

**PRE BOARD EXAMINATION, JANUARY 2020**  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE**

Class: X

M.Marks:80

Date: 21.01.2020

Time:3hrs

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**General Instructions:**

1. This paper consists of three sections-  
Section A: Reading  
Section B: Writing and Grammar  
Section C: Literature
2. All sections are compulsory.
3. You may attempt any section at a time.
4. All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order
5. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

**SECTION-A READING (20 Marks)**

**1) Read the following passage carefully.**

1. Spices bring to mind the images of tempting cuisines, fascinating voyages and bitter struggle for Independence. Expressions like 'variety is the spice of life' and 'sugar and spice and all things that are nice', explain how spices play upon the literary abilities of men of letters
2. To orientals, spices are indeed the soul of their food. In the Western world, it evokes dreams of exotic tropical islands, exciting expeditions, and the rise and fall of empires. Columbus went Westwards in 1492, from Europe, to find a sea route to the land of spices, but found the New World. Eight years later, Vasco da Gama went round Africa and touched Kozhikode on the south-west coast of India. Long before that, Arabs started trading with the Orient through land routes. During the 13<sup>th</sup> century, Marco Polo began the travelling and experienced attraction of spices. The European conquests and trade arrangements in India and the East Indies also have a lot to do with spices.
3. Thousands of years ago, masters of Ayurveda notably, Susruta and Charaka discussed in detail the uses of spices for culinary and medical purposes. Enterprising soldier of fortune carried the knowledge of spices to Egypt. There they used spices and aromatic herbs in food medicine, cosmetics and for embalming. The conquest of Egypt and Asia by Alexander the Great made spices an article of commercial value in the Mediterranean countries, and Central and northern Europe. There are reports of

pepper being used in preservation of meat, to mask the unpleasant odour of stale meat after the long winter storage.

4. Hippocrates, the father of modern medicine, and Theophrastus, a Greek scholar and botanist, wrote treatises on medical plants, including spices.

**A. Choose the correct option to complete the following sentences: (4×1=4)**

- (i) Columbus went Westwards from \_\_\_\_\_ to find a sea route to the land of spices.  
(a) America (b) Europe  
(c) Egypt (d) Russia
- (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ went around Africa and towards Kozhikode on the south-west coast of India.  
(a) Vasco da Gama (b) Arabs  
(c) Columbus (d) Marco Polo
- (iii) During the \_\_\_\_\_ century, Marco Polo began the travelling and experienced attraction of spices.  
(a) 18<sup>th</sup> (b) 12<sup>th</sup>  
(c) 20<sup>th</sup> (d) 13<sup>th</sup>
- (iv) \_\_\_\_\_ is the father of modern medicine  
(a) Theophrastus (b) Hippocrates  
(c) Susruta (d) Charaka

**B Answer the following questions in one sentence each.**

(4)

1. Where did Columbus want to reach?
2. Why do spices fascinate people?
3. What did Susruta and Charaka discuss in detail?
4. What made spices an article of commercial value in Mediterranean countries?

**2) Read the following passage carefully.**

1. The conquest of happiness has meant different facts to different generations. Our forefathers took pride in scholarship, a spirit of sacrifice and solicitude for the welfare of others. Gone are those days. Today, we live only for ourselves. We are jealous of the advancement of our neighbours. We end up tense and unhappy.

2. The term 'happy' has a variety of meanings. It stands for lucky, fortunate, content, glad or apt. Happiness lies within the mind of the individual. No amount of external wealth may be helpful in making him happy.

3. Our forefathers had lifestyles, very much different from those we have today. Their lives were mainly based on the concept of "simple living and high thinking". People were satisfied with whatever they obtained after working hard. Excessive material wealth did



not mean much for them. They derived mental satisfaction and enrichment which they aimed at.

4.The structural framework of our forefathers' families was different from those of ours. They lived in a cohesive joint family structure where they were happier than us. They cared for each other. The siblings grew up with their cousins. The bond of love which they shared cannot be easily found in the nuclear family of today. The family provided an emotional cushioning effect against tension and stress.

5.However, in a nuclear family, we are detached from the feelings towards our kith and kin. At times, even the cousins do not recognise one another, when they happened to be self-centered. Disputes in the family may lead to division. This may finally destroy the family psyche.

6.The joint family system provided a proper environment for the child to grow up. The value of respect, tolerance ,responsibility ,integrity etc were internalised in the child In the long run, they became better human beings, compared to those in the present generation. Our forefathers felt happiest, if their children became 'honest' human beings.

7.But today, we are happy only if we attain our coveted material ends. We are ready to resort to any means to attain that end. Our philosophy of life has turned out totally Machiavellian.

8.Our forefathers had a vision to make India the best. To attain their ambitions, they were ready to make all sorts of personal sacrifices. Their happiness lay in that of the millions of brothers and sisters.

9.On the other hand, today people are ready to migrate to the west, to enjoy a comfortable life. They run away from the evils of the Indian society without trying to remedy them. Often they become successful in foreign lands. But in the process, they become alienated from their motherland. The nostalgic feeling of their childhood and relationship them left lingered on, which cannot make them happy. Distance from their ailing parents is a worrying factor and keeps them perturbed. It is not easy for them to return, as their children will not be able to adjust to the Indian environment and the way of life. Thus, this is a crisis and a frame of mind worse than their forefathers.

