



SHREE RADHEY COACHING CENTER

TEST SERIES 1

CLASS 12 - ENGLISH CORE

English Test 1

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

Section A

1. **Read the passage and on the basis of your understanding of the passage answer the questions given below:** [12]

1. India has never subscribed to the doctrine of militarism and war in her history. Here war was never treated as an ideal. It was only tolerated as unavoidable and inevitable, and all attempts were made to check it and bring it under control. In spite of the frequency of wars in ancient India, in spite of highly developed military organization, techniques of war and imperialism, and in spite of the open justification of war as national policy, the heart of India loved pacifism as an ideal capable of realization. India's symbolic role was that of a peacemaker and it sincerely pinned its faith on the principle of 'Live and let live'. At least philosophically, India's intelligence supported the cause of peace not only in national affairs but in international affairs also. All the great seers of the yore visualized the unity of life, permeating all beings, animate or inanimate, which ruled out killing and suicidal wars.
2. This doctrine of philosophical pacifism was practiced by ancient Aryans is, no doubt, a question of controversial nature. Certainly, the great Indian teachers and savants stuck to this doctrine tenaciously and in their personal life they translated it into practice and preached it to masses and even to princes of military classes.
3. Another culture of those times, the existence of which has been proved by the excavations of Mohanjo-Daro, also enunciated the doctrine of pacifism and friendship to all. Strangely enough, the Indus Valley civilization has revealed no fortification and very few weapons.
4. Ahimsa or the doctrine of non-violence in thought, speech and action assumed a gigantic importance in the Buddhist and Jain period. By a constant practice of this virtue, man becomes unassailable by even wild beasts, who forgot their ferocity the moment they entered the circumference of his magnetic influence. The monks and nuns of these churches were apostles of peace, who reached every nook and corner of the world and delivered the message of love to war-weary humanity. The greatest votary was the royal monk Ashoka, who in reality was responsible for transforming Ahimsa as an act of personal virtue, to Ahimsa as an act of national virtue.
5. Many a historian recounting the causes of the downfall of the Mauryas, hold the pacific policy of Ashoka which had eschewed the aggressive militarism of his predecessors, responsible for an early decay of the military strength of the state and its consequent disintegration, leading to the rise of Sungas, Kanvas and Andhras. But, in reality the fault

lies with the weak successors of Ashoka, who could not wield the weapon of non-violence with a skill and efficiency which required the strength of a spiritual giant like Ashoka.

They failed due to their subjective weakness: Pacifism itself was no cause of their failure.

6. Besides the foregoing philosophical and religious school of thought, even many political authorities gave their unqualified support to the cause of pacifisms. They recognized the right of rivals to exist, not mainly as enemies, but as collaborators in the building of a civilization operation. Thus, for centuries, in the pre-Mauryan India, scores of small independent republics existed and flourished without coming in clash with each other.
7. With regard to Kautilya, the much maligned militarist and the so called Machiavelli of India, He thinks that the object of diplomacy is to avoid war.
8. The Mahabharata observes in the connection, "A wise man should be content with what can be obtained by the expedients of conciliation, gift and dissention." It denounces the warring world of men by comparing it to a dog-kennel. "First there comes the wagging of tails, then turning of one round to other, then the show of teeth, then the roaring and then comes the commencement of the fights. It is the same with men; there is no difference whatever." Yajnavalkya adds: 'War is the last expedient to be used when all others have failed.' Likewise, Sri Krishna who's Bhagwad-Gita has been styled by some as 'a song of the battle', should not be considered out and out militarist. When all the three expedients were exhausted, then alone the fourth was resorted to.
9. All possible avenues of peace such as negotiation, conciliation through conference, meditation and so on, were explored before the war was resorted to. This proves that the heart of ancient India was sound and it longed for peace, although war also was not treated as an anathema, which was to be avoided as far as possible. (Words- 737)
(Extract from 'Culture India-Pacifism has been the Ideal' by Sri Indra)

QUESTIONS

1.1 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer any five of the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option:

- a. The heart of India loved ____
 - i. a highly developed military organization
 - ii. techniques of wars and imperialism
 - iii. loans
 - iv. pacifism
- b. Principle of "Live and let live" means
 - i. imperialism
 - ii. militarism
 - iii. frequency of wars among nations
 - iv. role of peace makers
- c. Aryans preached and practiced this to the masses
 - i. non-violence
 - ii. freedom of speech and action
 - iii. philosophical pacifisms
 - iv. practice of military organization

- d. Mahabharata compares the warring world with
 - i. wise men
 - ii. dog kennel
 - iii. song of the battle
 - iv. militarist
- e. Unearthing Mohan-jo-Daro reinforced the following of Pacifism
 - i. there was no fortification and very few weapons
 - ii. they delivered the message of love
 - iii. they were apostles of peace
 - iv. thinks that the object of diplomacy is to avoid war
- f. Which of the following is not part of possible avenues of peace mentioned in this passage?
 - i. Negotiation
 - ii. Conciliation
 - iii. Deals
 - iv. Meditation

1.2 Answer the following questions briefly: (1×5=5)

- i. Describe India's preparedness for war in spite of their belief in Pacifism.
- ii. What is Ahimsa?
- iii. What is the meaning of co-existence with rivals?
- iv. Why should Bhagvad-Gita not be considered as "A song of the battle"?
- v. What are the possible avenues of peace suggested here?

