

② PRE-BOARD EXAM 2018-2019
ENGLISH (CODE NO. 101) – X

Time: 3 Hours

Max. Marks: 80

General Instructions

The question paper is divided into three sections:

SECTION A: Reading	20 MARKS
SECTION B: Writing and Grammar	30 MARKS
SECTION C: Literature & Extended Reading Text	30 MARKS

- i. ALL questions are compulsory
- ii. You may attempt any section at a time.
- iii. All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.

Section - A - Reading (20 Marks)

1. Read the passage given below and answer the following questions :- (8)

Have you woken up to the cheerful banter of parakeets or listened to the plaintive call of the koel on a hot summer afternoon? If scientists are to be believed, soon these charming everyday sounds may become things of the past. Birds are slowly disappearing from our planet. In India the Himalayan quail and the pink-headed duck have already become extinct and innumerable others are endangered. Birds are a symbol of all that is beautiful, mystical and royal. The crown of the king of Nepal is adorned with the splendid tail feathers of the Bird of Paradise. The vehicle of the Hindu God Karthikeyan is the majestic peacock and the flight of the dove is universally recognized as a symbol of peace.

Birds are also useful in many ways. Barn owls live on rats and mice that would otherwise cause great damage. Sunbirds help in pollination. Many forest trees would disappear if pigeons and hornbills did not feed on their fruit and helped their seeds to disperse.

Birds are lost to us when their forest and wetland habitats are converted into houses, malls, roads and fields. Peacocks fall prey to pesticides when they stray into agricultural land. Vultures die because of the widespread use of a drug to treat cattle, whose carcasses are eaten by these scavengers. Birds like parakeets are popular with the pet trade.

Many cities have fortunately saved a lot of their bird life by protecting large numbers of pavement trees, patches of urban forest and by creating parks. Delhi has over 300 types of birds, mainly because of the trees planted along the roadside in the early 20th century and its numerous green areas. Sanjay Gandhi Memorial National Park and the Mahim Creek of Mumbai and Guindy National 2 Park in Chennai also represent the remains of the tropical forest that contribute to the survival of bird life.

Tall, old trees are under threat from concrete tiling of pavements, cutting and lopping. Join in the struggle of your neighbourhood to defend them. Grow only Indian trees and shrubs in your garden as exotic ones are of least benefit to Indian birds. Grow mango, mulberry and drumstick rather than oleander, gulmohar and jacaranda. Stop the use of pesticides, instead practice composting. Become a member of societies like Wild Life Fund, The Madras Nationalists Society and the Bombay Natural History.

- a) How are barn owls useful to man?
- b) How are forest trees saved by birds?
- c) How is birdlife protected in cities?
- d) Why do birds lose their habitat?
- e) Mention any one way how feathered creatures can be helped to live.
- f) Why should Indian trees and shrubs be grown?
- g) Find a word from the passage which means the following- magical (Para 1)
- h) Find a word from the passage which is the opposite in meaning- exotic(Para 5)

2. Read the following passage carefully:-

(12)

Decision-making is a very vital part of our lives. This is because what we are today is largely a result of the decisions we took in the past. Similarly, whatever happens tomorrow will be a result of the decisions we take in the present. It is not possible to reverse the wrong decisions taken in the past but it is possible to train ourselves into becoming a good decision-maker for the future. If we don't, we'll end up doing what we've always done and thus what we've always got. All sorts of decisions—big or small, relevant or irrelevant, conscious or unconscious—punctuate our lives. Sometimes, we don't even realize we are taking a decision. Those who avoid taking a decision, leave everything to chance and float along life with a 'what will be, will be' attitude. To enhance our decision-making, we must, first of all gather as much information as possible about the issue before we make our decision. We might be heading for a failure if our decisions are based on half-baked information. If you have a set of guiding principles for your life, decision-making becomes a lot easier. For example, if you value integrity and honesty and consider them to be of vital importance, you will never waver.

