

Sample Question Paper - 26
English Core (301)
Class- XII, Session: 2021-22
TERM II

Time allowed : 2 hours

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]

1. Read the following passage.

Mankind's experience of various evolutionary changes from primitive times to the present day has been extensive and varied. However, man's problems were never before as complicated as they seem to be today. Man's economic activity centers primarily on factors of production; its role, therefore, has been given a lot of importance. It should be useful to have an overall view of the economic history of man – from the nomadic times to the modern factory system – and study its relevance to the various labour problems of today.

Initially, man passed through 'the hunting and fishing stage'. During this period, his basic needs were adequately met by Nature. Wild animals, birds and fruits satisfied his hunger and his thirst was quenched by the waters of springs and rivers. Caves gave him shelter and barks of trees were used as clothing. During this stage of man's progress, labour problems did not exist because of the absence of any economic, political and social system.

Then came 'the pastoral stage', which was marked by a certain amount of economic activity. The nomadic and migratory nature of man persisted, and, together with his goats and cattle, he moved on to fresh pastures and meadows. Some conflicts would sometimes take place among herd owners, for during this period, the institution of nominal private property ownership was not known.

This stage paves the way for 'the agricultural stage' during which the class system began to develop. There was a small artisan class mostly self-employed; and there were also landed properties or Zamindars as well as slaves. Thus, arose the feudal system. During the fourth stage of these developments, 'the handicrafts stage', a number of social and economic changes took place which marked the beginning of the labour problem in the world. The self – sufficient economy of the village underwent a drastic change. The community of traders and merchants emerged.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer ANY EIGHT questions from the nine given below. **(1 × 8 = 8)**

- (i) Humanity's evolution from nascent stage to the contemporary one has been:
- (ii) "Man's problems were never before as complicated as they seem to be today," means:
- (iii) Why does the author say that labour problems did not exist during 'the hunting and fishing stage'?

- (iv) "The pastoral stage was marked by a certain amount of economic activity." How?
- (v) Which word in the passage means 'surfaced'?
- (vi) What were the consequences of Feudal system?
- (vii) Arrange the following stages in the right order:
 (A) Handicraft stage (B) The hunting and fishing stage
 (C) Pastoral stage (D) The agricultural stage
- (viii) What is the theme of the above passage?
- (ix) From the nomadic time to the modern time _____ system has undergone radical change.

2. Read the following passage.

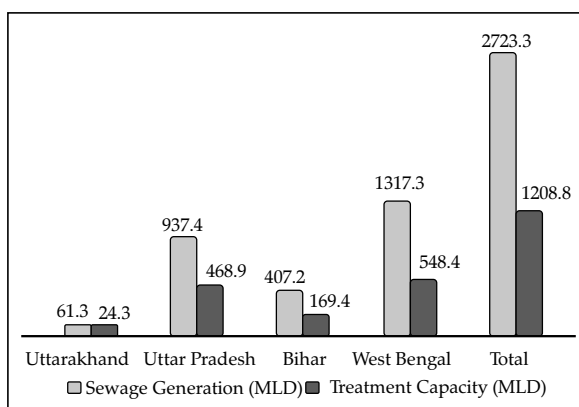
The Ganges is one of the largest rivers in Asia. It rises in the Himalayas and flows over 2500 km through India and Bangladesh into the Bay of Bengal.

However, the Ganges, India's holy river, is also one of the most polluted in the world. The Ganges River basin has a size of over 1 million square km. It lies in one of the most populous regions on earth. About 500 million people, half of India's overall population, live in the Ganges river plains.

There are many causes of Ganges river pollution. About 2 million Hindus bathe in the river every day. During religious ceremonies, up to a hundred million people clean their sins away in the Ganges River. They believe that bathing in the river will make them pure. In addition, thousands of bodies are cremated near the river, especially around the holy city, Varanasi. The ashes are often released into Ganges.

The Ganges also provides water for farming land, which is increasing at a tremendous rate. Irrigation projects cause water levels to go down along the river. More and more dams are being erected along India's holy river, mainly to produce energy for Delhi and other large cities in the area.

