

COMMON HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION - DECEMBER 2018

STANDARD - XI

Reg.No.

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Time : 2.30 hours

PART II - ENGLISH

Marks: 90

- Instructions:** 1. Check the question paper for fairness of printing. If there is any lack of fairness, inform the Hall Supervisor immediately.
2. Use Blue or Black ink to write and underline.

SECTION - A [VOCABULARY]

I. A] Choose the most appropriate synonym of the underlined lexical item in each of the following sentences: **3x1=3**

- 1) The common link of friendship was snapped.
a) rested b) slapped c) joined d) broke
- 2) So common is it that I am always reluctant to trust.....
a) trust b) unwilling c) willing d) eager
- 3) _____ a continuous stream of men and women endowed with the spirit of service.
a) gifted b) obliged c) denied d) reflected

B] Choose the most accurate of the four given words which is opposite to the usage of the underlined word in the following sentences: **3x1=3**

- 4) They consoled me and lauded me on the silver win.
a) blamed b) admired c) appreciated d) praised
- 5) There was no sound but a curious smothered noise from my friend.
a) suppressed b) stifled c) expressed d) suffocated
- 6) I fell into conversation with an attractive young lady in the next seat.
a) captivating b) charming c) ravishing d) ugly

C] Answer all the questions: **8x1=8**

- 7) Choose the clipped form of "University".
a) unity b) universe c) varsity d) city
- 8) Choose the right definition for the given term "Ornithologist".
a) one who studies insects b) one who studies birds
c) one who studies diseases d) one who studies earthquakes
- 9) Choose the meaning of the idiom "hang out to dry".
a) try any method to overcome a crisis b) in serious difficulty
c) abandoning one who is in difficulty d) sign of something going wrong
- 10) Form a new word by adding a suitable prefix to the root word "manage".
a) un b) mis c) mis d) de
- 11) Choose the word from the options given to form a compound word with "eye".
a) lashes b) knob c) gate d) wheel
- 12) Choose the meaning of the foreign word in the sentence:
The people marched "en masse".
a) heavily b) altogether c) separately d) slowly
- 13) Choose the expanded form of "ECG".
a) Emergency Cardio Gram b) Electric Cardio Graph
c) Electrical Card Gram d) Electro Cardio Gram
- 14) Replace the underlined phrasal verb into a single word:
The old building caved in due to heavy rain.
a) collapsed b) aroused c) exhausted d) abandoned

SECTION - B [POETRY & PROSE]

II. A] Read the following lines and answer any three (3) of the following in a sentence: **3x2=6**

- 15) 'But now they only laugh with their teeth, while their ice-block -cold eyes'
a) Who are 'they'? b) Identify the figure of speech used here
- 16) 'with all my heart I do admire
Athletes who sweat for fun or hire'
a) Whom does the poet admire? b) For what reasons do the athletes sweat?

- 17) 'And it's my faith that every flower
Enjoys the air it breathes
- a) Identify the poem and the poet. b) Pick out the alliterated words.
- 18) 'Our nature it is that whatever we try
We do with devotion deep and true'
- a) Who does 'we' refer to? b) How should we carry out our duties? 2x2=4

B] Answer any two of the following in 20-30 words.

- 19) Describe the grandfather as seen in the portrait.
- 20) Name a few things that a person remembers easily.
- 21) How was Mary Kom felicitated on her return to India? 2x6=12

C] Answer the following in a paragraph of about 125 - 150 words:

- 22) Describe the author's grandmother and her daily routine at home. (OR)
- 23) Explain how the narrator got out of the tight corner that he was in. (OR)
- 23) Explain the things the poet has learnt when he grew into an adult. (OR)
- The poem 'Everest is not the only Peak' does not focus on the destination but the journey towards it. Discuss.

SECTION - C [GRAMMAR AND LANGUAGE SKILLS]

7x2=14

III. A] Answer any seven of the following:

- 24) **Report the following dialogue:**
Prabhu : What are you doing here? I haven't seen you for a few months.
Kiran : I have just come back from my native town, Virudhunagar.
- 25) **Change the following sentences into passive voice:**
The coach trained the team. The team won the match.
- 26) **Fill in the conditional clause appropriately:**
If I _____ (be) a bird, I _____ (fly).
- 27) **Fill in the blanks with suitable forms of the verbs given in brackets:**
When I _____ (go) out, I _____ (see) a stranger entering my neighbour's house but I did not stop as I was in a hurry to meet the money lender.
- 28) **Fill in the blanks with articles:**
She collected _____ women of the neighbourhood, got _____ Old drum and started to sing.
- 29) **Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with question tags:**
You are a student _____?
You did not come to school yesterday _____?
- 30) **Fill in the blanks in the following sentence with appropriate prepositions:**
a) I have a present _____ you.
b) Subash is the leader _____ our class.
- 31) **Complete the sentences using the words in the brackets appropriately:**
At first, the flour, cocoa powder and baking powder _____ (sift) in a mixing bowl.
Then butter, sugar, salt and water _____ (add) to the mixture.
- 32) **Rearrange the shuffled words of the sentences:**
a) and / her sisters / television / everyday / the girl / watch.
b) with / ten cats / a lady / in / lives / house / that big.
- 33) **Fill in with suitable phrases / conjunctions:**
_____ his hard work he won the prize _____ he was unhappy.

