

Sample Question Paper - 16
English Core (301)
Class- XII, Session: 2021-22
TERM II

Time allowed : 2 hours

Maximum marks : 40

General Instructions :

1. *The Question Paper contains THREE Sections-Reading, Writing and Literature.*
2. *Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.*

SECTION-A (READING)

1. Read the passage carefully.

- (1) From the moment a baby first opens its eyes, it is learning. Sight and sensation spark off a learning process which will determine in large measure, the sort of person it will become. Language stands head and shoulders over all other tools as an instrument of learning. It is the language that gives man his lead in intelligence over all the other creatures. No other creature can assemble a list of ideas, consider them, draw conclusions and then explain his reasoning. Man can do all this because he possesses language. And if thought depends on language, the quality of an individual's thought will depend on that person's language-rudimentary or sophisticated, precise or approximate, stereotyped or original.
- (2) Very young babies are soothed by human voice uttering comforting words close to them. This essentially-emotional response provides early evidence that feeling is an important component of language learning. Children learn to use language in interaction with other human beings and this learning proceeds best against a background of affectionate feedback from the person who is closest to them. This is seen to perfection in the interaction between parent and a baby: eyes locked together, the adult almost physically drawing 'verbal' response from the baby, both engulfed by that unique experience of intimate and joyful 'connecting', which sets the pattern of the relationship between two people.
- (3) Thus, long before they can speak, children are involved in a two-way process of communication, which is steadily building a foundation on which their later use of language will be based. Constantly surrounded by language, they are unconsciously building structures in their minds into which their speech and reading will later fit grammatical constructions, tense sequences and so on. The forms of these structures will depend on the amount and complexity of speech they hear. Fortunate are those children who listen to articulate adults, expressing ideas and defending opinions. They will know, long before they can contribute themselves and understand, that relationships are forged through this process of speaking and listening; that warmth and humour have a place in the process, as have all other human emotions.
- (4) Using books is the most important means of ensuring a child's adequate language development. None of us can endlessly initiate and maintain speech with very small children; we run out of ideas or just get plain sick of it. Their lives are confined to a limited circle and they do not have enough experience to provide raw material for constant verbal interaction.
- (5) Parents and children who share books share the same frame of reference. Incidents in everyday life constantly remind one or the other of a situation, a character, an action, from a jointly enjoyed book, with all the generation of warmth and well-being that is attendant upon such sharing. All too often, there is a breakdown of communication between parents and children when the problems of adolescence arise. In most cases, this is most acute when the give-and-take of shared opinions and ideas have not been constantly practised throughout childhood. Books can play a major role in the establishment of this verbal give-and-take because they are rooted in language.



- (6) Young children's understanding greatly outruns their capacity for expression as their speech strains to encompass their awareness, to represent reality as they see it. Shades of meaning which may be quite unavailable to the child of limited verbal experience are startlingly talked to toddler. All the wonderful modifying words-later, nearly, tomorrow, almost, wait, half, lend, etc. begin to steer the child away from the simple extremes of "Yes" and "No" towards the adult word of compromise from the child's black and white world to the subtle shades and tints of the real world. The range of imaginative experience opened up by books expands the inevitably limited horizons of children's surroundings and allows them to make joyful, intrigued, awestruck acquaintance with countless people, animals, objects and ideas in their first years of life.
- (7) Books also open children to new points of view, besides their own as they unconsciously put themselves into other people's places-'if that could happen to him, it could happen to me.' This imaginative self-awareness brings apprehensions and fears as well as heightened hopes and joys.
- (8) In books, children can experience language which is subtle, resourceful, exhilarating and harmonious; languages that provide the human ear (and understanding) with a pointed and precise pleasure, the searing illuminating impact of good and true words.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer any eight of the following questions. (1 × 8 = 8)

- (i) What can a human being do because he possesses language?
- (ii) ... the quality of an individual's thought will depend on that person's language - rudimentary or sophisticated... Replace the underlined word without changing the meaning of the sentence.
- (iii) What are the things that spark off the learning process of a child?
- (iv) Why can't parents rely only on constant verbal interactions?
- (v) What brings apprehensions and fears as well as heightened hopes and joys in children?
- (vi) What are the advantages of books mentioned in the above passage?
- (vii) Fortunate are those children who listen to articulate adults... Replace the underlined word without changing the meaning of the sentence.
- (viii) Why does the problem of adolescence arise?
- (ix) Why does a book play a major role in the establishment of verbal give and take?

