

Pre-Board Examination, 2024

Subject—English

Class—XII

A₁-XII-English

Time : 3.15 hrs.]

[M. M. : 100

General Instructions :

- This paper is divided into four sections A, B, C and D.
- All the sections are compulsory.
- Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

Section A : (Reading)

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

When we were rich, my husband and I did not have an hour's rest. We had no time to talk together, to think at our souls or to pray. We had so many cares ! Now guests called in us and so sinned. Now we were afraid that a wolf would kill a colt or a calf, and now that thieves might drive off a herd. When we lay down to sleep, we would not fall asleep, fearing lest the sheep might crush, the lambs we would get up in the night and walk around. No sooner would we be quieted than, we would have a new care-how to get fodder for the winter. And worse than that, there was not much agreement between my husband and me. He would say differently and so we began to quarrel, and sin. Thus, we lived from one care to another and saw no happy life, but only now have we found it.

- What cares did the husband and wife have ? 3
- What is the writer's idea about riches ? 3
- Why was there no happiness in their life ? 3
- Why were husband and wife afraid of wolf? 3
- Give the synonym of the word 'sinned'. 1
- Give the antonym of the word 'crush'. 1
- What is the meaning of 'agreement'? 1

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Section B : Writing

2. Write an essay (article) on any one of the given topics in 100-150 words : 10

- (a) Position of women in India today.
 (b) Value of games and sports.
 (c) Problem of Traffic Jams.

3. Write a letter to the editor of newspaper about frequent break down of water supply in your locality. 10

Or

Write letter to the superintendent of police of your city requesting him to improve the law and order situation in your area.

Section C : Grammar

4. Choose the correct option to answer the following questions.

(A) Rohit has gone before his father come
 Which word in the sentence is an error ? 2

- (a) gone (b) before (c) his (d) come

(B) The Phrase 'A Bone at contention' means ? 2

- (a) Quarrel some (b) disturbing man
 (c) reason of quarrel (d) with a reason

(C) The synonym of 'Bane' is : 2

- (a) banish (b) banner (c) curse (d) ban

(D) The antonym of 'Ancient' is : 2

- (a) old (b) ascent (c) decent (d) modern

(E) One who abandons his religious faith is an : 2

- (a) atheist (b) apostate (c) infidel (d) optimist

5. (A) Choose any one of the following into indirect speech: 2

- (i) She said, "How beautiful is the rain !"
 (ii) The hermit said. "May you all go to hell !"

(B) Combine any one of the following sentences as directed : 2

- (i) He has three sons. He has to educate them.

(into simple)

- (ii) The doctor came. The patient had died.

(into complex)

(C) Change any one of the following as directed : 2

(i) Very few countries are as good as India.

(into comparative degree)

(ii) His pocket has been picked. (into Active voice)

(D) Correct any one of the following sentences : 2

(i) Ten sheeps are grazing in the field.

(ii) One must do his duty.

(E) Use any one of the following pairs of words in your own sentences to make the difference in their meaning clear : 2

(a) Human, Humane (b) Difference, Defference

6. Translate the following into English : 5

तानसेन अकबर के दरबार में एक प्रसिद्ध गायक थे। अकबर उनका बहुत सम्मान करते थे। स्वामी हरिदास तानसेन के गुरु थे। एक दिन अकबर ने स्वामी हरिदास का गाना सुना और बहुत प्रसन्न हुए। उन्होंने तानसेन से कहा, "तानसेन, तुम्हारे गुरु का गाना जैसा मीठा है, वैसा तुम्हारा नहीं। इस पर तानसेन ने कहा, "महाराज उसका कारण है। मेरे गुरु तभी गाते हैं जब वह चाहते हैं। किन्तु मुझे तो आपकी आज्ञा पर गाना पड़ता है।"

Section D : Literature

7. Answer any two questions of the following in 30-40 words each : 4 + 4 = 8

(a) How was the champaran episode a turning point in Gandhi's life.

(b) Why did the peddler consider the world as a rattrap ?

(c) How did Douglas make sure that he conquered the old terror ?

8. Answer any one of the following questions in about 100 words : 7

(a) What did Douglas decide to overcome his fear of water ?

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(b) Who was Raj Kumar Shukla ? Why did he decide to meet Gandhiji ? What did he do to fulfil his desire ?

9. Read the stanza given below and answer the question that follow : 2×3 = 6

A thing of beauty is a joy forever.

Its loveliness increases, it will never

Pass into nothingness, but will keep

A bower quiet for us, and a sleep.

Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing.

(a) What is a joy forever ?

(b) What will happen with a thing of beauty ?

(c) What will a thing of beauty provide us ?

10. Write the central idea of any one of the following poems: 4

(a) Keeping quiet

(b) A thing of beauty

(c) Aunt Jennifer's Tigers

11. Answer any two of the following questions in about 30-40 words each : 4+4 = 8

(a) Who was Mr. Lamb ? How did Derry come in his contact ?

(b) How was the tiger king brought up ?

(c) How did Sadao operate the white man ?

12. Answer any one of the following questions in about 100 words : 7

(a) Who was Mr. Lamb ? How was he a disabled person ? How did he treat Derry ?

(b) Who was Dr. Sadao ? How did he meet Hana and married to her ? Who played an important role in their marriage and how ?

