

Sample Question Paper - 23

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. The process of ageing starts with conception in the mother's womb. When we are young, we don't recognise that there will come a time when our limbs will become weak, our eyesight less keen and our body unable to function as smoothly as before. The state, the society and the family owe a responsibility towards senior citizens.
2. Unfortunately, of late we have not been able to recognise the concept of respecting, caring and helping older generations in a systematic way as some of the countries in the West have done. This is not to suggest that our culture and history do not recognise this phase of life. There have been many practices of caring and helping old people in our system. But, with the dismantling of the joint family system the problem has assumed newer and complicated proportions. Although we have started recognising the needs of the young when it comes to the old, we have blissfully chosen to ignore them and have let them to feed for themselves.
3. Of all senior citizens of the world one out of ten is an Indian. The population of old people in India is the 4th highest in the world. By official estimates there are over 77 million old people in the country now. There are some schemes with the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. There are provisions of financial assistance for different welfare schemes.
4. There are old-age homes, residential units for lower income groups in particular districts where there is a part time medical officer to attend to the inmates. Then there are day care centres and mobile medicare services besides other NGOs (Non-Government Organisations).
5. Old-age homes in the country are not only insufficient but also ill-equipped to cater to old people. This should be the responsibility of the state since it needs close and regular monitoring. The social welfare department in the government have very little to boast when it comes to caring for older generations.
6. "Sarkari" officials are not only apathetic to the welfare of old people but also are not imaginative. But once the need for helping senior citizens is recognised not only by the society at large but also by the government, and certain concessions are sanctioned for them, there may be some headway in this direction.
7. Society, too, has an important role to play. It must bring by respecting the aged and placing them before anyone else's interest. In the West, if an old person is climbing down the stairs, he or she is helped. It is this kind of mindset that is the need of the hour. Offering seats to the old, helping them cross the roads, assisting them carry their bags, fetching them water, etc., are some features, which increase acceptability of old people.
8. In the family, senior citizens deserve a better deal. If they are thrown out of the family the state cannot be blamed. They have given everything to their families and have the right to be recognised as important members. Sending old parents to deposit electricity bills, asking them to fetch children from schools and to guard the house while the rest of the family is away are some of the many tasks which are thrust upon them. These become nothing short of enslaving the weakest class of people.

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

(1 × 8 = 8)

- (i) Mention any two bodily changes which come with the old age.
- (ii) What is the general attitude of the people in our country towards the senior citizens?
- (iii) What is the plight of old homes in India?
- (iv) What should the society do to improve the condition of senior citizens?

- (v) What are some of the things the family expects the senior citizens to do?
- (vi) “The problem of looking after senior citizens has assumed serious proportions.” Explain why.
- (vii) Rewrite the given sentence by replacing the underlined phrase with another phrase/word, from paragraph 6.
Throughout the country, people who had generally been lacking in emotion about national politics were swept up in a wave of protest.
- (viii) Select a suitable word/phrase from paragraph 2 to complete the following sentence appropriately.
Africa has made great progress in _____ its old economic system.
- (ix) According to the passage, why the family is responsible for the neglect of its elders?

Answers:

- (i) The following bodily changes come with the old age:
 - (a) limbs grow weak
 - (b) eyesight becomes less keen and our body is unable to function.
- (ii) The general attitude of the people of our country towards the senior citizens is that they do not recognise the concept of respecting, caring and helping them.
- (iii) The old-age homes in our country are not only insufficient in number but also poorly equipped to cater to old people.
- (iv) Society, too, has an important role to play to improve the condition of senior citizens by respecting them and giving them due care.
- (v) The family expects the old parents to deposit electricity bills, fetch children from school and to guard the house while the rest of the family is away.
- (vi) Because joint family has collapsed.
- (vii) Throughout the country, people who had generally been *apathetic* about national politics were swept up in a wave of protest.
- (viii) dismantling
- (ix) The family is responsible because they either force the elders to do menial tasks or throw them out.

