

PRE BOARD EXAMINATION, FEBRUARY – 2018

CLASS: X Div: _____

ENGLISH**Time: 3 hrs.**

Date.....

MAX. MARKS: 80

Name.....

Roll No.....**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS****I. The question paper is divided into three sections :**

SECTION A :	Reading	20 MARKS
SECTION B :	Writing and Grammar	30 MARKS
SECTION C :	Literature and Long Reading text	30 MARKS

II. All questions are compulsory.**III. You may attempt any section at a time.****IV. All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order****SECTION A : READING - (20 marks)****Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

1. The doctors clamouring against reservations for OBCs have demanded that merit be the sole criteria for admission to medical and engineering colleges. Then, how is it that they haven't objected either to the NRI quota or candidates who procure admission on the basis of capitation fee? Does this not affect quality ?Reservation was introduced in the Kolhapur State as early as in 1902 and in the State of Mysore in 1921 . In Tamil Nadu, where the human health index is much better than in other states, there is as much as 69 per cent reservation. Let us take for a moment that upper caste doctors are meritorious. But is this of any help to the nation when many of them use elite institutes as springboard to go abroad for higher wages. Nearly 70 percent of doctors from AIIMS doctors go abroad. How are these elite institutes, under such circumstances, serving the interests of the common people ? On the other hand , it has been in Tamil Nadu that a good number of SC/ST/OBC doctors, who procured admission into colleges due to the reservation policy, stick to their state or hometown, resulting in better healthcare services.
2. Reservation is not a phenomenon exclusive to our country. The American MNC,IBM, voluntarily in traduced reservations for Blacks in 1930 . In Malaysia there are reservations not just in jobs but also in contracts, licences and company shares for Malays. Reservation for the depressed and weaker sections exist in many countries like Brazil, South Africa, Japan, Netherland and Ireland. There is 50 per cent reservation for Blacks and women in the medical faculty of Harvard University. And the Whites have never made an issue of being eligible only for 50 per cent of the seats. In fact, it is the handful of anti- reservationist doctors, who take of

disintegration of society on account of reservation, who are really responsible for creating dissension and obstacles in the ways of social justice of the OBCs. The media have, of course, played a negative role. But it is a reality that Indian society is constituted on caste lines .If the anti-reservations are so concerned about the disintegration of society on caste lines, they should first lead the struggle against social discrimination.

3. Reservation get a job or admission even if they get less percentage of marks, In one of the cases a person was in Indian Revenue Service. He saw that candidates getting high marks in a competition were not necessarily successful in the field. Merit, as it is being presently understood, does not include honesty, hard work and patriotism. In the American school system, besides the syllabus, students have to undergo practical training in social services, etc. and marks are added in the certificate based on performance in their area. The only people tailing of merit today are those who have studied in public schools or whose children study in such schools.
4. The expenditure incurred on education in public schools in 50 to 100 times more than those of corporation/ government schools. There is a vast difference in quality between the teachers of public and government schools. Parents who can afford to send their children to public schools are mostly educated. They not only teach the children themselves at home but also provide coaching for them . On the other hand , parents who send their children to corporation/ government schools are mostly uneducated . These children have to lend a helping hand to their parents after schools hours . Under such circumstances, what is wrong if such students ask for concession of a few marks?
5. Reservation will bring unity and integrity in society. Reservation in elite institutes will enable people from different social strata to come together and established bonhomie among them . It is true that reservation is not a permanent solution to the vexed problem of our society. As and when equal and compulsory education is introduced in the country, Dalits and OBCs will not stake their claims to reservation.
6. Reservation is not a panacea for the economic backwardness of the country. For this purpose, the government has already launched many schemes. Reservation is only a concession given to socially and educationally backward people, so that they may integrate with the mainstream. We have no objection if the poor among the upper caste people, too, are the benefit of reservations. But the problem here is that the among them undeserving people start taking advantage of the policy.

