ASSAM BOARD QUESTION PAPER

2023

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33T ENGL

2023

ENGLISH

Full Marks : 100

Pass Marks : 30

Time : Three hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions.

Q. No. 1 Section-A (Reading Skill)	10
Q. Nos. 2, 3 & 4 Section-B (Advanced Writing Skills)	25
Q. Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9 Section-C (Grammar)	20
Q. Nos. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 & 16 Section-D (Textbooks)	45
	Total = 100

Contd.

SECTION–A

(Reading Skill : 10 Marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully :

Air pollution is an issue which concerns us all alike. One can willingly choose or reject a food, a drink or a life comfort, but unfortunately there is little choice for the air we breathe. All, what is there in the air is inhaled by one and all living in those surroundings.

Air pollutant is defined as a substance which is present while normally it is not there or present in an amount exceeding the normal concentrations. It could either be gaseous or a particulate matter. The important and harmful polluting gases are carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, ozone and oxides of sulphur and nitrogen. The common particulate pollutants are the dusts of various inorganic or organic origins. Although we often talk of the outdoor air pollution caused by industrial and vehicular exhausts, the indoor pollution may prove to be as or a more important cause of health problems.

Recognition of air pollution is relatively recent. It is not uncommon to experience a feeling of 'suffocation' in a closed environment. It is often ascribed to the lack of oxygen. Fortunately, however, the composition of air is remarkably constant all over the world. There is about 79 per cent nitrogen and 21 per cent oxygen in the air; the other gases forming a very small fraction. It is true that carbon dioxide exhaled out of lungs may accumulate in a closed and overcrowded place. But such an increase is usually small and temporary unless the room is really airtight. Exposure to poisonous gases such as carbon monoxide may occur in a closed room, heated by burning coal inside. This may also prove to be fatal.

What is more common in a poorly ventilated home is a vague constellation of symptoms described as the sick-building syndrome. It is characterized by a general feeling of malaise, headache, dizziness and irritation of mucous membranes. It may also be accompanied by nausea, itching, aches, pains and depression. Sick building syndrome is getting commoner in big cities with the small houses, which are generally over-furnished. Some of the important pollutants whose indoor concentrations exceed those of the outdoors include gases such as carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, oxides of nitrogen and organic substances like spores, formaldehydes, hydrocarbon aerosols and allergens. The sources are attributed to a variety of construction materials, insulations, furnishings, adhesives, cosmetics, house dusts, fungi and other indoor products.

Smoking of tobacco in the closed environment is an important source of indoor pollution. It may not be high quantitatively, but significantly hazardous for health. It is because of the fact that there are over 3,000 chemical constituents in tobacco smoke, which have been identified. These are harmful for human health.

Obviously, the spectrum of pollution is very wide and our options are limited. Indoor pollution may be handled relatively easily by an individual. Moreover, the good work must start from one's own house.

On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions :

(a) What is an air pollutant ? 1

(b) In what forms are the air pollutants present ? 2

(c) Why do we feel suffocated in a closed environment ? 1

(d) What is sick building syndrome ? Mention some of its major symptoms. 1+1=2

(e) How is smoking of tobacco an important source of indoor air pollution ? 2

(f) Find a word in the passage which means "the state or process of dying from being deprived of air or unable to breathe". 1

(g) Give an antonym of "reject". 1

SECTION–B

(Advanced Writing Skill : 25 Marks)

2. You are Anwesha / Anirban, Director of "Scholars' Academy", an institute that provides coaching to students for appearing in various competitive examinations. Write an advertisement for publication in a newspaper. *(Word Limit : **50** words)* 5

OR

Design a poster in not more than **50** words to create awareness about the need of energy conservation. 5

3. You attended a Book Fair in your town organized by a local NGO in which a number of reputed publication houses of the country participated. Write a detailed account of the event in **100–125** words to be published in a newspaper. 10

OR

You are Jahnavi / Javed. Your school has organized a Street Play on the occasion of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on June 26. Prepare a report on that event in **100–125** words to be published in your school magazine. 10

4. Write a letter to the Manager of a bank reporting the loss of your pass-book and requesting him to issue a duplicate one. 10

OR

You are President of the English Literary Forum of your college. Write a formal invitation inviting Dr. D. Baruah, a noted scholar to speak on the occasion of the "World Poetry Day" to be held on March 21. 10

OR

Draft an application for the post of a Sports Teacher in Udayan Girls' High School, Dibrugarh in response to their advertisement that appeared in the Assam Tribune dated 10th February, 2023. Prepare a biodata to be enclosed. You are Sunil / Sunita. 10

SECTION–C

(Grammar : 20 Marks)

5. Change the form of the narration of ***any two*** of the following sentences : 2×2=4

(a) The gentleman said to the salesman, "What is the price of this Dictionary ?" The salesman said to him, "It is a bit expensive. But I can give it to you at a 10 per cent discount".

(b) I asked the old lady where Professor Sarmah lived. The lady replied regretfully that she didn't know.

(c) The girl said to the teacher, "Madam, I am weak in English and seek your advice." The teacher said, "Read the text thoroughly and try to express your ideas in simple correct English."

(d) "Let's buy some milk and prepare milkshake for us", said Aruna. "The milkshake we're drinking now is utterly tasteless."

