



INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR
FINAL EXAM: 2017-18
ENGLISH (Core)

Std.: XI

Marks: 80

Date: 27.2.2018

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. Many of us believe that “small” means “insignificant”. We believe that small actions and choices do not have much impact on our lives. We think that it is only the big things, the big actions and the big decisions that really count. But when you look at the lives of all great people, you will see that they built their character through small decisions, small choices and small actions that they performed every day. They transformed their lives through a step-by-step or day-by-day approach. They nurtured and nourished their good habits and chipped away at their bad habits, one step at a time. It was their small day-to-day decisions that added up to make tremendous difference in the long run. Indeed, in matters of personal growth and character building, there is no such thing as an overnight success.
2. Growth always occurs through a sequential series of stages. There is an organic process to growth. When we look at children growing up, we can see this process at work: the child first learns to crawl, then to stand and walk, and finally to run. The same is true in the natural world. The soil must first be tilled, and then the seed must be sowed. Next, it must be nurtured with enough water and sunlight, and only then will it grow, bear fruit and finally ripen and be ready to eat.
3. Gandhi understood this organic process and used this universal law of nature to his benefit. Gandhi grew in small ways, in his day-to-day affairs. He did not wake up one day and find himself to be the “Mahatma”. In fact, there was nothing much in his early life that showed signs of greatness. But from his mid-twenties onwards, he deliberately and consistently attempted to change himself, reform himself and grow in some small way every day. Day by day, hour by hour, he risked failure, experimented and learnt from mistakes. In small and large situations alike, he took up rather than avoid responsibility.
4. People have always marvelled at the effortless way in which Gandhi could accomplish the most difficult tasks. He displayed great deal of self-mastery and discipline that was amazing. These things did not come easily to him. Years of practice and disciplined training went into making his successes possible. Very few saw his struggles, fears, doubts and anxieties, or his inner efforts to overcome them. They saw the victory, but not the struggle.
5. This is a common factor in the lives of all great people: they exercised their freedoms and choices in small ways that made great impact on their lives and their environment. Each of their small decisions and actions, added up to have a profound impact in the long run. By understanding this principle, we can move forward, with confidence, in the direction of our dreams. Often when our “ideal goal” looks too far

from us, we become easily discouraged, disheartened and pessimistic. However, when we choose to grow in small ways, taking small steps one at a time, performing it becomes easy.

1. On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given options: (4)

- i. The main idea in the first paragraph is that
 - a. Big things, big actions and big decisions make a person great
 - b. Small actions and decisions are important in one's life
 - c. Overnight success is possible for all of us
 - d. Personal changes are not important
- ii. What does the writer mean by saying 'chipped away at their bad habits'?
 - a. Steadily gave up bad habits
 - b. Slowly produced bad habits
 - c. Gradually criticized bad habits
 - d. Did not like bad habits
- iii. Which of the following statements is true in the context of the third paragraph?
 - a. Gandhi became great overnight
 - b. Gandhi showed signs of greatness in childhood itself
 - c. Every day Gandhi made efforts to change himself in some small way
 - d. Gandhi never made mistakes
- iv. What is done by great people to transform their lives?
 - a. They approach life on a day-by-day basis
 - b. They build character in small ways
 - c. They believe in performing everyday
 - d. All of these

2. Answer the following questions briefly: (6)

- i. How do small actions and choices impact our lives?
- ii. Describe organic process of growth through an example from the text.
- iii. What according to the author is the 'universal law of nature'?
- iv. How did Gandhi accomplish the most difficult tasks effortlessly?
- v. Which things about Gandhi's life were not seen by most people?
- vi. How can we achieve our 'ideal goals'?

3. Find out words from the passage which mean the same as the following: (2)

- a. intentionally / purposely (para 3)
- b. of deep significance; far-reaching (para 5)

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

1. Whether work should be placed among the causes of happiness or among the causes of unhappiness may perhaps be regarded as a doubtful question. There is certainly much work which is exceedingly irksome, and an excess of work is always very painful. However, work is not, to most people, more painful than idleness. There are, in work, all grades; from more relief of tedium up to the profoundest delights, according to the nature of the work and the abilities of the worker. Most of the work that most people have to do is not interesting in itself, but even that work has certain great advantages. To begin with, it fills a good many hours of the day without the need of deciding what one shall do.
2. Most people, when they are left free to fill their own time according to their own choice, are at a loss to think of anything sufficiently pleasant to be worth doing. And whatever they decide on, they are troubled by the feeling that something else would have been more pleasant here. To be able to fill leisure

intelligently is the last product of civilization and at present very few people have reached this level. Moreover, the exercise of choice is tiresome in itself. Except, to people with unusual initiative, it is positively agreeable to be told what to do at each hour of the day, provided the orders are not too unpleasant. Most of the idle rich suffer unspeakable boredom.

