

Half-Yearly Examination 2023

Class - X

ENGLISH

Full Marks - 100

Pass Marks - 30

Time - 3 hours

(The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions.)

SECTION-A

1. Choose the correct option from the following : 1X10=10
- i) Who is the author of the lesson
'A Letter to God' ?
- a) G. L. Fuentes b) J.K. Rowling
c) Leslie Norris d) Robin Klein
- ii) The Coorgi people are famous for the tradition of :
- a) Enmity b) Cleverness
c) Selfishness d) Hospitality
- iii) The phrase 'rainbow gathering' means :
- a) All races, nations, politicians
b) People wearing different shades of clothes
c) Audiences with coloured flags
d) The rain had caused a rainbow
- iv) What did Lencho compare the large raindrops with ?
- a) Silver coins b) Pearls
c) Diamonds d) New coins
- v) What is India's largest Tibetan Settlement at Bylakuppe famous for ?
- a) Buddhist monk b) Buddhist temples
c) Buddhist population d) Both a & b
- vi) Which crop was growing on Lencho's fields ?
- a) Corn b) Barley
c) Rice d) None of the above

vii) What was the immediate reaction of the postman on seeing the letter ?

- a) laughed whole heartedly.
- b) cried.
- c) felt sad about what happened.
- d) felt empathetic.

viii) In whom Nelson Mandela had seen the glimpse of humanity ?

- a) Guard
- b) Relative
- c) Town's people
- d) God

ix) What oppressed and oppressor were robbing ?

- a) Money
- b) Humanity
- c) Peace
- d) Weapons

x) Why Mandela put freedom for country before freedom for family ?

- a) Felt pain of his citizens
- b) Impact of apartheid during prison days
- c) Had Anti-Western mind set.
- d) Had less love for family

2. Choose the correct answer of the following : 1X10=10

i) How did Ausable made Max believe that there was a balcony ?

- a) He made him see it.
- b) With detailed description
- c) There was actually a balcony.
- d) None of the above.

ii) Ausable was going to raise the issue of the balcony with :

- a) Government
- b) Management
- c) Max
- d) Fowler

- iii) What will Amanda's behaviour make people think ?
- Her mother loves her.
 - Her mother harasses her.
 - Her mother is understanding
 - Both (a) & (c)
- iv) What does Amanda imagine herself when she pictures herself in a tower ?
- Mermaid
 - Orphan
 - Rapunzel
 - None of the above
- v) Name the literary devices used in the line "Stop that slouching and sit up straight".
- Anaphora
 - Assonance
 - Metaphor
 - Alliteration
- vi) What is the meaning of the word 'slouching' ?
- Bend
 - Sit in a lazy way
 - Lie down
 - Bend backwards
- vii) What has been personified in the poem 'A Tiger in the Zoo' ?
- Tiger
 - Forest
 - Zoo
 - All of these
- viii) By 'ignoring visitors', what is the poet trying to say ?
- Tiger knows his power is restricted.
 - There is no use of showing rage.
 - He is less terrorising because of the cage.
 - All of the above.
- ix) How do the eyes of the tiger look ?
- Sad
 - Brilliant
 - Dark
 - Light
- x) Amanda would rather indulge in fantasies than :
- Clean her room or her shoes
 - Listening to her parents

c) Going to school

3. Write very short answer to the following questions : 1X10=10

i) What did Lencho seek when he went up to the window ?

ii) Name the daughter of Nelson Mandela.

iii) Where is Coorg located ?

iv) What is the name of the district headquarter, the only gate-way to Coorg ?

v) He should be lurking in shadow,

Sliding through long grass

Near the water hole

Where plump deer pass

a) Who does 'He' refer to ?

b) Where is the tiger at present ?

vi) What does Amanda like to bite ?

vii) Who is the writer who had an appointment with Ausable ?

viii) What did Henry bring to Ausable's room ?

ix) Was the young pretty lady the owner of the house ?

4. Fill in the blanks with the correct prepositions from

among the choices given in the brackets :

1X3=3

i) I am annoyed _____ his behaviour. (with/ to/ at/ of)

ii) Please listen _____ what I say. (for/ on/ to/ in)

iii) _____ honorary secretary gets no salary. (some/ a/ an/ the)

5. Fill in the blanks with the right determiners :

1X3=3

i) She bought _____ books she needed. (few/ a few/ the few/ very)

ii) I prefer milk _____ curd. (than/ to/ with/ of)

iii) Switzerland is _____ European country. (a/ an/ little/ the)

6. Choose the correct option and rewrite the following sentences putting the verbs in the brackets in their correct

tense forms.

1X3=3

- a) Don't disturb the baby, it _____ (sleep)
(is sleeping / was sleeping / slept)
- b) I _____ (be) a teacher since 1971.
(have been/ has been/ had)
- c) The man always _____ (take) bath at dawn.
(takes/ taken/ is taking)

7. Combine each of the following pairs of sentences into a single sentence : 1X3=3

- a) Man is mortal. We know it.
- b) The box is very heavy. I can not lift it.
- c) Study hard. You will fail in the examination.

