

**2008**  
**Class - X**  
**Subject - English**

Time: 3 hrs  
100

Max. Marks:

**General Instructions:**

- a. This paper consists of four sections:
- |           |            |    |
|-----------|------------|----|
| Section A | Reading    | 20 |
| Section B | Writing    | 30 |
| Section C | Grammar    | 20 |
| Section D | Text Books | 30 |
- b. All questions are compulsory.  
c. Marks are indicated against each question.

SECTION A- READING

20 MARKS

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow following passage carefully. **(12 marks)**

(8) **A2.** Read the

1. Summer vacation offers families dilemmas and opportunities. For too many kids it becomes a period of intellectual passivity and stalled personal growth. For others—and their parents—it's a time of overload and frantic scheduling.

2. "Summer is a great time for parents to build relationship with their children," says a renowned child psychologist. And it's an opportunity both for the kids to learn and for the family to grow together. To make this a reality, educators and psychologists point to several simple strategies that parents can start planning before summer gets under way.

3. "Summer's a perfect time for kids to take skills they've learnt in a class-room and use them in new ways," notes a well known educator. Comparing prices in a grocery shop can sharpen children's mental maths skills. Taking measurements to build a new tree house or design a simple plaything teaches geometry. Car trips provide opportunities to study maps and learn geography. Some libraries offer free summer reading programmes for children.

4. Sometimes kids will need a small push in the right direction. Victoria encouraged her seven- year-old son, Philip, to take part in their local library's summer reading club. For every book report a child wrote, he received a raffle ticket. At the end of the summer, sports prizes were raffled off. Philip, who'd painstakingly produced seven book reports, won an autographed picture of a hockey star and had his name and one of his reports printed in the local newspaper. (If that's not possible, encourage children to write letters to editors on current affairs, or about school-related issues.) "Philip moaned and groaned about writing the reports, but in the end, he was happy he put the effort in," notes his mother. "And his ability to express himself really improved."

5. It's the daily doses of stimulation—intellectual, creative, esteem-building—that parents can give their children that have the greatest impact," says an eminent researcher. In an informal study conducted in 1998 other researches surveyed successful college students about how they spent their free time from ages five to 12, then compared their activities with those of troubled youngsters. They found that the successful ones were more likely to play spontaneous games, more involved in household chores and more likely to engage in playful activities with their parents. Troubled youngsters spent far less time on chores or family games and more time on their own, planted in front of the TV or a video game.

6. Often, when parents are drawing up their summer plans, their focus is on entertaining and enriching their children. But experts agree that a summer built completely around a child's self-fulfilment won't help a youngster mature into a high thinking, caring member of his family or community. Truly successful kids, say educators, are those who've learnt to budget time to help others—whether it's helping an invalid neighbour or preparing their own family's meals a couple of nights a week. Where parents fail, say experts, is in the way such responsibilities are presented. Too often, they're trotted out as punishments instead of challenges. To make matters worse, parents often nag the child about the task, rather than simply setting a completion deadline and allowing the youngster to decide when and how he will meet it.

7. For most parents of school-age kids, the largest block of time they'll have with their children is in the summer. With a little advance preparation, parents can use the summer to help develop their youngsters into smarter, more creative, more caring human beings.

**A2.1** On the basis of your reading of the passage above complete the following sentences. Write the answers in your answer sheet against the correct blank numbers. **(6 marks)**

- (a) Parents can give the kids a special summer vacation by (1)  
(i)..... (ii) .....
- (b) Mention the new ways in which children can use the skills learnt in class (1)  
(i) ..... (ii) .....
- (c) The advantages Philip had on writing the book reports were (1)  
(i) ..... (ii) .....
- (d) Truly successful kids are those who ..... (1)
- (e) Why should a summer vacation not be built completely around a child's fulfilment? (1)
- (f) Parents who prepare for the summer vacation in advance can ensure that their children .....

**A2.2** Find words / phrases from the passage which mean the same as the following from the paragraphs indicated. **(2 marks)**

- (a) done quickly, not organized (para 1)  
(b) plans (para 2)

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow (12)

The first important traveller to India was a Greek named Megasthenes. He lived here for a number of years and wrote about our country and people in his book Indika. This is not available now, but some little pieces are still there. With their help, it is possible to make a picture of India as it was at that time.

