



| | | |
|-------------|--|--|
| Roll Number | | |
|-------------|--|--|

SET A



INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT
HALF-YEARLY EXAMINATION 2023
SUBJECT: COMMUNICATIVE ENGLISH

CLASS: X

Sub.Code: 101

Time Allotted: 3 Hrs.

19.09.2023

Max.Marks: 80

General Instructions:

(i) The question paper is divided into three sections :

Section A: Reading 22 marks

Section B: Writing 10 marks.

Section C: Grammar 18 marks

Section D: Literature 30 marks

(ii) All questions are compulsory.

(iii) You may attempt any section at a time.

(iv) All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.

SECTION A (Reading)

22

I Read the following passage and answer any ten of the following questions:

10

I saw 'Jaws', the popular shark movie, the summer it came out, in 1975 and became paranoid about sharks. Though I kept swimming after *Jaws*, it was always with the vague fear that a shark's teeth could tug on my leg at any moment. Never mind that there'd been only two shark bites since 1900 on the Connecticut coast, where I lived.

4 So, when I got this assignment for the *National Geographic* magazine, I decided to accept and do what I'd never wanted to do: swim with the sharks. I had to go to a place in the Bahamas known as Tiger Beach and dive with tiger sharks, the species responsible for more recorded attacks on humans than any shark except the great white. It was to be my first dive after getting certified—which meant it would be my first dive anywhere other than a swimming pool or a quarry—and without a diver's cage. Most people who got wind of this plan thought I was either very brave or very stupid.

11 I just wanted to puncture an illusion. The people who know sharks intimately tend to be the least afraid of them, and no one gets closer to sharks than divers. The divers who run operations at Tiger Beach speak lovingly of the tiger sharks the way people talk about their children or their pets. In their eyes, these sharks aren't man-eaters any more than dogs are.

18 The business of puncturing illusions is never just black and white. My fellow divers had hundreds of dives under their belt and on the two-hour boat ride to the site in the morning of our first dive, they kept saying things like, "Seriously, I

really can't believe this is your first dive." All this was okay with me until I reached the bottom and immediately had to fend off the first tiger shark, I had ever laid eyes on. However, when I watched the other divers feeding them fish and steering them gently, it became easy to see the sharks in a very benign light.

- 25 I think it would be unfair not to mention that though tiger sharks are apex predators. They act as a crucial balancing force in ocean ecosystems, constraining the numbers of animals like sea turtles and limit their behaviour by preventing them from overgrazing the sea grass beds. Furthermore, tiger sharks love warm water, they eat almost anything, have a huge litter and are the hardiest shark species. If the planet and its oceans continue to warm, some species will be winners and others will be losers, and tiger sharks are likely to be winners.

I Answer the following questions: 10

- i Cite a point in evidence, from the text, to suggest that the writer's post-*Jaws* fear was not justified. 1
- ii State any one trait of the writer that is evident from lines 5-10 and provide a reason for your choice. 1
- iii People thought the writer was 'either brave or very stupid'. Why did some people think that he was 'very stupid'? 1
- iv Why does the writer say that people who know sharks intimately tend to be least afraid of them? 1
- v Rewrite the given sentence by replacing the underlined phrase with another one, from lines 10 – 20. 1
Some academicians think that reward, as a form of discipline, is a simple right or wrong issue.
- vi What does the use of the phrase 'benign light' suggest in the context of the writer's viewpoint about the tiger sharks? 1
- vii The antonym of 'benign' is: 1
i) Friendly ii) malignant iii) benignant iv) benevolent
- viii Select a suitable phrase from lines 15-25 to complete the following sentence appropriately. 1
I agree that the team will find this experience tough, but competing will be easier next time after they get this tournament
- ix Why do you think having a large litter is one of the features that empowers tiger sharks to emerge winners if global warming persists. 1
- x 'Most people who got wind of this plan...' Replace the underlined phrase with the correct option: 1
A) Judged B) thought C) got clue of D) found out the secret

2. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

In India, from an early age, we have been taught that education is limited to the boundaries of academics only; the idea of getting out into the field, for gaining practical experience, is always considered a hoax. In the 21st century, the pure academic type of education is slowly paving way for a whole new type. The paradigm shift in the whole education system is evident. People have now come to understand that education is a 360 degree activity that should focus on students' overall development, rather than restricting him/her to the classroom. Co-curricular activities that take place outside the classroom but reinforce or

supplement classroom curriculum, in some way, have become a point of focus today. These activities help in the growth of the child, in more than one way. Participating in such activities helps youngsters grow mentally, socially, and individually. Intellectual development of a student is developed in the classroom, but for the aesthetic development, such as team-building, character-building, and physical growth, students must step out into the outside world. For instance, if a student is a part of school football team, he/she will learn team-work and coordination, in a practical manner, which cannot be taught in the class.

