

Code No. **SS/02-English (C)**

Roll No.

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Candidates must write the Code on the title page of the answer-book

SENIOR SECONDARY EXAMINATION, 2024 ENGLISH (COMPULSORY) – CLASS-XII

Time Allowed: 3 hours 15 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 80

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE EXAMINEES:

- 1) Candidates must write their Roll No. first on the question paper compulsorily.
- 2) All the questions are compulsory.
- 3) Write the answer to each question in the given answer-book only.
- 4) For questions having more than one part the answers to those parts are to be written together in continuity.
- 5) Write down the serial number of each question before attempting it

SECTION – A

1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: [9 × 1=9]

Trees do much more than supply us with the various conveniences. They help to support man's life by supplying the atmosphere with oxygen, which is essential to life. The oxygen in the air is constantly being used up and turned into carbon dioxide when animals breathe and things burn. Carbon dioxide is the food that plants 'eat'. The green leaves of trees (infact of all green plants) absorb this carbon dioxide and with the help of sunlight break it down into carbon and oxygen. The carbon is used to make starch, and the oxygen is released into the air, so replacing the oxygen used up by animals, But for this, animals would soon die for the lack of oxygen.

Starch and other carbon compounds made in the green leaves of trees (and of other green plants too) serve as food for animals. The tiny green cells of plants are wonderful laboratories, which produce all the starch in the world. But for this service done by plants, all animals would sooner or later die for lack food; they must get all their food directly from plants or indirectly by eating animals that have fed on plants.

Questions:

- (i) What different conveniences do we get from trees? [1]

Ans. Trees supply oxygen to the atmosphere which is essential for life. They supply the atmosphere with oxygen

- (ii) What is essential to life? [1]

Ans. Oxygen is essential to life

- (iii) What makes carbon dioxide increase in air? [1]

Ans. Carbon dioxide increases in air when animals breathe and things burn.

- (iv) How is carbon dioxide and oxygen made by leaves? [1]

Ans. The green leaves of trees absorb the carbon dioxide and with the help of sunlight break it down into carbon and oxygen.

- (v) Where is all the starch of the world made? [1]

Ans. Starch is made in the green leaves of the trees.

- (vi) What will happen if there is no oxygen? [1]

Ans. If there is no oxygen then all the animals would die due to the lack of it.

Find out the word from the passage which means:

- (vii) the layer of air that surrounds us [1]

Ans. Atmosphere

- (viii) shortage [1]

Ans. Lack

- (ix) very small in size [1]

Ans. Tiny

2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: [6x 1=6]

Once upon a time, one particular Rishi Gautama did Tapasya to obtain certain powers. For several days, months and years he observed rigorous austerities. He did not eat or drink; he stood on a single foot; he controlled the senses; he meditated on the chosen deity. One day in the morning he went to the river for a holy dip. On the bank of the river there was a tree. The branches of the tree were outstretching towards the river. A crane was sitting among the branches. When Gautama was in deep neck water facing towards the sun with an austere mind the droppings of the crane fell on his head. He felt disturbed and annoyed. He looked at the bird with anger. The next moment the bird fell down dead. The Rishi was happy because he had obtained the power to kill a bird by his very gaze. After a while, he went to the nearby village for food. He stood before a house and sought alms from the housewife. She was busy doing her domestic chores. Gautama waited for a few minutes. He was annoyed with her for the delay in responding to his call for 'bhiksha'. The lady came, looked at him gently and said, "Sir, I am not a crane to be killed by your mere stare. Sorry for the delay.

I was serving my husband and feeding my children. Please accept the food." The Rishi was shocked. He could not know how she was able to learn about the crane which died only a short while ago. The lady further said, "Sir, don't be surprised. I am a humble housewife. If you want to know more about Tapasya and attainment of powers, please go to a particular person, whose address I shall give." Saying so, she gave him the address. Humbled and crestfallen, the Rishi went as directed. It was a greater shock to him to see the particular person to be an ordinary, simple man. The moment the Rishi was seen, the man said, "Holy sir, welcome. I know about the crane's death and that housewife's advice. Please wait a little and I shall soon take you home. Later, at home the Rishi was surprised to see the man delaying him further. He was busily engaged in serving his parents. He did not seem to have read any scriptures, nor did he observe any austerities. But he was bright with purity, purity of mind. In his presence, the Rishi was completely transformed.

