



**INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR**  
**II TERM EXAM: 2017-18**  
**ENGLISH (Core)**

Std.: XI

Marks: 80

Date: 23.11.2017

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. A piano teacher described an interesting encounter she had with a young lady who came to inquire about music lessons. The young lady asked her, “How long will this course take? My father tells me that it is in fashion now to be able to play musical instruments and that I should learn on quickly. I want something that will be quick, fast and easy like, like.....” When the amused teacher explained that it would take a lifetime of meticulous practice to learn music, her face fell and, needless to say, she never came back.
2. The single most important factor that distinguishes those of us who succeed in any venture and those of us who don’t is this ‘instant coffee’ attitude. Most of us want results quickly. We want to reach the top immediately and get worked up when things go wrong. Perseverance and patience are forgotten words. We get upset, frustrated and angry when a skill or activity requires us to put in a lot of effort and time. We get dejected and want to give it up. Things should be easy. Why should things take long? It is unfair!
3. Life is too short and there is not enough time to do all the things we want to. We tend to compare with others and get upset when they seem to be doing well dismissing their achievement as pure luck, or think that they have support, help, approach and that God is being too kind to them and not to us. And so we give up.
4. But such thinking serves no good. For, it doesn’t solve the problem. Life is tough for those with the ‘instant coffee’ attitude.
5. Success, real success, and happiness come to those who have a ‘bread-making’ attitude. Those who are willing to knead the dough wait for hours for it to rise, only to punch it down and denied some more, wait for another couple of hours for it to rise again, then bake it before it is ready to be eaten. Nothing is instantaneous. For every endeavour – whether in the area of career, academic, music, sports, relationships, physical fitness or even in spirituality – it is along arduous journey.
6. Only if we are willing to put in the time, painstaking effort and have faith can we get results. If we don’t accept this difficult, but true fact of life, our lives will be from being happy and fulfilling. For we may not make that extra effort which can change the course of life dramatically, for the good.
7. I often come across clients who have changed therapists – and do that even after they have spoken with me– because they are on the lookout for a therapist who will instantly give them relief from their problems. One who will ensure that by the time they reach home from the therapist’s office, they will have wonderfully, fulfilling relationships with their families! No wonder, most of us get bitter and disillusioned with life and ourselves and look for escape routes which seem to promise quick result.

8. The major problems with these ‘instant coffee’ solutions are that they are invariably short-lived. If we stubbornly refuse to give up this search for quick solutions, all we do is end up on the working track. We never gain anything lasting from them. However, if we just pause to analyse what we are doing, we will realize how much time we are wasting searching for such magical solutions which simply do not exist. We actually save time when we stop this futile search and accept the proven methods of trading the straight and narrow, however difficult it may seem initially.

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

- i. Piano teacher found the encounter interesting because \_\_\_\_\_.
- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| a. the girl wanted to learn fast              | c. of the girl’s attitude |
| b. she gave up, knowing it takes perseverance | d. All the above          |
- ii. “But such thinking serves no good” Why?
- |                           |                                  |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| a. God is not unjust      | c. Life is short                 |
| b. perseverance is needed | d. it does not solve the problem |
- iii. The word from the passage which is the antonym of inspired is \_\_\_\_\_.
- |                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| a. disillusioned | c. meticulous |
| b. wasted        | d. dismissing |

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

- Why did the young lady wishing to learn piano not go back to her teacher?
- What does instant coffee attitude stand for?
- How can we change the course of our life for the good?
- What qualities do people with a bread making attitude have?
- What provokes people to change therapists?
- Why do people give up very fast?

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

- |                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| a. endeavour       | (para 2) |
| b. being obstinate | (para 8) |
| c. toilsome        | (para 5) |

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

- Convenient, inexpensive, good for you and delicious: they have it all! Peanuts are the most popular and consumed nuts in the United States and can be found nearly everywhere. Perfect for a quick snack to cut a craving before grocery shopping or to boost your energy before a workout, a large selection of peanuts can be found at most gas stations, convenience stores and, of course, grocery stores. Not only do adults love these healthy treats, but research also shows that kids love the taste of peanuts. Recognized as a great source of protein and fiber, a handful of these nuts provide a highly nutrient food for less than 200 calories.
- According to the Peanut Institute, the peanut plant originated in South America, probably first domesticated and cultivated in the valleys of Paraguay. Spread by European explorers and traders, the plant eventually reached Asia, Africa and North America. Millions of peanuts are grown and consumed around the world. Peanuts started to be produced in large quantities in the 1900s due to the growing popularity of peanut butter, peanut candies and other peanut products.

3. Although peanuts come in many varieties, four main types can be found in the United States: Virginia Peanuts, Runner Peanuts, Spanish Peanuts and Valencia Peanuts. Peanuts are a wonderful food, rich in nutrients and flavour. The combination of fibre and protein in peanuts satiates hunger. Thus, eating peanuts helps manage weight and provide the key nutrients that are important to diets. Peanuts are also natural energy boosters that contain healthy fats, proteins and antioxidants. Research shows that eating peanuts can decrease your risk of heart disease, diabetes and other chronic health conditions. Peanut butter is also full of the good kind of fat known as monounsaturated fat that is heart-healthy and prevents belly fat that people get from carbohydrates or saturated fat.
4. For centuries, peanuts have been used in many culinary applications, including Chinese, African and Western cooking – in stews, sauces, mixed dishes, boiled or even plain – nourishing various populations with an enjoyable flavour. The great advantages of using peanuts in the kitchen are their availability and affordability. Peanut oil is also becoming a popular option for cooking because of its healthy fats and high cooking temperature.
- 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. You are the Manager, Herbal India Ltd. Draft an **advertisement** for your company for the post of two Sales Executives in the **classified columns** of the local daily. Specify your requirements: qualification, experience, personality etc. (4)