Similarly, in colleges and institutions, there is a need for practical exposure so that the students can experience the actual working of an industry. For example, taking a student to a manufacturing firm will give him/her the real insight and better learning of the industry. Catering to this change, most professional colleges including B-Schools have started providing practical exposure to students through regular guest lectures, industrial visits, conferences, seminars, cultural festivals, and so on. With industry visits, students can better identify their prospective areas of work in the overall organizational function. Moreover, they help enhance interpersonal skills and communication techniques. In addition, guest lectures are equally important for all-round development of students. It is a great way for students to gain maximum exposure, as guest speakers talk about their real-life experiences and not what is there in the textbooks.

Through such events, students are made to participate and coordinate different events wherein, they get to know how exactly things are managed. Classroom teaching provides the foundation, and co-curricular or extracurricular activities provide practical exposure and opportunities to implement what students learn in the classroom. This helps in developing the overall personality of the students, inculcating various soft skills in them, which otherwise are difficult to teach. Clearly, life beyond academics creates creative and empowered professionals. Integrating diverse approaches and eclectic vision harnesses comprehensive learning.

- | | | |
|------|---|----|
| 2 | <u>Answer the following questions:</u> | 12 |
| i. | Co-curricular activities that take place outside the classroom do not help in | 1 |
| | a. teamwork and co-ordination. b. mental and social growth. c. intellectual development. d. character building. | |
| ii. | The shift in the education system means | 1 |
| | a. to restrict to classroom activities. b. to focus on academic development. c. to ignore 360 degree activity. d. to focus on overall development. | |
| iii. | Guest speakers talk about | 1 |
| | a. all-round development. b. their real-life experiences. c. what is in text books. d. gaining exposure. | |

- iv. **Classroom teaching provides** 1
- practical exposure.
 - opportunities to implement what is learnt in classroom.
 - chance to learn soft skills.
 - the foundation.
- v. **Life beyond academics facilitates** 1
- organizational functions.
 - creativity.
 - professional fields.
 - industrial visits.
- vi. Why are soft skills difficult to teach in the classroom? 1
- vii. Choose a word from the reading passage synonymous to 'cooperative effort (Para 3)'. 1
- viii. Choose the correct antonym of the word 'supplement' from the following options: 1
- increase
 - correlate.
 - reduce.
 - augment
- ix. Choose a word from the reading passage synonymous to 'untrue (Para 1)'. 1
- x. Can aesthetic development be taught in the class? Justify your answer. 1
- xi. What is the role of guest lecturers in enhancing the overall development of the students? 1
- xii. Choose an appropriate word from the last paragraph which means 'derived from various sources.' 1

SECTION B: Writing 10

- 3 A)** You are Arpita/ Arpit residing at Stadium Road, Nagpur. Write a letter to the Sales Manager of Krishna Electronics, Gandhi Marg , Nagpur, complaining about a television which you recently purchased and it started malfunctioning within two weeks from the date of purchase. (100-120 words) 7

OR

- B)** You have lost your original certificates of Class X and XII. You want to get their duplicates issued but you are uncertain about the procedure. Write a letter to the Chairman, CBSE, Preet Vihar, enquiring about the fee to be deposited, mode of payment, time taken by the board for issuing duplicate certificates, some other formalities involved in the process. You are Tarun/Taruna , 7/9 Kunj Apartments, Shimla. (100-120 words)

4. Write an email to the dean, Faculty of Science, Cornell University, NY, enquiring about the courses offered in graduation, admission process, requirements, fees structure, scholarships for expatriate students, SAT score etc. (50 words) 3

5. **SECTION C: GRAMMAR (All questions are compulsory)** 18

Find out the errors in the sentences i to iv and edit them following the given format: 4

| Error | Correction |
|-------|------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |

- i. Many a student try hard to pass the Joint Entrance Examination.
ii. Either my mother or my father are coming to the meeting.
iii. Sohan as well as his brother have come to the school.
iv. The man along with all the birds live on my street.

Fill in the blanks following the instructions in the brackets: 5

- v. I ----- for his reply since last week. (Choose one of the following options)
(a) had been waiting (b) have been waiting (c) am waiting (d) was waiting
- vi. When I visited her, she ----- bed-ridden for six months.
(Choose one of the following options)
(a) had been (b) was (c) has been (d) were
- vii. The farmers.....ploughing their fields since morning. (Choose one of the following options)
(a) are (b) had been (c) have been (d) were
- viii. Ia letter when my friend came to my house. (Choose one of the following options)
(a) had been writing (b) have been writing (c) was writing (d) wrote
- ix. It washistoric day for the organization whenhonour was bestowed upon its employees. (Fill in the blanks with appropriate determiners)

Rearrange the words/ phrases to form a meaningful sentence:

5

- x. OFTEN/ OPEN SPACE/ SWALLOWS/ OVER/ SEEN SKIMMING/ A POND/ OR/ ARE/ AN
- xi. SOMETIMES/ A BUSY/ SWALLOWS MAY/ DOWN/ BE FOUND/ CITY STREET/ HUNTING INSECTS
- xii. AN IMPOSSIBLE TASK / THE MINISTER/HE WAS UPSET/ TOLD GOPAL THAT/ HAD SET HIM/ BECAUSE THE NAWAB
- xiii. TO STAY/ LANGUAGE/ APPEARS/ ENGLISH/ FOR LONG/ IT/ HAS COME/ WITH US.
- xiv. OCCUR/ IN A/ MOST/ THE SECOND/ INNOVATIONS/ SPLIT OF.
- xv. **In the following sentences one word has been omitted in each line. In your answer sheet write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it. One example is done for you.**

