



**INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR**  
**PERIODIC TEST II: 2017 -2018**

**Std.: X****Marks: 80****Date: 12 /9/ 2017****ENGLISH****Time: 3 Hrs.****GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

- This paper consists of three sections:
 

Section A: Reading	(20Marks)
Section B: Writing & Grammar	(30Marks)
Section C: Literature & Long Reading Text	(30Marks)
- 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)****1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

Language is our primary source of communication. It's the method through which we share our ideas and thoughts with others. Some people even say that language is what separates us from animals and makes us human. There are thousands of languages in this world.

English was originally the language of England, but through the historical efforts of the British Empire it has become the primary or secondary language of many former British colonies such as the United States, Canada, Australia, and India. Currently, it is the main language of many business and cultural spheres dominated by those countries too. It is the language of Hollywood and the language of international banking and business.

There are several factors that make English language essential to communication in our current time. First of all, it is the most common foreign language. Two people who come from different countries usually use English as a common language to communicate. That's why everyone needs to learn the language in order to get in touch on an international level. Secondly, English is also essential to the field of education. In many countries, children are taught English as a second language. In other countries too, we will find many syllabi in Science and Engineering are written in English. Being the dominant language in the sciences, most of the research and studies in any given scientific field will be written in it as well.

On the Internet, the majority of websites are written and created in English. Even sites in other languages often give you the option to translate the site. It's the primary language of the press: more newspapers and books are written in English than in any other language, and no matter where in the world you are, you will find some of these books and newspapers available. With good understanding and communication in English, you can travel around the globe as it is the international language for foreigners. Any travel booking site you can find will have English as a booking option. English skills will also help you in any business venture. Any big company, especially companies who want to function at an international level, will hire their professional staff after getting to know whether the

people they are hiring are good at English or not. If you want to work in the entertainment industry, English is even more essential.

A time will come when everything will be understood, spoken and written in English. Although many people think that it is very difficult and confusing, English is actually the easiest language of the world to learn because there are so many resources available.

**a. Give very short answers for the following questions: (4)**

- i. How do we share our ideas and thoughts?
- ii. How did the language of the British become the secondary language in India?
- iii. Mention two factors that make English the essential language at present.
- iv. Which word in the passage replaces “at present”?

**b. Fill in the blanks with suitable words or phrases: (4)**

- i. .... differentiates us from animals.
- ii. With good communication in English, you can travel around the globe, as .....
- iii. .... make English the easiest language of the world to learn.
- iv. Curricula could replace the word.....in the passage.

**2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

A list of articles lost by railway travellers and now on sale at a great London station has been published, and many people who read it have been astonished at the absent-mindedness of their fellows. If statistical records were available on the subject, however, I doubt whether it would be found that absent-mindedness is common. It is the efficiency rather than the inefficiency of human memory that compels my wonder.

Modern man remembers even telephone numbers. He remembers the address of his friends. He remembers the dates of birthdays. He remembers appointments for lunch and dinner. His memory is crowded with the names of actors and actresses and cricketers and footballers and murderers. He can tell you what the weather was like in a long-past year, and the name of the provincial hotel at which he had a vile meal during the summer. In his ordinary life, again, he remembers almost everything that he is expected to remember. How many men in all London forget a single item of their clothing when dressing in the morning? Not one in ten thousand. And so it goes on through the day, almost everybody remembering to do the right thing at the right moment till it is time to go to bed, and then the ordinary man seldom forgets to turn off the lights before going upstairs.

There are, it must be admitted, some matters in regard to which the memory works with less than its usual perfection. It is only a very methodical man, I imagine, who can always remember to take medicine, his doctor has prescribed for him. This is the more surprising because medicine should be one of the easiest things to remember. As a rule, it is supposed to be taken before, during or after meals, and the meal itself should be a reminder of it. The fact remains, however, that few of us remember to take our medicine regularly.

