ISC Syllabus

Revised

Syllabus

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COMPULSORY SUBJECT
ENGLISH (801)

CLASS XII

The subject English has ***two*** components, ***English Language*** and ***Literature in English.*** Each of these components will consist of a ***Theory Paper*** of 80 Marks and ***Project Work*** of 20 Marks.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

*There will be **two** papers in English Language:*

Paper I: *Theory (3 hours): 80 Marks*

Paper II: *Project Work: 20 Marks*

PAPER I: THEORY - 80 Marks

Question One:

A composition on one of a number of subjects.

Question Two:

(a) Directed writing (article writing, book review, film review, review of cultural programme, speech writing, report writing, personal profile, and statement of purpose) based on suggested points.

(b) Proposal Writing based on a given situation. The proposal should include (i) An Introduction (ii) Objectives (iii) List of measures to be taken. A concluding statement is desirable.

Question Three:

Short-answer questions to test grammar, structure and usage.

Question Four:

Comprehension.

NOTE: *It is recommended that in Paper 1, about 45 minutes should be spent on Question one, 55 minutes on Question two, 30 minutes on Question three and 50 minutes on Question four.*

Question One

Candidates will be required to select ***one*** composition topic from a choice of ***six.*** The choice will normally include narrative, descriptive, reflective, argumentative, discursive topics and short story.

The required length of the composition is **400 – 450** words.

The main criteria by which the compositions will be marked are as follows:

(a) The quality of the language employed, the range and appropriateness of vocabulary and sentence structure, syntax, the correctness of grammatical constructions, punctuation and spelling.

(b) The degree to which candidates have been successful in organising the content of the composition as a whole and in individual paragraphs.

Question Two

There are ***two*** parts in this question and ***both*** parts are compulsory.

(a) The piece of directed writing will be based on the information and ideas provided. The required length will be about 300 words. The range of subjects may include article writing, book review, film review, review of cultural programme, speech writing, report writing, personal profile and statement of purpose.

Skills such as selecting, amplifying, describing, presenting reasoned arguments, re-arranging and re-stating may be involved. The candidates' ability in the above skills, including format, will be taken into account as well as their ability to handle language appropriately in the context of the given situation.

(b) Candidates will be required to write a proposal based on a given situation. The proposal should include an introduction, objectives and a list of measures to be taken. A concluding statement is desirable. The candidates will also be marked on linguistic ability.

Question Three

All the items in this question are compulsory and their number and type / pattern may vary from year to year. They will consist of short-answer, open completion items or any other type, which will test the candidates' knowledge of the essentials of functional English grammar and structure. Only two or three types will be included in any one examination.

Question Four

A passage of about 500 words will be provided.

Questions based on the passage will be as follows:

- Questions that test the candidates' knowledge of vocabulary and ability to understand the content and infer information and meanings from the text.
- A question that elicits the main ideas of all or part of the passage.

  In this part of the question, the candidate will be required to frame a summary (keeping to a word limit), in a coherent manner. Marks will be awarded for expression and the candidate's ability to summarise clearly in complete sentences. Marks will be deducted for linguistic errors.

It is recommended that this part be done in the grid form.

Use of abbreviations will not be accepted.

All questions are compulsory.

PAPER II: PROJECT WORK - 20 Marks

In addition to the syllabus prescribed above for Class XII, candidates are also required to be assessed in Project Work.

PROJECT WORK FOR CLASS XII

Project Work in Class XII consists of assessment of candidates in ***three*** projects, ***one each*** on **Listening**, **Speaking** and **Writing skills**.

Listening and Speaking skills are to be **assessed internally**, by the School, during English course work in Class XII.

Writing Skills are to be **assessed externally** by the Visiting Examiner, appointed locally and approved by the Council.

Details of assignments for Project Work are given below:

Listening Skills (to be internally assessed by the subject teacher)

An unseen passage of about 500 words may be read aloud, twice, the first time at normal reading speed (about 110 words a minute) and the next time at a slower speed. The passage may be taken from any novel, newspaper, magazine article, journal and so on but **not from an ICSE or ISC textbook**. Students may make brief notes during the readings followed by answering objective type questions based on the passage, on the paper provided.

Speaking Skills (to be internally assessed by the subject teacher)

Students are to be assessed through an individual presentation of about three minutes followed by a discussion with the subject teacher, for another two or three minutes.

Some of the themes which may be addressed are:

1. Narrating an experience
2. Giving directions or instructions on how to make or operate something
3. Providing a description
4. Giving a report
5. Expressing an opinion or a theme-based conversation

Writing Skills (to be externally assessed by the Visiting Examiner)

A piece of written work of about 500 words must be produced.

