

23/2

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SET C



**INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT
FIRST PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION
ENGLISH CORE**

CLASS: XII

Sub. Code: 301

Time Allotted: 3 Hrs.

24.02.2021

Max. Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. This paper is divided into two parts: A and B. All questions are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

PART A - MCQs

40 Marks

Reading Comprehension

1. Read the passage given below.

1. India can really become a tourist's paradise on Earth as we have so much to offer to the visitors. No other country in the world possesses so much variety. The breathtaking beauty of the Himalayas, its valleys and rivers, the numerous wildlife sanctuaries dotted all over the country, our still un-spoilt sea-beaches, our great temples and caves and historical monuments, our music and dance, our festivals and national celebrations, would attract any tourist in the world. They are all our potential foreign exchange earners.

2. If we wish to earn more from our tourists, we must build up more infrastructure. The Government of India has intensified efforts to build more hotels in the country. Those in the hotel business are allowed to have foreign collaborations. Our hotels must offer such facilities that foreigners love: these are 24-hour service, swimming pools, tennis courts, club houses, massage centers, indoor and outdoor restaurants playgrounds for children, dance floor with live music in season and so on. These would make for an exciting tour.

3. The Government is also providing new and better facilities. It would do us good if certain irritants connected with customs formalities could also be removed.

4. But tourism is everybody's business as all benefit from it. Wealth flows from affluent countries to the less affluent. Within the country itself it moves from the developed areas to the less developed ones. It flows from the rich to the poor, thus producing a better distribution of wealth. Private agencies can do a lot to promote the tourist trade in this country. They can arrange group tours for foreigners on a large scale. Those selling goods to the tourists should not charge them higher rates. Even a humble taxi driver can do something for tourism if he does not cheat a visitor.

5. So, let us give the tourist the facilities he is used to in his own country. If he goes home irritated and unhappy, he will surely discourage others from visiting our country. We will lose a friend and also some foreign exchange. But if the tourist is satisfied with the facilities offered to him, what he tells his people back home will do publicity for us. Then others would also be tempted to come to our country when we say, "Welcome to India".

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the eleven given below. 1x10 =10

- (i) India can become a tourist's paradise:
 - (a) by flow of wealth from other countries.
 - (b) by its rivers, valleys and Himalayas.
 - (c) by building more hotels in the country.
 - (d) by welcoming foreigners to India.
- (ii) Better infrastructure will help in improving India's:
 - (a) Collaborations
 - (b) Finances
 - (c) Transport
 - (d) Facilities
- (iii) Pick the option that lists the statement that are NOT TRUE according to the passage.
 - a. The breath-taking beauty of the Himalayas would attract any tourist to India.
 - b. Taxi drivers do not cheat the visitors.
 - c. Better tourist facilities will make the tourists happy.
 - d. Government agencies can arrange group tours for foreigners to promote tourism.
 - (a) a and b
 - (b) b and d
 - (c) b and c
 - (d) a and d

- (iv) How is tourism everybody's business?
- (a) Flow of wealth produces its better distribution among rich and poor.
 - (b) We wish to earn more from our tourists.
 - (c) Because we say, "Welcome to India".
 - (d) Because India is a tourist's paradise.
- (v) Which word in para 1 means the same as 'many in number'?
- (a) variety
 - (b) dotted
 - (c) numerous
 - (d) potential
- (vi) Good facilities for tourists will tempt people to come to visit India. Which word does not describe the underlined word?
- (a) lure
 - (b) excite
 - (c) repel
 - (d) invite
- (vii) Wealth flows from affluent countries to the less affluent. The statement shows:
- (a) Reverse distribution of wealth.
 - (b) Proper distribution of wealth.
 - (c) Uneven distribution of wealth.
 - (d) Improper distribution of wealth.
- (viii) According to the passage, does any country in the world possess so much variety as India?
- (a) yes
 - (b) no
 - (c) perhaps
 - (d) none of these

(ix) Which word in para 5 is opposite in meaning to 'dissuaded'?