II. Read the passage given below.

1. The primary objective of this study is to understand students’ views about Internet usage in Lala Lajpat Rai College of Commerce and Economics, Mumbai. A questionnaire survey was undertaken. The findings are: (i) A high degree of awareness about the benefits of Internet among students; (ii) The library, computer lab, cyber cafe and home are deemed the most convenient places to access Internet; (iii) The major purpose of students accessing Internet is education and entertainment; (iv) The study confirmed that Google is the most used search engine, followed by Yahoo; (v) Internet skills were acquired by majority of students by self study and what they learnt through their friends; the study reveals that in the present Internet influenced academic environment, information of literary skills to use internet effectively is a necessity.

Places of Internet Access		
Place	Number of Students	Percentage (%)
Library	22	29.73
Library and computer lab	06	08.11
Library, computer lab and home	16	21.62
Library, computer lab and cyber cafe	21	23.38
Library, home and cyber cafe	09	12.16
Total	74	100

2. One of the paradigm shifts that the world has witnessed in the last two decades has been the invention, use and proliferation of Internet. Be it the business community, social community or the academic community, every sphere of the mankind has been touched by Internet technologies like never before. For the academic community, it removed major barriers and made its information available to one and all. Probably, Internet is the greatest equalizer by

providing access to information. Be it for a college located in urban cities or rural hinterland, anybody can have access to information.

3. In an academic setup, access to Internet is decided by several factors, such as, quality of bandwidth, convenience of location, quality and availability of computers and the ambience. The study revealed that there is a divided opinion about the place where they access Internet. For 22 (29.73%) students, library is the place from where they access the Internet. An equal number of students 21 (28.38%) access computer from all three places—library, computer lab and cyber cafe. A fair number of students 16 (21.6%) access Internet from either the library, computer lab or from their homes. This indicates that Internet is accessed whenever at that point more importantly whichever place is convenient at that point of time. But library is the common place for internet access of all 74 students.

Major Purpose of Using Internet		
Major Purpose	Number of Students	Percentage (%)
Education	28	37.84
Education and Entertainment	21	28.38
Education and Current News	16	21.62
Education, Entertainment and Current News	09	12.16
Total	74	100

4. Internet has so much of information that if a student tries to browse it without any purpose, then very soon he/she will be lost in the web. Hence, it is essential to have a clear purpose before our accesses to the internet. It is observed that education as exclusive purpose for accessing internet is indicated by about 28 students. Combination purpose of education and entertainment is indicated by 21 students. Education and current news is indicated by 16 students and a smaller number 9 indicated education, entertainment and current news as the purpose.

Among several motivation factors of using Internet, students strongly agree that project work, quick and reliable communication and the availability of updated information are motivating factors. Students at commerce colleges are always hard pressed for time as they have multiple assignments and project works to complete. Hence, they depend much on Internet to collect, collate and prepare their project reports and assignments.

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

(1 × 6 = 6)

- (i) According to the passage, state a reason why some students feel lost in the web.
- (ii) What does the phrase ‘paradigm shifts’, as used in paragraph 2, mean?
- (iii) What according to you is the most common reason for Internet usage?
- (iv) What is a necessity to use Internet effectively?
- (v) According to the passage, what is the easiest and quick source of information?
- (vi) According to the data, what percentage of students use Internet for the purpose of (a) education (b) education and entertainment?
- (vii) With reference to the data provided, what number of students access Internet from (a) library (b) library, computer lab and home?

Answers:

- (i) They search without any purpose.
- (ii) Great changes
- (iii) Information
- (iv) Literacy skills
- (v) Internet
- (vi) (a) Education — 37.84%
- (b) Education and entertainment — 28.38%
- (vii) (a) Library — 22 students
- (b) Library, computer lab and home — 16 students

Section B – WRITING (8 marks)

- III. Rohit has got success in CBSE-PMT. He wants to celebrate his admission to Shivaji Medical College, Nagpur by throwing a party to his friends. Write an informal invitation giving details of venue, time and date. Do not exceed 50 words. (1 × 3 = 3)

Ans. 33/427 Priya Vihar

New Delhi

15 July 20XX

Dear Varun

You will be glad to learn that I have secured 80th rank in the CBSE-PMT competition. I have got admission in a prestigious institution – Shivaji College, Nagpur. I want to share a few happy moments of my life in the company of my friends at a dinner in the Hotel Kanishka at 9.00 p.m. on 23 July 20XX.

