of doom and the mood of cheerfulness</p> <p>- death and liveliness/being alive</p> <p>(iv) She looks out of the window because: (accept any variation of the given responses)</p> <p>- she experiences the pain of realisation of her mother's mortality</p> <p>- she is trying to distract herself from a sad thought.</p> <p>- it offers her a contrast from the mood of decay and sadness in the car to seeing the bubbly spirit of youth outside</p> <p>(v) (c) that fluffy cloud crying with sadness</p> <p>(vi) (any one) The line break forces the reader to focus on or pause on the speaker's feelings.</p> <p>- It helps to highlight the speaker's emotion.</p> <p>- It brings gravity to the situation that the speaker is describing with her mother.</p> <p>- It adds sentimentality to the poem.</p>	1 x 6 = 6
	8.	<p>A</p> <p>(i) The narrator was humiliated because they were teased, called names, and physically assaulted by a group of children from a higher caste while walking home from school. The humiliation was due to their lower caste status, which was stigmatized in the society.</p> <p>(ii) (a) enjoyed looking at the various sights</p> <p>(iii) (a) (I) can be inferred from the extract but (II) cannot.</p>	1 x 4 = 4

		<p>(iv) (c) unique and interesting items</p> <p>B.</p> <p>i) - no actual proof/no physical evidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - only the narrator's personal account of it - its existence only in the narrator's imagination (Accept any relevant response) <p>ii) (Any one) - He is assuming that the reader thinks he might have gone mad.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - He is assuming that the reader might be questioning his sense of reality. <p>iii) b) Milind claims that he was petting his dog whom he lost a few years ago.</p> <p>iv) -The narrator does not agree with the opinion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The narrator thinks that escapism does not explain why he saw the third level because everyone wants to escape, but no one ends up on a third level at Grand Central Station. - The narrator is not convinced by the explanation. (Accept any relevant inference) 	
9.	<p>A.</p> <p>Ans. (i)(d) the Peddler had always been looked with suspicion</p> <p>(ii) home</p> <p>(iii) (c) compassionate</p> <p>(iv) (c) criminal is not born but made</p> <p>(v) Christmas eve</p> <p>(vi) The expression ‘he is cross-examined’ suggests that Peddler and his identity have always been questioned because of suspicion.</p> <p>B.</p> <p>(i) (b) to earn money</p> <p>(ii) (c) to open a boutique</p> <p>(iii) b) She didn't want Jansie to know her future plans.</p> <p>(iv) b) He thinks she's unrealistic.</p> <p>(v) (d) helplessness</p> <p>(vi) b) Eating shepherd's pie</p>	1 x 6 = 6	
10.	<p><i>Content -1, Expression – 1</i></p> <p><i>The given detailed reference points can be drawn upon to structure the desired response:</i></p> <p>i) (Any – one of the following points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sophie's father is annoyed with her because he thinks that she makes up stories. - He is irritated with her because she remains aloof from reality; he wants her to be practical and rooted in reality. - He thinks lowly of Sophie because she always lies about things <p>ii) (Any – one of the following points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the boy in the make-up department: the author realises that the make-up boy's frustration is directed towards a single person, how he might be entering his 	5 x 2 = 10	

