



INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT
SECOND TERM EXAMINATION
ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS: XI

Time Allotted: 2 HRS.

23.02.2022

Max. Marks: 40

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**1. Read the passage given below.****5**

It seems that there is never enough time in the day. But, since we all get the same 24 hours, why is it that some people achieve so much more with their time than others? The answer lies in good time management. 'Time management' refers to the way you organize and plan how long you spend on specific activities. Good time management requires an important shift in focus from activities to results: being busy isn't the same as being effective. Spending your day in a frenzy of activity often achieves less because you're dividing your attention between so many different tasks. Good time management lets you work smarter not harder so you get more done in less time.

It may seem counter-intuitive to dedicate precious time to learning about time management, instead of using it to get on with your work, but the benefits are enormous. It improves productivity and efficiency. Your reputation as a professional grows. The stress levels dip and the world of opportunities opens up for you. Your career advances and important goals are reached.

Failing to manage your time effectively can have some very undesirable consequences. Deadlines are missed and the work flow is not only inefficient but of poor quality. It dents your reputation as a professional and your career is in danger of being stalled. As a result your stress level shoots up.

Everyday interruptions at work can be a key barrier to managing your time effectively and ultimately, can be a barrier to your success. Think back to your last workday and consider for a minute the many interruptions that occurred. There may have been phone calls, emails, hall way conversations, colleagues stopping by your office, or anything else that unexpectedly demanded your attention and in doing so, distracted you from the task at-hand. Because your day only has so

many hours in it, a handful of small interruptions can rob you of the time you need to achieve your goals and be successful in your work and life. More than this, they can break your focus, meaning that you have to spend time re-engaging with the thought processes needed to successfully complete complex work. The key to controlling interruptions is to know what they are and whether they are necessary and to plan for them in your daily schedule.

a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations and give a title to your notes.

b) Write a summary of the passage in about 50 words based on your notes.

2. Read the passage given below.

1. We often make all things around us the way we want them. Even during our pilgrimages we have begun to look for whatever makes our heart happy, gives comfort to our body and peace to the mind. It is as if external solutions will fulfil our needs and we do not want to make any special efforts even in our spiritual search. Our mind is resourceful- it works to find shortcuts in simple and easy ways.

2. Even pilgrimages have been converted into tourism opportunities. Instead, we must awaken our conscience and souls and understand the truth. Let us not tamper with either our own nature or that of the Supreme. All our cleverness is rendered ineffective when nature does a dance of destruction. Its fury can and will wash away all imperfections.

3. The irony is that humans are not even aware of the complacent attitude they have allowed themselves to sink to. Nature is everyone's Amma and her fierce blows will sooner or later corner us and force us to understand this truth. Earlier, pilgrimages to places of spiritual significance were rituals that were undertaken when people became free from their worldly duties. Even now some seekers take up this pious religious journey as a path to peace and knowledge. Anyone travelling with this attitude feels and travels with only a few essential items that his body can carry. Pilgrims traditionally travelled light, on foot, eating light, dried chickpeas and fruits, or whatever was available. Pilgrims of olden days did not feel the need to stay in special AC bedrooms, or travel by luxury cars or indulge themselves with delicious food and savouries.

4. Pilgrims traditionally moved ahead, creating a feeling of belonging towards all, conveying a message of brotherhood among all they came across whether in small caves, ashrams or local settlements. A pilgrimage is like penance or sadhana to stay near nature and to experience a feeling of oneness with it, to keep the body healthy and fulfilled with the amount of food, while seeking freedom from attachments and yet remaining happy while staying away from relatives and associates.

5. This is how a pilgrimage should be rather than making it like a picnic by taking a large group along and living in comfort, packing in entertainment and tampering with environment. What is worse is giving a boost to the ego of having had a special darshan, donating and bragging about their spiritual experiences!

6. We must embark on our spiritual journey by first understanding the grace and significance of a pilgrimage and following it up with the prescribed rules and rituals - this is what translates into the ultimate and beautiful medium of spiritual evolution. There is no justification for tampering with nature. A pilgrimage is symbolic of contemplation, meditation and acceptance; and it is a

metaphor for the constant growth or movement and love for nature that we should hold in our hearts. This is the truth!

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer any EIGHT out of the NINE questions given below. 1x8=8

- a) How are people treating pilgrimages these days?
- b) Replace the underlined phrase without changing the meaning of the sentence.
Our mind is resourceful - It works to find shortcuts in simple and easy ways.
- c) What will happen when nature will take command?
- d) Why does the writer use the word 'Amma'?
- e) According to the passage, how do we satisfy our ego?
- f) How did the traditional pilgrim travel?
- g) What is the actual meaning of pilgrimage?
- h) Which word in paragraph 5 means the same as 'meddling'?
- i) What is the main idea of the passage?

