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SENIOR SECONDARY EXAMINATION, 2024

ENGLISH (COMPULSORY)

Time : 3 Hours 15 Minutes

Maximum Marks : 80

TEAR HERE TO OPEN THE QUESTION PAPER

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE EXAMINEES :

1) Candidates must write their Roll No. first on the question paper compulsorily.

2) **All** the questions are compulsory.

3) Write the answer to each question in the given answer-book only.

4) For questions having more than one part the answers to those parts are to be written together in continuity.

5) Write down the serial number of each question before attempting it.

Tear Here

SECTION - A

1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: **[9×1=9]**

    Trees do much more than supply us with the various conveniences. They help to support man's life by supplying the atmosphere with oxygen, which is essential to life. The oxygen in the air is constantly being used up and turned into carbon dioxide when animals breathe and things burn. Carbon dioxide is the food that plants 'eat'. The green leaves of trees (infact of all green plants) absorb this carbon dioxide and with the help of sunlight break it down into carbon and oxygen. The carbon is used to make starch, and the oxygen is released into the air, so replacing the oxygen used up by animals. But for this, animals would soon die for the lack of oxygen.

    Starch and other carbon compounds made in the green leaves of trees (and of other green plants too) serve as food for animals. The tiny green cells of plants are wonderful laboratories, which produce all the starch in the world. But for this service done by plants, all animals would sooner or later die for lack of food; they must get all their food directly from plants or indirectly by eating animals that have fed on plants.

    Questions :

    i)   What different conveniences do we get from trees?   **[1]**

    ii) What is essential to life?   **[1]**

    iii) What makes carbon dioxide increase in air?   **[1]**

    iv) How is carbon dioxide and oxygen made by leaves?   **[1]**

    v)   Where is all the starch of the world made?   **[1]**

    vi) What will happen if there is no oxygen?   **[1]**

    Find out the word from the passage which means :

    vii) the layer of air that surrounds us   **[1]**

    viii) shortage   **[1]**

    ix) very small in size   **[1]**

2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :   **[6×1=6]**

Once upon a time, one particular Rishi Gautama did Tapasya to obtain certain powers. For several days, months and years he observed rigorous austerities. He did not eat or drink; he stood on a single foot; he controlled the senses; he meditated on the chosen deity. One day in the morning he went to the river for a holy dip. On the bank of the river there was a tree. The branches of the tree were outstretching towards the river. A crane was sitting among the branches. When Gautama was in deep neck water facing towards the sun with an austere mind the droppings of the crane fell on his head. He felt disturbed and annoyed. He looked at the bird with anger. The next moment the bird fell down dead. The Rishi was happy because he had obtained the power to kill a bird by his very gaze. After a while, he went to the nearby village for food. He stood before a house and sought alms from the housewife. She was busy doing her domestic chores. Gautama waited for a few minutes. He was annoyed with her for the delay in responding to his call for 'bhiksha'. The lady came, looked at him gently and said, "Sir, I am not a crane to be killed by your mere stare. Sorry for the delay. I was serving my husband and feeding my children. Please accept the food." The Rishi was shocked. He could not know how she was able to learn about the crane which died only a short while ago. The lady further said, "Sir, don't be surprised. I am a humble housewife. If you want to know more about Tapasya and attainment of powers, please go to a particular person, whose address I shall give." Saying so, she gave him the address. Humbled and crestfallen, the Rishi went as directed. It was a greater shock to him to see the particular person to be an ordinary, simple man. The moment the Rishi was seen, the man said, "Holy sir, welcome. I know about the crane's death and that housewife's advice. Please wait a little and I shall soon take you home. Later, at home the Rishi was surprised to see the man delaying him further. He was busily engaged in serving his parents. He did not seem to have read any scriptures, nor did he observe any austerities. But he was bright with purity, purity of mind. In his presence, the Rishi was completely transformed.

Questions :

i)   How did Gautama observe Tapasya?   **[1]**

ii) Why did the crane die?   **[1]**

iii) Why was the Rishi happy at the crane's death?   **[1]**

iv) What made the woman delay in giving 'bhiksha'?   **[1]**

v)   Write the word from the passage which mean – god.   **[1]**

vi) Write the opposite word of 'life' from the passage.   **[1]**

SECTION - B

3. You are Shikha/Asim, the cultural secretary of The Global School, Ambala. The school is going to organize its annual function in the next month. Invite the names of the participants for various activities through notice. **[4]**

OR

Write a thanking message to your friend Anil/Anita whose invitation for a party is accepted by you. Sign yourself as Sunil/Sunita.

4. Your school organised a 'Science fair' on the occasion of 'NO BAG DAY'. Prepare a report for the local news-paper using the given hints and your experience. (planning, stall making, model display, inspection, award) **[5]**

OR

Our state has recently witnessed the legislative elections. Based on your experience and using the clues given write a paragraph on 'the scene of a polling station' in about 100 words. (Various posters of awareness/information, queues of people, officers inside the booth, their work, how the EVM works)

5. Write a letter to the editor of a local daily newspaper drawing the attention of the authorities on the poor drainage system and ill-maintenance.
    (Hints : shallow drains, small size, choked with garbage, overflowing water, hazardous for health) **[6]**

OR

Write an application for the post of a clerk in a office. Attach your detailed CV also.