- (a) irritate
- (b) tempted
- (c) discourage
- (d) publicity

(x) What will the tourists do if they go home irritated and unhappy?

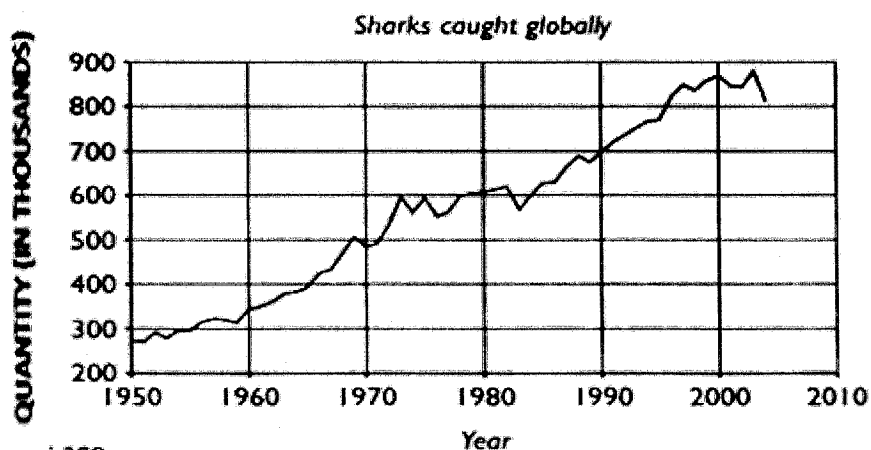
- (a) Urge others to visit our country
- (b) Long-awaited travel to visit our country
- (c) Dissuade others from visiting our country
- (d) They will only remain mute spectators

(xi) Which agencies can also play an instrumental role in promoting tourism?

- (a) Government agencies
- (b) Private agencies
- (c) Semi-government agencies
- (d) Non-government agencies

2. Read the passage given below:

1. Andy Dehart is a shark expert and TV presenter who lives in United States of America. He has had a lifelong interest in sharks and is always trying to look for ways to educate the public about them. Many people think that sharks have little to no intelligence, but Andy points out that recent studies have shown that many shark species possess powerful problem-solving abilities and social skills. "Sharks do not want to attack humans," he asserts. "There is no shark species that eats humans as part of its regular diet. In most shark attack cases, the shark leaves after realizing that it has mistakenly bitten a human and not its intended prey."



2. In Andy's opinion, all shark fishing should be stopped until the shark population has had time to grow again. We then need to do a better job of managing the fishing of sharks. However even if the direct fishing of sharks is topped, many will still be killed when they are caught up in the nets of boats fishing for other species of fish.
3. When Andy was a boy, his father worked for a national oceanic organization, and Andy travelled with him all over the Caribbean. He grew up by the coast and he has been connected with the sea for as long as he can remember. He also lived near one of the best aquariums in America. Andy then went on to build a career working with sharks in an aquarium environment. More recently, he has been involved with television and the making of programs about the sharks.
4. Andy and his wife had their first child two years ago. They were amused and amazed to see what extent their work with animals has proved to be useful in bringing up their daughter. They know how to observe her behaviour and teach her how to do things by rewarding her.
5. Andy loves sharks and is very passionate about their survival and protection. He feels extremely lucky to have had opportunities working at the National Aquarium and the television station which presents the Nature Channel. He never wastes a moment in either place that could be spent educating people about sharks. He does admit that it is probably not possible for everyone to love sharks as he does. However, he does hope to persuade people personally or through the media to respect sharks and the critical role they play in our environment. His main objective is to keep spreading awareness that sharks are not dangerous man-eaters but essential creatures in our oceans, as they provide ecological balance and help to control other species.

Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer ANY TEN of the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option: 1x10 =10

- i. How long has Andy been interested in sharks?
 - a. Life long
 - b. Since he was a boy
 - c. Both (a) and (b)
 - d. Neither (a) nor (b)
- ii. What evidence is there that sharks may be intelligent?
 - a. Their problem-solving skills and social skills
 - b. Their social skills
 - c. Eat humans
 - d. Their oceanic organization
- iii. Why does Andy believe that sharks only attack humans by mistake?
 - a. They don't eat humans as a part of their diet.
 - b. They leave after realizing that it has mistakenly bit humans.
 - c. Human is not its intended prey.
 - d. All of these.

