



INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR
PRE- BOARD EXAM: 2015 -2016

Std.: X**Marks: 70****Date: 4/2/2016****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:**

1. The erstwhile royal kingdom of Bharatpur, at the heart of the tourist triangle of Delhi, Agra and Jaipur, is pining for its most valuable visitors – the Siberian cranes. These winter visitors who help the town to make its name, are dwindling in number.
2. “The cranes have dwindled in number over the past few years.” says Gargi, a researcher from the Bombay Natural History Society. “Last year there were just five cranes and this season only three have come”, says Ramlal who has observed the cranes for more than thirty years. “Earlier there used to be up to two hundred cranes here, but now it seems they are simply not coming.”
3. Ornithologists attribute a combination of factors for the declining numbers. Many birds embark on this annual pilgrimage from Russia, but few make it across the skies of Afghanistan and Pakistan where they are hunted down. Another reason for the declining numbers is the habitat loss.
4. The breeding rate among the Siberian cranes is low; studies in Siberia have put it at just 20 per cent. Experts have been attempting artificial breeding of these birds. Four Siberian cranes at Bharatpur have been bred in captivity. Extensive studies are being done on them, including fixing of radio transmitters to monitor their movement and activities.
5. The local people worry about the future, “We wonder whether any cranes will come next year,” says a resident. The park is host to a variety of birds like the common painted stork, the rare Egyptian Ibis and the purple Heron from Tibet. But the people in Bharatpur would prefer to crane their necks to spot one particular winged visitor.

a. Give very short answers for the following questions:**(8)**

- i. What is the Royal Kingdom of Bharatpur longing for?
- ii. What are the reasons for the declining number of cranes?
- iii. Which other birds can they see in the park?
- iv. What is that the people of Bharatpur prefer?
- v. What are the steps taken to prevent the declining of cranes?
- vi. Which word in the passage can replace “bird watchers”?

- vii. Who are the winter visitors of Bharatpur?
- viii. What do the observations of Gargi and Ramlal tell us?

II. Read the following passage carefully:

1. Conservation work on the many monuments and sites in the region of Humayun's Tomb has been ongoing for some time. There have been various phases in this work. It had started with a massive renovation of Humayun's Tomb itself and moved onto the nearby area of Nizammudin Basti. This time, it is the 16th century site of Nila Gumbad, near the Humayun's Tomb complex that is under consideration. For the people living in the area, these monuments hold special meaning.
2. To show their deep-seated involvement in the renovation of their area, the tiles that are being used for renovating the dome of the monument are being fashioned by local youths who have been trained by craftsmen who have specially come for this purpose from Uzbekistan. So far, this joint effort under Uzbek ustads has yielded 15,000 tiles. This is not enough because almost 10 per cent of the tiles are missing from the monument and current rate of production is not fast enough to meet this demand. Thus the tile manufacturing process has been geared up to meet the requirement.
3. The Nila Gumbad monument is one of the key components in the development plans drawn up. Its importance lies in the fact that historically, and architecturally, it encompasses the Persian influence on Mughal architecture, especially through its unique tile work. The Chief Engineer of the tile making project Rajpal Singh is happy with the youth as he says that the Uzbek masters have taught youths from the basti to make tiles identical to the ones used in the Mughal period.
4. The Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC), which first renovated Humayun's Tomb, subsequently took up the renovation of the Nila Gumbad as part of the Humayun's Tomb Complex renovation. The protected monuments for renovation come under the aegis of the Archeological Survey of India. Besides AKTC, there is a multidisciplinary team co-funding the restoration work alongside. Some of the funds are coming in from the Dorabji Tata Trust as well.
5. Another player in the restoration process is the Northern railways with whom the conservators have had ongoing talks to resolve the issues. The railway body has not permitted ongoing plans for implementation of a landscaping project that was agreed to in 2011. The railway authorities were also required to demolish a room which stands in the way of integrating the complex. The millions of visitors who come to Humayun's Tomb annually are thus denied the chance to envision the entire complex, due to these issues.
6. The Nila Gumbad had remained in a state of forgotten neglect for some time. In 2008, the Archeological Survey of India had uncovered an arcaded platform that stretches up to Nila Gumbad and that established that the Nila Gumbad complex was once part of the Humayun Tomb complex.
7. Apart from restoring what was once part of the monument, conservators will also undertake the massive task of removing those aspects of the monument that were added in the current times and which have defaced the fair face of this precious structure. Once removed, these surfaces will once again be restored to their pristine glory by being plastered with traditional lime plaster, so that the restored monument gets back the feel and flavor of its original importance.

a. Answer the following questions briefly:

(8)

- i. Why is the tile making process at Nila Gumbad being speeded up?
- ii. Why is Nila Gumbad restoration so important?

- iii. Which other bodies are involved in the renovation work besides the AKTC?
- iv. Apart from restoration, what other task is being taken up?

b. Choose the right answer for the following questions from those given below them: (4)

- i. The word which means **sponsorship** is _____.
 1. conservators 2. co-funding 3. aegis 4. restoration
- ii. What does the phrase **geared up** mean?
 1. followed 2. Prepare to be ready fast 3. accompanied 4. conditioned
- iii. Which among the following cannot replace **pristine** here?
 1. unspoiled 2. corrupted 3. faultless 4. perfect
- iv. Which word in para 5 is opposite in meaning to **reconstruct**?
 1. demolish 2. restore 3. implement 4. reserve

SECTION B: WRITING & GRAMMAR

(25)

