

PRACTICE PAPER -I

Subject: English Core

Class : XI

Time: 3 Hrs.]

[M.M.: 80

Q1. Read the following passage carefully:

1. The whole movement of man's life is towards greater freedom. As a child grows up, his dependence upon his parents and family progressively diminishes, while his freedom and self-reliance increase all the time. The goal of life seems to be headed in the direction of complete liberty. But what do we understand by the word 'freedom'? Freedom only means the capability of self-government. For the highest function of freedom is to make us capable of governing ourselves. Nietzsche says, "He who cannot obey himself will be commanded." Freedom does not mean liberty to do anything that one pleases. Freedom has no meaning without responsibility, for only the responsible can be truly free for nothing is liable to a greater abuse than freedom.
2. All development is a process whereby we learn how to make the right choices. Hence, it won't be far from truth to say that all values are created in freedom. And what, one may ask, is the purpose of freedom? The purpose of freedom is only one - it is perfection. " The entire process of time and development is from the less to the more perfect, whether it be in moral, ethical, physical, mental or spiritual perfection. Freedom is the necessary condition in which the ideal of perfection may be realised. Complete freedom of choice means complete freedom to do what you want to do - and is the only means to self - realization. The fully realised being is the highest ideal, not only because he fulfils himself, but also because being fully realised, he helps others to achieve their true potential. Mill says, " In proportion to the development of his individuality, each person becomes more valuable to himself and is, therefore, more capable of being more valuable to others."
3. Freedom, rather than meaning unrestricted licence, means total self-discipline, for discipline alone gives us freedom. Discipline is the means of achieving that which a free mind has evolved. Discipline is not an obstruction to freedom, but a passage to it, for the more disciplined you are, the more free you are to do that which you desire. And discipline must be imposed upon you if you cannot discipline yourself. Discipline means order while freedom may exist in chaos. And nothing worthwhile can be achieved where there is disorder and anarchy. Chaos has no

power to effect anything worthwhile. So, give up all ideas you may have that freedom meant doing anything that you fancy, for if you fancy disorder, you are not free, but bound. Know that only he has liberty who has control. Only he has speed, who has brakes. Only he must fly, who can land. Only he must start, who can stop. Liberty without control is like a car without brakes. It will crash. Freedom has no meaning to achieve the objectives of humanity.

1.1 On the basis of your reading, make notes on it using recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply a suitable title to it.

1.2 Write a summary of the passage based on your notes in about 80 words.

Q2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. Today there is a lot of talk about the environment. All nations are coming to an agreement to save planet earth. Like we pollute the earth, we pollute the water; we also pollute the subtle environment through our negative feelings and emotions. We have become a victim of our environment. We are not in control of our mind. We hear a lot about other things in life but we spend very little time to hear about ourselves. How to handle our mind? How to be in present moment? How to be happy and be grateful? This we not learnt. This is the most unfortunate thing. Then, what is the solution? This is where we miss a very fundamental principle that governs our environment, our mind, our emotions and our life in general
2. Our body has the capacity to sustain much longer the vibrations of bliss and peace than it does negative emotions because positivity is in the centre of our existence. Just like in the structure of atom, protons and neutrons are in the centre of the atom and electrons are only the periphery, same is with our lives; the centre core of our existence is bliss, positivity and joy, but it is surrounded by a cloud of negative ions. Through the help of the breath, we can easily get over our negative emotions in a short period of time. Through meditation and certain breathing techniques, we can clear this negative cloud.
3. This life has so much to offer to you. You can see this once you take some time off, rejuvenating the soul. Your soul is hungry for a smile from you. If you could give this, you feel energised the whole year and nothing, whatsoever, can take the smile away from you.
4. Everyone wants to be successful in life. But without knowing what is success, you want to be successful. What is the sign of success? Just having a lot of money, is that success? Why do you think money means success? Because money gives you freedom so that you can do whatever you want. You may have a big bank balance but you have stomachaches, ulcers, you may have to go for bypass

surgery; can't eat this, can't do this, can't do that. We spend half our health to gain wealth and spend half our wealth to gain back the health. is this success? It is very bad mathematics.

5. Look at those who claim to be successful - are they successful? No, they are miserable. Then, what is the sign of success? It is confidence, compassion, generosity and a smile that none can snatch away, being really happy and being able to be more free. These are the signs of a successful person.
6. Take some time off to look a little deeper into yourself and calm the mind down. Thus, erasing all the impressions that we are carrying in our minds and experience the presence, the divine that is the very core of our existence. This is feeling the presence.

2.1 Answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given choices:

(a) How do we pollute our environment?

