

COMMON HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION - DECEMBER 2017

Standard 12

Reg. No.

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Language - Part II - ENGLISH - PAPER I
(Reader and Linguistic Competencies)

Time Allowed: 3.00 Hours

Maximum Marks: 100

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

Note: In your answer book, use the Arabic numerals 1 to 69 of the questions you answer.

Section - A (Vocabulary - Lexical Competencies) - Marks: 30

I. A] Choose the most appropriate of the four given contexts which equates with that of the underlined lexical item on each of the following sentences:

5 × 1 = 5

- 1) What a rent the envious Casca made.
 - a) The tenant failed to pay the maintenance charges.
 - b) The mimicry artist gave a wonderful performance.
 - c) Arum committed a serious mistake in the calculation.
 - d) My mother got her finger cut, when she was grating the coconut.
- 2) They can laugh to scorn the power of armaments.
 - a) Everyone is against nuclear weapons.
 - b) The bride is wearing antique ornaments.
 - c) Alexander's over-confidence led him to his defeat.
 - d) I was carried away by her expressions.
- 3) it ends in a cold and menacing snout.
 - a) We offered a cup of tea to the shivering old man.
 - b) John's teeth started chattering, when the bus climbed the mountain.
 - c) The step-mother was threatening the child with a cane.
 - d) A visit to the theme park was a thrilling experience.
- 4) It may gratify the curiosity to inform it
 - a) Ashok warned his younger brother not to irritate him.
 - b) The management paid a bonus to satisfy the employees.
 - c) The speaker kindled my interest in philosophy.
 - d) Trench poets do not glorify wars and battles.
- 5) A catalogue of atrocities defeats its own end.
 - a) The client should sign in this form and it is just a formality.
 - b) You must take responsibility for the failure of the project.
 - c) The terrorists were punished for their act of cruelty.
 - d) Necessity is the mother of invention.

B] Choose the most accurate one of the four given words opposite to the underlined word:

5 × 1 = 5

- 6) Thou art fled to brutish beasts.
 - a) generous
 - b) wild
 - c) kind
 - d) mighty
- 7) What do our ancient books say about women?
 - a) expensive
 - b) boring
 - c) modern
 - d) valuable
- 8) A few wild blunders and risible absurdities
 - a) trivial
 - b) serious
 - c) comical
 - d) pathetic

- 9) There are many people who despite the snake.
a) follow b) love c) annoy d) condemn
- 10) The stoniest of hearts must have cursed the gift.
a) praised b) blessed c) damaged d) cherished
- C] Answer any ten of the following:** **10×2=20**
- 11) Write a sentence using the plural form of 'son-in-law' **OR** 'criterion'.
12) Use the idiom 'put on airs' in a sentence of your own.
13) Write a sentence using the expanded form of the acronym **CAD**.
14) The leader's _____ courage boost up his _____ during testing times.
[Fill in the blanks with moral / morale]
15) Form a word by blending the words 'education' and 'entertainment' and use the blended word in a sentence of your own.
16) **Syllabify any two words:** improvement, pertinent, astrology, around
17) Write sentences using the word 'waste' as a noun and 'waste' as a verb.
18) Write a sentence of your own using the American English word for 'tin'.
19) Use the compound word 'postman' in a sentence of your own.
20) Write a sentence using a word the prefix 'dia____' or the suffix '____ly'.
21) Form compound words: a) Noun + Gerund b) Adjective + Noun
22) Write sentence using the phrasal verbs 'stand out' and 'stand by'.
23) Write sentence using the clipped words from 'gymnasium' and 'bridegroom'.

Section - B (Grammatical Competencies) - Marks: 20

- II. A] Fill in the blanks of the following sentences:** **10×1=10**
- 24) The young _____ not criticise the old.
(Use a modal verb)
- 25) Human beings _____ (look) odd, if they had four hands.
(Use the given verb in a suitable form)
- 26) The workers _____ (clean) the stage now.
(Use the given verb in a suitable form)
- 27) The teacher _____ teaches English is my class teacher.
(Use a relative pronoun)
- 28) Return the book _____ you borrowed last week.
(Use a relative pronoun)
- 29) You _____ not attend music classes on Sundays.
(Use a semi modal verb)
- 30) _____ a bandh, today is a holiday.
(Use a suitable phrase or preposition)
- 31) **Frame a sentence of the pattern : SVOCA**
- 32) You cannot score high marks _____ you study well.
(Use a suitable link word)
- 33) Seventy percent of the water stored in a reservoir is used for irrigation.
(This is an example of _____ passive voice)
- B] Transform the following sentences as instructed:** **5×2=10**
- 34) **Report the dialogue:**
Salesman: What do you want?
Customer: I want a pen.
Salesman: Do you want a fountain pen or a ball point pen?
Customer: I need a gel pen.

