

# AMRITA VIDYALAYAM

## ANNUAL EXAMINATION 2018 - '19

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 - 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 questions.*

### SECTION A - READING

**1. Read the passage carefully.**

1. A book shop is not something you find in every gali or mohalla these days. Books, which were once a staple diet for youngsters in their formative years, are fading out of their list of engagements.

2. Ask any youngster which is the latest book he has read and he will be baffled. Apart from a few consistent readers, others just befool themselves with a best-seller's name or lament the curriculum load for justifying themselves, like this seventeen year old school goer who says, "I just read my physics book."

3. Television has been blamed much for this calamitous situation, which is producing square faced people and a bookless society. Furthermore, today's children are under pressure to be smart and popular, to succeed on a social level. Parties, dancing, dating and hanging out at places like Nirula's, Wimpys and Priya Complex begin early. Moreover, the computers, video games, internet, swimming lessons, cricketing and every youngster's passion for hour long tete-a-tete on telephone with friends eat up all their leisure time.

4. A child who is constantly under pressure to live up to his parents' expectations, at times unreasonable, does not like to throw himself into another set of books after the laborious school work unless the child comes from a family of readers where intoxicating works of Shakespeare and Dickens are just a matter of pulling them out from the shelves.

5. Many parents also believe that today's children have become aware and demand logical reasoning for everything. They can no longer be fooled by fairy tales or animal stories, as they have seen new fairies or animals except for those old tired ones in the city zoo. This has made them more interested in Shahrukh Khan's dancing than a turtle talking to a rabbit or a frog becoming a prince.

6. But a visit to the capital's leading book stores presents quite a contrasting picture of the youngster's reading habits. These book shops claim they are doing healthy business and have many regular buyers from this age group.

7. Though works of Shakespeare, Charles Dickens, Jane Austen, Mark Twain no longer get along with the teenagers, best sellers from Daniel Steele, Sidney Sheldon, Jeffery Archer are the list of all reading teens. Self-help books such as those on personality development or relationship management are also picked up by most.

8. Mystery books like Nancy Drew and Hardy Boys are popular with kids and Millis and Boon and other romance novels with their fairly predictable formula with teenage girls. For parents of children below ten, volumes of Panchtantra Stories, Amar Chitra Katha and other bed time stories are worthy purchase as they teach the child what is wrong in their own special way.

9. What seems to be the case is that parents have surrendered to others what was their most precious right that of making their children what they should become. With old techniques of child rearing losing ground, the modern parents must consciously spend time with their children.

10. Taste and enthusiasm for literature can be communicated artfully to the children by reading to them bed time stories, encouraging them to play historical characters and giving books as birthday gifts.

11. Family reading which was popular in the West could be well adopted here. Reading aloud works of great men by parents to their children not only forms a warm bond between parents and teenagers but also attracts young minds to the world of books which gives them a chance to explore the sea of life.

**1.1. On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option.** **6**

- a) The pressures which keep the children away from the books are \_\_\_\_\_.  
(i) society wants them to be smart and popular (ii) parties, dancing, dating, etc  
(iii) passion for video games, computer games (iv) all of these
- b) The books of Mark Twain and Jane Austen belong to the category of \_\_\_\_\_.  
(i) mystery books (ii) romance novels (iii) best sellers (iv) none of these
- c) Youngsters are not interested in fairy tales as \_\_\_\_\_.  
(i) they have become aware and logical (ii) they don't have time  
(iii) their laborious school bags prevent them from doing so (iv) their interests have changed
- d) Self help books are those books which \_\_\_\_\_.  
(i) teach personality development and relationship management (ii) teach them what is wrong  
(iii) a person gets at any book store (iv) develop a person's personality
- e) Family reading involves the reading of \_\_\_\_\_.  
(i) books by parents (ii) books of teenagers  
(iii) the works of great men by reading aloud (iv) none of these
- f) The word which is the same in meaning as 'confused' is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(i) constant (ii) square faced (iii) baffled (iv) communicated

**1.2. Answer the following questions.** **6**

- a) Why have children no interest in reading books these days?  
b) Which books are read by children of different age groups?  
c) Why should family reading be encouraged?  
d) What reason is given by some parents on the loss of interest in books by today's children?  
e) Find a word which means the same as the following.  
(i) Very unfortunate or serious (ii) Something which gives you excitement and happiness

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

Khadi is an Indian fabric. Khadi is also known by another name khaddar. It is made by spinning the threads on an instrument known as Charkha. During pre-independence era the movement of khadi manufacturing gained momentum under the guidance of father of the nation, Mahatma Gandhiji.

This movement of khadi manufacturing and wearing started as to discourage the Indians from wearing of foreign clothes.

Khadi before independence was considered as the fabric for the political leaders and the rural people. But now it has found its way into the wardrobe of fashion conscious people. The current situation is that the demand is more than the supply. Earlier the type of khadi available was khadi cotton which had very coarse texture and feel. However many varieties of khadi like khadi silk, khadi wool and khadi cotton are available now, which makes it a fashionable fabric and likeable masses.

Its concept was developed by Mahatma Gandhi. It was a symbol for political agendas during the fight for independence in India against the British rule. It was primarily a means to provide employment to the unemployed rural population of India at that time. The Indian flag has

to be also made from khadi material. Thus it holds national importance, we could even call it the national fabric of India.

