

Sample Question Paper - 9
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) The name of Florence Nightingale lives in the memory of the world by virtue of the lurid and heroic adventure of the Crimea. Had she died — as she nearly did — upon her return to England, her reputation would hardly have been different; her legend would have come down to us almost as we know it today — that gentle vision of female virtue which first took shape before the adoring eyes of the sick soldiers at Scutari. Yet, as a matter of fact, she lived for more than half a century after the Crimean War; and during the greater part of that long period all the energy and all the devotion of her extraordinary nature were working at their highest pitch. What she accomplished in those years of unknown labour could, indeed, hardly have been more glorious than her Crimean triumphs; but it was certainly more important. The true history was far stranger even than the myth. In Miss Nightingale's own eyes the adventure of the Crimea was a mere incident—scarcely more than a useful stepping-stone in her career. It was the fulcrum with which she hoped to move the world; but it was only the fulcrum. For more than a generation she was to sit in secret, working her lever: and her real life began at the very moment when, in the popular imagination, it had ended.
- (2) She arrived in England in a shattered state of health. The hardships and the ceaseless effort of the last two years had undermined her nervous system; her heart was pronounced to be affected; she suffered constantly from fainting-fits and terrible attacks of utter physical prostration. The doctors declared that one thing alone would save her—a complete and prolonged rest. But that was also the one thing with which she would have nothing to do. She had never been in the habit of resting; why should she begin now? Now, when her opportunity had come at last; now, when the iron was hot, and it was time to strike? No; she had work to do; and, come what might, she would do it. The doctors protested in vain; in vain her family lamented and entreated, in vain her friends pointed out to her the madness of such a course. Madness? Mad — possessed—perhaps she was. A demoniac frenzy had seized upon her. As she lay upon her sofa, gasping, she devoured blue-books, dictated letters, and, in the intervals of her palpitations, cracked her febrile jokes. For months at a stretch she never left her bed. For years she was in daily expectation of death. But, she would not rest. At this rate, the doctors assured her, even if she did not die, she would become an invalid for life. She could not help that; there was the work to be done; and, as for rest, very likely she might rest ... when she had done it.
- (3) Wherever she went, in London or in the country, in the hills of Derbyshire, or among the rhododendrons at Embley, she was haunted by a ghost. It was the spectre of Scutari—the hideous vision of the organisation of a military hospital. She would lay that phantom, or she would perish. The whole system of the Army Medical Department, the education of the Medical Officer, the regulations of hospital procedure ... rest? How could she rest while these things were as they were, while, if the like necessity were to arise again, the like results

would follow? And, even in peace and at home, what was the sanitary condition of the Army? The mortality in the barracks was, she found, nearly double the mortality in civil life. “You might as well take 1,100 men every year out upon Salisbury Plain and shoot them,” she said. After inspecting the hospitals at Chatham, she smiled grimly. “Yes, this is one more symptom of the system which, in the Crimea, put to death 16,000 men.” Scutari had given her knowledge; and it had given her power too: her enormous reputation was at her back—an incalculable force. Other work, other duties, might lie before her; but the most urgent, the most obvious of all was to look to the health of the Army.

- (4) One of her very first steps was to take advantage of the invitation which Queen Victoria had sent her to the Crimea, together with the commemorative brooch. Within a few weeks of her return, she visited Balmoral, and had several interviews both with the Queen and the Prince Consort. “She put before us,” wrote the Prince in his diary, “all the defects of our present military hospital system and the reforms that are needed.”
- (5) She related the whole story of her experiences in the East; and, in addition, she managed to have some long and confidential talks with His Royal Highness on metaphysics and religion. The impression which she created was excellent. “We like her very much,” noted the Prince, “She is very modest.” Her Majesty’s comment was different—“Such a head! I wish we had her at the War Office.”
- (6) But Miss Nightingale was not at the War Office, and for a very simple reason: she was a woman. Lord Panmure, however, was (though indeed the reason for that was not quite so simple); and it was upon Lord Panmure that the issue of Miss Nightingale’s efforts for reform must primarily depend. That burly Scottish nobleman had not, in spite of his most earnest endeavours, had a very easy time of it as Secretary of State for War. He had come into office in the middle of the Sebastopol campaign, and had felt himself very well fitted for the position, since he had acquired in former days an inside knowledge of the Army—as a Captain of Hussars.

