

Total printed pages:- 05



**DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL VINDHYANAGAR  
PRE BOARD EXAMINATION (2019-20)**

NAME...12/02/2020  
ROLL NO.....

**CLASS - X  
SUBJECT - ENGLISH**

**Max. Marks: 80  
Time: 3 Hrs**

**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 carefully and follow them faithfully.
- (3) Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions. Marks will be deducted if this limit is crossed.
- (4) Please write down the serial number of the question in the answer script before attempting

**SECTION - A ( READING )**

**20 MARKS**

Q1 Read the following passage carefully:

Every individual wants peace of mind. But it is hard to find a person who can say that he has attained such a state of mental equilibrium as will allow him to live life of tranquility. Peace of mind is a distant dream for all of us. What is the reason for this? The reason is that people hanker after ideal peace, that is, pure peace—a peace that is free from all kinds of non-peace items.

But this kind of absolute peace is not in nature's storehouse. Let us take the analogy of the rose. A rose is very beautiful flower, but every stem has its thorns. Indeed, thorns are an integral part of the rose plant. A poet has rightly said that thorns serve as security guards for the flower. The translation of his Urdu lines: 'The safety of the flower would become impossible if the thorns were silk-like.' So flowers have to be accompanied by thorns. There must be hard thorns along with soft flowers— that is, there must be non-peace items along with peaceful items. A peaceful mind is a very precious aspect of human nature and it too needs safety to maintain its sublime quality.

Studies in psychology show that an untroubled mind very soon become stagnant. It loses its creativity. For this reason, nature always leads people into challenging situations. It is a non-peace item which acts as a challenge for the mind. This guarantees that the creativity of a peaceful mind never comes to an end. A creative mind is always alive.

It is a common phenomenon that one who is born in affluence and has a problem-free life, very soon finds his mind becoming dull, while the one who is born into life of problems and hardships, has an active mind. Such a person develops creative thinking and his intellectual development continues unhindered.

Here, I would like to cite a personal experience, concerning a politician who has two sons. He loved one of his sons very much. He got this son married to someone of his choice and presented him with a farmhouse in which to live a life of comfort, just as he pleased. I met his son and conversed with him. It seemed as if I were talking to a dull person. He did tell some jokes but could not utter a word of wisdom. I met other son

also. He was not given a comfortable life by his father so left town for another place. After a few years of struggle, he emerged as a successful person. When I met him, I found that his whole conversation was full of wisdom.

Q1 Attempt the following questions on the basis of the passage you have read: 8 marks

- a) It is a distant dream for all of us.....
  - 1) peace of mind
  - 2) fulfilling our ambition
  - 3) meeting our targets
  - 4) climbing the mountains
- b) The security guards for the flowers are.....
  - 1) gardens
  - 2) other plants
  - 3) thorns
  - 4) roots
- c) Thorns are an integral part of any flower plant. (true /false)
- d) nature always lead people into challenging situations. (true / false)
- e) people hanker after..... peace.
- f) Psychology studies show that an untroubled mind soon becomes.....
- g) People who are born in..... have a problem free life.
- h) find a word in the passage which means the same as 'very far'.

Q2 Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

During our growing up years we as children were taught-both at home and school-to worship the photos and idols of the gods of our respective religions. When we grow a little older, we were asked to read holy books like The Bhagwat Gita, Bible, Quran; we were told that there are a lot of life lessons to be learnt from these holy books. We were then introduced to stories from our mythologies which taught us about ethics and morality-what is good and what is bad. I also learnt to be respectful towards my parents who made my life comfortable with their hard work, love and care, and my teachers who guided me to become a good student and a responsible citizen.

Much later in life, I realized that though we learn much from our respective holy books, there is a lot to learn from our surroundings. This realization dawned upon me when I learnt to enquire and explore. Everything around us -the sun, the moon, stars, rain, rivers, stones, rocks, birds, plants and animals-teach us many valuable life lessons.

No wonder that besides the scriptures in many cultures nature is also worshiped. The message that we get is to save our environment and maintain ecological balance. People are taught to live in harmony with nature and recognize that there is god in all aspects of nature.

Nature is a great teacher. A river never stops flowing. If it finds an obstacle in its way in the form of a heavy rock, the river water fights to remove it from its path or finds an alternative path to move ahead. This teaches us to be progressive in life, and keep the fighting spirit alive.

Snakes are worshiped as they eat insects in the field that can hurt our crops, thus protecting the grains for us. In fact, whatever we worship is our helper and makes our lives easy for us. There are many such examples in nature, but we are not ready to learn a lesson. Overcome with greed, we are destroying nature. As a result we face natural disaster like draught, flood and landslides. We don't know that nature is angry with us.



Q2.1 Answer the following questions briefly:( 30-40 words)2 x 4 =8 marks

- a) What are we taught in our childhood and growing up years?
- b) Why should we respect our parents and teachers?
- c) What message do we get when we worship nature?
- d) How does a river face an obstacle that comes in its way?

