

ENGLISH CORE

Class – XII

Time-3Hrs.

Date:

MM.100

General Instructions:

- 1. All the questions are compulsory**
- 2. You may attempt any section at a time**
- 3. All the questions of a particular section must be attempted in the correct order**

SECTION A- READING

(30)

1.Read the passage given below and then answer the questions that follow:

12

1.Inspite of all the honours that we heaped upon him, Pasteur, as has been said, remained simple at heart. Perhaps the imagery of his boyhood days, when he drew the familiar scenes of his birthplace, and the longing to be a great artist, never, wholly left him. In truth he did become a great artist, though after his sixteenth year he abandoned the brush forever. Like every artist of worth, he put his whole soul and energy into his work, and it was this very energy that in the end wore him out. For to him, each sufferer was something more than just a case that was to be cured. He looked upon the fight against hydrophobia as a battle, and he was absorbed in his determination to win. The sight of injured children, particularly, moved him to an indescribable extent. He suffered with his patients, and yet he would not deny himself a share in that suffering. His greatest grief was when sheer physical exhaustion made him to give up his active work. He retired to the estate at Villeneuve Erring, where he had his kennels for the study of rabies, and there he passed his last summer, as his great biographer, Vallery Radot, has said, "practicing the Gospel virtues."

2."He revered the faith of his fathers," says the same writer; "and wished without ostentation or mystery revive it during his last period."

3The attitude of this man to the science to which he had done so much to perfect, can be best summed up in a sentence that he is reputed once to have uttered, concerning the materialism of many of his contemporaries in similar branches of learning to his own: "The more I contemplate the mysteries of nature, the more my faith becomes like that of a peasant."

4. But even then in retirement he loved to see his former pupils, and it was then he would reiterate his life principles: "Work, "he would say, "never cease to work."So, well had he kept this precept that he began rapidly to sink from exhaustion.

5. Finally on September 27, 1885, when someone leant over his bed to offer him a cup of milk, he said sadly: "I cannot, "and with a look of perfect resignation and peace, seemed to fall asleep. He never again opened his eyes to the cares and sufferings of a world, which he had done so much to relieve and to conquer. He was within three months of his seventy-third birthday.

6. Thus passed, as simply as a child, the man whom the French people were to vote at a plebiscite as the greatest man that France had ever produced. Napoleon, who has always been considered the idol of France, was placed fifth.

7. No greater tribute could have been paid to Louis Pasteur, the tanner's son, the scientist, the man of peace, the patient worker for humanity.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage complete statements below with help of the options that follow: **3**

(a) Pasteur wanted to be a/an

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| i. Doctor | ii. artist |
| iii army officer | iv. teacher |

(b) Pasteur's father was a

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| i. Scientist | ii tanner |
| iii. peasant | iv. writer |

(c) When he died Pasteur was

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| i. 73 years | ii. 72 years |
| iii. 75 years | iv. none of the above |

Answer the following questions:

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| d. Even accolades and honours did not change the simple man that Pasteur was. Why? | 1 |
| e. How did Pasteur view those who suffered from diseases? | 1 |
| f. How did Pasteur engage himself in the estate? | 1 |
| g. What advice did he always give to his pupils? | 1 |
| h. How did France, the country of his birth, honour this great scientist? | 1 |
| i. What grieved Pasteur the most ? | 1 |

Find the words from the passage which mean the same as:

1x3=3

- i. to give up (**para 1**)
- ii. People belonging to the same period (**para 3**)
- iii. Vote by the people of the country to decide a matter of national importance (**para 6**)

2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

10

1. The universe was a great canvas on which God sketched human beings. Then He infused into it 'Love', 'Energy' and 'Intelligence'- the three essences and it became the life of human beings. Goethe said, "Life is action, not contemplation". Carlyle also coined that the goal of man's life is action, not thought. In India we also have the theory of 'Karma Yoga' which condemns fruitless contemplation. We believe that life must be identified with activity. But it is different in every sense of word. As Swami Vivekanand said, "Life is a challenge to meet, a gift to accept, an adventure to share, a sorrow to overcome, a duty to perform, a game to play, an opportunity to take, a journey to complete, a love to enjoy, a beauty to praise". And if we try to realise even a part of the above said noble objectives, we shall be leading towards a life of fulfillment.

