



INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR
TERM I EXAMINATION (2023-24)
ENGLISH CORE (Code No.301)

CLASS: XI
Date: 26/09/2023

MAX. MARKS: 80
TIME: 3 HOURS

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION A: READING (26 MARKS)

I Read the passage given below:

1. Happiness may be the primary goal of human existence. Philosophers have wrestled with the concept of happiness. Legislators create laws to support citizens' rights to pursue happiness. Most people assume that they will be happier a decade from now than they are today.

2. Why Be Happy? Happiness plays a significant role in enhancing good health, strengthening the immune system, promoting longevity, improving productivity and performance, and increasing resilience. Happy people work hard, play hard, have an active social life (and a social conscience), experience good health, and live longer. A happy person lives an average of nine years longer than a miserable one.

3. When studying happiness, it makes sense that its opposite condition would also be a topic of examination. Scientists have observed that there are two unfortunate life events that induce profound unhappiness, perhaps over the course of many years: the loss of a spouse and the loss of a job.

4. What Causes Happiness? Fortunately, humans experience happiness from a wide range of stimuli, from travelling to an exotic destination to redecorating one's home or from winning a game to eating a delicious meal. Simply watching a favourite television show or laughing at a funny joke can boost a depressed mood. While the happiness produced by such experiences tends to be short lived, certain conditions do promote a more long-lasting and durable state of happiness as a lifestyle: a wide social network, believing in a meaningful reason for one's existence, and establishing goals and working to achieve them.

5. Income is not a primary factor in determining a person's level of happiness once the basic needs of food, clothing, and shelter have been met. More important is one's social network. Being socially active may be more effective in increasing one's immunity to illness than a vaccine. Misery may love company, but so does happiness, and having close friends and family is vital to one's overall level of happiness. Even sharing one's home with an animal companion can make a person happier.

6. Happiness is not an innate characteristic but may actually be developed as a habit. Scientists suggest that incorporating new habits and practices can go a long way in increasing one's state of happiness. While people generally do not transform their basic temperaments, people can learn to become happier by socializing, watching funny movies or reading funny books, keeping a gratitude journal, involving oneself in pleasurable activities, such as sports, hobbies, focusing on positive outcomes, and performing acts of kindness for others. Apparently, doing something to make someone else happy will make you happy, too.

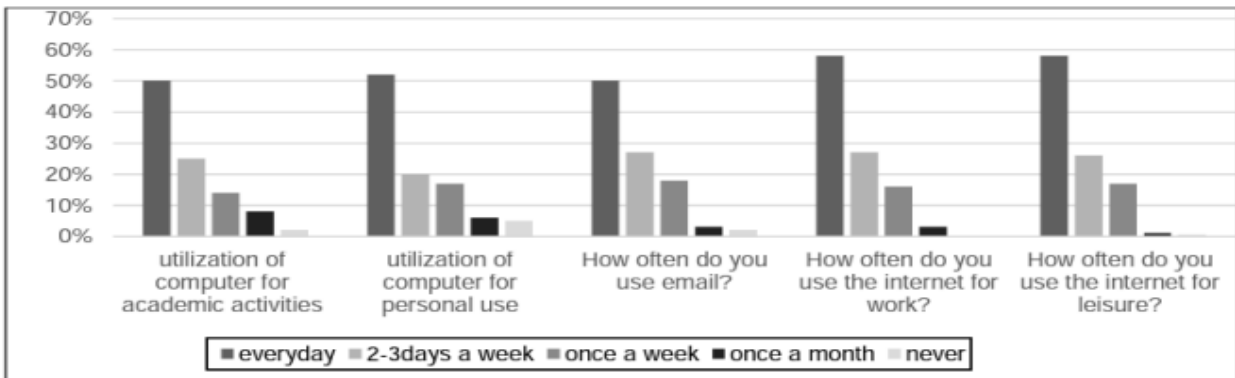
Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions:

