



परमाणु ऊर्जा शिक्षण संस्था
Atomic Energy Education Society

टर्म-1/आवधिक परीक्षा-2 2023-24 Term-I/PT-II Examination 2023 - 24

कक्षा / Class :X

अवधि / Duration : 3 Hrs.

विषय / Subject : English Language and Literature (184) अधिकतम अंक/ Maximum Marks :80

General Instructions:

i) This paper is divided into three sections:

Section A - Reading (20 marks)

Section B - Writing and Grammar (20 marks)

Section C - Literature (25 marks)

ii) All questions are compulsory.

iii) Separate instructions and options are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.

Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.

iv) Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the question.

v) Do not attempt questions more than what is asked.

vi) Marks are mentioned for each question against it.

SECTION A - READING (20 MARKS)

I) Read the passage given below.

(10 marks)

The choices we make on a daily basis- wearing a seatbelt, lifting heavy objects correctly or purposely staying out of any dangerous situation- can either ensure our safety or bring about potentially harmful circumstances.

You and I need to make a decision that we are going to get our lives in order. Exercising self-control, self-discipline and establishing boundaries and borders in our lives are some of the most important things we can do. A life without discipline is one that's filled with carelessness.

We can think it's kind of exciting to live life on the edge. We like the image of "Yeah! That's me! Living on the edge! Woo-hoo!" It's become a popular way to look at life. But if you see, even highways have lines, which provide margins for our safety while we're driving. If we go over one

side, we'll go into the ditch. If we cross over the line in the middle, we could get killed. And we like those lines because they help to keep us safe. Sometimes we don't even realize how lines help to keep us safe.

I'm not proud of this, but for the first 20 years of my life at work, I ignored my limits. I felt horrible, physically, most of the time. I used to tell myself, "I know I have limits and that I've reached them, but I'm going to ignore them and see if, or how long, I can get by with it." I ran to doctors, trying to make myself feel better through pills, vitamins, natural stuff and anything I could get my hands on. Some of the doctors would tell me, "It's just stress." That just made me mad. I thought stress meant you don't like what you do or can't handle life, and I love what I do. But I kept pushing myself, travelling, doing speaking engagements and so on— simply exhausting myself.

Finally, I understood I was living an unsustainable life and needed to make some changes in my outlook and lifestyle. You and I don't have to be like everyone else or keep up with anyone else. Each of us needs to be exactly the way we are, and we don't have to apologize for it. We're not all alike, and we need to find a comfort zone in which we can enjoy our lives instead of making ourselves sick with an overload of stress and pressure.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the twelve that follow.

(1×10=10m)

1) Which of the characteristics are apt about the writer in the following context:

"I know I have limits and that I've reached them, but I'm going to ignore them and see if or how long I can get by with it." ?

1. Negligent 2. Indecisive 3. Spontaneous 4. Reckless 5. Purposeless 6. patient

a) 2 and 5 b) 3 and 6 c) 1 and 4 d) 2 and 3

2) The reason why living on the edge has become popular is because of the

a) constant need for something different. b) population being much younger.
c) exhausting effort to make changes. d) strong tendency to stay within our limits.

3) The phrase "potentially harmful circumstances" refers to circumstances that can

(a) certainly be dangerous. (b) be fairly dangerous.

- (c) be possibly dangerous. (d) seldom be dangerous.
- 4). Choose the option that correctly states the two meanings of 'outlook', as used in the passage.
1. A person's evaluation of life
 2. A person's experiences in life
 3. A person's point of view towards life
 4. A person's regrets in life
 5. A person's general attitude to life
- a) (1) and (4) b) (2) and (3) c) (3) and (5) d) (4) and (5)
- 5) Choose the option that best captures the central idea of the passage from the given quotes.
1. It's all about quality of life and finding a happy balance between work and friends.
 2. To go beyond is as wrong as to fall short.
 3. Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving.
 4. Balance is not something you find. It's something you create.
- a) Option (1) b) Option (2) c) Option (3) d) Option (4)
- 6) The author explains the importance of discipline and boundaries in our lives using the example of
- a) road accidents. b) traffic rules. c) lines on the highway. d) safe driving.
- 7) The author attempts to _____ the readers through this write-up.
- a) rebuke b) question c) offer aid to d) offer advice to
- 8) What is the message conveyed in the last paragraph of the passage?
- a) Love what you do. b) Love yourself to love others.
- c) Be the best version of yourself. d) Be yourself
- 9) Which of the following will be the most appropriate title for the passage?
- a) Much too soon b) Enough is enough
- c) How much is too much? d) Have enough to do?

