

# AMRITA VIDYALAYAM

## AMRITA PRE BOARD EXAMINATION 1 - 2017 - '18

Class : X

Marks : 80

Time : 3 hrs

### ENGLISH

**General Instructions:**

1. This paper is divided into three sections : A, B and C.
2. All the questions are compulsory.
3. Read each question carefully and follow the instructions.
4. All the answers must be correctly numbered as in the question paper and written in the answer sheet provided to you.
5. Strictly adhere to the word limit prescribed.

### SECTION A - READING

**1. Read the passage carefully.**

We give undue importance to our health and treatment of diseases. A large number of medicines treat only the symptoms of the disease, and not the root cause. In fact, the cause of many chronic ailments is still being researched. It is here that yoga therapy comes to our assistance. Yoga emphasizes treatment of the root cause of an ailment. It works in a slow, subtle and miraculous manner. Modern medicine can claim to save a life at a critical stage, but, for complete recovery and regaining of normal health, one must believe in the efficiency of yoga therapy. The yogic way of life includes a code of ethics, regulations, discipline and more combined with prayer and meditation. Even a discussion of these subjects helps one relieve mental tensions and change attitudes. Simple asanas help to stretch and relax the whole body and neutralize tensions. The sincere practice of yoga postures benefits all levels of experience. Through continued practice, yoga postures can have a profound effect on the inner dimensions of life, establishing deep calm, concentration, emotional stability and confidence. Man is a physical, mental and spiritual being; yoga helps promote a balanced development of all the three. Other forms of physical exercises, like aerobics, assure only physical exercises and physical well-being. They have little to do with the development of the spiritual or astral body.

**Answer the following questions briefly.**

8

- a) What do most of the medicines treat?
- b) What does the phrase 'chronic ailments' refer to?
- c) How is yoga different from other treatments?
- d) What does the yogic way of life include?
- e) How do 'simple asanas' help?
- f) How does sincere practice of yoga postures benefit us?
- g) How does yoga therapy work?
- h) Is yoga better than physical exercises? How?

**2. Read the following carefully.**

**ARE WE HAPPIER THAN OUR FOREFATHERS?**

1. The conquest of happiness has meant different facts to different generations. Our forefathers took pride in scholarship, a spirit of sacrifice and solicitude for the welfare of others. Gone are those days. Today we live only for ourselves. We are jealous of the advancement of our neighbours. We

end up tense and unhappy.

2. The term 'happy' has a variety of meanings. It stands for the lucky, fortunate, content, glad or apt. Happiness lies within the mind of the individual. No amount of external wealth may be helpful in making him happy.

3. Our forefathers had life styles, very much different from those we have today. Their life was based mainly on the concept of 'simple living and high thinking'. People were satisfied with whatever they obtained after working hard. Excessive material wealth did not mean much for them. They derived mental satisfaction and enrichment which they aimed at.

4. The structural framework of our forefathers' families was different from those of ours. They lived in a cohesive joint family structure where they were happier than we. They cared for each other. The siblings grew up with their cousins. The bond of love which they share cannot be easily found in the nuclear family of the day. The family provided an emotional cushioning effect against tension and stress.

5. However, in the nuclear family, we are detached from the feelings towards our kith and kin. At times even the cousins do not recognize one another, when they happen to be self-centred. Disputes in the family may lead to divisions. This may finally destroy the family psyche.

6. The joint family system provided a proper environment for the child to grow up. The value of respect, tolerance, responsibility, integrity, etc, were internalized in the child. In the long run, they became better human beings, compared to those in the present generation. Our forefathers felt happiest if their children became 'honest' human beings.

7. But today we are happy only if we attain our coveted material ends. We are ready to resort to any means to attain that end. Our philosophy of life has turned out totally Machiavellian.

8. Our forefathers had a vision to make India the best. To attain their ambitions, they were ready to make all sorts of personal sacrifices. Their happiness lay in that of the millions of Indian brothers and sisters.

9. On the other hand, today people are ready to migrate to the west, to enjoy a comfortable life. They run away from the short comings of the Indian society without trying to remedy them. Often they become successful in foreign lands. But in the process, they become alienated from their motherland. The nostalgic feeling of their childhood and the relationship they left lingers on, which cannot make them happy. Distance from their ailing parents is a worrying factor and keeps them perturbed. It is not easy for them to return, as their children will not be able to adjust to the Indian environment and the way of life.

