



PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION

ENGLISH - CORE (301)

CLASS – XII (SET 1)

Time allowed: 3 Hrs. Maximum Marks: 80 Roll No: Date: 19.01.2024

General Instructions:

- ❖ This question paper contains 12 printed pages.
- ❖ This question paper contains 8 questions.
- ❖ This Question Paper contains THREE sections – READING, WRITING and LITERATURE
- ❖ 15-minutes prior reading time allotted for Q-paper reading.
- ❖ Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number in your answer sheet to indicate the option/s being attempted.

	Section A: READING SKILLS (20 marks)	Marks	
I.	Read the passage given below	10	
1	Mind management is a way to control one’s mind. To do this, we need to be cautious about our thinking process and also need a high level of understanding and meditation as well. Understanding is wisdom – 80 percent of people are knowledgeable, while 20 per cent are wise. Knowledgeable men take sides without reason. They feel sad seeing deprived people but jealous when they see happy people. They work in the guidance of others’ inspiration, take unnecessary responsibility to keep themselves disturbed.		
2	A wise person does not stand for or against any idea without concrete reason. He works according to the situation and capacity. He looks at everything intellectually. To him, failure is a stepping stone for future success. So, depression and conflict are not seen. Like the phrase ‘Stop, Look, go’, first one should see, and this needs patience. Meditation is necessary to control and manage mind which then becomes an easy task.		

3	<p>Unless we control or manage our mind, it is difficult to achieve success and peace. Psychologists say every interest is first born in the mind as a seed. Then it continues to grow. Later it takes its real form which everybody can see. The interest that first appears in the mind remains weak for the first three minutes and it becomes strong within the next five minutes. All the negative aspects should be deleted within the first three minutes. If not taken out, they would become stronger later and you can</p>
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	<p>never throw them out. After taking control over the mind, we can control passion, interest and unrest. Mind management is essential for a peaceful, successful and healthy life.</p>	
4	<p>The age of computers has thrown us on the escalator of aspirations but has robbed us of simple charms like falling asleep. The compulsions of hectic schedules burden the mind and cause stress. However, the joys that elude us can be regained by practising power meditation. It creates tranquillity, simplifies life and cleanses the mind. It helps control indolence, ego and anger and builds confidence and patience. With power meditation, negative thoughts get dissipated and a sense of happiness is achieved.</p>	
	<p>Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.</p>	1x10
i	<p>Mind management is essential</p> <p>A. For a peaceful, successful, and a healthy life B. To remain deprived C. For a wealthy life D. to dominate others</p>	1
ii	<p>With power meditation, negative thoughts get _____ and a sense of happiness is achieved. (Complete the sentence with a suitable word from the passage.)</p>	1
iii	<p>. Mind management is a way to control one’s mind. (True/False)</p>	1
iv	<p>Understanding is wisdom. (True/False) (Para 1)</p>	1
v	<p>A wise person feels jealous sometimes. (True/False).</p>	1
vi	<p>The age of computers has robbed us of simple charms of life.</p>	1
vii	<p>Psychologists say that every ‘interest is first born in the mind as a._____</p>	1
viii	<p>Find the word from the passage which means the same as “based on facts, not on ideas”.</p>	1
ix	<p>Select a suitable title for the above passage</p>	1

x	List one advantage of Power Meditation.	1
II	Read the passage given below.	10
1	Education in India is primarily provided by public schools (controlled and funded by the government at three levels: central, state and local) and private schools. Under various articles of the Indian Constitution, free and compulsory education is provided as a fundamental right to children aged 6 to 14. The approximate ratio of public schools to private schools in India is 7:5.	
2	India has made progress in increasing the attainment rate of primary education. In 2011, approximately 75% of the population aged between 7 and 10 years, was literate. India's improved education system is often cited as one of the main contributors to its economic development. Much of the progress, especially in higher education and scientific research, has been credited to various public institutions.	
3	At the primary and secondary level, India has a large private school system complementing the government run schools, with 29% of students receiving private education in the 6 to 14 age group. Certain post-secondary technical	