- iv. What does Andy expect to happen if all shark fishing is stopped for a while?
 - a. Sharks' population will grow.
 - b. They will be in great demand.
 - c. People will go for fishing of other species.
 - d. Risk of their extinction will go away.

- v. As a child, what influenced Andy's later choice of career?
 - a. His father's working for a national oceanic organization.
 - b. His travelling with his father all over Caribbean.
 - c. He was connected with sea.
 - d. All of these.

- vi. How did Andy's work help him when bringing up his daughter?
 - a. They know how to teach her things by rewarding her.
 - b. They taught her by reprimanding her.
 - c. They taught her to observe behaviour of others.
 - d. Connection of animals to the daughter's keenness.

- vii. According to the graph, how many sharks were caught in 1990?
 - a. 650,000
 - b. 700,000
 - c. 700
 - d. 800

- viii. How does Andy hope to educate people about sharks?
 - a. Through his work at the National Aquarium
 - b. Through the media
 - c. By making programs on sharks
 - d. All of these

- ix. In which ways are sharks useful?
 - a. They help to know how to bring-up children.
 - b. They play a critical role in environment.
 - c. They provide ecological balance.
 - d. All of these.

- x. In which decade were maximum sharks caught globally?
 - a. 1960s
 - b. 1970s
 - c. 1980s
 - d. 1990s

- xi. Even after the ascending trend, in which year the number of sharks caught remained the same?
- a. 1970
 - b. 1975
 - c. 1980
 - d. 1985

LITERATURE

3. Read the extract given below and attempt ANY TWO of the three given by answering the questions that follow. 4x2=8

A. 'Why not organize yourselves into a cooperative?' I asked a group of young men who have fallen into the vicious circle of middlemen who trapped their fathers and forefathers. 'Even if we get organized, we are the ones who will be hauled up by the police, beaten and dragged to jail for doing something illegal.'

(i) To whom does 'I' refer to?

- a. Anees Jung
- b. Stephen Spender
- c. Alphonse Daudet
- d. William Douglas

(ii) 'young men' refers to

- a. middlemen
- b. bangle makers
- c. bureaucrats
- d. policemen

(iii) The word 'vicious', as used in paragraph means the same as

- a. brutal
- b. pleasant
- c. benevolent
- d. inexplicable

(iv) They are beaten and dragged to jail because

- a. they are doing something illegal
- b. they want to get organized
- c. they violate the rules
- d. they flout law and order

B. 'I am Rajkumar Shukla. I am from Champaran, and I want you to come to my district'!

(i) Who was Rajkumar Shukla?

- (a) Advocate
- (b) Zamindar
- (c) Peasant
- (d) British official

(ii) Whom was he addressing to?

- (a) Mahatma Gandhi
- (b) Rabindranath Tagore
- (c) Kasturba Gandhi
- (d) Kriplani

(iii) Why did he request the addressee to come to his district?

- (a) To sort the problems of the local advocates
- (b) To convince others to start growing Indigo
- (c) To sort the problems of sharecropper
- (d) To sort India's struggle for independence

(iv) Where does the district 'Champaran' lie?

- (a) Foothills of Himalayas
- (b) Gangetic Plains
- (c) western ghats
- (d) Thar Desert

C. Sadao stopped, Hana at his side, and turned the man's head. They saw the face. 'A white man!'. Hana whispered. Yes, it was a white man.

(i) What did Dr. Sadao see when he turned the face of the man?

- (a) Man with the yellow hair.
- (b) Man with yellow beard
- (c) Man showing signs of being tortured
- (d) All of these

(ii) In what state was the white man lying?

- (a) unconscious
- (b) dead
- (c) sleeping
- (d) drunk

(iii) Which part of the body of young man had wound?