- 35) If I were you, I would accept the challenge. **(Begin with 'Were'.....)**
- 36) Eventhough the interview was tough, Radha managed to perform well.
(Into a simple sentence)
- 37) If you work hard, you can clear the semester.
(Into a compound sentence)
- 38) The weather was very cold, so the army could not march further.
(Into a complex sentence)

Section - C (Reading Comptencies) - Marks: 15

III. A] Identify each of the following sentences with the field in the list given below, by understanding the word or words serving as the clue: 5×1=5

- 39) Doping tests are now made mandatory before and after the track events.
- 40) The suspects were produced before the magistrate for remand.
- 41) The fertility of the soil can be preserved using natural manures.
- 42) The predictions of Nostre Damus have come true.
- 43) Mr. Gupta lost a heavy sum in the stock market.

(Business, Law, Agriculture, Sports, Astrology)

B] Read the following passage and answer the questions are given below:

5×2=10

The first recorded Olympic competition took place at Mount Olympus in 776 B.C. The only event was a race equal to the length of the stadium. However, additional races and other athletic events were included slowly and the competition was held every four years. Only the citizens of Greece were allowed to enter. It was a high honour just to be in the competition. The winners received crowns of leaves and were given many special advantages. In 1896, the first modern Olympic games were held in Athens, Greece. Pierre de Coubertin, a French scholar and historian, realised that part of the Greeks' importance came from athletic celebrations. He was the founder of the International Olympic Committee. In 1894, he invited people from twelve countries to organize the modern Olympics. It had been more than 1500 years, since the Roman Emperor Theodosius had stopped the games. In 1896, nine countries sent their athletes to the Olympics. Now athletes from more than 100 nations participate in these events. The biggest change in modern Olympics has been the addition of winter sports in 1996. These sports now include ice-skating and skiing competitions.

Questions:

- 44) When did the first Olympic competition take place and which was the only event conducted then?
- 45) How were the winners honoured and rewarded?
- 46) Where was the first modern Olympics held?
- 47) Who was Pierre de Coubertin and what did he do in 1894?
- 48) What is considered as the biggest change in the Modern Olympics?

Section - D (Writing Comptencies - Prose) - Marks: 15

IV. A] Answer any one of the following questions in a paragraph of about 100 words:

1×5=5

- 49) Why does Gandhi say that women are the messengers of the gospel of non-violence?

- 50) What prompted Johnson to write a dictionary of the English Language?
 51) How did Paul W. Tibbets execute the mission of dropping the bomb on Hiroshima?

B] Write an essay on any one in about 250 words: 1×10=10

- 52) Compare and contrast the speeches of Brutus and Mark Antony.
 53) The trekking experience of the author to the land of snow.
 54) Do you agree that Gunga Ram's death was ironical? Justify your answer.

Section - E (Literary Comptencies - Poetry) - Marks: 20

V. A] Read the following sets of poetic lines and answer the questions given below: 6×1=6

"For the soul is dead that slumbers"

- 55) Whose soul is considered dead?

"Not in a dreamy and inane abstraction"

- 56) Explain the meaning of 'inane abstraction'.

**"And you O my soul where you stand,
 Surrounded, detached in measureless oceans of space"**

- 57) Where does the soul stand?

"O winged seeds! you crossed the furrowed seas"

- 58) Who is addressed as 'winged seeds'?

"He reached down from a fissure in the earth wall"

- 59) Whom does 'He' refer to?

**"But ranged as infantry,
 And staring face to face"**

- 60) What is 'infantry'?

B] Read the following three sets of poetic lines and answer the questions given below: 3×1=3

"Dust thou art, to dust returnest"

- 61) What is the allusion made here?

"Speech that came like leech-craft"

- 62) What is the figure of speech used in the given line?

"Softly drank through his straight gums"

- 63) *Pick out the words in alliteration in the above line.*

C] Explain any two of the following sets of lines with reference to the context: 2×3=6

- 64) "Yes quaint and curious war is!"

- 65) "You bathed our hearts amid tempestuous seas
 Of a purer, drearier delight".

- 66) "Let us then be up and doing
 With a heart for any fate".

D] Answer any one of the following questions in a paragraph of about 100 words: 1×5=5

- 67) Explain the message conveyed in the poem 'A psalm of life'.

- 68) Bring out the aptness of Walt Whitman's comparison of the spider to the human soul.

- 69) 'Education disconnects Man from Nature' - Do you agree with this view with reference to the poem 'Snake'.