



English language XII Mock ISC

M MARKS: 80

Question 1.

Write a composition (in approximately 450-500 words) on any one of the following subjects:  
(20)

(You are reminded that you will be rewarded for orderly and coherent presentation of material, use of appropriate style and general accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar.)

- (a) You have recently moved to a new neighborhood in your city. Describe the new neighborhood, comparing it to the one you have just left.
- (b) Relate something unpleasant that happened to you during your childhood that nevertheless helped you to grow up in a mature manner.
- (c) 'The end justifies the means.' Argue For or Against the statement.
- (d) 'Appearances can be deceptive'. Give your views on this topic.
- (e) Dreams
- (f) Write a short story that ends with the words "I really doubt if things could have turned out any better."

Question 2

- (i) Your city was recently affected by devastating floods which left a trail of

(15)

destruction in its path. Write a newspaper report in about 300 words on the floods, using the points given below. You may include other relevant details.

Date and time when the city started flooding - cause of the floods-areas affected

- loss of life and property

- rescue and relief measures taken - help from the

government.

- (ii) On 24<sup>th</sup> January which is addressed as the International World Education Day you have been given the responsibility to deliver a speech in your school assembly hall. Write a speech within 120-150 words regarding the ‘importance of education in our life.’ (10)

Question 3.

Answer sections (1), (I) and (111).

In each of the following items, sentence I is complete, while sentence I is not.

Complete sentence I, making it as similar as possible to sentence I. Write sentence II in each case. (5)

Example:

(z)

(I The heavy showers of rain revived the plants.

(ID The plants ... ..

Answer: (z) The plants were revived by the heavy showers of rain.

1. Seeing is believing.

- Begin: If I

.....  
.....

2. Your sister is cleverer than Meena.

- Begin: Meena

.....  
.....

3. None but the hard workers deserve success.

- Begin: The hard workers.....

.....

4. As soon as I entered the school compound, the bell rang.

- Begin: No sooner

.....  
 .....

5. Only a fool would believe this story.

- Begin: None

.....

(ii) Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (Do not write the sentence.) (5)

1. Two members were absent \_\_\_\_\_ the meeting.
2. Our conduct admits \_\_\_\_\_ no excuse.
3. It is \_\_\_\_\_ you and me.
4. We acquainted him \_\_\_\_\_ the facts of the case.
5. She was confined \_\_\_\_\_ bed \_\_\_\_\_ fever.
6. We informed the police \_\_\_\_\_ the matter.
7. Our captain is sick \_\_\_\_\_ malaria.
8. I shall return \_\_\_\_\_ a week.
9. This is the film \_\_\_\_\_ which I am much pleased.
10. This is the film I am much pleased \_\_\_\_\_.

(iii) Fill in the blanks in the passage given below with the appropriate form of the verb

given in brackets. Do not write the passage but write the verbs in the correct order. (5)

Example: (0) lie

In the depths of the dense jungle, where ancient ruins (0) \_\_\_\_\_ (lie) undisturbed for centuries, a group of archaeologists (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (embark) on a daring expedition. Led by Professor Thompson, they (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (hope) to uncover the mysteries of a lost civilization (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (rumour) to have inhabited the area long ago.

Armed with shovels and brushes, the team (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (carefully) excavated the site, painstakingly sifting through layers of dirt and debris. They (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (uncover) pottery shards, intricate carvings, and crumbling stone structures. Each artifact (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (carefully) catalogued and photographed for further analysis.

As the days turned into weeks, the team (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (encounter) various challenges, including intense heat, venomous creatures, and impassable terrain. However, their

determination (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (remain) unwavering, and they (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (persevere) in their quest for knowledge.

Finally, after months of tireless effort, the archaeologists (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (piece) together the puzzle of the ancient civilization.

Read the passage given below and answer the questions (a), (b) and (c) that follow : (20)

(1) I could hear the squeaking that heralded the evening arrival of the bats. I listened to the noises of the approaching night. Every day my hearing grew sharper. I was learning to filter out whatever I did not need to listen to, and giving no sign that I could hear everything that went on in the house.