6. Change the voice of ***any three*** of the following sentences : 1×3=3

(a) He was instructed by his coach to play that shot.

(b) Please give me some more time.

(c) Is the gardener watering the plants ?

(d) Rome was not built in a day.

(e) The girl is reading a novel.

(f) I saw a road accident yesterday.

7. Rewrite ***any five*** of the following sentences using the verbs given in brackets in their correct tense forms : 1×5=5

(a) This family (live) in this place since 1970.

(b) She (go) home when we met her.

(c) We reached the stadium after the match (start).

(d) Ice (float) on water.

(e) If I (be) you, I would not do that.

(f) He suddenly realized that he (leave) the bag in the bus.

(g) We already (have) breakfast.

8. Rewrite ***any four*** of the following sentences filling in the blanks with appropriate prepositions : 1×4=4

(a) They will come here _____ a month.

(b) I am sorry _____ what I have done.

(c) She usually falls _____ her bicycle.

(d) He is taller than you _____ three inches.

(e) I am not satisfied _____ my performance.

(f) The police ran _____ the thief.

9. Rewrite ***any four*** of the following sentences as directed : 1×4=4

(a) This fact is too evident to require any proof.
(Use 'so...that' instead of 'too...to')

(b) I shall remember your help forever.
(Make it negative without changing the meaning)

(c) Having completed her project here she returned to her native country. *(Change it into a complex sentence)*

(d) She is the tallest girl in the classroom.
(Change it into comparative degree)

(e) No one can do this. *(Make it interrogative)*

(f) There is a slight difference between the two shades.
(Rewrite the sentence by using the adjective form of 'difference')

(g) As he was ill, he could not appear in the examination.
(Change it into a simple sentence)

SECTION–D

(Textbooks : 45 Marks)

10. Read the following extracts and the questions that follow :

(a) "But soon
put that thought away and looked out at
Young
Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling
Out of their homes"

Questions :

(i) Who looked out at the young trees ? 1

(ii) Which thought did the speaker put away ? 1

(iii) What do young sprinting tree signify ? 1

(iv) What did the speaker see the children doing ? 1

OR

(b) "It would be an exotic moment
without rush, without engines,
we would all be together
in a sudden strangeness."

Questions :

(i) What does 'it' refer to ? 1

(ii) To whom is the poet speaking ? 1

(iii) What would be the moment like ? 2

11. Answer ***any three*** of the following questions in **30–40** words : 2×3=6

(i) Why was the roadside stand built ?

(ii) How did the travellers on the highways react to the roadside stand ?

(iii) What does Pablo Neruda wish to achieve by keeping quiet ?

(iv) What kind of images does the poet use to signify her mother's ageing decay in the poem 'My Mother at Sixty-Six' ?

(v) What, according to Keats, makes human beings love life in spite of troubles and sufferings ?

12. Answer ***any five*** of the following questions : 1×5=5

(a) What creatures did the writer notice on the Peacock Island ?

(b) What are epiphytes ?

(c) What did Gandhi do to improve the health condition in the Champaran villages ?

(d) Which book by Louis Fischer has been reviewed as one of the best books ever written on Gandhi by Times Educational Supplement ?

(e) Whom did Saheb observe standing at the fenced gate of the neighbouring club ?

(f) Who is the writer of the story "The Last Lesson" ?

(g) Which is the only occasion that Sophie gets to see Casey in person ?

(h) Name the sports for which Sophie's father had a strong passion.

13. Answer ***any five*** in **30–40** words : 2×5=10

(a) Why did Sophie share her feelings with her brother Geoff and not with her father ?

(b) Why, according to the writer, the advice she gave to Saheb seems hollow ?

(c) What explanation does the author offer for the children not wearing footwear ?

(d) What does Rowntree talk often in 'Memoirs of a Chota Sahib' ?

(e) How was a solution to the problems of indigo sharecroppers of Champaran found ?

(f) Why did M. Hamel write "Viva La France" before dismissing his class ?

(g) What changes came over Frantz after he heard M. Hamel's announcement ?

14. Answer ***any one*** of the following questions in **80–100** words : 5×1=5

(a) "Civil disobedience had triumphed, the first time in modern India"— Show, referring to the prose-piece 'Indigo', how this had happened ?

(b) Describe the author's experience with bats in the Rajapara forest bungalow as depicted in 'Memoirs of a Chota Sahib'.

15. Answer ***any one*** of the following questions in **125–150** words : 7×1=7

(a) What are the different ways in which Mr. Lamb tries to change Derry's attitude to life ?

(b) Describe the ironical ending of the story, "The Tiger King".

(c) There are moments in life when we have to make hard choices between our roles as private individuals and as citizens with a sense of national loyalty. Discuss with reference to the story, "The Enemy".

16. Answer ***any four*** of the following questions in **30–40** words : 2×4=8

(a) Why does the Tiger King get his name ?

(b) Why did the servants leave Dr. Sadao's house ?

(c) Which trait of Mr. Lamb attracted Derry towards him ?

(d) Why did it take Bama to reach home in 30 minutes instead of 10 minutes ?

(e) What is the significance of *Uruka* ?

(f) How is the *Meji* made ?

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