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SET - 1



INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT
FIRST TERM EXAMINATION
ENGLISH CORE

CLASS: XII
07.05.2018

Sub. Code: 301

Time Allotted: 3 Hrs
Max. Marks: 100

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.*

SECTION-A (READING) 30 MARKS

30

1 Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

12

1. For lasting and clear eyesight, eyes need care in the form of preventive measures, a continuous life-long exercise. Eyes don't just see they do the talking; this is why of all our senses the most precious is eyesight. Eyes need care in the form of prevention, and knowing some preventive methods in eye care can make your eyes look bright and healthy and leave you with excellent eyesight.

2. How do we keep our eyes bright and healthy? Eat good helpings of vegetables, fruits, omega-3 fatty acids, beta carotenes with vitamins A, C and E, enjoy good sleep and avoid direct sunlight. Therefore, good habits and good general health care does play a major role in eye care. Eyes are windows to the human body; while you look out through this window, we, the eye doctors, can look in to find conditions such as glaucoma, abnormal blood pressures, diabetes, heart diseases and other health concerns much before you notice its adverse impact, and help you take preventive measures.

3. It is never too early to begin eye checkups. Throw a torch light from different directions and look for fixation in newborns and, if in doubt, take the baby to an eye specialist. By the time a child is four, it is imperative to have a check up every year to look for squint, signs of opacity brought in by cataracts and minus or plus powers to decide whether or not glasses are needed. Ultraviolet- protective sunglasses from childhood can help protect eyes from the harmful UV rays. Once in the teens, contact lenses can be worn in place of glasses, but never sleep with them on as they reduce the supply of air and blood to the cornea and can damage eyes. When in 20s, you can get rid of glasses with lasers, Lasik or permanent contact lenses.

4. An emerging and alarming trend is the Computer Eye Syndrome, which appears to be catching on in early adult life. We cannot escape the use of computers but, sadly, our eyes are not designed

to cope with these screens. Continuous staring at the monitors reduces blinking; causes strain to the eyes and can lead to dry eyes as well. Therefore, it is always better to take a break of 10 minutes every hour and look at distant objects such as the landscapes or even television. Glaucoma or raised pressure in eyes and diabetic retinopathy are silent killers of eyesight. Therefore, checking eyes once every six months is essential. If afflicted with diabetes, diet, exercise and drugs are to be remembered in that order to keep the doctor away.

6. Around the age of 40, more or less everybody requires reading glasses, a condition known as presbyopia. But now you can get rid of these glasses as well, with lasers called INTRACOR and SUPRACOR. One can develop cataract- defined as the loss of transparency in the natural lens of the eye - at any age, but it usually strikes in old age. It's treated by replacing the opaque lens with an artificial lens called the intraocular lens. The latest in -21-cataract removal techniques is called fem to second laser assisted cataract surgery, which is blade-free, hands-free and makes the operation precise, safe and accurate. Thus said, eye care is, inevitably, a continuous exercise through life.

- Dr Kasu Prasad Reddy

On the basis of your understanding of this passage, answer the following questions with the help of the given options: **1x4**

- a) We keep our eyes bright and healthy by:
- (i) playing in the sun (ii) wearing spectacles
- (iii) rubbing our eyes frequently (iv) eating a good helping of vegetables and fruits
- b) By examining the eyes, the doctors can detect health conditions like :
- (i) fractures (ii) sinus (iii) glaucoma (iv) transilitis
- c) Eye checkups should begin :
- (i) at the time of birth (ii) at school
- (iii) only when a person complaints (iv) when a person is above 50 years of age.
- d) We should not wear contact lenses for long hours, as they might harm the:
- (i) Retina (ii) Cornea (iii) Tear Glands (iv) None of the above

Answer the following questions briefly:

1x6

- e) State any two ways in which we can keep our eyes bright and healthy.
- f) What will prevent eyes from harmful UV Rays?
- g) Which problem is caused due to excessive computer usage?
- h) What is 'presbyopia'?

i) What are 'Intracor' and 'Supracor'?

j) What is 'Cataract'?

k) **Find words from the passage which mean the same as:**

2

i) Grievously affected especially by disease (Para 5)

ii) necessarily (Para 6)

2. Read the passage given below carefully:

10

1. Stress is a disease of modern times. It afflicts people regardless of their situation in life. Stress is present in the lives of the rich and poor, literate and illiterate, men and women. Stress is, however, more evident and is probably more widespread in technologically advanced countries, and is common among higher qualified professionals.