(2) I could not sleep. The air was heavy and still, the moon hidden behind thick 5 banks of cloud. Lord Otori was sound asleep. I did not want to leave the house I'd come to love so much, but I seemed to be bringing nothing but trouble to it. Perhaps it would be better for everyone if I just vanished in the night.

(3) Now I heard the hiss of hot water as the bath was prepared, the clatter of 10 dishes from the kitchen, the sliding sigh of the cook's knife, a dog barking two streets away, and the sounds of feet on the wooden bridges on the canals. I knew the sounds of the house, day and night, in sunshine and under the rain.

This evening I realized I was always listening for something more. I was waiting too. For what?  
15

(4) I began to wonder if I could get out of the house without setting the dogs barking and arousing the guards. I started consciously listening for the dogs. Usually I heard them bark on and off throughout the night, but I'd learned to distinguish their barks and to ignore them. I set my ears for them but heard nothing. Then I started listening for the guards : the sound of a foot on stone or a whispered conversation. Nothing. Sounds that should have been there were missing from the night's familiar web.

(5) Now I was wide-awake, straining my ears to hear. There came the slightest of sounds, hardly more than a tremor, between the window and the ground.

(6) For a moment I thought it was the earth-shaking, as it so often did. Another tiny tremble followed, then another. Someone was climbing up the side of the house.

(7) My first instinct was to yell out, but cunning took over. I rose from the mattress and crept silently to Lord Otrori's side. I knelt beside him and whispered in his ear, "Lord Otori, someone is outside."

(8) He woke instantly, and then reached for the sword and knife that lay beside him. I gestured to the window. The faint tremor came again.

(9) Lord Otori passed the knife to me and stepped to the wall. I moved to the other side of the window. We waited for the assassin to climb in.

(10) Step by step he came up the wall, stealthy and unhurried, as if he had all the time in the world. We waited for him with the same patience.

(11) He paused on the still to take out the knife he planned to use on us, and then stepped inside. Lord Otori took him in a stranglehold. The intruder wriggled backwards. I leaped at him, and the three of us fell into the garden like a flurry of fighting cats.

(12) The man fell first, across the stream, striking his head on a boulder. Lord Otori landed on his feet. My fall was broken by one of the shrubs. The intruder groaned, tried to rise, but slipped back into the water.

(13) "Get a light," Lord Otori said.

(14) I ran to the house, took a light that still burned in one of the candle stands and carried it back to the garden.

(15) The assassin had died without regaining consciousness. It turned out he had a poison pellet in his mouth and had crushed it as he fell. He was dressed in black, with no marking on his clothes. I held the light over him. There was nothing to tell us who he was.

Adapted from Tales of the Otori by Lian Hearn

Answer the following questions:

- (a) (i) Given below are four words and phrases. Find the words which have a similar meaning in the passage : (4)

- (1) Coming near
- (2) Disappeared suddenly
- (3) Awakening from sleep
- (4) Moved slowly and gradually

(b) (ii) For each of the words given below, write a sentence of at least ten words using the same word unchanged in form, but with a different meaning from that which it carries in the passage : (4)

- (1) Bats (line 1)
- (2) Sign (line 4)
- (3) Banks (line 6)
- (4) Back (line 43)

(c) Answer the following questions in our own words as briefly as possible:

- (i) What could the narrator hear as he was lying down? [2]
- (ii) Why couldn't the narrator sleep? [2]
- (iii) When did he realise that there was something wrong? [2]
- (iv) How did the narrator and Lord Otori overpower the intruder? [2]

(d) Describe the incident of the assassination attempt that took place during the night, in not more than 100 words (Paragraphs 4 to 15) Failure to keep within the word limit will be penalised. You will be required to:

- (i) In about 100 words, write your points in the form of a connected passage (4)



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