10. Thus, this is a crisis and a frame of mind worse than his forefathers.

11. In our generation, tradition and modernity have intermingled to form our special system. We are happier than our forefathers in being able to lessen the evils of a rigid caste system, untouchability, child marriage, etc. But we have failed to totally eradicate them. The electoral politics have made use of the caste system through the issuance of party tickets on the basis of caste, community, religion, etc.

**Answer the following questions.**

**12**

- a) What is the big difference between our forefathers and us?
- b) What do you mean by 'happiness'?
- c) Why are people ready to migrate to the west?
- d) How does the joint family system make a child a good human being?
- e) What is the meaning of happiness?
- f) What concept was our forefather's life based upon?
- g) Find the word in the passage which means 'ancestor'.
- h) Which word in the passage means 'thinking happily about the past'.

## SECTION B - WRITING AND GRAMMAR

3. You are Meena / Mohit. Write a letter to the Editor of 'The Times of India' about poor drainage system in your locality in about 120 words. 8

OR

Corruption has got into the nerve of the whole world and as a result, the corruption endemic commands a reprehensive global presence. Some of the social workers are protesting against this evil and making the people aware of this evil practice and to raise their voice against this. As a concerned citizen, write a letter to a national daily highlighting the problem and the ways and means to curb it in about 100-120 words.

You can take help from the input given below:

[Corruption - wider phenomenon - omnipresent - growth hindered - brings havoc to the society - more dangerous than AIDS - create income inequalities - economic offence - by - law thwarting - more damaging - should be uprooted - more vigilance required - urgent need to curb the monster]

4. Complete the story in 200 - 250 words. Provide a suitable title. 10

It was a hot day. A blind man was crossing the road, suddenly a car came.

OR

Write a story on the basis of its beginning provided here.

Raghu walked fast. It was getting dark. He realised that he had lost his way.

5. Complete the following passage by choosing the correct word from the given options. 4

Education is defined as a) \_\_\_\_\_ ability of a person to read b) \_\_\_\_\_ write. But sadly, millions of children c) \_\_\_\_\_ uneducated d) \_\_\_\_\_ India.

- a) (i) an                      (ii) the                      (iii) some                      (iv) any  
b) (i) and                      (ii) but                      (iii) as                      (iv) while  
c) (i) aren't                      (ii) are                      (iii) our                      (iv) were  
d) (i) for                      (ii) with                      (iii) in                      (iv) of

6. In the following passage one word has not been edited in each line. Write the incorrect word along with correct word in the space provided. 4

	Incorrect	Correct
It can surprise many people that the thing	a) _____	_____
like worry can be a killer. That has been	b) _____	_____
proved by all medical researchers that	c) _____	_____
worry is a major cause for heart ailments,	d) _____	_____
blood pressure and many other diseases.		

7. Rearrange the following word or phrases to more meaningful sentences. 4

- a) living / was / religion / Gandhiji / a / force / to  
b) studied / to find / different / approach to life / religion / correct / a / he  
c) to shed / this / mindedness / helped him / narrow  
d) he / tolerant / and / became / other religious / for

## SECTION C - LITERATURE

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

"Nothing beside remains. Round the decay of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare. The lone and level sands stretch far away".

- a) 'Nothing beside remains'. What does the narrator mean when he says these words?  
b) What does the expression 'that colossal wreck' mean?  
c) 'Boundless and bare'. What is the poetic device used in this phrase?

OR

‘Cowards die many times before their deaths. The Valiant never taste death but once’.

- a) Who is speaking these words and to whom?
- b) How do cowards die and why?
- c) Why does the speaker say these words?
- d) What is the antonym of ‘brave’ in the passage?

**9. Answer any four of the following questions in 30 - 40 words each.**

**8**

- a) How does the story ‘Two gentlemen of Verona’ promise hope for society?
- b) What is the message that the writer wants to convey through the short story, ‘The Letter’?
- c) ‘Water, water everywhere, not any drop to drink’. Describe the irony of the situation.
- d) What was Michael’s theory about how Sebastian had entered the games?

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

**8**

Patience and hardwork go a long way in achieving your goals. How does Patel Babu win the admiration of the Director through a very small role?

OR

The poem ‘Snake’ reminds us of the fact that animals too have a right to life which we have no right to deny them. Describe how man should exist with nature and its creatures for ecological balance.

**12. Answer the following questions in about 200 - 250 words.**

**10**

Helen’s struggle has become a source of inspiration for all less fortunate. Comment.

OR

The Narrator fondly recollected her associates with Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Comment on what she said about his greatness.