2. Stress is of various kinds physical, emotional and intellectual and it is characterized by a feeling of being burned: of being unable to cope. At a physical level modern technology and facilities have actually increased workloads and decreased relaxation. Mobile phones and laptops have made it easy to carry the office to the home.

3. Emotional stress increases when there is disharmony and friction in relationships. Unfortunately the trend today is to take the easy way out – people prefer to break away from relationships rather than repair them.

4. The answer to stress can be found in the very letters of the word, stress, 'S' stands for strength : physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual. Physical and emotional weakness leads to irritability. A strong healthy body developed through proper diet, exercise and pranayama techniques helps reduce stress at the physical level. Love compassion and friendship are valuable strength gives that help us cope with stress.

5. The scriptures say that knowledge of the self cannot be gained without inner strength. Rabindranath Tagore, in a poem, prays to the Lord not to remove all obstacles, but instead, he asks for strength to bear them. Before the start of the Mahabharata war Arjun was seized with a bout of emotional weakness and he refused to fight the war. Lord Krishna rescued him by giving him emotional strength

6. "T" stands for traffic control. We need to regulate and control our thoughts. We can cope with stress best if our thoughts are orderly and methodical. Unnecessary accumulation leads to clogging of the mind. The key lies in being able to love one moment at a time. Eat while eating work while working, and leave the home at home and the office in the office. Remember, however, long we have to travel we can only take one step at a time. Worrying only reduces efficiency and then even simple tasks cannot be completed correctly and in time.

7. 'R' is for redesign. We tend to view life and ourselves through our own philosophy. A readjustment or reorientation in this philosophy will enhance our capacity to bear heavier loads.

8. "E" stands for erase: the ego. Anger, fear and jealousy are negative emotions that reduce efficiency, leading to mental weakness, causing stress. Too much emphasis on the ego increases stress Abrogation of doer-ship can help us to de-stress. Sri Rama asked Sri Hanuman how he was able to cause so much havoc in Lanka and yet return unscathed . Hanuman disclaimed all responsibility. He said, "I did not do it, you did it through me". There is a higher power or strength

working through us.”

9. ‘S’ stands for sharing: share your wealth, knowledge, workload or anything else you have. By and large people do not know how to share or delegate. The last but most important is the ‘S’ which stands for surrender to the Lord. Free your mind from the weight of worries and become an instrument, adopting an attitude of service

I On the basis of your understanding of this passage, answer the following questions with the help of the given options: 1X2

- 1) We need not regulate and control our thoughts :
 - a) if our thoughts are orderly and methodical
 - b) if our thoughts are clogged
 - c) if we go on worrying
 - d) if we take up many jobs at one time
- 2) Erasing the ego can be achieved through:
 - a) if we control our negative emotion-anger, fear, jealousy
 - b) if we keep the feeling of doer-ship
 - c) if we claim the responsibility
 - d) the help of things causing stress and mental weakness

II Answer the following as briefly as possible: 1x6

- a) How has the stress become a universal disease? 1
- b) Name the various kind of stress. 1
- c) What is responsible for physical stress? 1
- d) When does ‘emotional stress’ increase? 1
- e) How can one develop ‘increase strength’? 1
- f) What does the word ‘stress’ stand for? 1

III Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following: 2

- a) Holy books (para5)
- b) Collection (para 6)

3. Read the passage given below: 8

1. The most alarming of man’s assaults upon the environment is the contamination of air, earth, rivers and sea with lethal materials. This pollution is for the most part irrevocable; the chain of evil it initiates is for the most part irreversible. In this contamination of the environment, chemicals are the sinister partners of radiation in changing the very nature of the world; radiation released through nuclear explosions into the air, comes to the earth in rain, lodges into the soil, enters the grass or corn, or wheat grown there and reaches the bones of a human being, there to remain until his death.

2. Similarly, chemicals sprayed on crops lie long in soil, entering living organisms, passing from

one to another in a chain of poisoning and death. Or they pass by underground streams until they emerge and combine into new forms that kill vegetation, sicken cattle, and harm those who drink from once pure wells.

3. It took hundreds of millions of years to produce the life that now inhabits the earth and reach a state of adjustment and balance with its surroundings. The environment contains elements that are hostile as well as supporting. Even within the light of the sun, there are short-wave radiations with power to injure. Given time, life has adjusted and a balance reached. For time is the essential ingredient, but in the modern world there is no time.

