

**Sample Question Paper - 8**  
**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)**

**1. Read the passage given below.**

- (1) Subhas Chandra Bose fulfilled a promise to his father that he would sit for the Indian Civil Service examination in London. He secured the fourth position in 1920 but then went on to fulfill his own wish. He resigned from the coveted service the following year, saying “only on the soil of sacrifice and suffering can we raise our national edifice”. Returning to India, he plunged into the national struggle and by 1923, was secretary of the Bengal State Congress and President of All India Youth Congress.
- (2) By 1927, he emerged, along with Jawaharlal Nehru, as leader of the new youth movement, which came into its own by playing a major role in the anti-Simon Commission agitation which swept India that year. He was also the chief organizer of the Calcutta session of the Indian National Congress (INC) in December 1928, which demanded that the goal of the congress be changed to ‘Purna Swaraj’ or ‘Complete Independence’.
- (3) Imprisonment in the Civil Disobedience movement followed by bad health in 1932 took him to Europe where he observed European politics, particularly Fascism under Mussolini and Communism in the Soviet Union. He was impressed by both and believed that authoritarian rule was essential for achieving radical social goals.
- (4) In fact, it is in this period that political views of Nehru and Bose began to diverge sharply, especially on the issue of Fascism and Nazism. Nehru was so vehemently opposed to Fascism that he refused to meet Mussolini even when the latter sought him out, whereas Bose not only met Mussolini but was impressed by him. Nehru was sharply critical of the growing danger to the world from the rise of Hitler. Bose, on the other hand, never expressed that kind of aversion to Fascism, and was quite willing to seek the support of Germany and later Japan against Britain. However, he was not happy with the German attack on Soviet Union in 1941, and that was one reason why he left Germany for Japan in 1943. For Bose, Socialism and Fascism were not polar opposites, as they were for Nehru.
- (5) In 1938, Bose was unanimously elected, with the full support of Gandhiji, as Congress president for the Haripura session. But the next year, he decided to stand again, this time as a representative of militant and radical groups. An election ensued which Bose won by 1,580 to 1,377 votes, but the battle lines were drawn. The challenge he threw by calling Gandhian leaders rightists who were working for a compromise with the British government was answered by 12 members of the working committee resigning and asking Bose to choose his own committee. Nehru did not resign with other members but he was unhappy with Bose’s casting of aspersions on senior leaders. He tried his best to mediate and persuade Bose not to resign.
- (6) The crisis came to a head at Tripuri in March 1939, with Bose refusing to nominate a new working Committee and ultimately resigning. The clash was of policy and tactics.

**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer any eight questions.**

**(1 × 8 = 8)**

- (i) What was the promise that Subhas Chandra Bose fulfilled for his father?
- (ii) Why, despite the promise he had made to his father, did Bose decide to go against that?

- (iii) Under Bose's leadership, what was the goal of the Calcutta, 1928 session of the Indian National Congress?
- (iv) When in Europe, Bose changed his 'standing' with other leaders like Nehru. What brought about this change in him?
- (v) What ultimately led to the divide in the working committee of the Congress in 1939?
- (vi) What does the term "aversion" mean?
- (vii) Why was Bose greatly impressed by Mussolini?
- (viii) Why was Bose supportive of Japan over Germany?
- (ix) What did Bose accuse the Gandhian leaders of?