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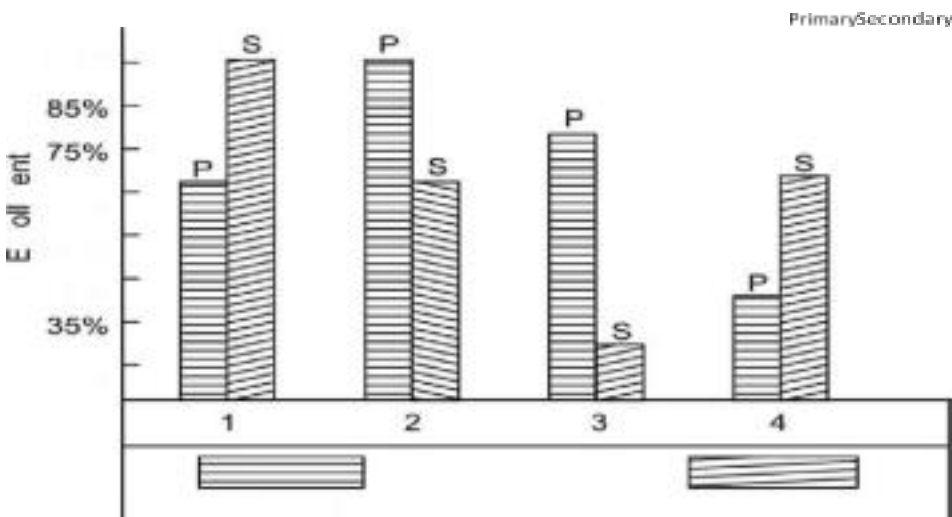
	schools are also private. The private education market in India had revenue of US\$450 million in 2008 but is projected to be a US \$40 billion market
	<p style="text-align: center;">Education in Republic of India Ministry of Education Minister of Education: Ramesh Pokhriyal National education budget Budget 4.1% of GDP General details Primary languages Indian languages, English System type Federal, State or Private Established 1 April 2010 Compulsory Education Literacy (2011) Total 74% Male 82.2% Female 69.5% Enrolment Total (N/A) Primary 95% Secondary 69% Post-Secondary 25%</p>

4	<p>As per the Annual Status of Education Report (ASEH) 2012, 96.5% of all rural children between the ages of 6-14 were enrolled in school. This is the fourth annual survey to report enrolment above 96%. India has maintained an average enrolment ratio of 95% for students in this age group from year 2007 to 2014. As an outcome the number of students in the age group 6-14 who are not enrolled in school has come down to 2.8% in the year academic year 2018 (ASER 2018). Another report from 2013 stated that there were 229 million students enrolled in different accredited urban and rural schools of India, from Class 1 to XII, representing an increase of 23 lakh students over 2002 total enrolment, and a 19% increase in girl's enrolment.</p>
5	<p>While quantitatively India is inching closer to universal education, the quality of its education has been questioned particularly in its government run school system. While more than 93 percent of children attend primary school, just 40 percent of Indian adolescents attend secondary school (Grades 9-12). Since 2000, the World Bank has committed over \$2 billion to education in India. Some of the reasons for the poor quality include absence of around 25% of teachers every day, States of India have introduced tests and education assessment system to identify and improve such schools. Hence, the differentiation of government schools and private schools can be misleading.</p>
6	<p>Although there are private schools in India, they are highly regulated in terms of what they can teach, in what form they can operate (must be a non-profit to run any accredited educational institution) and all other aspects of operation</p>
7	<p>In January 2019, India had over 900 universities and 40,000 colleges. In India higher education system, a significant number of seats are reserved under affirmative action policies for the historically disadvantaged Scheduled Castes</p>

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	<p>and Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. In universities, colleges, and similar institutions affiliated to the federal government, there is a maximum 50% of reservations applicable to these disadvantaged groups, at the state level it can vary. Maharashtra had 73% reservation in 2014, which is the highest percentage of reservations in India.</p>	
	<p>Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below</p>	<p>1x10</p>

i	<p>The approximate ratio of public schools to private schools in India is _____</p> <p>A. 5:7</p> <p>B. 1:9</p> <p>C. 7:5</p> <p>D. 9:7</p>	1
ii	<p>Pick the option that lists statements that are NOT TRUE according to the passage.</p> <p>(a) India's improved education system is often cited as one of the main contributors to its economic development</p> <p>(b) At the primary and secondary level, India has a large private school system</p> <p>(c) Report from 2013 stated that there were 329 million students enrolled in different accredited urban and rural schools of India</p> <p>(d) Maharashtra had 33% reservation in 2014, which is the lowest percentage of reservations in India.</p> <p>A. 3 and 4</p> <p>B. 2 and 4</p> <p>C. 1 and 2</p> <p>D. 1 and 3</p>	1
iii	<p>India's improved education system is often cited as one of the main contributors to its</p> <p>A. Overall development</p> <p>B. Social development</p> <p>C. Economic development</p> <p>D. Political development</p>	1
iv	<p>Based on the Statistical data in the passage, which option represents the correct graphical representation of enrolment rate in Primary and Secondary schools?</p>	1