Questions:

(i) How did Gautama observe Tapasya? [1]

Ans. To observe his Tapasya, Rishi Gautama did not eat or drink, stood on one foot, controlled the senses, and meditated on the chosen deity.

(ii) Why did the crane die? [1]

Ans. Rishi Gautama looked at the bird with anger so we can conclude this the crane died just by his very gaze.

(iii) Why was the Rishi happy at the crane's death? [1]

Ans. The Rishi was happy at the crane's death because he had obtained the power to kill someone with a single gaze.

(iv) What made the woman delay in giving 'bhiksha'? [1]

Ans. The woman delayed in bhiksha because she was busy doing her domestic chores.

(v) Write the word from the passage which mean - god. [1]

Ans. Deity

(vi) Write the opposite word of 'life' from the passage. [1]

Ans. Death

SECTION - B

3. You are Shikha/Asim, the cultural secretary of The Global School, Ambala. The school is going to organize its annual function in the next month. Invite the names of the participants for various activities through notice. [4]

Ans.

4 th December, 20XX	THE GLOBAL SCHOOL, AMBALA NOTICE ANNUAL FUNCTION
<p>Our school is celebrating its Annual Day on 20th December, 20XX. Students are hereby informed to give their names for participation in various events to be held on the Annual Day.</p> <p>The list of events is given below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dance Competition• Drama• Singing <p>Interested students who want to participate can give their name to the undersigned by the 11th of December.</p> <p>Shikha Cultural Secretary</p>	

OR

Write a thanking message to your friend Anil / Anita whose invitation for a party is accepted by you. Sign yourself as Sunil / Sunita.

Ans.

48-JJ Nagar Jaipur 4 th March 2024 Dear Anil I express my gratitude for inviting me to your Birthday party on 22 nd March at your residence. I am delighted to accept your invitation and am looking forward to the event. Hope we all will have great fun. Thank you for including me. Your friend Sunil

4. Your school organised a 'Science fair' on the occasion of 'NO BAG DAY'. Prepare a report for the local news-paper using the given hints and your experience. (planning, stall making, model display, inspection, award) [5]

Ans.

SCIENCE FAIR
(By : XYZ – News Reporter)

Kota, 26 February 20XX: Sharma Public School organised Science fair on 28th February to create awareness about reducing the burden on the students and enhancing their creativity and encouraging them to be more curious about the surroundings. It was on the occasion of 'NO BAG **DAY**'. The event was planned by the students in coordination with their teachers. Even the stalls making decoration and preparation for the event was done by the senior students. The event started with the welcome of the chief guest Mr. Sharma the mayor of Kota. Students prepared various models and displayed them. Students explained their projects to visitors, demonstrating a deep understanding of their subjects. The chief guest visited different stalls. The visitors were impressed by the students' knowledge and presentation skills. At the end of the event the best stall decoration and the best model award was distributed by the chief guest. Overall, the Science fair was enjoyable and a huge success.

OR

Our state has recently witnessed the legislative elections. Based on your experience and using the clues given write a paragraph on 'the scene of a polling station' in about 100 words.

(Various posters of awareness/information, queues of people, officers inside the booth, their work, how the EVM works)

Ans.

THE SCENE OF A POLLING STATION

The scene at a polling station during the recent legislative elections was bustling with activity. Various posters adorned the walls, providing information and awareness about the voting process. Long queues of people patiently waited their turn, eager to cast their votes. Inside the booth, officers worked diligently, assisting voters and ensuring a smooth process. The Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) were a focal point, with officers explaining the simple process to voters. The atmosphere was charged with civic duty and excitement, as citizens exercised their right to vote, contributing to the democratic process of our state.

5. Write a letter to the editor of a local daily newspaper drawing the attention, of the authorities on the poor drainage system and ill-maintenance.

(Hints : shallow drains, small size, choked with garbage, overflowing water, hazardous for health) [6]

Ans.

Sudarshan Society
Jaipur

4th March, 2024

The Editor
The Jaipur
Jaipur

Subject - Regarding poor drainage system.

Sir,

Through the columns of your esteemed newspaper, I would like to draw the attention of the concerned authorities regarding the poor drainage system of Sudarshan Society, Jaipur.