SECTION - C

6. Join the following sentences using the words given in the brackets : **[2×1=2]**
    i)   Kishore built a new house.
         He used marble tiles in it. (Where)
    ii) Manisha taught English.
         She was a good teacher. (Who)

7. Combine each set of sentences into one sentence as directed : **[2×1=2]**
    i)   Lencho wrote a letter to god.
         He wanted god to help him. (Use infinitive)
    ii) Usha worked very hard.
         She stood first in class. (Make a compound sentence)

8. Fill in the blanks by choosing the appropriate phrasal verb given in the brackets : **[2×1=2]**

i) The genie _____ all his matter's orders without a question. (carried out/carried up)

ii) The wanted criminal managed to _____ from the police. (get along/get away)

9. Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct conjunction given in the brackets : **[2×1=2]**

i) Arpit _____ Archana jointly scored the top marks. (and/so)

ii) The recorder asked me _____ I was comfortable. (that/if)

SECTION - D

10. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: **[6×1=6]**

I used every way I knew to overcome this fear, but it held me firmly in its grip. Finally, one October, I decided to get an instructor and learn to swim. I went to a pool and practised five days a week, an hour each day. The instructor put a belt around me. A rope attached to the belt went throught a pulley that ran on an overhead cable. He held on to the end of the rope, and we went back and forth, back and forth across the pool, hour after hour, day after day, week after week. On each trip across the pool a bit of the panic seized me. Each time the instructor relaxed his hold on the rope and I went under, some of the old terror returned and my legs froze. It was three months before the tension began to slack. Then he taught me to put my face under water and exhale, and to raise my nose and inhale. I repeated the exercise hundreds of times. Bit by bit I shed part of the panic that seized me when my head went under water.

Questions :

i) .... but it held me firmly. 'It' refers to - **[1]**

(A) strongly (B) hardly

(C) terror (D) instructor

ii) The narrator began to practice for _____ days a week. **[1]**

(A) three (B) five

(C) six (D) two

iii) The other end of the rope tied to the swimmer's belt was held by **[1]**

(A) instructor (B) pulley

(C) fear (D) a friend

iv) How long did the narrator take to shed his fear? **[1]**

(A) five days (B) week

(C) three months (D) one year

v) The word 'end' in the passage means _____. **[1]**

(A) a final part of something (B) and

(C) more (D) nothing

vi) The opposite word in the meaning of 'exhale' is _____. **[1]**

    (A) intake   (B) inbuilt

    (C) inward   (D) inhale

11. Answer any one of the following question in about 60 words. **[1×4=4]**

What things did the little Franz notice in the school after an order from Berlin?

(The Last Lesson)

OR

What made the peddler think the world of a rattrap? *(The Rattrap)*

12. Answer the following questions in 20-30 words : **[2×2=4]**

i) Who is Savita? What does she do? *(Lost Spring)*

ii) Why did Sophie like her brother Geoff more than other members of her family?

(Going Places)

13. Explain any one of the following stanzas with reference to the context : **[1×6=6]**

i) It would be an exotic moment

    Without rush, without engines,

    We would all be together

    in a sudden strangeness.

OR

ii) Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen,

    Bright topaz denizens of a world of green.

    They do not fear the men beneath the tree;

    They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.

14. Answer the following questions in about 60 words : **[1×4=4]**

Write the central idea of the poem 'My Mother at Sixty-six.

OR

What does frost want to convey through the poem 'A Roadside Stand'?

15. Answer the following questions in 20-30 words : **[2×2=4]**

i) Why do the trees appear sprinting? *(My Mother at Sixty-six)*

ii) What is suggested by the image 'massive weight of uncle's wedding band'?

(Aunt Jennifer's Tigers)

16. Answer the following questions in about 60 words : **[1×4=4]**

How was the Maharaja killed by the hundredth tiger? (*The Tiger King*)

OR

How does Mr. Lamb try to overcome his feelings of loneliness? (*On The Face Of It*)

17. Answer the following questions in 20-30 words : **[2×2=4]**

i) Why does Sam write a letter to Charley? (*The Third Level*)

ii) Who was Sadao? Where was his house? (*The Enemy*)

18. Choose the correct alternative : **[6×1=6]**

i) "I shall cut off my tuft, crop my hair short_____" who said these words?

    (A) The king   (B) The minister

    (C) The officer   (D) The astrologer

ii) One can learn more about the planet if one travels to

    (A) Earth   (B) Antarctica

    (C) Arctic   (D) America

iii) Yumi was _____.

    (A) Sadao's friend   (B) Sadao's wife

    (C) Sadao's maid   (D) Sadao's classmate

iv) Mr. Lamb was a _____ fellow.

    (A) lame   (B) blind

    (C) dumb   (D) deaf

v) Everyone picked up his knife and fork for eating on the _____ bell.

    (A) first   (B) second

    (C) third   (D) fourth

vi) What fun and games did the narrator watch while returning home from school?

    (A) performing monkey   (B) the snake charmer and the snake

    (C) the cyclist   (D) all the three

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