



ANANDALAYA
PERIODIC TEST – 3
Class: XI

Subject : English Core (301)
Date : 10-01-2025

M.M : 40
Time : 1 Hr. 30 Min.

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains four sections.
2. Section A- Reading Section has a passage for comprehension.
3. Section B-Writing Section has two questions. Adhere to the word limit as given in the instructions with each question.
4. Section C- Grammar Section has two questions. Read the instructions carefully.
5. Section D-Literature Section has three questions. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION-A
Reading Section (8 Marks)

1. Read the passage given below.
 - a) We all know that reading is good for us. It can improve brain and memory function and keep your brain operating more effectively as you age. Reading also enhances connectivity in the brain, reduces stress, promotes relaxation, improves sleep, and has the potential to decrease the likelihood of developing Alzheimer's. However, not all of these benefits are created equal across reading platforms. The battle between paper books and e-readers has largely been divided into two camps: those who favour the sentimentality of a paper book versus those who want the practicality and convenience of an e-reader. But now science has stepped in, and to reap the greatest health benefits reading has to offer, research sides with paper books.
 - b) Regular reading improves your brain power and memory function by giving your brain a workout. It may help to slow the process of natural memory and brain function decline that comes with age. According to neuroscientists at Emory University in Atlanta, "reading a gripping novel makes changes in the way the brain connects with different circuits." Although the changes reading creates in the brain may not be permanent, they can last for at least five days, suggesting that the benefits from reading "last longer than the act itself." However, a study conducted at Norway's Stavanger University found that recall of a book's plot after using an e-reader was poorer than with traditional books. Specifically, participants who read a short mystery on a Kindle were significantly worse at remembering the order of events than those who read the same story in paperback. The study suggests that because our sense of touch is not engaged as strongly with an e-reader as it is with a print book, that it does not support mental reconstruction of the story in the same way. In addition, the brain reads by constructing a mental representation of the text based on the placement of the page in the book and the word on the page. To exercise the brain most effectively from reading and promote memory strength, the tactile experience of a book is very important, for example, thickness of the pages in your hands as you progress through a story. E-readers don't provide the same visual sense of progress when you're reading. Although they try to re-create the sensation of flipping a page, the screen is limited to one virtual page at a time, affecting the reader's sense of control. The inability to control the text physically by flipping back to previous pages, making written notes in the margins or bending the pages all limit the sensory experience of reading and thereby reduce long-term memory of the text.

c) Reading an old-fashioned novel not only improves brain function and memory, but can also improve your sleep. As we increasingly spend more and more of our days in front of screens it's important to disconnect and relax, especially before bedtime. Reading a paper book can signal to your body that it's time to sleep. The screen of an e-reader does not have that same calming effect and can actually keep you awake longer, disrupting your sleep pattern. "In fact, the blue light emitted by screens on cell phones, computers, televisions and tablets restrain production of melatonin, the hormone responsible for controlling your sleeping and waking cycle, or circadian rhythm. Reducing melatonin makes it harder to fall asleep and stay asleep," said Dr. Nick Patel, DO of Pulmonary Care Associates. "In order to reduce the risk of technology inhibiting your sleep cycle, give yourself at least 30 minutes away from your gadgets before you go to bed," Patel suggests. In addition, some researchers are now advocating for what they call "slow-reading" which is 30-45 minutes of daily reading, away from the ever-present distractions of technology. Daily "slow-reading" can engage the brain, reduce stress and improve concentration.

- (i) On the basis of your reading of the passage, make notes on it in points only, using abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply a suitable title. (5)
- (ii) Write a summary of the notes in 50 words. (3)

SECTION-B **Writing Section (8 Marks)**

2. Answer the following question in 50 words. (ANY ONE) (3)
- A You are Ram/Rajani. Draft a classified advertisement, in not more than 50 words, to be published in India Times for selling a used sedan car. Give all the necessary details. You can be contacted at 123456769.