8. Choose the correct alternatives from the choices given in the brackets and rewrite the sentences : 1X4=4

- a) The train arrived ten minutes. (~~late~~/ lately)
- b) Numberless soldiers were (~~wounded~~/ injured) in the battle.
- c) The _____ in his shop is not good today. (~~sale~~/ sell)
- d) The teacher maintains a tuition _____ (~~dairy~~/ diary).

9. Answer the following questions as directed : 1X4=4

- a) His answer was wrong. (Turn into negative without changing the meaning)
- b) I do not know his address. (Convert into complex sentence)
- c) Guwahati is the biggest town in Assam. (Rewrite in positive degree)
- d) No other boy in the class is so good as Pranal. (Rewrite in superlative degree)

SECTION - B

10. Choose the meaning of the underlined word from the alternatives given in brackets. 1X2=2

- a) Don't hunch your shoulders. (raise/ bend/ nag)

b) He should be snarling around houses.
(roaming/ roaring/ running)

11. State whether the following statements are true or false. 1X2=2

- a) According to Mandela, freedom is indivisible.
b) The colours left by the Impala jets were black, red, green, blue and yellow.

12. Answer the following questions :

- i) What is the significance of Coorg in the Indian Army ? 2
ii) Why was Lencho angry when he received the letter ? 2
iii) There are two kinds of conflicts in the story 'A Letter to God'. Illustrate. 3
iv) What was Mandela's opinion of the oppressed and the oppressor ? <https://www.assamboard.com> 3
v) What high energy adventure is available in Coorg ? 3
vi) Why is Amanda getting scolded for having chocolates ? 3
vii) Why does Mandela call himself the sum of all those African patriots who had gone before him ? 3

13. Answer any one of the following :

- i) How is Ausable different from other secret agents ? 4

Or

How did the lady trick Horace ? 4

14. Write a story in about 150 words using the outline given below and add a title and moral to it. 5

A cat kills many mice everyday _____ they discuss how to protect themselves _____ many proposal _____ "to tie a bell round the cat's neck" _____ "but now ?" _____ all silent.

15. Write a letter to your friend telling him/her what will you do after your final examination. 3

16. A) Read the following passages carefully and answer the

questions that follow.

I was not regarded as a dunce at the high school. I always enjoyed the affection of my teachers. Certificates of progress and character used to be sent to the parents every year. I never had a bad certificate. In fact, I even won prizes after I passed out of the second standard. In the fifth and the sixth, I obtained scholarships of rupees four and ten respectively, an achievement for which I have to thank good luck, more than my own merit. For the scholarships were not open to all, but reserved for the best boys amongst those coming from the Sorath Division of Kathiawad. And in those days there could not have been many boys from Sorath in a class of forty or fifty.

Questions :

a) Choose the correct alternatives : 1+1=2

i) In the passage the word 'dunce' means

- a) Knave b) fool c) a slow learner

ii) In the passage the word 'affection' means

- a) scholarship b) thanks
c) love d) blessings

b) Two of the following statements are true. Write them down. 2

i) Gandhi enjoyed scholarship for his merit.

ii) There were many boys from Sorath in the class.

iii) Gandhi always got good certificates.

B) The fiercely independent people of Coorg are possibly of Greek or Arabic descent. As one story goes, a part of Alexander's army moved south along the coast and settled here when return became impractical. These people married amongst the locals and their culture is apparent in

the martial traditions, marriage and religious rites, which are distinct from the Hindu mainstream. The theory of Arab origin draws support from the long black coat with an embroidered waist-belt worn by the Kodavus, known as kuppia, it resembles the kuffia worn by the Arabs and the Kurds.

Questions :

- a) What does the author say about the descent of the people of Coorg ? 1
- b) Why did a part of Alexander's army settle here ? 2
- c) Which things show that their culture is distinct from the Hindu mainstream ? 2
- d) What is so similar between the Kodavus and the Arabs ? 2
- e) Find a word from the passage which means 'different'. 1
17. Translate into the language as per your MIL (IL) subject. 1X3=3
- i) He is a meritorious student.
- ii) Sita is junior to Geeta.
- iii) I shall get down at the next station.

Or

Give the substance of the following passage. 3

The real heroes are those whom the world knows not of. They work among the distressed. They do not expect any reward from others. They are moved by the suffering of others and their main object is to relieve them of their sufferings. Their only devotion is to work out of love. They do not hanker after fame nor do they get it. No medals glitter on their breasts, no poet sings in their praise. They work and die for others, but no stone is raised to mark their grave. Such heroes lurk unknown and die unwept, unhonoured and unsung. But they are the real heroes, the glory of a nation.