SECTION B - ADVANCED WRITING & GRAMMAR

3. Design a poster for donation of old/new books to the Textbook section of St. Mary's library for distribution to poor students. (50 words) **3**

4. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below. **5**

A. You are Mallika/Mayank, student of class XII, Modern School, Shimla. You are eager to enter the National Film Academy, Shimla, after your board results. Write a letter to the Director of the film academy seeking information regarding admission procedure, eligibility criteria, fee structure, placement opportunities, etc. (150 words)

OR

B. Migration from villages to cities has led to the spread of urban slums. People living in these slums lead a miserable life. Economic disparity leads to the problems of law and order. Write a debate in 120-150 words on 'Solution to the problem of misery in the urban slums lies in creating jobs in the villages'. You are Navtej/Navita.

5. He has scarcely ____ friend in this new city. (Fill in a suitable determiner) **1**
6. They were very tired in the evening because they ____ (help) on the farm all day. (Fill in the correct tense) **1**

7. Rearrange the given words below to form a meaningful sentence.

1

taking/ drugs/once /is /turning/ a /person/ then/ there/ starts/ for/him/ no/ back

SECTION C - LITERATURE

8. Answer any FIVE of the SIX questions given below in 30- 40 words each.

2x5=10

- a) What was the truth about Mr. George Pearson that hurt him the most?
- b) Why did the author think that his positive thinking strategy worked well after all?
- c) What was the question raised by the 'First Brandt Commission'? What is the significance of this question?
- d) Why does the rain call itself 'impalpable'?
- e) Bring out the hypocrisy that the adults exhibit with regard to love according to the poem 'Childhood'.
- f) How did Mr. Braun chide Einstein?

9. Answer any TWO of the THREE questions given below in about 120-150 words each.

3x2=6

- a) The growing human population is responsible for the declining health of the earth. Justify the statement in context to 'The Ailing planet'.
- b) What impression do you form about Mr. Crocker-Harris on the basis of reading the play 'The Browning Version'?
- c) Compare and contrast Dr. Andrew's physical, mental and emotional state at the beginning of the story and the end. Does he live up to his professional ethics?

End of the Question Paper

Roll Number				
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SET B



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- (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**1. Read the passage given below.****5**

It seems that there is never enough time in the day. But, since we all get the same 24 hours, why is it that some people achieve so much more with their time than others? The answer lies in good time management. 'Time management' refers to the way you organize and plan how long you spend on specific activities. Good time management requires an important shift in focus from activities to results: being busy isn't the same as being effective. Spending your day in a frenzy of activity often achieves less because you're dividing your attention between so many different tasks. Good time management lets you work smarter not harder so you get more done in less time.

It may seem counter-intuitive to dedicate precious time to learning about time management, instead of using it to get on with your work, but the benefits are enormous. It improves productivity and efficiency. Your reputation as a professional grows. The stress levels dip and the world of opportunities opens up for you. Your career advances and important goals are reached.

Failing to manage your time effectively can have some very undesirable consequences. Deadlines are missed and the work flow is not only inefficient but of poor quality. It dents your reputation as a professional and your career is in danger of being stalled. As a result your stress level shoots up.

Everyday interruptions at work can be a key barrier to managing your time effectively and ultimately, can be a barrier to your success. Think back to your last workday, and consider for a minute the many interruptions that occurred. There may have been phone calls, emails, hall way conversations, colleagues stopping by your office or anything else that unexpectedly demanded your attention and in doing so, distracted you from the task at-hand. Because your day only has so

many hours in it, a handful of small interruptions can rob you of the time you need to achieve your goals and be successful in your work and life. More than this, they can break your focus, meaning that you have to spend time re-engaging with the thought processes needed to successfully complete complex work. The key to controlling interruptions is to know what they are and whether they are necessary and to plan for them in your daily schedule.

a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations and give a title to your notes.

3

b) Write a summary of the passage in about 50 words based on your notes.

2

2. Read the passage given below.

1. We often make all things around us the way we want them. Even during our pilgrimages we have begun to look for whatever makes our heart happy, gives comfort to our body and peace to the mind. It is as if external solutions will fulfil our needs and we do not want to make any special efforts even in our spiritual search. Our mind is resourceful- it works to find shortcuts in simple and easy ways.