	<p>A. Image 1 B. Image 2 C. Image 3 D. Image 4</p>	
v	<p>According to table, what was the literacy rate of females in the year 2011? A. 74% B. 82.2% C. 69.5% D. 69%</p>	1
vi	<p>Based on the given statistical data in the passage, choose the option that lists the Statements that are TRUE with respect to the education policy</p>  <p>Enrollment</p> <p>95% 85% 75% 65% 55% 45% 35% 25%</p> <p>Primary Secondary</p> <p>1 2 3 4</p>	1

	<p>. Enrolment in Secondary Schools was 69%.</p> <p>2. National Education Budget passed by the ministry is 3.1%</p> <p>3. The literacy rate of women was 69.5% in 2011</p> <p>4. As per 2011 census; total literacy rate was 82.2%</p> <p>A. 1 and 4</p> <p>B. 2 and 4</p> <p>C. 3 and 4</p> <p>D. 1 and 3</p>	
vii	<p>Much of the progress, especially in higher education and scientific research, has been attributed to.....</p> <p>A. Private institutions</p> <p>B. Public institutions</p>	1

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	<p>C. Government institutions</p> <p>D. Semi government institution</p>	
viii	<p>One of the reasons for the poor quality of education in Government-run schools in India is.....</p> <p>A. Poor infrastructure</p> <p>B. Absence of around 25% of teachers every day</p> <p>C. Low enrolment of girls</p> <p>D. No aid given by the government</p>	1
ix	<p>Mark the state of India with the highest percentage of reservation in colleges and universities</p> <p>A. Maharashtra</p> <p>B. Odisha</p> <p>C. Bihar</p> <p>D. Uttar Pradesh</p>	1

x	Which word in the passage means same as ‘registered?’ (Para 4) A. Survey B. Accredited C. Enrolled D. Representing	1
III	Section B– CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS	20
<i>All the names and addresses used in the questions are fictitious. Resemblance, if any, is purely coincidental</i>		
1.	Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.	5
A.	Every year on Children’s Day, an exhibition of Science Projects is held at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium. Your school has received an invitation from the Education Minister of Delhi inviting the students of your school to visit it. Write a notice in about 50 words informing the students about the display, advising them to go and enjoy it. You are Sunit/Sunita Sahoo, Head Boy/Head Girl Master Minds Public School, New Delhi.	
	OR	
B.	You have planned to organise a summer camp for the children of age group 13-17 years for developing their creative skills in art and craft, Clay modelling and music in your school during the month of May. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words for your notice-board giving details. Mention the last date of registration of the students. You are Reena/Rohan, Secretary, Art and Craft Club, A.V.Public School, Chennai.	
2.	Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.	5
A	Your father, Mr Raj Kumar Gupta, residing at K-18, 13 th Cross Malleshwaram, Bengaluru wants to celebrate the success of your brother	

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	Rohit’s clearing the IIT-JEE Entrance Examination and securing admission in IIT Powai, Mumbai. He wants you to draft a formal invitation card for him on his behalf. Draft the invitation for him in not more than 50 words.	
	OR	
B	You have received an invitation to preside over a workshop on ‘Life Skills’ conducted at St. Anne’s School, Powai, Mumbai. Send a reply in not more than 50 words, confirming your acceptance. You are Mohan/Mohini.	