	<p>cabin because he thinks he doesn't do anything important</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Subbu: he traces his past and realises how his route to success may not have been easy, analyses that he is a social person who is welcoming, is unable to work independently, how he is able to be creative and describes his poetic abilities. -The lawyer: analysing his character as someone who was neutral, reticent, cold - The actress on set: her naivety while working on films, her temperament and an analysis of why she left films <p>iii) (Any two of the following points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - He is aware of when he became fearful and the reason behind it. Awareness can be a good starting step. - He takes the help of a coach/expert to learn the skill. If we learn the skill and understand how to do something, it can reduce how big the fear looks. - He talks back to the voice of fear by challenging it. If we identify the voice in us and are able to challenge it, our mind stops fearing that thing. - He overcame his fear in bits and pieces by exposing himself to one thing at a time. If we break down the big fear into small tasks that we need to do/overcome, we can tackle fear in a systematic way. <p>iv) (Accept any other valid response.) - She describes the tigers in this manner to show them as strong characters who are not afraid to show themselves to the world.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - She uses this description which has imagery to help readers paint a vivid picture of tigers that are clearly visible against a green background. - She describes the tigers this way to create a contrast later in the poem between the tigers and how the women of her time behave in a world of men. <p>v) (any two of the following points) Umberto Eco suggests that the success of his book, "The Name of the Rose," was largely due to timing. He believes that if he had written the book ten years earlier or ten years later, it wouldn't have had the same impact. Therefore, if he had written the book earlier or later, it might not have been as relevant or timely, and might not have captured the same level of attention and interest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This could be interpreted as Eco recognizing the importance of cultural context and how the reception of a work of art is influenced by the historical, social, and political climate of its time. - Eco might be suggesting that the themes and ideas he explored in his novel resonated particularly strongly with readers in the cultural moment in which it was published, and that this moment was fleeting. <p>vi) (Any one of the following points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beauty is immortal: There will always be beauty to find no matter what day and age we live in. You can find beauty in your day and age too, which could give you happiness. - Beauty keeps giving: Beauty's loveliness always increases. So invest in 	
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		<p>something (whether time or money) that you find beautiful and it will always give you returns in terms of joy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beauty can be found in many things: Nature has a lot of beauty that it offers us. Spend time in a garden or a green place to observe and experience beauty. That would bring you peace and joy. - Beauty gives us joy: It is a joy forever, so connect with beauty or try to find in whatever situation you are. It is bound to change your mood from sad to happy 	
11.		<p>i) (Any – two of the of the following points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - They talk about their personal experience of being bothered/bullied for something they have that is considered ugly by society. Therefore, having a common experience that feels unique to us can build a friendship. - They share their philosophy about life and how people behave with each other. While their perspectives do not always match, talking about beliefs itself is something that can bring people closer. - They challenge each other and do not behave in a polite manner with each other. Being who we really are and saying how we feel can build meaningful connections. <p>ii) (Accept any one relevant contrast.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students would see and experience the actual implications of human activity on the environment rather than just reading about it. It would make students more motivated to act responsibly. - Students would have a life-changing experience at an unusual place like Antarctica which might make information and learning more memorable. <p>iii) Sam's letter to Charley proves that Sam had found and reached the third level. He had been staying there in Galesburg for the last two weeks watching various activities and explaining to Charley. He invites both Charley and his wife Louisa and motivates them to continue their search for the third level. So, we can say that Sam was also a victim of worldly worries and sought the escape, like Charley.</p>	
12.		<p><i>Content -2, Expression – 2, Accuracy-1</i></p> <p><i>[Content, in suggested responses, may be above the recommended word limit, as it aims to share content points that can be drawn upon to structure the final desired response.]</i></p> <p>A. Suggested response: Dear Robert I recently read your poem, "A Roadside Stand," and was struck by the conflicting emotions that you expressed towards the end. I understand that it can be difficult to make decisions when we are overwhelmed by our emotions. In my own experience, I have found that taking a moment of stillness and reflection can be very helpful in gaining a deeper understanding of the situation and connecting with our own humanity and that of others. This is the message that I try to convey in my poem, "Keeping Quiet." I would advise you to take a moment to be still and contemplative before making any decisions about the fate of the people at the roadside stand.</p>	5

		<p>By quieting your mind and being present in the moment, you may be able to understand their struggles and pain objectively, and gain a new perspective about your own place in the world too. I also feel that by breaking from your routine and taking a moment of stillness and reflection, you might gain a deeper understanding of the situation and make a more functional decision. I believe that this moment of reflection could help you to see beyond your conflicting emotions. We are all human, after all, and before connecting with others, and resolving their issues, we must try to connect with our own selves to advice from a place of balance and calm. I hope this advice is helpful to you. Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to support you. Warmly Pablo Neruda</p> <p>B. Suggested response: Good morning, everyone. As I analysed the allotted texts, I noticed that though each portrayal of women was unique, they all offered varied insights into the experiences of women in society. To begin with, Aunt Jennifer was portrayed as a victim of patriarchy, living in a world where women were expected to conform to societal norms and expectations and was unable to attain the freedom and strength she desired, due to the limitations imposed upon her by society.</p> <p>In contrast, Sophie was portrayed as ambitious and determined to break free from societal norms. She refused to be limited by her gender and sought to challenge the restrictions placed upon her. Sophie's mother, on the other hand, from a generation prior, had chosen to conform and sacrifice her individuality to societal expectations. Similarly, in "Lost Spring," the grandmother and daughter-in-law, in Firozabad, were portrayed as resilient in the face of poverty and the societal constraints of their caste. However, unlike Sophie's and Aunt Jennifer's need to find an outlet, they found ways to make the best of their situation, despite the limitations placed upon them. When we analyse the portrayal of the aged mother, in "My Mother at Sixty-six," she is presented as vulnerable and in need of protection. Sadly, it does make one wonder about the unaddressed vulnerability of Sophie's mother and the grandmother in "Lost Spring". A point worth considering is that Kamala Das' mother's acceptance of her circumstances comes across as a voluntary decision, whereas that of the women in "Lost Spring" is akin to resignation. These portrayals of women offer valuable insights into the experiences of women in our society -from victimization to the resilience in the face of poverty - and offer us important lessons about strength, vulnerability, and the need for empathy and respect. To conclude, I'd like to say that as readers, we can learn from their experiences and strive towards a more equitable and just society. These characters, stress that it is important to recognise the complexities of each woman's experiences, and refrain from passing sweeping judgements as women are not a uniform group, but rather unique individuals.</p>	
	<p>13.</p>	<p><i>Content -2, Expression – 2, Accuracy-1</i></p> <p><i>[Content, in suggested responses, may be above the recommended word limit, as it aims to share content points that can be drawn upon to structure the final desired response.]</i></p> <p>A. Suggested response: I find myself reflecting on an event that happened</p>	<p>(5 Marks)</p>

