



INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR
FINAL EXAMINATION (2019- 2020)
ENGLISH (CORE)

CLASS: XI

DATE: 06/02/2020

MAX. MARKS: 80

DURATION: 3 HOURS

General Instructions:

- This paper is divided into three sections:
Section A: Reading (20 Marks)
Section B: Advanced Writing Skills & Grammar (30 Marks)
Section C: Literature (30 Marks)
- 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)

1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

(8)

1. Discipline means abiding by, or adhering to, certain rules or norms of social life. Discipline is what a person imposes on himself taking it as his duty to God, to society, or to other institutions. It demands a strict control over an individual's rights and privileges, which if allowed to swell uncurbed and unregulated may result in disorder and anarchy in social and political life of a country. Discipline is vital to a successful life. Without discipline an army is reduced to a disordered mob, democracy degenerates into monarchy and social life becomes chaotic and anarchical.

2. Nature provides the best example of discipline in life. In nature all the planets move in their orbit; the seasons change in accordance with a set order, day and night follow each other at regular intervals, Man must take lessons from nature.

3. Discipline is of prime importance in every sphere of man's life. In a family, members have to work as a cohesive team under the charge of the 'pater familias' i.e., the father or the bread-winner. But if the sense of discipline is not instilled into the minds of the members, each going his own way in his own manner, life in the family becomes a living hell. In our social life, we are required to follow certain norms of behaviour and make a harmonious adjustment between our rights and duties. Without this, our social life will become a mess and will soon go out of gear. Even in small day-to-day things like walking along the road, boarding a bus, buying a ticket from the counter or getting a work done in a government office, citizens must show a sense of discipline.

4. Discipline is the backbone of the political life of a nation. If a leader is himself undisciplined, he cannot even dream of becoming a beloved leader of the people. Discipline and democracy go hand in hand. Democracy necessitates a balance between rights and duties, between 'self-regarding actions' and 'other regarding actions'. But if in a democracy discipline is lacking, it will function like a fast running automobile without brakes. It is bound to result in chaos, and be replaced by a dictatorship or a totalitarian government sooner or later.

5. Some people entertain the erroneous belief that discipline is a constraint on liberty and self-fulfillment. They are averse to discipline and they react very sharply whenever some restrictions are imposed. This is not correct. This type of freedom degenerates into license. We must realize that discipline alone can ensure all-round progress and advancement of the country.

6. Infact, discipline is the basic principle behind the progress and smooth working of an individual and a nation. It is essential for the preservation of social values. But discipline should be inborn and self-imposed rather than externally imposed. It should be a tenor and mode of life based upon moral basis rather than an external compulsion caused by an unscrupulous and power-hungry authoritarian government. It should be taught by education and enlightenment.

a. On the basis of your reading of the passage, **make notes** on it, using headings and sub headings. Use recognizable **abbreviations** wherever necessary (minimum four) and a suitable format. **(5)**

b. Write a **summary** of the passage in not more than **80 words** using the notes made. Also supply an appropriate **title** to it. **(3)**

2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: (12)

1. Given the standing of some of its institutions of higher learning, the IITs and IIMs, India is a potential knowledge power. Realising the potential, however, is not going to be easy. The impressive strides made by Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) notwithstanding, universal access to quality school education- a minimum necessary condition for any progress towards making India a knowledge society', as the 2006 report of the National Knowledge Commission (NKC) puts it-remains a distant goal.

2. The number of school buildings for elementary and secondary education falls far short of requirements and so does the number of qualified teachers. The pressure on government budgets, which forces governments to hire teachers on contract paying a pittance of a salary, is playing havoc with quality. While the incursion of the private sector in the field is providing some competition, mechanisms to enforce the required standards are lacking.

3. Not that there are no national standards or standards-enforcing agencies. We have the National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) to bring out textbooks in various subjects for school education. The central government runs several model schools. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) conducts examinations for schools affiliated to it across the country. The states too have their school boards to conduct exams and enforce minimum standards. However, the standards vary widely. In their anxiety to show spectacular performance, some states are overly lenient-in marking answer papers.

