



विद्या सर्वार्थ साधिका

ANANDALAYA
ANNUAL EXAMINATION
Class : XI

Subject : English Core
Date : 12-02-2020

M.M : 80
Time : 3 Hours

General Instructions:

1. This paper is divided into three sections: A, B and C.
2. All the sections are compulsory.
3. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
4. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION- A (READING) 20 Marks

1. Read the passage and answer the questions given below:
 1. Even in today's digital world, every Indian's morning starts with a steaming cup of tea or coffee and a crisp fresh newspaper. An Indian can do without a government but not without its media. If the media were to go silent, tea stalls and "tapri" cafes would run out of business, family gatherings would lose their special heated discussions and parties would turn tasteless and bland. Our media not only affects our country's political and social scenario, but also affects the people's social lives. We the people of India, in our preamble swear to make this country "a sovereign, socialist, democratic republic" and without the support of the fourth pillar of our democracy, that is impossible. Media as watchdog keeps an eye on the workings of the government, ensuring that it is always on its toes working for the development of the country. It is the eyes and ears of the general public, without these senses, the common man would be nothing more than a puppet at the hands of the politicians. Every great personage has stressed the importance of a free and unbiased media, be it Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Mahatma Gandhi or Nelson Mandela.
 2. However, today when the newspaper pages are coloured with gossips rather than facts, news channels are more interested in TRP than the truth and social media is running astray with rumours, one may have second thoughts about the significance of their eyes and ears. The media has become more a propagator of emotions than that of information. It distorts, mutilates and twists facts to fit a picture that can be best sold in the market. Moreover, they sprinkle it with tangy spices to make it look more appealing. Hence what comes in front of the common man is not news but "bhel". India is the biggest market for the 4th pillar of democracy with over 82,237 registered newspapers, being circulated across different regions, and almost 700 television news channel, running all over India, and these numbers are increasing day by day. For social media platforms also namely Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Whatsapp India provides for their largest user base because of its lenient and restriction free cyber laws. With a market so huge, number of contenders also increase and hence comes in commercialisation which kills the news neutrality. Corporates were quick to figure that the highest profit would come to the one that was close to the centre of power and hence began the trend of selective reporting and imposing of views rather than their presentation. Courtesy to this race for profit, media houses made rogue people, overnight celebrities and forgot to lend an ear to the flood victims in Assam because a T.V. actress had commit suicide. This selective coverage sees no boundaries as the media runs trials of the court on public platform and makes drama out of sensitive cases like Arushi Talwar's murder case. Their accusations on judicial institutions, IB and even the army forced our former president Hon. Mr. Pranab Mukherjee to give a formal statement curbing this "circus". He said, "Discussion and dissension are crucial for a spirited democracy, and it must hold public institutions accountable for all their actions and inactions. There should always be room for the argumentative Indian, and not the intolerant Indian. The media must be the watchdog, the mediator between the leaders and the public".
 3. Media in any democracy is a vital necessity. The first step towards a totalitarian or any other

dictatorship is the suppressing of the free press because for such a government to strive, it is necessary that the people remain uninformed. Hence, our media is our eyes and ears. It is the link between us and those sitting on statures of high power. We need to ensure that the foundation of this pillar remains firm and erect, and greed, corruption and power do not eat through it.

COURTESY: - AN ARTICLE BY ANUSHKA M. (FORMER ANANDALAYA STUDENT)

- 1.1 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). Also supply an appropriate title to it. (5)
- 1.2 Write a summary of the passage in about 80-100 words. (3)
2. Read the poem and answer the questions that follow: (12)

<p><i>The free bird leaps on the back of the wind and floats downstream till the current ends and dips his wings in the orange sun rays and dares to claim the sky.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>But a bird that stalks down his narrow cage can seldom see through his bars of rage his wings are clipped and his feet are tied so he opens his throat to sing.</i></p> <p><i>The caged bird sings with fearful trill of the things unknown but longed for still and his tune is heard on the distant hill for the caged bird sings of freedom</i></p>	<p><i>The free bird thinks of another breeze and the trade winds soft through the sighing trees and the fat worms waiting on a dawn-bright lawn and he names the sky his own.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>But a caged bird stands on the grave of dreams his shadow shouts on a nightmare scream his wings are clipped and his feet are tied so he opens his throat to sing</i></p> <p><i>The caged bird sings with a fearful trill of things unknown but longed for still and his tune is heard on the distant hill for the caged bird sings of freedom.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">POET: - MAYA ANGELOU</p>
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Choose the correct alternatives from the options given below:

