

<b>SET</b>	<b>A</b>
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**INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT  
HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION 2023  
ENGLISH CORE (301)**

CLASS: XI

Max. Marks: 80

**MARKING SCHEME**

<b>SET</b>	<b>QN.NO</b>	<b>VALUE POINTS</b>	<b>MARKS SPLIT UP</b>
A	1.	i. A balanced diet is that which contains carbohydrates, fat, proteins, vitamins in proportionate amount.	<b>10 × 1 = 10</b>
		ii. d) protects us from diseases	
		iii. a) defence mechanism	
		iv. c) Only 3	
		v. d) 1, 2 and 3	
		vi. a) Both 1 and 4	
		vii. b) Nutan had a small abrasion on her knee	
		viii. c) inborn	
		ix. Reflex actions.	
		x. Toxic	
	2.	i. b) descriptive	<b>10 × 1 = 10</b>
		ii. b) 1-50 miles	
		iii. a) abundant low level moisture	
		iv. b) Debris from the train explosion was scattered here and there.	
		v. Under F2 classification.	
		vi. A devastating effect.	
		vii. Temperature decreases rapidly with height & Dry air overlays moist air near the Earth's surface.	
		viii. between 319-379 mph.	

- ix. 'Veering'
- x. d) Apparent
3. **i) Note Making** **5 MKS**
- i. Title – 1 mk,  
Numbering and indenting – 1 mk  
Key/glossary – 1 mk  
Notes – 2 mks
- ii. **ii) Summary** **3 MKS**  
Content – 2 mks  
Expression – 1 mk
4. i. a) have been **5×1=5**  
ii. b) exists  
iii. a) will have finished  
iv. When / once / after/ as soon as  
v. While / when /since / as/ because/ if
5. i. a) and c) The famous tennis star will be inaugurating the sports day **3×1=3**  
events.  
ii. b) Adjective clause  
iii. The poor farmers were forced to pay exorbitant taxes.
6. Format – 1 mk, **3 MKS**  
Content – 1 mk  
Expression – 1 mk
7. Format – 1 mk, **3 MKS**  
Content – 1 mk  
Expression – 1 mk
8. Format – 1 **5 MKS**  
Content – 2  
Expression – 2
9. Format – 1 **5 MKS**  
Content – 2  
Expression – 2

10. A. i. mother 3×1=3  
ii. (c) A photograph  
iii. (c) 1 and 3

(OR)

- B. i. (c) A goldfinch  
ii. (a) It becomes lively  
iii. The gold finch's baby birds

11. A. i. d) her hair 3×1=3  
ii. Hobbled  
iii. the winter landscape in the mountains.

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- B. i. a) sound of wind  
ii. Ile Amsterdam  
iii. Sue's head was hurt and it had a bump.

12. A. i. c) John Byro 3×1=3  
ii. b) With Mourad  
iii. Aram's mother.

(OR)

- B. i. b) Various things were missing  
ii. c) her daughter quickly noticed the changes in the house  
iii. An old acquaintance of the narrator's mother, whom she hadn't seen for many years,

13. **Answer any three questions:** 3×2=6  
**i) Mention the way in which the sparrows expressed their sorrow when the author's grandmother died.**

In the evening, when the author and his family members went to grandmother's room to take her for the last rites, they saw thousands of sparrows sitting scattered on the floor near her. They were silent. There was no chirping. The author's mother offered them some bread but the sparrows took no notice. After the grandmother's body was taken away, the sparrows flew away quietly. Thus, the sparrows mourned her death and paid a silent tribute to the grandmother in a unique manner.

**ii) Describe the boat 'Wavewalker'**

It was a 23 metre, 30 ton wooden hulled sailboat. They had spent months fitting it out and testing it in the roughest weather they could find.

**iii) Why did they take on two crew men with them at Cape Town?**

Before heading East from Cape Town, they took on two crewmen who were experienced seamen. They were Larry Vigil, an American and Herb Seigler, a Swiss. The narrator took this step because he knew that they would require help to tackle one of the world's roughest seas - the southern Indian Ocean.