	<p>many years ago, one that has continued to haunt me ever since. It is the incident where my long hair was forcefully cut off at the Carlisle Indian School. As I sit here today, I cannot help but feel conflicted about my actions that day. On one hand, I am proud that I stood up for myself and refused to submit to their demands at first. I remember the fire in my belly as I declared that I would struggle before giving in. However, as time passed, my spirit wavered, and eventually, I allowed them to cut my hair. Looking back now, I cannot help but feel that I gave in too easily, that I did not do enough to resist. As I ponder over what I could have done differently, I realize that there might have been other options. Perhaps I could have sought help from my fellow students. Maybe I could have tried to escape or find another way out of the situation. But in that moment, I was so overwhelmed and confused that I could not think straight. I know that I have blamed myself for this incident for far too long. But today, I choose to absolve myself of any blame. As a young girl, I forced into a strange place. I was not given the chance to make my own choices, to decide what was best for me. I was a victim of a system that sought to strip away my identity and forced me to assimilate. Today, I choose to forgive myself and honour the brave little girl who stood up for herself that day. I am grateful for her courage and strength, and I will continue to honour her memory by fighting for justice and equality for all.</p> <p>B. Suggested response: I have been married to Charley for a few years now and I have always known him to be an intelligent man with an imaginative mind. However, his recent obsession with finding the Third Level has left me quite worried. While he talks about it with excitement, I cannot help but wonder if it is a good quality or a harmful one. On one hand, Charley's obsession displays his determination and persistence in achieving his goals. It shows that he is willing to go to great lengths to unravel the mysteries of life. His imagination and curiosity are admirable qualities that have always attracted me to him. Page 14 of 14 However, his obsession has caused him to become detached from reality. He is no longer able to differentiate between what is real and what is not. He spends all his time and money searching for a place that may not even exist. This could be harmful not only to himself but also to our family. I understand that he feels overwhelmed by the stress and pressures of his present life and Sam indicated that he uses his obsession as a coping mechanism. I think this is harmful as it prevents him from addressing the underlying issues that are causing him stress. Furthermore, Charley's obsession has caused him to neglect his responsibilities. He has been absent from work and has not been able to contribute financially to our household. His obsession is affecting our relationship, and I am afraid that if he continues on this path, it might lead to irreparable damage. Finally, all I can say is , I believe that Charley's obsession with finding the Third Level may have started as a harmless curiosity, but it has now become a harmful one. I love him dearly and I hope that he realizes that his obsession is affecting not only himself but also those around him.</p>	
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SET	B
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INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT
FIRST PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION 2023
ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS: XII

Max.Marks: 80

28/11/2023

MARKING SCHEME			
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I.	1.	i) c) By transferring the fruits of toil to the next generation	1
		ii) b) It helps a nation to navigate its path and achieve its goals.	1
		iii) (c) Desultory	1
		iv) (b) Unity in diversity is what will make our nation great	1
		v) (a) “A person is a coward because they think they are”—gives the correct meaning of the given sentence.	1
		vi) (c) ‘Visionary’ and ‘confident’ are the qualities that the author displays while talking about taking the necessary steps to build our nation’s strength	1
		vii) (d) ‘Driving’ means exerting force or motivating force.	1
		viii) (a) According to the paragraph 7, the author advises to strengthen the nation’s technological strength.	1
		ix) (c) The quote in option (c) best expresses the central idea of the passage	1
		x) b) Freedom of India	1
		xi) The passage describes: <u>how one generation transfers the fruits of its efforts to the next generation.</u> Each generation contributes to the national vision, and the <u>succeeding generations work to achieve these goals.</u> This process continues, leading the nation to climb steps of glory and gain strength over time.	1
		xii) The second national vision proposed in the passage is a “ <u>Developed India.</u> ” This vision envisions India <u>becoming one of the largest economies in the world,</u> with a high standard of living, quality education and healthcare, national security, and <u>enhanced competence in key areas.</u> <u>It aims to bring prosperity to the countrymen.</u>	1

	2.	<p>i) (c) when there are chances to get financial gratification</p> <p>ii) to be better than their competitors / because there is competition among enterprises</p> <p>iii) b) False - If the statement contradicts the information.</p> <p>iv) team spirit and work environment</p> <p>v) Suggested value points: - (any of the following)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - they are more affected in 6 out of 10 factors surveyed - they are scoring higher in most factors - they are scoring higher in the following factors: chance for personal development, relaxed work environment. - promotion aspects, job security and monetary benefits. <p>vi) d) happy</p> <p>vii) respect from colleagues</p> <p>viii) - (c) Happiness</p> <p>(ix) (any two) Team spirit, competent boss, respect from colleagues and job satisfaction.</p> <p>(x) There are numerous factors affecting job performance: (anyone)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One possible method to increase motivation is the salary. - The graph shows there are other factors affecting job performance. - Job satisfaction, - relaxed working environment and promotion prospects are some other reasons why an employee may perform better. 	<p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p>
II		SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS	18
	3.	NOTICE: (4 Marks: Format: 1 / Content: 2 / Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar: 1).	4
	4.	<p>INVITATION: A. Reply - Informal letter format.</p> <p>B. Card format of Invitation.</p> <p>(Format: 1 / Content: 2 / Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar:1)</p>	4
	5.	<p>A. Job Application</p> <p>B. Letter to the Editor</p> <p>(Format: 1, Content: 2 /Language quality:1, Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar:1)</p>	5
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III		SECTION C: LITERATURE	40

