

INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR
PRE- BOARD EXAM: 2014 -2015

Std.: X

Marks: 70

Date: 10/2/ 2015

ENGLISH

Time: 3 Hrs.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- This paper consists of three sections:

Section A: Reading	(20Marks)
Section B: Writing & Grammar	(25Marks)
Section C: Literature & Long Reading Text	(25Marks)
- All sections are compulsory.
- You may attempt any section at a time.
- All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the right order.

SECTION A: READING

(20)

I. Read the following passage carefully:

The young liftman in a City office, who threw a passenger out of his lift the other morning and was fined for the offence was undoubtedly in the wrong. It was a question of "Please". The passenger, entering the lift said "Top". The liftman demanded "Top, please," and his demand being refused, the liftman hurled the passenger out of the lift.

While it is true that there is no law that compels us to say "Please", there is a social practice much older and much more sacred than any law enjoins us to be civil. The first requirement of civility is that we should acknowledge a service. "Please" and "Thank you" are the small change with which we pay our way as social beings. They are the little courtesies by which we keep the machine of life oiled and running sweetly. They put our interaction upon the basis of a friendly co-operation and easy give-and-take instead of superiors dictating to inferiors. It is a very vulgar mind that would wish to command when he can have the service for asking and have it with willingness and good feeling instead of resentment.

If bad manners are infectious, so also are good manners. If we encounter incivility most of us are apt to become uncivil but it is an unusually uncouth person who can be disagreeable with sunny people. It is with manners as with weather. "Nothing clears up my spirits like a fine day," said Keats, and a cheerful person descends on even the gloomiest of us with something of the benediction of a fine day.

It is a matter of general agreement that the war has had a chilling effect upon these little everyday civilities of behaviour that sweeten the general air. We must get those civilities back if we are to make life kind and tolerable for each other. We cannot get them back by invoking the law. The policeman is a necessary symbol and the law is a necessary institution for a society that is still somewhat lower than the angels. But the law can only protect us against material attack. Nor will the liftman's way of meeting moral affront by physical violence help us to restore the civilities. I suggest to him that he would have had a more subtle and effective revenge if he had treated the gentleman who would say

“please” with elaborate politeness. He would have had the victory, not only over the boor, but over himself, and that is the victory that counts.

a. Answer the following questions briefly : (8)

- (1) Why was the young liftman fined?
- (2) What was the demand of the liftman?
- (3) How do law and social practices differ?
- (4) What is the first requirement of civility?
- (5) Why are little courtesies like “Please” and “Thank you” important?
- (6) Why does the author blame the war?
- (7) What kind of victory should we achieve while confronting uncivil persons?
- (8) How is a fine day like a cheerful person?

II. Read the following passage carefully:

As the day for the swearing -in- July 25, 2002 neared, Dr. Kalam began preparing for it. His tailors at Karol Bagh, received an order for four closed-collar Jodhpur suits in his favourite colours, black, navy blue, steel grey and beige.

His unconventional hairstyle had been a topic of conversation. His hair stylist Javed Habib opined that it suited a rocket scientist, but snipped a few inches to suit a president.

The countdown for the function had started. Among those Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam had personally invited to attend the swearing -in ceremony in the Central Hall of Parliament House, were 34 people from Rameswaram, including his elder brother, Meeralabha.

Travelling to New Delhi, in the train, Meeralabha kept counting the beads of his rosary. For P.V.L. Sastri, a 24 year old temple priest, it was one of the greatest moments in his life because he was carrying special offerings from the Rameswaram temple for Dr. Kalam.

At the New Delhi railway station, the Kalam family attracted the attention of a large number of curious onlookers and the media. Dr. Kalam remained untouched by the excitement of the masses and the media attention. The day of the ceremony started like any other day with the regular 5 km walk at the Asiad village, his home in New Delhi. He had a shower, ate a light South Indian breakfast consisting of “idli” “sambhar” and buttermilk. Then dressed immaculately in a Jodhpur suit he stepped out to acknowledge the greetings of the crowd gathered outside. And, there were hordes of cameramen and TV crew members who focused on him as he drove to Rashtrapati Bhavan. He was accompanied by the outgoing President K.R. Narayanan.