A 1 Answer the following questions:

- | | |
|--|---|
| a. Why were the Indian doctors clamouring against reservation? | 1 |
| b. What ideas do you have about reservations in Malaysia and Harvard University? | 1 |
| c. What view is taken by the Indians and Americans about merit? | 1 |
| d. Point out the difference in Public as well as Government schools | 1 |
| e. What way out has been suggested in the passage about reservation? | 1 |
| f. Why do meritorious doctors are no way helpful to the nation? | 1 |

A 1.1 Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following

- g. money spent (para -4) 1
- h. a remedy or solution (para- 6) 1

Read the passage given below and answer the following questions.

A Rose For The Queen

1. There was not a man in the Mughal Empire who did not know of Jahangir's love for his queen, Noor Jahan. As was the custom of the time, Jahangir had many queens, all of them beautiful and talented. But Noor Jahan, the chief queen was special. She was the epitome of grace, beauty and talent. She was also an intelligent woman who understood statecraft and was unscathed by palace intrigues. Jahangir had found in her an invaluable friend and counsellor. She even shared his leisure pursuits, going so far as to accompany him on his hunting expeditions. In fact, Noor Jahan was an excellent shot and once, surprised and delighted her husband by bringing down a ferocious tiger with a single arrow.
2. In appreciation of Noor Jahan's accomplishment, Jahangir showered her with gifts. He took great pleasure in giving her anything she liked. And Noor Jahan liked a great many things – shimmering silks embroidered with gold and silver and rainbow coloured threads, jewellery, etc. Once Jahangir gifted her an emerald which was the size of a small walnut. Another time, he gave her a cluster of rubies set in a pendant. Noor Jahan loved to design her own jewellery and some of it was elegant enough to be appreciated by the emperor as well. In an effort to give Noor Jahan, the best of everything, Jahangir took her to Kashmir every year. For two long months, they escaped the heat of the plains and enjoyed the beauty of nature.
3. Noor Jahan loved these sojourns in Kashmir. She loved the sparkling streams and the beautiful, colourful flowers that bloomed all over the meadows and the hillsides. But there was one thing she loved in particular, and that was a rose that bloomed in summer, on a single bush, in a garden at the foot of a mountain in Kashmir. The rose wasn't white and it wasn't pink, but a bit of both. The petals had frilly, rose tinted edges that looked like the work of an artist with a clever brush. And its scent was out of this world. In Agra, all the year around, Noor Jahan waited for the day when she would go to Kashmir and set her eyes on the rose again.
4. She craved to go to Kashmir and see that ethereally beautiful rose that had been planted in the gardens of Kashmir by one of the most famed gardeners. The rose only bloomed in the summer season and if one missed an opportunity, it would be the next year.

A 2 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each: (2X4=8)

- a. How did Jahangir show his love and respect to Noor Jahan?
- b. How was Noor Jahan different from the other queens of Jahangir?
- c. Do you approve the special consideration shown by Jahangir to Noor Jahan ? Justify?
- d. Describe the rose flower and its special features?

A 2.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, fill in the following blanks with appropriate words/phrases:

a). Jahangir and Noor Jahan craved to escape to _____ . 1

b.) Noor Jahan loved the _____ in Kashmir. 1

A 2.2 Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following:

a. an embodiment/ a representative example.(para 1) 1

b. short temporary stay(para 3) 1

Section B : Creative Writing and Grammar (30 Marks)

B 1 Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper in 100 – 120 words to create awareness about pollution hazards and the role of the public in making the environment clean. 8

OR

Write a letter to the editor of a national daily, expressing your opinion and views on the increased human dependence on technology. Right from a small child to an adult, or even an old man ,everyone wants gadgets only- cell phone, I-pod, laptop etc. This also has a negative effect on social relationship. Do not exceed the word limit.(100-120 words)

B 2 Given below are the initial lines of a story. Complete the story as per your imagination not exceeding 200-250 words. Give a suitable title to the story. 10

Shan was a small boy who lived near a railway crossing. One day while playing near the railway track, he saw one of the railway track was broken.....

