

# AMRITA VIDYALAYAM

## ANNUAL EXAMINATION 2017 - '18

Class : XI

Marks : 80

Time : 3 hrs

### ENGLISH CORE (301)

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

*This paper contains three sections as under :*

*Section - A - Reading - 20 marks*

*Section - B - Writing and Grammar - 30 marks*

*Section - C - Literature and Novel - 30 marks*

*All sections are compulsory.*

*Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.*

*Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*

### SECTION A - READING

**1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.**

The epidemic of heart attacks has been attaining alarming proportions in recent times causing grave concern, specially to the medical fraternity. To contain and control the increasing death and disability from heart attacks and to focus on public awareness and their involvement at the global level, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Heart Federations observed September 24 as the World Heart Day.

What causes heart attacks? Dr. H.S. Wasir, Chief Cardiologist and Medical Director, Batra Hospital and Medical Research Centre, lists four main habits which adversely affect the heart health. These are: lack of physical exercise, wrong eating habits, cigarette smoking and excessive alcohol consumption and stressful lifestyle. The importance of physical exercise in minimising the incidence of heart attacks cannot be under estimated. 'Physical exercise', says Dr Wasir 'plays a major role in achieving a long and healthy life in general and prevention of heart attacks in particular'.

There are several studies showing that physically active people have higher longevity than those sedentary or physically inactive. In fact, a review of modern medical literature sums up the role of physical activity in health as, "Regular physical exercise adds not only years to life but also life to years". It is the experience of many modern-day physicians that some patients of angina (chest pain or discomfort on physical or mental exertion or after meals) do get relief with regularly done physical exercise.

What type of physical exercise and how much, one may ask. It is the isotonic (dynamic) exercise that is beneficial for the heart and not the isometric (static) exercise, which should be avoided by heart patients. Weightlifting, carrying heavy suitcases while travelling, pushing a car, etc. are some of the examples of isometric exercises.

Examples of the beneficial type of physical activity (dynamic exercise) are: brisk walking, swimming, golf without power carts, badminton and tennis (doubles for those with old heart attacks but fully recovered, to be started only after the physician's advice). Walking is the best mode of doing regular physical exercise which requires no equipment, money, material or membership of a club! 30 to 60 minutes brisk walk even on alternate day has been proven to be beneficial. Stationary cycling or walking on a treadmill at home are the other alternatives.

Walk up the stairs instead of using a lift if going up to three or four floors or getting off the lift two or three floors before the destination and walk the rest through stairs. Going up several floors in an overcrowded lift with limited fresh air to be shared by so many may however prove

unhealthy. Park a little away from the workplace and walk that healthy distance. Best time for brisk walks would be the early mornings before the traffic flow picks up and walking in the parks with thick plantation.

Jogging on the roads with heavy traffic should be avoided as you will be inhaling air polluted with the toxins from vehicular exhaust such as dioxides of sulphur and nitrogen. 'Before starting any physical exercise programs for the first time, one must get fully evaluated by a cardiologist, so as to avoid any harm being done by exercise, if there is serious underlying heart disease needing treatment', warns Dr Wasir.

a) Make notes on the passage in a suitable format using recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Give a suitable title to the passage. 5

b) Write a summary of the passage based on your reading. 3

**2. Read the following passage carefully.**

1. Life, that marvelous gift we enjoy day-by-day, minute-by-minute, makes sense to those who, at every moment, try to do their very best - to those who fulfill their duties with joy, with total devotion, even when the task is difficult.

2. I want to tell you that, from a very young age, I have been obsessed with a single idea: not to abandon this world with empty hands. This image of empty hands that are always filled, because they are always giving, has been with me all of my life.

3. About ten years ago, a famous Indian painter asked me to select one of his paintings honouring Amma, the beloved Hugging Saint, who has a plumpy physique. Without hesitating I chose the one that represented Amma's extraordinary capacity for love and devotion to the poor and the needy: a marvelous painting of her expressive hands. I tell you this because I believe that loving and giving with generosity is what makes life meaningful.

4. There is something we should not forget however: we must give without expecting a reward. In this regard, ancient Indian tradition is of great value because of its emphasis on detached action. This was the philosophy of life that guided Mahatma Gandhi in his struggle of peaceful resistance for the independence of his country.

5. It is only when we understand like Amma that giving is more important than receiving, loving than being loved, and serving than being served, that we find ourselves on the path that leads to inner peace and the plenitude of life.

6. When the time came for me to choose a professional career, I selected teaching. There were two reasons for this: my mother wanted one of her daughters to become a teacher and, perhaps, without being completely aware of it at the time, I sensed that I had a vocation for teaching.

7. Like the farmer, we plant the seed in the hope that it will germinate, grow and bear fruit. But, unlike the farmer who looks forward to harvesting his crop, the teacher knows that the fruits of her labour do not belong to her. Just as children must learn to leave the parental nest and fly with their own wings, so the student must follow his or her own path.

8. To a certain extent, this is the duty everyone is born to fulfil : to act without any attachment to the results. This is the only way to be free. It is the only way by which life can achieve plenitude; the only way by which our hands may be filled with the miracle of giving.

**2.1. On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given choices.** 6

a) What kind of people finds life meaningful?