1.3 Pick out the words/phrases from the passage which are similar in meaning to the following: (1×2=2)

- i. express in definite and clear terms (para 3)
- ii. defensive wall (para 3)

2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

[8]

Despite all the research, every one of us catches a cold and most of us catch it frequently. Our failure to control one of the commonest of all ailments sometimes seems ridiculous. Medical science regularly practices transplant surgery and has rid whole countries of such killing diseases such as Typhus and the Plague But the problem of the common cold is unusually difficult and much has yet to be done to solve it.

It is known that cold is caused by one of a number of viral infections that affect the lining of the nose and other passages leading to the lungs, but the confusing variety of viruses makes study and remedy very difficult. It was shown in 1960 that many typical colds in adults are caused by one or the other of a family of viruses known as rhinoviruses, yet there still remain many colds for which no virus has as yet been isolated.

There is also the difficulty that because they are so much smaller than the bacteria which cause many other infections, viruses cannot be seen with ordinary microscopes. Nor can they be cultivated easily in the bacteriologist's laboratory, since they only grow within the living cells of animals or plants. An important recent step forward, however, is the development of the technique of tissue culture, in which bits of animal tissue are enabled to go on living and

to multiply independently of the body. This has greatly aided virus research and has led to the discovery of a large number of viruses. Their existence had previously been not only unknown but even unsuspected.

The fact that we can catch cold repeatedly creates another difficulty. Usually, a virus strikes only once and leaves the victim immune to further attacks. Still we do not gain immunity from cold. Why? It may possibly be due to the fact that while other viruses get into the bloodstream where antibodies can oppose them, the viruses causing cold attack cells only on the surface or it may be that immunity from one of the many different viruses does not guarantee protection from all the others. It seems, therefore, that we are likely to have to suffer colds sometime yet.

- a. On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary-minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it.
- b. Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words.

Section B

3. Publicly we proclaim that dowry is an evil. Privately we want our sons to fetch good dowries. Right from our school days we should be taught that demanding and even giving dowry is not only illegal but immoral too. Draw a poster in about 50 words highlighting dowry as a curse. You are Vikram/Sonia. **[4]**

OR

As Secretary of the Literary Club of St Anne's School, Ahmedabad, draft a formal invitation for all the students in not more than 50 words for the inauguration of the club in your school.

4. As a regular commuter by bus from Noida to Delhi, you have been witnessing rash driving by the bus drivers daily without an exception. Write a letter to the editor, 'The Times of India', drawing the attention of the General Manager, Delhi Transport Corporation, to this problem. You are Priti/Prakash, 15, Udyog Vihar, Noida. **[6]**

OR

You are interested in doing a short-term course in computer graphics during your holidays. Write a letter to the Director, Easy Computers, enquiring about their short-term courses and asking for all the necessary details. You are Naresh/Nandini.

5. The present day youth is greatly stressed due to the cut throat competition and consumerist culture. Write an article in 150-200 words on the causes of the stress on the modern generation suggesting suitable solutions. **[10]**

OR

As you were travelling by train you happened to witness an accident at an unmanned level crossing. As the reporter of a newspaper, write a report on the accident, including details of the number of people injured and the extent of damage caused.

6. Regular practice of yoga can help in maintaining good health and even in the prevention of so many ailments. Write a speech in 150-200 words to be delivered in the morning assembly on the usefulness of yoga. **[10]**

OR

Loudspeakers, bands etc create a lot of disturbance at all hours of day and night especially for students and for the sick. Write a debate in favour of or against the motion in 150-200 words. You

are Saurabh/ Shobha.

Section C

7. Read the extracts given below and briefly answer the questions that follow each: [8]
- a) **Read the following extract and answer the following questions briefly:(1 × 4 = 4)**
- "No, in country money, the country scale of gain,
The requisite lift of spirit has never been found.
Or so the voice of the country seems to complain,
I can't help owing the great relief it would be
To put these people at one stroke out of their pain,
And then the next day as I come back to into the sane
I wonder how I should like you come to me
And offer to put me gently out of my pain."
- Where do these lines occur?
 - Why has the requisite spirit never been found?
 - What does the voice of the country poeple seem to say?
 - What will be of great relief for the poet?
- b) **Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:**
- From the beginning, however, I had an aversion to the water when I was in it. This started when I was three or four years old and father took me to the beach in California. He and I stood together in the surf.
- Whom does 'I' refer to?
 - When did his aversion for water start?
 - What happened at the beach in California?
 - Which word in the extract means 'foam formed by waves'?
8. Answer any five of the following questions in 30 -40 words each: [10]
- "But the thing that surprised me the most was to see..." What surprised Franz most in the class?
 - What does Saheb look for in the garbage dumps?
 - Why did the peddler sign himself as Captain Van Stahle ?
 - Why are Aunt Jennifer's hands 'terrified'?
 - How did Sam settle down in the old Galesburg?
 - Why did Roger Skunk go to the Wizard?
 - What difficulties did Dr. Sadao face for the sake of the enemy?
9. Why was the Champaran episode considered to be the beginning of the Indian struggle for independence? [6]
- OR
- How does Asokamitran pin-point the hectic working of the Gemini Studios?
10. Do you think Derry's chance meeting with Mr Lamb proved meaningful to him? [6]
- OR
- How could the jail authorities have averted Evan's escape?