

FIRST TERMINAL EXAMINATION, 2014

ENGLISH

Class XI

Time : 3 hrs.

M.M. : 100

Date – 17.09.2014

General instructions :

- *This paper is divided into three sections : A, B and C. All the sections are compulsory.*
- *Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.*
- *Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*

SECTION – A

(Reading – 20 marks)

Q.1 Read the following passage carefully

[12]

- 1 Right from childhood, a human being starts enjoying the pleasure of reading. As a child, he learns the ways of life through reading and writing. He is thrilled by going through new little things and learning through them.
- 2 The pleasure one derives from reading, is indeed recreative as well as instructive. The mental effects of reading create a strange sense of pleasure. Reading provides an ecstasy and intellectual exertion. Reading of novels or interesting literature makes a person forget the worries and cares of life. The reading of a newspaper, periodical, journal, etc. which is light reading, gives the reader knowledge about human life around and solves his curiosity for knowledge about the world. Newspapers and journals give information about the events taking place in the world and happenings in the state and the locality a person lives in. The newspapers also publish important news and views in the fields of economics, politics and science. Reading of newspaper is indispensable for even a little educated citizen in modern society.
- 3 The reading of novels is the most popular pastime of a large number of people. The 'attraction of novel lies in its ability to create interest, to sustain it and take the reader to the heights of imagination and luxurious fiction. All fiction is somewhat connected with life and gives in words the pictures drawn from real life or from imagination.
- 4 Next, we come to the books of travel and adventure. The spirit of adventure is in the very blood of man. A man wants glamour and romantic life, full of adventure and the material spirit. Books of travel and adventure infuse a spirit of fearlessness which the travellers, who are heroes of the books, may inspire in us.
- 5 Whatever type of books one reads, reading is always a source of pleasure and enjoyment. The habit of reading is a sign of good culture. It is a source of knowledge and the best means of making use of one's leisure. Books are, after all, a gold mine of knowledge, art, literature and science. Books are not only useful, instructive but also entertaining and recreative.

(I) On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given choices

(6)

- (a) How does a child learn the ways of his life?
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (i) by imitating his elders | (ii) by observing |
| (iii) through reading and writing | (iv) through school education |

- (b) What are the two salient features of reading?
 - (i) recreative and instructive
 - (ii) pleasure and intellectual exertion
 - (iii) information and views
 - (iv) all the above
- (c) Which kind of reading can be called 'recreative'?
 - (i) newspapers (ii) journals
 - (iii) novels (iv) periodicals
- (d) Reading of newspapers is absolutely essential for the common man because
 - (i) it gives local news
 - (ii) it gives news of economics and science
 - (iii) it gives political news
 - (iv) all the above
- (e) 'Exertion' in paragraph 2 means
 - (i) interest (ii) exercise (iii) stimulation (iv) physical effort
- (f) 'Indispensable' in paragraph 2 means
 - (i) important (ii) primary (iii) necessary (iv) principal

(II) Answer these questions briefly.

(6)

- (a) How does the reading of a novel capture the interest of the reader?
- (b) Why is the reading of books of travel and adventure a source of immense pleasure and thrill?
- (c) Why is the habit of reading regarded as a sign of good culture?
- (d) How does the reading of newspapers and journals help us?
- (e) Find the antonym of 'rest' in para 2.
- (f) Find the antonym of 'repulsion' in para 3.

Q.2 Read the given passage carefully.

[8]

- 1 The nine-letter word "interview" can perspire the most knowledgeable and strong people in the world. That may be one reason, political leaders and corporate giants normally do not agree for an interview. But the popular ones, or those who want to make an impact, willingly give interviews. In modern times, whether you like interview or not, your prospects depend on its success. So you must know what an interviewer expects from you.
- 2 First an academic question. What is an interview? It is a discussion in which an interviewer faces a candidate for a short while and asks questions to probe his knowledge and awareness on the subject. These are done to assess the personality of the interviewee. It is a very formal means of interaction with one person facing a group of persons, each of whom is a specialist in his or her field.
- 3 Knowledge is an important component of success in an interview. It has two aspects: range and depth. The former implies that you should know a lot beyond your own specialisation and the latter means an awareness of the various aspects of the topics under discussion. An in-depth knowledge is gained through reading and listening. Listening is more important than reading. Be a keen listener, store major facts in your mind and use them at the appropriate time.
- 4 Next comes appearance, which means your dress for the interview. You must be elegantly attired for the occasion. Wear a simple outfit that suits your

physique and features. Women should wear sarees or any other sober dress. Casuals like kurta-pyjama should not feature in your selection of dresses.