OR

- B You are the Director of the National Institute of Vocational Studies, New Delhi. Draft a suitable advertisement for publication in a national daily. Highlight the short-duration vocational courses offered by your institute in areas of technical and communication skills.
3. Answer the following question in 120-150 words. (ANY ONE) (5)
- A Many youths are falling prey to get-rich-quick schemes advertised by scammers. As a concerned member of the Social Welfare Club of your city, prepare a speech cautioning the youth against this trap—stress the necessity of hard work and honesty as the best means of achieving success. You are Shirish /Sharvari, delivering a speech on 'Exposing Scams: The Dangers of Get-Rich-Quick Schemes' at the monthly meeting of your club.

OR

- B Technology has become all-pervasive. It has become nearly impossible to work without gadgets. Hence, students should be allowed to bring mobile phones or tablets to school to help prepare them for the future. Draft a speech for or against the topic 'Students Should Be Allowed to Bring Gadgets to School'. This speech is to be presented in the inter-class debate in the following week.

SECTION-C **Grammar Section (6 Marks)**

4. Read the instructions carefully and answer the questions correctly.
- A Rearrange the following words and phrases to make meaningful sentences. (3x1=3)
- (i) purposes / many / came / to India / various / explorers / for
- (ii) elephants / some / the / came / exotic / land of / looking for
- (iii) travellers / crossed the / to / and traders / see / India / sea

B Do as directed. (3x1=3)

- (i) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter:

Dear Sir

This is concerning the committee's letter of recommendation that _____ (highlight) the nominations for the 'Safe Residential Area' award for this current year.

- (ii) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the closing line, from an analytical report.

In conclusion, this study explores the association among short sleep patterns and overweight youngsters.

Option No.	Error	Correction
A	explores	explore
B	and	or
C	among	between
D	In	for

- (iii) Complete the given narrative, by filling the blank with the correct option.

The experience of nursing an injured bird left me _____ grateful for knowing the importance of being kind and compassionate to all creatures.

(A) feeling (B) having felt (C) felt (D) feels

SECTION-D

Literature Section (18 Marks)

- 5 Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.

A "We speak like strangers, there's no sign
Of understanding in the air.
This child is built to my design
Yet what he loves I cannot share."

(2x1=2)

- (i) How does the phrase 'we speak like strangers' deepen the theme of the passage?
(ii) What emotions do the given lines evoke in the reader, and why?

B "Prepared as he was for many shocks, Professor Gaitonde had not expected this. The East India Company had been wound up shortly after the events of 1857 - at least, that is what history books said."

(2x1=2)

- (i) What is the significance of the phrase 'at least, that is what history books said' in this extract?
(A) To support the reliability of history books.
(B) To cast doubt on the accuracy of recorded history.
(C) To highlight Professor Gaitonde's faith in history.
(D) To criticize modern studies of historical data.

- (ii) How does the phrase "prepared as he was for many shocks" convey about the situation?

C "Andrew did not heed her. Beaten, despairing, having laboured in vain for half an hour, he still persisted in one last effort, rubbing the child with a rough towel, ...trying to get breath into that limp body."

(2x1=2)

- (i) Why does Andrew's persistence stand out in the narrative?

(ii) What is the effect of the phrase “beaten, despairing, having laboured in vain”?

(A) It shows Andrew’s complete indifference to the situation.

(B) It creates a sense of hopelessness while showing Andrew’s perseverance.

(C) It downplays Andrew’s efforts, making them seem insignificant.

(D) It emphasizes the futility of Andrew’s work and eventually giving up.

6 Answer the following questions in 40-50 words. (ANY TWO)

(2x3=6)

(i) Write a summary of the poem ‘Childhood.’

(ii) Is the title ‘Silk Road’ apt? Give reasons to support your stance.

(iii) Why do you think the workmen, the mason and the architect were each blamed for the low arch? What does this reveal about the nature of accountability in the poem?

7. Answer the following question in 120-150 words. (ANY ONE)

(1x6=6)

A In what ways does J.B. Priestley use humour to address serious issues in the play ‘Mother’s Day’? Explain with examples.

OR

B Based on your reading of ‘Silk Road’, explore the reasons why people willingly undergo the travails of difficult journeys.