

International Indian School, Dammam
II Term Examination – Dec 2015

STD XII
English Core

Time : 3 Hours
Max.Marks : 100

SET A

General Instructions:

- This paper consists of 3 sections: A, B and C. All sections are compulsory.
- Follow the specific instructions given with each question
- Do not exceed the prescribed word limit.
- Do not split sections

Section A { Reading } 30 Marks

I. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow : 12 Marks

The National Basketball Women's Championship finals had all the ingredients of the *Chak De* climax. Till half time, the Railways team playing against the Chattisgarh girls' team, led on the scoreboard. And then the unexpected happened. The Chattisgarh girls tore into the Railway's defences and every time they took a shot, the ball made it through the hoop. The scoreboard kept changing and at the final whistle, it stood in Chattisgarh's favour.

But more important than the victory, it is the stories of some of these players that made it a fantastic match. Most of the players come from poor families and have dealt with severe setbacks. Take the story of India's tallest hoopster, Poonam Chaturvedi: a severe headache that had bothered her for long, was diagnosed as a brain tumour six months ago. She had lost her will to live, but had joined the team to please her father, a constable in Uttar Pradesh. Within a few minutes into the game, the headache had returned and she was benched. But when Captain Seema Singh fouled out, she was forced to return. She went on to put up a brilliant performance, despite the pain and anxiety.

Behind this stupendous success is Coach Rajesh Patel, who has been running the Chattisgarh Basketball Development Academy for 13 years. With financial backing from Steel Plants in his area, he has been mentoring deserving boys and girls from tribal belts and training them for the game. A promise of employment and promotion, if they excel in the game, keeps his girls going, says Patel.

So far Patel has trained 1500 youngsters. Of the lot, the really disadvantaged children are taken into a hostel run by him and his wife Anita, till they are independent. Many of Patel's protégés have gone on to perform at National and International events. The Chattisgarh Girls he has trained claim a unique record of bringing home 74 medals in their 80 National event appearances.

Yet none of these players have had an easy life. Seema Singh, Captain of the current team, is its most experienced player. She had represented Chattisgarh for the first time in 2002. When she was dropped from the Railways team due to a knee injury, she picked herself up and resumed playing for Chattisgarh and won the National Trophy, for her coach, as she puts it.



Another team member, L. Deepa, triumphed over a physical drawback. She is short and found this a great disadvantage in a sport where height really matters. But when Patel gave her a chance to prove her mettle, Deepa more than measured up.

Others like Bharti Nigam, came here as she had not made it to the Railways Team that year. She took this as a challenge, and went on to become a professional player in a winning team. Her Sports teacher, she feels, motivated her into taking up the sport as a career.

All these women together have thus scripted an unusual tale of valour, indomitable courage and determination, and implicit trust in their coach, to secure for India a great honour. For them, this 'against - all - odds' win over the giants, The Railways Team, has spelt a personal interpretation of the typical 'underdog who triumphs' fairytale.

1.1 On the basis of your reading, answer the following questions by choosing the best options; **1x3=3**

- a) The match between the Railways and Chattisgarh was won by
- (i) The Chak De team (ii) The Chattisgarh Girls' Team
(iii) The Railways Team (iv) No one as it was a draw
- b) Poonam Chaturvedi is
- (i) The Captain of the team (ii) India's tallest woman hoopster
(iii) A girl living in the hostel (iv) A player on the Railways team
- c) The Chattisgarh Basketball Academy has been running for
- (i) One year (ii) The benefit of the Steel Plant
(iii) 13 years (iv) The National and International Teams

1.2 Answer the following questions briefly; **6**

- a) How were the tables turned after half-time? 1
- b) Why was Poonam Chaturvedi benched and why did she return? 1
- c) Mention 2 facts about Seema Singh? 2
- d) How was Bharti Nigam motivated after her rejection? 2

1.3 Find words from the passage which mean the same : **1x3=3**

- a) Basketball Player
b) Extremely impressive
c) Very brave and determined

2. Read the poem and answer the questions:

10 Marks

Geography Lesson

*When the Jet sprang to the sky
It was clear why the city
Had developed the way it had,
Seeing it scaled six inches to the mile.
There seemed an inevitability
About what on ground had looked haphazard,*

*anned and without style
n the jet sprang into the sky.*

*hen the jet reached thousand feet,
It was clear why the country
Had cities where the rivers ran
And why the valleys were populated.
The logic of geography –
That land and water attracted man –
Was clearly delineated
When the jet reached ten thousand feet.*

*When the jet rose six miles high,
It was clear the earth was round
And that it had more sea than land.
But it was difficult to understand
That the men on the earth found
Causes to hate each other, to build
Walls across cities and to kill.
From that height, it was not clear why.
Zulfikar Ghose*

2.1 Answer the following questions by choosing the best option: 1x3=3

- a) From the height of ten thousand feet, the city seemed
(i) Organized (ii) Chaotic
(iii) Natural (iv) Enormous
- b) What according to the poet attracted man?
(i) sky and water (ii) land and water
(iii) forest and rivers (iv) birds and flowers
- c) The rhyme scheme of the poem is :
(i) abababab (ii) abbaabba
(iii) abcaabca (iv) none of the above

2.2 Answer the following questions: 4

- a) What was clear when the jet sprang into the sky ? 1
b) What did the poet realize when the jet reached ten thousand feet ? 1
c) What is the theme of the poem ? 2

2.3 Find words from the poem which mean the same: 1x3=3

- a) Unavoidably
b) Erratic
c) Outlined

3. Read the Passage carefully :

8 Marks

The day a child is born, the parents dream of making it a doctor, engineer, chartered accountant or an IAS Officer. As the child develops, the aspirations of the parents keep growing. They want to see their children attain all that they couldn't.