There has been waterlogging in the area for two weeks now. Repeated complaints to municipal corporations remain unheard. Pictures of the area have been attached to show the worse conditions here. Commuters and residents of the area are facing lots of issues due to this. Elderly and children can not walk and play around. Movement at night time is impossible. The emergency cases suffer a lot due to this. Moreover, unhygienic conditions have increased water-borne diseases in the area.

I hope the concerned authorities look into this matter and take an immediate action

Thank you

Yours truly
Seeta

OR

Write an application for the post of a clerk in a office. Attach your detailed CV also.

Ans. 67-B, Shanti Park
Sikar

11th June, 20XX

The Manager
Daswani Pvt. Ltd.
Sikar

Subject Application for the Post of Clerk

Sir

With reference to your advertisement in 'Times of India' dated 10th June, 20XX for the post of Clerk, I wish to apply for the post in your reputed organisation. I am Commerce post graduate. I am currently working with a private organisation as a clerk for the past 3 years and have earned respect from my seniors for my work. I am enclosing my CV for your kind consideration. If selected, I assure you that I will work to the best of my ability with dedication and sincerity.

Thanking you

Yours truly
Nitesh Jain

Encl: CV

	Curriculum Vitae
Name :	Mr Nitesh Jain
Father's Name :	Mr Rakesh Jain
Date of Birth :	14th March 1994
Marital Status :	Unmarried
Academic Qualification :	M.Com Sikar University with 72% B.Com from Sikar University with 71%
Work Experience :	Currently working as Sr. Clerk at ABC Ltd. for the past 3 years
Expected Salary :	As per Norms
Address :	67-B, Shanti Park, Sikar
Phone :	956212XXXX
E-mail :	niteshjain1994@gmail.com
References :	1 Shri Arun Lal – 8949XXX00X HOD – Sikar University - Sikar 2 Shri CK Gupta – 99289XXX00 Head Clerk, ABC Ltd, Sikar

SECTION - C

6. Join the following sentences using the words given in the brackets:

(i) Kishore built a new house.

[2×1=2]

He used marble tiles in it. (Where)

Ans. Kishore built a new house where he used marble tiles .

(ii) Manisha taught English.

She was a good teacher. (Who)

Ans. Manisha, who was a good teacher, taught English.

7. Combine each set of sentences into one sentence as directed:

(i) Lencho wrote a letter to god.

He wanted god to help him. (Use infinitive)

Ans. Lencho wrote a letter to God, wanting God to help him. **OR**

Lencho wrote a letter to God to help him.

(ii) Usha worked very hard.

She stood first in class. (Make a compound sentence)

Ans. Usha worked very hard, and / so she stood first in class

8. Fill in the blanks by choosing the appropriate 5 phrasal verb given in the brackets:

[2×1 =2]

(i) The genie _____ all his master's orders without a question. (carried out / carried up)

Ans. The genie carried out all his matter's orders without a question.

(ii) The wanted criminal managed to _____ from the police. (get along / get away)

Ans. The wanted criminal managed to get away from the police.

9. Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct conjunction given in the brackets: [2×1 =2]

(i) Arpit _____ Archana jointly scored the top marks. (and / so)

Ans. Arpit and Archana jointly scored the top marks

(ii) The recorder asked me _____ I was comfortable. (that / if)

Ans. The recorder asked me if I was comfortable.

SECTION – D

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: [6×1=6]

I used every way I knew to overcome this fear, but it held me firmly in its grip. Finally, one October, I decided to get an instructor and learn to swim. I went to a pool and practised five days a week, an hour each day. The instructor put a belt around me. A rope attached to the belt went through a pulley that ran on an overhead cable. He held on to the end of the rope, and we went back and forth, back and forth across the pool, hour after hour, day after day, week after week. On each trip across the pool a bit of the panic seized me. Each time the instructor relaxed his hold on the rope and I went under, some of the old terror returned and my legs froze. It was three months before the tension began to slack. Then he taught me to put my face under water and exhale, and to raise my nose and inhale. I repeated the exercise hundreds of times. Bit by bit I shed part of the panic that seized me when my head went under water.

