



DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL

SAIL TOWNSHIP, RANCHI

PRE- BOARD-I EXAMINATION (2017-18)

Class:-XII
Time- 3 Hrs.

Subject:- English
M.M.-100

General Instructions:-

- (i) This paper is divided into three sections. All sections are compulsory.
- (ii) Read the instructions for each section and questions carefully .
- (iii) Do not exceed the prescribed word limit.

Section -A (Reading)

[30]

Q.1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. [12]

1. Long years ago we made a tryst with destiny, and now the time comes when we shall redeem our pledge, not wholly or in full measure, but very substantially .
2. At the stroke of the midnight hour, when the world sleeps, India will awake to life and freedom. A moment comes, which comes but rarely in history, when we step out from the old to the new, when an age ends, and when the soul of a nation, long suppressed, finds utterance.
3. It is fitting that at this solemn moment we take the pledge of dedication to the service of India and her people and to the still larger cause of humanity.
4. At the dawn of history India started on her unending quest, and trackless centuries are filled with her striving and the grandeur of her success and her failures. Though good and ill fortune alike she has never lost sight of that quest or forgotten the ideals which gave her strength. We end today a period of ill fortune and India discovers herself again.
5. The achievement we celebrate today is but a step, an opening of opportunity, to the greater triumphs and achievements that await us. Are we brave enough and wise enough to grasp this opportunity and accept the challenge of the future?
6. Freedom and power bring responsibility. The responsibility rests upon this assembly, a sovereign body representing the sovereign people of India. Before the birth of freedom we have endured all the pains of labour and our hearts are heavy with the memory of this sorrow. Some of those pains continue even now. Nevertheless, the past is over and it is the future that beckons to us now.
7. That future is not one of ease or resting but on incessant striving so that we may fulfil the pledge we have so often taken and the one we shall take today. The service of India means the service of the millions who suffer. It means the ending of poverty and ignorance and disease and inequality of opportunity.
8. The ambition of the greatest man of our generation has been to wipe every tear from every eye. That may be beyond us, but as long as there are tears and suffering, so long our work will not be over.
9. And so we have to labour and to work, and work hard, to give reality to our dreams. Those dreams are for India, but they are also for the world, for all the nations and peoples are too closely knit together today for anyone of them to imagine that it can live apart.

10. Peace has been said to be indivisible; so is freedom, so is prosperity now, and so also is disaster in this one world that can no longer be split into isolated fragments.
11. To the people of India, whose representatives we are, we make an appeal to join us with faith and confidence in this great adventure. This is no time for petty and destructive criticism, no time for ill will or blaming others. We have to build the noble mansion of free India where all her children may dwell.
12. The appointed day has come –the day appointed by destiny- and India stands forth again , after long slumber and struggle ,awake , vital, free and independent. The past clings on to us still in some measure and we have to do much before we redeem the pledges we have so often taken. Yet the turning point is past, and history begins anew for us, the history which we shall live and act and others will write about .
13. It is a fateful moment for us in India, for all Asia and for the world. A new star rises, the star of freedom in the east, a new hope comes into being, a vision long cherished materialises. May the star never set and that hope never be betrayed!

(An excerpt from Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru’s famous ‘A Tryst with Destiny’ speech)

1.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given choices. [1x4=4]

(a) According to the writer , freedom and power

- (i) bring responsibility (ii) represent the sovereignty
(iii) end poverty and ignorance (iv) make peace indispensable

(b) The trackless centuries of Indian history are filled with

- (i) ill fortune, challenge and future (ii) striving after ideals, success and failures
(iii) past and future (iv) fulfilling pledges and service to millions

(c) India’s dreams can become a reality through

- (i) peace and indivisibility
(ii) faith and confidence
(iii) labour and working hard for ourselves and for the world
(iv) fulfilling pledges we have taken

(d) Before we redeem the pledges we have so often taken , it is time to

- (i) cling to the past experiences (ii) find the reason for our ill-fate past
(iii) stand forth collectively and take actions (iv) ponder upon the possibilities of a good future

1.2 Answer the following questions. [1x6=6]

- (a) What would happen at the stroke of the midnight hour?
(b) What is one’s duty at this solemn moment, according to the writer?
(c) What does the future hold for us?
(d) What was the ambition of the greatest man of our generation?
(e) What kind of India does the writer think we should build?
(f) How can we serve India in the real sense?