- | | | |
|----|---|----|
| 1. | Why does the author include a parenthesis around "and a social conscience"? (Para 2) | 10 |
| | a. to point out that social conscience leads to good health. | |
| | b. to emphasize the importance of playing and working hard. | |
| | c. to point out that having a social conscience can promote longevity. | |
| | d. to emphasize the importance of social conscience as a part of an active social life. | |
| 2. | What is responsible for generating feelings of Happiness? (Para 4) | 1 |
| | | 2 |

3. What does the phrase 'Misery may love company' mean? 1
4. What is the assumption the author makes about attaining happiness? 1
 - a. Some people find comfort in mundane routines.
 - b. A person needs a social network to attain happiness.
 - c. Reading and writing about your problems will produce happiness.
 - d. Convincing negative people to become positive is a life goal.
5. Choose the option that lists the quote best expressing the conclusion of the passage. 1
 - a. You deserve happiness always.
 - b. Happiness is a perfume you cannot pour on others without getting a few drops on yourself.
 - c. Life is full of happiness and tears, be strong and have faith.
 - d. Happiness is the best makeup.
6. The passage says "Happiness is not an innate characteristic but may actually be developed as a habit". How can people learn to become happier? Your answer should be in reference to the last paragraph in the passage. 2
7. What do you understand by 'gratitude journal'? 1
8. Provided the basic needs of food, clothing, and shelter have been met, ----- is not a chief factor in determining a person's level of happiness. 1

II Read the passage given below:

1. The present generation is well updated in the use of internet and computers. The rapid development in computer technology and increase in accessibility of the internet for academic purposes has changed the face of education for everyone associated with it. Let's look at the data arising out of a recent survey that was done to ascertain the time spent on utilisation of the computer and internet:



2. At present, many schools and universities have been implementing internet-based learning, as it supplements the conventional teaching methods. The internet provides a wide variety of references and information to academics as well as scientific researchers. Students often turn to it to do their academic assignments and projects.



3. However, research on the Net is very different from traditional library research, and the differences can cause problems. The Net is a tremendous resource, but it must be used carefully and critically when you want to create your own work.

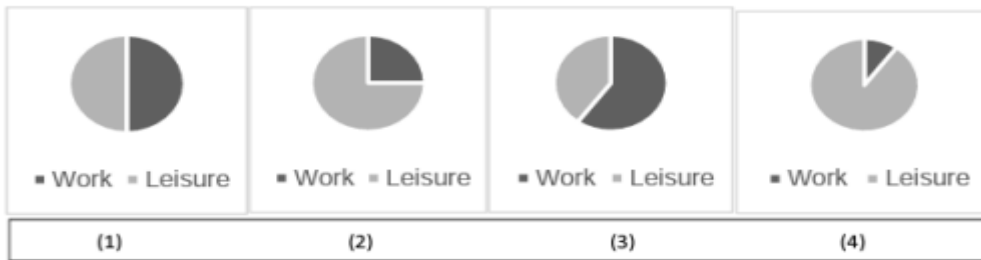
4. According to a 2018 Academic Student e-book Experience Survey, conducted by LJ's research department and sponsored by EBSCO, when reading for pleasure, almost 74% of respondents said they preferred print books for leisure whereas, 45 % of respondents chose e-books rather than the printed versions, for research or assignments.

5. When asked what e-book features make them a favourite for research, the respondents were clear. Having page numbers to use in citations, topped the list (75%); followed by the ability to resize text to fit a device's screen (67%); the ability to bookmark pages, highlight text, or take notes for later reference (60%); downloading the entire e-book (57%); and allowing content to be transferred between devices (43%) were the varied responses.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions: **8**

1. According to the passage, mention the reasons for the recent transformation of education. 2
2. Pick the option that lists statements that are NOT TRUE according to the passage. 1
 1. Internet-based education can only complement familiar methods of education.
 2. Net-based learning will replace face-to-face education.
 3. The resources that the net provides are a danger to the education system.
 4. The current times has seen a rise in the convenience of using the internet for academic purposes.

a. 1 & 2 b. 3 & 4 c. 2 & 3 d. 1 & 4
3. Based on the graphical chart in the passage, choose the option that correctly states the depiction of internet usage for work and for leisure, for once a month. 1