**iv) Explain the line, 'And the Laburnum subsides to empty'.**

It describes that after the departure of the goldfinch from the Laburnum tree, it falls silent. The tree was noisy and lively when the goldfinch came to feed its chicks but it reverts to its earlier self after its departure from the tree.

**14. A. Why was the Garoghlanian tribe famous?**

**1×3=3**

The Garoghlanian tribe was famous for their honesty and integrity for the last eleven centuries. Whatever may be the circumstances, they never compromised with their honesty. They also knew how to differentiate between right and wrong.

**(OR)**

**B. When did the narrator realise that she was at the right address?**

The narrator realised that she had come to the right address when she noticed that Mrs. Dorling was wearing her mother's green knitted cardigan. Its wooden buttons had gone pale from washing.

**15. A. Describe the author's grandmother's life in the village in contrast with the kind of the life she led in the city, highlighting her values.**

**1×5=5**

The author's grandmother had been living in the village for a very long time. She was used to the life of the village. She had her fixed routine. She got up early in the morning. After that she used to wake up her grandson and get him ready for school. She accompanied him to the school. She sat in the temple reading the scriptures.

Thus, she practised all her values of being pious and dutiful. In contrast, the city life and its culture did not suit her. Now, she could no more accompany her grandson to his school. Neither could she help him in his lessons. Thus, she could not practice properly the values of the life in which she believed. When the author went to the university, he was given a room of his own. This made the grandmother even more lonely. But she accepted her loneliness and devoted her time in spinning the wheel, feeding the sparrows and praying, thus, continuing to practice her values.

**(OR)**

**B. The arrival of the gold finch on the Laburnum top brings about a change in the poem. How do you interpret this change? Is change good or bad in life?**

At the start of the poem, the top of the Laburnum tree in the poem is silent and still.

There is hardly any activity on it as the sunlight falls on it on a September afternoon. However, with the arrival of the goldfinch, it suddenly becomes a place of feverish activity. The silence of the place is broken by the twittering and chirruping of the chicks and the goldfinch.

I think that the change brought about by the arrival of the goldfinch on the Laburnum top is good as it breaks the monotony. The tree becomes alive

and lively with the movement of the goldfinch and the twitterings and chirrupings of the chicks.

Change can be good or bad in life depending on a situation. However, an important fact is that change is the only constant in life. So, even if a change is bad, we have to accept it and move on in life.

- 16. A. People like Mrs. Dorling forget the ultimate end of man. For some earthly gain, people discard their values. Elucidate. 1×5=5**

Mrs. Dorling has been shown as a person who is smart, greedy and unreliable. She offers to help Mrs. S, which was not help actually. In reality, she wanted to take away all her valuables as she was greedy. She had renewed her contact with Mrs. S not because she was close to her but because she saw it as an opportunity to get some material gain because of the outbreak of war. Mrs. Dorling herself suggested to keep Mrs. S' valuable possessions in her safe custody and later on refused to even recognise Mrs. S' daughter, who wanted to have a look at those possessions. The need of the hour is that people should be taught values from their childhood. Children should be taught to help others without any personal benefits. Moral education should be part of education from the school days. The elders should lead by example by displaying the human values of trust, love and sympathy.

**(OR)**

- B. How does the story 'The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse' convey the message of honesty and integrity and how do the characters maintain it irrespective of their desire to keep the horse with themselves?**

Undoubtedly, the story "The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse" conveys the message of honesty and integrity. The two cousins, Aram and Mourad belonged to the Garoghlanian family. Their tribe was known for faithfulness. Both of them had a deep passion for horse-riding. One day, Mourad stole a beautiful white horse just to ride it for a few days. Later, Aram justified the act of keeping the horse by saying that they didn't wish to sell it off, they were just using it for a few days and would certainly return the horse to its owners.

