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**SET A**



**INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT  
SECOND PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE**

**CLASS: X**

**Sub. Code: 184**

**Time Allotted: 3 Hrs.**

**07.04.2021**

**Max. Marks: 80**

**General Instructions:**

- i. This paper is divided into two parts: A & B. All questions are compulsory.*
- ii. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.*
- iii. Do not exceed the given word limit while answering the questions. Marks will be deducted if the word limit exceeds.*

**PART A – MCQs - 40 Marks**

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

1. On the last Sunday of November, among the ruins of the Phra Prang Sam Yot temple in Lopburi, Thailand, a bountiful banquet awaits the guests of honour, none of whom are humans. This feast is held in celebration of Lopburi's thousands of macaques, thought to bring good luck to the area and its people.
2. Located 93 miles away from Bangkok, archaeological evidence confirms that Lopburi has been continuously inhabited for at least 3,000 years—this makes it one of the oldest and most historic cities in Thailand. Due to a millennia-worth of human habitation, the city boasts countless ancient sites dating from a variety of civilisations and dynasties.
3. From what began in 1989 by hotelier Yongyuth Kitwattananusont, the Monkey Buffet Festival was launched with the help of the Tourism Authority of Thailand. Over the years, the festival has expanded to include a large number of primates. In turn, it has seen an increase in the number of visitors who attend this unique event.
4. In the week leading up to the festival, locals pass out 'invitations' to the monkeys with cashews attached to them as a small incentive. But, Lopburi's residents don't stop there when it comes to rolling out the red carpet for their furry neighbours.
5. The Monkey Buffet Festival kicks off with an opening ceremony that includes performances by dancers in monkey costumes. When the monkeys arrive, hosts remove sheets from the banquet tables, revealing decorative spreads of vibrantly hued fruits and vegetables. The macaques jump across tables and climb towering pyramids of watermelon, durian, lettuce, pineapple and more, indulging in the nearly two tons of offerings.
6. Respect for monkeys traces back at least 2,000 years to the epic tale of Rama, a divine prince, and his struggle to rescue his wife, Sita, from the clutches of a demon lord. According to the tale, the monkey king Hanuman and his army helped rescue Sita. Since that time, monkeys have been appreciated as a sign of good luck and prosperity. Lopburi's annual buffet is one way people mark their appreciation.

**On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the twelve that follow :-**

**10 x 1 = 10**

i. The monkey buffet festival is celebrated to:

- (a) calm down the macaques
- (b) pet the macaques
- (c) mark good luck to the people through monkeys
- (d) conserve the macaques

ii. Choose the option that best captures the central idea of the passage from the given quotes.

- 1) “Appreciation is the highest form of prayer, for it acknowledges the presence of good wherever you shine the light of your thankful thoughts.” — Alan Cohen
- 2) “Be thankful for what you have and you’ll end up having more.” — Oprah Winfrey
- 3) “You won’t be happy with more until you’re happy with what you’ve got.” — Viki King
- 4) “We should all be thankful for those people who rekindle the inner spirit.” — Albert Schweitzer

- (a) option 1
- (b) option 2
- (c) option 3
- (d) option 4

iii) The traditional monkey buffet festival holds relevance from:

- (a) a 2000-year-old epic tale of Lord Rama
- (b) the episode when Rama rescued Sita with the help of King Hanuman
- (c) the episode when King Hanuman had rescued Sita from the demon God
- (d) the episode of offering food to the monkey in epic tales

iv) Lopburi, Thailand is famous:

- (a) for many ancient sites
- (b) as a seat of many civilisations and dynasties
- (c) for the Monkey Buffet Festival
- (d) all of these

v) The locals attach cashews to the invitations to:

- (a) invite the monkeys
- (b) attract monkeys
- (c) feed the monkeys
- (d) distract the monkeys

vi) The residents of Lopburi make the buffet special by:

- (a) arranging the food in pyramids
- (b) arranging the food in a decorative spread
- (c) attaching cashew to the invitation
- (d) both (a) and (b)

vii) The Phra Prang Sam Yot is a -----in Lopburi, Thailand.

