



**COMMON PRE-BOARD
EXAMINATION 2022-23
Subject: ENGLISH (301)**



CLASS:XII
Marks:80

Time:3Hrs
Date:

General Instructions:

1. 15 Minutes prior reading time allotted for Q-Paper reading
2. The Question Paper Contains Three sections- READING. WRITING AND LITERATURE.
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number in your answer sheet to indicate the option/s being attempted.

Section A: READING SKILLS (20 marks)

I	Read the passage given below.	10
1	What would we do without humour? How would we enjoy talks with others if we do not use humour to invite a smile or a laugh? And how would we manage the times when we feel sad and alone?	
2	With humour, we lighten up each day and find common ground with others. We build healthy relationships with others by knowing what to say and what to do that helps and what hinders a conversation. Humour often takes us to the edge of uncertainty when we exaggerate or tease others to make our point. When humour is unsuccessful, we build trust and cooperation. We discover that we are not alone, learn to accept our mistakes, and look for the good in others and ourselves. Most importantly, we create common ground. However, when we lose our sense of humour, we often get critical or defensive, and we often get critical of ourselves for what was said and how it was said.	
3	Humour is an essential skill needed to communicate well with others. A few well-chosen words get the attention of others and make a serious point without their getting defensive. Whether we prefer to be the centre of attention or shy and quiet, humour can be adjusted to suit our personality.	
4	The challenge for everyone is to become more aware of how to add humour, and when to avoid it. Too much humour, like too much spice, often annoys others. Humour that is perceived as insensitive often leads others to shut down or become argumentative. But when we each maintain our sense of humour, we look for the good in others and in ourselves. To ensure that others welcome our humour, we need to combine our humour with speaking clearly and listening effectively.	

5	When we are happy, we are light-hearted. We are open to others and ready to laugh and play. We laugh when we see things presented in unexpected ways. Humour is the spice of life. It brings happiness and decreases pain. It enhances speaking well and listening well.	
6	Organising fun activities throughout the year keeps us feeling happy and strong. Having a fundraising event, a surprise birthday, a Halloween costume party or a scavenger hunt helps.	
	Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.	1*10=10
i	In the passage given above, the author intends to suggest that_____.	1
ii	What happens when humour is successful?	1
iii	What, according to the passage, is the consequence when we tease others to make our point?	1
iv	_____ means to represent something as being larger, better or worse than it really is'. a)perspective b)scavenger c)exaggerate d)hinder	1
v	When do we start blaming others? a)The moment we get miffed b) When others start making fun of us. c)When others start using unparliamentarily languages. d) When we lose our sense of humour.	1
vi	List something we should do to ensure that our humour is welcomed by others.	1
vii	Why is it important for us to learn when to add humour? a)Because it can annoy others if we don't realise the aptness of the time. b)Because it's a part of being polite to others. c)Because it determines our individuality d)Because it creates a wring impression on the minds of others.	1
Viii	Most important, we create common ground.' What does the phrase common ground' mean here?	1
ix	Which of the following statements is FALSE, according to the passage? a)We should be aware of our words while talking to others b)we should organise fun activities in order to keep ourselves happy and	1