**2. Read the passage given below.**

- (1) All of Earth's oceans share one thing in common: plastic pollution. Discarded plastic bags, cups, and bottles make their way into the sea. Today, it seems that no part of the ocean is safe from plastic trash. In recent years, oceanographers have searched in vain for a pristine marine environment. They have found plastic everywhere they have looked. "It is a common global problem, we can't point to a single habitat or location with no plastic."
- (2) Plastic harms wildlife and introduces dangerous chemicals into marine ecosystems — communities of organisms interacting with their surroundings. Once plastic enters the environment, it lasts a long time. Scientists are working to prevent plastic pollution from entering the sea.
- (3) When people litter, or when trash is not properly disposed of, things like plastic bags, bottles, straws, foam beverage cups get carried to the sea by winds and waterways. About 80 percent of ocean plastic originates on land. The rest comes from marine industries, such as shipping and fishing.
- (4) In 2015, engineer Jenna Jamback at the University of Georgia and other researchers calculated that at least 8 million tons of plastic trash is swept into the ocean from coasts every year. That's the equivalent of a full garbage truck of plastic being dumped into the sea every minute. If current trends in plastic production and disposal continue, that figure will double by 2025. A report published by the World Economic Forum last year predicts that by 2050, ocean plastic will outweigh all the fish in the sea.
- (5) In today's world, plastic is everywhere. It's found in shoes, clothing, household items electronics, and more. There are different types of plastics, but one thing they all have in common is that they are made of polymers — large molecules made up of repeating units. Their chemical structure gives them a lot of advantages: they are cheap and easy to manufacture, lightweight, water-resistant, durable, and can be moulded into nearly any shape.
- (6) Unfortunately, some of the properties that make plastics great for consumer goods also make them a problem pollutant. Plastic's durability comes in part from the fact that unlike paper or wood, it doesn't biodegrade, or break down naturally. Instead it just fragments, or breaks into tiny pieces over time. These tiny pieces, known as *microplastic*, can potentially stick around for hundreds or perhaps even thousands of years.
- (7) Another problem with plastics is the other chemicals they contain, like dyes and flame retardants. When plastic isn't disposed of properly, these additives end up in the environment. Plastic also tends to absorb harmful chemicals from its surroundings. "It's like a sponge for *persistent organic pollutants*." These long lasting, toxic substances include pesticides and industrial chemicals. If plastic absorbs the chemicals, and marine organisms eat the plastic, they may be exposed to higher concentrations of these contaminants.
- (8) One of the biggest impacts of plastic pollution is its effect on sea life. Seals, sea turtles, and even whales can become entangled in plastic netting. They can starve to death if the plastic restricts their ability to move or eat. Or the plastic can cut into the animals' skin, causing wound that develop severe infections.
- (9) Sea turtles eat plastic bags and soda-can rings, which resemble jellyfish, their favourite food. Seabirds eat bottle caps or chunks of foam cups. Plastic pieces may make an animal feel full, so it does not eat enough real food to get the nutrients it needs. Plastic can also block an animal's digestive system making it unable to eat.

- (10) Plastic and its associated pollutants can even make it into our own food supply. Scientists recently examined fish and shell-fish bought at markets in California and Indonesia. They found plastic in the guts of more than a quarter of samples purchased at both locations. In organisms that people eat whole, such as sardines and oysters, that means we are eating plastic too. In larger fish, chemicals from plastic may seep into their muscles and other tissues that people consume.
- (11) One way to keep the ocean cleaner and healthier is through cleanup efforts. A lot of plastic waste caught in ocean currents eventually washes up on beaches. Removing it can prevent it from blowing out to sea again. Beach clean-up is ocean clean-up.
- (12) Cleanup efforts can't reach every corner of the ocean or track every bit of microplastic. That means it's critical to cut down on the amount of plastic that reaches the sea in the first place. Scientists are working toward new materials that are safer for the environment. For example, Jambeck and her colleagues are currently testing a new polymer that breaks down more easily in seawater.
- (13) "Individual actions make a big difference," says Jambeck. Disposing of plastic properly for recycling or trash collection is a key step. "And simple things like reusable water bottles, mugs, and bags really cut down on waste", she says. Skipping straws or using paper ones helps too. Ocean pollution can seem overwhelming, but it's something everyone can help address. This is a problem we can really do something about.

**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer any six questions.**

**(1 × 6 = 6)**

- (i) How does plastic waste enter the oceans?
- (ii) How is it true to say that plastic is everywhere in today's world?
- (iii) Which property of plastic makes it a problem pollutant?
- (iv) What has scientist Jambeck suggested for having cleaner and healthier oceans?
- (v) Why is plastic compared to a sponge?
- (vi) What is the biggest impact of plastic pollution on sea life?
- (vii) How are scientists trying to reduce the plastic pollutants?

## **SECTION-B (WRITING)**

3. Mr and Mrs. Thomas of 121, Anna Nagar, Chennai, have decided to have a party on the occasion of a housewarming ceremony of their newly built house. Write an invitation giving details of the date time and venue in 50 words. (3)

4. **Answer any one of the following questions.** (5)

You have seen an advertisement in the website for the post of Teaching for French language at Holy Cross Matriculation School, Bangalore. You are MA(French), from St. Mary's College, Bangalore and don't have any teaching experience. Write a job application in 120-150 words to the school principal. You are Preethi/Preetham.

**OR**

The members of Saraswati Residents Welfare Association held a protest rally at the District Park against the decision of the Municipal Corporation to cut down trees for widening of roads to ease traffic congestion. Write a report on the rally in 120-150 words. You are Puneeta/Pramod, the President of the Association.