2. Read the given passage carefully.

- (1) Thick black smoke curling out of smokestacks, horrible-tasting chemicals in your drinking water, pesticides in your food – these are examples of pollution. Pollution is any contamination of the environment which causes harm to the environment or the inhabitants of the environment. There are many kinds of pollution, and there are many pollutants. Some obvious kinds of pollution are pollution of the air, soil, and water. Some less obvious, or less salient kinds of pollution are radioactivity, noise and light pollution, and pollution by green-house gases.
- (2) Air pollution can be caused by particles, liquids, or gases that make the air harmful to breathe. There are two main types of air pollution: primary and secondary. Primary pollutants enter the air directly, like smoke from factories and car exhaust. Secondary pollutants are chemicals that mix together to pollute the air, like mixtures of emissions, or waste output, from vehicles and factory smoke that change to form more dangerous pollutants in the air and sunlight.
- (3) Soil pollution can be caused by pesticides, leakage from chemical tanks, oil spills, and other chemicals which get into the soil by dumping or accidental contamination. Soil pollution can also cause water pollution when underground water becomes contaminated by coming in contact with the polluted soil.



Water pollution can be caused by waste products, sewage, oil spills, and litter in streams, rivers, lakes, and oceans. Some scientists believe that water pollution is the largest cause of death and disease in the world, causing about 14,000 deaths in the world each day.

- (4) Radioactive pollution can be caused by leaks or spills of radioactive materials. These materials can come from medical sources, nuclear power plants, or laboratories which handle radioactive materials. Air, soil, and water can be polluted by radioactivity. It can cause damage to animals, both internally and externally, by eating, drinking, or touching it. It can cause birth defects and genetic problems. It can cause certain cancers and other deadly diseases.
- (5) Noise pollution can be caused by vehicle, aircraft, and industrial noise. It can also be caused by military or experimental sonar. Noise has health effects on people and animals. In people, it can cause high blood pressure, heart problems, sleep disturbances, and hearing problems. In animals, it can cause communication, reproductive, and navigation problems – they have difficulty finding their direction. Sonar has even caused whales to beach themselves because they respond to the sonar as if it were another whale.
- (6) Light pollution can be caused by advertising signs, stadium and city lighting, and other artificial lighting (like the light caused by night traffic). Artificial lighting has health effects on humans and animals. In people, it can cause high blood pressure and affect sleeping and waking rhythms and immunity. It might be a factor in some cancers, such as breast cancer. In animals, it can affect sleeping and waking rhythms, navigation, and reproduction.
- (7) In addition, greenhouse gases have caused a warming effect on the earth's climate. The greenhouse gases are water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, and ozone. They are naturally-occurring gases in the atmosphere, but human activity has increased their concentration in the atmosphere. For example, the levels of carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the atmosphere have risen due to the burning of fossil fuels. The effect is a rise in global temperatures. The higher temperatures cause the melting of glaciers, a rise in the water level of oceans, and the disruption of both land and marine life, including that of humans. Although carbon dioxide is necessary for plants to survive, it is also considered to be a kind of pollution because high levels of carbon dioxide have caused the oceans to become more acidic.
- (8) It is not possible for anyone to predict the exact timing and effects of global pollution and global climate change brought about by pollution. There is general agreement by scientists that the global climate will continue to change, that the intensity of weather effects will continue to increase, and that some species of animals will become extinct. There is also general agreement, or consensus, that humans need to take steps to reduce emissions of waste products and greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, make adaptations to the changes that are occurring, and figure out ways of reversing the trends of pollution and global warming.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer any six of the following questions: (1 × 6 = 6)

- (i) What is pollution?
- (ii) Give example of some types of pollution.
- (iii) What are the two types of air pollution?
- (iv) How is soil pollution caused?
- (v) What is the largest cause of death and disease?
- (vi) What kind of issues can be caused by noise pollution?
- (vii) What are greenhouse gases?