	<p>strong.</p> <p>c)we should be a patient listener to ensure a healthy discussion.</p> <p>d)we laugh only when things come to us in an unexpected way.</p>	
x	<p>Pick out the best suitable title for the above passage.</p> <p>a)Humour- As a skill</p> <p>b)Humour Vs Laughter</p> <p>c)Humour- As a challenge</p> <p>d)Humour in life</p>	1
	Read the passage given below:	10
1	<p>Tiger is one of the most recognisable animals around the world, capable of reaching an average of 3.38m and 388kg. Its reddish –orange fur with dark stripes is not unique to tigers some can have white fur) but also allows them to be camouflaged in the dense environment that they live in. However, this camouflage has not helped the tiger escape from the eyes of humans, especially over the last century, where the tiger population has declined by 96.1 % - from 100,000 to a little over 3,900.</p>	
2	<p>Over the last century, they have lost 93% of their historic range and have been eradicated from the southwest and central Asia, from the islands of Java and Bali, and large areas of southeast and Eastern Asia. Today, tigers range from the Siberian taiga in the north of Asia to the tropical mangrove swamps in the south. The remaining six subspecies of tigers are all classified by the international union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as endangered. The exponential drop in tiger populations can be seen in the figure where the graph shows a considerable decrease in population, from around 40,000 in the 1970s to 3000 in 2010. In fact, there are more tigers in captivity than there are in the wild today.</p>	
3	<p>In total there have been 9 known species of tigers,3 of which have become extinct. Bengal Tiger, Malayan Tiger, Sumatran Tiger, Siberian Tiger(Amur Tiger), Indochinese Tiger(Hyrcanian or Turan tiger) and Javan Tiger. The Bengal Tiger, the most common and second largest subspecies of tiger in the world today, are residing in the forests of India, Nepal, Bhutan, and Bangladesh. Malayan Tiger is exclusively found in the southern parts of the Malay Peninsula, which is situated in Southeast Asia. Bali Tiger lived in the Indonesian island of Bali and was hunted to extinction on 27 September 1937, when the last subspecies was killed. Caspian Tiger Hyrcanian or Turan Tiger was found in the sparse forest habitats and riverine corridors west and south of the Caspian Sea and east through Central Asia.</p>	

	<p>45,000 40,000 35,000 30,000 25,000 20,000 15,000 10,000 5,000 0</p> <p>1965 1970 1975 1980 1985 1990 1995 2000 2005 2010 2015</p> <p>1940s: Bali tiger extinct 1970s: Caspian tiger extinct 1980s: Javan tiger extinct 1990s: South China tiger reportedly extinct in the wild</p>	
	Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.	1*10=10
i	<p>The average weight of a tiger as mentioned in the passage is 3.38kg Select from the following True- if the statement agrees with the information False- if the statement contradicts the information Not Given- if there is no information given on this</p>	1
li	What is the use of dark stripes on the body of a tiger?	1
lii	<p>Tigers have been _____ from southwest and Central Asia, and from the islands of Java and Bali. a)Captured b)tortured c) restricted d)eradicated</p>	1
lv	Tiger population have declined by_____	1
V	<p>How many subspecies of tiger have been declared as endangered? a) 9 b)6 c) 3 d)8</p>	1
Vi	<p>Where is the Siberian tiger found? a)In the south of Africa b)In the north of America c)In the northeast of Africa d)In the North of Asia</p>	1
Vii	Give one reason for extinction of subspecies of tiger.	1
Viii	<p>Which one of the following shows the six present species of tiger? a)Bali Tiger, Caspian Tiger, Bengal Tiger, Malayan Tiger, Sumatran Tiger, and Javan Tiger b)Bengal Tiger, Malayan Tiger, Sumatra Tiger, Siberian Tiger, Indochinese</p>	1

	<p>Tiger, and South China Tiger.</p> <p>c)Bali Tiger, Malayan Tiger, Sumatra Tiger, Siberian Tiger, Indochinese Tiger, and South China Tiger</p> <p>d)Bengal Tiger, Malayan Tiger, Sumatra Tiger, Caspian Tiger, Indochinese Tiger and south China tiger.</p>	
ix	<p>Suggest a suitable title for the passage.</p> <p>a)The dwindling Tiger Population</p> <p>b)Where are the Tigers</p> <p>c)Tigers Face Extinction</p> <p>d)Save the Panthera Tigris</p>	1
x	Which organisation has specified the number of extinct subspecies of tiger?	1
	SECTION B- CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS	
1	Attempt <u>ANY ONE</u> from A and B given below.	5
A	You are Rajan /Reetha, secretary, Literary Club of Buddha Public school Gangtok. Your schoolmate, Gautam Adhikari, has won the first prize in the state story writing Competition. The club has decided to organise a function to felicitate him on his laudable achievement. Write a notice, in not more than 50 words, informing all the students to attend it to make the occasion memorable. Give all the necessary details.	
	OR	
B	Due to a sudden outbreak of Dengue fever, the school authority has decided to start online classes again. As the principal of Adarsh vidya Mandir, Delhi, draft a notice within 50 words, giving the necessary details.	
2	Attempt <u>ANY ONE</u> from A and B given below.	5
A	Your grandparents are celebrating their Golden Jubilee Anniversary of their marriage. Draft an invitation, in not more than 50 words, for friends and relatives.	
	OR	
B	You are Rahul Chopra, a famous cricketer. You have been invited as the Chief Guest in Annual Sports of ABP Public School, Patna. Send your regrets as you will not be in city that day.	
3	Attempt <u>ANY ONE</u> from A and B given below.	5
A	Recently you went to your native village to visit your grandparents. You saw that some of the children in the age group of 5-14 (the age at which they	