Questions:

(i) _____ but it held me firmly. 'It' refers to - [1]

(A) strongly (B) hardly (C) terror (D) instructor

Ans. (C) terror

(ii) The narrator began to practice for _____ days a week. [1]

(A) three (B) five (C) six (D) two

Ans. (B) five

(iii) The other end of the rope tied to the swimmer's belt was held by _____. [1]

(A) instructor (B) pulley (C) fear (D) a friend

Ans. (A) instructor

(iv) How long did the narrator take to shed his fear? [1]

(A) five days (B) week (C) three months (D) one year

Ans. (C) three months

- (v) The word 'end' in the passage means _____. [1]
(A) a final part of something (B) and
(C) more (D) nothing

Ans. (A) a final part of something

- (vi) The opposite word in the meaning of 'exhale' is _____. [1]
(A) intake (B) inbuilt (C) inward (D) inhale

Ans. (D) inhale

11. Answer anyone of the following question in about 60 words. [1×4=4]

- (i) What things did the little Franz notice in the school after an order from Berlin? (The Last Lesson)

Ans. Usually, when school began, there was a great bustle, which could be heard out in the street. But it was all very still that day. Everything was as quiet as Sunday morning. There was no opening or closing of desks. His classmates were already in their places. The teacher's great ruler instead of rapping on the table, was under M. Hamel's arm. The teacher was in the special dress. The last benches which used to be empty were occupied by the villagers.

OR

What made the peddler think the world of a rattrap? (The Rattrap)

Ans. The peddler in "The Rattrap" by Selma Lagerlof thought highly of the rattrap. One day he was struck by the idea that the whole world was nothing but a big rattrap. It existed only to set baits for people. It offered riches and joys, shelter and food, heat and clothing in the same manner as the rattrap offered cheese. As soon as someone let himself be tempted to touch the bait, it closed in on him and then everything came to an end.

12. Answer the following questions in 20-30 words: [2×2=4]

- (i) Who is Savita? What does she do? (Lost Spring)

Ans. Savita is small girl from bangle making family in Firozabad. She is making bangles along with an old woman

- (ii) Why did Sophie like her brother Geoff more than other members of her family? (Going Places)

Ans. Sophie liked her brother Geoff more than any other person because she trusted him. Her brother Geoff was always the first to share her secrets. He listened to Sophie's fantasies and her long-cherished dreams patiently.

13. Explain anyone of the following stanzas with reference to the context: [1×6=6]

- (i) It would be an exotic moment
Without rush, without engines,
We would all be together
in a sudden strangeness.

Ans. These lines are from the poem "Keeping Quiet" by Pablo Neruda. In this context, the speaker is contemplating the idea of a moment of silence and stillness among humans. The phrase "It would be an exotic moment" suggests that this moment of silence would be unusual and different from the usual chaotic and noisy nature of human life. The absence of rush and engines symbolizes a pause in the relentless activity and noise of the world, allowing people to come together in a shared experience of "sudden strangeness." This "sudden strangeness" could refer to the unfamiliar feeling of quiet and stillness, highlighting the rarity and value of such moments of reflection and introspection.

OR

(ii) Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen,
Bright topaz denizens of a world of green.
They do not fear the men beneath the tree;
They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.

Ans. These stanzas are from the poem "Aunt Jennifer's Tigers" by Adrienne Rich. In the context of the poem, Aunt Jennifer creates vibrant, powerful images of tigers through her needlework. The tigers symbolize Aunt Jennifer's inner strength and desires, which contrast with her outwardly subdued and oppressed life as a wife in patriarchal society.

In these stanzas, the tigers prancing across a screen, symbolise Aunt Jennifer's artistic expression and her desire for freedom and movement. The tigers are depicted as "Bright topaz denizens of a world of green," suggesting their vivid and lively presence in Aunt Jennifer's imagination. The phrase "They do not fear the men beneath the tree" highlights the tigers' fearless and independent nature, in contrast to Aunt Jennifer's own feelings of constraint and vulnerability. The tigers' "sleek chivalric certainty" further emphasizes their strength and confidence, serving as a stark contrast to Aunt Jennifer's own sense of powerlessness in her marriage.

14 Answer the following questions in about 60 words:

[1×4=4]

Write the central idea of the poem 'My Mother at Sixty-six'.