B] Answer any one of the following :

1x4=4

34) Correct and edit the following passage :

R.K. Narayan, whose full name is Rasipuram Krishnaswami Narayan. He was born at October 10, 1906 on Chennai in Tamilnadu. He is one of the finest author of Indian Writing from English.

35) Punctuate the following:

is that you jimmy wells cried the man in the door

SECTION - D [WRITING]**IV. A] Answer any four (4) of the following. [Insert necessary details wherever necessary]:****4×4=16**

- 36) Write an e-mail to a charitable trust requesting for a scholarship.
- 37) You are Prakash / Priya, the president of your school English Club. Draft a notice about 'Essay Writing Competition' to display on your school notice board.
- 38) **Expand the following News Headlines:**
- GAJA lashes Cauvery Delta.
 - ATM without security guard to close.
 - 189 passengers killed in air - crash in Indonesia.
 - Telephone customers to get videophones.
- 39) **Extend the conversation with two more exchanges:**
- Bookseller : Welcome Sir, Good Morning,
: May I help you?
- Myself : I am looking for story books in English.
Do you have such books?
- 40) **Write a summary or make notes of the following passage:**

Conversation is indeed the most easily teachable of all arts. All you need to do in order to become a good conversationalist is to find a subject that interest you and your listeners. There are, for example, numberless hobbies to talk about. But the important thing is that you must talk about other fellow's hobby rather than your own. Therein lies the secret of your popularity. Talk to your friends about the things that interest them, and you will get a reputation for good fellowship, charming wit, and a brilliant mind. There is nothing that pleases people so much as your interest in their interest.

It is just as important to know what subjects to avoid and what subjects to select for good conversation. If you don't want to be set down as a wet blanket or a bore, be careful to avoid certain unpleasant subjects. Avoid talking about yourself, unless you are asked to do so. People are interested in their own problems, not in yours. Sickness or death bores everybody. The only one who willingly listens to such talk is the doctor, but he gets paid for it.

To be a good conversationalist you must know not only what to say, but how also to say it. Be mentally quick and witty. But don't hurt others with your wit. Finally, try to avoid mannerism in your conversation. Don't bite lips or click your tongue, or roll your eyes or use your hands excessively as you speak.

Don't be like that Frenchman who said, "How can I talk if you hold my hand"?

B] Read and respond to the following advertisement considering yourself fulfilling the conditions specified: [Write XXXX for your name and YYYY for your address] 1×8=8

- 41) Wanted
Accountants for a reputed garments export company situated in Chennai. Salary negotiable, candidates should have at least 5 years experience.
Apply to:
The Manager, Shakthi Garments
No.2, 12th Avenue, Gandhi Nagar, Chennai - 600084.

Write an essay in about 200 words on any one of the following:

(OR)

- My Future career
- The impact of mobile phones in the modern world.
- 'All that glitters is not gold'.

SECTION - E [READING]**Answer any one of the following:****1×4=4**

- 42) **Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

It is difficult to imagine a life without modern gadgets. Gadgets are electronically simplified applications that have been designed to make our life simple and convenient. The Gadgets over the years have gained so much popularity and wide

use that today they have become an integral part of our lives and it is difficult to go through a day without the help of these gadgets. Everyday, new gadgets are launched in the market with the sole purpose of serving up and we become proud to own a few of these. Gadgets are very important for a modern family, where both husband and wife are working and do not have much time at their disposal. Gadgets come to their rescue and save a lot of time.

Today, we find that teens go crazy over the gadgets and wherever they find something new, they don't get peace, till they are able to check out the features in it. It is good to use gadgets in our lives, but to a certain limit only. Everyone must spend some quality with the family members instead of being engrossed in mobiles or watching T.V.

- i) What are modern gadgets?
- ii) How are gadgets important for a modern family?
- iii) Why do the teens go crazy?
- iv) To what extent should we use gadgets in our life?

43) **Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow:**

If you think you are beaten, you are,
If you think you dare not, you don't
If you like to win, but you think you can't
It is almost certain you won't

If you think you'll lose, you're lost,
For out in the world we find,
Success begins with a fellow's will
It's all in the state of mind

If you think you are outclassed, you are,
You've got to think high to rise,
You've got to be sure of yourself before
You can ever win a prize.

Life's battles don't always go
To the stronger or faster man
But soon or late the man who wins,
Is the man who thinks he can".

- a) When are you lost?
- b) Who wins the life's battles?
- c) What does the poem insist on?
- d) Suggest a suitable title for the poem?

SECTION - F [SUPPLEMENTARY READER]

44) **Write an essay of about 200 words by developing the following hints: 1×8=8**

Bob and Jimmy two friends - lived in New York - Jimmy 20 years old - Bob eighteen years - Bob moved to the West - Jimmy stayed in New York - after 20 years - waited met Jimmy - Jimmy a cop - arrested Bob - Jimmy sent a man of plain clothes to arrest - gave a note - Bob shocked.

(OR)

The narrator wanted to take a photo - the photographer looked - like a scientist - studied faces of visitors - narrator wanted to show to his family - went to receive - got shocked - changes made - angry for destroying his real face - scolded - shed tears - left.