

# CLASS XI – ANNUAL EXAMINATION

## ENGLISH PAPER I

(LANGUAGE)

(Maximum Marks: 100)

(Time allowed: Three hours)

(Candidates are allowed **additional 15 minutes for only reading the paper.**

*They must NOT start writing during this time.*)

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*Attempt all four questions.*

*The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [ ].  
(You are advised to spend not more than 45 minutes on Question 1, 55 minutes on  
Question 2, 30 minutes on Question 3 and 50 minutes on Question 4.)*

*(You should begin each answer on a fresh page.)*

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### Question 1

[25]

Write a composition (in 400-450 words) on any **one** of the following subjects:

(You are reminded that you will be rewarded for orderly and coherent presentation of material, use of appropriate style and general accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar.)

- (a) You got involved in an event unintentionally. This experience helped you discover a hidden talent/ interest. Narrate the incident and write how this discovery enriched your life.
- (b) You went to a national park on a holiday with your family. During the safari, a wild animal walked across your path when you least expected it. Describe the animal's behaviour, your family's reactions and your feelings during this encounter.
- (c) A world without rules is a happier place. Argue *for* or *against* this proposition.
- (d) Every individual has a mission to accomplish on this earth. Express your views on this statement.
- (e) Masks
- (f) Write an original short story that begins with the lines:  
With a look of supreme confidence, she walked onto the stage .....

### Question 2

- (a) An earthquake hits a state in your country. Write a newspaper report in about 300 words using the given points: [20]  
Date, time, areas affected – damage caused to life and property – immediate rescue work – visit of dignitaries – relief camp set up – national and international reaction and concern – fear of epidemic and measures to control it – fund raising effort.
- (b) As the President of the Social Service Club of your school, you want to arrange a visit to an elder care centre and spend a day with the residents. Write a proposal in not more than 150 words, stating the steps you would take to successfully brighten their day. [10]

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This Paper consists of 4 printed pages.



**Question 3**

Answer sections (a), (b) and (c).

- (a) In each of the following items, sentence A is complete, but sentence B is not. Complete sentence B, making it as similar in meaning as possible to sentence A. Write down sentence B in each case. [10]

Example: (0) (A) On seeing the rat, she shrieked.

(B) As soon as .....

Answer: (0) (B) As soon as she saw the rat, she shrieked.

1. (A) His group called him a thief and a liar.

(B) He was .....

2. (A) He will miss his flight if he does not start on time.

(B) Unless .....

3. (A) He said that he had passed the examination.

(B) He said, "....."

4. (A) He insisted that he was innocent.

(B) He insisted on .....

5. (A) But for the bad weather, the programme would have been a success.

(B) Had it .....

6. (A) When the cat is away, the mice will play.

(B) In the .....

7. (A) As soon as we finished our work, we went to the mall.

(B) No sooner .....

8. (A) The hot weather did not deter a huge crowd from turning up.

(B) In spite of .....

9. (A) When I returned to my desk, I found a note from the teacher.

(B) On .....

10. (A) Binu is more courageous than his brother.

(B) Binu's brother .....

- (b) Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (Do not copy the sentence)

[5]

1. We should make an effort to bring \_\_\_\_\_ a change.

2. It is difficult to bring \_\_\_\_\_ the meaning in one sentence.

3. It is dark, so I turned \_\_\_\_\_ the light.

4. Since I am not watching this programme, could you please turn \_\_\_\_\_ the television?

5. Please look \_\_\_\_\_ the word in the dictionary.

6. We should not look \_\_\_\_\_ upon the poor.

7. He agreed \_\_\_\_\_ me that learning should be fun.

8. The committee agreed \_\_\_\_\_ the proposal.

9. Mr. Ravi is supposed to take \_\_\_\_\_ when the manager retires.

10. The child has taken \_\_\_\_\_ her mother in many ways.



- (c) In the following passage, fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the verb given in brackets. (Do not copy the passage but write in correct serial order the word appropriate to the blank space.) [5]

Since computers were first introduced to the public in the early 1980's, technology \_\_\_\_\_ (1) (change) a great deal. The first computers \_\_\_\_\_ (2) (be) simple machines designed for basic tasks. They \_\_\_\_\_ (3) (not have) much memory and they \_\_\_\_\_ (4) (be) not very powerful. Early computers \_\_\_\_\_ (5) (buy) for thousands of dollars and they were machines which actually \_\_\_\_\_ (6) (do) very little. Most computers were separate, individual machines \_\_\_\_\_ (7) (use) mostly as expensive typewriters or for \_\_\_\_\_ (8) (play) games. Now, computers \_\_\_\_\_ (9) (become) powerful machines and programmers \_\_\_\_\_ (10) (create) useful applications every single day.

