



INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR

PRE-BOARD: 2017 -2018

Std.: X**Marks: 80****Date: 6 /2/ 2018****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:**

Handwriting is an essential skill for both children and adults. For younger children, handwriting activates the brain more than keyboarding because it involves more complex motor and cognitive skills. Handwriting contributes to reading fluency because it activates visual perception of letters. More than that, it is a predictor of success in other subjects, because good handwriting has a positive impact on grades. Cursive writing helps students with dyslexia. Children can have a very hard time with writing in print because many of the letters look similar, particularly b and d. Cursive writing offers each letter a very different look and allows the pupil to write in a flowing, comfortable way. This can decrease their dyslexic tendencies and make them more confident in their abilities.

As children get older, many standardized assessments are based on written work, particularly in time-limited written examinations. Without fast and legible handwriting, students will miss out on learning opportunities, under-achieve and may fall behind. Good handwriting remains as a major form of assessment for many formal qualifications. Illegible handwriting can cause poor self-esteem. Poor self-esteem can trigger loss of confidence. Children who experience difficulty mastering handwriting may avoid writing and produce poor written work. Children with poor handwriting will find it hard to proof read their own work. They will then fail to spot their mistakes and their confidence may dip even lower.

Examiners need to decipher what is written. Otherwise, pupils will achieve lower marks, even where the content may be good. Handwriting is critical to creative, well-crafted text affecting both fluency and the quality of the composition. Legible writing that can be produced comfortably, with a genuine desire and with a little conscious effort, allows a child to attend to the higher-level aspects of writing composition. Handwriting contributes to better writers. Children who have mastered it are better, more creative writers. Handwriting is crucial for note taking. Taking notes by hand is vital for all students of all ages because it improves attention, comprehension, and results. Students' notes must be self-legible, otherwise they are worthless.

Good handwriting is essential long after graduation. In our modern world, in all walks of life, people are judged by their handwriting. Jotting down a shopping list, writing a birthday card, taking down a phone message, completing a form at the bank, filling out immigration forms- handwriting is part of our daily lives. It is on show to others and may be used to make judgments about us. Learning to write letters and numbers correctly is especially important when writing down e-mail addresses, website URL's, and phone numbers. One wrong letter or number can prevent communication.

Good writing skills can help you in life. If you're trying to get a job, good writing skills make you more desirable to the employer. One of the first things an employer looks at is your cover letter or resume.

Throughout life, children, students, teachers, lecturers, parents feel happy, confident and inspired by good handwriting skills. Good handwriting is the platform for achievement in the workplace and self-assurance in life. It is, and will remain, the key to progress and success.

a. Give very short answers for the following questions:

(4)

- i. How does cursive writing curb dyslexic tendencies?
- ii. How does the lack of good handwriting affect children as they grow older?
- iii. "Taking notes by hand is vital". Why?
- iv. Why do you think a good handwriting is important in modern world?

b. Fill in the blanks with suitable words or phrases:

(4)

- i. Handwriting activates the brain more than keyboarding because
- ii. Legible writing can be achieved
- iii.will remain the key to progress and success.
- iv.activate loss of confidence.

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

1. I felt stupid, being made to stand on the desk while the other kids were bent over their notebooks. I couldn't understand my new school or my new classmates, or their alien language – English – and the fact that they could do sums in their head, while I struggled with a paper and pencil. For me, at age six, the good times had ended. Life seemed a far cry from those days in Nellore, Andhra Pradesh, all thanks to my grandfather's reflected glory. He was a military doctor, a great man, and I lived with him. And so even policemen gave me affectionate salaams, which I learned to acknowledge with a nod. I'd simply lay my head down on the desk and sleep in class, if bored. I was a pampered little prince.
2. In early 1971, my parents decided it was time I moved to Bombay where father worked. My first few days were a disaster. No one spoke Tamil or Telugu, the only languages I knew. I couldn't keep pace with their writing or reading. Then one day, a slight plump lady with large spectacles, wearing trousers walked into the classroom. "Hello," she said. "My name is Miss Jean. I am your new class teacher." She'd done her homework. Spotting me in a back corner, she beckoned me to the front. My almost empty notebooks must have given Miss Jean a clue that I needed the extra attention. If the class had to write a page, I'd be made to write two. Even during PT, I had to stay back and write. When I was caught sneaking to the window to watch the others playing, Miss Jean put me in the middle row, far from the windows.
3. I made some progress and Miss Jean made it a point to praise every little achievement. If I did my work wrong, she'd call me to her desk, hug me and show me how to correct my errors. Mistakes were only human in her eyes, but neglecting home-work was a crime – there'd be a terse comment in my diary for Mother to see. And I'd be grounded that evening. Meanwhile I was getting possessive and minded if another child got more hugs. By Christmas, I stood fifth in class. "I am very proud of Srikant," she told the class after reading out the marks. I related that moment to Mother again and again. When I returned after summer vacations, I heard that Miss Jean had got married and was going to Australia.