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

(1 × 8 = 8)

- (i) Why was Florence Nightingale determined to work despite the health warnings from doctors and friends?
- (ii) What influence did Nightingale had on the Queen as well as the Prince Consort?
- (iii) What was the simple reason why Miss Nightingale wasn’t “at the War Office”?
- (iv) What were the primary concerns of Miss Nightingale about the medical situation of England even after the war was over?
- (v) In paragraph 3, the author stated “she was haunted by a ghost”. What or who is the ghost referred to here?
- (vi) Why was the “adventure of the Crimea” described as a “mere incident” by the author as well as Miss Nightingale?
- (vii) What was the devastating truth about the mortality rate of the military hospitals as compared to that of civil life?
- (viii) Miss Florence was invited by the royal family. How did she take advantage of the meet?
- (ix) Who was tasked with taking forward the issues brought by Miss Nightingale?

2. Read the passage given below.

- (1) Globalisation is the way to open businesses, improve technological growth, economy, etc. at the international level for all countries. It is the way in which manufacturers and producers of the products or goods sell their products globally without any restriction. It provides huge profits to the businessmen as they get low cost labour in poor countries easily. It provides a big opportunity to the companies to deal with the worldwide market.
- (2) Globalisation helps to consider the whole world as a single market. Traders are extending their areas of business by treating the world as a global village. Earlier till the 1990s, there was a restriction on importing

certain products which were already manufactured in India like agricultural products, engineering goods, food items and toiletries. However, during the 1990s there was a pressure from the rich countries on the poor and developing countries to allow them to spread their businesses by opening their markets. In India the globalisation and liberalisation process was started in 1991.

- (3) After many years, globalisation brought about a major revolution in the Indian market when multinational brands came to India and started delivering a wide range of quality products at cheap prices. Prices of good quality products came down because of the cutthroat competition in the market. Globalisation and liberalisation of the businesses in India have flooded the market with quality foreign product but has affected the local Indian industries adversely to a great extent resulting in the job loss to poor and uneducated workers. Globalisation has been a bonanza for the consumers, however, a loss to the small-scale Indian producers.
- (4) Globalisation has had some very positive effects on the Indian consumer in all sectors of society. It has affected the Indian students and education sector to a great extent by making study books and a lot of information available over the internet. Collaboration of foreign universities with the Indian universities has brought about a huge change in the field of education.
- (5) Globalisation of trade in the agricultural sector has brought varieties of quality seeds which have disease resistance property. However, it is not good for the poor Indian farmers because the seeds and agricultural technologies are costly. It has brought about a huge revolution in the employment sector by the spread of businesses like cottage, handloom, carpet, artisan carving, ceramic, jewellery, and glassware, etc.

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

(1 × 6 = 6)

- (i) What, in simple terms, is the definition of “globalisation”?
- (ii) Give one advantage of globalisation.
- (iii) How is globalisation beneficial for the Indian students and the educational sector in general?
- (iv) How had globalisation become a curse for the Indian farmers?
- (v) Globalisation can be seen both as a blessing and a curse in the Indian sector. How has it been in the employment sector?
- (vi) Prior to the introduction of globalisation in India in 1991, products such as _____ had restrictions on importing.
- (vii) What led to the introduction of globalisation in countries like India?

SECTION-B (WRITING)

3. Draft a formal reply accepting an invitation to be present on the occasion of the wedding of Ankush S/o Mr & Mrs Shankar of 24, Green Park Road, Kanpur. You are Vikram Gaur of Raja Ki Mandi, Agra. (3)
4. **Answer any one of the following questions.** (5)

You are Kirti/Ketan of, 63, Civil Lines, Delhi-42. You saw an advertisement in The Hindu for the post of accountant in a reputed firm. Write an application in 120-150 words to the The Area Manager Gayatri Consultants 2, Barakhamba Road New Delhi-47, giving your detailed bio-data.

