



**INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR**  
**UNIT TEST 2014-15**  
**ENGLISH(Core) 301**

**Class: XI**  
**Date: 26-05-2014**

**Marks: 50**  
**Time: 2 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 (8 Marks)**

**1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: (8 Marks)**

1. In 3000 years of our history people from all over the world have come and invaded us, captured our lands, conquered our minds. From Alexander onwards, the Greeks, the Turks, the Moguls, the Portuguese, the British, the French, the Dutch, all of them came and looted us, took over what was ours. Yet we have not done this to any other nation. We have not conquered anyone. We have not grabbed their land, their culture, their history and tried to enforce our way of life on them. Why? Because we respect the freedom of others.
2. That is why my first vision is that of FREEDOM. I believe that India got its first vision of this in 1857, when we started the war of independence. It is this freedom that we must protect and nurture and build on. If we are not free, no one will respect us.
3. My second vision for India is DEVELOPMENT. For fifty years we have been a developing nation. It is time we see ourselves as a developed nation.
4. I have a THIRD vision. India must stand up to the world. Because I believe that unless India stands up to the world, no one will respect us. Only strength respects strength. We must be strong not only as a military power but also as an economic power. Both must go hand-in-hand.
5. My good fortune was to have worked with three great minds. Dr. Vikram Sarabhai of the Dept. of space, Professor Satish Dhawan, who succeeded him and Dr. Brahm Prakash, father of nuclear material. I was lucky to have worked with all three of them closely and consider this the great opportunity of my life.
6. Here I am reminded an instance – One day an orthopedic surgeon from Nizam Institute of Medical Sciences visited my laboratory. He lifted the material and found it so light that he took me to his hospital and showed me his patients. There were these little girls and boys with heavy metallic calipers weighing over three kg. each, dragging their feet around. He said to me: Please remove the pain of my patients. In three weeks, we made these Floor reaction Orthotic 300 gram calipers and took them to the orthopedic centre. The children didn't believe their eyes. From dragging around a

three kg. load on their legs, they could now move around! Their parents had tears in their eyes. That was bliss to me.

7. I have a question :

Why is the media here so negative? Why are we in India so embarrassed to recognize our own strengths, our achievements? We are such a great nation. We have so many amazing success stories but we refuse to acknowledge them. Why?

8. Another question:

Why are we, as a nation so obsessed with foreign things? We want foreign TV's we want foreign shirts. We want foreign technology. Why this obsession with every thing imported? Don't we realize that self-respect comes with self- reliance?

9. I was in Hyderabad giving this lecture, when a 14-year old girl asked me for my autograph. I asked her what her goal in life is: She replied: 'I want to live in a developed India.' For her, you, I will have to build this developed India.

10. You must proclaim. As an aside from yours truly: India is not an under- developed nation, it is a highly developed nation in an advanced state of decay! (A.P.J. Abdul Kalam).

A. Pick out the correct option. (2)

a) India has been plundered by:

- |                                  |                              |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| i) the Greeks and the Portuguese | ii) the French and the Dutch |
| iii) the British                 | iv) all of the above.        |

b) How long did it take to make Orthotic 300 gm calipers?

- |                                |               |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| i) seven days                  | ii) fortnight |
| iii) fortnight plus seven days | iv) one month |

B. Answer the following question with reference to the above passage: (4)

a) What does Kalam want us to protect and nurture?

b) Why must India stand up to the world?

c) The great scientists who inspired A.P.J. Abdul Kalam are

(i) \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ and (iii) \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

d) Why do we need to give up our obsession with foreign things?

C. Look for words similar in meaning to: (2)

a) subjugated (para 1)

b) passionate (para 8)

### SECTION B - WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (17 Marks)

2. You are Ranjan/Rachna the Head boy/ girl of the school your. Write a notice about the inter house debate competition to be held in the school on the topic, "Utility of Mega Events for common man", in about 50 words. Invent all other necessary details. (4)

3. Youths form the very back bone of a nation as they are a great store house of energy and strength. Using this input, write an article in 150 words on "The Role of Youth in National Development" to be published in "The Indian Express". You are Puneet/Purnima, of XYZ International School, New Delhi. (8)

**4. Fill in the blanks with suitable determiners:**

(1/2 x 4=2)

- a) Why didn't you give me ..... present on my birthday?
- b) There are .....eggs in the basket, but there isn't ..... milk in the jug.
- c) Did ..... tamper with the register when I was not here.

**5. Look at the words and phrases below. Rearrange them to form meaningful sentences. First one has been done for you as an example.**

(1 x 3 = 3)

Example : important/ films/ more/ studies/ than/ are

Studies are more important than films.

- a) films/ seeing/ started/ too/ many/ you/ have
- b) used to / I /them in / don't / now /past / the/ I/ see/ but
- c) you / The Three Musketeers / week / you / only / last / had / me / seen/ that/ told

**SECTION C – TEXTUAL QUESTIONS & LONG READING TEXT (25Marks)**

**6. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:**

(4)

*Some twenty - thirty years later  
She'd laugh at the snapshot." See Betty  
And Dolly," She'd say, " and look how they  
Dressed us for the beach." The Sea holiday  
Was her past, mine is her laughter. Both wry  
with the laboured ease of loss.*

- a) What was mother's reaction on seeing the photograph?
- b) How long back did the beach holiday take place?
- c) What is the poet's past?
- d) Explain: 'laboured ease of loss'.

**7. Answer the following in 30-40 words each:**

(2x5=10)

- a) In the poem 'A Photograph', the mother as well as the daughter suffers from a sense of loss. What was mother's loss? Was the daughter's loss also same?
- b) Aram and Mourad belong the Gargholian tribe. What are the hallmarks of their tribe?
- c) Explain how the grandmother was like "an expanse of pure white serenity"?
- d) How did little Aram define stealing when he had to decide whether or not to ride the horse?
- e) What efforts did the captain make to save the ship and its passengers?

**8. Answer the following in about 100 words:**

(4)

Describe the friendship between Khushwant Singh and his grandmother.

**OR**

"We're not afraid to die ....." is a story of team work, optimism and courage. Support this statement with suitable examples from the story?

**9. Answer the following in about 150 words:**

(7)

How did Lord Canterville warn Mr. Otis? How did Mr. Otis react? What light does this account reflect on his character?

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