

**COUNCIL OF CBSE AFFILIATED SCHOOLS IN THE GULF**

**GULF SAHODAYA EXAMINATIONS: SAUDI CHAPTER – 2016**

**SUBJECT: ENGLISH CORE  
CLASS: XI**

**MAX.MARKS: 80  
TIME: 3 HOURS**

**SET - A**

**General instructions:**

1. *This paper is divided into three sections: A, B and C. All sections are compulsory.*
2. *Separate instructions are given with each section and question wherever necessary. Read these instructions and follow them very carefully.*
3. *Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*
2. *Do not split sections.*

**SECTION - A (READING COMPREHENSION) 20 Marks**

**1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:**

**12 Marks**

**A DESERT COOLER**

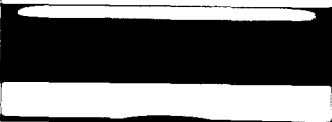
1. The only hill station in a dry stretch of desert, the sand seems to have heaved itself up with preternatural effort in the black rocks of the Aravalli Hills. Perched upon a 1,200m high plateau in the south of the state, the hill station, otherwise a tiny speck of a city in the beautiful Rajasthani landscape forms a tiny 3 km amphitheatre around the Nakki Lake and can be covered in 30 minutes by car.

2. But what a 30 minute jaunt it turns out to be. So take Mt Abu at a pace it is meant to be taken walking.

3. I drove down from Jaipur. After the hot capital, the hill station was bliss. Compared with the hill stations in other states, especially the Northeast, Mt Abu would be close to the bottom of the list of the '50 most beautiful hill stations of India'.

4. But the hill station suggests itself not simply on account of its beauty but rather for its novelty. It is not unlike 'discovering' *razais* in summer. Once you get over the *surreal* experience of trekking and exploring mountain trees and flowers in the only desert state in our country, it is easy to enjoy oneself.

5. The road leading to the top of the delightful hill station scythes through mango, bamboo, eucalyptus, palm, silk and lime trees. Mount Abu is not picture postcard green. The rugged Aravalli Mountains show in gashes of brown rock visible from under the green. Meandering



upwards, another thing that strikes one almost immediately is that Mt Abu has none of the colourless insipidity of a typical hill station.

6. 'Cold lands have cold people', goes a Norwegian proverb. But then, the Norwegian have yet to discover Mt Abu. The warmth of the plain has sustained itself in the hearts of the Rajasthanis, and it is rare to see drab browns and greys. The *odhnis* are always and everywhere bright – and the *ghaghras* swirl in a rush of oranges and reds.

7. I detest hill stations that are nothing but verdant hills and pretty heights. I decided never to go to a place where there is little other than nature. Even if one travels to a hill station to relax or simply trek, I need to trek towards something.

8. The Nakki Lake sits right in the middle of the town. It's an artificial lake and is overhung by the enormous toad rock. There are little islets that are fun to explore. The lake is said to have been dug out by the gods themselves with their nails. The name 'Nakki' begins to make sense.

9. Unlike in other lakes, where one can do little other than stare up at mountains looming up ahead, the lake offers an excellent view of Rajput Havelis. Most of these have now been changed into hotels and are excellently maintained.

10. The sun gradually drowns itself in the Nakki Lake. The best place to get this view is the sunset Point, South-west of Nakki Lake. Steps lead up to a high terrace which offers an awe-inspiring view of the setting sun. . .

**1.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given choices:** **6 Marks**

a) Mt Abu is shaped like an amphitheatre which is situated .....

- i) in the middle of a desert
- ii) in forests
- iii) in a hill station
- iv) around the Nakki Lake

b) Mt Abu is a ..... hill station.

- i) beautiful
- ii) novel
- iii) picturesque
- iv) all the above

c) The narrator likes the places which .....

- i) are verdant hills and pretty heights.

iv) are too cold to remind one of 'razais'.

d) The narrator suggests to go around Mt Abu .....

