



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

**Std: XII**  
**Date: 22-05-2014**

**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 (10 Marks)**

**1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:** (10)

1. University of Cambridge, is an institution of higher education, the second-oldest university in the United Kingdom after the University of Oxford. It is located in the city of Cambridge, Cambridge shire.
2. The University of Cambridge is a loose confederation of academic faculties and departments, and 31 colleges. There are over 15,500 full-time students taught at the university: 11,000 undergraduates and 4,500 graduates. Although the colleges and the university per se are separate bodies, all are parts of an integrated educational entity. The university examines candidates for degrees during their residency and at the conclusion of their studies; confers degrees; regulates the curricula of the colleges and the system of education; deals with disciplinary problems; and administers facilities, such as libraries, lecture rooms, and laboratories, that are beyond the scope of the colleges. The colleges provide their students with lodgings and meals, assign tutors, and offer social, cultural, and athletic activities. Every student at the University of Cambridge is a member of a college.
3. The academic year is divided into three terms of approximately eight weeks each: Michaelmas (autumn), Lent (late winter), and Easter (spring). Students are required to be in residence for the duration of each term. Much of the year's work is done, however, out of term time, during the holidays. Students usually study under the supervision of members of the college's faculties, who maintain close relationships with the small groups of students in their charge and assist them in preparing for university exams.
4. Bachelor of Arts degrees may be conferred, upon the satisfactory completion of exams, after nine terms, or three years of residency. The majority of students are candidates for honours degrees and take a special examination called a tripos (named after the three-legged stools on which examiners formerly sat). Successful candidates for triodes are classified as first, second, or third class according to their standing. Other degrees conferred by the university include the Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy degrees, as well as higher doctorates in law, medicine, music, science, and theology.
5. The University of Cambridge figured prominently in the Protestant Reformation in the 16th century. The Dutch scholar Desiderius Erasmus was a professor of Greek and divinity at Cambridge from 1511 to 1514 and translated the New Testament from Greek into Latin there; the religious reformers

William Tyndale, Hugh Latimer, and Thomas Cranmer were educated at Cambridge. As a result of the decrees of Henry VIII establishing the Church of England, the humanistic method of study replaced the scholastic. Canon law studies were ended, public lectures in Latin and Greek were held, and the Bible was studied in the light of contemporary learning.

6. A reaction took place, however, during the reign of Elizabeth I, when Cambridge became a stronghold of Puritanism. Restrictive legislation enacted in 1570 transferred teaching authority to the heads of the colleges. In 1604, early in the reign of James I, the university was granted the right to elect two members to the English Parliament; this right was ended in 1649. During the 17th century the group of scholars known as the Cambridge Platonists emerged, and, through the influence of such faculty members as the scientists Isaac Barrow and Sir Isaac Newton, an emphasis on the study of mathematics and natural sciences developed for which Cambridge has subsequently become renowned.

A. Pick out the correct option. (2)

i) What is not true about the students' lifestyle?

- (a) The students prepare their works especially during the three terms of eight weeks in every academic session.
- (b) The faculty members help the students in preparing for the exams.
- (c) During the holidays the students have to work hard.
- (d) The students spend more time in the colleges than at home

ii). What is not true about the changes that overtook the Cambridge University during the reign of Queen Elizabeth and during the 17th century?

- (a) Study of Mathematics became a stronghold for the University.
- (b) More freedom was awarded to the University in different aspects through legislation.
- (c) The University's right to elect two members to the Parliament was ended.
- (d) There were some other changes during the 17th century.

B. Answer the following question with reference to the above passage: (5)

- (i) What is the duration of the three terms in every academic year? 1
- (ii) What are basic functions that the colleges perform in respect with the students? 1
- (iii) Does the University provide only bachelor degrees? 1
- (iv) In which period of history there was a massive shift in the fields of study for the University and what were they? 2

C. Look for words similar in meaning to: (3)

- (i) alliance (para 2)
- (ii) care (para 3)
- (iii) sway (para 6)

### SECTION B - WRITING (15 Marks)

2. Your school is organizing a cultural evening to collect funds for the slum children. The Education Minister has consented to be the Chief Guest on the occasion. Draft a notice about it to be displayed on your school notice, in not more than 50 words. You are the school Head Boy/ Head Girl. (5)

3. You are Malik/Manju. You have interviewed many students studying in Classes VI to VIII and their parents, on academic achievement. For a large number of students and parents, going for tuition classes for extra coaching has become a regular practice. The mushrooming coaching centers are an example for it. Write an article on the latest craze for tuition classes in 150-180 words. (10)

**SECTION C – TEXT BOOKS (25 Marks)**

4. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

(1x3= 3)

*On sour cream walls, donations , Shakespear’s head,  
Cloudless at dawn, civilized dome riding all cities.  
Belled, flowery, Tyrolese volley. Open-handed map  
Awarding the world its world.*

- (i) Why are the walls of the classroom described as being ‘sour cream’? 1
- (ii) What is the poet’s opinion of the map, pictures and the portrait of Shakespeare? 1
- (iii) Explain: ‘Awarding the world its world.’ 1

5. Answer the following in 30-40 words each:

(2x6=12)

- (i) What are the fears of the poetess as a child? Why do they come to the surface at this stage?
- (ii) How did the instructor “build a swimmer” out of Douglas?
- (iii) From where and how did the peddler get the idea of the world being a rattrap?
- (iv) How and why did Franz’s feelings about M. Hamel and school change?
- (v) What was the unforeseen hurdle that brought the Maharaja’s tiger hunts to a halt?
- (vi) The crofter can be called a *good host*. Why?

6. Answer the following in about 100 words:

(4)

Our forefathers believed in the saying, “As you sow, so shall you reap.” Elucidate the dictum in the light of the following expression. “Darkness was already descending over the forest. This increased the danger, and increased also his gloom and despair. Finally he saw no way out, and he sank on the ground, tired to death, thinking that his last moment had come.”

7. Answer the following in about 100 words:

(6)

‘Saheb is no longer his master. Mukesh insists on being his own master’. Discuss with reference to ‘Lost Spring’

**OR**

Describe the mental state of Dr. Sadao during the three nights when he was waiting for the private assassins of the General. Do you approve of his restlessness during the period?

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