

Sample Paper 1
Class XII Exam 2023-24
English-Core (301)

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections READING, WRITING and LITERATURE.
 2. Attempt question based on specific instructions for each part.
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SECTION A-READING SKILLS

22

Reading Comprehension Through Unseen Passages

1. **Read the following text.** **12**
1. The arts which admit of exact reproduction are such that the disciple is on the same level as the creator, and so it is with their fruits. These are useful to the imitator, but are not of such high excellence as those which cannot be transmitted as an inheritance like other substances. Among these, painting is the first. Painting cannot be taught to him on whom nature has not conferred the gift of receiving such knowledge, as mathematics can be taught, of which the disciple receives as much as the master gives him.
2. It cannot be copied, as letters can be, in which the copy equals the original. It cannot be stamped, in the same way as sculpture, in which the impression is in proportion to the source as regards the quality of the work. It does not generate countless children, as do printed books.
3. It alone remains noble, it alone confers honour on its author and remains precious and unique, and does not beget children equal to itself. And it is more excellent by reason of this quality than by reason of those which are everywhere proclaimed. Now do we not see the great monarchs of the East going about veiled and covered up from the fear of diminishing their glory by the manifestation and the divulgation of their presence? And do we not see that the pictures which represent the divine deity are kept covered up with inestimable veils?
4. Their unveiling is preceded by great sacred solemnities with various chants and diverse music. When they are unveiled, the vast multitude of people who are there flocked together, immediately prostrate themselves and worship. They invoke those whom such pictures represent that they may regain their lost holiness and win eternal salvation, just as if the deity were present in the flesh.
5. This does not occur in any other art or work of man. If you say that is owing to the nature of the subject depicted, rather than to the genius of the painter, the answer is that the mind of man could satisfy itself equally well in this case, were the man to remain in bed and not make pilgrimages to places which are perilous and hard to access as we so often see is the case.
6. But if such pilgrimages continually exist, what is then their unnecessary cause? You will certainly admit that it is an image of this kind, and all the writings in the world could not succeed in representing the semblance and the power of such a deity.
7. Therefore, it appears that this deity takes pleasure in the pictures and is pleased that it should be loved and revered, and takes a greater delight in being worshipped in that rather than in any other semblance of itself. By this reason, it bestows grace and gifts of salvation according to the belief of those who meet together in such a place

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- i. Select the option that agrees with the information given in the passage. 1
- (a) Painting and mathematics are at par, when it comes to learning.
 - (b) Painting can only be taught to one who is capable of receiving this knowledge.
 - (c) Painting cannot be taught except as a form of imitation.
 - (d) Paintings cannot be transferred as an inheritance.
- ii. Which is the statement that shows the writer aimed to change the general outlook about painting, correctly? 1
- (a) It cannot be stamped in the same way as sculptures can in which the impression is in proportion to the source.
 - (b) As sculptures are closest to painting and yet there is a fundamental difference.
 - (c) It cannot be copied as letters can be.
 - (d) It does not generate countless children in the way printed books can.
- iii. Share evidence from the text, in about 40 words to support the view that the writer's writing style is descriptive in nature. 2
- iv. Complete the sentence appropriately with a characteristic or its description. 1
They invoke those whom such pictures represent that they may regain ____.
- v. Select the option that is similar in meaning to 'pilgrimages'. 1
- (a) A journey (b) A holy expedition
 - (c) A trip (d) An expedition
- vi. Explain, in about 40 words, why was the unveiling of painted images is unique? 2
- vii. In the line, "... Therefore this deity takes pleasure in the pictures and bestows grace and gifts of salvation to those who meet together in such a place." What does the word 'pleasure' refer to? 1
- viii. What is the core idea that displays the most likely reason for including the line, "It alone confers honour on its author and remains precious and unique and does not beget children equal to itself." Answer in about 40 words. 2
- ix. Read the five headlines (1) to (5) given below : 1
- (1) Art is a passion.
 - (2) Art is in blood.
 - (3) Art cannot be inherited.
 - (4) Art can never be copied.
 - (5) Art is a chanting.
- Identify the option that displays the headline/s that correspond/s with the occurrences in the passage.
- (a) Only (1) (b) Only (2)
 - (c) Both (3) and (4) (d) (1), (2) and (5)