About 2400 years ago, Seleukos, a general of Alexander the great tried to recapture the territories, once held by his master but afterwards conquered by Chandragupta Maurya. Chandragupta defeated him in 305 B.C. The defeated seleukos sent Megasthenes as his ambassador to the court of Chandragupta.

Megasthenes observed our two largest rivers, the Ganges and the Sindhu. These rivers were used for journeys, only during the rainy season they could not be used because they were flooded. Roads were also used and the best known road ran from the northwest to Patliputra. It had shady trees, signposts, rest houses and wells along it and may be called fore runner of the present Grand Trunk road.

The numerous trees that grew in India also attracted his attention. The banyan tree, whose branches grew downwards and took root, particularly charmed him.

About the people of India Megasthenes says that Indians were generally tall and slim. Most people wore a white cotton dress, which contrasted with their dark complexion. The rich however wore gaily coloured linen clothes. They wore ivory earrings and gold ornaments.

Megasthenes undoubtedly admired the Indian character. He says that the Indians behaved in an orderly manner. They just followed their customs and traditions. They did not care for written contracts. In business deals they took a man at his word.

- a. How do we know Megasthenes' views on India when his book is lost? (1)
- b. Why could the Ganges and the Sindhu not be used? (1)
- c. How did the Indians decorate themselves in Megasthenes' time? (1)
- d. What were the conditions which brought Megasthenes to India? (2)
- e. How does Megasthenes support the fact that the Indians were disciplined and honest?(1)
  
- f. Which of the following options is correct? (1)
  - A. According to the author the Ganges and the Sindhu could not be used in the rainy season because:
    - i. They were flooded
    - ii. They were full of crocodiles
    - iii. There were roads to be used
    - iv. There were no boats.
  
  - B. Many people wore a cotton dress because:
    - (1)
    - i. They were poor
    - ii. It covered their head
    - iii. It contrasted with their complexion
    - iv. The passage does not tell us.
  
- g. Frame two questions on the basis of the underlined part of the passage. (2)
- h. Find out the words from the passage which mean the same as the following:

Many	para 4
Certainly	para 6

(2)

SECTION B- WRITING

30 MARKS

B 1 Your friend has asked for your advice for buying a birthday present. Write a POST CARD to him/her suggesting which points he/she one should keep in mind like interest, age, need etc.while buying a birthday present. You are Shanty /Shanta of 1048 D, Gulabi Bagh, Delhi. 5 MARKS

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Or

B3. You have noticed that inspite of the strict vigilance people try to deface the metro trains and stations. Write a letter to the Chairman, DMRC Delhi requesting him to start some awareness programmes at the school level in coordination with the Directorate of Education explaining how such programmes may help in bringing a positive change in their attitude. You are Kapil/Kapila of 28 D, DDA Flats, Paschim Vihar, and Delhi.

10

MARKS

**B4.** You are Akansha. You visited “The Green Gardens Resort” during the holidays. Write an article in not more than 200 words for your school magazine about why the place attracted you. Include the following:  
**(10 marks)**



- Accessibility
- ReasonableCharges
- HygienicSurroundings
- Scenicbeauty
- Facilities available

**For** **Blind** **Candidates** **Only**  
**Or**

Children like to spend their pocket money on their favourite food items like chips, kurkures, hot dog, pizza and cold drinks. But they don't know that these things cause harm to their health. Write a paragraph describing the harmful effects of fast and junk food. Mention the health and other related problems caused by it in about 150 words. (10)

#### SECTION C- GRAMMAR

20 Marks

**C 1.** The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each of the lines against which a blank is given. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet as given below against the correct blank number. Remember to underline the word that you have supplied. (1/2 x8=4)

Once an poor woman, who had e.g. an – a  
 lost his only son, came to Budha and (a)  
 prayed to him to bringing her (b)  
 dead son back in life. Budha (c)  
 said that there is only one medicine (d)  
 that can given back her son's life. (e)  
 She asked him who it was. Budha (f)  
 told her that she will bring (g)  
 a handful off mustard seeds from a (h)  
 house where death had not taken place.