7.	<p>A.</p> <p>(i) (b) Aunt Jennifer knits her desires, but is overpowered by the wedding ring she wears</p> <p>(ii) (a) Aunt Jennifer's tigers will keep her alive in everyone's memory</p> <p>(iii) (c) They represent Aunt's repressed desires for freedom and power.</p> <p>(iv) (d) Shuffling</p> <p>(v) (3) (a), (b) and (d)</p> <p>(vi) It symbolizes Aunt Jennifer's fears as a woman and the male dominance she felt in her personal life. (or any other suitable response)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>B.</p> <p>(i) "Victory with no survivors" implies that the wars described result in complete annihilation or destruction, leaving no one alive to celebrate the victory. It highlights the devastating nature of these conflicts.</p> <p>(ii) b) Victory with no survivors.</p> <p>(iii) Putting on clean clothes symbolizes a return to normalcy or a clean slate after the destructive wars. It may represent a fresh start or a break from conflict.</p> <p>(iv) The emotional state of those who "walk about with their brothers in the shade, doing nothing" suggests a sense of peace, relaxation, and contentment. It signifies a break from the chaos of war and a moment of tranquility.</p> <p>(v) a) Unity and solidarity</p> <p>(vi) d) Their participation in destructive wars</p>	1 x 6 = 6
8.	<p>A</p> <p>i) - no actual proof/no physical evidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - only the narrator's personal account of it - its existence only in the narrator's imagination (Accept any relevant response) <p>ii) (Any one) - He is assuming that the reader thinks he might have gone mad.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - He is assuming that the reader might be questioning his sense of reality. <p>iii) b) Milind claims that he was petting his dog whom he lost a few years ago.</p> <p>iv) -The narrator does not agree with the opinion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The narrator thinks that escapism does not explain why he saw the third level because everyone wants to escape, but no one ends up on a third level at Grand Central Station. - The narrator is not convinced by the explanation. (Accept any relevant inference) 	1 x 4 = 4

		<p>B. (i) The narrator was humiliated because they were teased, called names, and physically assaulted by a group of children from a higher caste while walking home from school. The humiliation was due to their lower caste status, which was stigmatized in the society.</p> <p>(ii) (a) enjoyed looking at the various sights</p> <p>(iii) (a) (I) can be inferred from the extract but (II) cannot.</p> <p>(iv) (c) unique and interesting items</p>	
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10.	<p><i>Content -1, Expression – 1</i></p> <p><i>The given detailed reference points can be drawn upon to structure the desired response:</i></p> <p>i) (Any – one of the following points)</p> <p>- Sophie's father is annoyed with her because he thinks that she makes up stories.</p> <p>- He is irritated with her because she remains aloof from reality; he wants her to be practical and rooted in reality.</p> <p>- He thinks lowly of Sophie because she always lies about things</p> <p>ii) (Any – one of the following points)</p> <p>- the boy in the make-up department: the author realises that the make-up boy's frustration is directed towards a single person, how he might be entering his cabin because he thinks he doesn't do anything important</p> <p>- Subbu: he traces his past and realises how his route to success may not have been easy, analyses that he is a social person who is welcoming, is unable to work independently, how he is able to be creative and describes his poetic abilities.</p> <p>- The lawyer: analysing his character as someone who was neutral, reticent, cold</p> <p>- The actress on set: her naivety while working on films, her temperament and an analysis of why she left films</p>	5 x 2 = 10	