## SECTION-C (LITERATURE)

**5. Attempt any five of the following questions in 40 words.**

**(2 × 5 = 10)**

- (i) What made the peddler finally change his ways?
- (ii) What did the landlords do when they know that Germany had developed synthetic indigo?
- (iii) What is the underlying message in, 'A Thing of Beauty'?
- (iv) Why does Jo insist that her father should tell her the story with a different ending?
- (v) What would Stephens see whenever he peeped from the peephole?
- (vi) Describe the tigers created by Aunt Jennifer.

**6. Attempt any two questions in 120-150 words.**

**(4 × 2 = 8)**

- (i) How do we get joy from life which is otherwise full of sorrows?
- (ii) Why did the crofter repose confidence in the peddler ? How did the peddler betray that and with what consequences?
- (iii) Both Derry and Lamb are victims of physical impairment, but much more painful for them is the feeling of loneliness. Comment.

## Solution

### ENGLISH CORE 301

#### Class 12 - English Core

1. (i) Subhas Chandra Bose promised his father that he would give the Indian Civil Services examination in London which he did and got through.

(ii) Bose decided to resign from the Services because he felt he had to participate in the struggle for independence amongst his own people in India.

(iii) The 1928 Calcutta session of the Indian National Congress demanded “Complete Independence” or “Purna Swaraj” as its goal.

(iv) The change in Bose while in Europe was a result of his ‘exposure’ and observation of Fascism and Communism, which he believed would play an important part in his fight against the British rule.

(v) The divide in the working committee of the Congress was a result of a clash of polity and tactics between the leaders.

(vi) “Aversion” means to have a strong repulsion or dislike for, to be against a particular thing.

(vii) Bose was greatly impressed with Benito Mussolini because he felt that authoritarian rule was the only possibility to achieve any social goal.

(viii) Despite his support of Germany, Bose disagreed with Germany’s 1941 Soviet Union attack, which led to his change in support from Germany to Japan.

(ix) Bose accused the Gandhian leaders of compromising with the British government, calling them rightist leaders who work for a compromise and not for full independence.

2. (i) When trash, such as plastic bags, bottles, straws, foam beverage cups, etc. are not properly

disposed off, they get carried to sea either by wind or water. A lot of plastic waste enter the oceans through marine industries.

(ii) It is true that in today’s world plastic is everywhere. It is found in shoes, clothing, household items, electronics, etc. Plastic and its pollutants have even entered into our food. Chemicals from plastic may enter into the muscles and tissues of the animals consumed by people.

(iii) The fact that plastic is non-biodegradable makes it a problem pollutant. Instead of breaking down naturally, plastic takes a long time to break into tiny pieces called micorplastic. This microplastic remains intact for hundreds of thousands of years.

(iv) For having cleaner and healthier oceans, scientist Jamback has suggested cleanup efforts. All the plastic waste, which are carried by the ocean currents washes up on beaches. Removing it from the beach prevents the waste from entering the ocean again. In addition to that, proper disposal of plastic waste for recycle or trash collection, using reusable water bottles, mugs, and bags certainly cut down on waste.

(v) Since plastic is able to absorb harmful chemicals from its surroundings it has been compared to sponge.

(vi) The biggest impact of plastic pollution on sea life is the effect it has on marine animals. It can injure them, suffocate them, block their digestive system, starve them to death, etc.

(vii) In order to reduce the plastic pollutants, scientists are working towards new materials that are much safer for the environment.

3.

121, Anna Nagar,

Chennai,

24 August, 20XX

My dear Juliana,

We have much pleasure in inviting you to our house warming ceremony, on the occasion of our newly-built house, at 6 : 50 p.m. on 24 August at our residence.

We hope that you will be able to make it to the occasion.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas

4.

11, Broadcast Road,  
Bangalore,  
Karnataka.

The Principal

Holy Cross Matriculation School

Bangalore

Subject : Job application for the post of Teaching Assistant for French language.

Sir/Madam,

In response to your advertisement on the website dated 27 January 20XX for a vacancy of French teaching assistant post in your school. I wish to apply for the same. I have done M.A (French) from St. Mary's College, Bangalore. I don't have prior work experience, but I assure you that I shall give my best to my profession and work to your full satisfaction. I hope you will consider my application for interview.

Thank you

Yours faithfully

Preethi

Enclosed : Bio-data.

