

INTERNATIONAL INDIAN SCHOOL, DAMMAM
FIRST TERM EXAMINATION – JUNE 2014

CLASS :- XII

MAX MARKS :- 100

SUBJECT :- ENGLISH

TIME :- 3HRS

SET A

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. This paper is divided in to three sections – A, B, and C. All sections are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions have been given for each questions. Read the instructions carefully before attempting the questions.
3. Do not split sections.

SECTION–A–READING

[30 Marks]

1. Read the following passage carefully.

[11 Marks]

1. “We become brave by doing brave acts”, observed Aristotle in the Nicomachean Ethics. Dispositions of character, virtues and vices, are progressively fixed in us through practice. Thus “by being habituated to despise things that are terrible and to stand our ground against them we become brave, and it is when we have become so that we shall be most able to stand our guard against them.”

2. Being able to resist threats is not to be confused with fearlessness. However, being afraid is a perfectly appropriate emotion when confronted with fearful things. The great American novelist Herman Melville makes the Aristotelian point beautifully in a telling passage in Moby Dick, where Starbuck, the chief mate of the Pequod, first addresses the crew. “I will have no man in my boat,’ said Starbuck, ‘who is not afraid of a whale.’ By this, he seemed to mean that the most reliable and useful courage was that which arose from the fair estimation of the encountered peril. An utterly fearless man is a far more dangerous comrade than a coward.”

3. A brave person is not one who is never afraid, such a person is more reckless than brave. A rash or reckless person is more of an impediment than a help in an emergency. It is hard to “educate” such a person on the spot. The coward, on the other hand, the one who characteristically lacks confidence and is disposed to be overly fearful

4. The infectious nature of courageous behavior on the part of one person can inspire or shame a whole group. The courage inspired by Horatius and by Henry V at Agincourt was similar to the kind of courage displayed by those who silently suffered abuse when they joined ranks with Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr., in acts of non-violent protest directed at rousing the public conscience against injustice.

5. Another key to their success was reason: practical reason delivered with the kind of eloquence supported by an understanding of one's cultural heritage that steels the will to take intelligent action. The mere inclination to do the right thing is not sufficient. We have to know what the right thing to do is. We need wisdom— often the wisdom of a wise leader— to give our courage a determinate form, to give it intelligent direction. And we need the will, the motivating power that inspiring leaders help us discover within ourselves, even when we are unable to find it on our own.

6. If Aristotle is right, then courage is a settled disposition to feel appropriate degrees of fear and confidence in challenging situations (what is “appropriate” varying a good deal with the particular circumstances). It is also a settled disposition to stand one's ground, to advance or to retreat as wisdom dictates. Before such dispositions become settled, however, they need to be established in the first place. Practice enables us to do so, which in turn means facing fears and taking stands in—acting bravely in spite of what one truly feels.

7. Fear of the dark is almost universal among young children, and it provides relatively safe opportunities for first lessons in courage. In families, older siblings are greatly assisted in cultivating their own dispositions in this respect by putting up a brave front before their younger brothers or sisters. “You see? There's really nothing to be afraid of”. This is excellent practice, and a fine place to begin. Occasions for displaying bravery— for standing by them in challenging circumstances are occasions for becoming brave ourselves; that is for learning how to handle our own confidence and fear, for figuring out the right thing to do, and for mustering the will to do it.

8. Bravery, well nurtured and backed by moral courage is exemplary, and so, should be promoted.

1.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given choices. **[3 Marks]**

A. An utterly fearless person is a _____.

- a. Good comrade
- b. Better companion
- c. Far more dangerous than a coward
- d. Coward

B. Who is starbuck in Mobydick?

- a. Pequod
- b. Chief mate of Pequod
- c. Chieftain
- d. Whale

C. Which one of the following is a synonym of impediment?

- a. Hindrance
- b. Opportunity
- c. Shade
- d. Peculiar

1.2 Answer the following questions briefly.

[8 Marks]

- a) Explain: 'We become brave by doing brave acts'
- b) When is 'being afraid' an appropriate emotion?
- c) Define:
 - a. A reckless person
 - b. A coward
- d) What was special about the courage that Gandhiji or Horatius had?
- e) Why do we need wisdom?
- f) How does fear of the dark in children provide opportunities for lessons in courage for elders?
- g) Which word in para 1 is a synonym of "accustomed"

2. Read the poem carefully.

[11 Marks]

IF

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise;

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with triumph and disaster
And treat those two imposters just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools;

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;

If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on";

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch;
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you;
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And – which is more– you'll be a Man, my son!

2.1 On the basis of your reading of the poem, answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given choices. [3 Marks]

1. Who is the speaker in the poem and to whom is he/ she speaking?
 - a. A husband to his wife
 - b. A poet to nature
 - c. A father to his son
 - d. A person to his friend
2. Who are the two impostors referred to here?
 - a. Truth and lie
 - b. Triumph and disaster
 - c. Dreams and fantasies
 - d. Winnings and loss
3. What does he mean when he writes "talk with crowds and keep your virtue"
 - a. Should not let the people you hang out with affect your moral
 - b. Interact with the crowds
 - c. Talk a lot
 - d. Spend time with people

2.2 Answer the following questions briefly. [8 Marks]

- a) What is suggested by breathe in line 20?
- b) Mention any two qualities that are stressed in stanza 1
- c) What does the poet say of dreaming?
- d) Pick out any two rhyming words used in the poem
- e) What does the poet mean by being confident?

f) Which words in the poem mean this?