Sometimes decisions are very difficult to make, especially when the odds seem to be against us. In this case, giving ourselves a little time to decide wouldn't be a bad idea at all. Circumstances may change with time and then it may be easier to see which action is more preferable to the others. Being clear about your goals can facilitate decision-making. If we know exactly where we want to be or what we want to do in the next five years or even ten, we will decide to undertake actions which will lead us to our goals. So outline your short and long-term goals in black and white. Action is a vital consequence of decision-making. Only when we act, will we get a feedback of whether our decision has been correct or not and then we can proceed in a more focused way. So it is essential to move from the world of thought to the arena of action.

On the basis of your reading of the passage answer the following questions in 30-40 words each: (2x4=8)

- a) Why is decision making vital in our lives?
 b) How can we enhance decision making and make it easier?
 c) When does decision making become difficult?
 d) How is action a vital consequence of decision making?
 e) Find a word from the passage which means the following: (1x2=2)
 i. improve(Para 1) ii. ambition (Para 2)
 f) Find a word from the passage which is the opposite in meaning: (1x2=2)
 i. success(Para 1) ii. unnecessary(Para 2)

Section - B Writing & Grammar (30 Marks)

3. You are Akhil / Karishma of 119, Mall Road, Shimla. Write a letter to the secretary of the Sports Authority of India, Delhi enquiring about the details of scholarships available for the students of your school who have achieved excellence in sports.(100-120 words) (8)

OR

You are Ravi / Ravina of 30 Noida, Delhi. Your new iPhone X is not working. Write a letter of complaint to Imagine Retailers, Delhi asking them to replace the mobile.(100-120 words)

4. You are Raju / Reshma. you feel concerned about the rising levels of pollution and you decide to write an article titled 'Save the Planet Earth' for the school magazine.(200-250 words) (10)

OR

You are Ashwin / Arpitha. You are required to write an article for your school magazine on 'Importance of Music in Life' in 200-250 words.

5. Fill in any of the four blanks choosing the correct option. (1x4=4)

Puppets are among the (a) ____ (older / oldest) man-made objects in (b) ____ (an / the) world. Archaeologists in Egypt and India have (c) ____ (found/ find) clay models that are operated by pulling (d) ____ (there / their) strings, which date back to 4000 years ago. The first puppets (e) ____ (were / has been) probably used by adults.

6. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each of the lines. Replace any four of the incorrect words with a suitable word. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet as given below against the correct blank number. (1x4=4)

Our school hosted a Interschool debate in which nineteen school participated. On her welcome address, our principal was all praise to the contestants' enthusiasm. She wish them success in the competition.

	Incorrect	Correct
a)		
b)		
c)		
d)		
e)		

7. Rearrange any four of the following groups of words into meaningful sentences:

(1x4=4)

- a) our entire body / covers / that / a stretchy waterproof surface / skin / is
- b) the / your feet / soles / the thickest skin / is / of / on
- c) dead cells / are / hair and nails / also made of
- d) balanced diet / gives / soft skin / a healthy and / a
- e) acne / pimples / on the skin / freckles / are blemishes / and / ,

Section - C - Literature and Extended Reading Text (30 Marks)

8. Read the extract and write the answer to the following questions:

(1x4=4)

“But when the evening of life was drawing in, he left his old ways and suddenly took a new turn.”

- a) Who does ‘he’ refer to?
- b) What does the phrase ‘evening of his life’ refer to?
- c) What do you understand by the phrase ‘he left his old ways’?
- d) Why did he take a new turn?

OR

“How amused everyone would be if they knew what really happened?”

- a) Who is the speaker?
- b) What had really happened?
- c) Why would everyone be amused?
- d) What was speaker’s plan when she said these words?

9. Answer any four of the following questions in about 30 - 40 words:

(2x4=8)

- a) Which qualities of the boys impressed the author in the story ‘Two Gentlemen of Verona’?
- b) How did the frog once again become the unrivalled king of the bog?
- c) Why did the fellow mariners hang the albatross around the mariner’s neck?
- d) What is written on the pedestal in the poem ‘Ozymandias’?
- e) “I have something to expiate”. Explain.

10. Answer any one the following in 100-120 words.

(8)

Bring out the irony in the title of the play ‘The Dear Departed’.

OR

How does Brutus convince the Romans that Caesar deserved his death?

11. Answer any one of the following in 200-250 words.

(10)

Describe the time Helen spent with Martha Washington.

OR

How did Bishop Brooks influence Helen Keller?