4

| | Before | Missing word | After |
|--|----------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Amazed at the splendid architecture the building | architecture.... <u>of</u> | ... | ...the |
| a) Every year, many people the temple town | | | |
| b) of Kanchipuram Tamil Nadu. | | | |
| c) Pilgrims have been going in | | | |
| d) large numbers many centuries. | | | |

SECTION D : Literature

30

6

Read the following extracts given below and answer ANY TWO of them

2x5=10

- A. Half sunk a shattered visage lies, whose frown,
And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed;

- (i) Name the poet and the poem?
(ii) What is the expression on the face of the statue?
(iii) What is ironical about the mighty statue?
(iv) What does the poet say about the skill of the sculptor?
(v) Replace the word 'sneer' in the quoted lines with another similar word.

B.

And a solitary loon
Wept, beneath the summer moon.
Toads and teals and tiddlers, captured
By her voice, cheered on, enraptured:
"Bravo! " "Too divine! " "Encore! "

- (i) What is the meaning of the phrase 'solitary loon'?
- (ii) What is the meaning of 'tiddlers' here? (Choose the correct option):
a) Small fish b) small birds c) ducklings d) water birds
- (iii) Replace the word 'Encore' with a suitable word or phrase.
- (iv) What was the frog's first reaction on hearing the nightingale's song?
- (v) What are 'teals'?

C.

And you, too. Are you such a poor creature that you must do
every dirty thing she tells you?

- (i) Name the writer and the text from which the extract is taken.
- (ii) Who is the speaker here?
- (iii) Who is referred to as 'a poor creature' here?
- (iv) What is referred to as 'dirty thing' here?
- (v) What are the full names of the two sisters in the text?

7

Answer ANY SIX of the following questions in 30-40 words each:

6x2=12

- i) Why does the writer address the two young boys as 'gentlemen' in the text 'Two Gentlemen of Verona'?
- ii) What information did the nurse give about the past of the children in the text 'Two Gentlemen of Verona'?
- iii) 'I knew they would prefer to feel that they had safely kept their secret.' What was the secret and what touched the writer/narrator deeply with reference to the text 'Two Gentlemen of Verona'.
- iv) 'Mothers carrying their babies home through the jungle ...hushed their singing lest they might curtail the restful sleep of the venerable herd-robber' Replace the underlined word with a similar word. Why is the herd-robber venerable in 'Mrs. Packletide's Tiger'?
- v) What is ironical in the poem 'Ozymandias'?
- vi) 'Beholding the wooden arch of this building, the old man was filled with the joy that the pilgrim feels when he first sees the goal of his journey...' Explain the analogy here from the text 'The Letter.'
- vii) 'That's not much to boast about' - according to the frog why shouldn't the nightingale be boastful? Analyse the irony in the situation in the poem 'The Frog and the Nightingale.'

Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in 150 words:

A) Compare and contrast the character of Henry Slater with that of his wife. Support your answer with examples from the play, 'The Dear Departed.'

OR

B) 'Tortured by doubt and remorse, he sat down in the glow of the charcoal sign to wait' - Who is tortured by doubt and remorse in the given extract from 'The Letter'? What impression do you form of this person at the end of the story.

End of the Question Paper



| | | |
|-------------|--|--|
| Roll Number | | |
|-------------|--|--|

SET B



INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT
HALF-YEARLY EXAMINATION 2023
SUBJECT: COMMUNICATIVE ENGLISH

CLASS: X

Sub.Code: 101

Time Allotted: 3 Hrs.

19.09.2023

Max.Marks: 80

General Instructions:

(i) *The question paper is divided into three sections :*

Section A: Reading 22 marks

Section B: Writing 10 marks.

Section C: Grammar 18 marks

Section D: Literature 30 marks

(ii) *All questions are compulsory.*

(iii) *You may attempt any section at a time.*

(iv) *All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.*

SECTION A (Reading)

22

1. **Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:**

12

In India, from an early age, we have been taught that education is limited to the boundaries of academics only; the idea of getting out into the field, for gaining practical experience, is always considered a hoax. In the 21st century, the pure academic type of education is slowly paving way for a whole new type. The paradigm shift in the whole education system is evident. People have now come to understand that education is a 360 degree activity that should focus on students' overall development, rather than restricting him/her to the classroom.

Co-curricular activities that take place outside the classroom but reinforce or supplement classroom curriculum, in some way, have become a point of focus today. These activities help in the growth of the child, in more than one way. Participating in such activities helps youngsters grow mentally, socially, and individually. Intellectual development of a student is developed in the classroom, but for the aesthetic development, such as team-building, character-building, and physical growth, students must step out into the outside world. For instance, if a student is a part of school football team, he/she will learn team-work and coordination, in a practical manner, which cannot be taught in the class.