- (a) banquet (b) temple  
(c) archaeological site (d) river

viii) Amount of food is offered to the macaques in the Monkey Buffet Festival.

- (a) one ton (b) three tons  
(c) two tons (d) five tons

ix) Lopburi's annual buffet is to appreciate whose role in the epic called Ramayan.

- (a) the people (b) the kings  
(c) the soldiers (d) the monkeys

x) Choose the option that CORRECTLY states the two aspects related to appreciation in the passage.

1. Appreciation of humans by animals with a festival.
2. Appreciation of animals by inviting them to a feast.
3. Appreciation of primitive humans by the modern humans.
4. Appreciating the macaques through a feast to bring good luck and fortune.
5. Appreciation of the macaques by giving them bananas.

- (a) 1 and 4 (b) 2 and 3 (c) 2 and 4 (d) 3 and 5

xi) Identify a word from the passage which means the opposite of 'inadequate'.

- (a) arrange (b) towering  
(c) vibrant (d) bountiful

xii) The Monkey Buffet Festival owes its commencement to:

- (a) the locals (b) the earlier kings  
(c) Hotelier Yongyuth Kitwattananusont (d) the monkey tamers

## 2. Read the passage given below.

1. Broadly speaking, Reading Comprehension (RC) passages can be classified into a few categories. Fact based RC is the simplest form of RC. These types of passages have a lot of information in the form of names, numbers, etc. In this type of passages one should read very fast.

2. Inference based RC is the toughest form of RC. Here the passage is fairly tough to understand. This includes passages on topics like religion, spirituality, philosophy, etc. Most of the students will not be comfortable attempting these passages at least in RC. The reading speed is fairly slow in this type of passages. The way to master this type of passages is to

read them again and again while practicing.

3. Topic based RC includes passages on any particular topic like economics, astrology, medical science, etc. Generally what makes these passages tough is usage of technical terms. If a topic is new to us then the presence of technical terms scares us even if they are defined in the passage. For success in this type of passages we need to have an understanding of the definition of the term if it is defined in the passage. Read that definition twice if you need to. But don't worry about technical terms if they are not defined in the passage. Assume them to be non-existent and proceed. The key principle in tackling these passages is not to go to the next line unless the previous line is clear.

4. Reading the passage first and then questions is the most popular strategy for RC. While answering the question you may come back to the passage to find answer as you have just read the passage initially and not crammed it. But you should not come back for each and every question. If you come back for majority of questions then you haven't read the passage properly. The key to success for this strategy is that you should understand the passage very well. We will suggest students to follow this technique from the beginning and work upon this.

5. Reading questions first and then the passage is the strategy followed by a few students. They just look at the questions and not options. The objective is that after seeing the questions when you read the passage then you read only that part carefully where the answer is given. The flaw with this is that you will not be able to remember all the questions.

6. Besides this, this strategy fails when there are questions that require understanding of the passage.

**On the basis of your understanding of the passage answer ANY TEN questions from the twelve that follow:-**

**10 x 1 = 10**

i) Most students find Reading Comprehension difficult because \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) The language is tough      (b) The vocabulary is difficult  
(c) The style is too involved      (d) The topics are unrelated to their interest

ii) Choose the option that best describes the central idea in the following quotes.

- (a) Once you learn to reads, you are forever free. - Frederick Douglas  
(b) "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." - Dr. Seuss  
(c) To learn to read is to light a fire; every syllable that is spelled out is a spark - Victor Hugo  
(d) Comprehension is the goal between the reader and the text. – Unknown

iii) Which of the characteristics given below are apt in the case of fact based reading comprehensions?

- (1) simple      (2) dull      (3) brief  
(4) informative      (5) for fast reading      (6) fact based

- (a) 2 and 3      (b) 4 and 6      (c) 2 and 5      (d) 4 and 1

iv) Suggest an appropriate title for the passage from the following:

- (a) Reading, writing and arithmetic
- (b) Tackling reading comprehension
- (c) How to read and Comprehend
- (d) Read, Comprehend and Answer

v) The phrase ‘toughest form of reference to Context’ refers to passages that are \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) tough to understand
- (b) tough to read
- (c) tough to answer
- (d) tough to define

vi) Select the sentence that makes the correct use of the word ‘passage’, as used in the given text to fill the blank spaces.