4. Many years went by. I graduated in engineering, then in management, got a job, got married and had kids. One day I found myself thinking of Miss Jean. Soon afterwards I found myself in Sydney, Australia on an official trip. I tried looking up my teacher in the phone book. But it was of no help as I did not even know her surname. Thank you Miss Jean wherever you are for the tact and patience with which you taught me.

a. Answer the following questions briefly:

(8)

- i. Why was the author given a preferential treatment when he was a child?
- ii. The author could not mix with his new classmates. Why?
- iii. Why did Miss Jean put the author in the middle row?
- iv. Why did the author's efforts to trace her in Australia fail?

b. Choose the right answer for the following questions from those given below them:

(2)

- i. The author became so possessive of Miss Jean that.....
 1. he went to Australia
 2. he resented her hugging others
 3. he resented a child getting more hugs
 4. both 1 & 2
- ii. "a far cry" means
 1. a loud cry
 2. very different
 3. very different cry
 4. none of the above

c. Find the word from the passage which mean the following:

(2)

- i. gestured (para 2)
- ii. punished (para 3)

SECTION B: WRITING & GRAMMAR

(30)

3. Read the following excerpt from a newspaper.



A Swiss couple have been attacked at Fatehpur Sikri, a monument 44km (27 miles) from the Taj Mahal, Indian police say.

A group of men, reported to number three or four, attacked Quentin Jeremy Clerc and Marie Droz after an argument on Sunday in Agra district.

The above newspaper clipping tells us about the attitude of people towards tourists. Such incidents hamper the scope of tourism in India. Write a **letter to the Editor** of a National Daily highlighting the need for promoting tourism in India and the necessary measures required for the purpose. (120 words) **(8)**

OR

You are Garima / Chaitanya living at E-5/26, Sect-16, Rohini, New Delhi. Your streets and roads experience water logging during the monsoon season. The people of your area find it difficult to lead normal life and this adds to their problems. Write a letter to the commissioner of MCD, Delhi to take necessary steps to control the water logging and help the residents. (120 words) (8)

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.

On Sunday I was watching T.V. Suddenly I heard people shouting outside. I was quite surprised as it was unusual. Sunday evenings are usually very quiet.

OR

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

*Bungalow.....none staying.....believed haunted.....tried to sell.....all like
.....fix price.....but turns away..... thought of giving away.... low price.... son
comes.....finds odd.....finally no one could believe his own nephew!*

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

There is a great difference (a) _____ faith and what people call belief. (b) _____ belief is superficial and is easily (c) _____, faith makes us strong. We cannot have faith in God (d) _____ we know that He exists.

- a. i) among ii) between iii) in iv) from c. i) shaking ii) shaken iii) shake iv) shook
b. i) while ii) when iii) since iv) where d. i) since ii) so iii) that iv) unless

6. The following passage has **not been edited**. There is an error in each line against which a blank is given. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet against the correct blank number as given in the example. Remember to underline the word that you have supplied. (4)

	in correct	correct
Automated Teller Machines has revolutionized	e.g. has	<u>have</u>
banking and made life easiest. Bank customers can	a. _____	_____
now withdraw money of their account anytime and	b. _____	_____
somewhere in their own country	c. _____	_____
or even from other parts of the world. However	d. _____	_____
they can also malfunction.		

7. Read the headlines and complete the sentences by choosing correct answers from the options given below: (4)

a. Man arrested for selling drugs in a college campus.

A forty-year-old man _____ in South Delhi college yesterday.

- i) will be arrested for selling drugs
ii) is arrested for selling drugs

- iii) was arrested for selling drugs
- iv) has arrested for selling drugs

b. Noida on Decongestion Drive.

Three new elevated roads and four new underpasses _____ .

- i) are constructed to decongest Noida
- ii) have constructed to decongest Noida.
- iii) will be constructed to decongest Noida.
- iv) has been constructed to decongest Noida.

c. Now Kidney Damage can be Detected Early.

A new technique for _____ many lives in future.

- i) early detection of Kidney Diseases could save
- ii) early detection of Kidney Diseases should save
- iii) early detection of Kidney Diseases has saved.
- iv) early detection of Kidney Diseases have saved.

d. 300 dead in Indonesia.

More than 300 people _____ in a quake-triggered Tsunami in Mentawai Islands in Indonesia.

- i) are died
- ii) have been reported dead
- iii) have reported dead
- iv) report to be dead

SECTION C: LITERATURE & LONG READING TEXT

(30)

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

(4)

*My credit now stands on such slippery ground
That one of two bad ways you must conceit me,
Either a coward or a flatterer.*

- i. Who is the speaker? Who is addressed as *you*?
- ii. Why does he feel that he *stands on slippery ground*?
- iii. Why would they think that he is a coward?
- iv. What values does Antony exhibit?

OR

*And I had done a hellish thing
And it would work 'em woe:
For all averred, I had killed the bird
That made the breeze to blow
Ah wretch! said they, the bird to slay,
That made the breeze to blow!*

- i. What 'hellish thing' had the speaker done?
- ii. Explain 'And it would work 'em woe'.
- iii. Why was the act considered 'hellish'?
- iv. What was the reaction of the mariners?

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

- a. What message is conveyed through the poem **Ozymandias**?
- b. **Where there is a will there is a way**. How did the two boys of Verona prove it?
- c. How is the hypocrisy of the two sisters brought out in the play **The Dear Departed**?
- d. Highlight the inner turmoil of the woman in the **Mirror**?
- e. The name “Les Fauves” suits Miss Mebbin’s cottage very well. Why?

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

- a. *“Dear Michael, it said. Thank you! I am not sure how it happened, but thanks. You saved my life.”*
Even though Michael did not know Shultz personally, he made every attempt to save him. What values did Michael display?

OR

- b. *But the postmaster now watched them as eagerly as though each contained a warm, beating heart. He no longer thought of them in terms of envelopes and post cards. He saw the essential human worth of a letter.*

What change has come over in the postmaster? Which incident has brought about this change?

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

- a. Helen was accused of plagiarism. Why? How did it suffocate the budding writer in Helen and how did she come out of it?

OR

- b. Explain how Bishop Brooks and Dr. Alexander Graham Bell influenced Helen.