Among the galaxy of invitees were the Prime Minister and the entire cabinet, Chiefs of Army, Navy and Air Force, opposition leaders, industrialists, former Presidents, Dr. Kalam’s colleagues from the science fraternity and 100 school children including Snehal Thakkar who was the inspiration of his book “Ignited Minds”. In order to accommodate the large number of invitees, the swearing - in ceremony was held at the Central Hall for the first time.

Watched by television viewers across the country, 70-year- old Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam was sworn - in by the Chief Justice of India B.N. Kripal as the 11th President of India. A 21 - gun salute boomed in the background. He was now the country’s first citizen and supreme commander of the

Armed Forces. In keeping with Dr. Kalam's motto of doing things speedily, the ceremony started before the scheduled time of 10 a.m. and lasted just an hour and 18 minutes. In his brief speech after taking the oath, the new President quoted the first lines from a "kriti" of the legendary music composer Thyagaraja. He stressed the need for "a collective vision" to tackle the challenges faced by the country. He then quoted a line from Kabir's poem which said: "what you want to do tomorrow, do it today, and what you want to do today, do it now." The ceremony ended with the National Anthem.

Once all the ceremonies were over, Dr. Kalam drove to Rashtrapati Bhavan in the Presidential cavalcade escorted by the President's Body guards with a warm smile and obliging the watching media persons constantly clicking shots and calling, "Once more, President Sir," India's rocket hero took over office as the 11th President of the Republic of India. As the First Citizen of this land, Dr. Kalam declared: "Now we need a movement in the country. This is the time to ignite the minds of the people for this movement. We will work for it. We cannot emerge as a developed nation if we do not learn to transact with speed."

a. Answer the following questions briefly: (8)

- (1) Why did the swearing-in ceremony start before the scheduled time of 10 a.m.?
- (2) What was Dr. Abdul Kalam's first message to the nation after becoming the President of India?
- (3) What was Kalam's message to the nation to emerge as a developed nation?
- (4) Who all were the invitees to the ceremony?

b. Choose the right answer from those given in brackets: (4)

- (1) The word which means "**not in the usual way**" is _____.
i. snipped ii. unconventional iii. Suited iv. opined
- (2) What does the word **escorted** mean?
i. followed ii. suspected iii. accompanied iv. respected
- (3) Which among the following cannot replace **cavalcade** here?
i. a procession of people on horses ii. A company of riders iii. A parade iv. A trial ride
- (4) Which word can replace the phrase "suggestive expression of a guiding principle"?
i. motto ii. ceremony iii. movement iv. vision

SECTION B: WRITING & GRAMMAR (25)

- III. You are **Ajit/ Anita**. Write an **article** for a well-known magazine expressing your ideas about how your state can attract both foreign and domestic tourists. Suggest measures that can be adopted to make your state 'tourist friendly'. Use your own ideas and ideas from the Unit on "Travel and Tourism" in your Main Course Book to write the article. (120 words) (5)

OR

Milesh/Mitika is a class X student. He / She happened to read the following newspaper article and decided to write a **letter to the Editor** of 'India Times' voicing strong views on corruption prevalent in the country and suggesting ways to curb the menace to ensure economic growth and prosperity. Write the letter in about 120 words. (5)

Corruption in India: Political corruption in India is a major concern. A 2005 study done by Transparency International (TI) in India found that more than 50% of the people had firsthand experience of paying bribe or peddling influence to get a job done in a public office. Taxes and bribes are common between state borders; Transparency International estimates that truckers pay annually US\$5 billion in bribes. For 2010, India was ranked 87th of 178th countries in Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index, which was a huge setback from the preceding year.

IV. Mystery has always been something that fascinates the human mind. The following is the starter for a mystery story that Andrew planned to write. Complete it for him.

“Every morning, dark marks were there on the kitchen step. What were they?