Certain psychologists tell us that we forget things because we wish to forget them, and it may be that it is because of their dislike for pills and medicines that many people fail to remember them at the appointed hours. This does not explain, however, how is that a lifelong taker of medicines like myself is

as forgetful of them as those who take most unwillingly. The very idea of a new and widely advertised cure-all delights me. Yet, even if I have the stuff in my pockets, I forget about it as soon as the hour approaches at which I ought to swallow it. Chemists make their fortunes out of the medicines people forget to take.

The commonest form of forgetfulness, I suppose, occurs in posting letters. It is so common that I am always reluctant to trust a departing visitor to post an important letter. So, little did I rely on his memory that I make him promise before handing the letter to him. As for myself, if anyone ask me to carry the letter in my hand, I am always past the first letter box before I remember that I ought to have posted it. Weary of holding it in my hand, I then put it for safety into one of my pockets and forget all about it. After that, it stays there still a long chain of circumstances leads to a number of questions being asked, and I am compelled to produce the letter from my pocket. This, it might be thought, must be due to lack of interest in other people's letters; but that cannot be the explanation, for I even forget to post some of the few letters that I myself remember to write.

In trains and taxis, I can remember almost anything except books and walking sticks, and I can often remember even books. Walking sticks I find it quite impossible to keep. I have an old-fashioned taste for them, and I buy them frequently, but no sooner do I pay a visit to a friend's house or go on a journey on a train, than another stick is its way into the world of the lost. I dare not carry an umbrella to fear of losing it. To go through life without ever having lost an umbrella – has anybody ever achieved this?

- a. Answer the following questions briefly:** (8)
- i. Why were people astonished at the absent-mindedness of their fellows?
  - ii. Why do some people not remember to take medicines?
  - iii. How do chemists make their fortune?
  - iv. What is the commonest form of forgetfulness? Why?
- b. Choose the right answer for the following questions from those given below them:** (2)
- i. According to psychologists we forget things because .....
    1. we wish to forget
    2. dislike
    3. brain fails
    4. both 1 & 2  - ii. Writer usually forgets .....
    1. medicines
    2. umbrella
    3. walking sticks
    4. all the above
- c. Find the word from the passage which mean the following:** (2)
- i. not willing (para 5)
  - ii. rural or of a small town (para 2)

### SECTION B: WRITING & GRAMMAR

(30)

3. You are Rahul/ Rita. You happened to overhear the following dialogue:

*Vijay: School is so boring for me. How do you feel?*  
*Vipin: We are treated as machines and fed on mere facts.*  
*Vijay: I wish we could study only what we want.*

Write a letter to the District Education Officer suggesting how the educational curriculum could be made more flexible and relevant to the changing economy and environment. Use ideas from the unit on **Education** along with your own ideas in about 120 words. (8)

**OR**

You are Amir/Archana of Begumpet, Hyderabad. You are not happy with the sanitary conditions of your locality. You decide to write a letter to the Health Officer of your district showing your deep concern and dismay at the pitiable sanitary conditions of your area. Using hints below, your own ideas and ideas from the unit **Health and Medicine**, write the letter in about 120 words. (8)

- **Sanitary conditions deplorable**
- **heaps of garbage**
- **drainage blocked**
- **no dustbins**
- **sweepers don't visit regularly**
- **waterlogging and mosquitoes**
- **Flies spoiling food and causing disease**

4. Write a story in about 200-250 words using the given clues: (10)

a. Write a story using the following lines as its beginning.

*When Amit woke up in the morning and looked at his face in the mirror, he did not recognize the face looking back at him. This is not me he cried aloud.....*

**OR**

b. On the basis of the given outline, write a story.

*The illiterate boy..... caught for pickpocketing..... sent to juvenile prison ..... forced to do lessons..... becomes sullen rebellious..... watches French comic film on T.V. during recreation hour ..... fascinated with the language ..... requested coaching classes ..... a French tourist guide .....*

5. Complete the following passage by choosing the correct options from those given below it: (4)

Asha and I (a)\_\_\_\_\_ on M.G. Road when we saw an old man walking slowly towards us. He

(b) \_\_\_\_\_ around sixty, with silver - grey hair and a few wrinkles on his face, but he still

(c) \_\_\_\_\_ fit. He looked at Asha and smiled. She (d)\_\_\_\_\_ any sign of recognition.