4. Questions arise even over the standards applied by CBSE. Going by the number of students securing 90% or more in their higher secondary exam, it would appear India is on the brink of a knowledge revolution. The numbers are so large that the cut-off point for admission to top colleges is now above 90%. However, admissions to IITs and medical colleges are not based only on CBSE or state board exam results. Leading undergraduate colleges offering non-professional degree courses hold their own admission tests. Obviously, higher secondary school results are not taken to be a reliable index of the quality of a student's learning capability or potential.

5. It is not difficult to see why. In the CBSE class XII examination, the number of successful candidates securing more than 90% in economics one year turned out to be over 8000 in the Delhi region alone; in English it was above 9000. The numbers seem to be growing every year. If the country produces so many children who attain very high levels of performance even before graduation, we can expect India to produce Amartya Sens by the dozens.

6. While scoring high marks or even 100 out of 100 may not be out of a good student's reach in subjects like Mathematics or Physics, it is difficult to figure out the quality of the answers that fetch 90% marks in Economics or English. The standards applied by higher secondary boards like CBSE seem to have been diluted to the point that leaves a big gap between what students learn at school and what they have to face on entering institutions of higher learning. Thriving teaching shops around the country promise to bridge that gap.

7. Teachers do not like to be compelled to look at textbooks they are not familiar with. Those who revel in seeing students score 90% are chary of ushering in something that may stop the rush of such scores. Lastly, even teaching shops see red as they fear loss of business if the higher secondary finalists can get their skills upgraded without buying their help. One wonders if our Knowledge Commission is aware of these insidious impediments to India's knowledge ambitions.

(A) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, answer the following questions by choosing the correct option. (4)

(i) Textbooks on various subjects for school education are brought out by:

- (a) CBSE (b) SSA (c) NCERT (d) NKC

(ii) What is the tone of the writer when he remarks: 'India is on the brink of a knowledge revolution.'

- (a) Optimistic (b) Imaginative (c) Sarcastic (d) Presumptuous

(iii) What are some states doing to show good performances?

- (a) Leniency in marking (b) Following their own school boards (c) Following CBSE (d) All of these

(iv) Why do teachers oppose the new textbooks?

- (a) They are not accustomed to them. (b) They want students to score good marks.
(c) They are happy with the old books. (d) Teaching shops would lose their business.

(B) Answer the following questions briefly. (6)

(i) What remains a distant goal?

(ii) What is the main factor that has affected the quality of education?

(iii) Which are the standard enforcing agencies in India?

(iv) Why do leading undergraduate colleges hold their own admission tests?

(v) What is the problem created by the results of CBSE examinations?

(vi) Why does the author state, "We can expect India to produce Amartya Sens by the dozens"?

(C) Pick out one word from the passage that means the same as: (2)

- (i) reputation (Para 1) (ii) impressive (Para 3)

SECTION B: ADVANCED WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (30 Marks)

3. You are Rama Rao of Class XII, St. Thomas School, Ajmer. You are also the Secretary of the Students' Council of your school. Write a **notice** in about **50 words** for the students of XI and XII who would like to go on an excursion to South India. Invent all necessary details. **(4)**

OR

You have recently constructed a house with all facilities in a posh area. You have decided to give it on rent. Draft a **classified advertisement** in about **50 words** to be published in a local daily about it. Invent necessary details. **(4)**

4. The Pre-Board English Examination of Happy Valley School, Secunderabad is to be held on the same day as is the All India Entrance Exam for Indian School of Languages. As Kiran Seth the prefect of Class XII, write a **letter** in about **150 words** to **the Principal** of your school requesting him/her to change the date of the school, English Exam. **(6)**

OR

You are Naresh Pandey of B-98 Fort Road, New Delhi. You have read the advertisement given below. You are qualified for the job. As Naresh Pandey **apply** in about **150 words** for the **job** giving all relevant information including the bio-data. **(6)**

SUNLIGHT UNIVERSITY

Requires Economics Professor for their new campus at Panipat. Candidates with a minimum of 5 years experience alone can apply. Excellent command of English is a must. Those interested may write to Box No. 235, The Harbinger, New Delhi.