Having an ideal career is a dream for all, as soon as a teenager reaches the tenth grade, they wrongly believe that they are at the beginning of their career path. But they have been on the road for years – their school studies, recreational activities, and hobbies help a child gravitate towards its interests. These interests must drive their ambitions. Gone are the days when one began and ended one's professional career at the same job. Getting a job is no longer as important as choosing the right career path – one that promises more personal satisfaction and growth and of course earnings that will help them lead a comfortable life. So making the right choice becomes all the more important. Developing a keen sense of self-knowledge is essential in making the right decisions.

But all youngsters are not so self-aware. In fact, many of them admit that they need help in planning their careers. Unsure and ill-informed youngsters should turn to others for help. *And though career counselors at school are helpful, experts agree that parents are the number one influence on a child's choice of career.* Sadly many parents are not themselves very sure about how best they can help. Many parents mistakenly try to 'tell' their kid – directly or indirectly – about the kind of expectations they have with regard to its choice of career. *The chances are very high that the child ends up following its parents dream and not its own.* This leads it to be an unhappy and unsatisfied professional in its adult life.

“ A child relies on information from peers when it comes to career options. Parents must guide their wards very carefully and allow them to make an informed decision,” says S.C. Moha, Executive Director of the All India Management Association (AIMA)

3.1 On the basis of your reading, make notes using headings and sub headings. Use recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply an apt title. 5

3.2 Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. 3

Section B { Advanced Writing Skills } 30 Marks

4. 4 Marks

- You are the Head boy/ Head girl of Little Flower Public School, Nainital. Design a poster on 'Say no to Child Labour', as part of the awareness drive in the community. (50 words)

OR

- Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, requires Sales Executives for their South Zone. Draft an advertisement for the local newspaper. (50 words)

6 Marks

You are Pawan/Payal Junelia, R-535, Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi. Two months ago you'd bought a Telephone Answering System with Facsimile, with a warranty of two years, from Electronic World, 33, Daryaganj, New Delhi. Now you discover that the machine doesn't record the callers' messages and the screen also remains blank. Write a letter of complaint in not more than **120-150** words.

OR

-A playground in your area is going to be used for building a Commercial Centre. Write a letter to the Editor of a local daily, in not more than **120-150** words, expressing your concern on the issue. You are Deepak/Deepti of 45/7 Model Town, Pune.

6.

10 Marks

- A large no of advertisers are using children to sell their products. You are against this popular trend of misuse of children. Write a speech for your school assembly on the occasion of Children's Day, in not more than **150-200** words, to put forward your views. You are Dinesh/ Divya of Govt. Model School, Nagpur.

OR

- '*Peer pressure might have changed form, but not substance.*' is the topic for your inter school Debate Competition. Prepare your debate for/against the topic in not more than **150-200** words.

7.

10 Marks

- You are Neelam/Neeraj, a student volunteer of the National Literacy Mission (NLM) wing of your school, involved in the Adult Literacy Drive, '*Each one Teach one.*' Write an article in not more than **150-200** words for your school magazine, highlighting the benefits of the campaign and encouraging the students to participate.

OR

-You are Maneka/Manish. You strongly feel that the Indian Govt. is not taking adequate steps to check deforestation in India. Write an article for your school newsletter giving ideas on the steps the Govt. could take to aggressively control deforestation. (word limit **150-200**)

Section C { Literature & Long Reading Text } 40 Marks

8. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow :

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*Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through the wool
Find even the ivory needle hard to pull
The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band
Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand*

- (a) Pick out the literary device in the first line **1**
(b) Why are Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering ? **1**
(c) Explain 'massive weight of Uncle's wedding band'. **2**

OR

*A thing of beauty is a joy forever
Its loveliness increases, it will never
Pass into nothingness; but will keep
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep
Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing.
Therefore on every morrow, are we wreathing
A flowery band to bind us to the earth,*

- a) What is the poet's view on beautiful things? 2
- b) What does he mean by '*...sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing.*'? 1
- c) According to the poet, what is the relationship we share with Nature? 1

9. Answer any FOUR of the following questions in about 30-40 words 3x4=12

- a) What were the things that Zitkala-Sa found objectionable and strange in the school to which she was admitted?
- b) How did Mr. Lamb influence Derry?
- c) How did the ordinary people of Champaran make Gandhiji's movement a success?
- d) Why are the bangle makers unable to organize themselves into a cooperative?
- e) How did Sadao realize that he had the General at his mercy?
- f) According to the poet, how can we bring a change in the predicament of the slum children?

10. Answer the following question in about 120-150 words 6x1=6

- '*Sophie is responsible for her own sadness and disappointment.*' Discuss.

OR

- "*The rattrap is a Christmas present from a rat who would have been caught in this world's rattrap if he had not been raised to captain.*" Elucidate.

11. Answer the following question in about 120-150 words 6x1=6

- '*It was their way of thanking their master for his 40 years of faithful service and of showing respect for the country that was theirs no more.*' (*The Last Lesson*) Do you think nowadays we acknowledge the contributions of good teachers?

OR

- The story '*The Tiger King*' shows man's callousness towards Nature.' Elucidate

12. Answer the following question in about 120-150 words

6x1=6

'*Dr. Kemp is a character that possesses common sense and decency.*' Prove this with suitable examples from the novel '*The Invisible Man*'.

13. Answer the following question in about 120-150 words

6x1=6

- Compare and contrast the characters of the urban and rural communities as revealed through the novel, '*The Invisible Man*'.

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