

Sample Question Paper - 21

English Core (301)

Class- XII, Session: 2021-22

TERM II

Time Allowed: 2 Hrs.

Maximum Marks: 40

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections—READING, WRITING and LITERATURE.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

Section A — READING (14 marks)

I. Read the passage given below.

1. Maharana Pratap ruled over Mewar only for 25 years. However, he accomplished so much grandeur during his reign that his glory surpassed the boundaries of countries and time turning him into an immortal personality. He along with his kingdom became a synonym for valour, sacrifice and patriotism. Mewar had been a leading Rajput kingdom even before Maharana Pratap occupied the throne. Kings of Mewar, with the cooperation of their nobles and subjects, had established such traditions in the kingdom, as augmented their magnificence despite the hurdles of having a smaller area under their command and less population. There did come a few thorny occasions when the flag of the kingdom seemed sliding down. Their flag once again heaved high in the sky thanks to the gallantry and brilliance of the people of Mewar.
2. The destiny of Mewar was good in the sense that barring a few kings, most of the rulers were competent and patriotic. This glorious tradition of the kingdom almost continued for 1500 years since its establishment, right from the reign of Bappa Rawal. In fact only 60 years before Maharana Pratap, Rana Sanga drove the kingdom to the pinnacle of fame. His reputation went beyond Rajasthan and reached Delhi. Two generations before him, Rana Kumbha had given a new stature to the kingdom through victories and developmental work. During his reign, literature and art also progressed extraordinarily. Rana himself was inclined towards writing and his works are read with reverence even today. The ambience of his kingdom was conducive to the creation of high quality work of art and literature. These accomplishments were the outcome of a longstanding tradition sustained by several generations.
3. The life of the people of Mewar must have been peaceful and prosperous during the long span of time; otherwise such extraordinary accomplishment in these fields would not have been possible. This is reflected in their art and literature as well as their loving nature. They compensate for lack of admirable physique by their firm but pleasant nature. The ambience of Mewar remains lovely thanks to the cheerful and liberal character of its people.
4. One may observe astonishing pieces of workmanship not only in the forts and palaces of Mewar but also in public utility buildings. Ruins of many structures which are still standing tall in their grandeur are testimony to the fact that Mewar was not only the land of the brave but also a seat of art and culture. Amidst aggression and bloodshed, literature and art flourished and creative pursuits of literature and artists did not suffer. Imagine, how glorious the period must have been when the Vijaya Stambha which is the sample of our great ancient architecture even today, was constructed. In the same fort, Kirti Stambha is standing high, reflecting how liberal the then administration was which allowed people from other communities and kingdoms to come and carry out construction work. It is useless to indulge in the debate whether the Vijaya Stambha was constructed first or the Kirti Stambha. The fact is that both the capitals are standing side by side and reveal the proximity between the king and the subjects of Mewar.
5. The cycle of time does not remain the same. Whereas the reign of Rana Sanga was crucial in raising the kingdom to the acme of glory, it also proved to be his nemesis. History took a turn. The fortune of Mewar—the land of the brave, started waning. Rana tried to save the day with his acumen which was running against the stream and the glorious traditions for sometime.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer ANY EIGHT questions from the nine given below.

(1 × 8 = 8)

- (i) Who is the earliest king of Mewar mentioned in the passage?
- (ii) What was Rana Kumbha's contribution to the glory of Mewar?
- (iii) What does the writer find worth admiration in the people of Mewar?
- (iv) How could art and literature flourish in Mewar?
- (v) How did the rulers show that they cared for their subjects?
- (vi) "Maharana Pratap became an immortal." Why? State a valid reason.
- (vii) Rewrite the given sentence by replacing the underlined phrase with another one, from paragraph 4.
The fact is that both the capitals are standing shoulder to shoulder and reveal the proximity between the king and subjects of Mewar.
- (viii) According to the writer, why was Mewar considered lucky?
- (ix) Select a suitable phrase from paragraph 1 to complete the following sentence appropriately.
Perhaps the young boy is embarrassed about _____ the stair rail and blames me for encouraging him.