How had they got there? I just could not believe Uncle Joe. Can such things happen?....” (10)

V. **Complete the following passage by filling up the blanks using the form of the verb given after the passage : (3)**

Morbid, gorgeous, or haunting, death masks (a) _____ first created in ancient Egypt and (b) _____ popular as homages to public figures in 19th century Europe. Last Halloween (celebrated on October 31), the top selling mask was Barack Obama. This year, retailers (c) _____ a major spike in Michael Jackson look-alikes

- (a) (i) was (ii) is (iii) are (iv) were
 (b) (i) remains (ii) remained (iii) remaining (iv) were remaining.
 (c) (i) predicted (ii) prediction (iii) predict (iv) predicting

VI. **One word has been omitted from each line. Identify the missing word and write it along with the word before and the word after against the correct blank number in your answer sheet. The first has been done as an example. (4)**

	Correction
The newspapers taken the place of the Gita,	newspapers <u>have</u> taken
the Bible and the Quran with people. For them, the	(a) _____
printed sheet is a gospel truth. Fact throws a great	(b) _____
responsibility the editors and news writers.	(c) _____
Newspapers are a powerful influence. It is duty	(d) _____
of the editors see that no false report likely to	(e) _____
excite public is published in their newspapers.	(f) _____
The editors and their assistants to be extra careful	(g) _____
about the news they give the manner in which they dress it.	(h) _____

- VII. Read the following conversation between a judge and a prisoner and then complete the paragraph. Write the correct answer in your answer sheet against the correct blank number. (3)**

Judge: What are you charged with?

Prisoner: Sir, doing my Diwali shopping early.

Judge: But that's not an offence! And how early were you exactly doing it?

Prisoner: Well Sir! To avoid the rush, I thought it would be better if I completed it before the store opened.

The judge being in a good mood before the Diwali festival asked the prisoner (a)_____. The prisoner sensing his good mood, politely replied that he was doing his Diwali shopping early. The surprised judge declared that it wasn't an offence. He further inquired (b)_____. Humbly the prisoner replied that to avoid the rush, he had thought it would be better (c)_____.

SECTION C: LITERATURE & LONG READING TEXT

(25)

- VIII. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:**

(3)

At length did cross an Albatross,
Through the fog it came;
As if it had been a Christian soul,
We hailed it in God's name.

- (a) Explain : "At length did cross an Albatross".
(b) What favourable change did it bring?
(c) Why was the Albatross hailed as a Christian soul?

OR

Caesar, I have never stood on ceremonies,
Yet now they fright me.

- (a) Who says these words to Caesar?
(b) What does this tell us about the character of the speaker?
(c) They in the above extract refer to some sights seen by the watchman. What are they?

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

(8)

- (a) What were Patol Babu's "dialogues" and what was his reaction on seeing them?
(b) Antony displays remarkable maturity in the way he befriends the conspirators in order to avenge Caesar's death. Explain.
(c) What kind of welcome did the albatross receive? Why?
(d) What does the partially destroyed statue of Ozymandias symbolize?

X. Answer either one of the following in about 80 - 100 words: (4)

(a) *After performing his role as best as he could, Patol Babu does not wait for getting paid for the role. He goes away with the feeling of satisfaction that he has performed his small role with dedication and perfection.* Motivated by his story, you decided to write an email to your younger sister about the value of putting in one's best in everything one does. What other values would you focus on? Write the e-mail with reference to the lesson PATOL BABU, FILM STAR.

OR

(b) **"I thought how paltry how vulgar, what a mean act!
I despised myself and the voices of my accursed human education."**

The poet repents throwing a stick at the snake. He finds fault with the education he had for his deplorable behaviour and dual attitude. Write a letter to your friend justifying the above statements in the light of the general behaviour of people.

XI. Answer either one of the following in about 150-200 words: (10)

- a. What were the difficulties Helen faced at Gilman School? How did she overcome these and continue her pursuit?
- b. Give a character sketch of Helen Keller.