- 10) The author uses colloquial words such as “yeah” and “Woo-hoo!”. Which of the following is NOT a colloquial word?
- a) hooked b) guy c) stuff d) stress
- 11) Select the option that makes the correct use of “unsustainable”, as used in the passage, to fill in the blank space.
- a) In the long run, the _____ officials followed emergency procedures.
b) Emergency procedures were _____ by the officials.
c) Officials reported an _____ set of events during the emergency.
d) Officials admit that the emergency system is _____ in the longer run.
- 12) What does the author mean when he says, “to get our lives in order”?
- a) To resume our lives. b) To organize our lives.
c) To rebuild our lives. d) To control our lives.

II) Read the passage given below.

(10 marks)

As a high school student, studying poetry can be a rollercoaster ride. This journey is punctuated by moments of profound appreciation for simpler pieces and intermittent frustration with more complex works. Let's be real here - some poems are just plain confusing and no amount of re-reading seems to help decipher the intended meaning. The puzzlement that results from such instances can be both vexing and demotivating. If solving a riddle is what was intended, then playing Sudoku is a better option. One is led to ponder if obscurity was the goal.

Conversely, some pieces resonate with the reader's soul. Stirring feelings of warmth, happiness, and connection to the world. Often, these compositions centre on themes that are universally understood, such as love, nature, or faith. Being able to actually understand what the poet is trying to say can feel like a little victory and is a welcome relief after grappling with more perplexing poetry.

Then there are poems that are emotionally charged; the ones that make the reader curl up in a ball and cry or jump up and down with joy. One is left in awe of the poet's ability to convey emotion through words. Let's not forget the downright weird poems. These are the ones that defy categorization and leave the reader to their own devices in attempting to interpret meaning. The author's use of figurative language and unconventional imagery can create a sense of bewilderment

that is either intriguing or off-putting. Regardless, the reader can appreciate the uniqueness of the work.

Despite the wide range of emotions and reactions that come with studying poetry, it can be a rewarding pursuit. Not only does reading poetry allow one to appreciate the artistic beauty of the written word but also enables one to develop crucial critical thinking and analytical skills. The process of unlocking a poem's meaning can feel like cracking a code or solving a puzzle but the sense of accomplishment derived from mastering a challenging piece can be deeply gratifying. Finally, impressing an English teacher with a well-analysed poem can be a source of pride and validation.

Overall, studying poetry is like a box of mixed chocolates, you never know what you're going to get. But whether it's complex, emotional, simple, or just downright weird, there's always something to be gained from the experience. So, let's applaud all the poets out there, for making us laugh, cry, scratch our heads, and occasionally feel like a genius.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer ANY TEN questions from the twelve that follow. (1×10=10m)

1. What is one challenge that students may face when studying poetry?
 - a) Difficulty appreciating the artistic beauty of the written word
 - b) Lack of critical thinking and analytical skills
 - c) Confusion and frustration with complex and confusing poems
 - d) Inability to resonate with the themes of love, nature, or faith

2. According to the text, what feeling can understanding a poem's meaning bring to the reader?
 - a) Bewilderment b) Frustration c) Demotivation d) Sense of accomplishment

3. Which type of poems are described as emotionally charged?
 - a) Complex and confusing poems b) Simple and universally understood poems
 - c) Downright weird poems d) None of the above

4. What can studying poetry help develop?
 - a) Appreciation for the artistic beauty of the written word
 - b) Critical thinking and analytical skills

- c) Emotional detachment from literary works
 - d) Aversion to complex and confusing poems
5. What does the text compare the process of understanding a poem's meaning to?
- a) Playing Sudoku
 - b) Cracking a code
 - c) Solving a riddle
 - d) None of the above
6. According to the text, what reaction can emotionally charged poems evoke in readers?
- a) Confusion and bewilderment
 - b) Joy and happiness
 - c) Warmth and connection
 - d) Crying or jumping with joy
7. How does the text describe the effect of weird poems on readers?
- a) They are intriguing and easy to interpret.
 - b) They create a sense of warmth and happiness.
 - c) They can be off-putting and confusing.
 - d) They are universally understood.
8. What is one benefit mentioned in the text for studying poetry?
- a) Developing critical thinking and analytical skills
 - b) Appreciating the artistic beauty of the written word
 - c) Emotionally charging the reader
 - d) Impressing English teachers
9. What is the main purpose of the text?
- a) To criticize the complexity of poetry
 - b) To express frustration with confusing poems
 - c) To highlight the various experiences of studying poetry
 - d) To discourage students from studying poetry
10. What is the tone of the text?
- a) Negative and discouraging
 - b) Positive and encouraging
 - c) Indifferent and uninterested
 - d) Critical and judgmental
11. How does the text compare studying poetry to a box of mixed chocolates?
- a) Both can evoke negative emotions.
 - b) Both offer a wide range of experiences.
 - c) Both can be easily categorized and understood.
 - d) Both are unsatisfying and disappointing.