- (a) The cricket team was \_\_\_\_\_ through India on their way to New Zealand.
- (b) The dictation \_\_\_\_\_ was very tough.
- (c) The pupil has \_\_\_\_\_ the class X examination.
- (d) Only trucks with medical supplies were \_\_\_\_\_ through the bombed city.

vii) The author tries to \_\_\_\_\_ the readers to this passage.

- (a) inform      (b) infer      (c) intimidate      (d) intuit

viii) The author of the passage uses the abbreviation ‘RC’ to describe reading comprehension. Pick the word which is not a standard abbreviation.

- (a) DIY      (b) abbrev      (c) ASOP      (d) ASAP

ix) The word ‘inference’ in para 2 means \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) similar      (b) same      (c) conclusion      (d) assumption

x) What does the phrase ‘most popular strategy’ mean?

- (a) A commonly adopted plan for answers      (b) A sharp plan to solve answers
- (c) An easy plan to write answers      (d) A tested method of writing answers

xi) Choose the option that correctly states the use of the most popular strategy for answering Reference to Context questions.

- (a) Read questions first and then the passage
- (b) Read passage first and then questions
- (c) Understand the passage and then answer questions
- (d) Read only part of the passage which pertains to the question asked.

xii) The main thrust of this passage is on \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) types of Reference to Context passages
- (b) methods of tackling questions in reference to Context.
- (c) strategies reading and answering of Reference to Context.
- (d) choose a personal style for Reference to Context work.

### **Literature Textbooks - 10 Marks**

**3. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY ONE by answering the questions that follow :-**

**5 x 1 = 5**

A) The diary was given to Anne Frank for her thirteenth birthday and chronicles the events of her life from 12 June 1942 until its final entry of 1 August 1944. It was eventually translated from its original Dutch into many languages and became one of the world's most widely read book. There have also been several films, television and theatrical productions, and even an opera, based on the diary. Described as the work of a mature and insightful mind, the diary provides an intimate examination of daily life under Nazi occupation. Anne Frank has become one of most renowned and discussed of the Holocaust victims.

(i) Why was writing in a diary a strange experience for Anne?

- (a) She had never written anything before.
- (b) She didn't know how to write
- (c) Neither she nor anyone else would be interested in it.
- (d) She had to get it off her chest.

(ii) Who would Anne allow to read her diary?

- (a) Her sister
- (b) Her parents
- (c) A real friend (if she got one)
- (d) No one

(iii) Why does Anne want to keep a diary?

- (a) She has no close friends
- (b) She loves to write
- (c) She wants people to read about her fate
- (d) She like the idea of it

(iv) Give the synonym of 'close' from the passage.

- (a) widely
- (b) mature
- (c) intimate
- (d) renowned

(v) Why does she give a brief sketch about her family in the diary?

- (a) No one would understand it if she hadn't written
- (b) To introduce Kitty to her family
- (c) She would forget facts about her family
- (d) She liked talking about her family

**OR**

B) She looked at me very strangely, and then laughed. "Another aeroplane? Up there in this storm? No other aero planes were flying tonight. Yours was the only one I could see on the radar. So who helped me to arrive there safely without a compass or a radio, and without any more fuel in my tanks? Who was the pilot on the strange black aero plane, flying in the storm, without lights?

(i) Choose the answer that lists the statements made by the lady.

- (a) Yours was the last one I could see on the radar.
- (b) Yours was the one I could see on the radar.
- (c) Yours was the first one I could see on the radar
- (d) Yours was the only one I could see on the radar.