- (i) by becoming victims to our environment
- (ii) by not listening to indications about ourselves.
- (iii) through our negative thoughts and feelings.
- (iv) by not being in control of our mind.

(b) How can we get rid of our negative emotions?

- (i) by keeping longer the vibrations of bliss
- (ii) through meditations and using some breathing techniques
- (iii) by ignoring clouds
- (iv) by preserving the protons and neutrons

(c) In para 2, positivity has been compared to

- (i) protons and neutrons
- (ii) electrons
- (iii) cloud of ions
- (iv) atom

(d) We can feel the presence of the divine at the core of our existence if we

- (i) are healthy
- (ii) take time off

(iii) can erase the impressions in our minds

(iv) meditate

(e) 'Sustain' in para 2 means....

(i) keep alive

(ii) experience

(iii) remember

(iv) create

(f) 'Erase' in para 6 means

(i) cover

(ii) wipe off

(iii) hide

(iv) destroy

2.1 Answer the following questions briefly:

(g) What, according to the author, is 'bad mathematics'?

(h) What are the signs of a successful person?

(i) What can happen if we calm the mind down?

(j) What does the author mean by saying 'positivity' is in the centre of our existence?

(k) Find out the word which means the same as 'edge' (para 2)

12 marks

SECTION - B (WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR)

Q3. Your school is holding an exhibition of the handicraft objects made by the students. Prepare a poster announcing the event and showing its highlights.

OR

You are Yash /Yashika, living at M-47, Wajirpur, Delhi. You want to sell off your MI phone. Draft an advertisement for the classified columns of a national daily giving its details and the price expected.

4 marks

Q4. You are Riyazzuddin / Rihana, the Secretary of your school sports club. On behalf of the school Principal, write a letter to the Sales Manager of Delhi Sports Store, Murad Nagar, Delhi, placing an order for sports equipment - cricket bats, balls, volley balls, rackets etc.

OR

You are Gunjan / Ganesh Mehta, a software engineer, residing in 21C, MIG Flats, Ashok Vihar. You read an advertisement seeking web designers for a private company called Infinite solutions, C - 320, Greater Kailash, Delhi. Apply for the post, with complete biodata, to the Personnel Manager of the company. 6 marks

- Q5.** You feel that the present generation is losing its health due to sedentary life style. There is a need to create awareness regarding health and fitness. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily expressing your views.

OR

You are Anubhav or Anita of Adarsh Vidyalaya, Rajouri Garden. Your school has been getting an erratic supply of power for last many weeks. Write a letter of complaint to the authority concerned. 6 marks

- Q6.** Your school organised a cleanliness drive on Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary. Students took the responsibility of keeping clean - the classrooms, corridors, assembly and playgrounds, canteen area and drinking water area. Write a report (150-200 words) on how the drive was organised and how successful it was.

OR

Many students of your school volunteered for a two day Meditation camp. You feel meditation can be extremely useful in modern times of stress and tension. Write an article for your school magazine in 150-200 words. 10 marks

- Q7.** The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction against it.

1. A good - mannered man says please when he
2. needed help. You, on the other hand simply
3. expect people to do your jobs.. I am telling you many times but
4. you always forgetting to make a request.

2 marks

- Q8.** In the passage given below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after the word.

1. Sea given food and shelters to countless creatures.
2. It is potential source of protein.
3. In 1900 the world only 150 crore,

Q9. Rearrange the following words to form meaningful sentences:

1. of / plenty / is / only / earth / water / contains / the / the / planet / which
2. life / this / water / with / pulsating / has / colourful / made / and / earth / our

2 marks

SECTION - C (TEXT BOOKS)

Q10. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow :

Where did my childhood go? It went to some forgotten place, That's hidden in an infant's face, That's all I know.

- (a) Why is the poet worried?
- (b) Where has the poet's childhood gone?

OR

I do not understand this child
Though we have lived together now
In the same house for years. I know
Nothing of him, so try to build
Up a relationship from how
was when small.

- (a) Why does Poet feel he knows nothing of 'him'?
- (b) How does the poet plans to rebuild a relationship with his son?

2 marks

Q11. Answer any five of the following questions:

1. What is Taplow's opinion about the Greek tragedy ' Agamemnon'?
2. What does the notice 'the world's most dangerous animal' at a cage in the zoo at Lusaka, Zambia signify?
3. Why does the narrator refer to the Black Hole of Calcutta?(Ranga's Marriage)
4. What had the camera captured in the poem 'photograph'?
5. What did the workmen say in their defence when the king ordered them to be hanged?(The Tale of Melon City)
6. Einstein was not very happy in his lodgings. What disturbed him the most?