SECTION-B (WRITING)

3. As the secretary of the literary club of St. Mary's school, Kolkata, draft a formal invitation in not more than 50 words for the inauguration of the club in your school. (3)



4. Answer any one of the following questions.

(5)

Your school started cleanliness drive in the neighbourhood. As a student representative of your school's Eco Club, write a report in 150-200 words giving details of the programme. You are Mahua of S.G. International School, Delhi.

OR

You are Pavit/Pavitra of 21, G.K., Delhi. You have seen an advertisement in Times of India for the post of House-keeping Head in a 5 Star Hotel. Apply for the job with complete bio-data in 120-150 words.

SECTION-C (LITERATURE)

5. Attempt any five of the following questions in 40 words.

(2 × 5 = 10)

- (i) How do we know that ordinary people too contributed to the freedom movement?
- (ii) How do the words, 'denizens' and 'chivalric' add to our understanding of Aunt Jennifer's Tigers?
- (iii) What hospitality did the peddler receive from the crofter?
- (iv) How does Jo want the story to end and why?
- (v) What did Derry's mother think of Mr. Lamb?
- (vi) What all does Mclerry's suitcase contain?

6. Answer any two of the given questions in 120-150 words.

(4 × 2 = 8)

- (i) Why did the ironmaster's invitation to the peddler to spend Christmas Eve with him make him think that he was going to fall into a trap?
- (ii) How did Mr. Lamb try to give courage and confidence to Derry?
- (iii) What precautions were taken by the prison authorities to ensure that the German exam was conducted smoothly and also under strict security?

Solution

ENGLISH CORE 301

Class 12 - English Core

1. (i) Man can assemble a list of ideas, consider them, draw conclusions and then explain his reasoning because he has the power of language.

(ii) ... the quality of an individual's thought will depend on that person's language - primitive/crude or sophisticated

(iii) Sight and sensation spark off the learning process of a child.

(iv) Parents can't rely only on constant verbal interactions because they will run out of ideas and get sick of it.

(v) Imaginative self-awareness that is acquired by reading books can bring apprehensions and fears as well as hopes and joys in children.

(vi) Books create self-awareness, enable children to see things from other's point of view and expose them to a wide range of vocabulary.

(vii) Fortunate are those children who listen to eloquent adults...

(viii) Problems of adolescence arise when give and take of shared opinions and ideas have not been constantly

practised throughout childhood.

(ix) Books play a major role in the establishment of verbal give and take because they are rooted in language.

2. (i) Pollution is any contamination of the environment which causes harm to the environment or its inhabitants.

(ii) Some types of pollution are air, soil, water, noise, radioactivity and light.

(iii) There are two types of air pollution-primary and secondary.

(iv) Soil pollution is caused by pesticides, oil spills, dumping of chemicals in soil and leakage of chemical tanks.

(v) Water pollution is the largest cause of death and disease causing 14000 deaths in the world each day.

(vi) Noise pollution can cause high BP, heart problems, sleep issues and hearing problems.

(vii) Methane, carbon dioxide, water vapour and ozone are greenhouse gases.

3.

St. Mary's School

We cordially invite all staff, student and parents for the inauguration of Literary Club of the school on 28th August between 8:30 a.m. to 12 : 00 pm. in the school premises. Well known novelist, Mr. Sandeep Mandal will be our Chief Guest. You all are also requested to join us in the auditorium for refreshment after the inauguration ceremony.
Secretary (Literary Club)

4. Special Cleanliness Drive Programme

by Mahua, S.R., Eco Club,

S.G. International School, Delhi

Delhi, April 2, 20xx : The Eco Club of the school launched a special cleanliness drive in the school and its neighbourhood from March 24 to March 30. All the students from primary to the senior classes participated in it with great zeal and enthusiasm. Each individual participating in the cleanliness drive were provided with a pair of disposable gloves and a garbage bag. After proper disposal of garbage collected from school, the participants of the cleanliness drive moved out to clear the neighbourhood. Students and teachers went out and swept the neighbouring streets

encouraging others to participate too. They sprayed mosquito killing sprays in the drains to avoid breeding of mosquitoes. The members of the Eco Club performed a skit for the residents of the neighbourhood on the theme 'Cleanliness is next to Godliness.' The message it sent forth was that one should keep one's home and school clean and at the same time as a responsible citizen, keep one's surroundings clean too, including the alley, roads, parks, etc. It was indeed an excellent initiative taken by the school to make people aware of the need to keep their surroundings and city clean.