OR

Write a report on the recently held cycling rally in Delhi in association with the sports and tourism department.

SECTION-C (LITERATURE)

5. Attempt any five out of six given questions in 40 words. (2 × 5 = 10)

- (i) What were the contents of the package left by the peddler as a Christmas gift for Edla Willmansson?
- (ii) Why did Gandhiji tell the court that he was involved in a 'conflict of duties'?
- (iii) Why does Jo think the Skunk's mother was stupid?
- (iv) Comment on the ending of the play On The Face Of It.
- (v) What makes human beings love life in spite of troubles and sufferings?
- (vi) How does Aunt Jennifer express her bitterness and anger against male dominance?

6. Answer any two of the following questions in 120-150 words. (4 × 2 = 8)

- (i) How did the ironmaster react on seeing the stranger lying close to the furnace ?
- (ii) What will happen when Aunt Jennifer is dead?
- (iii) It was sheer negligence on the part of the prison staff that helped Evans to escape. Comment.

Solution

ENGLISH CORE 301

Class 12 - English Core

1. (i) Florence Nightingale was determined to work despite her own failing health issues because she felt that the medical system in England needed a huge change if people were to be saved.
- (ii) Miss Nightingale greatly impressed the Queen as well as the Prince Consort over her findings and observations regarding the health system of England.
- (iii) Miss Nightingale wasn't at the War Office just because of the simple fact that she was a woman, despite her vast interest and efforts to reform the health system in the country.
- (iv) Miss Nightingale was concerned with the whole system of how the health system was working, from the Army Medical Department, the education of the Medical Officers and the hospital procedure regulations, etc.
- (v) The "ghost" referred to here is that of what she had observed at the Scutari military hospital, where she discovered the devastating and haunting situation of the health system that the sick and wounded were treated by.
- (vi) The "adventure of the Crimea" was merely an incident because it brought to light the sorry state of the health system which led Miss Nightingale to work towards changing it.
- (vii) The grave and devastating truth was that the mortality rate of military hospitals was almost double that of civilian mortality rate.
- (viii) Miss Florence took advantage of the invitation by highlighting and emphasizing on the "defects of the present military hospital system" and the necessary reforms that will help change things.
- (ix) Since Miss Florence was a woman and thus, by default, unable to 'work' at the War Office, her reform ideas and efforts were thrust upon Lord Panmure, a Scottish nobleman who was the Secretary of State for War at that time.
2. (i) The simple definition of globalisation is when nations can trade with each other, selling and buying each other's products with the world as a single global village.
- (ii) One advantage of globalisation is that businesses can ply their trade with foreign countries and gain more customers as well as a far-reaching target instead of having to trade within one's own country.
- (iii) Globalisation has allowed the students as well as the educational sector to access study books and other necessary information available over the internet without the need to struggle to get more sources for studying.
- (iv) Adversely, globalisation has affected the poor Indian farmers by rendering it difficult for them to access or buy the disease resistant seeds and agricultural technologies.
- (v) Despite the two aspects of globalisation, the employment sector can take it as a blessing as it had helped in the spread of different businesses like cottage, handloom, carpet, jewellery, or glassware, among others.
- (vi) Prior to the introduction of globalisation in India in 1991, products such as agricultural products, food items, toiletries, and engineering goods had restrictions on importing.
- (vii) The introduction of globalisation in a country like India was a result of the demands of rich countries to be able to spread their businesses to poorer countries.

3.

Mr and Mrs Vikram Gaur
thank Mr and Mrs Shankar

for inviting them on the occasion of the wedding of their son Ankush at 24, Green Park Road, Kanpur on 15 May, 20XX and assure them that they will be present on the occasion to wish the newly weds a very happy married life.