The woman then understood the message given by Budha.

**C 2..** In the passage given below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and the word that comes after it in your answer sheet against the correct blank number. Ensure that the word that forms your answer is underlined. (1/2X8= 4 marks)

The television has always very controversial. e.g. always been very  
 While the positive aspects the electronic (a)  
 media innumerable, their negative (b)  
 impact children cannot be denied. (c)  
 For new piece of information that (d)  
 a child learns the Discovery or National (e)  
 Geographic channel, are also (f)

unrealistic stunt shows parents dislike. (g)  
Computers and TV have students to lose (h)  
interest in studies.

C 3. Read the dialogue and complete the passage given below. Write the correct answer in your answer-sheet against the correct blank number. Do not copy the whole sentence (4)

Deepti: Why do you look so sad?

Rohit: I have lost my wrist watch.

Deepti: Where did you lose it?

Rohit: Somewhere in the school playground.

Deepti asked Rohit (a)\_\_\_\_\_. Rohit told her (b)\_\_\_\_\_. Deepti wanted to know (c)\_\_\_\_\_. Rohit said that he (d)\_\_\_\_\_ somewhere in the school playground.

C 4. Look at the words and phrases given below. Rearrange them to form meaningful sentences. The first one has been done as an example. Write the correct sentences in your answer sheet. Remember to number the answers correctly.(3x1=3)

Example:

a/virtue/is/god-gifted/selflessness

Selflessness is a god-gifted virtue.

(a) puts/man/his/a/aside/selfless/self

(b) thinks/others/for/he/others/and/for/works

(c) seeks/he/his/of others/happiness/in the happiness

**C5.** Use the information in the headlines to complete the news items given below. Write the answers in your answer sheet against the correct blank number. Do not copy the whole sentence. 4 MARKS

(a) HEAVY RAINS LASH CHENNAI

The heavy rain which (a) ..... threw normal life out of gear.

(b) M.B.A. CLASSES TO BEGIN ON SEPT. 20TH

The center coordinator informed (b) ..... Sept. 20th.

(c) THEATRE ACTIVIST BAGS TITLE

The 'kalabushan' title (c) ..... and scholar Utpal Singh.

(d) 12 INJURED AS BUSES COLLIDE

About (d) ..... at the K.N.P. junction here today.

## SECTION D (LITERATURE)

DI. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. Write each answer in your answer sheet in one or two lines only.

'I watched the flame feeding on my mother.

I watched the holy man perform his rites  
to tame the poison with an incantation.

After 24 hours

it lost its sting.

- (a) Why was the flame feeding on the mother?
- (b) Explain 'incantation'.
- (c) What do these lines tell us about the attitude of the peasants?

**D2.** Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. Write each answer in your answer sheet in one or two lines only. Remember to number the answers correctly. **(4 marks)**

I am important to her. She comes and goes.  
Each morning it is her face that replaces the darkness.  
In me she has drowned a young girl, and in me an old woman  
Rises toward her day after day like a terrible fish.

- (a) Name the poem and the poet. (1)
- (b) How was the mirror important for the woman? (1)
- (c) Explain: 'has drowned a young girl, and an old woman....' (2)

**D3.** How does the poem, 'Ode to the West Wind' reflect the poet's love for liberty? Your answer should not exceed 100 words. **5 marks**

**D4.** Read the extract given below and answer the following questions. Write the answers in your answer sheet. Remember to number the answers correctly. **(5 marks)**

"I've come to bring you home, dear brother. Father's not mean any more and he says you're never coming back here, and from now on we'll always be together.

- (a) Who is the speaker of these lines? (1)
- (b) What light do these words throw into Scrooge's past? (2)
- (c) Why did Scrooge feel guilty while watching this scene? (2)

**D5.** Why did Au give up hunting and he was now a completely changed person. What changes were there in his life and how they had an impact on Ali? Your answer should not exceed 75 words. **(4 marks)**

**D 6.** THE WHITE WOMAN has seen the naked truth of civil war after visiting the refugee camp. She decided to make a diary entry recollecting the experiences of the camp with the reference to the old grand mother. Make a diary entry in about 125 words **8 marks**