Similarly, in colleges and institutions, there is a need for practical exposure so that the students can experience the actual working of an industry. For example, taking a student to a manufacturing firm will give him/her the real insight and better learning

of the industry. Catering to this change, most professional colleges including B-Schools have started providing practical exposure to students through regular guest lectures, industrial visits, conferences, seminars, cultural festivals, and so on. With industry visits, students can better identify their prospective areas of work in the overall organizational function. Moreover, they help enhance interpersonal skills and communication techniques. In addition, guest lectures are equally important for all-round development of students. It is a great way for students to gain maximum exposure, as guest speakers talk about their real-life experiences and not what is there in the textbooks.

Through such events, students are made to participate and coordinate different events wherein, they get to know how exactly things are managed. Classroom teaching provides the foundation, and co-curricular or extracurricular activities provide practical exposure and opportunities to implement what students learn in the classroom. This helps in developing the overall personality of the students, inculcating various soft skills in them, which otherwise are difficult to teach. Clearly, life beyond academics creates creative and empowered professionals. Integrating diverse approaches and eclectic vision harnesses comprehensive learning.

- | | | |
|------|--|----|
| 1 | Answer the following questions: | 12 |
| i. | The shift in the education system means a. to restrict to classroom activities. b. to focus on academic development. c. to ignore 360 degree activity. d. to focus on overall development. | 1 |
| ii. | Co-curricular activities that take place outside the classroom do not help in a. teamwork and co-ordination. b. mental and social growth. c. intellectual development. d. character building. | 1 |
| iii. | Guest speakers talk about a. all-round development. b. their real-life experiences. c. what is in text books. d. gaining exposure. | 1 |
| iv. | Life beyond academics facilitates a. organizational functions. b. creativity. c. professional fields. d. industrial visits. | 1 |
| v. | Classroom teaching provides a. practical exposure. b. opportunities to implement what is learnt in classroom. c. chance to learn soft skills. d. the foundation. | 1 |

- vi. Why are soft skills difficult to teach in the classroom? 1
- vii. Choose a word from the reading passage synonymous to ‘cooperative effort (Para 3)’.
- viii. Choose the correct antonym of the word ‘supplement’ from the following options: 1
a. increase b. correlate. c. reduce. d. augment
- ix. Choose a word from the reading passage synonymous to ‘untrue (Para 1)’.
- x. Choose an appropriate word from the last paragraph which means ‘derived from various sources.’ 1
- xi. Can aesthetic development be taught in the class? Justify your answer. 1
- xii. What is the role of guest lecturers in enhancing the overall development of the students? 1
- 2 Read the following passage and answer the following questions: 10**

I saw ‘*Jaws*’, the popular shark movie, the summer it came out, in 1975 and became paranoid about sharks. Though I kept swimming after *Jaws*, it was always with the vague fear that a shark’s teeth could tug on my leg at any moment. Never mind that there’d been only two shark bites since 1900 on the Connecticut coast, where I lived.

So, when I got this assignment for the *National Geographic* magazine, I decided to accept and do what I’d never wanted to do: swim with the sharks. I had to go to a place in the Bahamas known as Tiger Beach and dive with tiger sharks, the species responsible for more recorded attacks on humans than any shark except the great white. It was to be my first dive after getting certified—which meant it would be my first dive anywhere other than a swimming pool or a quarry—and without a diver’s cage. Most people who got wind of this plan thought I was either very brave or very stupid.

I just wanted to puncture an illusion. The people who know sharks intimately tend to be the least afraid of them, and no one gets closer to sharks than divers. The divers who run operations at Tiger Beach speak lovingly of the tiger sharks the way people talk about their children or their pets. In their eyes, these sharks aren’t man-eaters any more than dogs are.

The business of puncturing illusions is never just black and white. My fellow divers had hundreds of dives under their belt and on the two-hour boat ride to the site in the morning of our first dive, they kept saying things like, “Seriously, I really can’t believe this is your first dive.” All this was okay with me until I reached the bottom and immediately had to fend off the first tiger shark, I had ever laid eyes on. However, when I watched the other divers feeding them fish and steering them gently, it became easy to see the sharks in a very benign light.

I think it would be unfair not to mention that though tiger sharks are apex predators. They act as a crucial balancing force in ocean ecosystems, constraining the numbers of animals like sea turtles and limit their behaviour by preventing them from

30 overgrazing the sea grass beds. Furthermore, tiger sharks love warm water, they eat almost anything, have a huge litter and are the hardest shark species. If the planet and its oceans continue to warm, some species will be winners and others will be losers, and tiger sharks are likely to be winners.

