



# St. Xavier's Sr. Sec. School

Delhi-54

Summative Assessment II in **ENGLISH** – Std. 8  
29-2-2016

M. Marks : 70  
Time : 3 hrs.

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|---------------------------|----|
| Total printed pages :     | 03 |
| Total printed questions : | 12 |

This paper consists of three sections :

|           |                   |          |
|-----------|-------------------|----------|
| Section A | Reading           | 20 marks |
| Section B | Writing & Grammar | 25 marks |
| Section C | Literature        | 25marks  |

General instructions :

- All questions are compulsory.
- Marks will be deducted for untidiness and for exceeding the word limit.
- Do not write anything on the question paper.
- Attempt all questions in each section before going on to the next section.

Section – A (Reading)

(20 marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully:

A bookshop is not something you find everywhere these days. Books, which were once a staple diet for youngsters in their formative years, are fading out of their list of managements.

Ask any youngster which is the latest book he has read and he will be baffled. Apart from a few consistent readers, others just befool themselves with a best-seller's name or lament the curriculum load for justifying themselves, like this seventeen year old school goer who says, "I just read my physics book."

Television has been blamed much for this calamitous situation, which is producing square-faced people and a bookless society. Furthermore, today's children are under pressure to be smart and popular, to succeed on a social level. Moreover, the computers, video games, internet, swimming lessons, cricketing and every youngster's passion for hour long tete-a-tetes on telephone with friends eat up all their leisure time.

A child who is constantly under pressure to live up to his parents' expectations, at times unreasonable, does not like to throw himself into another set of books after the laborious school work unless the child comes from a family of readers where intoxicating works of Shakespeare and Dickens are just a matter of pulling them out from the shelves.

Many parents also believe that today's children have become aware and demand logical reasoning for everything. They can no longer be fooled by fairy tales or animal stories, as they have seen no fairies or animals except for those old tired ones in the city zoo.



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Answer the following questions briefly:

(1x8=8)

- 1.1 How do the youngsters react when asked which is the latest book they have read?
- 1.2 What is today's child most interested in?
- 1.3 Who has been blamed for producing a 'bookless society'?
- 1.4 What takes away the leisure time of youngsters?
- 1.5 How are parents' expectations creating a problem for the youngsters?
- 1.6 Analyze the reason why today's youngsters are not interested in books apart from textbooks?
- 1.7 Why are children no longer interested in fairy tales?
- 1.8 What are the characteristics of today's youngsters?

2. Read the following passage carefully :

1.I was the last child of a small-time government servant, in a family of five brothers. My very earliest memory of my father is as that of a district employment officer in Koraput, Orissa. It was and remains as back of beyond as you can imagine. There was no electricity, no primary school nearby and water did not flow out of a tap. As a result, I did not go to school until the age of eight; I was home-schooled.

2.My father used to get transferred every year. The family belongings fit into the back of a jeep, so the family moved from place to place; without any trouble, my mother would set up an establishment and get us going. Raised by a widow who had come as a refugee from the then East Bengal, she was matriculate when she married my father. My parents set the foundation of my life and the value system which makes me what I am today and largely defines what success means to me.

3.My father had been given a jeep by the government. There was no garage in the office, so the jeep was parked in our house. My father refused to use it to commute to the office. He told us that the jeep was an expensive resource given by the government; it was not 'his jeep' but the government's. Insisting that he would use it only to tour the interiors, he would walk to his office on normal days. He also made sure that we sat in the jeep only when it was stationary. That was our early childhood lesson in governance, a lesson that corporate managers learn the hard way. Indeed, some never do.

4.The jeep's driver was treated with the respect due to any other member of my father's office. As small children, we were taught not to call him by his name. We had to use the suffix 'dada' whenever we were to refer to him, in public or in private. When I grew up to own a car and a driver by the name of Raju was appointed, I repeated the lesson to my small daughters. They have, as a result, grown up to call Raju, 'Raju Uncle' – very different from many of their friends who refer to their family drivers as 'my driver'.

5.When I hear the term from a school or college-going person, I cringe. To me, the lesson was significant: you treat small people with more respect than big people. It is more important to respect your subordinates than your superiors.



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Answer the following questions briefly

(2x4=8)

- 2.1 What was the author's father's occupation?
- 2.2 What difficulties did the author face during his childhood due to lack of basic necessities?
- 2.3 Who helped to lay the foundation of the value system in the author's life?
- 2.4 How did the author as a child address the driver? Why did he treat the driver with respect?