Answers:

- (i) Bappa Rawal is the earliest king of Mewar mentioned in the passage. His reign started around 1500 years ago.
- (ii) Rana Kumbha gave a new stature to the kingdom of Mewar. Literature and art flourished during his reign. He himself had penchant for writing. His works are read with reverence even today.
- (iii) The people of Mewar may be peaceful and prosperous. It is reflected in their art, literature and loving nature. The pleasant nature of people compensate for lack of their admirable physique.
- (iv) The environment of Mewar was conducive to the creation of high quality work of art and literature. They flourished amidst aggression and bloodshed.
- (v) Besides the forts and palaces of Mewar, the surprising pieces of architecture are seen in the public utility buildings also. These structures are testimony to the fact that the rulers had care for their subjects.
- (vi) Maharana Pratap became an immortal because he ruled Mewar for 25 years and added a lot of grandeur to this city.
- (vii) The fact is that both the capitals are standing *side by side* and reveal the proximity between the king and the subjects of Mewar.
- (viii) Most of Mewar's rulers were competent. So it was considered lucky by the writer.
- (ix) sliding down

II. Read the passage given below.

1. Away from the limelight garnered by Covid-19, other diseases continue to claim lives across the country. Hepatitis is one of them. The liver condition is caused by five major viruses, called types A, B, C, D and E, of which B and C have the most serious consequences for health. On the eve of World Hepatitis Day on July 28, 2020, public health specialists suggested that mass awareness about symptoms of hepatitis, preventive vaccination and hygienic handling of food and water was needed to reduce the incidence of the liver disease.
2. Hepatitis A and E viruses are present in the faces of infected persons and are most often transmitted through consumption of contaminated water or food. Therefore, washing hands frequently before handling food or eating is important to prevent disease spread.
3. Hepatitis B, C and D spread through contact with the blood of an infected person, through transfusion of infected blood, sharing of contaminated needles or injection material. Hepatitis B and C can also be transmitted from mother to baby and through sexual transmission, said Dr Anupam Sibal, paediatric gastroenterologist and group medical director, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals. In India, as per the latest estimates, 40 million people are chronically infected with Hepatitis B and 30 million people with Hepatitis C.

4. Sibal said it was unfortunate that despite the existence of a nominally priced vaccine for Hepatitis B, which claims thousands of lives every year, it is not universally administered. A vaccine is available for hepatitis A too. Dr Sibal also disclosed that while natural infection can offer lifetime immunity, “There is enough data to show that children who aren’t exposed to the virus are susceptible to infection at a later age and they need a vaccine.”
5. Dr S K Sarin, Director, Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, Vasant Kunj, said those suffering from Hepatitis B and C face discrimination and are often traumatised. Unlike HIV, where years of advocacy have helped focus on the patients’ rights, Sarin said there was a need to stress on similar laws and protection for hepatitis B and C patients. He added, “Hepatitis C is totally curable and Hepatitis B can be effectively treated in 95% of the cases. Still, people treat patients as social outcasts and deprive them of their human rights.” Dr Anti Arora, Chairperson, Department of Gastroenterology at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, stressed on the need for careful usage of equipment. “People should not share personal items such as toothbrushes, razors and nail clippers with an infected person,” he said.

About the liver disease

32.5 crore people globally live with a hepatitis infection. What is even more shocking is that 9 out of 10, which is about 29 crore people, living with viral hepatitis are unaware about it.



• Like globally, in India as well, viral hepatitis has been declared as a major public health problem by WHO.

Take These Steps to Protect Yourself and your Family



- Speak to your paediatrician/doctor today and get your child vaccinated in time for Hepatitis A and B.
- Maintain proper sanitation and hygiene during food/water consumption. Be careful with usage of needles and blood products.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer **ANY SIX** out of the seven questions given below.

(1 × 6 = 6)

- People infected with hepatitis B are considered social outcasts. Why?
- What measures can be taken to reduce the incidence of the liver disease?
- How does Hepatitis B, C and D spread?
- Which product stimulates a person’s immune system to produce immunity to a specific disease?
- What advise was given by Anti Arora in the passage?
- According to the passage, what should be avoided with an infected person to eliminate the risk of infection?
- Who, according to Dr S.K. Sarin, face discrimination and are often traumatised?

Answers:

- Because it is believed that Hepatitis B is highly contagious.
- Consumption of hygienic food and water, timely vaccination and proper awareness.
- Through transfusion of infected blood.
- Vaccine
- To not share personal items such as toothbrushes, razors and nail clippers with an infected person.
- Sharing of personal items.
- People suffering from Hepatitis B and C.