(ii) When the character says, "Another areophane ? Up there in this storm?" She meant-

- (a) The weather was too risky for planes to fly
- (b) The planes were too risky to fly
- (c) It was too late at night to fly
- (d) No other plane was allowed to fly

(iii) The statement that is true about the flight was \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) The pilot was a mysterious ghost
- (b) The plane had no compass, or radio or any more fuel
- (c) The lady was a strange creature
- (d) The pilot was a strange black man

(iv) The other pilot in the sky was strange because \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) He flew in the storm
- (b) He had no fuel in the tanks
- (c) He flew in a strange black areophane
- (d) He flew in a stormy night without lights

(v) The extract uses the phrase 'flying in the storm'. Which of the following expressions is incorrect with regard to the word 'flying'?

- (a) debris
- (b) storm
- (c) birds
- (d) machines

**4. Read the extracts given below and attempt ANY ONE by answering the questions that follow :-** **5 x 1 = 5**

A) Belinda giggled till she shook the house,  
And Blink said Weeek! which is giggling for a mouse,  
Ink and Mustard rudely asked his age,  
When Custard cried for a nice safe cage.

(i) How did Ink and Mustard ask the mouse his age?

- (a) softly                      (b) silently  
(c) with rudeness          (d) with love

(ii) What happened when Belinda laughed?

- (a) animals looked at her in surprise      (b) the house shook  
(c) the animals sat together                  (d) the house fell down

(iii) What is the term used for 'giggling of a mouse'?

- (a) chuckle                      (b) weeek  
(c) sobbing                      (d) wailing

(iv) What did Custard desire the most?

- (a) food                          (b) water  
(c) animal friends          (d) a nice cage

(v) Which of the following is the opposite of 'rudely'?

- (a) politely                      (b) angrily  
(c) surprisingly                (d) shockingly

**OR**

B) He is learning, well behind his desperate eyes,  
The epistemology of loss, how to stand up  
Knowing what every man must one day know  
And most know many days, how to stand up.

(i) After losing the ball, the boy became

- (a) responsible                (b) serious  
(c) sad                            (d) confused

(ii) The boy's eyes become desperate when he

- (a) is sad                        (b) is angry  
(c) is hurting                      (d) is crying



(iii) What did the boy learn on losing the ball?

- |                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| (a) one should always win | (b) one should always lose |
| (c) the meaning of loss   | (d) to ignore loss         |

(iv) What is universal about losing the ball?

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| (a) everyone loses | (b) no one loses     |
| (c) some lose      | (d) poor people lose |

(v) What do you understand by the word Epistemology?

- |                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| (a) understanding | (b) book     |
| (c) newspaper     | (d) magazine |

### Grammar - 10 Marks

**5. Choose the correct options to fill in the blanks to complete the notes about the Indian classical dances. 3 x 1 = 3**

One of the eight forms of India's classical dances, Kathak, meaning "story teller," originated in northern India, and (i) ----- to this dance form in sources dating from the third and fourth centuries B.C. Kathak dance which (ii) ----- by fast, rhythmic footwork, (iii) --- court entertainment with the advent of Mogul culture in northern India.

- |       |                              |                             |
|-------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (i)   | (a) there was references     | (b) there are references    |
|       | (c) there is reference       | (d) there were reference    |
| (ii)  | (a) today is characterised   | (b) today were characterise |
|       | (c) today were characterised | (d) today are characters    |
| (iii) | (a) became sophisticate      | (b) become sophisticated    |
|       | (c) became sophisticated     | (d) become sophisticate     |

**6. VI. Given below is a conversation between a police inspector and a car driver. Fill in the blanks in the paragraph below by choosing the correct option from the ones given. 3 x 1 = 3**

Inspector: Hey driver!! Stop!

Driver: Why? What happened!!

Inspector: You are driving on the wrong side of the road. You should be taking the left side.

Driver: I don't understand. I think I am right.

Inspector: No sir. The right is wrong.

Driver: I don't get you. What do you mean by saying that the right is wrong and the left is right?

Inspector: I mean that you have to keep to the left. Right?

Driver: I understand. The left is right and the right is wrong.

Inspector called the driver and asked him to stop. The driver (i) ----- and asked him the reason. The Inspector said that he was driving on the wrong side of the road and (ii) ----- the left side. The driver exclaimed that he did not understand and thought that he was right. The Inspector corrected him by saying that the right is wrong. The driver was confused and (iii) ----- to say that the right is wrong and the left is right.