3.	Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below	5
A	<p>SAPPHIRE SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL Mira Enclave, Delhi Wanted one librarian, graduate with diploma in library science or bachelor in library science, experience preferable, age, pay scales and other benefits as per directorate of education rules, males/females eligible. Apply to the authorised officer along with photocopies of certificates by registered post only within ten days.</p> <p>You are Sourabh/Shweta, 15, Shashi gardens, Ghaziabad. Read the advertisement given above and write a letter of application to the advertiser. Also enclose your detailed resume/Bio-data. (WORD LIMIT: 120-150 WORDS)</p>	
	OR	
B	You have always been proud of being a citizen of your country which shows love and care for the elders. However, now this value is found to be disappearing. Write a letter to the Editor of a National Daily in about 120- 150 words expressing your views on the difficulties faced by senior citizens.	
4.	Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.	5
A	<p>Teenagers are full of energy as well as ideas. Write an article in 120-150 words on “How to Channelise the Energy of the Teenagers”. You are Tejinder/Simran. You may use the following clues:</p> <p>Teenagers curious—full of questions—question elders—sometimes even wrongly—generation gap—may go astray—effect on society—how to channelise—productive hobbies – social work—sports—part-time jobs.</p>	
	OR	
B	Prabjyot Senior Secondary School recently organized a four-day Personality Development and Leadership Training Camp for the students aspiring to be leaders/prefects/monitors of their school. Write a report about the same in 120-150 words for the school magazine. You are Tejinder/Simran.	
	SECTION C - LITERATURE	40
IV	Read the given extracts to attempt the questions with reference to context.	

1	Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.	1*6=6
1. A	<p>The polished traffic passed with a mind ahead, Or if ever aside a moment, then out of sorts At harming the landscape marred with the artless paint Of signs that with N turned wrong and S turned wrong Offered for sale wild berries in wooden quarts, Or crook-necked golden squash with silver warts, Or beauty rest in a beautiful mountain scene, You have the money, but if you want to be mean, Why keep your money (this crossly) and go along (A Roadside Stand)</p>	
i	<p>The ‘polished traffic’ refers to _____</p> <p>A. The rich and soulless motorists B. The artless paint. C. The crook-necked golden squash D. Harming the landscape</p>	1
ii	<p>How did they pass by the roadside stand?</p> <p>A. By stopping there to spend their money on charity B. By appreciating the fruits displayed C. By stopping there to buy the farmer’s products D. Going along with their mind ahead or absorbed in their thoughts.</p>	1
iii	<p>Name the poetic device in ‘golden squash with silver warts.’</p> <p>A. Alliteration B. Metaphor C. Simile D. Antithesis</p>	1
iv	<p>What do you mean by the expression ‘out of sorts’?</p> <p>A. compassionate feeling B. waiting. C. Insane D. feeling upset</p>	1

v	What does the poet expect the passer-by to do? A. Complain about the landscape B. keep the money with himself and go along C. Buy something from the roadside stand. D. pass with a mind ahead.	1
vi	What were sold in the Roadside stand?	1
	OR	
1.B.	Life is what it is about I want no truck with death.	

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	If we were not so single-minded about keeping our lives moving, and for once could do nothing, perhaps a huge silence might interrupt this sadness of never understanding ourselves and of threatening ourselves with death. (Keeping Quiet)	
i	The sadness referred to in this poem is about lack of mutual understanding and the threat of death among mankind. True/False	1
ii	On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below. (1) People have been threatening themselves with death by their activities. (2) People are jealous and envious. A. (1) can be inferred from the extract but (2) cannot. B. (2) can be inferred from the extract but (1) cannot. C. Both (1) and (2) can be inferred from the extract. D. (2) is the reason for (1) and can be inferred from the extract.	1
iii	What does the poet mean by 'single-minded'? A. selfless B. focused C. self-centered D. meditative	1

iv	Identify the poetic device used in 'I want no truck with death'. A. simile B. metaphor C. Euphemism D. sarcasm	1
v	If we did nothing, a huge silence would _____ the sadness of our current world.	1
vi	By our constant activity, what destruction are human beings bringing upon themselves?	1
2.	Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.	1*4=4
2.A.	It won't make my face change, Do you know, one day, a woman went by me in the street. I was at a bus stop. She was with another woman, and she looked at me and she said.....at that, that's a terrible thing. That's a face only a mother could love.	
i.	Who is the speaker of these lines? A. Mr Lamb B. Derry C. Derry's friend D. Another woman	1
ii	What had happened with Derry?	1

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	A. His face had white spots B. His face had moles C. His face was deformed D. His face was burned.	
iii	What do the given lines tell us about the speaker? A. He is shy B. He is callous C. He hates the world D. He has no self-regard	1
iv	How does the comment made by the woman affect the speaker? A. He feels insulted B. He feels terrible C. He gets upset D. He gets angry.	1
	OR	