The river flows through 30 cities with a population of over 100,000 each. Every day, 3 billion liters of untreated water from these big cities pass into the Ganges River, along with remains of animals.



Ganges River Pollution: A case Study of Causes of Ganges River Pollution.

Because of India's lax environmental regulations, industries along the river release chemicals and other poisonous material into the Ganges. In some places they are a thousand times over the allowed limit. Especially India's traditional leather industry needs great amounts of water. In addition, fertilizers from the fields find their way into the ground water, and ultimately flow into the river. Altogether, the amount of Industrial pollution has doubled in the past 20 years.

This widespread pollution of the Ganges River has also led to major health problems. Many diseases are common, including cholera, hepatitis and diarrhea.

While India's population keeps growing, more and more people are leaving the countryside and moving to big cities along the Ganges. As a result, the river will not be able to cope with even more people.

Life in the river is also at risk. Recent reports have shown that there is high a level of mercury in some fish. The construction of dams is destroying forests and vegetation, killing off many animals and plants. India authorities are fighting an upward battle towards cleaning up Ganges River. International organizations have offered help. The World Bank has agreed to give India a loan of up to a billion dollars to clean up the Ganges River.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer ANY SIX out of the seven questions given below. (1 × 6 = 6)

- (i) From which of the neighbouring countries, the Ganges flows through into the Bay of Bengal?
- (ii) How many people (in million) clean their sins away in the Ganges River?
- (iii) According to the passage, which disease is not common due to the widespread pollution of the Ganges River?
(1) Cholera (2) Influenza (3) Hepatitis (4) Diarrhoea
- (iv) According to the passage, which industry in India needs great amount of water?
- (v) Which International organization has agreed to give India a loan of a billion dollar to clean up the Ganges River?
- (vi) The bar graph shows that the River Ganges has got polluted badly. The sewage treatment plants had been established. What is the relationship between the sewage generation and treatment capacity?
- (vii) What poisoning is found in some fish in the river Ganges?

Section B - Writing

[8 marks]

3. Your school is planning to organise a talk on the 'Importance of Promoting Art Education' at various levels. You plan to invite The Director, Delhi School of Art, as a Key Note Speaker. As CCA Coordinator of Vidya Mandir Vidyalaya, draft an invite for the same giving all the necessary details. (3)

4. Attempt ANY ONE from (A) and (B) given below.

- (A) June 5 has been recognized as World Environment Day. Your school conducted various activities to commemorate the day. Write a report about it in about 120-150 words for your school magazine. You are Karuna/ Karan. (5) **AI**

OR

- (B) You are Shobha / Sushil from 56, A Block, Saket, Agra. Write an application along with a personal resume in 120 – 150 words in response to the following advertisement: Wanted an experienced hockey coach having B.P. Ed Degree for our school. Apply to the Principal Agrasen Public School, Agra by 15th March, 2019. (5)

Section C - Literature

[18 marks]

5. Attempt ANY FIVE of the six questions given below, within 40 words each. (2 × 5 = 10)

- (i) Why was the crofter so talkative and friendly with the peddler?
- (ii) Though the sharecroppers of Champaran received only one-fourth of the compensation, how can the Champaran struggle still be termed a huge success and victory?
- (iii) What rich beauty has the heaven given us?
- (iv) How was the Skunk's story different from the other stories narrated by Jack?
- (v) Why did the prison officers call Evans, 'Evans the Break'?
- (vi) In the poem, Aunt Jennifer's Tigers, what is the contrast between the reality of Aunt's life and her imagination?

6. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 120-150 words each. (4 × 2 = 8)

- (i) How did Jo want the Roger Skunk story to end? Why?
- (ii) Why did Gandhiji consider freedom from fear more important than legal justice for the poor peasants of Champaran?
- (iii) How did the crofter tempt the peddler to steal his money? How did it change the peddler's life?

