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FIRST TERMINAL 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 the questions.

SECTION A - READING

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

1. A bookshop 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, Wimpy's and PVR 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. They don't read fairy tales or animal stories, as they have seen no 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 bookstores presents quite a contrasting picture of the youngster's reading habits. These bookshops claim that they are doing healthy business and have many regular buyers from this age group.

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

8. Mystery books like Nancy Drew and Hardy Boys are popular with Kids and Mills 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 purchases 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. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option.

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- a) The pressure which keeps the children away from the books is _____.
(i) society wants them to be smart and popular (ii) parties, dancing, 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) develop a person's personality (ii) a person gets at any book store
(iii) teach them what is wrong
(iv) teach personality development and relationship management.
- e) Family reading involves the reading of _____.
(i) books by parents (ii) books by 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 kids?
c) Why should family reading be encouraged?
d) What reason is given by some parents on the loss of interest in reading books by today's children?
e) Find a word which means the same as the following.
(i) Very unfortunate or serious (Para 3)
(ii) Something which gives you excitement and happiness (para 4)

2. Read the passage given below.

People tend to amass possessions, sometimes without being aware of doing so. They can have a delightful surprise when they find something useful which they did not know they owned. Those who never have to change house become indiscriminate collectors of what can only be described as clutter. They leave unwanted objects in drawers, cupboards and attics for years in the belief that they may one day need them. Old people also accumulate belongings for two other reasons; lack of physical and mental energy, and sentiment. Things owned for a long time are full of associations with the past, perhaps with the relatives who are dead, and so they gradually acquire a sentimental value.

Some things are collected deliberately in an attempt to avoid wastage. Among these are string and brown paper, kept by thrifty people when a parcel has been opened. Collecting small items can be a mania. A lady cuts out from newspapers sketches of model clothes that she would like to buy if she had money. As she is not rich, the chances are that she will never be able to afford such purchases. It is a harmless habit, but it litters up her desk.

Collecting as a serious hobby is quite different and has many advantages. It provides

relaxation for leisure hours, as just looking at one's treasure is always a joy. One doesn't have to go out for amusement as the collection is housed at home. Whatever it consists of – stamps, records, first editions of books, china – there is always something to do in connection with it, from finding the right place for the latest addition to verifying facts in reference books. This hobby educates one not only in the chosen subject, but also in general matters which have some bearing on it.

There are other benefits also. One gets to meet like-minded collectors to get advice, compare notes, exchange articles, to show off one's latest find. So one's circle of friends grows. Soon the hobby leads to travelling, perhaps a meeting in another town, possibly a trip abroad in search of a rare specimen, for collectors are not confined to one country. Over the years one may well become an authority on one's hobby and will probably be asked to give informal talks to little gatherings and then, if successful, to larger audiences.

- a) On the basis of your understanding of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary-minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it. **5**
- b) Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words. **3**

SECTION B - WRITING AND GRAMMAR

3. You are the secretary of the Music Club of your school. Your school is celebrating the 7th Inter School music carnival for the students of class VII to XII. Write a notice inviting those who are interested in appearing for an audition in the presence of a renowned singer Mr. Gautam Sharma. Construct necessary details. **4**

OR

You are Pushpak / Pooja. As the Secretary of the Social Service League of your School, you have organized a cultural benefit show in aid of the mentally handicapped children of your town, Vijayawada. Write a notice in not more than 50 words for your school notice-board, giving all necessary information about the programme.

4. You are Reshma / Raghu, staying at the 'Press Apartments' of Nagpur. The main road leading to this colony has three open manholes, causing frequent accidents at night. Also it gets so dark after seven in the evening in winter that the children and women of these apartments just cannot venture to move out alone during night time. Write to the Editor of The Times of India, inviting the attention of the government to this problem of the residents. **6**

OR

Vishal / Vineetha, a class XII student of 15, M G Road, Bengaluru, desires to be a fashion designer. She writes to the National Institute of Fashion Designing, Ahmadabad, seeking information about their courses, admission procedures, eligibility criteria, fee structure, placement opportunities etc. Write her letter.

5. You are a press reporter. Recently, railways have cancelled a few trains due to heavy rainfall. Passengers have been stranded at the New Delhi railway station. Write a report highlighting the problems faced by the passengers. **10**

OR

The 'Environment Club' of your school organized a cleanliness drive to keep the school campus and the locality clean. The students cleaned the classrooms, corridors, playground etc. and also organized a rally to create awareness among the masses about the importance of cleanliness. Write a report to be published in the school magazine about the drive in about 150-200 words describing the efforts made by the students to make it a success. You are Anjani / Ankita of XI, Ajanta Public School, Delhi.

6. In the following passage one word has been omitted in each line. Write the omitted word in your answer sheet as shown in the example. 4
- The Air Force aims protecting important areas and places, known vital points. e.g. aims at protecting
 The Air Force protects all places by shooting the enemy planes. a) _____
 They come to destroy these vital points. b) _____
 The Air Force planes can fly the enemy territory and destroy many enemy's as possible. c) _____
 Then the enemy has been left with only few planes attack with. d) _____
e) _____
f) _____
g) _____
h) _____
7. Rearrange the following words or phrases into meaningful sentences. 3
- a) is / great / training / key to / the / performance / a
 b) gets / the right / performance / training / the right
 c) are / some / business / paid people / best / sports / trainers / why / of the / in the / the that is.
8. Correct the following sentences. 3
- a) This is Rama's house who is a fast friend of mine.
 b) Open your book page twenty five.
 c) As the examination is approaching near he works hardly.

SECTION C - LITERATURE

9. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. 3
- A sweet face,
 My Mother's that was before I was born.
 And the sea, which appears to have changed less,
 Washed their terribly transient feet.
- a) Who is 'I' in these lines?
 b) What has not changed?
 c) What is suggested by the words 'transient feet'?
- OR
- And forever, by day and night, I give
 Back life to my own origin,
 And make pure and beautify it;
- a) In what manner does the rain help its own origin?
 b) Why has the poet given the life cycle of the song?
 c) What is made 'pure'?
10. Answer any three of the following questions. 9
- a) What evidence did Gangadhar Pant produce to convince that he had actually seen another world? How did he come to have that piece of evidence?
 b) How is the horizontal scroll different from any other form of painting?
 c) How did Ranga greet the narrator? In what respect did he differ from the present day boys?
 d) How was the narrator convinced that she had made no mistake and had reached the right address?
11. Answer any one of the following questions in about 120-150 words. 6
- How did the narrator and the party face the disaster in the form of a huge wave that struck the 'wavewalker'?
- OR
- The grandmother herself was not formally educated but was serious about the author's education. How does the text support this?

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

Why did the Headmaster summon Albert? What was the outcome?

OR

How did the narrator reach the conclusion that his cousin Mourad had stolen the horse?

Why did he refuse to believe that Mourad could be a thief?

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

The emperor may rule over the territory but only the artist knows the way within. How does Wu

Daozi bring home this point to the emperor?

OR

On the reading of Silk Road, what idea of Tsetan's personality and character do you form?