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SECOND 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 each question, wherever necessary.

Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering questions.

SECTION A - READING

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

Today, when we pick up a daily newspaper, we invariably find an increasing incidence of vandalism, fraud, theft, robbery, rape, child abuse, battered spouses, murders, hate crimes, genocide (now termed as 'ethnic cleansing') along with a multitude of other senseless violent acts that have become disturbingly common. These are not the actions of people who like themselves.

The solution to a great many problems, whether personal, national or global, lies in improving our feelings about ourselves both as individuals and members of society. When the significance of good self esteem is well understood and it achieves the prominence it deserves, a transformation will begin, for as the people will learn they are deserving of self respect, their respect for others will automatically increase.

Most of our behaviour has been shaped by our parents, caregivers and authority figures who played an important part in our early upbringing and were responsible for crystallizing our ideas about ourselves and the world. While everyone has self esteem, only a small percentage of us have high self esteem. High self esteem denotes that we accept ourselves unconditionally, exactly as we are, we appreciate our value as a human being. When, on the other hand, we have low self esteem, we believe that we have little intrinsic worth.

We believe our personal value is in direct proportion to the value of our accomplishments. If we cannot accomplish certain results, we tend to feel low about ourselves. Some of us try too hard and become workaholics and over achievers. With few genuine feelings of self worth, we try to create some and prove that we are somebody by our successes and achievements. Because our desire for perfection is so great, we tend to set unrealistic goals and place unreasonable demands on ourselves. Failing, rather than encouraging us to have more realistic aspirations, only leads to a mere punishing round of self blame and a resolve to drive ourselves harder next time. If we do finally achieve our goals we are disappointed; despite everything we have done, we still feel empty inside.

Vulnerable to the opinions of others, we desperately try to gain their recognition and approval sometimes through risky and dangerous behaviour. Thus we are at the mercy of our emotions, instead of controlling them, we permit them to control us. Since we allow circumstances to influence our feelings, we are inclined to be moody. The insecurity we feel as a result of devaluing ourselves makes us react with jealousy, envy and possessiveness. Fear makes us greedy and acquisitive and feelings of self hate alternate with those of futility, unhappiness and depression.

Sound self esteem is the basis for all self improvement. As human beings, our potential is limitless, our abilities inexhaustible, and the possibilities for creative and constructive changes are

endless. But, we won't experience satisfactory progress towards our goals or make any lasting improvements unless we believe we deserve the good we want. Conditions in our lives will improve permanently only when we believe we are entitled to something better. So improving our self esteem inwardly is the vital ingredient for improving our lives.

1.1. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option.

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- a) These days the newspapers are full of _____.
(i) development news (ii) political news
(iii) acts of violence and crimes (iv) educational and employment news
- b) Such acts are done by people _____.
(i) to preserve their honour (ii) because they lack tolerance
(iii) who have high self esteem (iv) who do not like themselves
- c) Good self esteem is stressed upon because _____.
(i) it is essential for solving many problems (ii) it builds up self confidence
(iii) it increases one's reputation (iv) it helps one to respect others
- d) High self esteem is a remarkable asset as _____.
(i) it makes us worthless in our own eyes (ii) it helps us to believe in our worth
(iii) it brings depression and disappointment (iv) it forces us to be achievers
- e) Sound self esteem ensures success as _____.
(i) one reacts emotionally to problems (ii) one becomes moody and insecure
(iii) one taps one's latent talents and creative faculties (iv) one makes instant improvements
- f) The word 'potential' in para 6 means _____.
(i) possible (ii) ability of a person
(iii) a liquid with magic powers (iv) hidden power

1.2. Answer the following questions.

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- a) What is the importance of good self esteem?
b) What is remarkable in high self esteem?
c) What does sound self esteem ensure?
d) For whom will conditions in life improve permanently?
e) Find a word which means the same as the following.
(i) destruction (para 1) (ii) hidden power (para 6)

2. Read the passage given below.

By far the most common difficulty in study is simple failure to get down to regular concentrated work. This difficulty is much greater for those who do not work to plan and have no regular routine of study. Many students muddle along, doing a bit of this subject or that, as the mind takes them, or letting their set work pile up until the last possible moment.

Few students work to a set time table. They say that they did not construct a timetable for themselves they could not keep to it, or would have to alter it constantly since they can never predict from one day to the next what their activities will be.

No doubt some temperaments take much more kindly to do a regular routine than others. There are many who shy away from a weekly timetable and dislike being tied down to a definite programme of work. Many able students claim that they work in cycles. When they become interested in a topic they work on it intensively for 3 or 4 days at a time. On other days they avoid work completely. It has to be confessed that we do not fully understand the complexities of the motivation to work. Most people over about 20 years of age have become conditioned to a work routine, and the majority of really productive workers set aside regular hours for the more important aspects of their work.