2. God has given us certain duties to perform and for this he has gifted us with unique abilities. So each of us can contribute our share to the good of the world by bringing out the best in us. Labour is the divine law of our existence. We are to play our roles on the stage of world. So without activity, life would become aimless and would lose its charm and meaning. Significance of life is not only survival or duration but donation, i.e., what is our contribution to the society. As Ben Johnson says:

'It is not growing like tree
In bulk, doth make man better be....
In small proportions we just beauties see
And in short measures life may perfect be.'

3. A useless life is like death. We live in deeds, not in years. That is why people like Jesus Christ, Swami Vivekanand, Rani Laxmibai, John Keats and many others still linger in our memories. We cannot forget them for the useful and active life they led even though they were cut short in their prime. Similarly, the great figures of science who discovered great objects, the poets and artists who dedicated their lives to meet the psychological needs of people have left their footmarks on the sands of time. They never perish. We pay homage to Mahatma Gandhi, Mother Teresa, Newton, Galileo and many others. Their life history will continue to dispel the darkness of ignorance and light our way with the light of knowledge, even though there are no more today.

4. Pt. Nehru described the fatal weakness of the people of our country. He said, "Our chief defect is that we are more given to talking about the things than to doing them."

5. So we must realize that life is not a bed of roses. For the good of society, this tendency of endless thinking without translating thoughts into actions is always to be deplored. Success is always linked with action. Action does mean risk but those who dare to take it can hope to make a mark in life. Those who are timid and are afraid of the consequences of acting speedily seldom succeed. Thinking followed by concrete manifestation would bring concrete result. A fruitful synthesis of thought and action can give us the greatest satisfaction.

Choose the most appropriate option and write only the correct option in your answer sheet.

2

a) What according to Nehru is our fatal weakness?

- i) only whiling away the time
- ii) only talking about things and not doing them
- iii) only enjoying life
- iv) discussing about daily routine

b) Significance of one's life is in

- i) Enjoying one's life
- ii) Wandering all over the world
- iii) Contributing to the society
- iv) Living in oblivion

On the basis of your reading of the above passage answer the following questions: 5

- c). When can one live a life of fulfillment?
- d). How have people left their footprints on the sands of time?
- e). How can we contribute towards the good of the world?
- f). What was similar about Swami Vivekanand, John Keats and Jesus Christ's life?
- g) What kind of people are successful ?

Find words from the passage which mean the same as:

3

- a) Deep thinking (para1)
- b) Die or come to an end (para 4)
- c) materialization (para5)

3. Read the passage given below:

8

Games and sports keep one physically and mentally fit. They keep one away from diseases relating to heart, obesity, mental stress and sleeplessness. They instill in the player a spirit of self-

confidence, self-reliance, discipline, justice, fair play and patriotism. Games provide us with recreation and enjoyment.

We all are familiar with the maxim 'Health is wealth'. Academics serve the purpose of nourishing the mind. But a healthy mind resides in a healthy body. One can develop and maintain a healthy body by actively participating in games and sports.

Games keep our body alert, active, youthful and energetic. They instill in us a spirit of adventure. Games increase the circulation of blood, boost metabolism, burn calories and improve the respiration and digestive system. A healthy person can work hard cheerfully for a long period of time, and can face dangers boldly.

They also tone up the body of both the young and the old. Mild exercises are beneficial for patients recovering from heart attacks and those who suffer from obesity, diabetes, blood pressure etc. Exercise invigorates the mind and the body and helps to keep fit.

A player develops team spirit; he learns to adjust with other person's shortcomings. A player respects and follows the rules of the game he plays. He, thus, becomes a man of principles. Sportspersons display punctuality, diplomacy and self-discipline. Games generate a feeling of sportsmanship and broaden one's outlook. Lack of concern of the general public and authorities is evident from our country's poor performance in international sports events.

Sports bring rich dividends to sportsmen. Whether it is the matter of getting admission in institutions or getting jobs, sportsmen receive preference everywhere. Sports also bring fame and reputation.

The government has formulated a new National Sports Policy. It promotes a liking for sports among public at large. It aims at development of infrastructure and provision of better coaching facilities.