- a. Option (1) b. Option (2) c. Option (3) d. Option (4)
4. "... but it must be used carefully and critically." What is the idea of being careful and critical while using the internet, mainly a reference to in this passage? 1
 5. Based on the given graphical representation of data in the passage, choose the option that lists the statements that are TRUE with respect to the usage of email. 1
 1. The everyday usage of email is more than the everyday usage of computer for personal use.
 2. About 18% people use email once a week.
 3. There are a smaller number of email users using it 2-3 times a week than the ones using it once a month.
 4. Less than 5% of people never use the email.

a. 1 and 3 b. 2 and 4 c. 1 and 2 d. 3 and 4
 6. In the cartoon, the student's reaction reveals that he is _____. 1

a. indignant b. apologetic c. complaisant d. inquisitive
 7. State TRUE or FALSE. 1
As per the e-book experience survey a larger percentage of students opted to have e-books over printed versions to do their homework.

III Read the following passage carefully:

Education stands as a cornerstone of societal advancement, shaping both individuals and communities. It encompasses various forms, from structured institutions like schools and colleges to the informal wisdom gained through life experiences. A commitment to lifelong learning further emphasizes its enduring importance.

The multifaceted nature of education includes formal and informal dimensions. Formal education, with its structured curricula, imparts essential knowledge and skills. On the other hand, informal education involves learning from surroundings, offering practical insights beyond textbooks.

Education fuels economic growth by nurturing a skilled workforce that drives innovation and productivity. Socially, education promotes awareness of critical issues, fostering active citizenship and advocacy for positive change.

Nonetheless, challenges loom large. Accessibility remains unequal, with disparities in educational opportunities due to socioeconomic factors. Quality concerns persist, reflected in outdated curricula and conventional teaching methods. Affordability is yet another barrier, limiting access to those with financial means.

The digital era has ushered in a new dimension of education. Technology has transformed learning, introducing e-learning platforms and virtual classrooms that democratize education and accommodate diverse learning styles. Innovative approaches such as personalized learning tailor education to individual needs, while project-based learning bridges theory with real-world applications. STEM education emphasizes science, technology, engineering, and math, crucial for addressing contemporary challenges.

The significance of education is multi-layered. It empowers, fuels economies, and instills awareness. Overcoming challenges like accessibility and adapting to technological shifts require continuous efforts. Ultimately, education's transformative potential is a beacon guiding societies toward progress and enlightenment.

- i. 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 four) and a suitable format. Also, supply an appropriate title to it. **5**
- ii. Write a summary of the passage in not more than 50 words. **3**

SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (23 MARKS)

IV Rewrite the following as directed: (Any Seven) 1X7

1. If I _____ one more question, I would have scored better.
(Choose the correct verb form.)
a. had answered b. would have answered c. would answer d. has answered
2. If you do not attend classes regularly, you will fall short of attendance.
(Pick the subordinate clause and identify its kind.)
3. He is too weak to stand properly. (Rewrite the sentence using 'that')
4. made by / artificial / man and / the moon / are / satellites are / much smaller / the /than
(Rearrange the words to make a meaningful sentence.)
5. The train ____ before I _____ the station. (Choose the correct verb form.)
a. had left, reached b. was leaving, reached
c. left, had reached d. left ,was reaching
6. The child (weep) bitterly for one hour. (Rewrite in the past perfect continuous tense.)
7. In spite of very bad weather, they succeeded in climbing the mountain.
(Transform into a compound sentence.)
8. This book is not only beautifully printed, but is also free from mistakes.
(Transform into a simple sentence.)

V Creative Writing Skills (16 MARKS)

- i. Craft a poster in 50 words to address Food Wastage: 'Reduce, Reuse, Respect Food'. **3**

OR

Design a poster in 50 words to raise awareness about cyber security: 'Protecting Our Digital Footprint'.

- ii. You are the Mathematics Head of the school. Design a poster in 50 words for the 'Class XI Mathematics Challenge: Numbers Unleashed', announcing the event and showing its highlights. Include event details, date, and venue for the event. 3

OR

Design a poster in 50 words for the event in your school, 'Exploring the Horizons of Science and Innovation'. Highlight the event's significance in fostering curiosity, featuring interactive workshops, inspiring guest speakers, and hands-on experiments. Include event details, date, and venue for a captivating visual representation.

