



**INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR**  
**FINAL EXAM: 2016-17**  
**ENGLISH (Core)**

Std.: XI

Marks: 80

Date: 28.2.2017

Time: 3Hrs.

**Instructions:**

- This paper is divided into three sections:  
 Section A: Reading  
 Section B: Writing Skills & Grammar  
 Section C: Literature & Long Reading Text
- All sections are compulsory.
- Separate instructions are given for each section and question wherever necessary. Read the instructions carefully and follow them faithfully.
- Strictly adhere to the prescribed word limit.

**SECTION A: READING****(20 Marks)****I. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:****(12)**

1. It was three in the afternoon when Philip left the realms of commonsense. He was so weary with travelling that he had fallen asleep in the train. His fellow-passengers had the usual Italian gift of divination, and when Monteriano came they knew he wanted to go there, and dropped him out. His feet sank into the hot asphalt of the platform, and in a dream he watched the train depart, while the porter who ought to have been carrying his bag, ran up the line playing touch-you-last with the guard. Alas! he was in no humour for Italy. Bargaining for a legno bored him unutterably. The man asked six lire; and though Philip knew that for eight miles it should scarcely be more than four, yet he was about to give what he was asked, and so make the man discontented and unhappy for the rest of the day. He was saved from this social blunder by loud shouts, and looking up the road saw one cracking his whip and waving his reins and driving two horses furiously, and behind him there appeared the swaying figure of a woman, holding star-fish fashion on to anything she could touch. It was Miss Abbott, who had just received his letter from Milan announcing the time of his arrival, and had hurried down to meet him.
2. He had known Miss Abbott for years, and had never had much opinion about her one way or the other. She was good, quiet, dull, and amiable, and young only because she was twenty-three: there was nothing in her appearance or manner to suggest the fire of youth. All her life had been spent at Sawston with a dull and amiable father, and her pleasant, pallid face, bent on some respectable charity, was a familiar object of the Sawston streets. Why she had ever wished to leave them was surprising; but as she truly said, "I am John Bull to the backbone, yet I do want to see Italy, just once. Everybody says it is marvellous, and that one gets no idea of it from books at all." The curate suggested that a year was a long time; and Miss Abbott, with decorous playfulness, answered him, "Oh, but you must let me have my fling! I promise to have it once, and once only. It will give me things to think about and talk about for the rest of my life." The curate had consented; so had Mr. Abbott. And here she was in a legno, solitary, dusty, frightened, with as much to answer and to answer for as the most dashing adventuress could desire.
3. They shook hands without speaking. She made room for Philip and his luggage amidst the loud indignation of the unsuccessful driver, whom it required the combined eloquence of the station-master and the station beggar to confute. The silence was prolonged until they started. For three days he had been considering what he should do, and still more what he should say. He had invented a dozen imaginary conversations, in all of which his logic and eloquence procured him certain victory. But how

to begin? He was in the enemy's country, and everything--the hot sun, the cold air behind the heat, the endless rows of olive-trees, regular yet mysterious--seemed hostile to the placid atmosphere of Swaston in which his thoughts took birth.

(Adapted from Where Angels Fear to Tread by E.J. Forster)

**1. On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given options:** (3)

- i. Philip was able to reach Monteriano with the help of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. his co-passengers
  - b. Miss Abbot
  - c. the legno driver
  - d. his own commonsense
  
- ii. Miss Abbot proclaimed that she wanted to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. go to Swaston
  - b. persuade the vicar
  - c. go to Italy just once
  - d. read books about Italy
  
- iii. According to Philip, the enemy country he was in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. had a station master and a station beggar
  - b. had hot Sun and rows of Olive trees
  - c. an adventurous mood
  - d. cold air and no sun

**2. Answer the following questions briefly:** (6)

- a. Why would Philip's behaviour make the legno driver feel discontented?
- b. Why did Miss Abbot come hurrying down to the station?
- c. What facts do we gather about Miss Abbot from the passage?
- d. What was the dilemma faced by Philip in the presence of Miss Abbot?
- e. What does the expression 'John Bull' indicate?
- f. Why did Mrs. Abbot decide to leave Swaston?