(a)

- i. were shopping
- ii. have been shopping
- iii. had been shopping
- iv. shopping on

(b)

- i. might have been
- ii. would have been
- iii. might be
- iv. may be

(c)

- i. looking
- ii. looked
- iii. was looking
- iv. has looked

(d)

- i. had not shown
- ii. did not show
- iii. does not show
- iv. not shown

6. 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)

	incorrect	Correct
In this letter I am write about	e.g. write	writing
the picnic what I enjoyed. It	a. _____	_____
was a more pleasant day. A	b. _____	_____
cool breeze is blowing. It	c. _____	_____
was a season of mangoes.	d. _____	_____
We carry ripe mangoes with us. The	e. _____	_____
music proved very sweetly in such natural	f. _____	_____
surrounding. We enjoyed ourselves	g. _____	_____
in the river bank.	h. _____	_____

7. Using the information given below, complete the paragraph that follows. The first one has been done as an example. Don't write the printed words: (4)

- Cut a fresh onion into small pieces.
- Boil these pieces in 10 ml of distilled water for 3-4 min.
- Cool the solution.
- Filter the content to be used as food extract.
- Perform Benedict's test.
- The solution turns green, then orange and finally red.
- This confirms presence of glucose in onion.

In order to test the presence of glucose in onions the following experiment must be performed. First the onion is cut into small pieces. Then these onion pieces (a)\_\_\_\_\_ for 3-4 minutes. The solution is allowed to cool. It is then (b)\_\_\_\_\_. Now (c) \_\_\_\_\_ on the content. You will observe that initially the solution turned green, then orange and finally red. Thus, the presence of glucose in onion (d) \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION C: LITERATURE & LONG READING TEXT** (30)

8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: (4)

“Not marble, nor the gilded monuments  
of princes, shall out live this powerful rhyme.  
But you shall shine more bright in these contents  
than unswept stone, besmear'd with sluttish time”.

- a. What do you understand by the phrase “unswept stone”?
- b. “Nor marble nor the gilded monuments of princes shall outline this powerful rhyme”. Explain.
- c. What is the poetic device used in the last line?
- d. Why is time compared to a slut?

9. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each: (8)

- a. Why did Coachman Ali give up his favourite sport?
- b. Why does the woman dislike the mirror?

- c. To some extent, the nightingale was herself responsible for her downfall and death. Comment.
- d. How did Mrs. Mebbin exploit Mrs. Packletide?

**10. Answer either one of the following in about 100 - 120 words: (8)**

- a. *“The two boys’ devotion had touched me deeply. War had not broken their spirit. Their selfless action brought a new nobility to human life, gave promise of a greater hope for human society.”*

This is what you too felt on reading the lesson, **“Two Gentlemen of Verona”**. Write a letter to your friend bringing out the reasons.

**OR**

- b. *“I am certain..... our treatment of the elderly still seems to have no philosophy to it. As a society, we should establish whether we have a policy of life at any cost”, says Terry Pratchett*

You are quite shocked to know about the way the daughters of Abel Merryweather behaved after they thought he was dead. How that old man would have tolerated his daughters’ feelings, greed and intentions? You think about the plight of elderly and feel what Terry Pratchett told is quite right. Express your feelings in the form of a diary entry.

**11. Answer either one of the following in about 200-250 words: (10)**

- a. Ms. Sullivan understood Helen and taught her according to her abilities and needs. Comment on this statement in light of the innovative methods adopted by Ms. Sullivan.

**OR**

- b. Where Helen Keller's family lived, there were no resources for the blind and the deaf. Where did Helen's parents take her to see a famous eye doctor? How did the visit change Helen's life in a great way?

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