- (i) (a) is surprised (b) has been surprised  
(c) was surprised (d) had been surprised
- (ii) (a) should be taking (b) should have taken  
(c) should take (d) shall take
- (iii) (a) asking if he means (b) can ask to have meant  
(c) asked what he meant (d) asked what he means

**7. Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct option for ANY FOUR of the six sentences 4 x 1 = 4 given below:-**

(i) Bread and Butter ----- a wholesome food.

- (a) are (b) is (c) was (d) will be

(ii) Sara's mother -----her for the misbehaviour.

- (a) scolding (b) were scolded  
(c) scolded (d) scold

(iii) If you get the opportunity, go and ----- it.

- (a) take (b) took  
(c) taking (d) taken

(iv) Sameer----- there if he was fine.

- (a) will come (b) was come  
(c) would come (d) would have come

(v) Swara-----to work hard.

- (a) have to (b) is to  
(c) must (d) needs

(vi) Akhil----- going abroad for further studies.

- (a) must (b) should  
(c) would be (d) will

## **PART B – DESCRIPTIVE WRITING - 40 MARKS**

8. You are Rahul/Rahini of 247, Andrew's park, New Delhi Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper highlighting violations of COVID-19 guidelines in the society. (word limit 100 - 120) **1 x 5 = 5**

**OR**

Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper in about 100-120 words creating awareness about solar energy. You are Midhun / Mythily, Model Town, Delhi. (word limit 100 - 120)

9. With the help of the given table, write an analytical paragraph in about 100-120 words on 'Rising Prices'. **1 x 5 = 5**

Food items	Feb, 18	Feb,19	Feb,20	Feb,21
Groundnut Oil (per litre)	85	101	121	121
Rice (per kg)	20	25	28	30
Flour (per kg)	18	25	28	35
Moong dal (per kg)	45	56	69	75

**OR**

Read the following excerpt from an article that appeared in the magazine section of a local daily:

Prime minister of India in 2019 called for an end to using single-use plastics. The government has set an ambitious target of eliminating single-use plastic by 2022.

Write a paragraph to analyse the given argument.

You could think about what alternative explanations might weaken the given conclusion and include rationale/evidence that would strengthen/counter the given argument.

**Literature - 30 Marks**

10. Answer any four out of the following questions in 20-30 words each. It's mandatory to attempt two questions from each **First Flight** and **Footprints without Feet** textbooks. **4 x 2 = 8**

- (a) What do military generals do? How has their attitude changed, and why?
- (b) Why did Anne think she could confide more in her diary than in people?
- (c) How have the Portuguese left their mark behind? How?
- (d) Why did the young lawyer go to New Mullion?
- (e) Why does Mrs. Pumphrey think the dog's recovery is 'a triumph of surgery'?
- (f) Why did Ebright raise a flock of butterflies?

**Note : Questions a, b, c - First Flight & Questions d, e, f - Footprints without Feet**

11. Answer any four out of the following questions in 40-50 words each. It's mandatory to attempt 2 questions from each **First Flight** and **Footprints without Feet** textbooks. **4 x 3 = 12**

- (a) How does the author describe Coorg in the introductory paragraph?
- (b) What was the most fascinating thing for Valli?
- (c) What were the destructions caused by the hailstorm?
- (d) How did Bholi's teacher play an important role in changing the course of her life?
- (e) How would you access Griffin as a scientist?
- (f) How does the thief think Anil will react to the theft?

**Note : Questions a, b, c - First Flight & Questions d, e, f - Footprints without Feet**

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

**1 x 5 = 5**

Write a character sketch of 'Valli'.

**OR**

From the Diary of Anne Frank" throws light on teacher-student relationship, class atmosphere and discipline. Discuss.

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

**1 x 5 = 5**

Richard Ebright displayed a well-rounded personality. Explain reference to the lesson- 'Making of a Scientist'.

**OR**

What ideas does Mandela have about courage, love and hate?

**End of the Question Paper**