**3. Find out words from the passage which mean the same as the following:** (3)

- a. to prove something or somebody wrong (para 3)
- b. agreeable (para 2)
- c. very much (para 1)

**II. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:** (8 marks)

1. The nine-letter word "interview" can perspire the most knowledgeable and strong people in the world. That may be one reason why 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 the 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 for an interview is different from attending an evening party. Wear a simple outfit that suits your physique and features. If the weather demands, wear a jacket with a tie. The shirt should be formal, and the tie plain or striped. Women should wear sarees or any other sober dress. Casuals like kurta-pajamas, jeans, T-shirt or Kolhapuris 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 behaviour. 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. Your expression conveys your views and opinions during the time you spend with the board. 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 may be, 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 conform 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 sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. (minimum 4) (5)
  - b. Write a summary of the passage in not more than 80 words using the notes made and also suggest a suitable title. (3)

### SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR

(30 Marks)

- III. Your father, a resident of 15 B, Mayur Vihar, Delhi is transferred to Pune. He wants to sell the furniture and electronic goods. Write an advertisement in 50 words for the sale in the columns of The Times of India. (4)

OR

Your school is organizing a Bal Mela on 'Children's Day' in the school. The primary wing of the school is going to put up various stalls in the mela. Draft a **notice** giving details of the mela as well as inviting the senior students to attend the same. Sign your name as Rajesh Roshan, secretary, Cultural Society. (Word limit: 50) (4)

IV. 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, requesting for an urgent action. (6)

OR

Meera / Ranjan is a resident of Kerala. She / He writes a **letter to the editor** of a local Newspaper giving her/his strong views on the disadvantages of setting up a chemical factory project and makes an appeal to the Central Government to reconsider its decision, as it will worsen the environment of the city. Add your own ideas and write this letter. (120-150 words) (6)

V. Promoting literacy is a National concern for the Govt. of India, with the National Literacy Mission organizing a number of activities to promote the need for education for all children. Write an **article**, in about 150 – 200 words, to be published in a newspaper, expressing your views on the same. Also give your suggestions on how the mission can be made more successful and relevant. (10)

OR

You are Sachin/Shaihya. You attended a debate on "Welcome Youth in Politics" organised by your school. Write a **report** on the event in about 150-200 words. (10)

VI. The following passage is not edited. There is a mistake in each line. Find the mistake. Write the in correct word and the correction in your answer sheet. (4)

	Incorrect	correct
In today's world that is easy to	(a) .....	.....
grow up with inculcating reading	(b) .....	.....
habits. There is so many television	(c) .....	.....
programmes, computer games or the	(d) .....	.....
play station to keep me busy.	(e) .....	.....
For, those not only serve as	(f) .....	.....
entertainment gadgets and are	(g) .....	.....
educational two at the same time	(h) .....	.....

VII. Re-arrange the following words to make meaningful sentences: (2)

- is/ beautiful/ as/ no/ home/ comfortable/ and/ place/as/ there/
- if/ house/ the/ our/ is/ even/ beautiful/ small/ most/ is/ place/ it/

VIII. Read the conversation given below between a grandmother and daughter. Complete the paragraph that follows: (4)

Granddaughter: Hi grandma, would you like to join me?

Grandma: Where are you going, my dear?

Granddaughter: My regular aerobics class.

Grandma: Can I do aerobics?

Granddaughter: Why do you think that you can't?

Grandma: My muscles are not so flexible.

Granddaughter: To make them flexible, join my aerobics class.

The granddaughter (a) \_\_\_\_\_. Grandma asked lovingly where she was going. Granddaughter replied that she was going to her regular aerobics class. Grandma enquired (b) \_\_\_\_\_.

Granddaughter asked (c) \_\_\_\_\_. Grandmother replied that her muscles were not so flexible.

Granddaughter told (d) \_\_\_\_\_

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

(3)

“Yet have I killed  
The seed I spent or sown it, where  
The land is his and none of mine?  
We speak like strangers, there's no sign  
Of understanding in the air.”

- a. Who do 'I' and 'we' refer to here?
- b. What does the seed stand for? Explain
- c. 'We speak like strangers, there is no sign' which figure of speech is used here?

OR

Under the arch he lost his crown  
The arch was built too low. A frown  
Appeared upon his placid face.  
The king said, 'This is a disgrace'

- a. Where was the arch constructed?
- b. Why did a frown appear on the King's face?
- c. What is the lofty concept that Vikram Seth intends to convey through the poetry?

**X. Answer any three of the following questions in 30-40 words each:**

(9)

- a. Why did the narrator visit the village astrologer? What according to the astrologer was Ranga's cause of worry?
- b. What plan did Albert Einstein make to avoid going to school? Who all helped him in this venture?
- c. Why does the rain call itself eternal? What changes does it bring forth?
- d. Why does Frank say that he envies Crocker Harris?

**XI. Answer the following questions in about 125-150 words:**

(6)

The story, *The Summer of a Beautiful White Horse*, poignantly brings out the point of intersection between the fading influence of the old country values and the evolving realization of the younger generation. It is the moral fiber of the Garoghlanian tribe which brings the two boys back to the path of righteousness. Elaborate.

OR

Students are quick to understand their teachers, and in spite of all bitterness they still admire and love a teacher however inhuman he may seem to be. Explain in the context of *The Browning Version*.

**X. Answer the following question in 125-150 words:**

(12)

- a. Virginia is the harbinger of love and peace. Elucidate.
- b. Humour makes *The Canterville Ghost* stand apart as a ghost story. Explain

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