

CBSE – 2003 CLASS12 ENGLISH

General Instructions:

1. The paper is divided into three Sections: A, B and C. All the Sections are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION - A (Reading Skills)

Q. A1. Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions given below:

(1) In the democratic countries, Intelligence is still free to ask whatever question it chooses. This freedom, it is almost certain will not survive another war. Educationists should, therefore, do all they can while there is yet time to build up in the minds of their charges, a habit of resistance to suggestion. If such resistance is not built up, the men and women of the next generation will be at the mercy of that skillful propagandist who contrives to seize the instruments of information and persuasion. Resistance to suggestion can be built up in two ways. First, children can be taught to rely on their own internal resources and not to depend on incessant stimulation from without. This is doubly important. Reliance on external stimulation is bad for the character. Moreover, such stimulation is the stuff with which propagandists bait their books, the jam in which dictators counsel their ideological pills. An individual relies on external stimulation thereby exposes himself to the full force of whatever propaganda is being made in his neighbourhood. For a majority of people in the west, purposeless reading, purposeless listening in, purposeless listening to radios, purposeless looking at films have become addiction, psychological equivalents of alcoholism and morphinism. Things have come to such a pitch that there are many millions of men and women who suffer real distress if they are cut—off for a few days or even for few hours from newspapers, radio and music or movie pictures. Like a addict to the drug, they have to Indulge their vice not because of their indulgence gives them any real pleasure but because, unless they indulge they feel painful subnormal and incomplete. Even by intelligent people, it is not taken for granted that such psychological addiction are Inevitable and even desirable, that there is nothing to be alarmed at in that fact that the majority of civilized men and women are now incapable of living on their own spiritual resources, but have become exactly dependent on incessant stimulation from without.

(2) How can the children be taught to rely upon their own spiritual resources and resist the temptation to become reading addicts, hearing addicts, seeing addicts? First of all they can be taught how to entertain themselves, by making things themselves, by playing musical instruments, by purposeful study, by scientific observation and by the practice of some art and so on. But such education of the hand and the intellect is not enough. Psychology has its Gresham's law, it is: that bad money that drives out the good. Most people tend to perform the actions that require least efforts, to think the taught that are

easiest to fill, the emotions that are most vulgarly commonplace, to give rein to the desires that are most nearly animal and they will tend to do this even if they possess the knowledge and skill to do otherwise. Along with the necessary knowledge and skill must be given the will to use them even under the pressure of incessant temptation to take the line of least resistance and become an addict -to psychological drugs. Most people will not wish to resist these temptations unless they have a coherent philosophy of life, which makes it reasonable and right for them to do so. The other method of heightening resistance to suggestion is purely intellectual and consists in training young people to subject the diverse devices of the propagandists to critical analysis. The first thing that educators must do is to analyze the words currently used in newspapers, on platforms by preachers and broadcasters. Their critical analysis and constructive criticism should reach out to the children and the youth, with such clarity that they learn to react to forceful suggestions to right way at the right time.

(3) What, for example, does the word 'nation' mean? To what extent are speakers and writers justified in talking of a nation as a person? In what sense can a nation be described as having a will or national interest? Are these interests and will the interest and will of the entire population? Is not only advisable but also essential to think in terms of all the above details so that meaningful progress is promoted, thus making democracy thrive better? (Around 705 words)

(a) Based on your understanding of the passage answer the following questions:

(i) What does the author want educationists to do? **2**

(ii) Mention the two ways in which resistance to suggestion can be built up. **2**

(iii) What does the author mean by psychological addiction? Give an example. **2**

(iv) How can children be helped from becoming reading, hearing or seeing addicts? **2**

(v) How can critical analysis help us? **1**

(b) Find words from the passage which mean the same as each of the following:

(i) continuing without interruption (para 1) **1**

(ii) hide (para 1) **1**

(iii) logical and consistent (para 2) **1**

Q. A2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Egotism is the most common fault of mankind. Product of the perfectly natural desire to display oneself, egotism, which is an exaggerated form of self-display, can take such a variety of shapes that it is not always easy to discern. Beyond any shadow of doubt, however, it is a personal defect that ought to be constantly hunted down and scotched, for it impairs the personality, and frustrates all efforts at self-improvement.