2 **Answer the following questions:** 10

i Cite a point in evidence, from the text, to suggest that the writer's post-*Jaws* fear was not justified. 1

ii State any one trait of the writer that is evident from lines 5-10 and provide a reason for your choice. 1

iii People thought the writer was 'either brave or very stupid'. Why did some people think that he was 'very stupid'? 1

iv Why does the writer say that people who know sharks intimately tend to be least afraid of them? 1

v Rewrite the given sentence by replacing the underlined phrase with another one, from lines 10 – 20. 1

Some academicians think that reward, as a form of discipline, is a simple right or wrong issue.

vi What does the use of the phrase 'benign light' suggest in the context of the writer's viewpoint about the tiger sharks? 1

vii The antonym of 'benign' is: 1
a) Friendly b) malignant c) benignant d) benevolent

viii Select a suitable phrase from lines 15-25 to complete the following sentence appropriately. 1

I agree that the team will find this experience tough, but competing will be easier next time after they get this tournament

ix Why do you think having a large litter is one of the features that empowers tiger sharks to emerge winners if global warming persists. 1

x 'Most people who got wind of this plan...' Replace the underlined phrase with the correct option: 1

a. Judged b. thought of c. got clue of d. found out the secret

SECTION B: Writing 10

3. A) You are Anu/ Anupam of Shivaji Marg, Delhi. Write a letter to the hostel warden of Elite Boys' Hostel complaining about increased activities of ragging and bullying that damage the psychological well-being of your brother and many of the fellow students residing in the hostel. (100-120 words) 7

OR

B) You are Neeraj/Neeraja Shekhar, Principal, Vasant Public School, Pune. Your school has just started a music department. Write a letter to the Manager of Melody House, Pune, wholesale suppliers of musical instruments, placing an order for musical instruments for the school. Ask for a discount on the catalogue prices. (100 – 120 words).

4. Write an email to your friend describing about the new residential school that you joined a couple of months back. Describe the amenities, courses, how it is different from your previous school, whether you are accustomed to the new ways of learning here etc. (50 words) 3

5. **SECTION C: GRAMMAR (All Questions are compulsory)** 18

I. Fill in the blanks with the correct options from the list: 5

If you eat Chinese food abroad (a).....it is always a little difficult
(b).....reconcile the Indian version with (c).....real thing. (d).....only restaurant where I have no problem enjoying authentic Chinese in the city is 'The China Kitchen' (e) a famous mall.

- | | | | |
|-------------|---------|-----------|----------|
| (a) i. then | ii. the | iii. for | iv. than |
| (b) i. to | ii. by | iii. with | iv. from |
| (c) i. the | ii. a. | iii. by | iv. then |
| (d) i. a | ii. the | iii. some | iv. this |
| (e) i. on | ii. in | iii. for | iv. from |

II. Re-arrange the following words/phrases to form meaningful sentences: 5

- PEOPLE/ ON THE/ BECAUSE/ THINK/ HAS BEEN/ OPINION/ MATTER/ MIXED/ DIFFERENTLY.
- TO STAY/ LANGUAGE/ APPEARS/ ENGLISH/ FOR LONG/ IT/ HAS COME/ WITH US.
- OCCUR/ IN A/ MOST/ THE SECOND/ INNOVATIONS/ SPLIT OF.
- SOMETIMES/ A BUSY/ SWALLOWS MAY/ DOWN/ BE

FOUND/ CITY STREET/ HUNTING INSECTS.

- e) AN IMPOSSIBLE TASK / THE MINISTER/HE WAS UPSET/
TOLD GOPAL THAT/ HAD SET HIM/ BECAUSE THE NAWAB.

III. Find out the errors in the given sentences and edit them in the given format:

6

| Error | correction |
|-------|------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |

- a) Sohan as well as his brother have come to the school .
b) The man along with all the birds live on my street.
c) A regiment of soldiers march towards the fort everyday.
d) You must have told him that the seat was wet.
e) The farmers are ploughing their fields since morning.
f) Many a student try hard to pass the Joint Entrance Examination.

IV. In the following sentences one word has been omitted in each line. In your answer sheet write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it. One example is done for you.

2

- | | Before | Missing word | After |
|--|--------|--------------|-------|
| Amazed at the splendid architecture the building ...architecture | | <u>of</u> | the |
| a) I went to my friend's house last week 9 a.m. | | | |
| and returned after two hours. | | | |
| b) Actually, I wanted his scooter a day. | | | |

SECTION D: LITERATURE

30

6

Read the following extracts given below and answer ANY TWO of them

2x5=
10

A) And you, too. Are you such a poor creature that you must do
every dirty thing she tells you?

- i) Name the writer and the text from which the extract is taken.
- i) Who is the speaker here?
- ii) Who is referred to as 'a poor creature' here?
- iii) What is referred to as 'dirty thing' here?
- iv) What are the full names of the two sisters in the text?

B) And a solitary loon
Wept, beneath the summer moon.
Toads and teals and tiddlers, captured
By her voice, cheered on, enraptured:
"Bravo! " "Too divine! " "Encore! "

- i) What is the meaning of 'tiddlers' here? (Choose the correct option):
a) Small fish b) small birds c) ducklings d) water birds
- ii) Replace the word 'Encore' with a suitable word or phrase.
- iii) What is the meaning of the phrase 'solitary loon'?
- iv) What was the frog's first reaction on hearing the nightingale's song?
- v) What are 'teals'?