Section B – WRITING (8 marks)

- III. You are Sachin Bansal, the Head Boy of IML Public School, Gurugram. Your school is holding an inter-school T-20 cricket championship from 2 Oct. to 8 Oct., 20××. Write a formal invitation to Sh. B.S. Bedi, the legendary cricketer, to inaugurate the championship on 2 Oct. 20×× at 10 a.m. at your school grounds. (1 × 3 = 3)

Ans. IML Public School

Gurugram

25 Sept. 20XX

Sh. B.S. Bedi

2/27 Jorbagh

New Delhi

Sir

Sub: Inauguration of Cricket Championship

Our school is holding an inter-school T-20 cricket championship from 2 Oct. to 8 Oct. 20××. All the schools of the area are likely to participate. Your presence in our midst will act as a catalyst and inspire us. You are requested to inaugurate the championship on 2 Oct. 20×× at 10 a.m. in our school grounds.

Kindly confirm your availability by 30 Sept.

Yours faithfully

Sachin Bansal

Head Boy

- IV. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.

(1 × 5 = 5)

A.

We are a reputed publishing house looking for Science Graduates for our Science Division in Mumbai. Fluency in English and knowledge of computers will be an advantage. Apply before 30th April to:
The Personnel Manager
New World Publications
Worli, Mumbai

Ravi Sharma of 59, Sea Side Road, Mumbai sees this advertisement in 'The Everyday Times' and decides to apply for the job of Executive. Write an application to the Personnel Manager, New World Publication, Worli, Mumbai.

Ans. 59 Sea Side Road

Bandra, Mumbai

26 April 20XX

The Personnel Manager

New World Publications

Worli,

Mumbai

Sub: Science Division : Executive

Sir

With reference to your advertisement in The Everyday Times, dated 24 April 20XX seeking applications of science graduates for the job of an executive, I offer my candidature for the same. Please find enclosed my bio-data/resume to enable you to assess my suitability for the aforesaid post.

Yours faithfully

Ravi Sharma

Bio-Data

Name	:	Ravi Sharma
Father's Name	:	Sh. K.M. Sharma
Age	:	25 yrs
Educational Qualifications	:	1. ISC from St. Patrick's School, Bandra 20×× - 75% marks 2. B.Sc. (Hons.) Chemistry 20×× : Xaviers College Mumbai
Professional Qualifications	:	1. Short term computer course - APTECH 2. Diploma in Journalism - IGNOU
Work Experience	:	1. Student Editor of School/College magazines 2. Working with M/s Bharat Sales as Computer Operator
Marital Status	:	Unmarried
Other Achievements	:	Proficient in Spoken English and Customer Dealing

OR

- B. The Environment Club of your school organised a campaign to celebrate cracker-free Diwali. Posters, placards and banners were prepared. Then a long march was organised. Write a report in 120-150 words for publication in your school magazine about the campaign describing the efforts put in by staff and students to make the campaign successful. You are Mohini/Mayur of XII C.

Ans.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST CRACKERS

[by Mayur, XII C]

Environment club is fairly active in our school. It organised a campaign to celebrate cracker-free Diwali. Posters, placards and banners were prepared. Posters were displayed at prominent places. Then a long march was organised. Teachers and students assembled at 9.00 a.m. All the students were in their school uniform. They carried banners and placards in their hands. They stopped near the posters and notices displayed along the road. The aim was to create awareness among the public in general and the young children in particular. Crackers create sound pollution. Being expensive, they are a wasteful luxury. The money ends in smoke and fire. Moreover, child labour is involved in cracker industry. Thus exploding crackers indirectly leads to exploitation of child labour. The response of the general public was good.

Section C — LITERATURE (18 marks)

V. Attempt ANY FIVE of the six questions given below, within 40 words each.

(2 × 5 = 10)

(i) How did the peddler of rattraps manage to survive?

Ans. He made rattraps of wire and went around selling them. He got material for making them by begging in the big stores or at big farms. Since his business was not quite profitable, he would beg or steal in order to survive.

(ii) Who was Rajkumar Shukla? Why did he come to Lucknow?

