

Question Paper

Class-XII (Regular)

Subject-English (Session : 2020-21)

Time Allowed : 3 hrs

Maximum Marks :85

Marks allotted to each question are indicated against it

Special Instructions:

- (i) Candidates are required to give answers in their own words as far as practicable.
- (ii) All the questions are compulsory. Internal choice is given in some questions.
- (iii) While answering your questions, you must indicate on your answer-book the same question number as appears in your question paper.
- (iv) Do not leave blank page/pages in your answer book.
- (v) Word limit wherever prescribed, must be observed.
- (vi) 30% optional question has been added in the session 2020-2021 as per guidelines due to Covid-19 and 30% syllabus has been reduced due to Covid-19

Section-A (Reading)

1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follows:

- (1) Today's woman is a highly self directed person, alive to the sense of her dignity and the importance of her function in

the private domestic domain and the public domain of the world of work. Women are rational in approach, careful in handling situations and want to do things as best as possible. The fourth world conference of women held in Beijing in September, 1995 had emphasised that no enduring solution of society's most threatening social, economic and political problems could be found without the participation and empowerment of the women. The 1995 world summit for social development had also emphasised the pivotal role of women in eradicating poverty and mending the social fabric.

- (2) The constitution of India had conferred on women equal rights and opportunities-political, social educational and of employment with men. Because of oppressive traditions, superstitions, exploitation and corruption a majority of women are not allowed to enjoy the rights and opportunities bestowed on them: One of the major reasons for this state of affairs is the lack of literacy and awareness among women. Education is the main instrument through which we can narrow down the prevailing inequality and accelerate and process of economic and political change in the status of women.
- (3) The role of women in a society is very important. Women's education is the key to a better life in the future. A recent World Bank study says that educating girls is not a charity. It is good economics and if developing nations are to eradicate poverty, they must educate the girls. The report says that the economic and social

returns on investments in education of the girls considerably affect the Human Development Index of their nation. Society would progress only if the status of women is respected and the presence of an educated women in the family would ensure education of the family itself. Educations and empowerment of women are closely related.

- (4) Women's education has not received due care and attention from the planners and policy makers. The National commission for women has rightly pointed out that even after 69 years of Independence, women continue to be treated as the single largest group of backward citizens of India. The role of women in overall development has not been fully understood nor has it been given its full weight in the struggle to eliminate poverty, hunger, injustice and inequality at the national level. Even when we are already in the 21st century, our society still discriminates against women in matters of their rights and privileges and prevents them from participating in the process of national and social progress. Various committees and commissions have been constituted before and after Independence to evaluate the progress in women's education and to suggest ways and means to enhance the status of women. The female literacy rate has gone up in the 20th century from 0.6% in 1901 to 39.29% in 1991, but India still possesses the largest number of illiterate women in the world. The female literacy index for the year 1991 shows that there are eight states which fall below the national average. The most populous states of the country - UP,

MP, Bihar and Rajasthan fall in the category of most backward states as far as female literacy is concerned.

- (5) The prevailing cultural norms of gender behaviour and the perceived domestic and reproductive role of women tend to affect the education of the girls. A negative attitude towards sending girls to school, restriction on their mobility, early marriage, poverty and illiteracy of parents affect the girl's participation in education. Women's political empowerment got a big boost with the Panchayati Raj Act of 1993 which gave them 30% reservation in village Panchayats, Block samities and Zila Parishads throughout the country. The National commission for women was also set up in 1992 to act as a lobby for women's issues.
- (6) The educational system is the only instrument which can counter act the deep foundations of inequality of sexes that are built in the minds of people. Through the socialization process. Education is the most important instrument of human resource development. Educational system should be used to revolutionise the traditional attitudes and inculcate new values of equality.
- (A) On the basis of your understanding of the passage complete the statements given below with the help of options that follow:
- (a) What has been said about the modern woman?
- (i) She is a person of self direction.
 - (ii) She has a pride in her dignity.
 - (iii) She is alive to her importance in all spheres of life.
 - (iv) All the above are true.

- (b) Women have been thought as
- irritational person
 - Careless in handling situations
 - persons who believe in doing the work in the best possible way.
 - the persons happy in their domestic domain.
- (c) The major reason of the backwardness of women is.....
- their systemic working
 - their rashness in doing everything
 - the lack of education
 - their physical weakness.
- (d) What was given to women by the Panchayati Raj Act?
- It gave them 30% reservation in local bodies.
 - It helped in the setting up of the National commission for women.
 - It gave a big boost to women empowerment.
 - All of there are true. $4 \times 1 = 4$
- (B) Answer the questions briefly: $3 \times 1 = 3$
- Mention any two attributes of a modern woman ?
 - Why is women's participation and empowerment considered necessary?
 - Which factors adversely affect the education of girls?

(C) Pick out from the passage words which mean the same as each of the following:

(i) Cruel and unfair (Para 2)

(ii) Remove (Para 3)

(iii) Full of people (Para 4)

3×1=3

2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follows:

- (1) Good health is the soundness of body, mind and soul. It is that condition in which the body and mind duly discharge their functions. Good health helps everyone to be creative and to work for the welfare of the society. He has to be, therefore, free from disease, or if he suffers from a diseases, he needs treatment not only for that particular disease, but also for the whole body, mind and soul. In other words, a doctor has to have a sound approach to the patient's complete health.
- (2) In these days of specialisation, doctors cure a patient only for his immediate disease, treating it in isolation, such an approach goes against the old aphorism that 'Prevention is better than cure'. Dr. Hedge provides an insight into the overall causes of simple and serious diseases and describe the method of preventing them without having to take medicine but exercising self control on food consumption, smoking and intake of alcoholic drinks. He also advocates regular yoga exercise and meditation to keep fit, but at the same time warns against over-indulgence.