- (a) Left side of upper back
- (b) Head and chest
- (c) Both the legs
- (d) Right side of lower back

(iv) To which of these the white man belong to?

- (a) US Army
- (b) US Navy
- (c) Japanese army
- (d) Japanese navy

4. Read the extracts given below and answer ANY ONE of the following questions.

1x4=4

A. but soon

Put that thought away, and

Looked out at young

Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling out their homes,

(i) "The merry children spilling out of their homes" symbolic of.....

- (a) Her old age
- (b) bubbly youth
- (c) happiness
- (d) childhood joys

- (ii) Which thought did the speaker put away?
 - (a) The thought of leaving her family alone.
 - (b) The thought of dying.
 - (c) The thought of her mother's old age.
 - (d) The thought of not being able to see her mother.
- (iii) The young trees were sprinting because
 - (a) Time was passing at a fast rate.
 - (b) The car was travelling fast in the opposite direction
 - (c) The young trees were growing fast
 - (d) None of the above
- (iv) 'Trees sprinting' is an example of
 - (a) Simile
 - (b) Oxymoron
 - (c) Personification
 - (d) Alliteration

B. Far far from gusty waves these children's faces.
 Like rootless weeds, the hair torn round their pallor:
 The tall girl with her weighed-down head. The paper-
 Seeming boy, with rat's eyes. The stunted, unlucky heir
 Of twisted bones, reciting a father's gnarled disease,

- (i) The children described in the given lines, are sitting in
 - (a) A slum-school
 - (b) An NGO
 - (c) A private school
 - (d) A makeshift school
- (ii) The tall girl with her head weighed down mean the girl
 - (a) is ill and exhausted
 - (b) has her head bent with shame
 - (c) has untidy hair
 - (d) has beautiful and thick hair
- (iii) The paper seeming boy with rat's eyes means the boy is
 - (a) sly and secretive
 - (b) thin, hungry and weak
 - (c) unpleasant looking
 - (d) suffering from a disease
- (iv) Which word in the extract means the same as 'twisted'?
 - (a) weeds (b) pallor (c) gnarled (d) reciting

5. Attempt ANY EIGHT questions from the ten given below.

1x8=8

- (i) What did Mommy Skunk call the smell of roses?
(a) pleasant (b) unusual (c) heavenly (d) awful
- (ii) What bothers the author Anees Jung most about the bangle makers?
(a) The stigma of poverty and caste
(b) The affluence of the landlord
(c) The behaviour of the factory owners
(d) The labor laws
- (iii) The peddler's reaction to the Ironmaster was:
(a) He made no attempt to hide his feelings
(b) He was angry
(c) He denied it completely
(d) He started screaming
- (iv) What does Gandhi's battle for poor sharecroppers in Champaran imply?
(a) authority of lawyers
(b) the power of effective leadership
(c) the power of money
(d) the power of unity
- (v) How did the author learn swimming?
(a) with the help of a rope
(b) with the help of a friend
(c) with the help of his mother
(d) with the help of a swimming instructor
- (vi) Gandhi was summoned by....., the Lt. Governor.
(a) Sir Edward Gait
(b) Sir Henry Gait
(c) Sir Richard Andrews
(d) Sir Charles Freer Andrews
- (vii) What specific things about Mr. Lamb does Derry notice?
(a) A man of firm resolution
(b) Always remain happy in spite of his deformity
(c) Had a positive outlook
(d) All of the above
- (viii) 'She was mastered by' is a reference made to:
(a) Hardships of Aunt Jennifer caused by Uncle
(b) She was a slave to Uncle
(c) She has a rude master in the form of an Uncle
(d) Uncle taught her to create tigers on the tapestry

(ix) What does the map in the slum school represent?

- (a) World of the rich and powerful
- (b) World of the poor
- (c) World of the slum school children
- (d) World the poet wants for the slum children

(x) What can be a cure or antidote to violent actions, as highlighted by Pablo Neruda?