5×2 = 10 marks

Q12. Would you agree that the author's grandmother was a person strong in character? If yes, give instances that show this.(The Portrait of a Lady)

OR

The narrator mentions ' a crazy streak' running in his family. Which two characters show this streak in their behaviour and words and how?

6 marks

Q13. Why did Andrew say, 'I've done something real at last'?

OR

Shahid faced his end very bravely. Comment.

6 marks

Q14. Do you think that the issues raised in the play 'Mother's Day' have any contemporary relevance ? Justify your stand.

Or

How is over population responsible for impoverishment and exploitation of resources?

1. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

1. No student of a foreign language needs to be told that grammar is complex. By changing word sequences and by adding a range of auxiliary verbs and suffixes, we are able to communicate tiny variations in meaning. We can turn a statement into a question, state whether an action has taken place or is soon to take place, and perform many other word tricks to convey subtle differences in meaning. Nor is this complexity inherent to the English language. All languages, even those of so-called 'primitive' tribes have clever grammatical components. The Cherokee pronoun system, for example, can distinguish between 'you and Y, 'several other people and I' and 'you, another person and I'. In English, all these meanings are summed up in the one. crude pronoun 'we'. Grammar is universal and plays a part in every language, no matter how widespread it is. So the question which has baffled many linguists is - who created grammar?
2. At first, it would appear that this question is impossible to answer. To find out how grammar is created, someone needs to be present at the time of a language's creation, documenting its emergence. Many historical linguists are able to trace modern complex languages back to earlier languages, but in order to answer the question of how complex languages are actually formed, the researcher needs to observe how languages are started from scratch. Amazingly, however, this is possible.

3. Some of the most recent languages evolved due to the Atlantic slave trade. At that time, slaves from a number of different ethnicities were forced to work together under colonizer's rule. Since they had no opportunity to learn each others languages, they developed a makeshift language called a pidgin. Pidgins are strings of words copied from the language of the landowner. They have little in the way of grammar, and in many cases it is difficult for a listener to deduce when an event happened, and who did what to whom. Speakers need to use circumlocution in order to make their meaning understood. Interestingly, however, all it takes for a pidgin to become a complex language is for a group of children to be exposed to it at the time when they learn their mother tongue. Slave children did not simply copy the strings of words uttered by their elders, they adapted their words to create a new, expressive language. Complex grammar systems which emerge from pidgins are termed Creoles, and they are invented by children.
4. Further evidence of this can be seen in studying sign languages for the deaf. Sign languages are not simply a series of gestures; they utilise the same grammatical machinery that is found in spoken languages. Moreover, there are many different languages used worldwide. The creation of one such language was documented quite recently in Nicaragua. Previously, all deaf people were isolated from each other, but in 1979 a new government introduced schools for the deaf. Although children were taught speech and lip reading in the classroom, in the playgrounds they began to invent their own sign system, using the gestures that they used at home. It was basically a pidgin. Each child used the signs differently, and there was no consistent grammar. However, children who joined the school later, when this inventive sign system was already around, developed a quite different sign language. Although it was based on the signs of the older children, the younger children's language was more fluid and compact, and it utilised a large range of grammatical devices to clarify meaning. What is more, all the children used the signs in the same way. A new Creole was born.
5. Some linguists believe that many of the world's most established languages were Creoles at first. The English past tense -ed ending may have evolved from the verb 'do'. 'It ended' may once have been 'It end-did'. Therefore it would appear that even the most widespread languages were partly created by children. Children appear to have innate grammatical machinery in their brains, which springs to life when they are first trying to make series the world around them. Their minds can serve to create logical, complex structures, even when there is no grammar present for them to copy.

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

1×4 = 4

- (a) In paragraph 1, why does the writer include information about the Cherokee language?
 - (i) To show how simple, traditional cultures can have complicated grammar structures.
 - (ii) To show how English grammar differs from Cherokee grammar.
 - (iii) To prove that complex grammar structures were invented by the Cherokees.
 - (iv) To demonstrate how difficult it is to learn the Cherokee language.
- (b) What can be inferred about the slaves' pidgin language?
 - (i) It contained complex grammar.
 - (ii) It was based on many different languages.
 - (iii) It was difficult to understand, even among slaves.
 - (iv) It was created by the land-owners.
- (c) All the following sentences about Nicaraguan sign language are true EXCEPT:
 - (i) The language has been created since 1979.
 - (ii) The language is based on speech and lip reading.
 - (iii) The language incorporates signs which children used at home.
 - (iv) The language was perfected by younger children.
- (d) Which idea is presented in the final paragraph?
 - (i) English was probably once a Creole.
 - (ii) The English past tense system is inaccurate.
 - (iii) Linguists have proven that English was created by children.
 - (iv) Children say English past tenses differently from adults.