2. Even pilgrimages have been converted into tourism opportunities. Instead, we must awaken our conscience and souls and understand the truth. Let us not tamper with either our own nature or that of the Supreme. All our cleverness is rendered ineffective when nature does a dance of destruction. Its fury can and will wash away all imperfections.

3. The irony is that humans are not even aware of the complacent attitude they have allowed themselves to sink to. Nature is everyone's Amma and her fierce blows will sooner or later corner us and force us to understand this truth. Earlier, pilgrimages to places of spiritual significance were rituals that were undertaken when people became free from their worldly duties. Even now some seekers take up this pious religious journey as a path to peace and knowledge. Anyone travelling with this attitude feels and travels with only a few essential items that his body can carry. Pilgrims traditionally travelled light, on foot, eating light, dried chickpeas and fruits; or whatever was available. Pilgrims of olden days did not feel the need to stay in special AC bedrooms, or travel by luxury cars or indulge themselves with delicious food and savouries.

4. Pilgrims traditionally moved ahead, creating a feeling of belonging towards all, conveying a message of brotherhood among all they came across whether in small caves, ashrams or local settlements. A pilgrimage is like penance or sadhana to stay near nature and to experience a feeling of oneness with it, to keep the body healthy and fulfilled with the amount of food, while seeking freedom from attachments and yet remaining happy while staying away from relatives and associates.

5. This is how a pilgrimage should be rather than making it like a picnic by taking a large group along and living in comfort, packing in entertainment and tampering with environment. What is worse is giving a boost to the ego of having had a special darshan, donating and bragging about their spiritual experiences!

6. We must embark on our spiritual journey by first understanding the grace and significance of a pilgrimage and following it up with the prescribed rules and rituals - this is what translates into the ultimate and beautiful medium of spiritual evolution. There is no justification for tampering with nature. A pilgrimage is symbolic of contemplation, meditation and acceptance; and it is a

metaphor for the constant growth or movement and love for nature that we should hold in our hearts. This is the truth!

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer any EIGHT out of the NINE questions given below. 1x8=8

- a) How are people treating pilgrimages these days?
- b) What will happen when nature will take command?
- c) Replace the underlined phrase without changing the meaning of the sentence.

Our mind is resourceful - It works to find shortcuts in simple and easy ways.

- d) Why does the writer use the word 'Amma'?
- e) According to the passage, how do we satisfy our ego?
- f) What is the actual meaning of pilgrimage?
- g) How did the traditional pilgrim travel?
- h) Which word in paragraph 5 means the same as 'meddling'?
- i) What is the main idea of the passage?

SECTION B - ADVANCED WRITING & GRAMMAR

3. As the President of Leo Club of Temple Town, prepare a poster on behalf of Lions Club and Leo Club for the 'Diwali Mela' to be held at Nehru Stadium, mentioning some of the attractions. (50 words) **3**

4. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below. **5**

A. You are Selma/Saleem. You saw an advertisement regarding a course for training and preparing students for TOEFL (Test of English as a foreign Language). You wish to join the course. Write a letter to the course Director, British council, Chennai-68, enquiring about all the details that you require. (120-150 words)

OR

B. 'Rising prices can be controlled only by the government.' Write a debate in 120-150 words either for or against the motion.

5. He has scarcely ____ friend in this new city. (Fill in a suitable determiner) **1**
6. They were very tired in the evening because they ____ (help) on the farm all day. (Fill in the correct tense) **1**

7. Rearrange the given words below to form a meaningful sentence.

1

- a) than /inventions / armed / which /are / has / miracles / science / man /with / not less

SECTION C - LITERATURE

8. Answer any FIVE of the SIX questions given below in 30-40 words each.

2x5=10

- a) What were the two slips that could have let out the real identity of Mrs. Fitzgerald?
- b) Do you think Norbu was a better substitute for Tsetan? Justify your answer.
- c) What was the question raised by the 'First Brandt Commission'? What is the significance of this question?
- d) Latent seeds get a life by rain. Explain.
- e) What is the poet trying to convey when he says that childhood is hidden in an infant's face?
- f) How did Mr. Braun chide Einstein?

9. Answer any TWO of the THREE questions given below in about 120-150 words each.

3x2=6

- a) Describe the difficulties and disillusionment faced by Nick Middleton during his journey to Mount Kailash.
- b) What impression do you form about Mr. Crocker-Harris on the basis of reading the play 'The Browning Version'?
- c) Compare and contrast Dr. Andrew's physical, mental and emotional state at the beginning of the story and the end. Does he live up to his professional ethics?

End of the Question Paper



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