	<p>iii) The author learned that one can overcome their fears through determination, practice, and perseverance. He also realized the importance of facing and conquering one's fears to lead a fulfilling life.</p> <p>iv) The poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers' ends with the mention of Aunt Jennifer's death and the stillness of her tigers on the panel. The implication is that even in death, her desire for freedom and autonomy remains unfulfilled, as the tigers are still weighed down by the heavy, fearful hands she worked with. (Accept similar responses)</p> <p>v) (any two of the following points) Umberto Eco suggests that the success of his book, "The Name of the Rose," was largely due to timing. He believes that if he had written the book ten years earlier or ten years later, it wouldn't have had the same impact. Therefore, if he had written the book earlier or later, it might not have been as relevant or timely, and might not have captured the same level of attention and interest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This could be interpreted as Eco recognizing the importance of cultural context and how the reception of a work of art is influenced by the historical, social, and political climate of its time. - Eco might be suggesting that the themes and ideas he explored in his novel resonated particularly strongly with readers in the cultural moment in which it was published, and that this moment was fleeting. <p>vi) (Any one of the following points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beauty is immortal: There will always be beauty to find no matter what day and age we live in. You can find beauty in your day and age too, which could give you happiness. - Beauty keeps giving: Beauty's loveliness always increases. So invest in something (whether time or money) that you find beautiful and it will always give you returns in terms of joy. - Beauty can be found in many things: Nature has a lot of beauty that it offers us. Spend time in a garden or a green place to observe and experience beauty. That would bring you peace and joy. - Beauty gives us joy: It is a joy forever, so connect with beauty or try to find in whatever situation you are. It is bound to change your mood from sad to happy 	
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	<p>itself is something that can bring people closer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - They challenge each other and do not behave in a polite manner with each other. Being who we really are and saying how we feel can build meaningful connections. <p>ii) Sam’s letter to Charley proves that Sam had found and reached the third level. He had been staying there in Galesburg for the last two weeks watching various activities and explaining to Charley. He invites both Charley and his wife Louisa and motivates them to continue their search for the third level. So, we can say that Sam was also a victim of worldly worries and sought the escape, like Charley.</p> <p>iii) (Accept any one relevant contrast.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students would see and experience the actual implications of human activity on the environment rather than just reading about it. It would make students more motivated to act responsibly. - Students would have a life-changing experience at an unusual place like Antarctica which might make information and learning more memorable. 	
12.	<p><i>Content -2, Expression – 2, Accuracy-1</i></p> <p><i>[Content, in suggested responses, may be above the recommended word limit, as it aims to share content points that can be drawn upon to structure the final desired response.]</i></p> <p>A. Suggested response: Good morning, everyone. As I analysed the allotted texts, I noticed that though each portrayal of women was unique, they all offered varied insights into the experiences of women in society. To begin with, Aunt Jennifer was portrayed as a victim of patriarchy, living in a world where women were expected to conform to societal norms and expectations and was unable to attain the freedom and strength she desired, due to the limitations imposed upon her by society.</p> <p>In contrast, Sophie was portrayed as ambitious and determined to break free from societal norms. She refused to be limited by her gender and sought to challenge the restrictions placed upon her. Sophie's mother, on the other hand, from a generation prior, had chosen to conform and sacrifice her individuality to societal expectations. Similarly, in "Lost Spring," the grandmother and daughter-in-law, in Firozabad, were portrayed as resilient in the face of poverty and the societal constraints of their caste. However, unlike Sophie’s and Aunt Jennifer’s need to find an outlet, they found ways to make the best of their situation, despite the limitations placed upon them. When we analyse the portrayal of the aged mother, in "My Mother at Sixty-six," she is presented as vulnerable and in need of protection. Sadly, it does make one wonder about the unaddressed vulnerability of Sophie’s mother and the grandmother in “Lost Spring”. A point worth considering is that Kamala Das’ mother’s acceptance of her circumstances comes across as a voluntary decision, whereas that of the women in “Lost Spring” is akin to resignation. These portrayals of women offer valuable insights into the experiences of women in our society -from victimization to the resilience in</p>	5

	<p>the face of poverty - and offer us important lessons about strength, vulnerability, and the need for empathy and respect. To conclude, I'd like to say that as readers, we can learn from their experiences and strive towards a more equitable and just society. These characters, stress that it is important to recognise the complexities of each woman's experiences, and refrain from passing sweeping judgements as women are not a uniform group, but rather unique individuals.</p> <p>B. Suggested response: Dear Robert I recently read your poem, "A Roadside Stand," and was struck by the conflicting emotions that you expressed towards the end. I understand that it can be difficult to make decisions when we are overwhelmed by our emotions. In my own experience, I have found that taking a moment of stillness and reflection can be very helpful in gaining a deeper understanding of the situation and connecting with our own humanity and that of others. This is the message that I try to convey in my poem, "Keeping Quiet." I would advise you to take a moment to be still and contemplative before making any decisions about the fate of the people at the roadside stand. By quieting your mind and being present in the moment, you may be able to understand their struggles and pain objectively, and gain a new perspective about your own place in the world too. I also feel that by breaking from your routine and taking a moment of stillness and reflection, you might gain a deeper understanding of the situation and make a more functional decision. I believe that this moment of reflection could help you to see beyond your conflicting emotions. We are all human, after all, and before connecting with others, and resolving their issues, we must try to connect with our own selves to advice from a place of balance and calm. I hope this advice is helpful to you. Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to support you. Warmly Pablo Neruda</p>	
13.	<p><i>Content -2, Expression – 2, Accuracy-1</i></p> <p><i>[Content, in suggested responses, may be above the recommended word limit, as it aims to share content points that can be drawn upon to structure the final desired response.]</i></p> <p>A. Suggested response: I have been married to Charley for a few years now and I have always known him to be an intelligent man with an imaginative mind. However, his recent obsession with finding the Third Level has left me quite worried. While he talks about it with excitement, I cannot help but wonder if it is a good quality or a harmful one. On one hand, Charley's obsession displays his determination and persistence in achieving his goals. It shows that he is willing to go to great lengths to unravel the mysteries of life. His imagination and curiosity are admirable qualities that have always attracted me to him. Page 14 of 14 However, his obsession has caused him to become detached from reality. He is no longer able to differentiate between what is real and what is not. He spends all his time and money searching for a place that may not even exist. This could be harmful not only to himself but also to our family. I understand that he feels overwhelmed by the stress and pressures of his present life and Sam</p>	(5 Marks)

