

INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR
FIRST TERM EXAMINATION 2013-14
ENGLISH (Core)

Class: XI
Date: 25-09-2013

Marks: 80
Time: 3 hrs

Instructions:

- *This paper consists of three sections: Section A, B and C. All the sections are compulsory.*
- *Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.*
- *Read these instructions carefully and follow them faithfully.*
- *Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*

SECTION A - READING (20 Marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: (12)

1. Life is an institution. We have a principal, God, who looks over the entire working of our life. He allots teachers, namely our parents, to guide us through this path. We learn lessons and it is up to us whether we want to pass or fail. Every morning we wake up and give a tick mark to the attendance file of our lives. The only difference in this school of life is you cannot play truant even for a day! Though from time to time one may doze off and not pay heed to the message that is being given to us.

2. From the start my parents taught me and my sister to be good human beings first. Life has been kind, sometimes harsh but mostly fair. We make many mistakes, some of which we admit and others, we conceal. But now that I am 22 years old, I can review every step taken by me.

3. Think positive. Yes, it's that simple. Thoughts are actions. Imagine if there are a billion good thoughts, the universe will throw back a billion good actions.

4. Something within tells me, 'Forget the world and listen to your heart'. If we all just start listening to our inner soul maybe we won't be scratching our heads while taking the final exam. I am not at all close to being perfect but I know I want to get near it..... not by mastering the business world, not by buying. Perfect self according to me.... is kind, compassionate, and empathetic one who sees the good in people and shares the good within themselves.

5. The true test is for us to examine, and to be honest to ourselves before we give a tick mark to our answer sheets. I had a lot of questions ready, my doubt all written, point by point since I could not get the answer from my teachers I made an appointment with God. Doubts about life, love, death, fear, sorrow. I was angry. Why can't He guide us?

6. God was there by my side, every minute, every step. Even though I haven't gotten all the answers I know I will get there.... He will take me there, in my own time, the same way He has gotten me here, where I am now.

7. Some say one should never pity nor envy anyone else..... and I am happy to be me. The first important teaching to learn, count your blessings. We all stand to be a little more aware about what life is really trying to teach us and for some be aware that life is trying to teach us something.

8. Money is like our grades in school... it helps us move to the next steps but after that, who remembers what we scored in mathematics in the third standard? People forget that when we die..... money does not come along with us. It becomes like our grades, we don't remember how much we earned or how much we lost. Families fight, friendships are ruined; parent child bonds are broken. Isn't that a waste..... why would anyone choose paper over love?

9. Here's plea for whoever is reading this let us all try and be the best pupils in this school called life. Be true love not only others but also yourself. Love God wholeheartedly because that's all He wants, and you know what they say, "Be in his good books and you will go ahead of the class."

A. Pick out the correct option: (2)

(a) All our questions can be answered by

(i) Parent

(ii) Friends

(iii) God

(iv) Ourselves

(b) We can be good pupils by

(i) Loving ourselves

(ii) Loving others

(iii) Both (i) and (ii)

(iv) None of the above

B. Answer the following questions with reference to the above passage: (6)

(a) How is life like an institution?

(b) What is the difference between life at school and school of life?

(c) Why are good thoughts compared to good actions?

(d) Why should we listen to our heart?

(e) Why is the narrator puzzled?

(f) What is the only way to achieve success in life?

C. Pick out a word similar in meaning to : (4)

(a) Maligner (para 1)

(b) Typical (para 8)

(c) philosophy (para 7)

(d) entirely (para 9)

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

(8)

1. The nine-letter word “interview” can perspire the most knowledgeable and strong people in the world. That may be one-reason political leaders and corporate giants normally do not agree for an interview. But the popular ones, or those who want to make an impact, willingly give interviews. In modern times, whether or not you like an interview, your prospects depend on its success. So you must know what an interviewer expects from you.

2. First an academic question: What is an interview? It is a discussion in which an interviewer faces a ‘ candidate for a short while and asks questions to probe his knowledge and awareness of the interviewee. It is a very formal means of interaction with one person facing a group of persons, each of whom is a specialist in his or her field. Though it is expected that questions would be asked only on areas known to the interviewee, the interviewers do ask on any subject they like.

3. For a successful interview, you have to understand that knowledge is an important component of success. Knowledge has two aspects: range and depth. The former implies that you should know a lot beyond your own specialization and the latter means an awareness of the various aspects of the topic under discussion. An in-depth knowledge is gained through reading and listening. Be a serious, voracious and avid reader and do not justify your ignorance by saying that the subject does not interest you. Listening may be more important than reading. Be a keen listener, store major facts in your mind and use them at the appropriate time.

4. Next comes appearance, which means your dress for the interview. You must be elegantly attired for the occasion. Going an interview is different than attending an evening party. Wear a simple outfit I, that suits your physique and features. If the weather demands, wear a jacket with a tie. The jacket should be formal, and the tie plain or striped. Women should wear sarees or any other sober dress. Casuals like kurta- pyjamas, jeans, T-shirt or Kolhapur should not feature in your selection of dresses.

5. Conducting yourself in the apt way is equally significant. The way you move your briefcase and talk to the members reflect your behavior. Walking sloppily, talking loudly or inaudibly, getting irritated easily, and showing documents instantly are symptoms of bad behavior. A better way is to enter the room smartly, move forward with dignity, greet the board, sit when asked to, and thank at the end before you leave. Place your briefcase close to the chair, sit cross-legged with hands on your lap and talk to the members in a natural tone.

