

AIRPORT SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

TERMINAL EXAMINATION - 1 (2023-24)

ENGLISH (Core)

Class: XII

Marks: 80

Time : 3 hrs

Instructions:

- (i) The question paper is divided into three sections.

Section A - Reading Skills	20 marks
Section B - Writing Skills with Grammar	20 marks
Section C - Literature	40 marks
 - (ii) All questions are compulsory.
 - (iii) You may attempt any one section at a time.
 - (iv) All questions of a particular section must be attempted in the correct order.
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SECTION - A READING SKILLS (20 Marks)

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: (10M)

1. India continues to enjoy the No.1 position as the leading information technology, business outsourcing and consulting destination of the past decades. In fact, the other emerging powerhouses of the BRIC nations are all hot destinations for future investments.

2. But we cannot rest on our laurels. It is imperative that we strive to become the finest research hub the world has ever seen. We can achieve this distinction by investing in our schools - the places where future generations will develop skills and resources that will drive our country's economic growth.

3. The Royal Society's seminal 2011 report, 'Knowledge, Networks and Nations: Global Scientific Collaboration in the 21st Century', states that even in the difficult economic times we now face, national governments need to maintain investment in their science base "in order to secure economic prosperity, tap into new sources of innovation and growth, and sustain vital connections across the global research landscape".

4. Currently, a mere 0.25% of India's GDP is spent on research and development (R&D). The government proposes to step this up to 2% of GDP, with half of that amount coming from private industry and half from the public

sector. While admirable in its intentions, the goal falls short, Israel, for example, spends 6% of GDP on scientific research. Switzerland and Sweden both spend 4% of their GDPs on research and even China is approaching 2%.

5. India is in danger of falling behind other nations in the race to build an advanced, 21st – century economy. True, the country has increased its expenditures on education as a percentage of GDP to 4% during 2011-12 school years from 3.3% in 2004-2005. But compared to the other BRIC countries, we need to do more. Brazil, for instance spends some 5.7% of its GDP on education. Smaller developing nations like Ethiopia spend 4.7%, and even Botswana spends 7.8% of its GDP on education, according to the World Bank.

6. Make no mistake: India needs a sustainable pipeline of scientific research. To build this pipeline, it is imperative to have strong investments in education. A population grounded in the sciences will strengthen our industries and government. Our nation will have home- grown minds working on the myriad problems facing society and improving the lives of everyone.

7. I encourage young scientists and students to consider careers in research- whether in corporate laboratories or academic institutions. In the private sector, my colleagues and I set up the Infosys Science Foundation (ISF), a not-for- profit trust, to promote scientific research in India. The ISF has set up a series of public lectures by the winners of the Infosys Prize that we hope will kindle a spark of interest in young minds.

8. The high point of our year is when we award the Infosys Prize to honour the outstanding achievements of researchers and scientists in the fields of engineering and computer science, humanities, life sciences, mathematics, physical sciences and social sciences. The Infosys Prize highlights the impact research has had on areas important to India’s growth.

9. One of our recent winners, Professor Kalyanmoy Deb, was honoured for his work in engineering and computer science. His work has profound implications on a range of practical ideas – from how the financial markets operate to how we can find sources of fuel in the future. The winner of the Infosys Prize in life sciences, Dr Imran Siddiqui, worked on clonal seed formation in plants that has significant implications for agriculture, especially in the developing world. The work of our winners is meaningful, impactful and inspiring.

(The Times of India)

1.1. On the basis of your reading of the passage complete the following by selecting the correct option: (1x4=4)

- i) India can look for future business outsourcing opportunities in

- (a) The emerging powerhouses of the BRIC nations.
 - (b) The Royal society
 - (c) Switzerland and Sweden
 - (d) Smaller developing nations like Ethiopia
- ii) The Royal Society's report has indicated that national governments need to
1. develop skills and resources like Western nations.
 2. encourage young scientists to go abroad
 3. maintain investment in their scientific base
 4. have strong investments in America
- iii) To build a strong pipeline in scientific research India needs to.....
- a) get scientists from developing nations like Botswana
 - b) set up a series of public lectures by scientists
 - c) build an advanced 21st century economy
 - d) have strong investments in education
- iv) We can become the finest research hub by investing in
- (a) our schools
 - (b) foreign countries
 - (c) our hospitals
 - (d) our agriculture

- 1.2 a). Choose the word from the passage which is similar in meaning to '**necessary**'. 1M
(para 2)
- b) Find the word from the 3rd paragraph which means the same as : 1M
'Very important and having a strong influence on development'.