1.2 Answer the following questions briefly:

- (a) What is common to all languages?
- (b) How can we find out who created grammar?

- (c) According to the passage what can be attributed as a consequence of the Atlantic slave trade?
 - (d) What is pidgin?
 - (e) What are Creoles?
 - (f) Why does the author say that even the most widespread languages were partly created by children?
- 1.3 Pick out the words/phrases from the passage which are similar in meaning to the following: 1×2=2
- (a) simple and temporary (Para 3)
 - (b) uniform (Para 4)

Q2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

My Vision of My India

In 3000 years of our history people from all over the world have come and invaded us, captured our lands, conquered our minds. From Alexander onwards, the Greeks, the Turks, the Moguls, the Portuguese, the British, the French, the Dutch, all of them came and looted us, took over what was ours. Yet we have not done this to any other nation. We have not conquered anyone. We have not grabbed their land, their culture, their history and tried to enforce our way of life on them. Why? Because we respect the freedom of others.

That is why my first vision is that of FREEDOM. I believe that India got its first vision of this in 1857, when we started the war of independence. It is this freedom that we must protect and nurture and build on. If we are not free, no one will respect us.

My second vision for India is DEVELOPMENT. For fifty years we have been a developing nation. It is time we see ourselves as a developed nation.

I have a third vision. India must stand up to the world. Because I believe that unless India stands up to the world, no one will respect us. Only strength respects strength. We must be strong not only as a military power but also as an economic power. Both must go hand in hand.

My good fortune was to have worked with three great minds, Dr. Vikram Sarabhai of the Dept. of space, Professor Satish Dhawan, who succeeded him and Dr. Brahm Prakash, father of nuclear material. I was lucky to have worked with all three of them closely and consider this the great opportunity of my life. Here I am reminded of an old instance - One day an orthopaedic surgeon from Nizam Institute of Medical Sciences visited my laboratory. He lifted the material and found it so light that he took

me to his hospital and showed me his patients. There were these little girls and boys with heavy metallic callipers weighing over three kg. each, dragging their feet around. He said to me: " Please remove the pain of my patients". In three weeks, we made these Floor reaction Orthosis 300 gram callipers and took them to the orthopaedic centre. The children didn't believe their eyes. From dragging around a three kg. load on their legs, they could now move around! Their parents had tears in their eyes. That was bliss to me.

I have a question : Why is the media here so negative? Why are we in India so embarrassed to recognize our own strengths, our achievements? We are such a great nation. We have so many amazing success stories but we refuse to acknowledge them. Why?

Another question : Why are we, as a nation so obsessed with foreign things? We want foreign TVs, we want foreign shirts. We want foreign technology. Why this obsession with everything imported? Don't we realise that self-respect comes with self-reliance?

I was in Hyderabad giving this 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, I will have to build this developed India.

You must proclaim. As an aside from yours truly : India is not an underdeveloped nation, it is a highly developed nation in an advanced state of decay! (560 words).

(A.P.J.Abdul Kalam)

Q2.1. Choose the best alternative from the answers given below: (1 × 5 = 5)

- a) India has been plundered by :
 - i) the Greeks and the Portuguese
 - ii) the French and the Dutch
 - iii) the British
 - iv) all of the above.
- b) What does the author mean when he says - Yet we have not done this to other nations?
 - i) India has not conquered and plundered other nations
 - ii) India has not snatched away the history and culture of other nations
 - iii) Both(i) and (ii)
 - iv) None of the above

- c) India has not conquered other nations because
 - i) India is afraid of other nations
 - ii) India respects the freedom of other countries
 - iii) India lacks military strength
 - iv) All of the above
- d) When did Indians first have the vision of freedom?
 - i) In 1857 during the first war of independence
 - ii) During the first World War
 - iii) During the Quit India Movement
 - iv) None of the above
- e) Dr.A.P.J.Abdul Kalam envisages India which is....
 - i) Free and developed
 - ii) Militarily and economically strong
 - iii) Self-reliant
 - iv) All of the above

Q2.2. Answer the following questions in reference to the above passage. (1 × 7 = 7)

- a) What does Dr. Kalam want us to protect and nurture?
- b) Why must India stand up to the world?
- c) The great scientists who inspired A.P.J. Abdul Kalam are (i) (ii) and (iii)
- d) Why do we need to give up our obsession with foreign things?
- e) Explain briefly the statement - That was bliss to me.
- f) Find the synonym of the following from the above passage, i) Nurse ii) supersede