6. Expression is the most important aspect of the interview. During the time you spend with the board your expression conveys your views and opinions. For good expressions, what you need is clarity of mind and speech. Show your balanced thinking to convey your views clearly. Choose your words carefully. Use right words of normal usage, and abstain from verbosity. Avoid making ambiguous statements.

7. Convey your point of view effectively. In an interview, you may be asked questions where you have to either agree or disagree. Whatever your approach, convince the board that it is unbiased. The board may not agree with your view. Even if you disagree, let not your face show it. Create an impact through your expressions. Give the impression of being a leader. Show that you can cooperate and get it; that you can share views and get people to accept your authority to reach decisions and implement them.

8. Finally, never consider yourself to be a perfect person. Being a human being makes you susceptible to flaws. However, try to confirm to the highest standards and reach as close to perfection as possible.

(a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it, using headings and subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary (minimum 4). (5)

(b) Make a summary of the above passage in 80 words using the notes made and also suggest a suitable title. (3)

SECTION B - (30Marks)

WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR

3. Prepare a display advertisement for an institution offering free coaching to the meritorious students studying in class X and XII. Give relevant details and contact number and address. (4)

OR

On behalf of the Principal of your school write a notice regarding implementation of new school uniform in your school. Mention the given guidelines for purchasing new uniform and relaxation given to students of some classes. Write the notice in not more than 50 words.

4. You are Kartik / Kritika, a resident of 15 / 112 Rajiv Nagar, Ananthpur (H. P.). Lately, there have been a number of thefts in your area and some incidents of chain snatching. As a concerned citizen write a letter to the Editor of a local daily in 120-150 words, drawing the attention of the concerned authorities towards the urgent need of safety and security in the locality. (6)

OR

Vinita / Vishal Dua brought a 14 inch coloured Television from M/s Ram Dutt & Co., 26, Raja Bazaar, New Delhi. On reaching home and operating it, he / she found that the tuner knob was malfunctioning and picture quality was blurred. He / she decides to write a letter, complaining about the problem. Write the letter in 120-150 words, requesting for an urgent action.

5. As compared to the older generation the youth of today are greatly inclined to pursue adventurous activities either for money or fun. There is latest craze for joining reality shows, rafting, rock climbing, mountaineering etc. Write an article in 150-200 words on 'Which life would you prefer- safe or adventurous' (10)

OR

Your school organized a seminar on swine flu for creating awareness among students of your school, and their parents. As the secretary of Health Club of Oasis Public School, Hyderabad, write a report in 150-200 words for 'The Deccan Herald'.

6. Use the appropriate modal to fill in the blanks. (4)
(Meaning of the modals is given in the bracket)

(a) Teacher to student : You -----study at least three hours a day.(Speaker's authority)

(b) Student to his classmate: I -----study at least three hours a day (external authority)

(c) His classmate: You -----study for more than three hours. (Moral obligation)

(d) Classmate to his mother : I ----- --- work hard in future. (promise)

7. The following passage has not been edited. Write the error and the correction in your answer sheets. (4)

In India the teacher has been accorded the highest importance. India has been blessed of a long line of eminent teacher. His teachings have not been confined in the classrooms and have been extended to the whole World. Dr. Radhakrishnan stand out as an excellent teacher. He was a first Indian to spreading Indian philosophy abroad.

a
b
c
d
e
f
g
h

8. Rearrange the following jumbled up words to form meaningful sentences. (2)

The first one has been done as an example.
[opacity / of the / cataract / eye / is the / in the lens. Cataract is the opacity in the lens of the eye.
(a) lens / the retina / the normal / allows / to reach / light.
(b) it becomes / we are / to see / when / clearly / opaque / unable.
(c) Cataract surgery / medical advances / very / modern / successful / have made.
(d) techniques / excellent vision / new / in 07% / surgical / can restore / of all cases.

SECTION C – (30Marks)

LITERATURE AND LONG READING TEXT

9. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: (3)

and forever, by day and night, I give back life to my own origin,
And make pure and beautify it ;
(For song, issuing form its birthplace, after fulfillment, wandering
Reck'd or unreck'd, duly with love returns.)

- (a) How does 'I' give back life to its own origin?
(b) What is the parallel between "I" and "music"?
(c) Why are the last two lines of the stanza placed between brackets?

OR

Now she's been dead nearly as many years As that
girl lived. And of this circumstance
There is nothing to say at all.
Its silence silences.

- (a) How long has the poet's mother been dead?
- (b) What is the meaning of the word 'circumstance' in the poem?
- (c) 'Its silence silences'. Explain.

10. Answer any three of the following in 30-40 words each: (3x3=9)

- (a) Which characteristic of the grandmother do you appreciate the most? Which value does it impart?
- (b) How do you think our attitude helps us in facing life's problems? Write your answer with reference to the lesson 'We're not Afraid...'
- (c) What were Einstein's future plans? Whose help he needed most to follow his plans?
- (d) The narrator is grateful to the Shastri for a timely interruption. What expression does he use to convey this feeling? What was the outcome of the visit to the Shastri?

11. Answer any one of the following in about 120-150 words: (6)

Do you think the issues raised in the play 'The Mother's Day', are no longer important? Why? Why not?

OR

A burning desire took the narrator to 46 Marconi Street, she returned with the death of the same desire. Explain.

12. Answer the following in about 120-150 words: (6x2=12)

- (a) What are the attempts made by the Ghost to terrorize the Otis family?
- (b) Persistent blood stains fail to move the Otis family. Do you think they are foolish, highly modern or enviable? Justify giving reasons.