5. You are Suman residing at 35 A, Nehru Nagar, Bhopal. Write a letter to **the editor** of a national daily highlighting the seriousness of using mobile phones while driving. Request him to publish articles, cartoons and slogans against using mobile phones while driving and also urging the government to take serious action against those who do so. **(150 words)** **(6)**

OR

Write a letter in about **150 words** to the Corporation Commissioner, Corporation of Chennai, **complaining** about the poor condition of the roads and street lights in your Jayanagar Colony in Chennai, explaining the difficulties faced by the people of the colony. You are Uma/ Umesh. **(6)**

6. You are the Head Boy/ Head Girl of your school. You have decided to make the students aware of the advantages of tree plantation and tell them how trees can serve us better. Draft a **speech** you intend to deliver in the morning assembly in not more than **150-200 words**. **(8)**

OR

Write a **Debate**, '**For**' or '**Against**' the motion: "Laziness and Not Bad Luck is the Only Obstacle for One's Success in Life". (150- 200 words) **(8)**

7. The following passage is not edited. There is a mistake in each line. Find the mistake. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet. **(2)**

About a year 1900, a small, dark haired boy name Charlie Chaplin was often seen waiting outside the back entrance of London theatres. He looks thin and hungry but his blue eyes was determined.

	Incorrect	Correct
Eg.	a	the
a.	_____	
b.	_____	
c.	_____	
d.	_____	

8. Rearrange the following words/phrases to make meaningful sentences: **(2)**

Example: really/games and sports/ true education/ are/ for/ essential

Games and sports are really essential for true education.

a. fit and / the body/ games/ look active/ develop/ keep it/ make a person

b. evening/ dullness/ all/ an hour's/ removes/ play/ in the

9. Change the sentences without changing the meaning:

(2)

a. Tom has a terrible cold. He needs to see a doctor.

→With his terrible cold, Tom _____ doctor. (ought)

b. He drove too fast for the police to catch him. (Rewrite using 'so....that')

SECTION C: LITERATURE

(30 Marks)

10. Read the extract given below and answer any two of the questions that follow:

(2)

*"I would have him prodigal, returning to
His father's house, the home he knew,
Rather than see him make and move
His world. I would forgive him too,
Shaping from sorrow a new love."*

a. What does the father want his son to do?

b. What is the father willing to do to get his son's love?

c. Find a word in the stanza which means 'wasteful'.

11. Answer any five of the following questions in 30-40 words each:

(10)

a. Dr. Andrew faced the biggest dilemma of his life that night. What was it? How did he act and save two lives?

b. How did Quinten Metsys impress the painter and achieve his goal?

c. What are the principles of 'Laissez - faire'? Did the people in Melon City accept it? Why?

d. "What goes under the pot now costs more than what goes inside it." Explain.

e. Who is the poet of 'A Photograph'? The three stanzas depict three phases. Explain them.

f. Akhenaten was a little wacky. What did he do to earn such censure?

12. Answer any one of the following questions in about 120-150 words:

(6)

a. Describe the author's physical condition in Darchen. Narrate his meeting with the Tibetan doctor. (Silk Road)

OR

b. Rain does its duty unmindful of any recognition. A great lesson is hidden here. What is that?

13. Answer any one of the following questions in about 120-150 words:

(6)

a. Why was Shahid Ali called centre of perpetual carnival?

OR

b. Describe the two visits of the narrator to Mrs. Dorling's house, No. 46, Marconi Street.

14. Answer any one of the following questions in about 120-150 words:

(6)

a. Comment on the attitude shown by Taplow towards Mr. Crocker-Harris.

OR

b. The poem 'Childhood' exposes man and presents him in his true colours. This poem innocently goads him to his real self. Explain.

*****The End*****