

Pre-Board Examination 2013-14
Class XII
ENGLISH (Core)

Time allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 100

General Instructions:

- (i) *This paper is divided into three Sections: A, B and C. All the sections are compulsory.*
- (ii) *Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.*
- (iii) *Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*

SECTION A
(READING)

(20 Marks)

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: (12 marks)

1. I was in Hyderabad giving a lecture, when a 14 year old girl asked me for my autograph. I asked her what her goal in life is: She replied: I want to live in a developed India. For her, you and I will have to build this developed India. You must proclaim: India is not an under-developed nation; it is a highly developed nation.
2. At Singapore International Airport, none dares to throw cigarette butts on the roads, or eats in the stores. YOU wouldn't dare to eat in public during Ramadan, in Dubai or go out with your head uncovered in Jeddah. YOU would not dare to buy an employee of the telephone exchange in London at 10 pounds (Rs. 650) a month to, "see to it that my STD and ISD calls are billed to someone else. YOU would not dare to speed beyond 55 mph (88 kph) in Washington and show your credentials to the traffic cop. YOU wouldn't chuck an empty coconut shell anywhere other than the garbage pail on the beaches in Australia and New Zealand. Why don't YOU spit Paan on the streets of Tokyo? Why don't YOU use examination jockeys or buy fake certificates in Boston?
3. YOU who can respect and conform to a foreign system in other countries but cannot in your own. You who will throw papers and cigarettes on the road the moment you touch Indian ground. If you can be an involved and appreciative citizen in an alien country why cannot you be the same here in India?
4. We go to the polls to choose a government and after that forfeit all responsibility. We expect the railways to provide clean bathrooms but we are not going to learn the proper use of bathrooms. We want Indian Airlines and Air India to provide the best of food and toiletries pampered and expect the government to do everything for us whilst our contribution is totally negative.

5. We expect the government to clean up but we are not going to stop chucking garbage all over the place; we are also not going to stop to pick up a stray piece of paper and throw it in the bin. When it comes to burning social issues like those related to women, dowry, girl child and others, we make loud drawing room protestations and continue to do the reverse at home. Our excuse? "It's the whole system which has to change, how will it matter if I alone forego my sons' rights to a dowry." So who's going to change the system? What does a system consist of? Very conveniently for us it consists of our neighbours, other households, other cities, other communities and the government. But definitely not me and YOU.
6. When it comes to us actually making a positive contribution to the system we lock ourselves along with our families into a safe cocoon and look into the distance at countries far away and wait for a Mr. Clean to come along and work miracles for us with a majestic sweep of his hand. Or we leave the country and run away. Like lazy cowards hounded by our fears we run to America to bask in their glory and praise their system. When New York becomes insecure we run to England. When England experiences unemployment, we take the next flight out to the Gulf. When the Gulf is war struck, we demand to be rescued and brought home by the Indian government. Everybody is out to abuse and rape the country. Nobody thinks of feeding the system. Our conscience is mortgaged to money ... I am echoing J.F. Kennedy's words to his fellow Americans to relate to Indians.... " ASK WHAT WE CAN DO FOR INDIA AND DO WHAT HAS TO BE DONE TO MAKE INDIA WHAT AMERICA AND OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES ARE TODAY"
7. Let's do what India needs from us.

*- Based on a speech given by the former President of India
Dr. A.P. J. Abdul Kalam in Hyderabad*

1.1. Answer the following questions briefly: (9 marks)

- 1) What are the negative remarks we SAY about our country? (2m)
- 2) How does an Indian behave in Singapore? (1m)
- 3) List the deeds an Indian would not dare to do while traveling abroad. (2m)
- 4) What is our attitude towards elections and social issues? (2m)
- 5) Dr. Kalam says , “ Our conscience is mortgaged to money.” What does he mean by this statement? (2m)

1.2. Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following. (3 marks)

- a) not genuine, imitation (para 2)
- b) obey the rules (para 3)
- c) surrender, give up (para 4)

2 Read the passage given below: (8 Marks)

If you wish to pursue higher studies without taxing your parents with educational debts, it's time to act now. As education costs escalate every year, it is not feasible for parents to spend the lion's share of their savings on your higher education. However, with a number of scholarship programmes available these days, you can fund your own studies, at least in part. All that you need is a sound academic record and the ability to compete with other candidates. If you are not meritorious, look out for loans, which can be repaid once you have finished your degree.

Scholarships

One of the first avenues that students must explore is the National Science Talent Search (NSTS), which is available to students of class V to XII. If you have an interest in Science and can make a good science project, apply to the NSTS. "After school, fellowships are available for different levels of study that include Science, Arts, and Social Science. There are also scholarships available for research abroad, the information for which is posted to colleges and university departments directly."

For scholarships in the US, enquire at the office of the United States Educational Foundation in India (USEFI) which has an office in New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata. Similarly, if you wish to pursue higher studies in the U.K., drop in at The British Council, which has branches all over the country. The British Chevening Scholarship is awarded to gifted studies in various disciplines in the UK. Similarly, Fulbright is a distinguished US fellowship programme for research scholars.

There are also a number of exchange programmes with different countries, provided by the Government of India. The German Academic Exchange fellowship invites PG students in bio-engineering, bio-pharmacology, metallurgy, environment science, agronomy, veterinary science, horticulture and animal husbandry, with two years of teaching or research experience.

Loans

Alternately, you can look for loans, which can be repaid once you start earning. In India, such loans are available from commercial banks and the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), but both require security. "In banks, some security in the form of immovable property or jewellery may have to be mortgaged, while in the case of LIC, you should have a life insurance policy with premium having been paid for a certain number of years."