1.3 Answer the following questions briefly in 30-40 words. (1x4=4M)

- a. To whom and why is the Infosys prize awarded?
- b. Which invention has significant implication in the field of agriculture?
- c. In which field India is facing the danger of falling behind other countries ?
- d. Why India needs a sustainable pipeline of scientific research?

2. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below. (10M)

1. For many years now, the governments have been promising the eradication of child labour in hazardous industries in India. But the truth is that despite all the rhetoric, no government so far has succeeded in eradicating this evil, nor has any been able to ensure compulsory Primary education for every Indian child. Between 60 and 100 million children are still at work instead of going to school and around 10 million are working in hazardous industries. India has the biggest child population of 380 million in the world plus the largest number of children who are forced to earn a living.

2. We have many laws that ban child labour in hazardous industries. According to the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, the employment of children below the age of 14 in hazardous occupations has been strictly banned. But each state has different rules regarding the minimum age of employment. This makes implementation of these laws difficult.

3. Also, there is no ban on child labour in non-hazardous occupations. The Act applies to the organised or factory sector and not to the unorganised or informal sector, where most children find employment as cleaners, servants, porters or waiters, among other forms of unskilled work. Thus, child labour continues because the implementation of the existing laws is lax.

4. There are industries which have a special demand for child labour because of their nimble fingers, high level of concentration and capacity to work hard at abysmally low wages. The carpet industry in Uttar Pradesh and Kashmir employs children to make hand-knotted carpets. There are 80000 child workers in Jammu and Kashmir alone. In Kashmir, because of the political unrest, children are forced to work while many schools are shut. Industries like gem cutting and polishing, pottery and glass want to remain competitive by employing children.

5. The truth is that it is poverty which is pushing children into the brutish labour market. We have 260 million people below the poverty line in India, a large number of them are women. Poor and especially woman-headed, families have no option but to push their little ones into this hard life in hostile conditions with no human or labour rights.

6. There is a lobby which argues that there is nothing wrong with children working as long as the environment for work is conducive to learning new skills, but studies have shown that the children are made to do boring, repetitive and tedious jobs and are not taught new skills as they grow older. In these hell-holes, like the sweat shops of old, there is no hope.

7. Children working in hazardous industries are prone to debilitating diseases which can cripple them for life. By sitting in cramped, damp and unhygienic spaces, their limbs become deformed for life. Inside matchstick, fireworks and glass industries, they are victims of bronchial diseases and tuberculosis. Their mental and physical development is permanently impaired by long hours of work. Once trapped, they can't get out of this vicious circle of poverty. They remain uneducated and powerless. Finally, in later years, they too are compelled to send their own children.

3. a.) You are The Health Secretary, Students Council, Citizens Public School, Sector 47, Chandigarh. The council has decided to start a week-long cleanliness drive around the school from the first of September. Draft a notice in about 50 words asking the Class XII students to enroll for the drive. (4M)

OR

b.) Gandhi Education Society, a charitable organization, is coming to your school to distribute books for the needy students. As the Head Boy/Head Girl, write a notice in not more than 50 words asking students to drop the list of books they need, in the drop box kept outside the Principal's office. You are Akhilesh/Abhilasha of Modern Public School, Ghaziabad. Give all necessary details.