2. Read the following text.**10**

1. A large majority of the elderly in India does not get long-term and palliative care, revealed a study conducted for the United Nations. The survey of more than 10,000 respondents across Northern, Southern, Western, Eastern and Central India during May-June 2018, showed that 62.1% of the elderly did not get such care. More than half of these people, 52.4%, said they primarily need traditional family support, says a study by Age well Research and Advocacy Centre.
2. Older people in India often face problems such as disability, restricted mobility, loneliness, poverty and lack of awareness on accessing old-term care. With a fast growing population of older people, the ever-increasing gap between generations and the fast and demanding lifestyle of young people, for a majority of older people, life is still a struggle for independence.
3. "According to 64% of elderly respondents, loneliness, marginalisation and isolation are the most critical issues faced by bedridden, elderly patients as they cannot visit, meet or interact with their relatives, friends and neighbours," said Himanshu Rath, founder of Agewell Foundation.
4. The elderly have to compromise and make adjustments in their lifestyle according to the wishes of the younger members of their families to ensure they are cared for, the study revealed. It highlighted that 67.6% of the elderly being taken care of their family members have to look after the children of the families. They have to perform tasks such as babysitting in return for proper care and support.
5. "Around 73.7% said they have to take care of the house and other properties of their younger family members to ensure long-term and palliative care in old age", the study report said. "Over 75% of respondents have to limit their personal social interactions as their family members direct them to do so, otherwise their family members can avoid providing their basic needs of food and medicines." Most elderly respondents (68.5%) said breaking up of the joint family system is one of the biggest factors for the challenges they face in getting long-term palliative care.
6. Healthcare equipment such as wheelchairs, relief material such as adult diapers and care-giving service should be provided on a regular basis to destitute older people, who are bedridden and suffering from acute mobility issues, the report said.
"Though providing long-term and palliative care to older persons comes in the purview of family responsibilities in India, it is observed that older persons, who are financially independent, have a high net worth or hold property entitlements, are treated comparatively well by their family members" said Rath.
7. "Managing home care for the elderly is a massive challenge as multiple service providers-nursing agencies, physiotherapists and medical suppliers-are small scale and unorganised and, therefore, provide incomplete care," he said. "In India, health insurance coverage is essentially limited to hospitalisation. The concept of geriatric care has remained a neglected area of medicine so far in the country."

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

- i. List two essential requirements for older people suffering from mobility issues. **2**
- ii. Select the option that displays the reason behind financially independent elderly being better off. **1**
 - (a) They are seen as one to be revered.
 - (b) They are treated with much more care and respect.
 - (c) They have money to meet their financial needs.
 - (d) They have medical expenses.

Continue on next page.....

- iii. According to the passage, what do you think is the primary need of all the elderly people in India? 1
- iv. Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option. 1
According to the study, long-term and palliative care comes under the purview of _____.
(a) government responsibilities
(b) liabilities
(c) social responsibilities
- v. Select the option that displays the most likely reason for stating that older people who live with family are no better. 1
It is so because
(a) they have additional burden of responsibility
(b) they have no one who loves or cares for them
(c) they also suffer from loneliness
(d) All of the above
- vi. State a point to challenge the given statement : 2
Joint Family System along with the need for private space has brought challenges to the long term elderly care.
- vii. Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference from the last paragraph of the passage. 1
The concluding paragraph of the passage makes a clear case for _____.
- viii. State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE. 1
In order to get proper care and support, the old people have to adjust their lifestyle as per the wishes of their children.

SECTION B- CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

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Note : All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

3. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 50 words. 4
- A. You are the Secretary of your School Literary Association. Write a notice in not more than 50 words for your school notice board, giving details of the proposed inauguration of the Literary Association of your school. You are 'XYZ' of Jain Vidyashram, Cuddalore.
- Or**
- B. You lost your wristwatch in your school auditorium. Write a notice in not more than 50 words for your school notice board giving a detailed description of the watch. You are Anirudh/Arundhati of class XII of Springfield School, Pune.

4. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 50 words. 4

- A. You are the President, Literary Society of Sunshine International School. Draft an invitation to author, Ms Manjul Bajaj requesting her to conduct a workshop on creative writing in your school. You are Romi/Rohit of Zenith Public School.

Or

- B. Write a formal reply accepting an invitation to be present in the birthday celebrations of your friend, Suresh's daughter, who lives at 1231, Chattarpur, Delhi. You are Abhishek Khanna.

5. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 120-150 words. 5

- A. Write a letter in about 120-150 words for the post of the Librarian in Vision Senior Secondary School, Calicut. Also, enclose your Bio-data with it. You are Radhika/Rajeev from 21, Cherry Road, Madurai.

Or

- B. Write a letter to the Editor, Deccan Times, Bangalore about the inadequate parking facilities in the Commercial Street, M.G. Road, which is causing a lot of inconvenience to the people. Offer your suggestions. You are Anoop/Ritu, 24 Hennus Road, Bangalore.

6. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 120-150 words. 5

- A. On the occasion of Teacher's Day, the Honourable PM of India had an interactive session with students from all over the country through satellite link. Your school also made special arrangements for the students to view the telecast. Write an article in about 120-150 words for your school magazine giving details of the talk and its impact on you. You are Akshay/ Akshita of Brightland Public School.

Or

- B. You are Mridul/Mridula, an HT correspondent. You witnessed a protest rally by a youth organisation. Mentioning the purpose of rally, places covered and reaction of public, write a report in 120-150 words for your newspaper.

SECTION C- LITERATURE**40****7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. 6**

- A. ...I looked again at her, wan,
pale
as a late winter's moon and felt that
old
familiar ache, my childhood's fear,
but all I said was, see you soon,
Amma,
all I did was smile and smile and
smile

- i. What is the speaker's emotional state when looking at her mother? 1
(a) Empathetic and understanding (b) Nostalgic and longing
(c) Confused and disoriented (d) Fearful and apprehensive
- ii. What does the use of the word "but" at the beginning of the line, 'but all I said..', suggest? 1
- iii. Select the word that WILL NOT complete the sentence appropriately. 1
The description of the mother as "wan, pale / as a late winter's moon" creates a vivid image of _____.
(a) frailty (b) sensitivity
(c) vulnerability (d) mortality
- iv. State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE. 1
The poetic device used in the line, 'pale as a winter's moon' is the same as the one used in the line, 'the winter wind wistfully wailed at night:
- v. What message do these lines highlight, in the context of familial relationships, and the speaker's sense of anxiety and fear at the prospect of losing her mother? 1
- vi. Complete the sentence appropriately. 1
The repetition of the word, 'smile' suggests that _____.

Or

- B. Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen,
Bright topaz denizens of a world of green.
They do not fear the men beneath the tree;
They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.

(Aunt's Jennifer's Tiger)

- i. How are Aunt Jennifer's tigers described? 1
(a) As sober and serene (b) As cruel and menacing
(c) As bold and fearless (d) As sleek and slender
- ii. State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE, with reference to the extract. 1
The tigers are describes as having a green colour.
- iii. Fill in the blank with reference to the extract. 1
The word from the extract which means 'to move or leap about' is _____.
- iv. The fact that Aunt Jennifer is creating the tigers shows her. 1
- v. Identify the phrase from the extract, suggests the following. 1
Aunt Jennifer's tigers are not real.

- vi. Choose the option that displays the same poetic device as used in the last line of the extract. 1
- (a) Life is a ride (b) Tiger tiger burning bright
- (c) As cunning as a fox (d) Accurate estimate of the work

8. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. 4

- A. He said I was unhappy. That made my wife kind of mad, but he explained that he meant the modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry and all the rest of it and that I just want to escape. Well, who doesn't? Everybody I know wants to escape, but they don't wander down into any third level at Grand Central Station. But that's the reason, he said, and my friends all agreed. Everything points to it, they claimed. My stamp collecting, for example; that's a 'temporary refuge from reality.' Well, maybe, but my grandfather didn't need any refuge from reality.

(The Third Level)

- i. Why didn't Charley's grandfather need refuge from reality? 1
- ii. Why did Sam's verdict make Charley's wife 'mad'? 1
- iii. Select the option that signifies the condition of people of the 'modern world' mentioned in the extract. 1
- (a) afraid (b) anxious
- (c) unsure (d) All of these
- iv. Complete the sentence appropriately. 1
- Sam's explanation to the reaction of Charley's wife was _____ in nature.

Or

- B. Will the West Antarctic ice sheet melt entirely? Will the Gulf Stream ocean current be disrupted? Will it be the end of the world as we know it? Maybe. Maybe not. Either way, Antarctica is a crucial element in this debate – not just because it's the only place in the world, which has never sustained a human population and therefore remains relatively 'pristine' in this respect; but more importantly, because it holds in its ice-cores half-million-year-old carbon records trapped in its layers of ice.

(On the Face of It)

- i. What does the phrase 'May be. May be not' in the extract indicate? 1
- (a) Uncertainty (b) Foretelling
- (c) Suspicion (d) Despair
- ii. Find a word in the extract which is a synonym of 'perfect'. 1
- iii. Why does Antarctica holds importance? 1
- iv. Complete the sentence appropriately. 1
- The questions asked by the narrator signify _____.

9. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. 6

- A.** Poor man! It was in the honour of this last lesson that he had put on his fine Sunday clothes, and now I understood why the old men of the village were sitting there in the back of the room. It was because they were sorry, too, that they had not gone to school more. It was their way of thanking our master for his forty years of faithful service and of showering their respect for the country that was theirs no more. While I was thinking of all this, I heard my name called. It was my turn to recite. What would I not have given to be able to say that dreadful rule for the participle all through, very loud and clear, and without one mistake? But I got mixed up on the first words and stood there, holding on to my desk, my heart beating, and not daring to look up.

(The Last Lesson)

- i. List any two details M. Hamel discussed in the given extract. 1
- ii. How did M. Hamel react to this show of 'non-performance'? 1
 - (a) He let the iron ruler talk.
 - (b) He ignored his pupil's lack of commitment.
 - (c) He didn't utter a harsh word in response.
 - (d) He let Franz be free and sent him out.
- iii. Complete the sentence appropriately. 1
The old men of the village on the back benches were _____.
- iv. Pick out an evidence from the extract given that helps one infer his way of showing patriotic love for his land and language. 1
- v. Who is the 'Poor man'? 1
- vi. Which of the following headlines best suggests the central idea of the given extract? 1
 - (a) Honour to the village people
 - (b) Respect for human beings
 - (c) Faithful services of M. Hamel
 - (d) Too late for school

Or

- B.** Unaware of what his name represents, he roams the streets with his friends, an army of barefoot boys who appear like the morning birds and disappear at noon. Over the months, I have come to recognise each of them.

"Why aren't you wearing chappals?" I ask one.

"My mother did not bring them down from the shelf," he answers simply.

"Even if she did, he will throw them off," adds another who is wearing shoes that do not match.

When I comment on it, he shuffles his feet and says nothing. "I want shoes," says a third boy who has never owned a pair all his life. Travelling across the country I have seen children walking barefoot, in cities, on village roads. It is not lack of money but a tradition to stay barefoot, is one explanation.

(Lost Spring)

- i. What is the writer's purpose in allowing the boys to speak for themselves via dialogue, as opposed to only a writer's commentary? 1
- ii. The line, "It is not lack of money but a tradition to stay barefoot" can be best classified as : 1
(a) A theme (b) An opinion
(c) A fact (d) A plot point
- iii. Explain any one possible inference that can be drawn from the line, "an army of barefoot boys who appear like the morning birds and disappear at noon". 1
- iv. Identify the line from the text that bears evidence to the fact that the writer's association with the boys is not a recent one. 1
- v. Based on the context provided in the extract, select the most likely comment that the writer would have made, based on the boy's reaction to the mismatched shoes. 1
(a) "I like your shoes. What matters is that they protect your feet?"
(b) "Don't worry about your shoes, you can wear a matching pair later."
(c) "Why are your shoes mismatched? That's not a good look"
(d) "Have you chosen to mismatch your shoes?"
- vi. Complete the sentence with ONE word. 1
The phrase "he answers simply", suggests that the boy's response to the writer's question about why he wasn't wearing chappals was _____.
10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions, in about 40-50 words. $5 \times 2 = 10$
- i. How is the bangle industry of Firozabad a curse for the bangle makers?
(Lost Spring)
- ii. What did the gift of the rattrap signify?
(The Rattrap)
- iii. The poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers' is replete with symbols. Interpret any two symbols used in the poem.
(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)
- iv. What different images does the poet use to convey the idea of her mother's old age?
(My Mother at Sixty-Six)
- v. What tempted Franz to stay away from school?
(The Last Lesson)
- vi. Why did Gandhiji feel that taking the Champaran case to the court was useless?
(Indigo)

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words. $2 \times 2 = 4$

- i. "But Sadao searching the spot of black in the twilight sea that night, had his reward". What was the reward?
(The Enemy)
- ii. How did 'The World' help Charley to confirm his doubts regarding the existence of a third level?
(The Third Level)
- iii. What considerations influenced the Tiger King to get married?
(The Tiger King)

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. 5

- A. Why do you think Gandhiji considered the Champaran episode to be a turning-point in his life?
(Indigo)

Or

- B. The story 'The Rattrap' is both entertaining and philosophical. Discuss.
(The Rattrap)

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. 5

- A. What is the bond that unites old Mr. Lamb and Derry, the boy? How does the old man inspire the boy?
(On the Face of It)

Or

- B. 'We too are Human Beings' highlights high caste - low caste discrimination in society. How do low caste people suffer on account of this? What advice is given to Bama to overcome this problem?
(Memories of Childhood)

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