3. At times they may find relief by hunting big game in Africa or by flying around the world, but the number of such sensations is limited, especially after youth is past. Accordingly, the more intelligent rich men work nearly as hard as if they were poor. Work, therefore is desirable, first and foremost as a preventive of boredom, although uninteresting work is as boring as having nothing to do. With this advantage of work, another associated advantage is that it makes holidays much more delicious when they come. Provided that a man does not have to work so hard as to impair his vigour, he is likely to find far more zest than an idle man would possibly find.
4. The second advantage of most paid work and some of unpaid work is that it gives chances of success and opportunities for ambition. In most work, success is measured by income and while our capitalistic society continues, this is inevitable. However dull work too, becomes bearable, if it is a means of building up a reputation. Continuity of purpose is one of the most essential ingredients of happiness and that comes chiefly through work.
 - 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 Amit/Ananya, a member of the Blood Bank Society. You have been asked by the President of the Society to organize a blood Donation Camp. Write a **notice** to be issued on behalf of him urging people to come in large numbers for this noble cause. Mention date, time, venue etc. (50 words) (4)

OR

You are Personal Assistant to G.M., ABC Metal Tools Company. Your General Manager has asked you to draft an advertisement for a local daily in the classified column for the post of two engineers. Draft an advertisement. (50 words) (4)

- IV. You are Akshita/ Akshay staying at 15, Agra Road, Kanpur. Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper highlighting the necessity of having better facilities for pedestrians by improving the condition of the footpaths in your city. You may use the following notes. (150 words) (6)

- narrow footpaths
- pedestrians prone to accidents
- unauthorized hawkers on pavements
- pools of stagnant water

OR

You are Arun/Anita Basu living at 1765, Sector20, Chandigarh. You come across the following advertisement.

POSTAL CLASSES

Diploma in Waste Water Management – Duration one year. Practicals arranged. minimum qualification SSCE first division. Prospectus free. Contact-Director, Eco-Centre, P.B.1037, Bengaluru-560019

Write a letter to the Director asking for detailed information of the course, fee structure, Assignments, Personal Contact Programme and job opportunities. Request for the prospectus and enclose a self-addressed envelope. (150 words) (6)

- V. You are Neha/Navin. You see the following poster on the evils of drugs consumption. Write an article in about 150-200 words on “Drug Abuse Among Students” point out the harms caused by the addict to himself and the society. (10)



OR

Suresh has been asked to Deliver a speech on The Brain Drain problem. He has prepared the following notes. Use these notes together with your own ideas, and write the speech in about 150-200 words (10)

Notes:

- Causes : better facilities, living conditions and salary - opportunities for fulfilment of ambitions - development of personality
- Effect : Parent country loser – depletion of resources – immigrant second grade citizen – memories of relatives and friends – cut off from social modes and customs – alien culture
- Measures suggested : improvement in living conditions – better facilities – recognition of talent – proper utilization – freedom for experimentation and research

VI. The following passage is **not edited**. There is one error in each line. Find the error in the line. Write the error and the correct word in front of the right number in your answer sheet. (4)

	Incorrect	Correct
Children are fond to coconut.	a.
It is the bigger of all nuts and	b.
are indeed a wonderful fruit.	c.
It grows in a tall palm tree and	d.
is find in tropical countries near	e.
a sea shore. The name was giving to it	f.
by the Portuguese. ‘Coco’ was a Portuguese	g.
word with a bugbear or a distorted mask.	h.

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

- Indian farmers/ the English/ the/ exploited/ they/ and/ had to/ high taxes/ pay/ very
- natural disasters/ farmers/ share of taxes/ even/ the/ had to/ their/ in times of/pay
- also, / cultivate/ they/ asked them to/ had to/ those/ which/ crops/ the English/ cultivate

VIII. Rewrite the following sentences after making necessary changes as directed: (3)

- The population of Indonesia is greater than Thailand. (Correct the sentence)
- They did..... (Complete the sentence using a noun clause)
- When I was a child, they called me Bunny. (Change the **voice**)

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

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

*“Father and son, we both must live
On the same globe and the same land,
He speaks: I cannot understand
Myself, why anger grows from grief.
We each put out an empty hand,
Longing for something to forgive”*

- How do they live?
- What emotions does the father experience?
- Explain: “we each put out an empty hand”.

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.)”*

- What does it do day and night?
- What is its origin? How does it give back life to its own origin?
- How does the poet justify the expression ‘I am the poem of the earth’ in the last lines?

- X. Answer any three of the following questions in 30-40 words each: (9)**
- Compare and contrast the routine of the grandmother in the village with that of it in the city.
 - Who is Howard Carter? What did he do that put King Tut's mummy in a bad condition?
 - How does Shastriji become a pawn in the hands of the narrator to serve his purpose?
 - Why did Albert need a medical certificate so badly?

- XI. Answer the following questions in about 125-150 words: (6)**
- "History more often records the brilliant successes and spectacular defeats of contending forces than the effect of war on the common people."*, says Mildred Cable. The story *Address* brings before us the effect of war on human life and relations. Write an article on **the Effects of War** as portrayed in the story.

OR

- "Population Explosion" is the main factor disfiguring the future of the human society.* How has the growth of world population contributed to the critical environment situation today? Express your views with due reference to the text

- XII. Answer the following questions in 125-150 words: (12)**
- Virginia holds a composite dialogue to bring two cultures together. Justify it.
 - It was the ghost who was haunted by the American family. Explain the statement indicating instances from the novel.