		<p>indicated that he uses his obsession as a coping mechanism. I think this is harmful as it prevents him from addressing the underlying issues that are causing him stress. Furthermore, Charley's obsession has caused him to neglect his responsibilities. He has been absent from work and has not been able to contribute financially to our household. His obsession is affecting our relationship, and I am afraid that if he continues on this path, it might lead to irreparable damage. Finally, all I can say is , I believe that Charley's obsession with finding the Third Level may have started as a harmless curiosity, but it has now become a harmful one. I love him dearly and I hope that he realizes that his obsession is affecting not only himself but also those around him.</p> <p>B. Suggested response: I find myself reflecting on an event that happened many years ago, one that has continued to haunt me ever since. It is the incident where my long hair was forcefully cut off at the Carlisle Indian School. As I sit here today, I cannot help but feel conflicted about my actions that day. On one hand, I am proud that I stood up for myself and refused to submit to their demands at first. I remember the fire in my belly as I declared that I would struggle before giving in. However, as time passed, my spirit wavered, and eventually, I allowed them to cut my hair. Looking back now, I cannot help but feel that I gave in too easily, that I did not do enough to resist. As I ponder over what I could have done differently, I realize that there might have been other options. Perhaps I could have sought help from my fellow students. Maybe I could have tried to escape or find another way out of the situation. But in that moment, I was so overwhelmed and confused that I could not think straight. I know that I have blamed myself for this incident for far too long. But today, I choose to absolve myself of any blame. As a young girl, I forced into a strange place. I was not given the chance to make my own choices, to decide what was best for me. I was a victim of a system that sought to strip away my identity and forced me to assimilate. Today, I choose to forgive myself and honour the brave little girl who stood up for herself that day. I am grateful for her courage and strength, and I will continue to honour her memory by fighting for justice and equality for all.</p>	
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INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT
FIRST PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION 2023
ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS: XII

Max.Marks: 80

28/11/2023

MARKING SCHEME			
SET	QN.NO	VALUE POINTS	MARKS SPLIT UP
I.	1.	i) c) By transferring the fruits of toil to the next generation	1
		ii) b) It helps a nation to navigate its path and achieve its goals.	1
		iii) (c) Desultory	1
		iv) (b) Unity in diversity is what will make our nation great	1
		v) (a) “A person is a coward because they think they are”—gives the correct meaning of the given sentence.	1
		vi) (c) ‘Visionary’ and ‘confident’ are the qualities that the author displays while talking about taking the necessary steps to build our nation’s strength	1
		vii) (d) ‘Driving’ means exerting force or motivating force.	1
		viii) (a) According to the paragraph 7, the author advises to strengthen the nation’s technological strength.	1
		ix) (c) The quote in option (c) best expresses the central idea of the passage	1
		x) b) Freedom of India	1
		xi) The passage describes: <u>how one generation transfers the fruits of its efforts to the next generation.</u> Each generation contributes to the national vision, and the <u>succeeding generations work to achieve these goals.</u> This process continues, leading the nation to climb steps of glory and gain strength over time.	1
		xii) The second national vision proposed in the passage is a “ <u>Developed India.</u> ” This vision envisions India <u>becoming one of the largest economies in the world,</u> with a high standard of living, quality education and healthcare, national security, and <u>enhanced competence in key areas.</u> <u>It aims to bring prosperity to the countrymen.</u>	1

	2.	<p>i) (c) when there are chances to get financial gratification</p> <p>ii) to be better than their competitors / because there is competition among enterprises</p> <p>iii) b) False</p> <p>iv) team spirit and work environment</p> <p>v) Suggested value points: - (any of the following)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - they are more affected in 6 out of 10 factors surveyed - they are scoring higher in most factors - they are scoring higher in the following factors: chance for personal development, relaxed work environment. - promotion aspects, job security and monetary benefits. <p>vi) d) happy</p> <p>vii) respect from colleagues</p> <p>viii) - (c) Happiness</p> <p>(ix) (any two) Team spirit, competent boss, respect from colleagues and job satisfaction.</p> <p>(x) There are numerous factors affecting job performance: (anyone)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One possible method to increase motivation is the salary. - The graph shows there are other factors affecting job performance. - Job satisfaction, - relaxed working environment and promotion prospects are some other reasons why an employee may perform better. 	<p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p>
II		SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS	18
	3.	NOTICE: (4 Marks: Format: 1 / Content: 2 / Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar: 1).	4
	4.	<p>INVITATION: A. Reply - Informal letter format</p> <p>B. Card format of Invitation.</p> <p>(Format: 1 / Content: 2 / Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar:1)</p>	4
	5.	<p>A. Letter to the Editor</p> <p>B. Job Application</p> <p>(Format: 1, Content: 2 /Language quality:1, Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar:1)</p>	5
	6.	<p>A. Article for local daily</p> <p>B. Report for School Magazine.</p> <p>(Format: 1, Content: 2 /Language quality:1, Accuracy of Spelling and Grammar:1)</p>	5
III		SECTION C: LITERATURE	40