1. Dishonest (Stanza 2)
2. A person who pretends to be someone else (Stanza 2)
3. Showing high moral standard (Stanza 4)

3. Read the following passage carefully:

[8 Marks]

Salt, a miraculous gift of nature, is one of the most useful and amazing minerals on Earth derived from the sea and rocks. Do you know that it is the only rock that humans can eat?

Salt has seasoned our history, language and food, besides making nutritious foods more palatable. It is used in all bakery products, prepared foods, sauces, soups, spices, cereals, dairy foods, meats, and poultry. It is also an extraordinary effective food preservative, retarding the growth of spoilage by micro-organisms and making food storage possible long before refrigeration.

How much salt is necessary for human consumption? Medical experts agree that everyone should practice some reasonable 'moderation' in salt consumption. For the average person, a moderate amount might run from 4 to 10 gm a day, or roughly half to one and one-third teaspoons. The equivalent of 1 to 2 gm of this salt allowance would come from the natural sodium in food.

The rest would be added in processing, preparation or at the table. Common salt, a chloride of sodium, is chemically represented by the symbol NaCl. The human body has a continual need for salt. Sodium chloride or the common salt is 39 percent sodium and 61 percent chloride. Forming a solution in the body, these two components separate into sodium and chloride ions, each with a different task. Chloride maintains the balance of water between the living cell and its environment, plays part indigestion, and pairs with sodium to maintain the blood's acid-base balance, critical for life. Sodium assists in regulating the volume of blood and blood pressure. It facilitates the transmission of nerve impulses and is necessary for heart and muscle contractions. Although the popular conception is that salt is a flavor enhancer, a recent American study suggests that it functions as a flavor filter on food, selectively enhancing and suppressing various tastes. Other studies showed that the use of salt suppresses the bitter taste of dark green vegetables like bitter gourds.

Salt's functions in the body are already elucidated. Deficiency signs include lethargy, dizziness, cramps and palpitation. But what the good salt can do, in the right dose, is unequalled. Snorers should try spraying their nose with a salt water to moisten mucous membrane and make it easier to breathe. To invigorate the body when tired or to remove dead skin cells, rub a handful of salt all over your body before having a bath. Salt baths encourage detoxification and greatly help muscle and joint pains. Add a pound of salt to a comfortably hot bath and lie in it for 20 minutes, add hot water as it cools. Wrap up in cotton towels and get into a warm bed. You should perspire freely, sleep well and feel much better in the morning. Remove all the congestion in your throat by saline gargles.

The recommendation that no one should exclude salt totally from the diet is awfully wrong. Scientists are of the view that salt is an invisible killer and, therefore, a health hazard. As new evidence piles up; alarm bells have started ringing. And the next battle might just be against salt! Specialists are convinced that a diet, high in salt causes high blood pressure, a disorder that afflicts one-third of people above the age of 60. Moreover, this is a risk factor for two big killers – coronary heart disease and stroke.

3.1 Make note on the passage in a suitable format using abbreviations wherever necessary.

Give a suitable title to the passage. [5 Marks]

3.2 Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words: [3 Marks]

SECTION-B-WRITING

[30 Marks]

4. You are General Manager, Hotel Hills, Gurgaon. You need a lady Front Office Assistant with sound knowledge of computers. She must be a graduate and has good communication skills with pleasing manners. Draft an advertisement in not more than 50 words to be published in Gurgaon Times.

[4 Marks]

5. You are the librarian of LWA Senior Secondary School, Pune. You want to purchase a dictionary, books for preparing for competitive exams and for IIT exams for your school. Place an order with M.S Book Depot, Delhi giving the details regarding the mode of dispatch and the mode of payment.

[6 Marks]

6. You are Satish/Shweta. Working in an NGO which is working for the upliftment of socio-economic conditions of child labourers by counselling their parents and helping children to go to school. You find it appalling that many people in educated society want the practice of child labour to continue. Write an article on the Role of Educated Society in Curbing Child Labour. (150- 200 words.)

[10 Marks]



7. Your school organized a seminar on MERS for creating awareness among students of your school. As secretary of the health club of your school, prepare a report in 150-200 words to be published in your school magazine.

[10 Marks]

SECTION-C-LITERATURE AND LONG READING TEXT [40 Marks]

8. Read the lines given below and answer the question that follow each. [4 Marks]

‘The tall girl with her weighed down head. The paper seeming boy, with rat’s eyes. The stunted unlucky heir of twisted bones, reciting a father’s gnarled disease.’

1. Comment on the bitter irony of the boy reciting his father’s gnarled disease.
2. Why is the boy ‘paper seeming’?

3. Why would the tall girl have a weighed down head?
4. Name the poem and the poet

9. Answer the following questions briefly

[3x4=12 Marks]

1. Describe the peddler's meeting with the ironmaster. Why did he decline his invitation?
2. What was the basic tale underlying each story that Jack told?
3. What surprised Franz the most about the classroom and about his teacher?
4. How did the instructor make Douglas a good swimmer?

10. Answer the following questions in about 120 – 150 words

[6x4=24 Marks]

1. The beauty of the bangles of Firozabad contrasts with the misery of people who produce them. Discuss with reference to the lesson.
2. Describe the efforts made by the tiger king to disprove the prediction. How did the prediction come true?
3. Describe the robbery episode at dawn in Bunting's house?
4. Who was Teddy Henfrey? Why did the stranger get angry with him and what information did he share with Mrs. Hall?