4. The rapidity of change and the speed with which new situations are created follow the heedless pace of man rather than the deliberate pace of nature. Radiation is no longer the bombardment of cosmic rays; it is now the unnatural creation of man's tampering with the atom. The chemicals to which life is asked to make adjustments are no longer merely calcium and silica and copper and all the rest of the minerals washed out of the rocks and carried in the rivers to the sea; they are the synthetic creations of man's inventive mind, brewed in his laboratories, and having no counterparts in nature.

- a) **On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it, using headings and sub headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary – minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it.** **5**
- b) **Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words.** **3**

SECTION B – (ADVANCED WRITING SKILLS)

30

4. You are Scout Master / Guide Captain of K.R. Sagar Public School, Mysore. You have decided to send a troop of Scouts and Guides of your school to the Jamboree (Scouts/ Guides rally) to be held at Lucknow for a week. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words to be placed on the school notice board inviting the names of those Scouts and Guides who are interested to participate in the Jamboree. Invent the necessary details. **4**

OR

You are Vikram/Sonia, an electronics engineer who has recently returned from the U.S. and looking for a suitable job in the IT industry. Draft an advertisement in about 50 words for the Situation Wanted column of a national newspaper. Your contact number is 9193010203.

5. You are Manas/ Manasi at the Press Apartments of Sunder Nagar, Bihar. The main road leading to this colony has three man holes causing frequent accidents at night. There are no street lights on the main road. Write a letter to the Editor of the Times of India drawing the attention of the government to this problem of the residents. **6**

OR

You are Buavik/Bhawna of Class XII of Tejas International School, Vijay Nagar, Bulandshaher. Write a letter to the Manager of the Sports Store, Meerut, complaining about a defective sports watch you purchased from their store. Write as a Sports Secretary of your school.

6. Our World, an environmental awareness NGO, has launched a 'Clean Your City' campaign in the city. As an active member of the group deliver a speech in the morning assembly of your school urging students to participate in the movement and make it a success. Write in about 150 -200 words. **10**

OR

You are Sameer/Saira. Write a debate for or against the motion, 'Entrance tests are the right method for selecting student for undergraduate courses'. Write in about 150 -200 words.

7. You are Rani/ Raghav. Many organizations have come forward with the idea of 'Education for All'. In spite of their best efforts it is still a dream. Write an article in about 150- 200 words giving suggestions to make this a reality, as education is the only way to progress. **10**

OR

You are the member of the Environmental Club of your school. After visiting many places you have realised that it is the need of the hour to protect the environment. Write an article on this topic to create awareness among the people (150-200 words)

SECTION C – (LITERATURE)

40

8. **Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: (4 marks)**

On sour cream walls, donations, Shakespeare's head,
Cloudless at dawn, civilized dome riding all cities.
Belled, flowery, Tyrolese valley. Open-handed map
Awarding the world its world.

- a) What is the condition of the classroom wall?
- b) What aspects show a civilized race?
- c) What is the specialty of the Tyrolese valley?
- d) Explain: 'Awarding the world its world'.

OR

Driving from my parent's home to Cochin last Friday
Morning, I saw my mother, beside me,
doze, open mouthed, her face ashen like that
of a corpse and realized with pain
that she was old as she looked but soon
put that thought away.

- a) Name the poem and the poet.
- b) Where was the poet coming from? Where was she going?
- c) How does the poet describe her mother?
- d) What thoughts had the poet driven away?

9. **Answer any four of the following questions in 30-40 words each: (12 marks)**

2

- a) 'History is theirs whose language is the sun'. Justify the veracity of this statement.
- b) 'The Tiger King' was punished for his crime of killing the tigers. Comment.

- c) What were the unfamiliar sights that Franz noticed as he entered the classroom?
- d) Bring out the irony in Saheb's name?
- e) Despite being refugees, how do people in Seemapuri have ration cards?
- f) Why does the poet draw the image of sprinting trees and merry children?

10. Answer the following question in 120-150 words: 6

When people are enslaved, as long as they hold fast to their language it is as if they had the key to their prison. Comment.

OR

Do the poor have the right to dream? Why then does the author call Mukesh's dream 'a mirage'?

11. Answer the following question in 120-150 words: 6

The Tiger King's quest for tigers was full of hurdles and challenges. Justify the statement.

OR

The 'Tiger King' is a satire on the conceit of those in power. Comment

12. Answer the following question in 120-150 words: 6

Why did the Buntings fail to capture the burglar in spite of all the presence of mind and courage?

13. Answer the following question in 120-150 words: 6

Who was Mr. Bobby Jaffers? What efforts did he make to arrest the stranger?

End of the Question Paper