Ans. The central idea of the poem "My Mother at Sixty-six" by Kamala Das is the fleeting nature of life and the inevitability of aging and mortality. The poem portrays a poignant moment where the speaker observes her elderly mother sleeping in the car while they drive together. The speaker reflects on her mother's vulnerability and the realization that time is passing quickly. The poem highlights the theme of love and the deep emotional bond between mother and daughter, as well as the bittersweet nature of watching a loved one grow old.

OR

What does frost want to convey through the poem 'A Roadside Stand'?

Ans. In the poem "A Roadside Stand" , Robert Frost draws our attention to the plight of the rural poor. The stand door suggests a sense of neglect and decay. Frost uses imagery to paint a picture of the stand's surroundings, including the passing cars and the landscape. The apathy of the selfish rich, false promises of the party in power are clearly hinted. Their exploitation by the 'greedy good doers' whose beneficent ways soothe the rural poor out of their wits to mint money is conveniently overlooked. The miserable life of the rural poor is no better than death. They need proper relief and rehabilitation.

15. Answer the following questions in 20-30 words: [2×2=4]

(i) Why do the trees appear sprinting? (My Mother at Sixty-six)

Ans. The car is moving ahead and so it seems that the trees are sprinting or moving in the opposite direction. This also signifies the passage of time.

(ii) What is suggested by the image 'massive weight ofunc1e's wedding band'? (Aunt Jennifer 's Tigers)

Ans. The image of the "massive weight of Uncle's wedding band" in the poem "Aunt Jennifer's Tigers" suggests the burden of marriage and traditional gender roles that Aunt Jennifer has experienced in the male dominated society.

16. Answer the following questions in about 60 words: [1×4=4]

How was the Maharaja killed by the hundredth tiger? (The Tiger King)

Ans. The Maharaja bought a wooden tiger as a gift for his son on his third birthday. While he was playing with his son, a tiny splinter from the poorly crafted toy tiger pierced the king's hand. The infection turned into a sore, which spread all over his arm. Three surgeons performed an operation, but the king's life could not be saved. The irony is in the fact that inspire of killing nearly all the tigers in his state, the Tiger King had to face his death by a tiger, and that too not a real but a toy tiger.

OR

How does Mr. Lamb try to overcome his feelings of loneliness? (On The Face Of It)

Ans. In the play "On the Face of It" by Susan Hill, Mr. Lamb tries to overcome his feelings of loneliness by reaching out to others and forming a connection with a young boy named Derry. He grows crab-apples makes toffees with honey. He likes to talk, ask questions and make friends. He does not mind children teasing him or entering into his garden. He does not let his deformity affect him and he likes everything created by God.

17. Answer the following questions in 20-30 words: **[2×2=4]**

(i) Why does Sam write a letter to Charley? (The Third Level)

Ans. In the short story "The Third Level" by Jack Finney, Sam writes a letter to Charley because he had reached Galesburg, Illinois and believes he has discovered a third level of the Grand Central Station that leads to the year 1894. He tells Charley to keep searching for the third level and come with Louisa.

(ii) Who was Sadao? Where was his house? (The Enemy)

Ans. Sadao was a Japanese surgeon, trained in America, who lived during World War II. His house was located on a small bay on the coast of Japan, built upon rocks and surrounded by pine trees.

18. Choose the correct alternative: **[6×1=6]**

(i) "I shall cut off my tuft, crop my hair short _____" who said these words?

- (A) The king (B) The minister (C) The officer (D) The astrologer

Ans. (D) The astrologer

(ii) One can learn more about the planet if one travels to _____.

- (A) Earth (B) Antarctica (C) Arctic (D) America

Ans. (B) Antarctica

(iii) Yumi was _____.

- (A) Sadao's friend (B) Sadao's wife (C) Sadao's Maid (D) Sadao's classmate

Ans. (C) Sadao's Maid

(iv) Mr. Lamb was a _____ fellow.

- (A) lame (B) blind (C) dumb (D) deaf

Ans. (A) lame

(v) Everyone picked up his knife and fork for eating on the _____ bell.

- (A) first (B) second (C) third (D) fourth

Ans. (C) third

(vi) What fun and games did the narrator watch while returning home from school?

- (A) performing monkey (B) the snake charmer and the snake
(C) the cyclist (D) all the three

Ans. (D) all the three