Khadi is a versatile fabric. It has the unique property of keeping the weaver warm in winter as well as cool in summer season. This fabric has coarse texture and gets easily crumpled, therefore in order to keep it firm and stiff, starch is to be added. This fabric on washing is more enhanced thus the more you wash it, better the look. Khadi is not easily worn out for years together, at least for 4-5 years. Very attractive and designer apparel is made by doing handwork on garments made from it.

Khadi cotton is required to be starched so that it does not get easily crumpled. It comes in many colors and is not harmful to the skins as synthetic fibres. This cotton is very soothing in summer season as ample amount of air ventilation is there. It has the capacity to absorb moisture therefore it easily soaks the sweat and keeps the water cool and dry. Khadi cotton comes in plain as well as in printed fabrics. It is very durable fabric.

- 2.1. On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it, using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (minimum four). Also supply an appropriate title to it. 5
- 2.2. Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words. 3

### SECTION B - WRITING AND GRAMMAR

3. You are the secretary, Science Club of your school. Write a notice for your school notice board encouraging students of classes XI and XII to participate in the Inter - School Science Exhibition to be held next week in your school. 4

OR

You are a businessman who wants to set up a Small garment Shop in your city. Draft an advertisement seeking a suitable space for rent, to be published in the 'Wanted Accommodation' column of a local newspaper. Write the advertisement in not more than 50 words.

4. You are Krishna Pillai of 63, Civil Lines, Delhi. You saw an advertisement in the Hindu for the post of accountant in a reputed firm. Write an application in 100 - 125 words to the Area Manager of Gayatri Consultants, 2 Barakhamba Road, New Delhi, giving your detailed bio data. 6

OR

You are Mohit / Malini living at C-10 Ghaziabad. You recently came across both adults and little children begging at red lights. Write a letter to the Editor of Times of India expressing your views about it. (100 - 125 words)

5. Students can contribute significantly to socially useful productive activities like tree plantation, cleanliness, adult literacy, etc. Write an article in 150 - 200 words on 'Students and Social Service' to be published in the local magazine. You are Sudhir / Shikha. 10

OR

Mobile phones of today are no longer a mere means of communication. Music lovers are so glued to it that they don't pay attention even to the traffic while crossing the roads. This leads to accidents sometimes even fatal ones. Write a speech in 150 - 200 words to be delivered in the morning assembly advising the students to be careful in the use of this otherwise very useful gadget.

6. **Fill in the blanks with correct form of the verbs.** 4

The shot wounded the elephant. It a) \_\_\_\_\_ (rush) back into the forest. I b) \_\_\_\_\_ (run) after it but c) \_\_\_\_\_ (can) not catch it. I d) \_\_\_\_\_ (lose) it in the dark and returned empty handed.

7. **The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the correct word.** 4

Thomas Edison is an American Scientist. a) \_\_\_\_\_  
He have made many inventions. b) \_\_\_\_\_  
Once he was worked on making an c) \_\_\_\_\_  
electric bulb. He would sure that d) \_\_\_\_\_

his bulb would replace gas lights.

- 8. Rewrite the following into meaningful sentences.** **2**
- a) large quantities / of warm water / from the body / drinking / thus removing poisons / results in sweating.
- b) from the body / fasting also / removes poisons.
- c) every four hours / the fast / take liquid / during.
- d) the fast / grapes / is recommended / and oranges / during / juice of lemons.

### SECTION C - LITERATURE

- 9. Read the extract below and answer the question that follow.** **3**

Now she's been dead nearly as many years  
As that girl lived. And of this circumstance  
There is nothing to say all  
Its silence silences.

- a) That girl here stands for \_\_\_\_\_.
- (i) Dolly                      (ii) Betty                      (iii) narrator's mother                      (iv) narrator's sister
- b) She's been dead \_\_\_\_\_.
- (i) nearly as many years as she lived                      (ii) soon  
(iii) long ago                      (iv) only recently
- c) Its silence silences means \_\_\_\_\_.
- (i) death's silence                      (ii) silence only brings out deeper silence  
(iii) poet's silence  
(iv) silence caused by the mother's death gives birth to a pall of silence

OR

And forever, by day and night, I give back life to my own origin and make pure and beautify it.  
(For song, issuing from its birth - place, after fulfilment, wandering)

- a) What does the rain do to the place of its origin?
- b) Where does the song issue from?
- c) Reck'd or unreck'd here means \_\_\_\_\_.

- 10. Answer any three of the following questions.** **9**

- a) Give three points of contrast between a classical Chinese landscape and a western one.
- b) Why does the father want to build a relationship with the son?
- c) Why did the narrator resolve to forget the address No. 46, Marconi Street?
- d) How did Rangappa honour the narrator and why?

- 11. Answer any one of the following questions in about 120 to 150 words.** **6**

Describe in brief the life the narrator's grandmother spent in the village with the kind of life she led in the city.

OR

Compare and contrast Crocker Harris and Frank.

- 12. Answer any one of the following questions in about 120 to 150 words.** **6**

Compare and contrast the two cousin Aram and Mourad.

OR

Describe the meeting between the Head - teacher and Einstein. How did Albert behave before leaving the school?

- 13. Answer any one of the following questions in about 120 to 150 words.** **6**

Describe Andrew Manson's frantic efforts to save the child. How did he succeed in the end?

OR

Describe the steps taken by the captain and the crewmen to protect the boat from the storm and the gigantic waves. Were they successful?