□□□

Solution
ENGLISH CORE 301
Class 12 - English Core

Section A - Reading

- 1.** (i) Huge and diversified. (1 × 8 = 8)
(ii) The present times pose much more challenges to humans than the previous times.
(iii) There were no economic, political and social system, they hunted for themselves.
(iv) Humans started migrating and held goat-herds. It is guessed that it was an attempt to live a better life).
(v) Emerged.
(vi) The beginning of the labour issues and evolving of the traders and merchants.
(vii) B, C, D, A (mankind started life first hunting and fishing, pastoral, agricultural, then handicraft.)
(viii) The stages of man's development professionally and economically (history of mankind).
(ix) Economic
- 2.** (i) Bangladesh (1 × 6 = 6)
(ii) up to 100 million (optional)
(iii) Influenza
(iv) leather
(v) The World Bank
(vi) The sewage generation is more than the treatment capacity installed.
(vii) Mercury

Section B - Writing

- 3.** Vidya Mandir Vidyalaya (3)
Delhi
20 January 20xx
The Director
Delhi School of Art
Delhi

Subject: Invitation to be the Key Note Speaker

Sir

With due regards, we inform you that our school has planned to organise a talk on the 'Importance of Promoting Art Education' at various levels. We extend invitation to you to be a Key Note Speaker. We will be highly obliged if you spare some time and enlighten us with your views.

Kindly send your confirmation at the earliest.

Thank you

Yours truly

XYZ

(CCA Co-ordinator)

4. (A) Celebration of World Environment Day (5)
by Karuna

Every year on June 5, World Environment Day is celebrated with an aim to encourage awareness and action for the protection of our environment. World Environment Day provides an opportunity to broaden the basis for an enlightened opinion and responsible conduct by individuals, enterprises, and communities in preserving and enhancing the environment. Various activities, in correspondence to a particular theme, are planned around the globe to tackle the factor causing environmental degradation.

Greenwoods Global School celebrated the day on June 5, 2018 with great zeal. Many events such as poster-making, debate, slogan writing, essay writing, quiz, etc., were held on the theme of 'Save Earth' and 'Beat Plastic Pollution'. Mr. Kamal Mehar, the Mayor of the city had been invited to preside over the celebration. A seminar on conservation of environment was organised as part of the celebration followed by a mime which was presented by students of class VIII depicting the plight of environment caused by pollution.

The chief guest highly praised the performances of the students. Addressing the gathering on the occasion, the chief guest appealed the students and the teachers to adopt green ways of life. At the end, the winners of the various competitions were given certificates.

OR

(B) 56 A Block

Saket

Agra

13th March, 20XX

The Principal

Agrasen Public School

Agra

Subject : Application for the Post of Hockey Coach

Sir

With reference to your advertisement in 'The Times of India' dated 10th March 20XX, I wish to inform you that I am interested in the job and would like to apply for the same.

I am a young, energetic man having four years of experience in the same field. I ensure you that I will provide my services with full dedication and sincerity towards the institution.

My resume is attached for your reference.

Looking forward to for a positive response from your end.

Thank you

Yours sincerely

Sushil

RESUME		
Name	:	Sushil Sharma
Father's Name	:	Mr. Anmol Sharma
Age	:	30 Years
Residential Address	:	56, A-Block, Saket, Agra
Marital Status	:	Married
Nationality	:	Indian
Gender	:	Male

Educational Qualifications :

Class	Board/University	% age
X	CBSE	75%
XII	CBSE	72%
B.Ptd.	Agra University	71%

Experience : 4 years in Model Public School, Agra
Language Known : English, Hindi
Hobbies : Reading Books
References : 1) Prof. Dev Dutt Singh
HOD History, XYZ College, Agra
2) Mr. Ram Prakash
Asstt. Manager, Agra

Section C - Literature

(2 × 5 = 10)