- 5 Conducting yourself in an apt way is equally significant. The way you move yourself, sit on the chair, place your hands and your briefcase and talk to the members reflect your behaviour. Walking sloppily, talking loudly or inaudibly, getting irritated easily, and showing documents insistently are symptoms of bad behaviour. A better way is to enter the room smartly, move forward with dignity, greet the board, sit when asked to, and thank at the end before you leave.
- 6 Expression is the most important aspect of the interview. It conveys your views and opinions. For good expression, what you need is clarity of mind and speech. Show your balanced thinking to convey your views clearly.
- 7 Convey your view effectively. In an interview, you may be asked questions where you have to either agree or disagree. Whatever your approach, convince the board that it is unbiased. The board may not agree with your view. Even if you disagree, let not your face show it. Create an impact through your expressions. Give an impression of being a leader. Show that you can cooperate and get cooperation that you can share views and get people to accept your authority to reach decisions and implement them.
- 8 Finally, never consider yourself to be a perfect man. Being a human being makes you susceptible to flaws. However, try to conform to the highest standards and reach as close to perfection as possible.

- a) **Make notes on the above passage in any suitable format. Use recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary and give a title to the passage.** (5)
- b) **Write a summary of the passage based on your notes.** (3)

SECTION – B

(Writing Skills and Grammar - 30 marks)

- Q.3** Child Labour is a serious offence, affecting millions of children in the country. On behalf of the Child Welfare Ministry, design an attractive poster urging people to help prevent injustice towards minors. [4]
- Q.4** You are Arun / Aruna Verma, living at 14B, Sector 10, Rohini, New Delhi. You are deeply troubled by the discrimination practised against the girl child even in urban areas, among well educated, prosperous families. This discrimination can be seen most blatantly in matters of food and nutrition, healthcare, education, allowances, work at home and freedom, etc. Write a letter in about 120-150 words to the Editor of a National newspaper, strongly condemning such practices. [6]
- Q.5** Your school organized a cleanliness drive on Mahatma Gandhiji's birth anniversary. Students took the responsibility of keeping clean-the class rooms, corridors, assembly and play grounds, canteen area and even the toilets. Write a report for your school magazine on how the drive was organized and how successful it was. You should write in 150-200 words. [10]
- Q.6** **Complete the following paragraph with the hints given in the box.** (1×3=3)

Take a beaker, half-fill with water, mix, allow to stand for some time, settle down

A beaker is taken. It is _____. In it sand and salt are _____. The mixture is _____. Let the sand settle down. Then the solution is poured into another jar. This is called sedimentation.

- Q.7** The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction against the correct blank number. Remember to underline the correction that you have made. (4)

A good-mannered man says please when he a)_____
needed help. You, on the other hand, simply b)_____
expect people to do your jobs. I am telling c)_____
you many times but
you always forgetting to make a request. d)_____

- Q.8** Rearrange these sentences in their proper order. (3)

- a) I usually get up late in the morning.
- b) Yesterday I had to pay a heavy fine.
- c) I often miss the school bus.

SECTION – C

(Literature and Long Reading Text – 30 marks)

- Q.9** Read the lines given below and answer the following questions. [3]

And make pure and beautify it;

(For songs, issuing from its birth-place, after fulfillment, wandering

Reck'd or unreck'd, duly with love returns.)

- a) Name the poem and the poet.
- b) What is being talked about in these lines?
- c) 'recked' or 'unreck'd' means _____.

- Q.10** Answer the following questions briefly. [3×3=9]

- a) Why did the narrator of the story want to forget the address?
- b) What were the findings of the CT scan of Tut's mummy?
- c) How did the narrator arrange that Ranga should meet Ratna?

- Q.11** Khushwant Singh, says..... and while she clasped me in her arms, I could hear her reciting her prayer. "His grandmother spent most of her time praying". [6]

Prayers need not be only spiritual. The well-known German dramatist and critic says, "One single graceful thought raised to heaven is the most perfect prayer".

Write an article in about 120-150 words on the importance of prayer in our lives.

- Q.12** Imagine you are the Canterville Ghost. Describe the Otis family as you see them. Write in first person. Answer in about 120-150 words. [6]

- Q.13** Describe some of the famous disguises and acts of the Canterville Ghost which he had used to scare people over three hundred years. Write in about 120-150 words. [6]

Note : Assessment of Speaking and Listening Skills. (20)