IV) Attempt ANY ONE of the following in about 150-200 words. (5 marks)

3. Everyday you are late to school by fifteen minutes. Your school bus gets stuck in a traffic jam near Murugan Temple crossing. Along with own ideas, write a letter to the editor of a newspaper highlighting this problem and suggesting some remedy for it.

OR

4. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily, expressing your opinion and views on the increased human dependence on technology. Right from a small child to an adult, or even an old man, everyone wants gadgets, be it -cell phone, I-pod, laptop, etc. This also has a negative effect on social relationships. Express your views and suggest solutions.

V) Attempt ANY TEN of the following twelve given questions. (10 marks)

1. Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct option for the given sentence.

Unfortunately, I have talent for music although I have always wanted to be a famous singer.

- (a) a few (b) little (c) plenty of (d) few

2. Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct option for the given sentence.

The report concludes sadly that students have knowledge of nuclear physics.

- (a) very few / some (b) both / whole (c) every / no (d) none / any

3. Complete the given sentence by choosing the right option.

Althoughspecies of fox are reddish in colour, Arctic fox is often pure white.

- (a) most / the (b) any / the (c) a great amount of/an (d) None

4. The hospital board clearly mentioned that you smoke in the hospital as it is a health hazard for all.

- (a) cannot (b) must not (c) need not (d) might not

5. There's never petrol left after Rahul uses the car.

- (a) much (b) little (c) many (d) a little

6. I am taking driving lessons now. Hopefully, I my driving test by November.

- (a) will take (b) would pass (c) will have taken (d) will be taking

7. Which option displays the correct change of the following to reported speech?
Sunitha asked Venkat, "How much is the rent for your flat?"
- (a) Sunitha asked Venkat how much was his rent for flat.
 (b) Sunitha asked Venkat how much the rent for his flat was.
 (c) Sunita enquires from Venkat that how much rent he pays.
 (d) Sunita told Venkat how much the rent for his flat was.
8. Which option displays the correct change of the following to reported speech?
She said, "I told Damanjit to send you an e-mail three days ago."
- (a) She told that Damanjit had mailed you three days then.
 (b) She informed me that Damanjit has mailed me three days before.
 (c) She says that she has told Damanjit to send me an E-mail three days then.
 (d) She said that she had told Damanjit to send an e-mail to me three days before.
9. The dog under the chair before the children arrived.
- (a) has been hiding (b) was hid (c) have hid (d) had hidden
10. The Amazon in Brazil is longest river in South America.
- (a) the/an (b) an/the (c) the/the (d) None of these
11. We could barely get any information at the airport..... people seemed to have idea about the flights.
- (a) only a few / some (b) a lot of / any (c) many / any (d) few / no
12. Complete the sentence with the right modal
She said that she help me.
- (a) will (b) shall (c) would (d) should

SECTION C-LITERATURE (40 MARKS)

VI) Attempt **ANY ONE** of the following. (1 x 5 = 5m)

A. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow.

**He stalks in his vivid stripes,
 The few steps of his cage,
 On pads of velvet quiet,
 In his quiet rage.**

1. Name the poet of the poem 'A Tiger in the Zoo'.
 a) Leslie Norris b) Robert Frost c) Carolyn Wells d) Walt Whitman

2. The poem draws a contrast between and
 a) animals, human beings b) tiger in a zoo, tiger in a forest
 c) tiger in a zoo, humans d) humans, tiger in forest

3. What has been personified in the poem?
 a) Tiger b) Forest c) Zoo d) All of these

4. Name the poetic device used in the line "In his quiet rage".
 a) Metaphor b) Assonance c) Oxymoron d) Consonance

5. Name the poetic device used in the line "He stalks in his vivid stripes".
 a) Metaphor b) Assonance c) Oxymoron d) Consonance

OR

B. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow.

***"Don't bite your nails, Amanda!
 Don't hunch your shoulders, Amanda!
 Stop that slouching and sit up straight,
 Amanda!
 (There is a languid, emerald sea,
 Where the sole inhabitant is me –
 A mermaid, drifting blissfully.)"***

1. Which of these is a synonym for 'languid'?
 a. Rapid b. Relaxed c. Sickly d. Humid

2. Which literary device is used in the line 'A mermaid, drifting blissfully'?
 a. Repetition b. Alliteration c. Allusion d. Paradox

3. What do the brackets in the extract imply?
 a. Amanda is dreaming. b. Amanda is listening.
 c. Amanda is reading. d. Amanda is speaking.