1.3 Find words in the passage which mean the following : [1x2=2]

- (a) search (para 4) (b) small –minded (para 11)

Q.2 Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

[10]

1. For 33-year-old Srivyal Vuyyuri, the inspiration to set up Sphoorti, came about a decade ago. Back then, he was studying for his Master's degree in Economics at the University of Ohio, United States. 'Sphoorti', which means 'inspiration' in Sanskrit is an NGO that he started in an old rented house near Cherlapally, on the outskirts of Hyderabad, to take care of forsaken children.
2. One day in 2005, he got chatting with G. Ashok, the driver of an outrickshaw he was in. Ashok told him that his two small children had been thrown out of an English-medium school because he could no longer afford the increased fees. Ashok was now thinking of moving them to a government school. "The poor man was devastated", recalls Srivyal, "and so was I. "With three young friends, he decided to sponsor the children's education and help put them back in the English-medium school.
3. Srivyal and his three friends, all very young men at the time, felt they had to do much more. They thought of starting a good English-medium school of their own for underprivileged children-an idea they soon abandoned after realizing they had neither the experience nor the funds. Yet something had to be done. "Why not start a home for kids with no parents?" suggested Srivyal. "We could educate them as well". That's how sphoorti began. Srivyal gave up his comfortable job and the four friends became Sphoorti's trustees.
4. The first couple of years were challenging. Srivyal got more friends to donate and get things moving. "But it was not easy. People were unsure of our intentions and reluctant to send their wards to us. Even my parents were worried about my ability to take charge of children," recalls Srivyal. But as more children trickled in and their numbers grew to about 40 by 2008. The Hindu featured us, and it made a difference".
5. As word spread, people were stepping in like angles. By 2009, the JJ Metta Memorial Foundation, a US-registered charity, started to help with some of the fundraising. There are also a few private sponsors.
6. Meanwhile, Sphoorti has been expanding. In September 2009, its 48 girls moved from the old rented place to a just-finished two-storey, 5000-square-foot quarters built with money from donors on leased land. And the Andhra government has given them three acres, where Srivyal plans to build a boarding school for underprivileged children. The JJ Metta Memorial Foundation will fund it. For the four friends who founded Sphoorti, that is a once abandoned dream coming true! "It will be a first-rate boarding school." says Srivyal, and I can see a lot of poor children getting the kind of education now available only to the privileged few".

2.1 On the basis of you reading of the above passage, answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given choices.

[1x2=2]

- (a) Srivyal's subject of study was
- (i) English (ii) Economics (iii) Child Psychology (d) Sociology
- (b) Sphoorti became a trusted name because of the following reasons, except
- (i) the efforts of Srivyal to get more donations (ii) the sincere efforts of all trustees
- (iii) a feature by the Hindu (iv) international recognition

2.2 Answer the following questions briefly.

[1x6=6]

- (a) What was Srivyal's intention of starting Sphoorti?
- (b) What inspired Srivyal to establish an NGO?
- (c) Why did the three friends abandon the idea of starting a school?
- (d) Why were the first few years challenging for Srivyal and his initiative?
- (e) How did Srivyal manage to get the things moving initially?
- (f) How was the abandoned dream coming true for Srivyal and his friends?

2.3 Find words from the passage that mean the same as: [1x2=2]

(a) deserted (para - 1)

(b) hesitant (para -4)

Q.3 Read the passage given below. [8]

1. Contentment is the state of being satisfied with what you have, with your status and current situation. It is not resignation , which is more about giving up, being a victim and feeling disempowered. Contentment is a very spiritual approach to life. In fact, most spiritual traditions would say that contentment is the first step to true happiness – even to enlightenment or heaven.
2. Being contented would mean that you are truly satisfied with your life as it is right now! Of course there is always room to grow and expand who we are and how we live our lives. But we can also be satisfied with how much we have and accept ourselves as we are. This is a powerful way to be in the world.
3. We live in a time that is set up to keep us from being content with ourselves and therefore we suffer from insecurity, lack of self-confidence and anxiety. Take a look at the media. The whole point of media and advertising is to convince you that you are not happy, that you don't have enough, that you need more of what they are selling. When you buy their product, or when you have the lifestyle and body and looks of celebrities and models, then you will be happy.
4. So, from the moment we are born we are brainwashed to believe that the only way to happiness is to earn as much money as possible, to have perfect abs, the perfect boyfriend or girlfriend, or the big house in the right neighbourhood. If we don't have these things, then we are not happy. Since most of us don't have these things, we hold on to a neurotic need to be different than who we are and live life with much stress and anxiety as we helplessly look for the thing that will make us happy.
5. So, how do we overcome this deep-seated pattern within us? It takes nothing short of a revolution! I believe the most rebellious thing we can do at this moment is to consciously choose to be content! By doing so, we free ourselves from the pressures of the media and mainstream culture and we can live once again according to our own personal measure of what it means to be happy and to be a successful, empowered person. It is a very practical, methodical approach that requires you really do it all and not just think about it. It requires cutting through the confusion and really seeing you and your life as they really are at this moment.