- i) by car
- ii) walking
- iii) on horse back
- iv) by local conveyance

e) Which word is the exact synonym of the word 'jaunt'?

- i) a short drive
- ii) a bad experience
- iii) journey to the hill station
- iv) excursion

f) Which word is the exact antonym of the word 'verdant' as used in para 7?

- i) meadowy
- ii) patchy
- iii) withering
- iv) stony

**1.2 Answer the following questions briefly.**

**6 Marks**

- a) Mt Abu was bliss because .....
- b) The author's expectation from hill stations is .....
- c) What sets Nakki Lake apart from other lakes?
- d) How did the lake at Mt Abu get its name?
- e) Find the word in the passage which means the same as 'strongly dislike'.
- f) Which word means the opposite of 'common'?

**2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:**

**8 Marks**

1. The Indian students' need to go abroad stems from the fact that they feel that the western markets offer better job opportunities with high pay packets, they are safe from the point of law and they offer a good quality of life. What is attractive to an Indian is the global recognition for a foreign degree. Until now, a UK or a US degree was more acceptable worldwide and for entry into a multinational company. The Indian Institutes of Technology has now got global recognition, thanks to the large number of Indians who have reached positions of eminence in the United States.

2. Traditionally, the West has been a magnet for people from other parts of the world. However, as a person has to pass multiple exams to get through their system, especially in professional areas such as medicine and engineering, students from India need to be focused on their options to study and work there. However, most European countries have made the entry of skilled

Indian workers easier by easing up visa regulations. The UK, which has traditionally seen many skilled and unskilled workers migrate, has eased up visa regulations for Indians who wish to seek jobs in the skilled sector such as IT whereas Scotland which has a separate Parliament within the UK, and a new entrant to the Indian education market, has taken several steps to woo Indian and other foreigners.

3. In the US, the largest number of foreign students comes from India followed by china. The numbers from both the countries are 79,736 in the academic year 2003-04 according to the Institute for International Education, an internationally recognized non-governmental organization. For the third consecutive year, India is the leading country of origin for international students in the US.

4. The assistant secretary of state, consular affairs, US department of state, Maura Harty, stated recently, "The education industry in the US is a \$12 bn industry....students and business travellers became our number one priority so that we could regain the competitive advantage of attracting students to the US. It was our responsibility to make visa process as efficient a process as we could as the hard-earned salaries of Indian parents are best applied in American varsities. Indian students bring a great diversity to our campus, great experience, great wisdom and they are good students."

5. Australia has eased up study and tourist visas for Indians. After study, a person from India does not have to come back to the country to apply for a work visa. Individual regions in Australia compete with each other for attracting students.

6. IDP Australia boasts of being the major export development and marketing company for Australian education as it is a conglomerate of all Australian universities and operates in 34 countries, India being one of them. There is expected to be a 15 percent to 25 percent increase in the number of Indians going to Australia for higher education.

7. Moving over to Canada, popular with Punjabi migrants, it has traditionally attracted non-skilled and skilled workers in equal measure from India. That country has now opened its doors to international students including India, making use of the decline in the student population post 9/11 US terror blasts, when the US tightened its security and visa measures. The country has an excellent public education system and education is more or less free. However, foreigners are charged market rates. The decrease in young population has necessitated Canada to open up its education system for foreign students.