The owner of the horse, John Byro, came across them one day when they had the horse with them. Perhaps this was a test of their honesty and truthfulness. In the end, they were conscience-stricken and decided to return the horse to its rightful owner to save their family and tribe's name

**THE END**

<b>SET</b>	<b>B</b>
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**MARKING SCHEME  
VALUE POINTS**

<b>SET</b>	<b>QN.NO</b>		<b>MARKS SPLIT UP</b>
B.	1.	i. d) Apparent ii. 'Veering' iii. between 319-379 mph. iv. i) Temperature decreases rapidly with height & Dry air overlays moist air near the Earth's surface. v. A devastating effect. vi. Under F2 classification. vii. b) Debris from the train explosion was scattered here and there. viii. a) abundant low level moisture ix. b) 1-50 miles x. b) descriptive	<b>10 × 1 = 10</b>
	2.	i. A balanced diet is that which contains carbohydrates, fat, proteins, vitamins in proportionate amount. ii. Reflex actions. iii. c) inborn iv. b) Nutan had a small abrasion on her knee v. a) Both 1 and 4 vi. d) 1, 2 and 3 vii. c) Only 3 viii. a) defence mechanism	<b>10 × 1 = 10</b>

- ix. d) protects us from diseases
- x. Toxic
3. **i) Note Making** **5 MKS**
- i. Title – 1 mk,  
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Key/glossary – 1 mk  
Notes – 2 mks
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5. i. a) and c) The famous tennis star will be inaugurating the sports day **3×1=3**  
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ii. b) Adjective clause  
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6. Format – 1 mk, **3 MKS**  
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ii. (c) A photograph  
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(OR)

- B. i. (c) A goldfinch  
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12. A. i. c) John Byro 3×1=3  
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- B. i. b) Various things were missing  
ii. c) her daughter quickly noticed the changes in the house  
iii. An old acquaintance of the narrator's mother, whom she hadn't seen for many years.

13. **i) How did the grandmother celebrate the homecoming of her grandson?** 3×2=6



After five years, the author was coming home. The grandmother went to the railway station to receive him. She hugged him and he could hear her reciting prayers. After reaching home, she gathered the women of the neighbourhood. She got an old drum and started singing songs about the homecoming of warriors. That was the first time since the author had known her that she was not praying.

**ii) How did the voyagers celebrate their Christmas and where?**

On Christmas Day, the voyagers were 3500 kms East of Cape Town in the southern Indian Ocean. Though the sea was rough, they enjoyed a wonderful holiday. They celebrated Christmas singing carols complete with a Christmas tree. They expected the weather to improve but it didn't.

**iii) What are Mayday calls? Why was the ship getting no replies to its Mayday calls?**

Mayday calls are distress signals sent through the radio by ships facing trouble in the sea. They are made to get help from other ships passing nearby. The boat Wavewalker was not getting replies to its Mayday calls because the boat had reached a remote part of the sea where other ships did not go.

**iv) How is the tree transformed during the bird's visit?**

After the goldfinch arrives on the tree, the silent and still Laburnum tree suddenly starts trembling and moving. The whole tree comes to life as the chicks of the goldfinch make a lot of noise as they chitter on seeing their mother.

- 14. A) Why did Aram think that his cousin Mourad didn't steal the horse?** **1×3=3**  
According to Aram, stealing a horse for a ride was not the same thing as stealing something for money. He felt that if someone was crazy about horses like they were, then it was not stealing. It would not have been stealing until they tried to sell the horse, which they would never do.

**(OR)**

**B) How had the narrator discovered that their daily cutlery was made of silver?**

Once, when the narrator was visiting her mother, she was asked by her mother to help her polish the silver cutlery. She was surprised at which silver her mother was mentioning. Then only, she discovered that the cutlery they used every day was made of silver.

- 15. A) Describe the author's grandmother's life in the village in contrast with the kind of the life she led in the city, highlighting her values.** **1×5=5**

The author's grandmother had been living in the village for a very long time. She was used to the life of the village. She had her fixed routine. She got up early in the morning. After that she used to wake up her grandson and get him ready for school. She accompanied him to the school. She sat in the temple reading the scriptures.

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city life and its culture did not suit her. Now, she could no more accompany her grandson to his school. Neither could she help him in his lessons. Thus, she could not practice properly the values of the life in which she believed. When the author went to the university, he was given a room of his own. This made the grandmother even more lonely. But she accepted her loneliness and devoted her time in spinning the wheel, feeding the sparrows and praying, thus, continuing to practice her values.