- iii. Write a speech in 120-150 words on the topic, 'The Importance of Critical Thinking in the Modern Age' It is to be delivered in the morning assembly. You are Sara / Kabir. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to write the speech. 5

CUES:

- Essence
- Sifts facts from misinformation
- Identify causes, devise innovations
- Evaluate options objectively
- Minimize biases, enhance decision-making
- Crucial life skill for modern success
- Empowers individuals, fuels progress

OR

As an active member of a youth club, working for world peace, write a speech on 'The Role of Youth in Promoting Global Peace and Harmony' in 120-150 words to be delivered to a group of young students, motivating them to promote peace and harmony. You are Damia / Naresh. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to write the speech.

CUES:

- Youth as catalysts
- Connect diverse cultures, breaking stereotypes
- Cultural exchange fosters empathy and understanding
- Youth voice against social injustices
- Online platforms
- Promote tolerance and cooperation

- iv. 'Universal Basic Income is a Viable Solution to Poverty.' Write a debate in 120-150 words either **for** or **against** the motion. You are Roshan / Reema. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to write the debate. 5

CUES:

For the Motion:

- Economic Security
- Simplicity and Efficiency
- Encourages Innovation
- Social Equality

Against the Motion:

- Discourage work and reduce productivity
- One-Size-Fits-All- ignoring regional cost of living
- Complex Social Impact

OR

'Driverless Cars are a Safer Option for the Future of Transportation.' Write a debate either **for or against** the motion in about 120 – 150 words . You are Haseena / Tarun. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to write the debate.

CUES:

For the Motion:

- Reduced Human Error
- Advanced Technology
- Improved Traffic Flow
- Accessibility -disabled and elderly

Against the Motion:

- Technical Challenges
- Ethical Dilemmas
- Hacking Vulnerability
- Job Loss

SECTION C: LITERATURE (31 MARKS)

VI Read the given extracts to attempt the questions with reference to context.

i. Attempt EITHER ONE of the two extracts given.

A "Eternal I rise impalpable out of the land and the
bottomless sea,

3X1=3

Upwards to heaven, whence, vaguely form'd, altogether
changed, and yet the same,

I descend to lave the droughts, atomies, dust- layers of the globe,

And all that in them without me were seeds only, latent, unborn;" (The Voice of the Rain)

a. What does the poet talk about by saying 'vaguely form'd'?

'And all that in them without me were seeds only, latent, unborn;' The word latent means _____.

b. a. beautiful b. natural c. concealed d. layered

c. 'the bottomless sea' Identify the poetic device.

OR

iB "The whole tree trembles and thrills.

3X1=3

It is the engine for her family.

She stokes it full, then flirts out to a branch-end

Showing her barred face identity mask

Then with the eerie delicate whistle-chirrup whisperings

She launches away, towards the infinite."

(The Laburnum Top)

a. The figure of speech in the first line is ----- .

b. The goldfinch has perhaps brought food to feed its young ones which has filled her family with excitement and energy. Which phrase of the stanza supports this view?

- a. tree trembles and thrills b. she launches away
c. engine of her family d. she stokes it full

c. What does the poet mean by "she launches away"?

ii. Attempt EITHER ONE of the two extracts given.

A "The first indication of impending disaster came at about 6 p.m., with an ominous silence. The
wind dropped, and the sky immediately grew dark. Then came a growing roar, and an enormous
cloud towered aft of the ship. With horror, I realised that it was not a cloud, but a wave like no
other I had ever seen." **3X1=3**

(We are not Afraid to Die...if we can be Together)

a. What was the 'enormous cloud' that the narrator speaks of?

'Aft' of the ship refers to the:

- b. a. towards the bow of the ship b. towards the stern of the ship
c. towards the port side of the ship d. towards the starboard side of the ship

c. What does 'impending disaster' mean?

OR

ii.B "They remain the richest royal collection ever found and have become part of the pharaoh's legend. Stunning artefacts in gold, their eternal brilliance meant to guarantee resurrection, caused a sensation at that time of the discovery - and still get the most attention." **3X1=3**

(Discovering Tut...)