**2.1 On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary (minimum 4). Use a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it. 5 Marks**

**2.2 Make a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words using the notes made. 3 Marks**

**SECTION - B (WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR) 30 Marks**

3. Draft an advertisement in not more than **50 words** for the Lost & Found column of the daily, 'National Herald', Lucknow stating the loss of your wallet containing a DD of Rs. 32000/- and some official documents, while travelling by bus from Hazratganj to Gomti Nagar in Lucknow. You are Raman / Rupa, 22 A Hazratganj, Lucknow. **4 Marks**

4. You are Mr K L Sareen. You have seen an advertisement in 'The Hindustan Times' for the post of a Marketing Manager. Write an application with complete bio-data. **6 Marks**

5. As Shrey/ Shreya, write an article in 150-200 words on the topic 'Poverty is the root cause of all evils' to be published in the YOUNG WORLD MAGAZINE. **10 Marks**

6. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Underline the error and write the correct word in front of it in your answer sheet. **½ x 6=3 Marks**

	Incorrect	Correct
The most important thing was that we	<u>was</u>	<u>is</u>
should have freedom of thought. This is not so easy	_____	_____
as it sounds, for everyone likes to have their	_____	_____
freedom for himself, and is not ready	_____	_____
to give it to others when we express	_____	_____
different opinions. This is particularly a case	_____	_____
when differences of opinion arise at such	_____	_____
important matters, as religion or politics.	_____	_____

7. In the passage given below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and the word that comes after against the correct blank number. Underline and write the word in your answer sheet. **½ x 6=3 Marks**

		Before	Word	After
An elephant not work mechanically,	a)	_____	_____	_____
like many other animals. It never	b)	_____	_____	_____
stops learning because it always thinking.	c)	_____	_____	_____
Not even a good sheep or dog be compared to	d)	_____	_____	_____
an elephant intelligence. I do not believe	e)	_____	_____	_____
that elephant never forgets, but I should	f)	_____	_____	_____
scarcely be surprised it tied a knot		_____	_____	_____
in its trunk to remember something, it wanted too.		_____	_____	_____

8. Rearrange the following jumbled words to form meaningful sentences. **4 Marks**

i) chosen/ Head Boy/ school/ the/ been/ of/ have/ I/ be/ to/ the

- ii) responsibility/ Children's Day/ given/ I/ organizing/ the/ the/ in/ was/ the/ school/ programme/of/
- iii) meeting/ Students' Council/ decide/ had/ members/ the/ programme/ I/ with/ a/ the/ of/ the/ to
- iv) morning/ decided/ assembly/ special/ we/ to/ have/ a/ cultural/ and/ programme/ a

**LITERATURE AND LONG READING TEXT) 30 Marks**

**9. Read the lines given below and answer the questions that follow.**

**1x3=3 Marks**

‘And who art thou? said I to the soft-falling shower,  
Which, strange to tell, gave me an answer, as here translated:  
I am the Poem of Earth, said the voice of the rain,...’

- a) Who does ‘I’ refer to in the first and third line given above?
  - i) poet and poem
  - ii) poet and earth
  - iii) poet and rain
  - iv) earth and shower
  
- b) Who is the poet?
  - i) Walt Whitman
  - ii) Shirley Toulson
  - iii) Ted Hughes
  - iv) Elizabeth Jennings
  
- c) What does the phrase ‘strange to tell’ mean?
  - i) the poet strangely tells
  - ii) the poet finds the rain's answer strange
  - iii) the rain is strange
  - iv) the poem is strange

**10. Answer the following questions briefly.**

**3x3=9 Marks**

- a) Why do you think Frank envies Mr. Crocker Harris?
- b) How did Albert react to the head teacher's decision of expelling him from school?
- c) Why was Andrew Manson preoccupied when he was attending to Susan Morgan's case?

**11. Answer the following in about 150 words.**

**6 Marks**

Describe the relationship between Khushwant Singh and his grandmother.



**Long Reading Text:**

**Answer the following in about 150 words.**

**6x2=12 Marks**

**12.** Though Oscar Wilde tells a humorous tale, he has a message which he delivers through Virginia. What is the message?

**13.** Describe the last encounter between the Ghost and Virginia.

**OR**

**12.** Give an account of how Tuskegee Normal Institute became an institute of world repute from humble beginnings.

**13.** The slaves, though ignorant and illiterate, were completely and accurately informed about the progress of The Civil War. How did this happen?

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