Our society insists on regular habits, timekeeping and punctuality and whether we like it or not, if we mean to make our way in society, we have to comply with its demands. We need not stick too rigidly to plans and timetables, but plans there must be. Otherwise effort is wasted and then time is dribbled away to no purpose. A sensible routine of work, so far from destroying spontaneity or creativity, should in fact, reduce to a minimum, the effort of coping with the various

activities of life.

The other obstacles to the regular planning of study are the many distractions of student life: new sports and activities, novel surroundings, friendships, organisations, clubs, societies etc. You need to find a sensible balance between all these competing demands on your time. To do this you need to be quite clear about your goal. The primary goal of any sort of higher study must be scholarship and the professional qualification. The other things - friendship, sports, societies, discussions and having a good time are no doubt important and traditional parts of student life, but they are secondary to your primary goal of study.

- a) On the basis of your understanding of the above passage make notes on it using headings and subheadings. Use recognisable abbreviations (wherever necessary - minimum 4) 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. Your school has won All Round Best Trophy for its achievement in sports, academics, cultural and welfare activities. The students' council has decided to celebrate this occasion. Write a notice informing the students about the proposed celebrations. 4

OR

Your grandparents are celebrating their Golden Jubilee Anniversary. Draft an invitation for friends and relatives.

4. Prices of essential commodities like wheat, rice, pulses, milk, vegetables etc. are rising almost every month. The common man is the worst sufferer. Write a letter to the Editor of The Times of India, New Delhi, asking the authorities to take steps to control the rising prices and take strong action against the hoarders and black marketers. You are Pavan / Pallavi of B 10, Sector 7, New Delhi. 6

OR

Write a letter to the Managing Director, New Woodlands Hotel, Chennai to find out the rates for conducting the XII standard farewell party on their lawns, enquiring about catering costs per head, service charges and advance to be paid.

5. Veena feels pained to notice that modern youth - the generation now - is aping Western culture in dress, manners and lifestyle blindly. She decides to write an article against the aping of Western culture by the young generation for the 'The Hindu'. Write the article in 150 to 200 words. 10

OR

You are Harshith / Harshita. Your school recently celebrated 'World Food Day' by organising a healthy cooking competition, painting and poster competition. Eminent nutritionist, Ms Rema Khanna was the chief guest. Write a report on the celebration for your school magazine 150-200 words.

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

| | |
|--|------------------|
| We live in highly competitive age | e.g. in a highly |
| of science and technology, and no longer | a) _____ |
| afford the luxury of mediocrity we | b) _____ |
| are forging ahead. This rapidly changing nuclear | c) _____ |
| age requires youth to be intellectually | d) _____ |
| alert and competent and every young | e) _____ |
| man and woman aim at academic | f) _____ |
| ability of highest order. In developing | g) _____ |
| nation like ours large numbers still unable | h) _____ |
| to acquire even primary education. | |

- 7. Rearrange the following words or phrases into meaningful sentences. 3**
- a) that / children / he / live / hard / may / works / comfortably / his / so
 b) ancestors / father / by / that / her / those / were / told / trees / planted / her / their
 c) I / to see / sleeping / him / he / when / yesterday / went / was
- 8. Correct the following sentences. 3**
- a) Something worries me not worry you.
 b) The storm caused such damage in the coastal areas was the bigger so far.
 c) Rajiv is working on this project of 3 years.

SECTION C - LITERATURE

- 9. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. 3**
- They talked of love and preached of love,
 But did not act so lovingly,
 Was that the day!
- a) Name the poem and the poet.
 b) Who were 'they'? What does the poet observe about their behaviour?
 c) What has the poet lost?

OR

He speaks: I cannot understand
 Myself, why anger grows from grief.
 We each put out an Empty hand,
 Longing for something to forgive.

- a) Name the poem and its composer.
 b) Who are 'he' and 'I'? What are they both trying?
 c) What do the first two lines say about their relationship?
- 10. Answer any three of the following questions. 9**
- a) How according to Taplow, Mr Crocker Harris is unlike other Masters?
 b) How does the laburnum tree become 'the engine of her family'?
 c) What efforts did Andrew make to revive the new born baby?
 d) What difficulties does Mrs Pearson face while dealing with the various members of her family?
- 11. Answer any one of the following questions in about 120 to 150 words. 6**
- How has Tut's mummy fascinated the scientists and commoners alike over the previous decades?

OR

'We have not inherited this earth from our fore fathers; we have borrowed it from our children.'
 Keeping in view this statement, what becomes our responsibility towards the Earth?

- 12. Answer any one of the following questions in about 120 to 150 words. 6**
- What do you think is the theme of the play 'Mother's Day'? How has it been worked out?

OR

What impression do you form of Andrew Manson on the basis of the story 'Birth'?

- 13. Answer any one of the following questions in about 120 to 150 words. 6**
- What are the earth's principal biological systems? Why have they been depleted and how can they be preserved?

OR

'He was the last of his family line.' What do you learn about Tut's dynasty from the extract, 'Discovering Tut: The Saga Continues'?