Please join the celebrations and merry-making.

Yours sincerely

Rohit

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

(1 × 5 = 5)

- A. Draft an application for the post of an accountant in Pioneers (Pvt.) Ltd. Co., Hyderabad in response to their advertisement that appeared in The Times of India dated 1st August, 20XX. Prepare a biodata to be enclosed. You are Nipun/Aparna.

Ans. 23 Raman Villa

Race Course Road

Bhopal

August 11 20XX

The Personnel Manager

Pioneers (Pvt.) Ltd. Co.

Hyderabad

Sub: *Application for the post of Accountant*

Sir

In response to your advertisement in The Times of India dated 1 August 20XX, I wish to be considered for the position mentioned above. I feel my qualifications and experience are good enough to enable me to discharge my duties. I attach herewith attested copies of my certificates and my bio-data. If given a chance, I may assure you, sir, that I shall spare no pains in the discharge of my duty honestly and devotedly. I will certainly win the confidence of my superiors.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully

Nipun

(Nipun)

Encl. : Bio-data

Bio-Data

Name	:	Nipun Verma		
Father's Name	:	Sh. Mohan Lal Verma		
Address	:	23, Raman Villa, Race Course Road, Bhopal		
Date of Birth	:	15 September 19XX		
Educational Qualifications	:	1. CBSE (10+2)	20XX	83%
		2. B.Com. (Hons)	20XX	73%
		3. CA	20XX	
		4. ICWAI	20XX	
Experience	:	TISCO 'Bhopal' since Nov. 20XX		
Marital Status	:	Unmarried		
Languages known	:	Hindi, English, Tamil, Telugu		
References	:	1. Dr. V. Anand, H.O.D. Commerce, Holker University, Indore		
		2. Sh. R.K. Sareen, Financial Advisor, GRASIM (India), Bangalore		

OR

- B. You are Amrit/Amrita, the head boy/girl of Ryan International School, Gurgaon. 'No Tobacco Day' was organised by the Health Club of your school last week. Write a report in 120-150 words for publication in the school magazine.

Ans.

NO TOBACCO DAY CELEBRATIONS

[by Amrit, Head boy]

Last Saturday our school celebrated 'No Tobacco Day' in school hall. The aim was to create general awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco on human lives. We displayed posters and banners in and around the school campus to this effect. An exhibition was arranged in the Activities' Room, to enlighten the people about 'Tobacco—the silent killer'. It highlighted the harmful effects of smoking, chewing or inhaling tobacco. A public meeting was also arranged. Eminent doctors, local dignitaries and general public participated. The doctors highlighted how tobacco harms not only the user but also others adjacent to him. With the help of slides, film strips and charts, they illustrated how tobacco impairs human throat, eyes, lungs, digestion and blood circulation system. It could lead to mouth sores and cancer. Dr Anuj Vats advised people to avoid the use of tobacco in any form. The programme had a salutary effect on all.

Section C — LITERATURE (18 marks)

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

(2 × 5 = 10)

- (i) What hospitality did the peddler with rattraps receive from the old crofter?

Ans. The old crofter served the peddler hot porridge for supper and gave him tobacco for his pipe. He entertained his guest by playing cards with him. He also informed him about his prosperous past life and how his cow supported him in his old age now.

- (ii) Why did Gandhi chide the lawyers? What according to him was the real relief for the sharecroppers?

Ans. Gandhi chided the lawyers for collecting big fee from the poor sharecroppers. He thought that taking such cases to the court did little good to the crushed and fear-stricken peasants. The relief for them, according to Gandhi, was to be free from fear.

- (iii) What is the source of the 'endless fountain' and what is its effect?

Ans. A fountain of eternal joy and immortality pours into the heart and soul of man. It flows right from the heavens brink and pours into the human heart. It is like an immortal nectar.

The immortal drink that nature's endless fountain pours into our hearts is a source of immense joy for us.