Mr and Mrs Gaur will reach Kanpur by the Agra Mail which leaves Agra at 8.00 a.m.

Vikram Gaur

4.

63, Civil Lines

Delhi-42

5 March, 20××

The Area Manager

Gayatri Consultants

2, Barakhamba Road

New Delhi-47

Subject : Application for the Post of Accountant

Sir,

In response to your advertisement in 'The Hindu' dated 4 March 20××, I wish to apply for the post of accountant in the mentioned reputed firm. I have a total of three years' experience in the said field. Currently, I am working as an assistant accountant, with XYZ Corporations. I am enclosing my bio-data and testimonial for your review.

Thank you

Yours faithfully

Ketan Pandey

Enclosed : Bio-data and testimonial

Bio-Data

Name	:	Ketan Pandey
Gender	:	Male
Date of Birth	:	2 November 1982
Father's Name	:	Mr. Keshav Pandey
Postal Address	:	63, Civil Lines, Delhi-42
Contact No.	:	011-234××××, 981073××××
Educational Qualification	:	B.Com from XYZ College, Delhi University M.Com from ABC University MBA from ABC University
Work Experience	:	3 years with XYZ corporation
Salary Drawn	:	4,80,000/- p.a.
Salary Expected :	:	Negotiable
Language Skills :	:	Fluency in English, Hindi and German
References	:	Mr. Suresh Holkar, Sr. Accounts Manager, XYZ Corporation Mr. Prabhas Rao, General Manager, XYZ Corporation

5. (i) As Christmas gift, the peddler left a package for Edla Willmansson. It contained a rattrap, three ten kronor notes and a letter. In the letter, the peddler had expressed his regret for robbing the crofter and his gratitude towards Ms. Willmansson for treating him like a captain.

(ii) Gandhiji said in the court he was involved in 'conflict of duties'. On the one hand, he didn't want

to set a bad example as a lawbreaker; on the other hand, he wanted to render humanitarian and national service for which he had come to Champaran.

(iv) The play has a rueful yet dramatic ending. Mr Lamb who works actively in spite of his physical disability loses balance and falls down along with the ladder. Derry enters and tries to converse with Mr Lamb, who does not respond. Mr Lamb is exactly the same as envisaged by Derry earlier in the play.

(v) In spite of troubles and sufferings, human beings love life because one is able to derive pleasure from the nature as well as one's surroundings. The 'things of beauty', which nature provides take away all the gloom and fills one with hope.

(vi) Aunt Jennifer expresses her bitterness and anger against male dominance through her art; by knitting tigers on the panel which symbolise freedom, strength and chivalry.

6. (i) On seeing the stranger lying close to the furnace, the ironmaster went closer to him and looked at him carefully. He removed his slouch hat to get an even closer look at him. As the light was low and due to the peddler's unkempt appearance, the ironmaster thought him to be Nils Olof, one of his old regimental comrades. The ironmaster was happy to see an 'old friend' so, he invited the peddler to his home for Christmas celebration. When the peddler declined his invitation, the ironmaster insisted saying that the former was more than welcome in his humble

abode. The ironmaster thought that his 'old friend' was embarrassed about his current situation because of which he did not want to come. The ironmaster felt sorry for the man in rags so, he persisted trying to bring him home with him. However, when the peddler still refused to accept his invitation, the ironmaster sent his daughter to persuade his 'old friend'.

(iii) Even after taking various drastic precautions, for the smooth conduct of the exam, Evans fools the Governor and the prison authority in every step of the way. Stephens notices that Evans is wearing a hat but does not ask him to remove it. The hat concealed Evans' cropped hair. Similarly, the prison staff do not check McLeery's identity or verify the phone call or recognise Evans impersonating McLeery. All this helps him to escape prison easily. Later, though the Governor is able to catch him red-handed, at the capital, Evans escapes once again, this time audaciously in the prison van. Therefore, it proves that it is sheer negligence on the part of the prison staff that helps Evans to escape.