- a. Why were the pharaohs laden with riches in their tombs?
- b. Which of the following means 'artefacts' in the extract?
 - a. Man-made objects
 - b. Natural objects
 - c. Objects made of gold
 - d. Objects buried with pharaohs.
- c. What was the marvel when Tut's mummy was discovered?

iii Attempt EITHER ONE of the two extracts given.

A "Every family has a crazy streak in it somewhere, and my cousin Mourad was considered the natural descendent of the crazy streak in our tribe. Before him was our uncle Khosrove, an enormous man with a powerful head of black hair and the largest moustache in San Joaquin Valley, a man so furious in temper, so irritable, so impatient that he stopped anyone from talking by roaring." **4X1=4**
(The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse)

- a. What superlative feature did uncle Khosrove have?
- b. What was uncle Khosrove's favourite line?
- c. What was the common between uncle Khosrove and Mourad?
 - a. Both had a crazy streak.
 - b. Both loved horses.
 - c. Both had their own pet dialogues.
 - d. Both (a) and (c) are correct.
- d. How would you describe the character traits of the 'older crazy streak' of the Garoghlanian tribe?

OR

iiiB "I had seen her only once, fleetingly, and that was years ago. It was most probable that I had rung the wrong bell. The woman let go of the door and stepped to the side. She was wearing my mother's green knitted cardigan. The wooden buttons were rather pale from washing. She saw that I was looking at the cardigan and half hid again behind the door. But I knew now that I was right. "Well, you knew my mother?" I asked. "Have you come back?", said the woman. "I thought that no one had come back." **4X1=4**
(The Address)

- a. How did Mrs. Dorling treat the narrator when she visited her?
 - a. warm and welcoming
 - b. affectionately as her friend's daughter
 - c. sympathetically as a victim of war
 - d. cold and inhospitable
- b. Marga Minco's story 'The Address' is divided into hardships of pre-war and post-war times. The above given extract specifically refers to which of these themes? Give one instance to support your answer.
- c. 'But I knew now that I was right'. Identify the reason for this confidence of the narrator based on the extract.
- d. 'I thought that no one had come back.' Why does Mrs. Dorling say this?

VII. Answer ANY TWO of the following questions in about 40-50 words. **3X2=6**

- i. What thought was revolting to the author of 'The Portrait of a Lady'?
- ii. What role does nostalgia play in the poem 'A Photograph'?
- iii. Explain the title - 'We're Not Afraid to Die, If We Can All Be Together'.
- iv. How does the poem capture a moment of stillness and movement simultaneously in 'The Laburnum Top'?

VIII Answer EITHER ONE of the following questions in about 40-50 words.

3X1=3

- i. How does the protagonist try to rectify the situation involving the horse? (The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse)
- ii. What does the protagonist's decision to leave without revealing her identity to Mrs. Darling's daughter, reveal about her character? (The Address)

IX Answer EITHER ONE of the following questions in about 120-150 words.

1X6=6

- i. In the article 'Discovering Tut: the Saga Continues', the author highlights the importance of preserving cultural heritage and historical artefacts. Discuss the values of respect for history and cultural preservation as portrayed in the article. How does the story of Tutankhamun's tomb underscore the significance of safeguarding the past for the benefit of future generations? Support your response with relevant examples from the text.
- ii. The poet celebrates the unifying force of rain and its ability to connect all forms of life in the poem 'The Voice of the Rain'. Discuss the significance of this theme in promoting a sense of oneness with nature and the world. How does the poet's portrayal of rain as a universal voice reflect the values of harmony and interconnectedness?

X Answer EITHER ONE of the following questions in about 120-150 words each:

1X6=6

- i. The protagonist of 'The Address' confronts the painful memories associated with her past during World War II. Discuss how the theme of resilience in the face of adversity is portrayed in the story. How does the protagonist's journey reflect the importance of preserving one's identity despite challenging circumstances?
- ii. In 'The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse, the narrator is confronted with a moral dilemma that tests his values and principles. Discuss the significance of honesty and integrity in the story. How does the narrator's decision to prioritize these values impact his relationship with his cousin Mourad and the larger community?