OR

On the occasion of National Science and Technology Day, the school has decided to organise a Science Fair. Vikram, the secretary of the Science Society, wants to call a meeting of the office bearers of the society to discuss the arrangements for the fair. Write a **notice** is not more than 50 words. (4)

- IV. You are Sadhana / Shubham. Summer time is a difficult time for all the dwellers of Metro Cities because of the acute shortage of water as well as the supply of polluted water. In some areas they are getting polluted water even after the process of filtration. Write a **letter to the Municipal Commissioner** to take effective steps for proper supply of clean water and make arrangements to store rain water that can be utilized in other works. Also give suggestions to create awareness among the people to save water. (6)

OR

You attended a career counseling programme organised by “Career India”. You had the opportunity of listening to professionals from various fields like food, technology, fashion technology and media management. Write a **letter to the Editor** of a local newspaper suggesting that such programmes should be arranged in Govt. Sr. Sec. Schools. You are Sakshi/Saksham, student of class XI. (6)

- V. Himani / Hemant, a student of class XI, Vishal Bharti School, Paschim Vihar, Delhi feel depressed at the pollution caused by vehicular traffic noise, flowing of industrial effluents into Yamuna River, frequent and unending traffic jams, crackers, polythene bags etc. She / he decides to write an article as ‘Pollution Control Drive’ for publication in ‘The Indian Express’. Write the **article**. (10)

OR

You are a press reporter. Recently the railways cancelled a few trains due to floods. Passengers were stranded at the New Delhi Railway station. Write **a report** in about (150-200) words high lighting the problems faced by the passengers by using the following inputs.

- More than thousand passengers on the platform.
- Total Chaos.
- No authentic information available.
- Inadequate food, tea and baby milk.
- Road travel very expensive
- No electricity.

(10)

**VI.** The following passage is not edited. One word is **omitted** from each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and the word that comes after it in your answer sheet. Ensure that the word that forms your answer is underlined. (4)

	Before	Word	After
When he was younger had fallen sick, everyone	a. ....	.....	.....
in the neighbourhood had come to ask his health.	b. ....	.....	.....
Now, when his days drawing to a close, no one	c. ....	.....	.....
visited him. Most of old friends were dead. His	d. ....	.....	.....
sons had grown up; one was working a local garage,	e. ....	.....	.....
the other had stayed in Pakistan he was at the time of	f. ....	.....	.....
partition. The children, had bought kites from him ten	g. ....	.....	.....
years ago, were now adults struggling for living.	h. ....	.....	.....

**VII. Re-arrange the following words to make meaningful sentences:** (3)

- a. of a chariot/ with the/ the temple/ as the/ Sun God/ is in the form/ charioteer
- b. is famous for/ its sculptures/ representing the/ the temple/ of warriors, animals and lovers/ daily life
- c. in bygone eras/ stand testimony/ many Indian temples/ that existed/ high level of art/ to the

**VIII. Rewrite the following sentences after making necessary corrections:** (3)

- a. As he is fat, so he walks slowly.
- b. This is the last edition of the book.
- c. He hanged his shirt on a peg.

**SECTION C: LITERATURE & LONG READING TEXT**

**(30 Marks)**

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

**(3)**

“When did my childhood go?  
Was it the day I ceased to be eleven.  
Was it the time I realised that Hell and Heaven,  
Could not be found in Geography,  
And therefore could not be.”

- a. In what context is eleven mentioned in the above lines?
- b. Why, according to the poet, do Hell and Heaven not exist?
- c. What aspect of human nature is depicted here?

OR

And forever, by day and night, I give back life to my own origin,  
And make pure and beautify it;  
(For song issuing from its birth-place, after fulfilment, wandering  
Reck'd or unreck'd duly with love returns.)

- a. Who is "I" and how does it give back life to its origin?
- b. How does it make its origin pure and beautiful?
- c. Why is the last two lines put within brackets? What is the parallel drawn between rain and music?

**X. Answer any three of the following questions in 30-40 words each: (9)**

- a. "You only notice when something is missing, because it has to be repaired or because you have lent it, for example." The streak of sarcasm in the narrator's comment conveys a higher truth. Substantiate.
- b. What plan did Albert Einstein make to avoid going to school? Who all helped him in this venture?
- c. Why did the narrator feel that he was not the best captain? What was the surprise in store for him?
- d. Nature echoed the unnatural happenings with King Tut's body. Comment.

**XI. Answer the following questions in about 125-150 words: (6)**

- a. In the nineteenth century Europe, the idea of a woman violating her marriage vows and exhibiting a mind of her own by refusing to render unquestioning obedience to her husband was something alien. **Mother's Day** is a critical depiction of the status of the mother in the family which raises certain issues. What are the issues and how does the play resolve these?

OR

- b. Nani Palkhivala in his essay, *The Ailing Planet: Green Movements Role*, calls man the most dangerous animal. How does he defend his view point and at the same time holds out hope for the mankind?

**XII. Answer the following questions in 125-150 words: (12)**

- a. "Never in a brilliant and uninterrupted career of 300 years, had he been so grossly insulted". Elucidate the statement on the basis of his treatment by the Otises.
- b. How well does the writer of "The Canterville Ghost" portray fear, mystery, suspense, and supernatural happenings in the story?

\*\*\*\*\*