C) Half sunk a shattered visage lies, whose frown,
And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed;

- (i) Name the poet and the poem?
- (ii) What is the expression on the face of the statue?
- (iii) What is ironical about the mighty statue?
- (iv) What does the poet say about the skill of the sculptor?
- (v) Replace the word 'sneer' in the quoted lines with another similar word.

7

Answer ANY SIX of the following questions in 30-40 words each:

6x2=

12

- i) In what ways are the two boys unique in the text 'Two Gentlemen of Verona'?
- ii) What do we come to know about the past of the children in the text 'Two Gentlemen of Verona'?
- iii) 'I knew they would prefer to feel that they had safely kept their secret.' What was the secret and what touched the writer/narrator deeply with reference to the text 'Two Gentlemen of Verona'.
- iv) 'Mothers carrying their babies home through the jungle ...hushed their singing lest they might curtail the restful sleep of the venerable herd-robber' Replace the underlined word with a similar word. Why is the herd-robber venerable in 'Mrs. Packletide's Tiger'?
- v) What is ironical in the poem 'Ozymandias'?
- vi) What are the reasons for the transition of Ali from a hunter to a compassionate person in the text 'The Letter.'?
- vii) 'That's not much to boast about' - according to the frog why shouldn't the nightingale be boastful? Analyse the irony in the situation in the poem 'The Frog and the Nightingale.'

8

Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in 150 words:

8

- A) Analyse the title of the play 'The Dear Departed.'

OR

- B) What values do we learn from 'The Letter'? How can we apply them in our real lives?

End of the Question Paper



| | | |
|--------------------|--|--|
| Roll Number | | |
|--------------------|--|--|

SET C



INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT
HALF-YEARLY EXAMINATION 2023
SUBJECT: COMMUNICATIVE ENGLISH

CLASS: X

Sub.Code: 101

Time Allotted: 3 Hrs.

19.09.2023

Max.Marks: 80

General Instructions:

(i) *The question paper is divided into three sections :*

Section A: Reading 22 marks

Section B: Writing 10 marks.

Section C: Grammar 18 marks

Section D: Literature 30 marks

(ii) *All questions are compulsory.*

(iii) *You may attempt any section at a time.*

(iv) *All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.*

SECTION A (Reading)

22

I Read the following passage and answer any ten of the following questions: 10

4 I saw ‘*Jaws*’, the popular shark movie, the summer it came out, in 1975 and became paranoid about sharks. Though I kept swimming after *Jaws*, it was always with the vague fear that a shark’s teeth could tug on my leg at any moment. Never mind that there’d been only two shark bites since 1900 on the Connecticut coast, where I lived.

11 So, when I got this assignment for the *National Geographic* magazine, I decided to accept and do what I’d never wanted to do: swim with the sharks. I had to go to a place in the Bahamas known as Tiger Beach and dive with tiger sharks, the species responsible for more recorded attacks on humans than any shark except the great white. It was to be my first dive after getting certified—which meant it would be my first dive anywhere other than a swimming pool or a quarry—and without a diver’s cage. Most people who got wind of this plan thought I was either very brave or very stupid.

18 I just wanted to puncture an illusion. The people who know sharks intimately tend to be the least afraid of them, and no one gets closer to sharks than divers. The divers who run operations at Tiger Beach speak lovingly of the tiger sharks the way people talk about their children or their pets. In their eyes, these sharks aren’t man-eaters any more than dogs are.

The business of puncturing illusions is never just black and white. My fellow divers had hundreds of dives under their belt and on the two-hour boat ride to the site in the morning of our first dive, they kept saying things like, “Seriously, I

really can't believe this is your first dive." All this was okay with me until I reached the bottom and immediately had to fend off the first tiger shark, I had ever laid eyes on. However, when I watched the other divers feeding them fish and steering them gently, it became easy to see the sharks in a very benign light. I think it would be unfair not to mention that though tiger sharks are apex predators. They act as a crucial balancing force in ocean ecosystems, constraining the numbers of animals like sea turtles and limit their behaviour by preventing them from overgrazing the sea grass beds. Furthermore, tiger sharks love warm water, they eat almost anything, have a huge litter and are the hardest shark species. If the planet and its oceans continue to warm, some species will be winners and others will be losers, and tiger sharks are likely to be winners.

I Answer the following questions: 10

- i People thought the writer was 'either brave or very stupid'. Why did some people think that he was 'very stupid'? 1
- ii Cite a point in evidence, from the text, to suggest that the writer's post-*Jaws* fear was not justified. 1
- iii State any one trait of the writer that is evident from lines 5-10 and provide a reason for your choice. 1
- iv Why does the writer say that people who know sharks intimately tend to be least afraid of them? 1
- v Rewrite the given sentence by replacing the underlined phrase with another one, from lines 10 – 20.
Some academicians think that reward, as a form of discipline, is a simple right or wrong issue. 1
- vi The antonym of 'benign' is:
i) Friendly ii) malignant iii) benignant iv) benevolent 1
- vii What does the use of the phrase 'benign light' suggest in the context of the writer's viewpoint about the tiger sharks? 1
- viii Select a suitable phrase from lines 15-25 to complete the following sentence appropriately.
I agree that the team will find this experience tough, but competing will be easier next time after they get this tournament 1
- ix Why do you think having a large litter is one of the features that empowers tiger sharks to emerge winners if global warming persists. 1
- x 'Most people who got wind of this plan...' Replace the underlined phrase with the correct option: 1

