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ANNUAL EXAMINATION 2017 - '18

Class : IX

Marks : 80

Time : 3 hrs

ENGLISH

General Instructions :

1. This paper is divided into three sections: A, B and C.
2. All the sections are compulsory.
3. Read the instructions given with each section and question and follow them faithfully.
4. Write down the serial number of the question before attempting it.
5. Strictly adhere to the word limit prescribed.

SECTION A - READING

1. Read the passage carefully.

EXERCISES TO MANAGE STRESS

The interesting thing about stress is that it means different things to different people. We may share common physical reaction to stress – muscle tension and rapid breathing, for example – but what one person finds exciting may leave another person frightened. You might say that, in some ways, stress can be a state of mind. The following exercises are designed to help change a stressful frame of mind into a calm peaceful one.

Meditation to Erase the Slate:- You don't have to be a lover of bean sprouts and eastern philosophy to enjoy the benefits of meditation. Meditation is just a technique to help you clear stressful thoughts from your mind and give yourself a break.

Meditation is most successful when done in a comfortable, private place without distractions- in a warm tub, for instance even in your parked car after the drive home from work.

Start by closing your eyes and focusing on one peaceful word or image. When other thoughts enter your mind, let them go and return to the one word or image you've selected. In essence, you're erasing your mind's slate of shoulds, coulds, do's and don'ts and allowing yourself the luxury of a peaceful break.

Daydream Away – It's Okay :- Forget what your conscience says – It's okay to daydream. In fact, it can be very good for you. Daydreaming or 'visualization' - achieves the same feeling of tranquility as meditation through a slightly different technique. Instead of focusing on one single peaceful thought, you think about an entire relaxing environment in full detail.

Your daydream can take you away from a stress-packed day to a tranquil mental getaway.

A Stressless Frame of Mind :- Stress affects not only our physical health but our mental well-being, too. To successfully manage stress in our everyday lives, we can learn to relax and enjoy life. Meditation and visualization can help us take a break from outside pressure and improve our outlook on life. And, when we're in a stress-less frame of mind, we are better able to handle the trials, tribulations, joys and challenges of being human.

Answer the following questions.

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- a) How is stress a state of mind?
- b) According to the passage what is the aim of exercises?
- c) How does meditation help?
- d) How can we achieve maximum possible calming effect?

- e) What is meditation?
- f) How does visualization help?
- g) What is the difference between meditation and daydreaming?
- h) Why do we strive to have a stressless frame of mind?

2. Read the passage given below.

Such is Life

Why is life so full of cruel contrasts? Is it an accident of birth, or is it Karma - that we reap what we sow? Blessed with all the comforts of life – a constant feeling of guilt and acute pain afflicts me every moment. What moral right do I have to participate in ostentatious functions with vulgar display of wealth when our poor crave to grab the leftovers and lick plates thrown by the blessed ones? How do I justify my material greed and desire to eat, wear and enjoy the best, when there are those who do not even have rags to cover themselves with, or a roof to give them shelter?

My day begins with encounters which reinforce my dilemmas. As I step out of the house at dawn for a morning walk, I see small kids with gunny bags hung on their tender, slender shoulders, sifting their 'booty' out of heaps of rubbish. They pick up bits of broken glass, polythene, paper, tin – in fact whatever comes their way - perhaps oblivious of hazards they are exposed to in the process. A few steps further, a 'Chotu' sleeping on the pavement is being rebuked and scolded to get up and begin the day's chores by the employer of a roadside tea stall. 'Chotu' washes the dishes and carries buckets of water under whose weight he literally droops. Back home, my maid comes along with her child who may not have even reached her seventh birthday. The child helps mother in scrubbing floors, washing clothes and dishes. All efforts to dissuade the mother from making the child work and even offering assistance for her education are futile. "The child is not only assisting me in earning a livelihood but is also getting trained to be on her own", argues the mother. Then comes another 'Chotu' – a child who accompanies his brother to clean the cars, and who has to climb on to a stool to touch the car roof. My little gestures of benevolence are but a drop in the vast ocean of frustration, hunger and deprivation.

I drive to office mechanically thinking about those lesser human mortals. And, Lo! At the red light crossing a tender hand is struggling to reach the windscreen in a bid to clean it with a piece of dirty cloth, and earn a tip. Dressed in rags, unkempt tangled hair, and starved looks, he is a mockery in the guise of a child.