4. a. You are Faiz/Fahima living at 39, Udampur Colony, Shimla. You decide to hold a dinner party to congratulate your grandparents on their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Draft a formal invitation in about 50 words to all the family members to attend a grand dinner at home. (4M)

OR

b. Draft an invitation to be sent to all the parents on the eve of your School Annual Day to be held on 15 December 2023. Give all necessary details in not more than 50 words. (4M)

5 a. We often hear about 'Women's Rights', 'Reservation for women in Elections' and 'Empowering of Women' on one hand and the 'Increasing rate of Crime against Women' on the other hand. You feel disturbed at this contradiction. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily expressing your views in 120-150 words. You are Sohan/Suhana.

(6M)

OR

b. You are Nitin/Niti Sports in charge Delhi Public School, Karnal. You ordered some sports goods at Universal Sports, Jalandhar. When the consignment was opened you found that the contents did not tally with those you had ordered. Write a letter to the company that the consignment has been rejected and they should send another consignment as per the order placed and also arrange to collect the goods. (120-150 words) (6M)

6. a. Teenagers are full of energy as well as ideas. Write an article in 150-200 words on 'How To Channelize the Energy of the Teenagers'. You are Roma /Raman. (6M)

OR

b. Write an article in 120-150 words to be published in 'The Hindu' on how the younger generation is crazy about fast food, little realizing the health hazards involved in it. Also suggest some concrete solutions. You are Jyoti/Jagan Mishra. (6M)

SECTION C - Literature (40 marks)

7. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: (1 x6= 6 marks)

Fishermen in the cold sea

Would not harm whales

And the man gathering salt

Would look at his hurt hands.

Those who prepare green wars,

Wars with gas, wars with fire,

Victory with no survivors,

Would put on clean clothes

And walk about with their brothers.....

- a. Name the poet of this extract.
- b. Which activity does the poet not want the fishermen to do?
 - i) Not go out into the sea
 - ii) Not harm the whales
 - iii) Not going sailing during storms
 - iv) Kill the other sea-creatures
- c. 'Victory with no survivors' implies _____.
 - i) War affects our lives
 - ii) No victory is possible without loss of lives in wars
 - iii) Death and no loss is inevitable in war
 - iv) There are survivors only with victory
- d. What message does 'clean clothes' convey in this extract?
 - i) We should avoid wars
 - ii) We shouldn't change our attitude
 - iii) We should adopt a new approach
 - iv) We should never use spoilt clothes
- e. State whether the following statement is true or false.
'Fighting a green war leads to victory with all survivors.'
- f. Give an example of a figure of speech used in the above lines.

8. A. Naturally the first thing he saw was the tall ragamuffin who had eased his way so close to the furnace that steam rose from his wet rags. The ironmaster did not follow the example of the blacksmiths, who had hardly deigned to look at the stranger. He walked close up to him looked him over very carefully, then tore off his slouch hat to get a better view of his face.

“But of course it is you, Nilis Olof!” he said. “How do you look!”.

The man with the rattaps had never before seen the ironmaster at Ramsjo and did not even know what his name was. But it occurred to him that if the fine gentleman thought he was an old acquaintance, he might perhaps throw him a couple of kronor. Therefore he did not want to undecieve him all at once.

“Yes, God knows things have gone downhill with me,” he said.

“You should not have resigned from the regiment,” said the ironmaster.

- a) Who addressed whom as Nil Olof? (1x6=6M)
- i) Peddler to the Ironmaster
 - ii) Ironmaster to the Blacksmith
 - iii) Ironmaster to the Peddler
 - iv) Blacksmith to the Peddler
- b) Who did the ironmaster mistake the tramp for?
- i) For his neighbour
 - ii) For an old comrade from the regiment
 - iii) For a distant relative
 - iv) None of the above
- c) Why did the peddler not reveal his true identity?
- i) He disliked the ironmaster
 - ii) Because of his appearance
 - iii) Because of fear
 - iv) In the hope of getting some money from him.
- d) What does the expression ‘things are going downhill’ mean?
- i) deteriorate
 - ii) worsen
 - iii) successful
 - iv) both i) & ii)
- e) State whether the following statement is true or false.
‘The peddler had resigned from the regiment’.

f) Why was the ironmaster so friendly with the Peddler?