- A) Judged B) thought C) got clue of D) found out the secret

2. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

In India, from an early age, we have been taught that education is limited to the boundaries of academics only; the idea of getting out into the field, for gaining practical experience, is always considered a hoax. In the 21st century, the pure academic type of education is slowly paving way for a whole new type. The paradigm shift in the whole education system is evident. People have now come to understand that education is a 360 degree activity that should focus on

students' overall development, rather than restricting him/her to the classroom. Co-curricular activities that take place outside the classroom but reinforce or supplement classroom curriculum, in some way, have become a point of focus today. These activities help in the growth of the child, in more than one way. Participating in such activities helps youngsters grow mentally, socially, and individually. Intellectual development of a student is developed in the classroom, but for the aesthetic development, such as team-building, character-building, and physical growth, students must step out into the outside world. For instance, if a student is a part of school football team, he/she will learn team-work and coordination, in a practical manner, which cannot be taught in the class. Similarly, in colleges and institutions, there is a need for practical exposure so that the students can experience the actual working of an industry. For example, taking a student to a manufacturing firm will give him/her the real insight and better learning of the industry. Catering to this change, most professional colleges including B-Schools have started providing practical exposure to students through regular guest lectures, industrial visits, conferences, seminars, cultural festivals, and so on. With industry visits, students can better identify their prospective areas of work in the overall organizational function. Moreover, they help enhance interpersonal skills and communication techniques. In addition, guest lectures are equally important for all-round development of students. It is a great way for students to gain maximum exposure, as guest speakers talk about their real-life experiences and not what is there in the textbooks. Through such events, students are made to participate and coordinate different events wherein, they get to know how exactly things are managed. Classroom teaching provides the foundation, and co-curricular or extracurricular activities provide practical exposure and opportunities to implement what students learn in the classroom. This helps in developing the overall personality of the students, inculcating various soft skills in them, which otherwise are difficult to teach. Clearly, life beyond academics creates creative and empowered professionals. Integrating diverse approaches and eclectic vision harnesses comprehensive learning.

| | | |
|----------|---|-----------|
| 2 | <u>Answer the following questions:</u> | 12 |
| i. | Co-curricular activities that take place outside the classroom do not help in | 1 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. teamwork and co-ordination. b. mental and social growth. c. intellectual development. d. character building. | |
| ii. | The shift in the education system means | 1 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. to restrict to classroom activities. b. to focus on academic development. c. to ignore 360 degree activity. d. to focus on overall development. | |
| iii. | Guest speakers talk about | 1 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. all-round development. b. their real-life experiences. c. what is in text books. d. gaining exposure. | |

- iv. **Classroom teaching provides** 1
- practical exposure.
 - opportunities to implement what is learnt in classroom.
 - chance to learn soft skills.
 - the foundation.
- v. **Life beyond academics facilitates** 1
- organizational functions.
 - creativity.
 - professional fields.
 - industrial visits.
- vi. Why are soft skills difficult to teach in the classroom? 1
- vii. Choose a word from the reading passage synonymous to 'cooperative effort (Para 3)'. 1
- viii. Choose the correct antonym of the word 'supplement' from the following options: 1
- increase
 - correlate.
 - reduce.
 - augment
- ix. Choose a word from the reading passage synonymous to 'untrue (Para 1)'. 1
- x. Choose an appropriate word from the last paragraph which means 'derived from various sources.' 1
- xi. What is the role of guest lecturers in enhancing the overall development of the students? 1
- xii. Can aesthetic development be taught in the class? Justify your answer. 1

SECTION B: Writing

10

- 3 (A) You are Ankita/ Arnav residing at Stadium Road, Nagpur. Write a letter to the Sales Manager of Krishna Electronics, Gandhi Marg, Nagpur, complaining about a computer which you recently purchased and it started malfunctioning within two weeks from the date of purchase. (100-120 words).

7

OR

(B) You have lost your original certificates of Class X and XII. You want to get their duplicates issued but you are uncertain about the procedure. Write a letter to the Chairman, CBSE, Preet Vihar, enquiring about the fee to be deposited, mode of payment, time taken by the board for issuing duplicate certificates, some other formalities involved in the process. You are Tarun/Taruna, 7/9 Kunj Apartments, Shimla. (100-120 words)

4. Write an email to the dean, Faculty of Science, Cornell University, NY, enquiring about the courses offered in graduation, admission process, requirements, fees structure, scholarships for expatriate students, SAT score etc. (50 words)

3

5. **SECTION C: GRAMMAR (All Questions are Compulsory)**

18

I. Edit the following sentences using the format given below:

6

| Error | Correction |
|-------|------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |

- i. Sohan as well as his brother have come to the school .
- ii. When I visited her, she has been bed-ridden for six months.
- iii. I am waiting for his reply since last week.
- iv. The farmers was ploughing their fields since morning.
- v. A herd of cattle are grazing on the field.
- vi. The famous poet and novelist of the twentieth century are dead.