(a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary. [5]

(b) Make a summary of the passage in not more than 80 words, using the notes made , and also suggest suitable title. [3]

Section B - Advanced Writing Skills [30]

Q.4. Lab India Instruments Pvt Ltd requires Accountants for their office in Noida. Draft an advertisement for the Classified column inviting applications from suitable candidates in not more than 50 words. [4]

Or

Students of Don Bosco International Guwahati are enacting a play 'The Sound of Music' to raise funds for Prime Minister's Relief Fund. Draft a poster in about 50 words for the same giving necessary details.

- Q.5.** Garbage disposal is a matter of great concern. Waste is destroying the scenic beauty, choking the rivers and causing severe environmental and health hazards. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the editor of the Statesman expressing your views and suggesting ways to correct this problem. You are Navi/Neev, House No.- 16/4G, AK Housing Colony, Noida. [6]

Or

You are Tarang/ Tarak, H-7, Sector 14, Vasant Kunj, Delhi. You are hosting a grand party for the silver jubilee anniversary of your parents. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the Welcome Caterers, Lajpat Nagar, Delhi placing an order for dinner for your guests.

- Q.6.** On the occasion of World Health Day the Health Minister of Orissa launched a mega health scheme for the poor in which about 2 lakh people received medical insurance. As a correspondent of the Times of India prepare a report of this event in 150-200 words. [10]

Or

There have been reports lately of people's apathy even if they witness accidents, murders or any unfortunate incident on streets which is an indication of growing insensitivity and moral bankruptcy. Write an article in 150-200 word on the need of reorientation of value systems. Sign yourself as Namit/Namita.

- Q.7.** You are Sangeet/ Sangeeta. You have been selected to represent your school in an Inter - school Debate Competition, topic for which is 'Minimisation of human wants is the only way to cleanse society of all kinds of corruption'. Prepare your views for or against the motion in 150-200 words. [10]

Or

Class XII students are gearing up for their Board Examination and it is important for them to understand the value of time. As Sangeet/Sangeeta, draft a speech on the strategy of Time Management in 150-200 words to be delivered in the school assembly.

Section - C (Literature)

[40]

- Q.8.** Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: [1X4=4]

**Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool
Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.
The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band
Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.**

- (a) What is Aunt Jennifer doing?
(b) Why are Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering?
(c) Why does the wedding band seem too heavy?
(d) What is the poetic device used in last two lines?

Or

**What I want should not be confused
With total inactivity
Life is what it is about
I want no truck with death.**

- (a) What does the poet want?
- (b) What does the poet mean by total inactivity?
- (c) What is life all about?
- (d) Explain: I want no truck with death.

Q.9. Answer any four of the following questions in 30-40 words each: [3 X 4 = 12]

- (a) What according to M Hamel is the importance of language for enslaved people?
- (b) How does Bama show her rebellious spirit when faced with the evil of untouchability?
- (c) How, according to Keats, beauty removes the pall from our dark spirits?
- (d) What was the reaction of servants when American prisoner was brought home and treated by Sadao?
- (e) When did the British authorities realise that their might could be challenged by the weak Indians?
- (f) What is the significance of the line 'few airplanes fly over Firozabad'?

Q.10. Answer any one of the following questions in about 120 - 150 words: [6]

When did the peddler realise that he too has fallen into rattrap of the world? Do you agree that this world offers baits to people to fall for wrongdoings?

Or

Sophie in 'Going Places' is an ambitious girl having big plans for her future. It is true that without ambition one will live an ordinary life. What is required to give wings to that ambition in order to live a life of fulfilment, something which Sophie fails to do?

Q.11. Answer any one of the following questions in about 120 - 150 words: [6]

"Because if I don't go back there, I'll never go back anywhere in the world", says Derry to his mother. Why is it so important for Derry to return to Mr Lamb's garden? How will it affect his personality?

Or

Governor had taken all precautions to prevent Evans from breaking the prison yet Evans was successful in his escape plan. Where did the Governor lose his battle? Do you think he was overconfident about his arrangements?

Q.12. Answer the following question in about 120 - 150 words: [6]

What impression do you form of Colonel Adye as a police officer from the novel 'The Invisible Man'?

Q.13. Answer the following question in about 120 - 150 words: [6]

Griffin had always been a lonely figure. Do you agree that his isolation from the larger community is one of the reasons why he thinks of using his power of science against mankind?