



INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT
SECOND PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION
ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

CLASS: X

Sub. Code: 184

Time Allotted: 3 Hrs.

06.02.2020

Max. Marks: 80

General Instructions:

- The question paper is divided into three sections :
 - SECTION A : Reading 20 MARKS
 - SECTION B : Writing and Grammar 30 MARKS
 - SECTION C : Literature 30 MARKS
- All sections are compulsory. Read the given instructions carefully.
- You may attempt any section at a time. Do not exceed the given word limit.
- All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.

SECTION - A READING**(20 Marks)****1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.****8**

1. Ideas rule the world. You shape your fate and decide your destiny by your thoughts. You have to think high to rise. You have to believe and be sure of yourself to win a prize. Life's battles do not always go to the stronger or the faster man. But, sooner or later, the man who wins is the man who thinks he can.

2. Success starts with your thoughts. Whatever your mind can conceive and believe, it can achieve. And your mind is nothing more than a bundle of thoughts. Since you have the power to shape your thoughts, you automatically have the power to fashion your fate and decide your destiny. Thus, your thoughts are the most potent, powerful and prime source of your success.

3. For your thoughts to blossom into success, they should be combined with definiteness of purpose, perseverance and a burning, pulsating strong desire to translate them into action. Believe that you will succeed and believe it firmly. You will then do whatever is necessary to bring success about.

4. Faith in yourself as well as the confidence that you can and will succeed are the key to your success in any venture. If you keep your mind riveted on your goal and focus your thoughts on the great and splendid things that you wish to have, you will find yourself unconsciously seizing upon the opportunities, that are required for the fulfillment of your desires.

5. Thoughts are supreme. Preserve the right mental attitude of courage, frankness and good cheer. Think of success in your work and you will then do automatically and unconsciously, the things necessary to bring success about. If your desire is weak and your efforts are erratic your achievements will also be slight and fleeting. But, if you go after your goal with the single-mindedness of a bulldog after a cat, nothing and nobody under the sun can stop you. Your goal should also be well-defined, clear-cut and specific and should be linked to a fixed timeframe, so that your definite energies and efforts can be focused and forcefully directed towards its attainment. Success is then a sure bet!

1.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage given above, answer the following questions. 1×4 =4

- a) The basic triggers of achieving success are: _____
i) Be sure of yourself ii) Think high iii) Have the power iv) Both i) & ii)
- b) Which of these plays the most important role in achieving our success?
i) our health ii) our thoughts iii) hard work iv) confidence
- c) Preserve the right mental attitude of courage, frankness and _____
- d) In order to change our thoughts into success, we must also have: _____
i) definiteness of purpose ii) Perseverance iii) Strong desire iv) All of these

1.2 Read the given questions and answer briefly: 1x4=4

- a) What should our thoughts be combined with to achieve success?
- b) When can one be successful?
- c) How can we mar success?
- d) What can you rely upon in any venture?

2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

12

1. Have you ever failed at something so miserably that the thought of attempting to do it again, was the last thing you wanted to do?

2. If your answer is yes, then you are “not a robot.” Unlike robots, we human beings have feelings, emotions, and dreams. We are all meant to grow and stretch despite our circumstances and our limitations. Flourishing and trying to make our dreams come true is great when life is going our way. But what happens when it’s not? What happens when you fail despite all of your hard work? Do you stay down and accept the defeat or do you get up again and again until you are satisfied? If you have a tendency to persevere and keep going then you have what experts call, grit.

3. Falling down or failing is one of the most agonizing, embarrassing, and scariest human experiences. But it is also one of the most educational, empowering, and essential parts of living a successful and fulfilling life. Did you know that perseverance (grit) is one of the seven qualities that have been described as the keys to personal success and betterment in society? The other six are: curiosity, gratitude, optimism, self-control, social intelligence, and zest. Thomas Edison, is a model for grit for trying 1,000 plus times to invent the light bulb. If you are reading this with the lights on in your room, you know well, he succeeded. When asked why he kept going despite his hundreds of failures, he merely stated that what he had were not failures. They were hundreds of ways not to create a light bulb. This statement not only revealed his grit but also his optimism for looking at the bright side.

4. Grit can be learned to help you become more successful. One of the techniques that helps is mindfulness. Mindfulness is a practice that helps the individual stay in the moment by bringing awareness of his or her experience without judgement. This practice has been used to quiet the noise of their fears and doubts. Through this simple practice of mindfulness, individuals have the ability to stop the self-sabotaging downward spiral of hopelessness, despair, and frustration.

5. What did you do to overcome the negative and self-sabotaging feelings of failure? Reflect on what you did, and try to use those same powerful resources to help you today.

2.1. On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each. 2×4=8

- a) According to the passage, what are the attributes of a human?
- b) What is perceived as grit?
- c) How is 'failing' an educational and empowering part of human life?
- d) In what ways can grit be developed?