- (i) Those who find success in life. (ii) Those who find love and happiness.  
(iii) Those who perform even difficult duties joyfully. (iv) Those who gain power.

b) Why did the author choose Amma's painting with her hands?

- (i) Because her hands show her generous giving.  
(ii) Because her hands symbolize her love and devotion.  
(iii) Because they reflect the fact that she always gave to the poor.  
(iv) All the above.

- c) What gives our lives freedom and plenitude?  
 (i) Acting without attachment to results. (ii) Serving others.  
 (iii) Not abandoning the world with empty hands. (iv) Struggling for peaceful existence.
- d) Amma has \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (i) An extraordinary capacity for love and devotion (ii) A plumpy physique  
 (iii) Giving is more important than receiving (iv) All of these
- e) 'Plenitude' in paragraph 5 means \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (i) wealth (ii) happiness (iii) contentment (iv) completeness
- f) 'Germinate' in paragraph 7 means \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (i) fill up with germs (ii) become a gem (iii) sprout (iv) fight germs

**2.2. Answer the questions briefly.**

**6**

- a) What is meant by detached action?  
 b) Which path leads to inner peace?  
 c) Why did the author choose the career of teaching?  
 d) How is a teacher different from a farmer?  
 e) Find the word which means the same as 'as quite fat'.  
 f) Find the word which means the same as 'grow'.

**SECTION B - WRITING AND GRAMMAR**

3. Child Labor is a serious offence, affecting millions of children in the country. On behalf of the Child Welfare Ministry, design an attractive poster urging people to help to prevent injustice towards minors.

**4**

OR

As the sports secretary of your school write a notice informing the students about the special coaching in cricket, basket ball and tennis during the summer vacation.

4. You are Mini / Mohit of 15, Mall Road, Bangalore. You are interested in doing a short - term course in computer programming. Write a letter to C-Pack Computers, 4/1, 3<sup>rd</sup> Main Road, Bangalore inquiring about duration of the course, fees and other details.

**6**

OR

You are Aditya / Priya living in House No: 7322, sector 14, Chandigarh. You have seen an advertisement in the newspaper for the post of a software engineer in National Software company. Write an application with complete bio data to the Manager of the company.

5. You are Anu / Anoop. You are much disturbed and shocked at the sheer wastage of time in watching TV, playing computer games or sending SMS on mobiles. Write an article on 'Misuse of technology can affect the future of students' in not more than 200 words.

**10**

OR

Your Principal takes several steps to sensitize students on social issues. Last Diwali she arranged to send a group of students to 'Aashraya', an old people's home. The students carried sweets and other eatables and gifts for the inmates. They sang songs and enacted a short Rasaleela play. The idea was to share the cheer and the spirit of Diwali with the lonely old people. You were the leader of the group. Write a report on the above topic meant to be published in a local daily in 150 - 200 words.

6. **The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Underline the error and write the correct word in front of it in your answer sheet. The first word has been done for you as an example.**

**4**

	Error	Correction
The camel is an oldest of domestic	an	the
animals. It has been used since thousands	a) _____	_____
of year by the desert people to supply many	b) _____	_____
of their needs. Camels pulled ploughs	c) _____	_____

and carry good to market.

d) \_\_\_\_\_

- 7. Re - arrange the following words / phrases to make meaningful sentences.** **3**
- a) The / on / forests / the / industry / oil / depends  
b) give / to / armies / wars / forests / during / our / cover  
c) do / get / the / forests / from / what / we / products / ?

- 8. Rewrite the sentences as directed.** **3**
- a) This book is so difficult that it cannot be read. (Use too ..... to)  
b) This boy is very hardworking. He is also very intelligent. (Combine the sentence using not only ..... but also)  
c) A hungry boy stole the bread. (Change into passive voice)

### SECTION C - LITERATURE AND NOVEL

- 9. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.** **3**
- “Yet have I Killed  
The seed I spent or sown it where  
The Land is his and none of mine?  
We speak like strangers, there’s no  
Sign of understanding in the air”.
- a) Name the poem and the poet.  
b) Why do father and son speak like strangers?  
c) Why does the father say: the land is his and none of mine?

OR

‘And who art thou? said I to the soft falling shower  
Which strange to tell give me an answer, as here translated?  
I am the poem of Earth, said the voice of the rain  
Eternal I rise impalpable out of the land and the bottomless sea”.

- a) Who is the ‘poem of Earth’?  
b) Find a word in the stanza which means ‘a thing that can’t be touched’.  
c) Explain the meaning of ‘strange to tell’.
- 10. Answer any three of the following questions.** **9**
- a) What change do you notice in Mrs. Pearson’s husband and her children at the end of the play?  
b) What problem did Carter face when he reached the mummy of king Tut? How did he find a way out?  
c) What are the earth’s principal biological systems? What is happening to them and what can be the results?  
d) Comment on the role of Yuri in the lesson ‘Albert Einstein at school’.

- 11. Answer the following question in not more than 150 words.** **6**
- What picture of Andrew Manson do you form after reading ‘Birth’?

OR

‘Our optimistic attitude helps us to face extremely dangerous situations’. Discuss with reference to the story ‘we are not afraid to die .....’.

- 12. Answer the following questions in not more than 150 words.** **12**
- a) Write a character sketch of Virginia E Otis.  
b) Justify the title of Oscar wild’s novel ‘The Canterville Ghost’.