2 B	His old American professor of anatomy had seen to that knowledge. "Ignorance of the human body is the surgeon's cardinal sin, sirs!" he had thundered at his classes year after year. "To operate without as complete knowledge of the body as if you had made it—anything less than that is murder."	
i	. Who are 'sirs' here?	1
ii	What did the old American professor teach his students loudly every year? A. A student of surgery should have superficial Knowledge B. A student of surgery should have knowledge of human anatomy C. A student of surgery should have complete knowledge of human heart. D. A student of surgery should be strong and healthy	1
iii	Ignorance of the human body means superficial knowledge of human body. (True/False)	1
iv	Opposite of ignorance is: A. deep information B. Acquaintance C. callousness D. benightedness	1
3	Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given	1*6=6
3A.	The make-up room had the look of a hair-cutting salon with lights at all angles around half a dozen large mirrors. They were all incandescent lights, so you can imagine fiery misery of those subjected to make-up.	
i	The make-up room of the studios was an ordinary room. (True/False)	1
ii	The word _____ shows the condition of the performers. A. blissful B. excited C. torturous D. dazed	1
iii	The room was crowded with mirrors and lights (True/False)	1
iv	Find the word from the extract which means the same as 'Showing strong emotions'.	1

v	Who does “those” refer to? A. The poets of Gemini studio B. Make up boys C. Actors and actresses D. The workers	1
vi	. Who is the author of the above lines?	1
	OR	
3 B	V.S. Naipaul ‘feels that some people that some people are wounded by interviews and lose part of themselves. Lewis Carroll, the creator of Alice in Wonderland, was said to have had ‘a just horror of the interviewer’ and he never consented to be interviewed—It was his horror of being lionized.....	
i	Whose words are these? A. Lewis Carroll B. Christopher Silvester C. Umberto Eco D. V.S. Naipaul	1
ii	Complete the following sentence: _____ had a just horror of the interviewer.	1
iii	From the given options, pick out the phrases that act as the synonyms of ‘Lionize’ A. admire and give importance B. Insult and hate C. hurt and wound D. fear and ignore	1
iv	Rewrite the sentence by replacing the underlined word with a word from the passage. ‘Some celebrities have had a <u>fear</u> of the interviewer’.	1
v	The author’s views on interview, in the extract, can best be described as statements based on _____ A. facts B. hypothesis C. beliefs D. superstitions	1
vi	Lewis Carroll always consented to be interviewed (True/False)	1
V	Answer ANY FIVE of the following in about 40-50 words each.	5*2=10
i	How does this statement ‘You don’t know what you have until it is gone’ apply to the ‘Last Lesson’?	2

ii	Why has the poet brought in the image of the ‘merry children spilling out of their homes’? (My Mother at Sixty-Six)	2
iii	What do we come to know about the aspirations of Saheb and Mukesh through Anees Jung’s interactions with them?	2
iv	Life’s what it is all about’—How is ‘Keeping Quiet’ related to life?	2
v	To be grateful is the virtue of a gentleman’—How did Peddler show his gratitude to Edla? (The Rattrap)	2

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vi	What is suggested by the image ‘massive weight of Uncle’s wedding band’ in the poem ‘Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers’?	2
VI	Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40-50 words each	2*2=4
i	Discuss the irony at the end of the lesson ‘The Third Level’.	2
ii	The manner of the Tiger King’s death is a matter of extraordinary interest – comment.	2
iii	Why is one green, growing plant called a ‘weed’ and another ‘flower’? What does Mr Lamb mean by this statement?	2
VII	Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words	1*5=5
i	Courage and optimism are the attributes that can make the Impossible possible’---Elucidate with reference to ‘Deep Water.’	5
	OR	
ii	State the common issue faced by most of the aged in the current times and fear of their children losing the near and dear ones with reference to the poem ‘My Mother at Sixty Six.’	5
	Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words	1*5=5
i	Good human values are far above any other value system’. How did Dr. Sadao succeed as a doctor as well as patriot?	5
	OR	
ii	Both Bama and Zitkala Sa experienced the harsh reality of discrimination in their childhood. Instead of letting it pull them down, they both found a way to overcome it. Discuss with reference to the lesson ‘Memories of My Childhood’	5

THE END OF PAPER