- (i) The caged bird is different from the free bird because
 (a) it does not have any wings to fly (b) its tail has been clipped
 (c) it cannot fly in the sky (d) it can sing
- (ii) The caged bird's song expresses
 (a) his desire for unknown things (b) his desire for freedom
 (c) his nightmares (d) all the above
- (iii) What does the phrase 'claims the sky' in the first stanza tell us about this bird?
 (a) That it has the whole sky to fly in (b) That it is free (anyone)
 (c) Both 'a' and 'b' (d) None of the above
- (iv) What does the 'bars of rage' tell us about the condition of the bird in the second stanza?
 (a) The bird is in a dirty cage (b) The cage is very strong
 (c) The bird is physically disabled (d) It is angry at the loss of its freedom
- (v) Explain the phrase 'grave of dreams'.
 (a) The caged bird has had to bury all his dreams (b) The bird has nightmares
 (c) The bird is about to die (d) The bird is afraid of its dreams
- (vi) Find the word from the poem which means the same as opposite of 'upstream'. (stanza 1)
 (a) Downstream (b) Current
 (c) Trill (d) Dip

Answer the following questions briefly

- (vii) Though the bird in the second stanza is in captivity he has not lost his spirit. Pick out a line from this stanza that tells us this.
- (viii) In the third and fourth stanza, conditions of the free bird and the caged bird have been highlighted. Pick out any one contrasting image from these lines.
- (ix) Why has the caged bird's song been called a 'fearful trill'?
- (x) Give a suitable and creative title to the poem.
- (xi) Find the word from the poem which means the same as 'have a strong wish or desire'. (stanza 6)
- (xii) Find the word from the poem which means the same as 'cut'. (stanza 2)

SECTION-B (WRITING AND GRAMMAR) 30 Marks

3. You are Ketaki/Ketan Verma and you want to write a matrimonial for your son who is a Software Engineer and working in an MNC in New Zealand. Write an advertisement inventing all the necessary details to be published in matrimonial columns in a reputed News paper.

OR

(4)

You are Sharmila/Sujoy Ghosh. As the Principal of your school send an invitation to all the parents for a seminar on the topic 'Effective Parenting in 21st Century'. Invent all the necessary details.

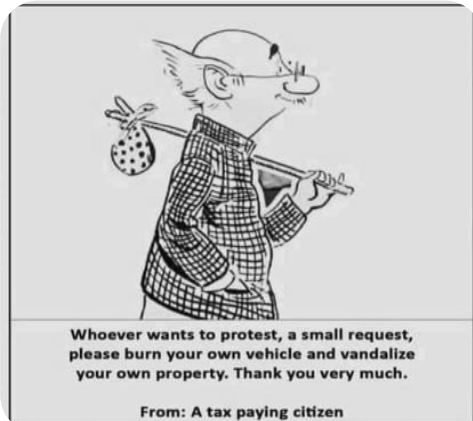
4. You are an MBBS doctor and want to apply for the job of a General Physician in Sanjeevani Hospital. The hospital has published the advertisement in a News paper. Write an application and resume for the same in 120-150 words.

OR

(6)

You are Devaki/Devashish Mohanti and the Estate Officer at Navsamvat College, Surat. Your college is celebrating 'Youth Festival-2020' for all the college going students of the district. Write a letter to 'Supreme Event Management Pvt. Ltd.' and place an order for furniture, food for the dinner, audio system, decoration etc. (120-150 words)

5.



Presently violent demonstrations are becoming a new normal for our country. As a concerned citizen you feel that opposing a policy is a basic right in democracy but destroying public properties and disturbing the peace of common people is against our duties. Write a letter to the Editor of a News paper expressing your concern and suggesting some solutions. Take yourself as Taher/Tahera Ali.

(120-150 words)

OR

(6)



You are the President of 'Sharnam Housing Society, Ahmedabad'. As the society is situated near a national highway, there have been many cases of accidents. Write a letter to the Municipal Commissioner to get the speed breakers built so that these unfortunate accidents can be avoided. Take yourself as Shreya/Shreyas Bhatia. (120-150 words)

6. You recently witnessed an inauguration ceremony of a multiplex opened in your city. A famous celebrity had come as a chief guest. Write a narrative based on your observations of the events happened during the function. Also, write how celebrities bring glamour to such functions and attract people. (150-200 words)

OR

(8)

You are Ajay/Anu, Head Boy/Girl of Kendriya Vidyalaya, Kanpur. You have seen some students of your school littering the school compound and verandah with tiffin leftovers. It makes the school look cluttered and untidy. Write a speech in 150-200 words to be delivered in the morning assembly, on the importance of cleanliness and advising such students to keep the school neat and clean. (150-200 words)

7. Complete the following paragraph by filling in the blanks. (2)

The Sports Authority of India held a seminar at Talkatora Stadium to discuss ways to (b) the performance and record of Indian Cricket Team in World Cricket. The selection Board (c) urged to rise above politics (d) regionalism in the selection of players for the team. The spirit and dignity of the game (e) be maintained, and it should be played for pleasure and entertainment.