- (a) speaking practice
- (b) wise words
- (c) polished language
- (d) practice silence

PART B –DESCRIPTIVE WRITING
WRITING SKILLS

40 Marks

6. You are Asma/Ashish, the Head Girl/Boy of Aryabhata, International School, New Delhi. 3
Your school is soon going to publish the annual magazine next month. Write a notice for the notice board of your school inviting students to submit write-ups. (50 words)

OR

You are Ankur/Akshita, a travel agent with Wanderland Travels, Delhi. Write an advertisement to be published in the local daily for a tour package to Singapore. (50 words)

7. You are Faiz/ Falak Mazumdar living at 39, Udhampur Colony, Shimla. You decide to hold 3
a dinner party to celebrate the birthday of grandson. Draft a formal invitation in not more than 50 words to all family members to attend a grand dinner

OR

You are Amita/Amit Kapoor. You have been asked by Akshit Tandon to give a special felicitation at your friend Amaya/Aman's wedding. Draft a letter of acceptance in not more than 50 words for the same. Put it in a box.

8. You are Anu/Arun, 13 WEA, Karol Bagh, New Delhi. You see all around that people buy 5
pets of foreign breed for hefty amount and then also boast about that they really care for animals. You strongly believe that people should instead adopt stray animals and then take care of them, to be called animal lovers in the true sense. Write a letter to the Editor of a National Daily giving your views on the issue. You can take help of the following visuals. (120-150 words)

*"People call me -
go away, dirty
stray dog"*



*"I keep hoping that
one day, I'll meet a
friend who's willing
to give me a nice
home".*

OR

You are Ritvik/Ritika of 131, Jagriti Vihar, Gurugram. You recently read about the post of a Chemist being advertised by Chanakya Research Ltd. Noida. You wish to apply for it. Apply with full details to the Manager of the production unit. You can also use the following clues. (120-150 words)

Chanakya Research Ltd is looking for a Chemist for their Company Eligibility Criteria

B.Sc./M.Sc. in Chemistry -Minimum 2 year of experience in the same field - Language proficiency in English and Hindi.

9. Our performance in the last Olympics has told us that we do not pay enough attention to athletics and outdoor games, and that it is time we revised our attitude. Sports should be an important part of school's daily routine. Write an article in 120-150 words on 'Importance of Outdoor Games'. You are Sreeja/Thomas. 5

OR

You are Brinda / Bharath. You worked as a volunteer in the literacy campaign organized in your city. Write a report for the school magazine in about 120-150 words on the effectiveness of the program highlighting the methods used and the role played by the government and the non-government agencies.

LITERATURE

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following questions in 30-40 words: 2x5=10
- (i) What is conveyed through the stories of stolen childhood in the lesson 'Lost Spring'?
 - (ii) Describe Douglas's condition when he was thrown into the pool.
 - (iii) Write about the plight of the peasants and how did the Champaran episode change it.
 - (iv) Why is the class dim in the poem 'An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum'?
What does it signify?
 - (v) What do the parting words of the poet and her smile signify?
 - (vi) Aunt Jennifer's efforts to get rid of her fear proved to be futile. Comment.
11. Attempt ANY TWO of the following three questions given below, in 30-40 words each. 2X2=4
- (i) Why did Charley suspect that Sam had gone to Galesburg?
 - (ii) Why does Jo insist that her father should tell her the story with a different ending?
 - (iii) Comment on the ending of the play 'On the Face of It'.

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in 120-150 words: 5

The peddler's story speaks on a general level to society, urging for a different outlook towards those maligned individuals who can be redeemed by compassion and understanding. In the light of the story 'The Rattrap', how do you think society can help individuals, especially juvenile delinquents, from falling prey to crimes and bad habits?

OR

Feminism refers to a collection of movements and ideologies that advocate women's rights and seeks to establish equal opportunities for women in all spheres. Discuss with reference to 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers'.

13. Attempt ANY ONE of the following questions in 120-150 words.

5

- (i) How did Charley reach the third level of Grand Central? What makes his description sound very realistic? Support your answer with close reference to the text.

OR

- (ii) What impression do you form of Jack as a father? (Should Wizard Hit Mommy?)

End of the Question Paper