



Class: X ICSE

Subject: English Language

Topic: Grammar

TIME: 2 hours

M MARKS: 80

Question 1

(Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question.)

Write a composition (300-350 words) on any one of the following:

[20]

- i) Write an original story based on the quote "Like father like son"
- ii) You went for a trip to your dream destination in India. Describe how you travelled, where you stayed, what things you found there to be different from your own town and how were the localities? Now that you are back, do you think that place was worth a visit?
- iii) "There is nothing called magie!" Express your views either for or against this statement.
- iv) You along with your younger brother to watch a lawn tennis match at a stadium in Lucknow. Before the match could begin, you found your brother is missing, narrate what you did and how you looked for him without paying attention to the match and finally found him when the match was over.
- v) Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture, or you may take suggestions from it: however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.

Question 2

[10]

(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.)

Select any one of the following:

- i) You are the editor of your school magazine. You had the opportunity to interview a famous Indian cricketer. Write a detailed letter to your father informing him about it.
- ii) You are a news reporter and in your daily chores you met a person who is being harassed by some local goons. Write a letter to the police commissioner of your city informing him about the problems this person is facing and request for strict measures and immediate action.

Question 3

- i) Sports School, Lucknow is organizing a "Morning Yoga' drive in their school. All the

neighbouring schools, including your school, have been invited to participate. Being the Head boy/girl of your school write a notice to be put up on your school notice board encouraging students to participate in it.

[5]

ii) Write an email to the sports teacher of your school requesting him/her to be with the participants in the said event.

[5]

Question 4

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

I opened the Iron Gate and walked as softly as I could up the weed-tufted gravel drive. My mind was strangely empty. I felt no glow of pleasure and was unexcited at the prospect of becoming rich, I was occupied only with the mechanical task of finding a black box. The front door was closed and set far back in a very deep porch. The wind and rain had whipped a coating of gritty dust against the panels, showing that it had been shut for years. Standing on a derelict flowerbed, I tried to push open the first window on the left. It yielded to my strength stubbornly. I **clambered** through the opening and found myself crawling along the deepest window-ledge I had ever seen. After I had jumped noisily down upon the floor, I looked up.

The room was thick with dust, musty and empty of all furniture. Spiders had erected great stretching of their webs about the fireplace. I made my way quickly to the room where the box was and paused on the threshold. It was a dark morning and the weather had stained the windows with **blears** of grey wash which kept the brightest part of the weak light from coming in. The far corner of the room was a blur of shadow. I had a sudden impulse to have **done** with my task and be out of this house forever.

I walked across the bare boards, knelt down in the corner and passed my hands about the floor in search of the loose board. To my surprise, I found it easily. I lifted it up, laid it aside and struck a match. I saw a black metal cashbox nestling dimly in the hole. I put my hand down and crooked a finger into the loose reclining handle, but the match suddenly flickered and went out and the handle of the box, which I had lifted up about an inch, slide heavily off my finger. Without stopping to light another match, I thrust my hand into the opening and, just when it should be closing about the box, something happened.

I cannot hope to describe what it was but it had frightened me very much. It was some change which came upon me or upon the room, indescribably subtle, yet momentous. It was as if the daylight had changed with unnatural suddenness, as if the temperature had altered greatly in an instant or as if the air had become twice as rare or twice as dense as it had been in the twinkling of an eye. Perhaps all of these or other things, happened together, for all my senses were **bewildered** all at once and could give me no explanation. The fingers of my right hand, thrust in the opening in the floor, had closed mechanically, found nothing at all, and came up again empty. The box had gone!

I heard a cough behind me, soft and natural, yet more disturbing than any sound that could ever come upon the human ear. That I did not die of fright was due, I think, to two things: the fact that my senses were already disarranged and able to interpret to me only gradually what they had perceived, and also the fact that the utterance of the cough seemed to bring with it some more awful alteration in everything. I collapsed weakly into a limp sitting-down position upon the floor. Sweat broke out on my brow and my eyes remained open for a long time without a wink.

In the darkest corner of the room near the window, a man was sitting in a chair, eyeing me with a mild

but unwavering interest

i) For each word given below choose the correct meaning (as used in the passage) from the options provided. [3]

1. clambered

- a) crawled
- b) climbed
- c) wriggled
- d) jumped

2. blears

- a) dimming
- b) shades
- c) colour
- d) covering

3. bewildered

- a) perplexed
- b) alert
- c) aroused
- d) awake

ii) Answer the following questions briefly, In your own words

- a) What was the narrator's state of mind when he came to the house in search of a black box? [2]
- b) Why did the narrator have a feeling of uneasiness and fear when he entered the room? [2]
- c) What was the strange thing that happened about the box? What impact did it have on the narrator? [2]
- d) What details show that the house had been shut for years? [3]

iii) Describe In not more than 50 words the strange atmosphere the narrator encountered inside the abandoned house. [8]