10.In our generation, tradition and modernity have intermingled to form a special system. We are happier than our forefathers in being able to lessen the evils of rigid caste system, untouchability, child marriage , etc. But we have failed to totally eradicate them. The electoral politics had made use of caste system, through the issuance of party tickets on the basis of caste, community, religion, etc.

**I) Answer the following questions briefly.**

**(4×2=8)**

- 1) What is the difference between our forefathers and us?
- 2) What do you mean by 'happiness'?
- 3) Why are people ready to migrate to the west?
- 4) How does the joint family system make a child a good human being?

**II) Find the words from the passage that mean the same as the following. Choose the correct option.**

**(4×1=4)**

- (i) Concern for something or someone (para-1)
- |                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| a) Advancement | c) Solitude |
| b) Excessive   | d) Content  |
- (ii) Improving or enhancing the quality of something (para-3)
- |               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| a) Enrichment | c) Helpful      |
| b) Fortunate  | d) Satisfaction |
- (iii) United and working together efficiently (para-4)
- |               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| a) Cushioning | c) Framework |
| b) Integrity  | d) Cohesive  |
- (iv) Greatly desired or envied (para-7)
- |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| a) Nostalgic | c) Coveted   |
| b) Electoral | d) Perturbed |

**SECTION-B WRITING AND GRAMMAR (30 Mark)**

**3) a.** As a health conscious person, you noticed an advertisement in the newspaper on 'yoga classes' in your neighborhood. Write a letter in about 100-150 words to the organiser enquiring about the duration of the course and other details you are Rajesh/Rajeshwari of 4/5 Saraswatipuram ,Mysuru. **(8)**

**OR**

**b.** The crime rate against women has increased at an alarming rate. Disturbed by the information that the media carries, you decide to write an article for the magazine 'Women's Era'. Write your article in about 100 to 150 words. You are Ankita/ Anbeeth.

**4) Write a short story in about 150-200 words using the following hints. (10)**

**a.** Ratan was in Goa on a school trip..... Teacher asked everyone to play and remain on the seashore.....

**OR**

**b.** A ship crew took me aboard and we sailed on till fate brought us to.....



5) Complete the following paragraph by choosing the most appropriate option from the ones given below. (1×4=4)

In the 1960's and 1970's, children in India (a)\_\_\_\_\_ a lot of time reading story books, comics and magazines . But the advent (b)\_\_\_\_\_ television in many Indian homes (c)\_\_\_\_\_ the situation. Now a days, students (d)\_\_\_\_\_ very little time to reading

- |     |                 |               |                    |                    |
|-----|-----------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| (a) | (i) spend.      | (ii) spent    | (iii) are spending | (iv) were spending |
| (b) | (i) at          | (ii) in       | (iii) of           | (iv) with          |
| (c) | (i) changed     | (ii) changing | (iii) change       | (iv) has changed   |
| (d) | (i) had devoted | (ii) devote   | (iii) has devoted  | (iv) devoted       |

6) In the following passage 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. (1×4=4)

	Before	Missing	After
The new generation is breaking out of traditional	(a)___	___	___
mould and is ready take risks and opt	(b)___	___	___
for offbeat careers. More students choosing	(c)___	___	___
offbeat careers become successful in life.	(d)___	___	___

7) Re-arrange the following words/phrases to form meaningful sentence. (1×4=4)

- the/first/doctor/a diagnosis/makes/an illness/of
- he or she/what/then/kind/decides/of treatment/needed/is
- can/treated with/many/be/a course of medicines/illnesses
- may/the doctor/if/is serious/the case/operate

### SECTION-C LITERATURE (30 Mark)

8) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. (1×4=4)

1) "Okay, okay, but first you must get on the bus", said the conductor and he stretched out a hand to help her up.

- Who does 'her' refer to?
 

I) A female passenger	II) An old woman
I) Valli, a small girl	IV) Conductor's relative
- Why did the conductor extend a helping hand to her?
 

I) To get down	II) To help her climb the bus
III) To take her luggage	IV) All of these

- c) How did she react to the help rendered?
- d) Find a word from the extract which means 'Extended'

**OR**

2) 'but I can get a hair dye  
And set such a colour there,  
Brown or black, or carrot,  
That young men in despair  
May love me for myself alone  
And not my yellow hair'

- a) Who is the speaker of these lines?  
I)The poet                          II)Ann Gregory  
III)Some young man          IV)None of these
- b) Why does Anne want to change her hair color?  
I)To attract others              II)To avoid others attraction  
III)To show external beauty is not real          III)None of the above
- c) What does Anne want in reality?
- d) What is the rhyme scheme of the poem?

**9) Answer any five of the following questions in about 30-40 words. (5×2=10)**

- a)Anne loved her grandmother very much- elucidate
- b)How did Peggy and Maddie try to amend their behavior towards Wanda?
- c)How does the poet make the fog like a living creature?
- d)Bholi was a neglected child- Explain.
- e) Describe some of the games Mij liked to play
- f) How did Custard prove to be brave?

**10) Answer the following in about 100 - 150 words. (8)**

- a. Lencho had faith in God but lacked faith in humanity. Elaborate with reference to 'A letter to God'

**OR**

- b. Give a brief character sketch of Natalya.

**11) Answer the following in about 100-150 words (8)**

- a. Ostentation and vanity often land people in trouble. Matilda is an apt example of this justify.

**OR**

- b. 'Pride has a fall'. Justify this statement relating to Think-tank's reaction to the reading form Mother Goose

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