5. (i) The crofter was talkative and friendly with the peddler. He was more than happy when he saw him standing at his door because he led a lonely life. He had no family and he lived there alone. He felt elated to have some company and someone to share his things and to confide in. Being a generous host, he offered porridge and tobacco to his guest and played mjolis with him.
- (ii) Gandhiji's persistent efforts, firm determination, and resolution led to his success in Champaran. He went to Champaran at the request of an illiterate peasant and there he listened to the grievances of the sharecroppers and started the Civil Disobedience Movement. He became victorious and the landlords withdrew their claims over their estates and were reverted back to the farmers. They learnt courage and realised that they too, can be defenders. The landlords obliged to surrender part of their money and prestige. Thus, Gandhi ji broke the deadlock between farmers and landlords
- (iii) Heaven has blessed us with unending beauty in nature that encircles and makes our life beautiful eternally whenever we think of it. Like an eternal fountain from the brink of heaven, beauty blesses us with joy forever.
- (iv) Roger Skunk's story was different from the other stories narrated by Jack because in all the other stories, the family lived happily after meeting the wizard. But in Skunk's case, his mother was not satisfied with the change. Jo, on hearing this story, insisted that her father should change the story and tell that the wizard took a stick and hit the mommy.
- (v) Evans was also known as 'Evans the Break', as he had run away thrice from the jail. He was considered a pleasant sort of a chap by the prison authorities. He was good at imitations but was a congenital kleptomaniac. He wanted to sit for examination so as to use the opportunity to escape from the prison.
- (vi) In the poem, Aunt Jennifer's Tigers, Aunt Jennifer is portrayed as a timid and nervous lady who is living a fearful existence but in contrast to this, she embroiders tigers which are the symbol of boldness, courage and fearlessness. They are the masters of their kingdom where no one lives a life devoid of freedom.

Commonly Made Error

- Many students are not able to relate the meaning conveyed through embroidered figures of tigers and their contrast with the actual nature of Aunt Jennifer.

Answering Tip

- The students must try to read the poem from the poet's point of view.

(4 × 2 = 8)

6. (i) The world of children is quite different from that of adults. Their world is a dreamy and magical world. It is a world of fantasy and romance. There is no place for ugliness and stink in their world. Roger Skunk is the hero of the story. Jo never wanted her hero to be so ugly and stinky. It offends her fairness and justice. Therefore, Jo disapproves of Jack's ending of the story of Roger Skunk. She wants her father, Jack, to tell the same story in a different way. The wizard must take his magic wand and hit Roger's mommy hard for not understanding Roger's feelings. Little Jo wants 'that stupid mommy' to be punished. Her crime is that she went to the wizard and compelled him to make her son smell bad again. Jo wants him to smell nice so that he can play with other little animals. She doesn't want Roger to feel sad and lonely for no fault of his.
- (ii) The ruthless exploitation of the poor farmers by the landlords of Champaran prompted the farmers to fight endless legal battle against the landlords with the help of eminent lawyers. However, the battles were inconclusive. Terror-stricken peasants had no voice to raise and no relief in the courts against the unfair dealings of the landlords. When Gandhi ji came on scene, he viewed the entire situation and declared that there was no point in getting into litigations as law courts would hardly be able to do justice to the peasants. He felt that it was necessary to teach these down-trodden farmers how to be courageous. Until and unless, they got over the terror of the Britishers, they would never experience any sense of relief, he realized. Therefore, he gave priority to empowering and emboldening the peasants rather than waging legal battles for them. After that, Gandhi ji decided to accept a settlement of 25% of the compensation money as what mattered more to him was the moral victory of the farmers and making the landlords realise their own dishonesty and surrender the money as well as their prestige. Thus, Champaran episode marked the beginning of a total transformation of the poor and exploited peasants. Within a few years, the British planters abandoned their estates, which reverted to the peasants.
- (iii) The crofter was a lonely man. He was more than happy when the peddler knocked at his door. He shared his confidence with him and told him that he had thirty kronors in a leather pouch. The peddler stole thirty kronors from the crofter's house, but he realized that he could dare not continue on the public highway, and must turn off the road into the woods. During the first few hours, this caused him no difficulty. Later in the day, it became worse, for it was a big and confusing forest which he had gotten into. He tried to be sure to walk in a definite direction, but the paths twisted back and forth so strangely that he walked on, without coming to the end of the forest and realised that he had been caught in a rattrap. He was no more a free person. He had to be cautious. On hearing the sound of the hammer, he moved towards it and reached an iron mill. The master's daughter Edla took him home for Christmas Eve. She showed kindness and humane feelings towards him, which changed him, altogether. He returned the thirty kronors to Edla and became a reformed man as he had been risen to the status of a captain.