8. Read the given below conversation and complete the paragraph that follows. (2)

Mother : Why are you late from school, Amit ?

Amit : While coming from school to bus stop, slipped by stepping on a banana peel.

Mother : O, my son! Did you hurt yourself?

Amit : I got a bad bruise on my left knee.

Mother asked Amit (i) Amit replied that while coming from school to bus stop (ii) peel. Mother was shocked to hear this. She further asked (iii) Amit answered that (iv)

9. In the following passage, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it. The first one has been done for you as an example. (2)

There several reasons for headache. **e.g.** Before Missing After
There are several

Physical, emotional and mental factors,

- (i) anxiety and tension are few.
(ii) sometimes, headache can a signal
(iii) of underlying disease. More
(iv) than medicine, it is yoga suits the need.

SECTION-C (LITERATURE) 30 Marks

10. Read the extract given below and briefly answer the questions that follow (**any two**): (2)

*“Silence surrounds us. I would have
Him prodigal, returning to
His father’s house, the home he knew,
Rather than seeing him make and move
His world. I would forgive him too.”*

- (i) What does the silence symbolize?
(ii) What is it the father cannot bear to see?
(iii) What is meant by ‘have him return prodigal’?
(iv) What is the speaker’s preference and desire?

OR

*“The Laburnum top is silent, quite still
In the afternoon yellow September sunlight
A few leaves yellowing, all its seeds fallen.*

- (i) What is the season indicated in the poem and what is the evidence?
(ii) What is state of the laburnum tree ?
(iii) What is the reason for its silence?
(iv) State and explain the figure of speech used in line 1.
11. Answer **any five** of the following questions in 30-40 words each: (10)

- (i) Why did Captain Gordon Cook feel that he was not the best captain? What was the surprise in store for him?
(ii) Tibetan mastiffs were popular in China's imperial courts. Explain.
(iii) What is the meaning of the line 'Both wry with the laboured ease of loss'?
(iv) Who was Ratna? Why was Shyama keen on getting her married to Ranga?
(v) Why did the truth about George Pearson hurt him so?
(vi) "A suspicious man would believe his eyes instead of his heart." In what context was this observation made and by whom?
(vii) How did Shahid's upbringing help him imbibe a global or cosmopolitan outlook?
(viii) There lies a great difference between textbook medicine and the world of a practicing physician. Explain on the basis of your reading of 'Birth'.
12. 'Are we to leave our successors a scorched planet of advancing deserts, impoverished landscapes and an ailing environment?'
This statement was written by Nani Palkhivala more than 25 years ago as part of his article for the cause of environmental conservation. Examine it in context of the recent incidents around the world related to horrific environmental degradation, the cause of which were humans.
(120-150 words)

OR (6)

What does the play 'The Browning Version' reveal about Taplow's thoughts about his teachers and learning? Do you agree with him? Elaborate. (120-150 words)

13. The narrator in 'The Address' underwent hardships caused by war. She was not only separated from her loved ones forever but was also robbed of her possessions.
Humans are well-aware of the destructiveness of war, still countries continue to wage wars against each other. As a thinking person, why do you think this continues? Will there be any end to it? Suggest solutions. (120-150 words)

OR (6)

The citizens of Melon city readily accept a melon as their ruler. They continue to do their work regardless of who occupies the throne. Which values do these citizens exhibit here which can be imbibed by people all around the world. (120-150 words)

14. How is the concept of 'brut art' in contrast to 'a perfect, illusionistic likeness' more realistic and accommodative in terms of art ? Which concept do you like, why? (120-150 words)

OR (6)

The outcome of the Battle of Panipat in the alternative universe was radically different. On the basis of your reading of the text and your understanding of the current state of affairs in India, create a conception of our country as being radically different (in an alternative universe) in terms of education, equal opportunities and social upliftment. (120-150 words)