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SET B



INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT
FIRST MID TERM EXAMINATION
ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

CLASS: IX

Sub. Code: 184

Time Allotted: 3 Hrs

26.9.2018

Max. Marks: 80

General Instructions:

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

1. **SECTION A : READING**
Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

20

1. A noble purpose gives meaning to one's own life and also benefit to others. I realised this when researching on and writing about the life of Jamsetji Tata. What gave one man living in a colonised country the vision to advance it in the community of nations? He not only gave India the power of steel and hydroelectric energy, but also an institute of research.

2. He sent an educationist to Europe and the United States to report on what should be the best Model for India. The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore was recommended as the Model. But Jamsetji made it a point to see that his name was not associated with the university. After his death, his dream came true with the establishment of the Indian Institute of Science in Bengaluru. It was to be the fountainhead of Science in the decades to come.

3. There are others too whose purpose in life has made a difference to society. Mother Teresa had a comfortable life at Loretto Convent, Kolkata. On a train journey to Darjeeling, she felt her 'calling' and wanted to give up her comfortable life in the convent and serve the poor and the needy.

4. After that, she took a three-month nursing course and returned to Kolkata. She devoted her time to the sick and the homeless. Touched by her sacrifice, some of her students joined her and work began. Not everyone has such a strong calling. When I asked her how one could be sure of one's calling, she replied, "Deep down in our hearts we know exactly what our calling is, if we are sincere."

5. One's purpose is shaped over a period of time, but every noble purpose is based on a feeling for the suffering of others and a desire for alleviating that condition. Some years ago, in Kerala, a young man saw his father join Gandhiji and fight for opening temples to the Harijans. When he grew up, the boy decided to take up agricultural studies, because he had seen the havoc caused by the Bengal Famine. He went to Europe and studied agriculture. On his return to India, he spearheaded the Green Revolution. Dr. M.S. Swaminathan demonstrates how purpose intensifies with time.

Read the given questions and write the answer in a sentence.

1x8
=8

- a. Bring out the unique character traits of Jamsetji Tata.
- b. Why did he send an educationist to Europe and the USA?
- c. Mention two things about Indian Institute of Science?
- d. How did Mother Teresa start working for the poverty-stricken people?
- e. What was the first step that Mother Teresa took?
- f. How can we find our calling?
- g. Is it possible to find one's calling within a short period? Why/Why not?
- h. What do we learn from the life of people like M.S. Swaminathan?

2. **Read the following passage carefully:**

12

1. Science and technology not only dominate the psyche of humanity but also the whole biosphere. How does science influence civilisation and how is it related to human happiness?
2. The Original, cosmic evolution of the biosphere was one that promoted, supported, nourished, sustained and enhanced life. Life went on adding to the evolution with newer species and ecosystems, even more beautiful and vibrant than the ones before. Our biosphere accommodated a pleasant weather cycle and climate system to support these newer species, keeping everything in dynamic equilibrium.
3. Now the biosphere is overburdened and ailing. Some of our ecosystems have already collapsed, while others are at death's door. Ever increasing pollution coupled with over exploitation of natural resources and greenhouse gas emission is driving several species towards extinction. This is not a phenomenon that has occurred by itself, and neither has it been caused by, human beings alone.
4. In this millennium, we no longer live in a, biosphere – we are inhabitants of a technosphere. A technosphere is an impaired biosphere that has no affinity with values neither of life nor with sustainability and evaluation of life. Although technology had empowered civilisation, it has also reduced it to being a mere toll of science and technology. And when the whole civilisation turns technocratic, science and technology are bound to dominate, causing life to shrink. The intensifying climate crisis is but a symptom of the biosphere's illness and life's gradual collapse.

5. We've reached a point where we are intolerant of anything remotely "unscientific" in our contemporary world. Scientists look for alternatives, but even these solutions are sought in the same domain that has caused these problem. In short, we are stewing in a soup of our own making.

6. So, what would be meaningful for the welfare of humans?

7. Naturally something that would enhance life, serve to integrate ecosystems and cleanse our environment.

8. Enhancement of life includes betterment of human life and vice versa. If life shrinks, we cannot blossom.

9. Science and technology by themselves are neutral; it is the way we use them that has either a positive or negative impact on our lives and environment. And when we use science in a manner that increases un-sustainability and unhappiness in our lives, how can we rely blindly on science for our happiness.