Question 5

i) Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in the brackets. Do not copy the passage but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank Space [4]

Most of us...1.... (know) who the 'nightingale of India is. This nickname...2.... (give) by Gandhiji to Sarojini Naidu, the poet. Once Sarojini was....3. (felicitate) at a public meeting hosted by the Khoja community in East Africa. Sarojini...4.... (go) to East Africa to build relationships with Indians living there. A rich Khoja businessman was.....5..... (deliver) the speech in her honour. Since his English was bad, his speech....6.... (write) by a teacher. All went well until the middle of the speech when the businessman seemed to be at a loss for words. Instead of....7.... (address) Sarojini Naidu as the 'nightingale of India', the businessman said 'naughty girl

of India! The members of the audience first....8.... (gasp) and then laughed out loud. Sarojini herself took the joke sportingly.

ii) Fill in the words with appropriate words:

1. A bus brushed _____ our car and scratched the paint.
2. The politician brushed _____ rumours that his party was in decline.
3. Attendance at our weekly literary meetings has fallen _____ recently.
4. The players decided to comply _____ the rules of the game.
5. His new book is concerned _____ the problems faced by students studying in the U.S.A
6. I differ _____ you on this point.
7. Mrs. Roy was advised _____ walk five kilometers every day, to lose weight.
8. Passengers are advised _____ travelling on the footboard of a moving bus.

iii) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using and, but or so. Choose the correct option. [4]

1. This is my mother. Her name is Sarika.

- a) This is my mother Sarika.
- b) My mother is Sarika.
- c) This is my mother, her name is Sarika.
- d) Sarika is my mother.

2. They walked into the room. Something jumped upon them.

- a) As soon as they walked into the room, something jumped upon them.
- b) Something jumped upon them when they walked in the room.
- c) They walked into the room and something walked upon them.
- d) As they walked into the room, something jumped on them.

3. The mother did not come to meet the teacher. The father did not come to meet the teacher.

- a) His mother father did not come to meet the teacher.
- b) Neither parent came to meet the teacher.
- c) Neither parents could come to meet the teacher.
- d) The teacher was not met by the mother and the father.

4. She injured her knee. She missed the examination.

- a) Since she had injured her knee, she missed her examination.
- b) The examination was missed by her as she had hurt her knees.
- c) She hurt her knee so she missed her examination.
- d) Not only did she hurt her knee but also missed her examination.

iv) Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence. Choose the correct options. [8]

1. He knows everything about the business.

(Begin: There is.....)

- (a) There is nothing that he knows about the business.
- (b) There is nothing that he does not know about the business.
- (c) There is nothing that he knows about the business.

(d) There is everything known to him about the business.

2. A bridge would have been built if the funds had not run out.

(Begin: Had the.....)

- a) Had the funds not run out, a bridge would have been built.
- b) Had the fund not run out, a bridge would have been built.
- c) Had the fund not run out a bridge would have been built!
- d) Had the funds not run out, a bridge would have been built!

3. As soon as winter comes, birds migrate to the south.

(Begin: No sooner.....)

- (a) No sooner did winter come than birds migrate to the south.
- (b) No sooner does winter come than birds migrate to the south.
- (c) No sooner had winter comes when birds migrate to the south.
- (d) No sooner winter comes than the birds migrate to the south.

4. Man is exploring the sea in order to increase his resources.

(Begin: The sea.....)

- (a) The sea was being explored in order to increase his resources.
- (b) The sea is being explored by man in order to increase his resources.
- (c) The sea is being explored by man in order to increase man's resources.
- (d) The sea is been explored by man in order to increase the resources

5. They were the only ones who completed the task.

(Begin: Except.....)

- (a) Except for them, no one has completed the task.
- (b) Except for them, no one have completed the task.
- (c) Except for them, no one had completed the task.
- (d) Except for them, no one had had completed the task.

6. He's the richest man I've ever met.

(Begin: I've never.....)

- (a) I've never met a man as rich as him
- (b) I've never met a man so rich.
- (c) I've never met a rich man like him.
- (d) I've never met a man as rich as he.

7. I have never seen a film as bad as this.

(Begin: This is.....)

- (a) This is the worst film that I've ever seen.
- (b) This is the worst film I've ever seen.
- (c) This is the worst film I had ever watched.
- (d) This is the worst film that I had ever watched!

8. He said, "I will definitely visit you tomorrow."

(Begin: He said.....)

- a) He said that he will definitely visit me the next day
- b) He said that he would definitely visit me the next day.

c) He said that he would definitely visit him that day.

d) He said that he would definitely meet him the next day.



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