Bio-data

Name	:	Preethi. S
Gender	:	Female
Father's name	:	Mr. Rangarajan .T.S.
Date of Birth	:	4 January, 1984
Marital Status	:	Unmarried
Current Address	:	11, Broadstreet Road
Contact No.	:	98765xxxxx
Educational		
Qualification	:	M.A (French), St. Mary College, Bangalore
Work Experience	:	–
Award and Prizes	:	Awarded prize for French essay competition conducted by Alliance Franchise.
References	:	Dr. Roy, Principal, St. Mary College, Bangalore. Dr. Rozario, HOD, French Dept., St. Mary College, Bangalore

OR

**Protest Rally by Saraswati RWA**

*by Puneeta Anand, President, Saraswati RWA*  
New Delhi, 6 June, 20xx. The members of Saraswati Residents Welfare Association, held a protest rally at District Park, against the decision of the Municipal Corporation to cut down trees for widening of roads to ease traffic congestion. The protesters assembled in front of the District Park at 8:00 A.M. on 5 June, 20xx, which also happens to be the World Environment Day. The protest rally was soon joined by the local NGOs and neighbouring Residents Welfare Associations who

supported the cause. All the protesters took to the road carrying posters and shouting slogans. The protesters felt that the District Park had been here for many years and that it was more of an asset than a liability. Destroying it would only prove to be disastrous for the residents as well as the environment. Saraswati Residents Welfare Association has already appealed for a stay order on the decision. Until then, they urged the concerned authorities to consider the alternative method, such as building fly-overs, deploying more traffic policemen, etc. to ease traffic congestion. The residents said that they shall continue to protest until stay order is passed.



5. (i) Edla Willmansson treated the tramp in a friendly manner. She was nice and kind to her. She interceded on his behalf when her father was about to turn him out. She still entertained the peddler even after knowing the truth about him. She offered him the suit as Christmas present and invited him to spend the next Christmas with them. Her love and understanding aroused the essential goodness in the peddler and finally he changed his ways.

(ii) The landlords came to know that Germany had developed synthetic indigo. Now producing natural indigo was not profitable for them. But very cunningly they hid that fact from the peasants. They instead obtained agreements from the sharecroppers to pay them compensation for being released from the 15 per cent arrangement.

(iii) The underlying message of the poem 'A Thing of Beauty' is that all beautiful things are an eternal source of joy and inspiration. We find comfort in the beauty of nature despite the vile nature of the world. We find motivation from our brave forefathers. It is upto us to see and acknowledge the beautiful things that surround us and make a happier living.

(iv) Jo is just a child of four. Her perspective of life is different from her father. She does not know about the harsh realities of life. According to her, Roger Skunk was quite happy to play with her friends. But she doesn't know that the foul smell is the characteristic feature of a skunk.

(v) Whenever Stephens saw through the peephole he found that the scene was much or less the same. Evans, his pen between his lips, sat staring straight in front of him towards the door. And opposite him, McLeery seated slightly askew from the table.

6. (ii) The crofter repose confidence in the peddler because he lived alone in a cottage and wanted to enjoy human company. He was generous, kind and often

felt lonely. Having found a likable companion in the peddler, the crofter opened up to him and talked about his work and his saving. Since the peddler seemed incredulous, the crofter took the leather pouch and without any inhibitions showed him the thirty kronor notes. Being a petty thief and always in need of money, peddler took advantage of the crofter's loneliness and planned to steal the thirty kronor. It did not matter to him that by stealing from the crofter, he would be betraying his trust. Knowing where the old crofter kept his money, the peddler returned when the crofter left his house to milk his cow. He broke the window pane, took the leather pouch, took the money and absconded with it. At first, he felt quite pleased with himself and had no guilt of conscience. However, he soon realised the danger of being caught by the police. He switched to the path, which ran through the forest, became lost eventually. Tired, dejected and unable to find his way, he felt trapped in the rattrap of life just like others.

(iii) Mr. Lamb and Derry have different sorts of physical disability. While Mr. Lamb has a tin leg, one side of Derry's face was burnt by acid and now is scarred. Both Derry and Mr. Lamb are victims of physical impairment, but much more painful for them is the feeling of loneliness. Both suffer alienation from the society. Derry feels that he is feared rather than accepted by the society because of his scarred face. Mr. Lamb also has to face name calling-'Lamey-Lamb' although it does not bother him much. Loneliness has caused constant pain for both Derry and Mr. Lamb. They both crave for friends, but neither of them have it. However, while his isolation makes Derry a bitter person, Mr. Lamb has a positive outlook and believes that being a handicap is not a drawback. Both expect that the society would neither treat them differently, as freaks, nor with pity. They want to be treated with empathy as equals.