This is the easily recognizable form of egotism that is evidenced in the person who continually talks of his own affairs. You must all have met the kind of man who is never happy save when recounting his exploits and experiences in life; and whatever subject he may begin discussing you feel quite sure that he will sooner or later arrive at himself. Although such a blatant kind of egotism is apparent to the onlooker, it may not be so easy for the egotist himself to recognize his fault. But if he can put on his guard — and it behoves each one of us to examine carefully whether we are entirely immune from this canker — there is always hope of a cure. On the other hand, there is a type, not uncommon, which evidences its egotism by affecting a humility that is certainly not felt, and ostentatiously avoiding the use of the pronoun "I" in speech and in writing. Such

affectation is an infallible sign of egotism, and it is all the more reprehensible because it is deliberately assumed by the person.

Next we come to the Individual who holds strong opinions and insists on forcing these opinions on the others. He constantly lays down the law, he knows and he jolly well insists that you shall accept his viewpoints. Here again, there is not a great difficulty in recognizing the egotistical aspect of this conduct, although it is not so easy to remove such a defect, for a person of this kind is generally possessed of a fiery temper — but again, It can be done, and recognition of the defect is the first step towards its cure.

There are two other well-known types of egotists — the over-precise person and the officious one. The former offends by his meticulous habits, his insistence on having everything just right — just right generally connoting the way he personally wants them to be. The officious Individual succeeds in making himself most disliked because of his detestable habit of always showing or telling other people how to do things. He will glibly appeal to duty; he will continually find fault with another's way of doing things, and point out the immense superiority of his method. In his own eyes, he is always right.

(Around 450 words)

(a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it in points only, using headings and sub-headings. Also use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary (minimum 4). Supply a suitable title to it. **5**

(b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. **3**

SECTION - B

(Advanced Writing Skills)

Q. B1. You are disturbed after visiting a blind school in order to mobilize your friends and the school-mates, you are planning to campaign for eye donation. Prepare a poster highlighting the need for eye donation and eye banks. (Word limit: 50 words). **5**

Or

As the President of the Literary Club of your school you are organizing a programme for Public Speaking for XI and XII standard students of your school. As a part of this programme, you will be inviting a few television anchors. Write a notice giving all the details of it to be displayed on your school notice board. (Word limit: 50 words).

Q. B2. You are Anita/Rajan. As a special correspondent of a local daily, you are sent to cover the inauguration of a Trade Fair where international agencies have put up their stalls for the exhibition and sale of their products. Write a report in about 125 words for publication in the newspaper. **10**

Or

You are Anita/Rajan. You have attended a workshop on Creative Writing for students. Many well-known writers who attended the workshop interacted with the students and encouraged them. Write a report on this in about 125 words.

Q. B3. You are John/Urmila, the Tour in charge of Grant Public School, Agra. During the summer break, you are planning to organize a tour to a place of historical importance. Write a letter to The National Travel Agency, Agra enquiring about the charges, facilities and all the other necessary details. **10**

Or

You are John/Urmila, Staff Secretary, Grant Public School, Agra. The state Transport bus which is playing in your route at 8 a.m. has become irregular, putting a large number of students and office-goers in great difficulty. Write a letter to the Bus Depot in charge complaining about it and requesting him to send the bus regularly.

Q. B4. You are Rajan/Rani. Incidents of crime against women, especially in bit cities are increasing. Write an article on this to be published in a newspaper to sensitize the police and the public on this matter. (Word limit: 200 words) **10**

Or

You are Rajan/Rani. Communal harmony is the need of the hour. Write an article on this to be published in your school magazine to tell the students how they can play a major role in bringing harmony and peace. (Word limit: 200 words)

SECTION - C

(Text Books)

Q. C1. Answer the following in about 30 to 40 words each: **8 x 2= 16**

- (i) What did Mrs. Clifford say to Mr. Gupta about her son?
- (ii) How did women prepare themselves take an active part in the national movement?
- (iii) A hundred and seventy two gold coins were found on the bank of a river. What happened to them?
- (iv) Why does Max Muller think that the urban India of today is not the true India?
- (v) What happened on 15th November?
- (vi) What complaint does Cox make to Mrs. Bouncer? And why?
- (vii) He has the qualities of a machine". Why is this highest praise for some people?

Q. C2. Why did Gandhiji think that women were the main stay of his movement? (Word limit: 150 words). **10**

Or

“If I were to look over the whole world to find out the country most richly endowed with all wealth, power and beauty that nature can bestow ... I should point to India.” Discuss (Word limit: 150 words).

Q. C3. In the poem ‘The Noble Nature’, the poet compares man’s life with a lily. How does he use this comparison to suggest his belief that a short but meaningful life is what we should aspire for? (Word limit: 150 words). **10**

Or

Wordsworth thinks that man has becomes his own enemy by destroying nature. Do you agree? Give reasons in support of your Answer. (Word limit: 150 words)