Q1.2 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following: 4 marks

- (a) In para 5, the synonym of 'catastrophe' is.....
  - (1) Overcome
  - (2) Greed
  - (3) Disaster
  - (4) Drought
- (b) In para 3, the antonym of 'discordance' is.....
  - (1) Scriptures
  - (2) Harmony
  - (3) Recognize
  - (4) Discomfort
- (c) when we worship nature, the message we get is to save our environment and maintain ecological balance. ( true/ false)
- (d) The stories from our mythologies taught us about.....

**SECTION – B (WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR )**

**30 MARKS**

Q3 Internet is a computer-based global information system. The modern day internet, better known as the "Worldwide Web" has completed two decades of existence. It has brought new opportunities to government, business and education. Write an article on 'Role of Internet in Today's Time' in about 100 to 150 words. 8 marks

**OR**

You are Ganesh/ Geeta, The Sports Secretary of your school. Write a letter to the Manager M/S Khanna & Sons, New Delhi, a leading firm in sports goods. Request the company to supply trade catalogues at the earliest. ( word limit 100-150 words)

Q4 Complete the story using the given outline in 200-250 words. 10 marks

One day a dog found a piece of meat. He reached the bank of the river. ....

**OR**

Once there lived a priest who performed religious rituals.....

Q5 Fill in the following blanks with suitable words by choosing the most appropriate option from the ones given below. 4 marks

Remember(a)..... day is a new chance(b)..... get everything right. There is something (c)..... flexible people. They are relatively easy to please, fun to talk(d).....and (e).....great co-workers (f)..... friends. They are (g)..... home almost anywhere and more importantly (h)..... you feel the same.

Q6 The following paragraph has not been edited. There is an error in each line. Write the incorrect and the correct word in your answer sheet against the correct blank number. 4 marks

|  |           |       |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Donating blood is an noble deed          | (a).....  | ..... |
| because the availability of blood give   | (b).....  | ..... |
| hope to those people who needs           | (c) ..... | ..... |
| blood in order for survive. It gives     | (d).....  | ..... |
| them a new lease for life. Hospitals     | ( e)..... | ..... |
| needs a reliable supply of safe blood    | (f).....  | ..... |
| where can be ensured by a broad          | (g).....  | ..... |
| base to regular, voluntary blood donors. | (h).....  | ..... |

Q7 Rearrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences. 4 marks

- (a) never/ himself/ large/ solutions/economic/ with/ Gandhiji/ political/ or/ contented
- (b) backwardness/ wanted/ immediately/cultural/ Gandhiji/ and/ social/ seeing/ the/ do/ something/ to
- (c) what may/ you/ come/ finish/ homework/ your/ the party/before/will
- (d) know/ better/than/ you/ disrespect/ to/ elders/ yours

**SECTION - C (LITERATURE)**

**30 MARKS**

Q8 Read the extract given below and answer the following questions.

4 marks

But up jumped Custard, snorting like an engine  
 Clashed his tail like irons in a dungeon  
 With a clatter and a clank and a jangling squirm,  
 He went at the pirate like a robin at a worm.

- (a) The above lines has been taken from a poem written by
  - (1) Ogden Nash
  - (2) Leslie Norris
  - (3) Robert Frost
  - (4) William Blake
- (b) Custard has been compared to..... and .....
- (c) Which figure of speech is being used in line number three is
  - (1) Simile
  - (2) Metaphor
  - (3) Onomatopoeia
  - (4) imagery
- (d) Find the word which mean same as 'wriggle' in the extract.

Or

“ if it wasn't, madam, for this awful excruciating palpitation, if my whole inside wasn't upset, I'd talk to you in a different way!(yells) Oxen Meadows are mine.”

(a) Lomov told Natalya that his whole inside was.....

- (1) Not upset
- (2) Upset
- (3) Unaffected
- (4) different

(b) Lomov had an awful.....

- (1) Pain
- (2) Palpitation
- (3) Dream
- (4) Painful palpitation

(c) Lomov yelled that Oxen Meadows were not his. (true/ false)

(d) Find the antonym of 'pleasant' in the extract.

Q9 Answer any five of the following questions in about 30-40 words each.

5x2 = 10 marks

- a) Why did Hari Singh think that Anil's job was queer?
- b) How did the otter look like for the first time?
- c) Why does Rajvir call the workers doll-like figures?
- d) How do you know that Peggy was a kind girl though she was a bit harsh to Wanda?
- e) Bholi was a neglected child. Explain .
- f) The pilot wanted to thank another pilot after his safe landing. Why?

Q10 Answer any one of the following questions in about 100-150 words.

8 marks

Write a brief character sketch of Anne. How does she impress you? What did you learn from her?

Or

What is the truth of life, according to Buddha? How should a wise man behave in times of trouble or mishappenings ?

Q11 Answer one of the following questions in 100-150 words

8 marks

Mrs Pumphery is a very loving and caring mistress for Tricki. But excess of everything is bad. Elaborate with reference to Mrs Pumphery and Tricki.

Or

"Where there is a will, there is a way." Ebright had a will to become a scientist but did not have enough resources. How does will and curiosity help us in becoming a successful person in our lives? Elaborate with reference to Ebright.