2.2. On the basis of your reading of the above passage, answer the following. 1×4=4

- a) The synonym of 'continue' as given in paragraph 2 is _____
i) robots ii) accept iii) persevere iv) flourish
- b) The antonym of forbidding as given in para 3 is _____
i) fulfilling ii) agonizing iii) empowering iv) looking
- c) The synonym of 'distressing' as given in paragraph 3 is _____
- d) The antonym of 'heedlessness' as given in para 4 is _____

SECTION B - WRITING & GRAMMAR (30 MARKS)

- 3. Language is an important aspect of life. To express or communicate with each other, we must know the language. Nowadays, English has become a global language. Write an article on 'Importance of English Language' in about 100-150 words. 1x8=8**

OR

You are Suresh/Savita, the student prefect and in charge of the school library. You have been asked to place an order for English textbooks and reference books. Write a letter to M/s Future Books (P) Ltd., 42734 B/2, Ansari Road, Daryaganj, New Delhi, placing an order for the books. Invent the necessary details.

- 4. Develop a story with the help of the starting line. 10**
Arun Patel was a wise man. When he spoke, people listened to him. And so he chose his words and actions carefully. One day a rich man.....

OR

Write a story in about 150-200 words with the clues given below.

Hints: Pooja alone at home / grandfather ill / scary night / different thoughts came in her mind / heard a noise / surprised to see her pet dog.

- 5. Fill in the gaps by choosing the most appropriate words from the options given below. 1×4 =4**

Dhyan Chand, the hockey wizard, was a soldier hailing a) _____ a humble background. He spoke about b) _____ moment when he learned of c) _____ selection for the New Zealand tour in 1926, 'I ran like a horse' to reach d) _____ barracks and communicated the good news to my fellow soldiers. He was the elder brother of another hockey player, Roop Singh.

- a) i) of ii) from iii) to iv) at
- b) i) their ii) a iii) the iv) an
- c) i) his ii) him iii) my iv) it
- d) i) him ii) our iii) I iv) my

6.
The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction against each line of the passage.
1×4 =4

	Incorrect	Correction
Music can takes us to ecstatic	e.g. takes	take
heights. Put your heart and soul in	a) _____	_____
it and it fills your up with real	b) _____	_____
happiness. All kind of music is divine.	c) _____	_____
Any kind of music have the ability	d) _____	_____
to uplift your mood and the power to recondition your mind.		

7.
Rearrange the following groups of words and phrases to form meaningful sentences:
1×4 =4

a) drugs/invented/one/man/of/useful/is/penicillin/ most/the
b) by/its/heal/we/help/bacteria/can/with/wounds/ caused
c) few/in/use/this/discovery/beginning/the wonder/and/very/people/of knew/its
d) lives/soldiers/it/of/of/thousands/hundreds/saved/the/of

SECTION C – LITERATURE
(30 MARKS)

8.
Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:
1×4 =4

“Mij and I remained in London for nearly a month. He would play for hours with a selection of toys, ping-pong balls, marbles, rubber fruit, and a terrapin shell that I had brought back from his native marshes. With the ping-pong ball he invented a game of his own which could keep him engrossed for up to half an hour at a time.”

- a)
Mij and the narrator remained in London for:

i) a week
ii) a fortnight
iii) twenty days
iv) nearly a month
- b)
He invented a game of his own with _____

i) a ping-pong ball
ii) a rubber ball
iii) a tennis ball
iv) marbles
- c)
He would play for hours:

i) with a ball
ii) with a football
iii) with a selection of toys
iv) with his master
- d)
The game could keep him _____ for up to half an hour.

OR

“Today, all of us do, by our presence here...confer glory and hope to newborn liberty. Out of the experience of an extraordinary human disaster that lasted too long, must be born a society of which all humanity will be proud.”

- a)
Those who were present were conferring glory and hope:

i) to newborn liberty
ii) to the new nation
iii) to the new government
iv) to the new black president

- b) The apartheid regime was based on:
 i) mutual hatred ii) mutual trust
 iii) mutual cooperation iv) racial discrimination
- c) A new democratic and non-racial society was going to _____
- d) Nelson Mandela was the first black president of _____

9. Answer any five of the following questions in 30-40 words each:

2×5 = 10

- a) What did Kisa Gautami do when her only son died? What did her neighbours think about her?
- b) Why was Valli amazed to hear herself called 'a child'?
- c) What is the story about the origin of the people of Coorg?
- d) 'Horace was no ordinary thief.' Explain.
- e) What is the next thought of the poet in the poem, 'A Tiger in the Zoo'?
- f) Why was the narrator sent Lutkins back to New Mullion? Who went with him?

10. Answer any one of the following questions in about 100-150 words.

8

Write a character sketch of Natalya Stepanovna. (100- 150 words)

OR

Peggy's questions to Wanda embarrass Maddie, why? How is Maddie different from Wanda?

11. Answer any one of the following questions in about 100-150 words.

8

Describe Anil's qualities as a man and as an employer.

OR

What guesses are made by Think-Tank about the books found on earth?

End of the Question Paper