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It describes that after the departure of the goldfinch from the Laburnum tree, it falls silent. The tree was noisy and lively when the goldfinch came to feed its chicks but it reverts to its earlier self after its departure from the tree.

14. **A) Why was the Garoghlanian tribe famous?** **1×3=3**

The Garoghlanian tribe was famous for their honesty and integrity for the last eleven centuries. Whatever may be the circumstances, they never compromised with their honesty. They also knew how to differentiate between right and wrong.

**(OR)**

- B) When did the narrator realise that she was at the right address?**

The narrator realised that she had come to the right address when she noticed that Mrs. Dorling was wearing her mother's green knitted cardigan. Its wooden buttons had gone pale from washing.

15. **A) The author's grandmother was a religious person. What are the different ways in which we come to know this?** **1×5=5**

The author's grandmother was a deeply religious lady. We come to know this through the different ways of her behaviour. She visited the temple every morning and read scriptures. At home she always mumbled inaudible prayer and kept telling the beads of rosary. She would repeat prayers in a sing-song manner while getting the writer ready for school. She hoped that he would learn it by heart. She didn't like English school as there was no teaching of God and scriptures.

Even while spinning at her spinning-wheel she would recite prayers. Perhaps it was only once that she forgot to say her prayers. It was on the evening prior to her death when she felt over excited while celebrating the arrival of her grandson with songs and beatings of drum. She continued praying and telling beads of her rosary till her last breath.

**OR**

- B) How does the laburnum tree play a central role in the poem "The Laburnum Top"?**

In the very title the name "laburnum" is predominant and it is putting forward the whole idea of the poem "The Laburnum Top". The whole action in the poem is revolving around the laburnum tree itself. It is like the pivot around which the lives of the birds are circling round. The tree is the confluence where both the beginning and ending are getting mingled with each other. At the very beginning the poem describes the laburnum tree whose seeds have not only fallen but also the leaves have turned yellow. In the afternoon of September the tree top remains silent until a goldfinch appears. As soon as the goldfinch appears, there is a sudden strong tremor in the tree; there are noises of twitching of wings and chirping of bird language. It is the stimuli what led the entire tree to tremble. After the collection of food the goldfinch with its entire family it again launches itself in the sky in a mysterious way and the laburnum is itself in the sky in a mysterious way and the laburnum is reduced to silence and emptiness again. Thus the laburnum tree plays a central role in the poem "The Laburnum Top".

16. **A) Describe the second visit of Mrs S's daughter to the house of Mrs Dorling. Why did she not wait to meet Mrs. Dorling?** When the narrator went the second time to 46, Marconi Street, it was Mrs. Dorling's daughter who opened the door and let the narrator come into the house. Immediately she recognized her mother's priceless possessions, she noticed the Hanukkah which belonged to her family. The walls had the antiques. Her familiar woollen table cloth was on the table and she recognized a painting, the teapot and the silver cutlery of her family. Seeing these things, however, they did not give her any pleasure because they were arranged in a tasteless way and handled carelessly. She was filled with disgust and suddenly lost the desire to get those beautiful things back. So she did not want to meet Mrs Dorling and left the house, deciding never to visit 46, Marconi Street again.

1×5=5

**(OR)**

- B) Did the boys return the horse because they were conscience-stricken or because they were afraid?**

The boys return the horse because they were conscience-stricken. We all have dreams and aspirations to try something different from what we normally encounter. For the boys riding a horse was one such dream. They were innocent and had no heart to hurt anyone. John Byro, the farmer, did not think for once that the boys were trying to steal the horse. He trusted the people of his clan and his heart even refused to admit that the kids could indulge in something like that and hence claimed that the horse was the twin of his horse. The kids themselves were guilt-stricken when they realized what heinous act they were about to commit. Stealing something is a crime.

The kids are often taught in their homes that stealing is an act they must not indulge themselves in. Realizing they did something like that would have thrown them in a pit of guilt. They would have also felt that this would eventually ruin their family reputation too which would have led to unfavorable consequences.

**THE END**