- (3) Dr. Hedge stresses the importance of laughter because laughter induces secretion of good catecholamines which are hormones produced by adrenal glands, they can be both beneficial and harmful. They are harmful when a person is angry, but beneficial if he laughs.
- (4) In these days of hectic life full of stress, strain and emotions, everyone needs to lead a relaxed life. The best form of relaxation, according to Hedge, is sound sleep. "Restful sleep at night will recharge our batteries for the following day's fruitful endeavour," he says. There is no use of lying on the bed and tossing without sleep. Under those circumstances, it is better to read or engage oneself in some light mental activity which is useful. But never seek refuge in alcoholic drinks or pills for inducing sleep as these are not refreshing for an individual.
- (5) Society must be sympathetic to drug addicts, understand their problems and give help to them by motivating and keeping them busy. Alcoholics Anonymous may help addicts pick their habit of drug abuse and excess drinking. Hedge claims that cigarette smoking causes more premature deaths than all other 'Killers' put together. Ninety percent of cancer victims are heavy smokers. The author stresses on the right type of diet and daily exercise for healthy living.
- (i) On the basis of your reading of the passage, make notes on it, using recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Give an appropriate title to it.
- 4×1=4

- (ii) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words.

3×1=3

Section-B (Writing)

3. You are Managing Director of Kullu Shawls Limited, Kullu. You need a competent lady private secretary for your office. Write a suitable advertisement in not more than 50 words to be published in the classified columns of a newspaper.

Or

You are Manoj/Asha of Main Bazar, Solan. You want to sell the first floor of your newly constructed house. Draft an advertisement in not more than 50 words for publication in 'The Indian Express' under their classified column.

Or

You want to sell your old two wheeler. Draft a suitable advertisement in not more than 50 words to be inserted in a reputed daily giving all necessary details. You are Sumit/Sudha living at 15 Krishna Nagar, Hamirpur.

5×1=5

4. The Anti-Tobacco Day was celebrated in your school in which various competitions were organised. Prepare a report on the event in about 125 words to be published in your school magazine. You are Vansh/Pooja.

Or

Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary was celebrated by your school this year on 2nd October. As the Captain of Eco club of your school, write a report on the celebration in 100-125 words.

$$1 \times 8 = 8$$

5. You are Rahul Sharma. Write an application for the job of cashier to Messers Kaypee Brothers, New Delhi.

Or

You are Manav/Monika of 39 Sham Nagar Shimla. Write a letter to the Pradhan of your Gram Panchayat about the monkeys which have created panic among the residents of your locality. $1 \times 8 = 8$

6. Write an article in 150-200 words on 'The Environmental Degradation' and suggest measures to improve it.

Or

Write an article in 150-200 words on the topic 'Hazards of Television watching for kids' to be published in your school magazine.

$$1 \times 8 = 8$$

Section-C (Literature)

7. Read the extract and answer the questions that follows:

Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool

Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.

The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band

Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.

- (a) Name the poem and the poet.
- (b) What are Aunt Jennifer's fingers doing?
- (c) What sits heavy on Aunt Jennifer's hand?
- (d) What does she find hard?

Or

I looked again at her wane, pale

as a late winter's moon and felt that old
familiar ache, my childhood's fear
but all I said was, see you soon, Amma,
all I did was smile and smile and smile.....

- (a) Name the poem and the poet.
- (b) What was the old familiar ache?
- (c) What were her parting words?
- (d) What does the poet's smile signify? $4 \times 1 = 4$

8. Answer the questions in about 30 words each (any three):

- (i) List the things of beauty mentioned in the poem-A Thing of Beauty.
- (ii) What does the poet mean when he says, "Now we will count to twelve and we will all keep still."?
- (iii) How do denizens and chivalric add to our understanding of the tiger's attitude?
- (iv) What pleasure does a beautiful thing give us.
 - (a) joy for ever
 - (b) forget the sorrows
 - (c) forget the sufferings
 - (d) All of the above $3 \times 2 = 6$

9. Answer the following questions in about 30 words each: (Any four)

- (i) How did the episode change the plight of the peasants?
- (ii) List the places that Gandhi visited between his first meeting with Shukla and his arrival at Champaran ?

- (iii) Why did the peddler sign himself as captain von stable?
- (iv) Why as Douglas determined to get over his fear of water?
- (v) What makes the city of Firozaad famous?
- (vi) Who was Saheb? What was his full name?
- (vii) What was Franz expected to be prepared with for school that day?
- (viii) What had been put up on the bulletin board? $4 \times 2 = 8$

10. Answer the following questions in 125-150 words.

The people in the story, 'The Last Lesson', suddenly realise how precious their language is to them. What shows you this? Why does this happen?

Or

The two accounts that are given in the chapter memories of childhood are based in two distant cultures. What is the commonality of theme found in both of them? $1 \times 8 = 8$

11. Answer the following questions in about 125 words each:

What is the author's indirect comment on subjecting innocent animals to the wilfulness of human beings?

Or

'Take care of small things and the big things will take care of themselves'. What is the relevance of this statement in the context of the Antarctic environment?

Or

What is it that draws Derry towards Mr. Lamb inspite of himself?

$1 \times 5 = 5$

12. Answer the following questions in about 30 words each (Any four)
- (i) How did Zitkala-Sa feel after her long hair had been shingled?
 - (ii) Who is Mr. Lamb? How does Derry get into his garden?
 - (iii) Who is the Tiger king? Why does he get that name?
 - (iv) What does the third level refer to?
 - (v) What did royal infant, grow up to be?
 - (vi) What are the indications for the future of mankind?
 - (vii) How were the Indian girls dressed?
 - (viii) Do you think the third level was a medium of escape for Charley? why?
- 4×2=8