List of suggested assignments for Project Work:

1. The text of a brochure
2. A product description
3. A process description (e.g. instruction to operate a device, a recipe, a scientific experiment)
4. Description of a sporting event
5. An autobiographical experience
6. Review of a television serial

EVALUATION

Marks (out of a total of 20) should be distributed as given below:

1.	Internal Evaluation by Teacher* • Listening Skills (Aural) • Speaking Skills (Oral)	 5 Marks 5 Marks
2.	Evaluation by Visiting Examiner of Writing Skills**	10 Marks
	TOTAL	**20 Marks**

*** Internal Evaluation by the Teacher (10 Marks):**

Assessment Criteria	Description	Marks
Listening Skills (Aural)	Response to questions based on listening comprehension	5
Speaking Skills (Oral)	- Content - Fluency - Vocabulary - Sentence structure - Confidence	1 1 1 1 1
TOTAL		**10**

****Criteria for Evaluation by the Visiting Examiner (10 Marks):**

Assessment Criteria		Description	Marks
1.	Presentation	Overall formatting (headings, sub-headings, paragraphing) within a word limit of 500 words and a separate title page.	2
2.	Originality	No plagiarism	2
3.	Use of appropriate language	Use of suitable terminology, vocabulary and illustrations for the specific task chosen.	2
4.	Structure	Must read as a unified whole.	2
5.	Style	Lucid style, which communicates the message effectively	2
TOTAL			**10**

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH (PRESCRIBED TEXTS)

*There will be **two** papers in Literature in English:*

***Paper I:** Theory (3 hours): 80 Marks*

***Paper II**: Project Work: 20 Marks*

PAPER I: THEORY – 80 Marks

Syllabus prescribed for
ISC (Class XII) Examination for
Literature in English (English Paper – 2)

Syllabus to be covered in Class XII

I. ***Drama: The Tempest: William Shakespeare:*** **Acts 3, 4 & 5**

II. ***Echoes: A Collection of ISC Short Stories*** **(**Evergreen Publications (India) Ltd, New Delhi).

1. *Fritz – Satyajit Ray*
2. *Quality – John Galsworthy*
3. *The Story of an Hour – Kate Chopin*
4. *The Singing Lesson – Katherine Mansfield*
5. *B. Wordsworth – V.S. Naipaul*

III. ***Reverie: A Collection of ISC Poems*** (Evergreen Publications (India) Ltd, New Delhi)

1. *The Darkling Thrush – Thomas Hardy*
2. *Birches – Robert Frost*
3. *The Dolphins – Carol Ann Duffy*
4. *John Brown – Bob Dylan*
5. *Dover Beach – Matthew Arnold*

NOTE: The ISC (Class XII) Examination paper will be set ONLY on the portion of the syllabus that is prescribed for Class XII.

PAPER II: PROJECT WORK - 20 Marks

In addition to the syllabus prescribed above for Class XII, candidates are also required to be assessed in Project Work. Project Work consists of assessment of **Writing Skills** in Class XII. The objective is to produce original, creative and insightful perspectives on the drama/short stories/poems.

PROJECT WORK FOR CLASS XII

Project Work in Class XII consists of assessment of **Writing Skills** which are **to be assessed internally by the subject teacher and externally by the Visiting Examiner** appointed locally and approved by the Council.

Candidates will be required to undertake ***one written assignment*** **of 1000-1500 words,** which should be structured as given below:

A. The written assignment must be given a title in the form of a question which should allow the candidate to explore the drama or the chosen short stories/poems in depth.

B. The written assignment must follow the structure given below:

- Introduction:
  - Explanation of the question that has been framed
  - Reason for choosing the text
  - Brief explanation of how the candidate intends to interpret the chosen text and literary materials used in the process
- Main Body – organised and well-structured treatment of the question using appropriate sub-headings.

- Conclusion – comprehensive summary of the points made in the main body.

Note: The text/texts analysed in the Class XI Project Work must not be repeated in Class XII.

EVALUATION

Marks (out of a total of 20) should be distributed as given below:

1.	Internal Evaluation by Teacher*	10 marks
2.	Evaluation by Visiting Examiner**	10 marks
TOTAL		**20 marks**

*** Internal Evaluation by the Teacher (10 Marks):**

Assessment Criteria		**Candidates should be able to:**	**Marks**
1.	Process	Identify the topic. Plan a detailed written assignment. Produce a written outline.	3
2.	Understanding, Application of Knowledge and Analysis	Use a range of literary aspects such as plot, setting, characters, action, style and ideas in order to present an organized and well-structured complete assignment.	4
3.	Presentation	Prepare the document (overall format: headings, sub-headings, paragraphing) writing within a word limit of 1000-1500 words and provide a separate title page.	3
TOTAL			**10**

****Criteria for Evaluation by the Visiting Examiner (10 Marks)**

Assessment Criteria		**Candidates should be able to:**	**Marks**
1.	Presentation	Prepare the document (overall format: headings, sub-headings, paragraphing) writing within a word limit of 1000-1500 words and provide a separate title page.	4
2.	Understanding, Application of Knowledge and Analysis	Use a range of literary aspects such as plot, setting, characters, action, style and ideas in order to present an organized and well-structured complete assignment.	6
TOTAL			**10**

List of suggested assignments for Project Work:

1. Analysis of a theme from any short story/poem in the prescribed texts.
2. Analysis of a character from the drama or any short story/poem in the prescribed texts.
3. Background – historical, cultural, literary context and relevance of the writer/poet chosen.
4. Summary / paraphrase of the chosen text.
5. Appreciation of literary qualities of the chosen text.
6. Identifying with a character in the chosen text and presenting his/her personal perspective.
7. Imagining an alternate outcome or ending or extension of the chosen text and its impact on the plot/setting/characters/mood and tone.
8. A script for dramatization, based on the short story/poem chosen.
9. Writing a short story based on a poem.
10. Comparing and contrasting two characters/themes from different short stories/poems of the prescribed texts.

Note: No Question Paper for Project Work will be set by CISCE.