5. (i) Raj Kumar Shukla, who was an ordinary peasant, initiated Gandhiji's fight in Champaran.



Later, thousands of people demonstrated around the courtroom where Gandhiji was summoned which made the Britishers feel challenged and baffled. This is how we know that ordinary people too contributed to the freedom movement.

(ii) The words 'denizens' and 'chivalric' evoke the mental image of majestic tigers who are the residents of the world of green. They are unafraid, proud, certain and display chivalry themselves in a manly fashion.

(iii) The good natured crofter was a lonely man. So, when the peddler knocked on his door, for shelter the crofter welcomed him with open arms. He served him porridge for supper and offered him a big slice of tobacco for his pipe. He also played a game of cards with the peddler till bedtime. This hospitality was unexpected as people usually made sour faces when the peddler asked for shelter.

(iv) As the end of the story did not appeal to Jo, she wanted the wizard to hit Mommy Skunk and make Roger Skunk continue to smell like roses. It is evident that the story violated Jo's sense of fairness for why should Roger Skunk not smell of roses and thus, have more friends.

(v) Derry's mother did not have a good impression of Mr. Lamb for she thought that he was not a good man. She did not want Derry to get acquainted with him or see him for any purpose.

6. (i) When the ironmaster of the iron mill came for his routine visit, the peddler, who was standing close to furnace, caught his attention. Mistaking the peddler for Nils Olof, a close acquaintance belonging to the same regiment, the ironmaster, invited him to spend Christmas Eve with him and his daughter. Although the peddler did not disclose his real identity to the ironmaster, he politely declined his invitation. The ironmaster's invitation made the peddler think he was going to fall into a trap. After stealing from the crofter, the peddler thought that it would be safer to go through the jungle to avoid getting caught. However, it was a cold and stormy night; the peddler soon lost his way in the jungle. Tired and dejected, the peddler

had sneaked into the iron mill for shelter. The crofter's money was still with the peddler. He thought that to go to the manor house with the money would be like throwing himself into the lion's den. It occurred to him that the world was a rattrap, offering him the temptation of shelter just as the rattrap would offer cheese and pork as bait.

(ii) When Mr. Lamb found Derry in his garden, he did not make him go away. Instead, Mr. Lamb welcomed Derry in a cheerful way accepting him as he was. Although Derry behaved rudely with him, he remained calm and cordial as if Derry's bad temper and defiance did not bother him at all. Derry was always angry and bitter because one side of his face was burnt. His face seemed to scare everybody. He withdrew himself from the society because of which he lacked courage and self confidence. Mr. Lamb's behaviour towards Derry was completely different from others. He told Derry that it's important to see how one is inside than how one looks on the outside. He inspired Derry with love for life and told him one cannot go through life being scared and alienated. Mr. Lamb asked Derry to enjoy simple joys of everyday living with people around and nature, ignoring the unpleasant. He initiated courage and confidence in Derry by telling him not to brood over limitations but count his blessings.

(iii) During Evans' O-Level German test, special precautions were taken by the prison staff to prevent him from escaping. The test was scheduled to be taken in his own cell. A parson from St. Mary Mags was called to invigilate and to keep the prisoner incommunicado during the exam. Evans was placed in the heavily guarded Recreational Block. There were two locked doors between his cell and the yard, which boasted of a high wall. Moreover, all the prison officers were on high alert. The Governor got a microphone installed in Evans' cell, while Stephens kept peeping into the cell every few minutes. Two prison officers, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Stephens, thoroughly checked his cell for any sign of possible escape. His razor, nail filer and nail scissors were also taken away.