OR

I was going to invite my friend Rohan to my birthday party. I reached near the narrow road to his house .Suddenly I heard somebody crying aloud.....

B 3 The following passage has not been edited .There is one error in each line. Write the error and the correction in your answer sheet against the correct blank number. The first one has been done as an example. 4

	Error	Correction
Finally, one day, Sunita ran out in patience .	in	of
Enough was enough. She decide to confront	(a)
Suruchi. She asked her why she was been nasty	(b)
to her. She had done nothing to offend you. She	(c)
knew the confrontation will mean the end of	(d)
their relationship.		

B 4 Rearrange the following to form meaningful sentences. The first one has been done as an example. 4

designated/ your/ Always /park/ at/ vehicle /parking areas.
Always park your vehicle at designated parking areas.

- a. must not/ children /below/the age/drive/of eighteen /years
- b. protection/we/must/helmets/our own/wear/for
- c. Phones/must /be used /not/while/mobile/driving
- d. Traffic police/making /efforts/is/to /increase/on/roads/safety

B 5 Read the following dialogue and then complete the report by choosing the correct option from the ones given below. Write your answers in your answer-sheet with correct blank number. Do not copy the dialogue and the report.

4

Amina: What do you want to do this morning?

Prakash: I feel like taking a walk. It's so nice outside.

Amina: Great, let's walk around the lake in the park.

Prakash: It's really rocky here.

Amina; Yes, watch your steps so you don't trip.

Amina asked Prakash(a)_____. Prakash answered that he (b)_____. It was so nice outside. Amina agreed to this and suggested (c)_____. Then Prakash observed that.(d) _____ Amina cautioned him to watch his steps.

a .(i) what he wanted to do that morning (ii) what he would want to do that morning
(iii) what did he wanted to do that morning (iv) what he wants to do that morning

b. (i) feels like taking a walk (ii) felt like taking a walk
(iii) did feel like taking a walk (iv) feel like taking a walk

c. (i) that they would walk around the lake in the park
(ii) for walking around the lake in the park .
(iii) to let them walk around the lake in the park
(iv) to walk around the lake in the park

d. (i) it is really rocky there. (ii) it was really rocky here.
(iii) it was really rocky there (iv) it has been really rocky here.

Section C : Literature and long reading Text (30)

C 1 Read the following extract and answer the questions briefly.

4

“ oh pardon me ,thou bleeding piece of earth
That I am meek and gentle with these butchers
Thou art the ruins of the noblest man
That ever lived in the tide of times”

- a)Who is referred as ‘The bleeding piece of earth’?
- b) When does Antony speak these lines?
- c) Who are “these butchers”?
- d) Why does he call them so?

OR

Do you think he hasn't paid it? Was it overdue?

- a) Who has not paid?
- b) What has he not paid?
- c) When did they ask this question?
- d) What does the word "overdue" mean?

C2 Answer any four of the following in 30-40 words (4x2)

- a. What are the arguments put forward by Decius Brutus to convince Caesar to go to the capitol?
- b. What message does the poet wish to give in the poem "The Frog and Nightingale"?
- c. What plan did Sebastian Shultz for escaping from the prison? How did it fail?
- d. Bring out the irony in the title of the play "The Dear Departed".
- e. The poet has a dual attitude towards the snake. Why does he experience contrast emotions on seeing the snake?

C3 Answer any one of the following in 100-120 words (1X8)

- a Describe how Antony incites the Roman people against the conspirators?

OR

- b In today's society , people take advantage of the ignorance and innocence of others. Describe this with reference to the poem "The Frog and The Nightingale".

Long Reading Text

Attempt either question C4 or C5 (in 200 -250 words)

C4 Helen had a great strength and courage which helped her come out of her dark and silent world .Justify. 10

OR

" The thought of going to college had become deep –rooted and transformed into an earnest desire" Discuss Helen Keller's experience at Radcliffe college?

C5 Describe how Anne writes about the miseries of the people after the air raids? 10

OR

Describe Anne's views on war and humanity?