- III.** The internet has revolutionized knowledge sharing and democratized access to information to a degree unprecedented in recorded human history. It is believed that social networking sites like the Facebook and Orkut are in danger of turning us into anti-social, friendless people who live their lives in the severe isolation of the internet, with little human contact. Write an article expressing your views about the topic “The Internet has Turned Modern Man into a Recluse” in about 150 words. **(5)**



OR

When forces of disintegration are becoming strong you feel it necessary to educate the public about the attitudes to be inculcated within us so that Dr. Kalam’s dream soon gets realized. All the barriers of caste, creed and religion will get dissolved when India emerges as “an apostle of peace” and a super power. Write a letter to the Editor of a National Daily suggesting ways and means to achieve this aim

using the hints given, ideas from the unit “National integration” and your own ideas. You are Arjun / Arti, Gandhi Nagar, Delhi. (5)

Hints:

- **Sense of belonging right from childhood**
- **education to foster national integration and increased literacy rates.**
- **scientific development**
- **youth should shun regionalism, communalism, no community to be placed over and above the nation**
- **instilling and infusing patriotic fervour through value based education**
- **regional aspirations to be checked**
- **migration of intellectual assets and precious human resources checked.**

IV. Write a story, beginning with the words given below, in about 150-200 words. (10)

Floods had brought life to a standstill in the remote town of Ozland in Austria. Lives and properties were being destroyed limitlessly. While many businesses had downed the shutters, a brave baker had carried on.....

OR

On the basis of the given outline, write a story in about 150-200 words. (10)

Two leading female singers.....on the same stage.....professional rivals.....one sings foot stomping rustic songs.....other one, old time numbers.....audience charged.....enjoyed different numbers.....arrival of the dignitary.....only five minutes time permitted for the artists.....tension brews.....supporters take sides.....pandemonium.....minister whisked off by his security.....both artists left silent.....

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

Light is still one of the greatest mysteries to man. We (a) _____ that light travels in waves, and (b) _____ light waves are made up of electrical (c) _____ magnetic forces travelling along together. They are a kind of electromagnetic waves. In 1900, a German physicist (d) _____ Max Plank found that waves do not tell the whole story (e) _____ light. He was trying to (d) _____ how a hot object gives off radiation.

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|----|-------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| a. | (i) know | (ii) realize | (iii) understand | (iv) forget |
| b. | (i) so | (ii) therefore | (iii) that | (iv) thus |
| c. | (i) with | (ii) for | (iii) and | (iv) or |
| d. | (i) called | (ii) named | (iii) was | (iv) known |
| e. | (i) about | (ii) on | (iii) concerned | (iv) for |
| f. | (i) explain | (ii) know | (iii) discover | (iv) research |

VI. There is an error in each line of the following passage. Write the incorrect word and the correction in the answer sheet as given in the example. (4)

	Error	Correction
Electricity was supplied to a house	was	is
through cables. In cities a	a. _____	_____
cables are usually lay underground,	b. _____	_____
but in towns or villages they	c. _____	_____
may be carried in poles.	d. _____	_____
Inside the house these	e. _____	_____
cable is connecting to a main	f. _____	_____
switch. In a emergency, the	g. _____	_____
power can be turned of at the mains.	h. _____	_____

VII. Complete the following news reports accompanying the following headlines by filling in the blanks. (3)

(a) INDIAN NAMES FOR MARTIAN ROCKS

Kolkata: The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) _____ Indian names to certain types of rocks from Mars, a senior geologist on the agency’s Mars Mission said.

(b) HEAT WAVE KILLS 55 IN ORISSA

Bhubaneswar: An unrelenting heat wave _____ the death of 55 people in Orissa since July, and strong hot winds and extreme humidity continue to make the situation unbearable.

(c) TASK FORCE SPOTS 15 TIGERS

New Delhi: The members of _____ fifteen tigers during their field visits to Pench and Kanha Tiger Reserves in Madhya Pradesh last week.

SECTION C: LITERATURE & LONG READING TEXT (25)

VIII. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: (3)

“Ah! Well a-day! What evil looks
Had I from old and young!
Instead of the cross, the Albatross
About my neck was hung.”

- a. Who are the “old and young”?
- b. Why did they cast evil looks?
- c. How did they show their anger at the Mariner’s action?

OR

“How foolish your fears seem now, Calpurnia?
I am ashamed I did yield to them. Give me my robe, for I will go.”

- a. What were the fears of Calpurnia?
- b. Who is the speaker? Why does he consider it foolish?
- c. Where is the speaker planning to go? Who made him change his decision?

IX. Answer any four of the following questions in 30-40 words each: (8)

- a. Which three elements of the Romantic poetry are evident in Coleridge's 'The Rime of Ancient Mariner'?
- b. What condition did the ghost put forth for providing continued help to John Hallock? Why?
- c. What was the aim of the game, 'Dragonquest'?
- d. Why did Brutus betray his beloved friend, Julius Caesar?
- e. The poem, Ozymandias illustrates the vanity of human greatness. Comment.

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

- a. "The memory of his Guru made Patol Babu bow his head in obeisance" After reading this statement you began to ponder if today's children have the same respect and honour for their teachers. Write an e-mail to your friend telling him that teachers are the nation-builders and they ought to be respected and honoured.
- b. Our actions should not be hasty as "*haste makes waste*". Brutus in the play *Julius Caesar* didn't look into the depth of things and took a hasty decision of killing Caesar. Elaborate the statement, '*We should think twice before acting*' as it is of no use '*crying over the spilt milk*' on the basis of your reading of the play *Julius Caesar*.

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

- a. What is Helen's opinion about books and reading?
- b. Explain how Helen took her examinations at Radcliff. What was her opinion about exams?