#### Question 4

Read carefully the passage given below and answer the questions (a), (b) and (c) that follow:

1. I knew Chandu ever since the days he wore a piece of rag in the middle of his body. We played at soldiering, shopkeeping, or clerking and other little games, which we invented ourselves.
2. Chandu was my senior by about six months, and he always took the lead in all matters. And I willingly followed, because truly he was a genius at catching wasps, and at pressing the poison out of their tails, at tying their tiny legs to cotton thread and flying them, while I always got stung on the cheeks if I dared to go anywhere near the village well, where these insects settled. 5
3. When we grew up, he still seemed to me the embodiment of perfection, because he could make and fly paper kites of such intricate design and with such balance as I could never achieve. To be sure, he was not so good at doing sums at school as I was, perhaps because his father apprenticed him early to the hereditary barber's profession. He sent him out haircutting in the village, and Chandu had no time for the home tasks which our schoolmaster gave us. But he was better than I at reciting poetry, any day, for not only did he remember by rote the verses in the textbook, he could repeat the endless pages of prose in that book so that they seemed like poetry. 10
4. My mother resented the fact that Chandu won a scholarship at school, while I had to pay fees to be taught. And she constantly dissuaded me from playing with him, saying that Chandu was a barber's son. I certainly hadn't inherited any sense of superiority. In fact, I was always rather ashamed of my formalized tight cotton trousers, the gold-worked shoes and the silk turban in which I dressed; and I longed for the right to wear all the spectacular conglomeration of clothes which Chandu wore – a pair of khaki shorts which the retired Subedar had given him, a frayed black velvet waistcoat, decorated all over with shell buttons, and a round felt cap which had once belonged to Lalla Hukam Chand, the lawyer of our village. 15 20 25 30



5. I envied Chandu's freedom of movement, which he had after his father died of plague. For then, he would do the round of shaving and haircutting in the morning, bathe and dress, and then steal a ride to town, six miles away, on the footrest of the closed carriage in which Lalla Hukam Chand travelled to town.
6. But Chandu was kind to me. He knew that I was seldom taken to town, and that I had to trudge three weary miles to a secondary school in the big village of Joadiala with the fear of God in my heart, while he had been completely absolved from attending school. So he always brought me some gift or other from the town – a paint brush, or gold ink, or white chalk, or a double-edged penknife to sharpen pencils with; and he would entertain me with long merry descriptions of the variety of things he saw in the bazaars of civilization.

-Adapted from: *The Barber's Trade Union*  
- by Mulk Raj Anand

- (a) (i) Given below are four words. Find the words which have a similar meaning in the passage: [4]
- (1) Having a lot of small details.
  - (2) Passed on to a child by parents.
  - (3) Convinced not to do so.
  - (4) Walk slowly with heavy steps.
- (ii) For each of the words given below, write a sentence of at least ten words, using the same word unchanged in form, but with a different meaning from that which it carries in the passage. [4]
- (1) lead (*line 4*)
  - (2) well (*line 8*)
  - (3) kites (*line 11*)
  - (4) right (*line 25*)
- (b) Answer the following questions as briefly as possible in your own words.
- (i) Mention the games that Chandu and the narrator devised for themselves. [2]
  - (ii) What had happened to Chandu's father and what did Chandu do to earn his living after his father's death? [2]
  - (iii) What was the fact that the narrator's mother resented about Chandu? [2]
  - (iv) What made the narrator think that Chandu was kind to him? [3]
- (c) Summarize, in not more than 100 words, what the narrator admired in Chandu. [8]