If you seek loans to study abroad, such as in the US, you must have a US citizen co-signer and you should have already taken admission in US university. The whole process requires a lot of hard work, merit and self-motivation, but once you complete your degree, self-funding can be extremely rewarding.

- a) **On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub headings. Use recognizable abbreviation wherever necessary. (5 m)**
- b) **Write a summary of the above passage in 80 words. Also suggest a suitable title. (3 m)**

SECTION B
ADVANCED WRITING SKILLS

(35 Marks)

3. There is an exhibition of handicraft items at Dilli Haat, Delhi. Prepare a poster inviting the people to see the exhibition. Give a suitable title to your poster. (5)

Or

You are Dr. Madhu, M.D. You are looking for an independent house in Ghaziabad on a reasonable rent for your residence-cum-clinic. Draft a suitable advertisement in not more than 50 words to be published in Hindustan Times, New Delhi. Your telephone no. is 8812341234.

4. A group of 40 students of Sarvodya School, Pitam Pura, Delhi was selected for an adventure camp to Nainital where the students were given training in mountaineering, boating and rafting. It was a seven-day adventure camp in Summer Vacation. You were one of the students who participated in the camp. Write a report of the camp relating the experiences of the participants at the camp. (125-150) (10)

Or

You are Shravan/Shruti. Yesterday you witnessed a car accident, when a teenager driving very carelessly hit many people standing on a bus-stop. Six persons got injured and one died on the spot. Describe this incident in about 125-150 words, as an eye witness.

5. You are Amita/Arun from NSCB Hostel, Dehradun. You and your friends are planning a holiday. You come across the following advertisement in a newspaper. Read the advertisement and on the basis of your choice of destination write a letter to the tour operator enquiring about various aspects of the tour. (10)

Perfect holiday with friends and family; Unlimited Enjoyment		
Goa	3d/2n	Rs. 7000 for two
Shimla	4d/3n	Rs. 8000 for two
Kerala	4d/3n	Rs. 15000 for two.
Free breakfast, No hidden charges, concession available on bulk booking. Contact Sai Tour and Travel, Vivek Vihar, Delhi -110089.		

Or

You are Kavita/Kailash staying at B-101, Yamuna Vihar, Delhi. You find it disturbing that despite a ban on the use of polythene bags its use is rampant in city. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily expressing your concern about apathy of people towards environmental degradation. Also suggest ways to mobilise city dwellers for the cause of safe environment with the help of school children.

6. Technology has brought about a revolution in all walks of life. People are becoming dependent on new gadgets. Write a speech in 150-200 words to be delivered in the morning assembly. You are Anil/Anita. (10)

Or

Dance, as shown in some reality shows on TV, seems to be a mix of gymnastics and P.T. exercises. Actually it is neither. India has a rich tradition of classical and folk dances. Write an article in 150-200 words on the need to have a reality show exclusively based on Indian classical dances. You are Anu/Arun.

SECTION C

TEXT BOOKS (Flamingo & Vistas) and LONG READING TEXT-NOVEL (30+15 Marks)

7. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: (1 x 4 = 4)

*'Unless, governor, inspector, visitor,
This map becomes their window and these windows
That shut upon their lives like catacombs.'*

- a) Why does the poet invoke 'governor, 'inspector' and 'visitor'?
- b) What does 'this map' refer to? How can it become 'their window'?
- c) What have 'these windows' done to their lives?
- d) What do you understand by catacombs?

Or

*'When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie
Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by.
The tigers in the panel that she made
Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.'*

- a) What is Aunt Jennifer's death symbolic of?
- b) Explain: "terrified hands".
- c) What does 'ringed with ordeals' imply?
- d) Explain: "the tigers in the panel....will go on prancing, proud and unafraid".

8. Answer any TWO of the following questions in about 30-40 words each: (2 x 2 = 4)

- a) Why has the mother been compared to the late winter's moon?
- b) What makes human beings love life in spite of all the suffering? (A Thing of Beauty)
- c) Why does Pablo Neruda urge us to keep still? (Keeping Quiet)

9. Answer any SIX of the following questions in about 30-40 words each: (6 x 2 = 12)

- 1. "Saheb is no longer his own master", says the writer. What does she mean?
- 2. What did M. Hamel say about French language?
- 3. How did the gardener react when Dr. Sadao told him about the wounded American soldier?
- 4. What was Sophie's reaction when Jansie questioned her about Danny Casey?
- 5. Why does Derry go back to Mr. Lamb in the end?
- 6. How did the Governor realize that they had mistaken Evans to be McLeery?
- 7. On learning that her long hair would be cut, the author decided to struggle first. What does this tell us about the author?

10. How did the Champaran episode end the sufferings of the share-croppers? (100-125 words) (5)

Or

Discuss the last moments in the class on the last day of the French lesson?

11. Gandhiji said '*Freedom from fear is more important than legal justice for the poor*'. It is very clear from the lesson 'Indigo' by Louis Fischer that freedom from fear is a pre-requisite for justice. Discuss in an article for the school magazine the Ill-Effects of Fear - analyzing whether Indians are really free from fear after independence. (100 words) (5)
12. How does the legend of Hound which haunted Baskerville lines throughout become the foundation stone of the story? Explain. (150 words) (8)
13. Mrs. and Mr. Barrymore played an important role in maintaining the suspense in the story. How? (125 Words) (7)

| Paper Submitted by: Ms. Dolly Dhawan