7.	<p>A.</p> <p>(i) d) He is uncertain about how to help.</p> <p>(ii) b) The absence of economic progress.</p> <p>(iii) c) Easing the suffering of the people suddenly</p> <p>(iv) b) the rural people are feeling devastated because of their perpetual state of poverty.</p> <p>(v) The author empathises with the owner of the roadside stand.</p> <p>(vi) 1) a, b, c.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>B.</p> <p>(i) "Victory with no survivors" implies that the wars described result in complete annihilation or destruction, leaving no one alive to celebrate the victory. It highlights the devastating nature of these conflicts.</p> <p>(ii) b) Victory with no survivors.</p> <p>(iii) Putting on clean clothes symbolizes a return to normalcy or a clean slate after the destructive wars. It may represent a fresh start or a break from conflict.</p> <p>(iv) The emotional state of those who "walk about with their brothers in the shade, doing nothing" suggests a sense of peace, relaxation, and contentment. It signifies a break from the chaos of war and a moment of tranquility.</p> <p>(v) a) Unity and solidarity</p> <p>(vi) d) Their participation in destructive wars</p>	1 x 6 = 6
8.	<p>A</p> <p>i) - no actual proof/no physical evidence</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">- only the narrator's personal account of it</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">- its existence only in the narrator's imagination (Accept any relevant response)</p> <p>ii) (Any one) - He is assuming that the reader thinks he might have gone mad.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">- He is assuming that the reader might be questioning his sense of reality.</p> <p>iii) b) Milind claims that he was petting his dog whom he lost a few years ago.</p> <p>iv) -The narrator does not agree with the opinion.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">- The narrator thinks that escapism does not explain why he saw the third level because everyone wants to escape, but no one ends up on a third level at Grand Central Station.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">- The narrator is not convinced by the explanation. (Accept any relevant inference)</p>	1 x 4 = 4

		<p>B. (i) The narrator was humiliated because they were teased, called names, and physically assaulted by a group of children from a higher caste while walking home from school. The humiliation was due to their lower caste status, which was stigmatized in the society.</p> <p>(ii) (a) enjoyed looking at the various sights</p> <p>(iii) (a) (I) can be inferred from the extract but (II) cannot.</p> <p>(iv) (c) unique and interesting items</p>	
9.		<p>A. (i) (d) the Peddler had always been looked at with suspicion</p> <p>(ii) home</p> <p>(iii) (c) compassionate</p> <p>(iv) (c) criminal is not born but made</p> <p>(v) Christmas eve</p> <p>(vi) The expression 'he is cross-examined' suggests that Peddler and his identity have always been questioned because of suspicion.</p> <p>B. (i) (b) to earn money</p> <p>(ii) (c) to open a boutique</p> <p>(iii) b) She didn't want Jansie to know her future plans.</p> <p>(iv) b) He thinks she's unrealistic.</p> <p>(v) (d) helplessness</p> <p>(vi) b) Eating shepherd's pie</p>	1 x 6 = 6
10.		<p><i>Content -I, Expression – I</i></p> <p><i>The given detailed reference points can be drawn upon to structure the desired response:</i></p> <p>i) (Any – one of the following points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sophie's father is annoyed with her because he thinks that she makes up stories. - He is irritated with her because she remains aloof from reality; he wants her to be practical and rooted in reality. - He thinks lowly of Sophie because she always lies about things <p>ii) (Any – one of the following points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the boy in the make-up department: the author realises that the make-up boy's frustration is directed towards a single person, how he might be entering his cabin because he thinks he doesn't do anything important - Subbu: he traces his past and realises how his route to success may not have been easy, analyses that he is a social person who is welcoming, is unable to work independently, how he is able to be creative and describes his poetic abilities. - The lawyer: analysing his character as someone who was neutral, reticent, cold - The actress on set: her naivety while working on films, her temperament and an analysis of why she left films 	5 x 2 = 10