	should have been at school) remained at home, were working in the fields or simply loitering in the streets. Write a letter, in 120-150 words, to the Editor of a National Daily analysing the problem and offering solutions to it. You are Navtej/ Navita M-113, Mount Kailash, Kanpur.	
	OR	
B	You are Rounak/Rishita, a resident of F-34, Mezzanine floor, Green Arcade, Trivandrum. You come across an advertisement Inviting applications for the position of Teaching Faculty. Write an application along with an updated resume to apply for the same.	
4	Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below	5
A	You have joined a health check-up camp in village Rampur, Punjab. Write a report for local newspaper Punjab Khabar, covering all the details considering yourself as Jagjeet singh.	
	OR	
B	Single use, disposable plastic bags are a major source of lingering litter and pollution in our environment. You were pained to see the picture and decided to write an article on the same. Assign yourself as Shivkumar/Snekha.	
	SECTION C- LITERATURE	40
IV	Read the given extracts to attempt the questions with reference to context.	
1	Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given	1*6=6
A	<p>What I want should not be confused with total inactivity. i Life is what it is about; I want no truck with death. If we were not so single-minded about keeping our lives moving, and for once could do nothing, perhaps a huge silence might interrupt this sadness of never understanding ourselves and of threatening ourselves with death.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Keeping Quiet</p>	
I	The poet's intention in the first line is to:	1
	a)give warning to the readers b)give right direction to the readers c)give choice to the readers d)give a clarification to the readers.	
li	Select the option that best explains the stand of the poet in the expression: 'I want no truck with death'. a)He advises people to escape death b)He asserts that death is inevitable	1

	c)He assures that he does not advocate death d)He expresses his desire not to die.	
lii	Select the option that aptly describes the tone of the poet in the expression: 'If we were not so single minded" a) Regretful b) Critical c) Encouraging d) Friendly	1
Iv	According to the poet who is to blame for the condition of threatening ourselves with death? a)Stressful life b)Keeping Quiet c)Lack of Understanding d)State of confusion	1
V	The tone of the poet in the expression: "Perhaps a huge silence Might interrupt this sadness" is a)unsure yet optimistic b)Sure and confident c)poetic & melodramatic d)hopeful but not confident	1
Vi	In Keeping Quiet the poet does not want the reader to confuse his advice for_____ with total inactivity. a) Experimentation b) Relaxation c) Isolation d) Introspection	1
	OR	
1B	Sometimes I feel myself I can hardly bear The thought of so much childish longing in vain The sadness that lurks near the open window there. That waits all day in almost open prayer For the squeal of brakes, the sound of a stopping car, Of all the thousand selfish cars that pass, Just one to inquire what a farmer's prices are. Road side Stand	
I	What can the poet not bear? a)The rich helping the poor b)The poor serving the rich c)The poor man waiting all day for some car to stop at his stand.	1