4. How would you describe the adult's tone?
- a. Relaxed b.Scared c. Indifferent d. Scolding
5. What can we say about Amanda based on this extract?
- a. She feels sleepy. b.She feels relaxed. c. She feels trapped. d. She feels liberated.

VII) Attempt **ANY ONE** of the following. (1 x 5 = 5m)

A. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow.

TENTH May dawned bright and clear. For the past few days I had been pleasantly besieged by dignitaries and world leaders who were coming to pay their respects before the inauguration. The inauguration would be the largest gathering ever of international leaders on South African soil.

1. What is the significance of TENTH May?
- a) It is the beginning of a new month. b) It is the date of a major event.
c) It is the day of a national holiday. d) It is a day with no significance.
2. What can be inferred about the author's position from the phrase "pleasantly besieged"?
- a) The author was uncomfortable with the attention.
b) The author was overwhelmed by the attention.
c) The author was pleased with the attention.
d) The author was indifferent to the attention..
3. Based on the paragraph, what can be assumed about the author's reputation?
- a) The author is a well-known figure in South Africa.
b) The author is a controversial political figure.
c) The author is a respected international leader.
d) The author is a lesser-known public figure.
4. What does the phrase "largest gathering ever of international leaders on South African soil" suggest?
- a) This is the first time international leaders have visited South Africa.
b) South Africa has not had any important events in the past.
c) The event is significant for South Africa's international relations.

d) The event is not important to South Africa's international relations.

5. What is the tone of the paragraph?

- a) Excited b) Sad c) Worried d) Frustrated

OR

B. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow.

He just felt a bit dizzy. Then he flapped his wings once, and he soared upwards. "Ga, ga, ga, Ga, ga, ga, Gaw-col-ah," his mother swooped past him, her wings making a loud noise. He answered her with another scream. Then his father flew over him, screaming. He saw his two brothers and his sister flying around him, curvetting and banking and soaring and diving. Then he completely forgot that he had not always been able to fly and commended himself to dive and soar and curve, shrieking shrilly.

1. How would you describe the screams of the gulls in the given extract?

- a) elation b) bewilderment c) shock d) protection

2. Pick the most appropriate reason why the young gull felt dizzy.

- a) He hadn't eaten anything for a day. b) He was dizzy with excitement.
c) He was wary of heights. d) He was flying for the first time.

3. Which of the following mirrors the use of the literary device in "shrieking shrilly"?

- a) sparkling saga b) singing soft c) slippery sloppily d) sneeze silently

4. The line "he completely forgot that he had not always been able to fly" implies the

- a) great confidence the young gull had in his skills.
b) naturalness of the act of flying for the young gull.
c) satisfaction and joy of flying together as a family.
d) desire of the young gull to leave his fears behind.

5. The extract refers to the many movements of the young gull's brothers and sister. Choose the option that correctly sequences these movements.

- a) The young gull's brothers and sister flew by, tilting their wings, rose high, made darting movements and plunged headfirst.

- b) The young gull's brothers and sister flew by plunging headfirst, making darting movements, tilted their wings and rose high.
- c) The young gull's brothers and sister flew with darting movements, tilted their wings, rose high and plunged headfirst.
- d) The young gull's brothers and sister flew by, rising high, plunging headfirst, making darting movements and tilting their wings.

VIII) Answer ANY FOUR of the following questions in about 40-50 words each:

(4X3=12m)

- 1. Why does the postmaster send money to Lencho ? Why does he sign the letter "God"?
- 2. How did Mandela's "hunger for freedom" change his life?
- 3. What does Anne write in her first essay?
- 4. What impression do you form about Amanda in the poem ?
- 5. What message does the poet wish to convey through the poem "Fire and Ice"?

IX) Answer ANY TWO of the following questions in about 40-50 words each: (2X3=6m)

- 1. Do you think Tricki was happy to go home? What do you think will happen now?
- 2. How did Hari Singh justify to himself his stealing Anil's money?
- 3. How is Ausable different from other secret agents?

X) Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in about 100-120 words. (6m)

- 1. Describe the character of Lencho in the light of his faith and attitude towards God and man.
- 2. Write a brief character sketch of Anne. How does she impress you? What will you learn from her?

XI) Answer any ONE of the following questions in about 100-120 words. (6m)

- 1. Griffin was a brilliant scientist but not a true one. What made him a bad scientist? What does it show about his character? How is the value of "welfare for all" important in the life of a scientist?
- 2. Love is the basic human attribute that can transform evil into goodness. How did this attribute of Anil change Hari Singh?