	<p>iii) The author learned that one can overcome their fears through determination, practice, and perseverance. He also realized the importance of facing and conquering one's fears to lead a fulfilling life.</p> <p>iv) The poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers' ends with the mention of Aunt Jennifer's death and the stillness of her tigers on the panel. The implication is that even in death, her desire for freedom and autonomy remains unfulfilled, as the tigers are still weighed down by the heavy, fearful hands she worked with. (Accept similar responses)</p> <p>v) (any two of the following points) Umberto Eco suggests that the success of his book, "The Name of the Rose," was largely due to timing. He believes that if he had written the book ten years earlier or ten years later, it wouldn't have had the same impact. Therefore, if he had written the book earlier or later, it might not have been as relevant or timely, and might not have captured the same level of attention and interest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This could be interpreted as Eco recognizing the importance of cultural context and how the reception of a work of art is influenced by the historical, social, and political climate of its time. - Eco might be suggesting that the themes and ideas he explored in his novel resonated particularly strongly with readers in the cultural moment in which it was published, and that this moment was fleeting. <p>vi) (Any one of the following points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beauty is immortal: There will always be beauty to find no matter what day and age we live in. You can find beauty in your day and age too, which could give you happiness. - Beauty keeps giving: Beauty's loveliness always increases. So invest in something (whether time or money) that you find beautiful and it will always give you returns in terms of joy. - Beauty can be found in many things: Nature has a lot of beauty that it offers us. Spend time in a garden or a green place to observe and experience beauty. That would bring you peace and joy. - Beauty gives us joy: It is a joy forever, so connect with beauty or try to find in whatever situation you are. It is bound to change your mood from sad to happy 	
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12.	<p><i>Content -2, Expression – 2, Accuracy-1</i></p> <p><i>[Content, in suggested responses, may be above the recommended word limit, as it aims to share content points that can be drawn upon to structure the final desired response.]</i></p> <p>A. Suggested response: Good morning, everyone. As I analysed the allotted texts, I noticed that though each portrayal of women was unique, they all offered varied insights into the experiences of women in society. To begin with, Aunt Jennifer was portrayed as a victim of patriarchy, living in a world where women were expected to conform to societal norms and expectations and was unable to attain the freedom and strength she desired, due to the limitations imposed upon her by society.</p> <p>In contrast, Sophie was portrayed as ambitious and determined to break free from societal norms. She refused to be limited by her gender and sought to challenge the restrictions placed upon her. Sophie's mother, on the other hand, from a generation prior, had chosen to conform and sacrifice her individuality to societal expectations. Similarly, in "Lost Spring," the grandmother and daughter-in-law, in Firozabad, were portrayed as resilient in the face of poverty and the societal constraints of their caste. However, unlike Sophie's and Aunt Jennifer's need to find an outlet, they found ways to make the best of their situation, despite the limitations placed upon them. When we analyse the portrayal of the aged mother, in "My Mother at Sixty-six," she is presented as vulnerable and in need of protection. Sadly, it does make one wonder about the unaddressed vulnerability of Sophie's mother and the grandmother in "Lost Spring". A point worth considering is that Kamala Das' mother's acceptance of her circumstances comes across as a voluntary decision, whereas that of the women in "Lost Spring" is akin to resignation. These portrayals of women offer valuable insights into the experiences of women in our society -from victimization to the resilience in the face of poverty - and offer us important lessons about strength, vulnerability, and the need for empathy and respect. To conclude, I'd like to</p>	5

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13.	<p><i>Content -2, Expression – 2, Accuracy-1</i></p> <p><i>[Content, in suggested responses, may be above the recommended word limit, as it aims to share content points that can be drawn upon to structure the final desired response.]</i></p> <p>A. Suggested response: I have been married to Charley for a few years now and I have always known him to be an intelligent man with an imaginative mind. However, his recent obsession with finding the Third Level has left me quite worried. While he talks about it with excitement, I cannot help but wonder if it is a good quality or a harmful one. On one hand, Charley's obsession displays his determination and persistence in achieving his goals. It shows that he is willing to go to great lengths to unravel the mysteries of life. His imagination and curiosity are admirable qualities that have always attracted me to him. Page 14 of 14 However, his obsession has caused him to become detached from reality. He is no longer able to differentiate between what is real and what is not. He spends all his time and money searching for a place that may not even exist. This could be harmful not only to himself but also to our family. I understand that he feels overwhelmed by the stress and pressures of his present life and Sam indicated that he uses his obsession as a coping mechanism. I think this is harmful as it prevents him from addressing the underlying issues that are</p>	(5 Marks)

		<p>causing him stress. Furthermore, Charley's obsession has caused him to neglect his responsibilities. He has been absent from work and has not been able to contribute financially to our household. His obsession is affecting our relationship, and I am afraid that if he continues on this path, it might lead to irreparable damage. Finally, all I can say is , I believe that Charley's obsession with finding the Third Level may have started as a harmless curiosity, but it has now become a harmful one. I love him dearly and I hope that he realizes that his obsession is affecting not only himself but also those around him.</p> <p>B. Suggested response: I find myself reflecting on an event that happened many years ago, one that has continued to haunt me ever since. It is the incident where my long hair was forcefully cut off at the Carlisle Indian School. As I sit here today, I cannot help but feel conflicted about my actions that day. On one hand, I am proud that I stood up for myself and refused to submit to their demands at first. I remember the fire in my belly as I declared that I would struggle before giving in. However, as time passed, my spirit wavered, and eventually, I allowed them to cut my hair. Looking back now, I cannot help but feel that I gave in too easily, that I did not do enough to resist. As I ponder over what I could have done differently, I realize that there might have been other options. Perhaps I could have sought help from my fellow students. Maybe I could have tried to escape or find another way out of the situation. But in that moment, I was so overwhelmed and confused that I could not think straight. I know that I have blamed myself for this incident for far too long. But today, I choose to absolve myself of any blame. As a young girl, I forced into a strange place. I was not given the chance to make my own choices, to decide what was best for me. I was a victim of a system that sought to strip away my identity and forced me to assimilate. Today, I choose to forgive myself and honour the brave little girl who stood up for herself that day. I am grateful for her courage and strength, and I will continue to honour her memory by fighting for justice and equality for all.</p>	
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