2. 1. Read the given questions and write the answer in about 30-40 words.

2x4
=8

a. How did the biosphere evolve over a period of time?

b. How has this equilibrium got disturbed now?

c. What is the difference between biosphere and technosphere?

d. Man needs to use 'science and technology' in a sensible manner. Explain.

2. 2. Choose the correct option that is closest in meaning to the words given below.

1x4
=4

a. Psyche (i) Mind (ii) Thinking (iii) Inner self (iv) Mental

b. enhance (i) improve (ii) increase (iii) remove (iv) Lower

c. collapsed (i) broken (ii) disappeared (iii) removed (iv) taken away

d. Affinity (i) dislike (ii) love (iii) bonding (iv) natural liking

Section-B (Writing and Grammar)

30

3. Your team has won the first place in the Inter-school Debate competition. **Write a diary entry expression your feelings after winning the competition for the first time.**

8

4. **Complete the story on basis of the given hints. Provide a suitable title.**

10

The Grocer very greedy-mixed stones in pulses. – Sand in spices - sold to the poor villagers – Turned a deaf ear to their complaints – Only grocery store in the village.....

5. **Choose the most appropriate option from the ones given below to complete the following passage. Write the correct answer in your answer sheet against the correct blank numbers. Do not copy the whole paragraph.**

4

Dear Anil I was very (a) _____ to receive your invitation to spend the winter

break(b)_____you. But I (c)_____do that. My Uncle has not been keeping well for

the past one week. I think I (d)_____visit him this vacation.

- a. (i) satisfied (ii) calm (iii) shocked (iv) pleased
- b. (i) without (ii) with (iii) through (iv) along with
- c. (i) will (ii) will not (iii) cannot (iv) may
- d. (i) must (ii) ought to (iii) can (iv) should

6. **Read the following passage carefully. There is a one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction against the correct blank number as given in the example. (Any 4)** 4

We should also developed nice

Eg. developed develop

table manners. Some people

talk too much while they eat.

(a) _____

This is a unhealthy practice.

(b) _____

some people also makes too

(c) _____

much noise for they take

(d)_____

of food.

(e)_____

7. **Rearrange the given words and Phrases into meaningful sentences.** 4

- a. the/first/doctor/a diagnosis/makes/an illness/of
- b. he or she/what/then/kind/decides/of treatment/needed/is
- c. can/treated with/many/be/a course of drug/illness
- d. may/the doctor/if/is serious/the case/operate

Section C : Literature

30

8. **Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow:**

1x4
=4

To the little girl he was a figure to be feared and avoided. Every morning before going to work, he came into her room and gave her a casual kiss, to which she responded with ‘Good Bye Father’. And oh, there was a glad sense of relief when she heard the noise of the carriage growing fainter and fainter down long the road!

- a)What was the daily routine of her father?
- b) When did the daughter feel relief?
- c) Who is ‘he’ in the first line?

d) Trace a word from the passage which means 'answered'.

OR

He won't do what you tell him.

So, come, let's build strong homes.

Let's joint the doors firmly.

Practise to firm the body.

Make the heart steadfast.

a) What does the poet advise?

b) 'He won't do what you tell him, what does it mean?

c) Find a word from the extract that means 'loyal/faithful'.

d) Name the Poem and Poet.

9. **Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each.**

5x2
=10

1. Why did Einstein's playmates call him 'brother boring'?
2. What does the poet find so attractive about Innisfree?
3. Why does the child lose interest in the things that he had wanted earlier?
4. Why did Einstein write a letter to Franklin Roosevelt?
5. When does the 'thousand dream fancies' began to weave in the poet's mind?

10. **Answer any one of the following questions in about 100-120 words:**

8

How was Margie's school different from the schools that existed hundreds of years ago?

OR

The poem 'The Road Not Taken' revolves around a serious conflict of life. What is this conflict?
How is it resolved?

11. **Answer any one of the following questions in about 100-120 words:**

8

How does Toto take a bath? Where has he learnt to do this? How does Toto almost boil himself alive?

OR

Mahendra calls ghosts or spirits a figment of the imagination. What happens to him on a full-moon night?

END OF QUESTION PAPER