- (iv) How will Aunt Jennifer's hands look when she is dead?

Ans. When Aunt Jennifer dies, her hands will still look terrified. Perhaps she has experienced a lot of hardships and troubles in the past. Their effect has left its print on her hands. The ordeals that crushed her married life had surrounded and cramped her fingers and hands too.

(v) How did Jack try to convince his daughter that his ending of the story was the best?

Ans. To convince Jo that his ending of the story was the best, Jack told her that a mother's decision should be honoured. Roger Skunk became happy later as he loved his mother more than he loved the other animals. The mother wanted his son to be what he actually is and later the other animals too got adjusted to his smell and befriended him.

(vi) How does Mr Lamb react when Derry enters his garden?

Ans. Derry entered Mr Lamb's garden by climbing over the garden wall. He had thought that it was an empty place. He didn't know there was anybody there. He just wanted to be in a secluded place. On seeing Mr Lamb Derry was startled. He clarified that he didn't enter to steal anything. Mr Lamb tried to comfort Derry and allay his fear by saying that anybody could enter the garden. He asked him to pick up ripe apples lying in the long grass.

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

(4 × 2 = 8)

(i) Do you sympathise with Aunt Jennifer? Comment on the poet's attitude towards Aunt Jennifer.

Ans. We sympathise with Aunt Jennifer because she makes us aware of the constraints of a married life for a woman. Aunt Jennifer expresses her feelings in her creations. She creates a woollen embroidery with images of tigers in bright topaz colour. These tigers are an expression of Aunt Jennifer's suppressed fear for oppression as well as an expression of a long cherished freedom which she has lacked.

The poet creates Aunt Jennifer as a representative of every woman of her time. Ironically, she rebels against the established norms of her society in her tigers and feels a sense of triumph in her efforts. However, the poet perhaps wants to voice their desires more openly, rather than being silent victims of oppression or dying without being able to create much difference, as Aunt Jennifer does.

(ii) What impression do you form of 'Evans the Break'?

Ans. "Evans the Break" as he was known among the prison officers was a jail-bird. He was a congenital kleptomaniac, but he was non-violent. He was quite a pleasant sort of person—an amusing chap; a star at the Christmas concert—good at imitations.

Evans had long wavy hair. When we meet him for the first time his face was unshaven and he wore a filthy looking red and white bobble hat upon his head. He had tucked a grubby string-vest into equally grubby trousers. He smiled cheerfully at the prison officers.

Evans is smart, cunning and resourceful. He makes a request to Mr Jackson to allow him to put on his bobble hat. But he complains to the invigilator against Stephens. Stephens' presence disturbs Evans' concentration. He makes a very polite request to cover himself with blanket as it is chilly. He uses it to put on the clerical collar and black front. He employs the brief absence of prison officers to disguise himself as parson McLeery and spill blood on himself to look injured. He acts the part of injured parson well. He offers to help police and wins their confidence. He becomes groggy and is left there to wait for ambulance.

Evans enjoys the faith, support and active cooperation of his dedicated friends. They plan carefully, working out the minute details and execute it skilfully. He never loses his calm or presence of mind even in the worst circumstances.

(iii) Why did Gandhiji consider freedom from fear more important than legal justice for the poor peasants of Champaran?

Ans. The sharecropper peasants had to grow indigo on 15 per cent of their holdings and surrender the indigo harvest as rent to the landlord. When Germany developed synthetic indigo, the British planters started extracting money illegally and deceitfully as compensation from the peasants for being released from the 15 per cent arrangement. The peasants were made to sign new agreements and pay money. The planters behaved as lords above the law. Many peasants engaged lawyers at hefty fees and went to courts.

The Muzaffarpur lawyers briefed Gandhi about the peasants for whom they frequently represented in courts. Gandhi realised that these peasants were badly crushed and fear-stricken. Freedom from fear was more important than legal justice for them. Gandhiji was ready to court arrest for them. Thousands of peasants demonstrated spontaneously around the court. The government had to release Gandhi without bail. This voluntary uprising of the peasants marked the beginning of their liberation from the fear of the British.