With a sigh, I leave while the traffic light turns green. Then I come across a young woman carrying a child of about 6-7 years with a plastered leg hanging to draw attention. She begs in the name of the 'injured' child. This has been a sight familiar to me since several months: the same woman the same child and the same modus operandi. When I told her that I have been seeing this for the past many months, she simply vanished.

By the time I retire for the day, my tryst with such situations is enough to remind me of George Arnold's lines, "I was born sometime ago, but I know not why. I have lived, I hardly know either how, or where. Sometime or another, I suppose, I shall die. But where, how or when, I neither know nor care."

This life is a continuation of past several lives. Karma is the key. As you sow, so you reap. We enjoy or suffer the fruits of our karma from birth to birth. Karma or action is prompted by our desires. Only when desires end the jiva will attain mukthi or liberation from this samsara or cycle of birth and death.

2.1. Answer the following questions.

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- a) How does a day begin for the small kids as per the author?
- b) What does the author feel constantly? Why?

- c) What does the mother say in support of her making the child work with her?
 d) What modus operandi does the woman with the injured child use?

2.2. Find words from the above given passage which mean the same as the following words. 4

- a) Unwanted things or waste material. (Para 2) b) Severe pain (Para 1)
 c) A particular way of doing something (Para 4) d) Disappear suddenly (Para 4)

SECTION B - WRITING AND GRAMMAR

3. Now-a-days you find that more and more people carry mobile phones to their work places. However, the use of mobile phones can be dangerous at times. Write an article for your school magazine on the topic, 'To use latest technology in the right way is in the hands of the youth of today' in about 120 words discouraging the misuse of technological products like cell phones and highlighting the need to use them intelligently. 8

4. Complete the story in 200-250 words. Provide a suitable title. 12
 Last Sunday, I was watching TV. Suddenly I heard people shouting outside

5. Complete the following passage by choosing the correct word from the given options. 3
 Working in a team a) _____ really a healer and a stress buster. Success b) _____ failure is not an individual's responsibility. It is a collective responsibility. c) _____ good team work demands a perfect communication between all members.

- a) (i) is (ii) am (iii) are (iv) was
 b) (i) and (ii) or (iii) is (iv) am
 c) (i) A (ii) The (iii) In (iv) At

6. The following paragraph has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the error and its correction in your answer sheet. The first one has been done for you as an example. 4

	Error	Correction
Walt Disney was our hero. He	<u>was</u>	<u>is</u>
left me a legacy that can	a) _____	_____
be enjoy time and again. He	b) _____	_____
knew who to entertain us so well.	c) _____	_____
He developed a process in	d) _____	_____
creating animated films.		

7. Rearrange the following words /phrases to form meaningful sentences. 3
 a) and / his / word / thoughtful / keeps / true gentleman / a / is always
 b) friendship / a / you / broken / cost / promise / your / can
 c) his / mistakes / is always / a gentle man / ready to / accept

SECTION C - LITERATURE

8. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow. 4

“Alone she cuts and binds the grain;
 And sings a melancholy strain;
 O listen! for the vale profound
 Is overflowing with the sound”.

- a) Who is 'she' in the above lines?
 b) What kind of a song is she singing?
 c) What does the expression 'vale profound' mean?
 d) 'And sings a melancholy strain'. What is the poetic device used in this line?

OR

A few weeks ago, worded as if in a special tribute to Duke, an order came through from the chemical company's headquarters.

- a) Who is Duke? What happened to him?
- b) What did the order say?
- c) How was it a tribute to Duke?
- d) Name the chapter for the above extract.

9. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each.

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- a) Why is the rain considered divine?
- b) What was John A. Pescud's opinion about best sellers? Why?
- c) Why was Sudha Murty surprised when her grandmother touched her feet?
- d) Why was Corporal Turnbull, the hero of all the soldiers?

10. Attempt any one out of two long answer type questions in 100-120 words.

8

Do you agree with Harold's parents' decision of hiding from him the fact that his father was a boxer? Why / why not?

OR

How did the Bishop react on learning about the betrayal by the convict? What does it reflect about him?

11. Answer the following questions in about 200-250 words.

10

Discuss the main plot of 'Three men in a boat'.

OR

Write a character sketch of the author known in the book as 'J'?

OR

Give a brief character sketch of the Emperor of Blefuscu.

OR

What idea do you get about the Lilliputians from Gulliver's account?