- a. On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations where necessary. 5**
- b. Make a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words using the notes made and also suggest a suitable title. 3**

SECTION B-WRITING

30

- Q4.** Your school is organizing a 'Fund Raising Camp' in the school premises to raise funds for the slum children. As the cultural secretary of your school draft a notice inviting students to donate generously for the noble cause. Mention all the relevant details. (word limit: 50 words) **4**

OR

Genius Theatre Club is staging a dance drama 'Chitrangada- a musical ballad', based on Tagore's play. As the secretary of the club draft a formal invitation giving all essential details, in not more than 50 words.

Q5. Recently you visited a wild- life sanctuary. Besides getting the opportunity to see the wild-life in its natural habitat, you could also participate in various adventurous activities organized by the tourism department. You also interacted with the tribal people of the area. Write a report of the same in about 100-125 words for your school magazine. **(6)**

OR

One of the nearby villages of Vadodara was recently flooded due to heavy rains and the subsequent release of the dam water. Many people lost their houses and property, while some of them were made to evacuate the region. As a staff reporter, you have been asked to write a report for a local daily. Write this report in about 125 words.

Q6. Mc Donald's has recently advertised the introduction of its outdoor catering services for parties and functions. Your school is planning to organize a farewell party to the out-going class XII students. As the cultural secretary of your school, you have been asked to get the estimate for food items and other details from Mc Donald's so that you can avail their catering services. Write a letter of inquiry mentioning all the necessary things you wish to know before you place your order. **(10)**

OR

You feel that facilities for tourists could be improved in India. Write a letter to the Secretary, Department of Tourism in your state, highlighting the need for improving facilities for tourists to promote tourism in your region. Also suggest the facilities that could be extended to strengthen tourism in your region.

Q7. Now-a-days student unrest and indiscipline has become a common problem. Every responsible person today complains of growing indiscipline among school students. You are Rohit/Ragini. Write an article in about 200 words for a local daily expressing your views on the same and also suggest some corrective measures that can be taken to control the situation. **(10)**

OR

In the name of reality shows, numerous risky stunts are displayed by youngsters, who are getting carried away by such popularity. TV channels telecast them to win popularity and TRP rates. Write an article expressing your concern for the same and the bad effect it may have on the little minds, who get carried away by the stunts. Also mention the far-reaching effects of such short lived popularity and the need to raise the ethical standards of such shows.

SECTION C-LITERATURE

40

Q8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow

4

It would be an exotic moment
Without rush, without engines,
We would all be together
in a sudden strangeness

- i. What does 'It' refer to here?
- ii. Explain 'Exotic moment'.
- iii. How would man benefit if we all would be together?

iv. Why would it be a strange moment?

OR

Far from gusty waves these children's faces.
Like rootless weeds, the hair torn around their pallor.
The exotic girl with her weighed down head.

- i. Who does 'these children' refer to?
- ii. How have these children been described?
- iii. Explain the line 'Far from gusty waves these children's faces'
- iv. What fact does the poet highlight through the above lines?

Q9. Answer any four of the following questions in about 30-40 words each. 4x3=12

- i. How is a thing of beauty a joy forever?
- ii. How was the servants reaction different from that of Sadao when he brought the American prisoner home?
- iii. What is the city of Firozabad famous for? What hazards do people working there face?
- iv. What unusual things did Franz notice as he entered the classroom?
- v. What was the problem of peasants in Champaran?

Q10. Answer any one of the following in about 125-150 words. 6

The author uses 'rattrap' as a metaphor for worldly desires that baits human beings. Substantiate this statement with reference to the incidents from the story 'The Rattrap'.

OR

The agony and discomfort caused by a physical impairment is often less than the sense of alienation felt by a person with a disability. Briefly discuss how Derry epitomizes the above statement.

Q11. Answer any one of the following in about 125-150 words: 6

What according to you are the qualities of a good ruler? Do you think the Tiger king possessed the qualities of a good ruler? Explain your answer with evidences from the story 'The Tiger King'.

OR

Douglas says "In death there is peace. There is terror only in the fear of death." How does Douglas conquer his fear in the story 'Deep Water'? What values does he exhibit in doing so?

Answer the following question in 125-150 words:

Q12. Describe the character of Dunstan Cass. Give instances from the novel to elucidate his character (125-150 words) 6

Q13. When does Silas Marner discover about the robbery at his house? How did the robbery take place? (125-150 words) 6

Ms. Sindhu Stanly