	d) The sight of the roadside stand.	
li	What is meant by 'Childish longing' in this extract? a)The longing of a child to have some toy b)The waiting of the poor peasant for some car to stop at his stand. c)The longing of the rich to help, the poor d)None of the above	1
lii	What sadness lurks near the open window? a)The sadness on the face of the rich b)The sadness on the face of the poet c)The sadness on the face of the poor peasant d)The sadness on the face of the poor peasant's wife.	1
lv	What do these lines show about the rich city people? a)They are indifferent to the fate of the poor. b)They are heartless people c)They are self-centred d)All of the above	1
v	The poet felt pain about the poor peasants and he expressed it in his poem. Choose the correct statements that troubled the poet. a) The poet is troubled by how the poor man kept waiting for some car to stop at his stand. b)The poet is troubled by how the politicians befooling the peasants. c)The poet is troubled by the rich people with magnificent cars who got irritated to see the artless way in which the shed had been painted by peasants. d)All of the above	1
vi	Why the longing has been termed as 'Vain'? a)Just to turn back b)To ask the way to its destination c) It will never be fulfilled d)All of the above	1
2A	Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.	1*4=4
	DERRY: And no one'll kiss me, ever. Only my mother, and she kisses me on the other side of my face, and I don't like my mother to kiss me, she does it because she has to. Why should I like that? I don't care if nobody ever kisses me. MR LAMB: Ah, but do you care if you never kiss them.	

i	What does Derry think of his mother? a)That She was partial b)That She was just c)That she was fair d)All of these	1
ii	Why does no one kiss Derry? a)Because of his shabby appearance b)Because of his half burnt leg c)Because of his out-dated clothes d)None of these	1
iii	What kind of attitude Derry has towards life? a)Optimistic b)Pessimistic c)Balanced d)None of the above	1
iv	What is the tone of the speaker in the first line? a)Pleasure b)Displeasure c)Inquisitive d)Anxious	1
	OR	
2B	To visit Antarctica now is to be a part of that history; to get a grasp of where we've come from and where we could possibly be heading. It's to understand the significance of Cordilleran folds and pre-Cambrian granite shields; ozone and carbon; evolution and extinction. When you think about all that can happen in a million years, it can get pretty mind-boggling. Imagine: India pushing northwards, jamming against Asia to buckle its crust and form the Himalayas; South American drifting off to join North America, opening up the Drake Passage to create a cold circumpolar current, keeping Antarctica frigid, desolate, and at the bottom of the world. Journey to the End of the Earth	
I	Complete the sentence appropriately, with reference to the extract. A visit to Antarctica helps us to _____	
ii	What can be mind-boggling according to this passage? a)To imagine India pushing northward and jamming against Asia. b)To imagine south America joining North America c)Both (a) and (b) d)None of the above	
lii	Which of the following corresponds to 'drifting off'?	

	a)coming close very fast b)coming close slowly c)moving away fast d)moving away slowly	
iv	Why did India push northwards and jammed against Asia? a)Due to some geological changes b)Due to heavy snowfall. c)Due to population explosion d)Both (b) and (c)	
3	Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.	1.6=6
A	His success in films overshadowed and dwarfed his literary achievements-or so his critics felt. He composed several truly original 'story poems' in folk refrain and diction and also wrote a sprawling novel Thillana Mohanambal with dozens of very deftly etched characters. He quite successfully recreated the mood and manner of the Devadasis of the early 20th century. He was an amazing actor-he never aspired to the lead roles-but whatever subsidiary role he played in any of the films, he performed better than the supposed main players. He had a genuine love for anyone he came across and his house was a permanent residence for dozens of near and far relations and acquaintances. Such a charitable and improvident man, and yet he had enemies! Was it because he seemed so close and intimate with the Boss? Or was it his general demeanour that resembled a sycophant's? Or his readiness to say nice things about everything? In any case, there was this man in the make-up department who would wish the direst things for Subbu.	
i	Which of these statements is NOT TRUE about Subbu? a) His literary accomplishments stole the limelight from his films. b) He was a gifted poet and writer and his literary works were noteworthy. c) He was selfless in nature and was empathetic towards others. d) He never hankered after lead roles and performed minor roles in films.	1
ii	The word 'sprawling' has been used with the word 'novel'. Pick the option with which the word 'sprawling' CANNOT be used. a) metropolis b) handwriting c) campus d) portrait	1
iii	The phrase 'deftly etched' shows that Subbu a) created the roles delicately. b) was skilful in creating the characters.	1