OR

8. B. Mukesh insists on being his own master. "I will be a motor mechanic," he announces. "Do you know anything about cars?" I ask. "I will learn to drive a car," he answers, looking straight into my eyes. His dream looms like a mirage amidst the dust of streets that fill his town Firozabad, famous for its bangles. Every other family in Firozabad is engaged in making bangles. It is the centre of India's glass-blowing industry where families have spent generations working around furnaces, welding glass, making bangles for all the women in the land it seems. Mukesh's family is among them. None of them know that it is illegal for children like him to work in the glass furnaces with high temperatures. (1x6=6M)

a. Name the lesson and writer of the above passage?

b. The simile 'dream looms like a mirage amidst the dust of streets' indicates that his dream was:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| (i) A reality, yet seemed distant. | iii) lost in the sea of dust |
| (ii) Illusionary and indistinct | iv) hanging in the dusty air |

c. Which of the following is not true with reference to the extract?

- (i) Children work in badly lit and poorly ventilated furnaces.
- (ii) The children are unaware that it is forbidden by law to work in the furnaces.
- (iii) Children toil in the furnaces for hours which affects their eyesight.
- (iv) Firozabad is an upcoming bangle industry in the country.

d. Complete the following statement.

Mukesh is considered different from other bangle makers because.....

e. State whether the following statement is true or false according to the passage.

Everyone knew that it is illegal for children like Mukesh to work in the glass furnaces.

f. What is Mukesh's dream and why can't his dream be fulfilled?

9. My Antarctic experience was full of such epiphanies, but the best occurred just short of the Antarctic Circle at 65.55 degrees south. The Shokalskiy had managed to wedge herself into a thick white stretch of ice between the peninsula and Tadpole Island which was preventing us from going any further. The captain decided we were going to turn around and head back north, but before we did, we were all instructed to climb down the gangplank and walk on the ocean. So there we were, all 52 of us, kitted out in Gore-Tex and glares, walking on a stark whiteness that seemed to spread out forever.

(1 x 4 = 4 marks)

a) "The Shokalskiy had managed to wedge herself into a thick white stretch of ice between the peninsula and Tadpole island." The literary device used by the author in the sentence is _____.

- | | | | |
|----------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| i) irony | ii) allusion | iii) personification | iv) allegory |
|----------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|

b) "My Antarctica experience was full of such epiphanies." This means full of _____.

i) wonders ii) fun iii) revelation iv. experience

c) 'Students on Ice' programme was headed by _____ .

d) Why is Antarctica the perfect place to study?

10. Attempt **any five** out of the six questions given below in 40-50 words each.

a. Why was Franz not scolded for reaching the school late that day? (2x5=10M)

c. The description of Seemapuri creates a very dismal picture. Explain

d. How was Saheb's life at the tea stall?

e. Why did Douglas want to overcome his fear of water?

f. What does the poet's smile in the poem, 'My Mother at Sixty-Six' show?

10. Attempt **any two** of the three questions given below in 40-50 words each. (2x2 =4M)

a. Why did the Maharaja have to pay a bill of three lakh rupees to the British jewellers?

b. Why does Charley say that Grand Station is growing like a tree, in the story, The Third Level?

c. What are phytoplanktons? What is their importance?

12. Attempt **any one** of the following questions in 120-150 words. (5x1 = 5 marks)

a. Imagine that the bully who threw Douglas into the pool, reads this chapter and realizes his mistake. As the bully, write a diary entry penning down your response to Douglas' perseverance and your own feelings of guilt and regret.

b. The story 'The Rattrap' explores the idea that given the right motivation the human beings possess the innate tendency to redeem themselves from their dishonest ways. Discuss.

13. Attempt **any one** of the following questions in 120-150 words. (5 x 1 = 5 marks)

a. Describe the efforts made by the Tiger king to achieve his target of killing a hundred tigers.

b. How can a visit to Antarctica be an enlightening experience. Elaborate.