II. Fill in the blanks following the instructions in the brackets:

5

- i. Ia letter when my friend came to my house. (Choose one of the following options)
(a) had been writing (b) have been writing (c) was writing (d) wrote
- ii. It washistoric day for the organization whenhonour was bestowed upon its employees. (Fill in the blanks with appropriate determiners)
- iii. The good news is thatvolunteers dropped out this month than the last two. (Choose the correct determiner from the following)
i. Fewer (b) less (c) few (d) a little
- iv. Prema cannot accompany them as shewind up her work. (Choose the correct modal from the following)
(a) Must (b) should (c) has to (d) might
- v. The Komodo dragon follow its prey till it will eventually die due to its venomous bite. Choose the correct modal from the following
(a) will (b) could (c) might (d) may

III. Rearrange the words/ phrases to form a meaningful sentence:

5

1. HEALTHY PERSON/ GERMS/ A/ CARRY/ MAY/ OF/ IN/ BODY/ TYPHOID/ HIS/ CHOLERA/ DYSENTRY/ ETC.
2. WEIGH UP/ ELEPHANT/ AN/ TO/ CAN/ 5 TONS
3. WHY/ TO SEE/ HER/ COULD/ NOT/ YOU/ GO/ PERSONALLY/?

4. SOMETIMES/ A BUSY/ SWALLOWS MAY/ DOWN/ BE FOUND/
CITY STREET/ HUNTING INSECTS.

5. OCCUR/ IN A/ MOST/ THE SECOND/ INNOVATIONS/ SPLIT OF

IV. In the following sentences one word has been omitted in each line. In your answer sheet write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it. One example is done.

2

| | Before | Missing word | After |
|--|--------------|--------------|-------|
| Amazed at the splendid architecture the building | architecture | <u>of</u> | the |

a) I was shocked he politely refused to oblige me.

b) I did not speak even a single word

on subject and hastened to return home.

SECTION D : Literature

30

6 Read the following extracts given below and answer ANY TWO of them

2x5=10

A. Half sunk a shattered visage lies, whose frown,
And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed;

- (i) Name the poet and the poem?
- (ii) What is the expression on the face of the statue?
- (iii) What is ironical about the mighty statue?
- (iv) What does the poet say about the skill of the sculptor?
- (v) Replace the word 'sneer' in the quoted lines with another similar word.

B. And a solitary loon
Wept, beneath the summer moon.
Toads and teals and tiddlers, captured
By her voice, cheered on, enraptured:
"Bravo! " "Too divine! " "Encore! "

- (i) What is the meaning of the phrase 'solitary loon'?
- (ii) What is the meaning of 'tiddlers' here? (Choose the correct option):
a. Small fish b) small birds c) ducklings d) water birds
- (iii) Replace the word 'Encore' with a suitable word or phrase.
- (iv) What was the frog's first reaction on hearing the nightingale's song?
- (v) What are 'teals'?

C. And you, too. Are you such a poor creature that you must do
every dirty thing she tells you?

- (i) Name the writer and the text from which the extract is taken.
- (ii) Who is the speaker here?
- (iii) Who is referred to as 'a poor creature' here?
- (iv) What is referred to as 'dirty thing' here?
- (v) What are the full names of the two sisters in the text?

7 **Answer ANY SIX of the following questions in 30-40 words each:**

6x2=12

- i) What decision does Mrs. Packletide take related to hunting at the end of the text? What reasons does she give for it?
- ii) What information did the nurse give about the past of the children in the text 'Two Gentlemen of Verona'?
- iii) 'I knew they would prefer to feel that they had safely kept their secret.' What was the secret and what touched the writer/narrator deeply with reference to the text 'Two Gentlemen of Verona'.
- iv) 'Mothers carrying their babies home through the jungle ...hushed their singing lest they might curtail the restful sleep of the venerable herd-robber' Replace the underlined word with a similar word. Why is the herd-robber venerable in 'Mrs. Packletide's Tiger'?
- v) What is ironical in the poem 'Ozymandias'?
- vi) 'Beholding the wooden arch of this building, the old man was filled with the joy that the pilgrim feels when he first sees the goal of his journey...' Explain the analogy here from the text 'The Letter.'
- vii) 'That's not much to boast about' - according to the frog why shouldn't the nightingale be boastful? Analyse the irony in the situation in the poem 'The Frog and the Nightingale.'

8 **Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in 150 words:**

8

(A) Do you agree with the three decisions of Abel Merryweather at the end of the play, 'The Dear Departed.' Justify with appropriate reasons.

OR

(B) 'Tortured by doubt and remorse, he sat down in the glow of the charcoal sign to wait' - Who is tortured by doubt and remorse in the given extract from 'The Letter'? What impression do you form of this person at the end of the story.

End of the Question Paper

Mini Logo