	c) pondered beyond necessity about the characters. d) gave very little thought to the characters.	
iv	Pick the option that best describes Subbu according to the extract. 1. benevolent 2. powerful 3. accomplished 4. witty 5. generous 6. temperamental a) 4, 5 & 6 b) 2, 3 & 4 c) 1,3 & 5 d)3,4&6	1
v	Subbu never helped the needy. (True/False)	1
vi	Find a word from the extract which means the same as spending money in a careless manner?	1
	OR	
3B	They had merely heard that a Mahatma who wanted to help them was in trouble with the authorities. Their spontaneous demonstration, in thousands, around the courthouse was the beginning of their liberation from fear of the British. The officials felt powerless without Gandhi's cooperation. He helped them regulate the crowd. He was polite and friendly. He was giving them concrete proof that their might, hitherto dreaded and unquestioned, could be challenged by Indians. The government was baffled. The prosecutor requested the judge to postpone the trial. Apparently, the authorities wished to consult their superiors.	
i	Complete the given statements. The officials felt powerless because_____	1
ii	The demonstration proved that the: a)Policies of the British had failed. b)dread instilled in the hearts of Indians had begun to lessen. c)dealings with the Indian citizens had been unsuccessful. d)might of the British had not been understood by Indians.	1
iii	Gandhiji's behaviour towards the British prior to the proposal of postponement of the trial that of:	1

	a)indifference b)calm acceptance c)ignorance of consequences d)polite helpfulness	
iv	They in the above extract refer to _____	1
v	Which style, from those given below, is being used by the author, when he says, "Apparently, the authorities wished to consult their superiors."? a. humourous b. dramatic c. sarcastic d. Persuasive	
vi	What was the reason behind their 'spontaneous demonstration'?	1
V	Answer <u>ANY FIVE</u> of the following in about 40-50 words each.	5*2=10
I	Why should child labour be eliminated? 'Comment on this statement in the light of the story. The Lost Spring.	
li	The pain of separation is expressed both literally and metaphorically with reference to the poem My Mother at Sixty Six.	
lii	Do you sympathise with Aunt Jennifer? What is the attitude of the poet towards Aunt Jennifer?	
lv	In what sense was the world a big rattrap, according to the peddler?	
V	In what sense is the friendship between Mr.Lamb and Derry fruitful?	
vi	Artists, singers and musicians have a different perception of beauty as compared to people who are in other professions. Support your response with two justifications.	
VI	Answer <u>ANY TWO</u> of the following in about 40-50 words each	2*2=4
i	In his letter to Charley, Sam writes, "... then I got to believing you were right." What could have made Sam begin to believe in The Third Level?	2
ii	Sadao's acceptance of the General's plan to assassinate Tom was counter-productive to having put him on the path of recovery. Substantiate with reasons.(The Enemy)	2
iii	How do we know that Mr. Hamel displayed courage as well as patriotism? (The Last Lesson)	2

VII	Answer <u>ANY ONE</u> of the following in about 120-150 words.	1*5=5
i	Douglas' mother writes to the YMCA authorities holding them accountable for the mishap as well as demanding that the authorities employ a team of guards near the pool for supervision of the children. As the mother, write a letter to the authorities with reference to the case of your son. You may begin like this: Sir Subject: Negligence on Premises This is with reference to the incident of near fatal drowning of my son, William on your premises. We were...	
	OR	
ii	We have often heard the phrase: 'Beauty is skin deep'. In spite of that, we often see people idolising actors and celebrities who are good looking and attractive. You have a conversation regarding this with your friend who believes that physical beauty defines a person. Write down the conversation.	5
VIII	Answer <u>ANY ONE</u> of the following in about 120-150 words.	1*5=5
i	Imagine Sophie meets Danny Casey after several years. Write a dialogue exchange between them where Sophie explains what that meeting means to her	
	OR	
ii	Imagine your school has organised a panel discussion on 'Oppression and Its Evils.' You are one of the speakers. As part of your address, you are required to reflect on the lessons and ideas from the story, 'Memories of Childhood'. Draft the address. You may begin like this: Good morning ladies and gentlemen! It is a pleasure to be given an opportunity to speak today. I would like to begin by quoting James Baldwin, 'Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced.' Tolerating oppression in any form is...	5