Answer the following by choosing from the correct option:

(1x4=4)

- 2.5 The word matriculate implies\_\_\_\_\_. (para 2)  
a) illiterate      b) educated      c) intelligent      d) foolish
- 2.6 The word in the passage which means 'to travel' is\_\_\_\_\_. (para 3)  
a) parked      b) commute      c) stationary      d) walk
- 2.7 The word subordinate means a person who is\_\_\_\_\_. (para 5)  
a) very important      b) working under someone  
c) employer      d) superior
- 2.8 The opposite of the word 'suffix' is\_\_\_\_\_. (para 4)  
a) prefix      b) synonym      c) antonym      d) homonym

Section - B (Writing and Grammar)

(25 marks)

3. Delhi is encountering heavy traffic on the road. Even after several rules announced by the Government, the pollution levels are still dangerously high. Draft a poster on the topic "Traffic Week" asking people not to use cars and rather use other means of transport like bicycles to reduce pollution. (5)
4. You are Suraj/Sania the headboy/headgirl of the school. You recently came across many articles - in the newspaper and magazines regarding the side effects of eating fast food. You plan to make students aware about the consequences of consuming fast food on a regular basis. Write a speech in about 100-120 words to be delivered in the morning assembly. (10)  
You may use the following hints for reference :
  - Low on nutritive content
  - Contains artificial colors
  - High on fat and carbohydrates
  - regular intake can cause several health issues
  - makes one lethargic
  - fast food replaced by real food.



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(OR)

Your mother scolded you for not getting good marks in the examinations. She didn't seem to understand that your failure was because of your recent illness. You felt very depressed. Before going to bed, you decide to write a page in your diary expressing your feelings. (100-120 words)

Hints : poor result – rebuke by mother – feeling of regret – illness – dad understands better – feel sorry- need to work hard – tell mother to excuse – wish - understanding mother.

5. In the passage given below one word has been omitted in each line. Write the word in your answer sheet along with the word that comes before and the word that comes after it, against each line. (3)

|   | word before | missing word | word after |
|---|-------------|--------------|------------|
| Time stopped for HMT watches, finally.  | a) _____    | _____        | _____      |
| The brand, which is claimed to be pioneer in the horological industry in India 1961, and products for decades are known | b) _____    | _____        | _____      |
| _____ for its accurate time keeping and trouble free performance lasts a life   | c) _____    | _____        | _____      |
| _____ time, will stop manufacturing.  | d) _____    | _____        | _____      |
| _____   | e) _____    | _____        | _____      |
| _____   | f) _____    | _____        | _____      |

6. Read the passage given below and fill in the blanks with one word only. (4)
- 'Cleanliness is next to Godliness' is what a) \_\_\_\_\_ learned in school. We were taught b) \_\_\_\_\_ follow a strict cleanliness regime. c) \_\_\_\_\_ cleanliness or maintaining good sanitation d) \_\_\_\_\_ is not a virtue to be nurtured only e) \_\_\_\_\_ childhood, it f) \_\_\_\_\_ be an integral tenet to societal progress. Countries that invest in facilities that enable health and hygiene of g) \_\_\_\_\_ citizens tend to make h) \_\_\_\_\_ economic progress than others.



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7. Read the following conversation and fill in the blanks with reported speech: (3)
- Raghu: What makes you weep?  
Mohan: Someone has stolen my wallet.  
Raghu: Where did you keep it?  
Mohan: In the back pocket of my trousers.

Raghu asked Mohan a) \_\_\_\_\_. He replied that someone b) \_\_\_\_\_. Next Raghu enquired where he had kept that, Mohan answered that c) \_\_\_\_\_.

## Section - C (Literature) (25 marks)

8. Read the following extracts and answer the questions given below: (1x3=3)

*“So we shuddered there in silence,  
For the stoutest held his breath,  
While the hungry sea was roaring,  
And the breakers talked with Death”*

- a) Explain, “So we shuddered there in silence for the stoutest held his breath”.  
b) What is the figure of speech used in the 3<sup>rd</sup> line of the stanza given above?  
c) Pick out a word from the stanza which means ‘large waves’.

(OR)

*Beneath the mask  
my face melts  
like a jiggery cake in the sun  
mercifully,  
I can see  
even  
as I preserve the pink of my skin.*

- a) Name the poem and the poet of the above lines.  
b) Why has the lady covered her face with the mask?  
c) Find out a word from the stanza which is the antonym of harshly/insensitively.
9. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each: (2x4=8)
- a) How did the banker fulfill the lawyer’s desire in Bet I?  
b) How did the lawyer’s life preferences change at the end of fifteen years of imprisonment?  
c) “I am convinced that an average man is an imaginary being”. Comment.  
d) Why did the author visit Mahatma Gandhi? What did Mahatma Gandhi ask her on that occasion?



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10. Answer the following question in about 80 words: (4)  
You have opened a 'book lending library' at your place. Write a letter to your friend sharing your experience of reading different books and highlighting the importance of such libraries.
11. Answer the following question in about 80 - 100 words: (5)  
The end of the novel is not disappointing, rather it is motivating. Comment with reference to the novel 'Old Man and the Sea'.
12. Answer the following question in about 80 - 100 words: (5)  
Marlin is a symbol of endurance. Comment.

-x-x-x-x-x-x-