Ans. Rajkumar Shukla was a poor peasant from Champaran district in Bihar. He had come to Lucknow, where a Congress session was being held, to complain about the injustice of the landlord system in Bihar.

(iii) According to Keats, what moved away the pain and suffering from human life?

Ans. According to Keats, there are some beautiful things which remove the cover of sad feelings from our hearts. All beautiful things of nature are a boon for humanity. The sun, the moon and old and young trees are the sources which is a boon for humanity.

(iv) The poem 'Aunt Jennifer Tigers' is replete with symbols. Interpret any three symbols used in the poem.

Ans. The metaphor 'bright topaz' depicts the shining yellow complexion of the tigers. The effective use of alliteration in sleek, chivalric certainty describes the pace of the tigers. The ordeals and hardships of Aunt Jennifer's married life are represented through the massive weight of wedding band.

(v) Which do you think is a better ending of Roger Skunk's story, Jo's or her father's? Why?

Ans. Jo's father did not want the Wizard to hit the mother and wanted the skunk to have its original smell. Her father's ending of the story is better as it is more practical and realistic. Jo is a child and her perspective about the ending of the story is childish and immature. But her father views things on a philosophical level and thus makes his judgement from an adult's perspective.

(vi) "I'm not afraid. People are afraid of me," says Derry. What do people think on seeing his face? How do they react then?

Ans. On looking at Derry's face they find it bad and frightful. They think that it is the ugliest thing they have ever seen. They call him a poor boy as one side of his face has been burnt by acid. Some of them are afraid of his ugly and horrible face.

VI. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 120-150 words each.

(4 × 2 = 8)

(i) Summarize the message of the poem 'A Thing of Beauty'.

Ans. The poem elaborates upon the qualities of the beautiful creations of nature. Such things are eternal and their beauty never fades away.

They remove the pall of gloom from our lives and bring happiness and health. They even lull us to a good sleep full of sweet dreams. These beautiful creations are the only attractions that tie us to this otherwise sorrowful life.

Creations like the sun, moon, trees, the sheep, daffodil flowers, rills, forests full of musk roses and tales of brave men are a few examples of beautiful things which make our lives meaningful in various ways. These are like an ever-flowing fountain of a divine blessing that has been endowed upon mankind by God.

(ii) Comment on the ending of the play 'Evans Tries An O-Level'.

Ans. The ending of the play is quite surprising and unexpected. Only a couple of minutes ago the Governor of Oxford Prison had nabbed Evans from his hide-out at the 'Golden Lion'. A silent prison officer handcuffed the recaptured Evans. Then the two men clambered awkwardly into the back seat of the prison-van.

The Governor bade him farewell but wished to see him soon in his jail. Evans too behaved as if he would remain there for a long time and wanted to know about the O-Level Italian classes coming up next September. The Governor remarked that perhaps Evans might not be with them then. Evans pondered over it and said that he wouldn't. After a couple of minutes Evans implemented what he had predicted. Not only were the handcuffs unlocked, but the van moved on fast towards Newbury.

Evans is once again free. The broad Scots accent leaves us in no doubt who the driver was. Once again Evans scores over the prison authorities.

(iii) 'Civil disobedience had triumphed, the first time in modern India.' Relate the events during Gandhi's stay in Champaran that led to the triumph.

Ans. Gandhi had reached Motihari, the Capital of Champaran, to study the problems of the sharecropper peasants. He was on his way to a neighbouring village, where a peasant was ill-treated. On the way, he was stopped by the police superintendent's messenger and ordered to return to town. When he reached home, he was served with an official notice to quit Champaran at once. Gandhi wrote on the receipt that he would disobey the order. So Gandhi received a summons to appear in the court the next day.

Next morning the town of Motihari was black with peasants. Thousands of peasants demonstrated voluntarily outside the court. The prosecutor requested the judge to postpone the trial. Gandhi protested against the delay. He read out a statement pleading guilty. He asked the penalty. The judge announced that he would pronounce the sentence after a two-hour recess. He asked Gandhi to furnish bail for that period. Gandhi refused. The judge released him without bail. After the recess, the judge said that he would not deliver the judgement for several days. Meanwhile he allowed Gandhi to remain at liberty.

Several days later Gandhi received a letter. The case against him had been dropped. Thus, civil disobedience had triumphed, for the first time in India.