



INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR
UNIT TEST 2017-18
ENGLISH (Core) 301

Std: XII

Date: 17-05-2017

Marks: 50

Time: 2 Hours

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 (10 Marks)**READING:**

1. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow: (10)

1. By the time a child is six or seven she has all the essential avoidances well enough by heart to be trusted with the care of a younger child. And she also develops a number of simple techniques. She learns to weave firm square balls from palm leaves, to make pinwheels of palm leaves or frangipani blossoms, to climb a coconut tree by walking up the trunk on flexible little feet, to break open a coconut with one firm well-directed blow of a knife as long as she is tall, to play a number of group games and sing the songs which go with them, to tidy the house by picking up the litter on the stony floor, to bring water from the sea, to spread out the copra to dry and to help gather it in when rain threatens, to go to a neighboring house and bring back a lighted piece of coal for the chief's pipe or the cook-house fire.

2. But in the case of the little girls all these tasks are merely supplementary to the main business of baby-tending. Very small boys also have some care of the younger children, but at eight or nine years of age they are usually relieved of it. Whatever rough edges have not been smoothed off by this responsibility for younger children are worn off by their contact with older boys. For little boys are admitted to interesting and important activities only so long as their behavior is circumspect and helpful.

3. Where small girls are brusquely pushed aside, small boys will be patiently tolerated and they become adept at making themselves useful. The four or five years old, little boys who all wish to assist at the important, business of helping a grown youth lasso reef eels, organize themselves into a highly efficient working team; one boy holds the bait, another holds an extra lasso, others poke eagerly about in holes in the reef looking for prey, while still another tucks the captured eels into his lavalava. The small girls, burdened with heavy babies or the care of little stagers, who are too small to adventure on the reef, discouraged by the hostility of the small boys and the scorn of the older ones, have little opportunity for learning the more adventurous forms of work and play.

4. So while the little boys first undergo the chastening effects of baby-tending and then have many opportunities to learn effective cooperation under the supervision of older boys, the girls' education is less comprehensive. They have a high standard of individual responsibility, but the community provides them with no lessons in cooperation with one another. This is particularly apparent in the activities of young people: the boys organize quickly; the girl's waste hours in bickering, innocent of any technique for quick and efficient cooperation.

Adapted from: *Coming of Age in Samoa*, Margaret Mead (1928)

1.1 On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option: (1x2=2)

- a) The primary purpose of the passage with reference to the society under discussion is to _____ .
- i. explain the differences in the upbringing of girls and boys
 - ii. criticize the deficiencies in the education of girls
 - iii. give a comprehensive account of a day in the life of an average young girl
 - iv. delineate the role of young girls

- b) The list of techniques in paragraph one could best be described as _____ .
- interpersonal skills
 - rudimentary physical skills
 - important responsibilities
 - useful social skills

1.2 Answer the following questions briefly:

(1x6=6)

- What simple techniques does the girl child learn by the age of six or seven?
- What household chores is she responsible for?
- In what way is a boy's life different?
- What qualities ensure that the boys move on to a higher responsibility?
- Why do small girls have little opportunity for learning the more adventurous forms of work and play?
- In what way is the girls' education less comprehensive?

1.3 Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following:

(1x2=2)

- harshly (para 3)
- discipline (para 4)

SECTION B (14 Marks)

ADVANCED WRITING SKILLS:

- Your school is organizing a SPICMACAY programme on the occasion of the World Dance Day wherein the renowned dancer, Geeta Chandran would be giving a lecture demonstration. As the President of the Cultural Society of your school, draft a notice in about 50 words, informing the students about the same. You are Rakhsita/Rohit of MVN Public School. **(4)**
- They may have stood the test of time but there is a growing demand for the need to protect the country's monuments. Write an article in about 150-200 words for your school magazine on how we can conserve our built heritage. You are Akshay/ Akshita. of Graham Public School, Indore. **(10)**

SECTION C (26 Marks)

Text Books and Long Reading Text:

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

(3)

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

- What is the condition of the classroom wall?
- What aspects show a civilized race?
- Explain: 'Awarding the world its world'.

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

(4X3=12)

- Mention the characteristics required from both the teacher and the students for effective learning to take place, as portrayed in the chapter, 'The Last Lesson'.
- 'From that day onwards it was celebration time for all tigers inhabiting Pratibandapuram'. Bring out the irony in this statement.
- Explain 'history is theirs whose language is the sun'.
- Why are the young men of Firozabad reluctant to form into cooperatives?

6. Answer the following in about 100 -120 words:

(5)

Do the poor have the right to dream? Why then does the author call Mukesh's dream 'a mirage'?

7. Answer the following in about 100-120 words:

(6)

How does William Dane's deceit and Sarah's desertion affect Silas?
