

ENGLISH CORE**CLASS XII****Time: 3 Hours****Max.Marks:80****General Instruction:**

- (i) The paper is divided into three Sections: A, B and C. All the sections are compulsory.
- (ii) Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.
- (iii) Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
- (iv) Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

Section A: (Reading)**20 Marks**

- 1. Read the passage and on the basis of your understanding of the passage answer the questions given below: (12 marks)**

1. For many years now, the governments have been promising the eradication of child labour in hazardous industries in India. But the truth is that despite all the rhetoric, no government so far has succeeded in eradicating this evil, nor has any been able to ensure compulsory Primary education for every Indian child. Between 60 and 100 million children are still at work instead of going to school and around 10 million are working in hazardous industries. India has the biggest child population of 380 million in the world plus the largest number of children who are forced to earn a living.

2. We have many laws that ban child labour in hazardous industries. According to the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, the employment of children below the age of 14 in hazardous occupations has been strictly banned. But each state has different rules regarding the minimum age of employment. This makes implementation of these laws difficult.

3. Also, there is no ban on child labour in non-hazardous occupations. The Act applies to the organised or factory sector and not to the unorganised or informal sector, where most children find employment as cleaners, servants, porters or waiters, among other forms of unskilled work. Thus, child labour continues because the implementation of the existing laws is lax.

4. There are industries which have a special demand for child labour because of their nimble fingers, high level of concentration and capacity to work hard at abysmally low wages. The carpet industry in Uttar Pradesh and Kashmir employs children to make hand-knotted carpets. There are 80000 child workers in Jammu and Kashmir alone. In Kashmir, because of the political unrest, children are forced to work while many schools are shut. Industries like gem cutting and polishing, pottery and glass want to remain competitive by employing children.

5. The truth is that it is poverty which is pushing children into the brutish labour market. We have 260 million people below the poverty line in India, a large number of them are women. Poor and especially woman-headed, families have no option but to push their little ones into this hard life in hostile conditions with no human or labour rights.

6. There is a lobby which argues that there is nothing wrong with children working as long as the environment for work is conducive to learning new skills, but studies have shown that the children are made to do boring, repetitive and tedious jobs and are not taught new skills as they grow older. In these hell-holes, like the sweat shops of old, there is no hope.

7. Children working in hazardous industries are prone to debilitating diseases which can cripple them for life. BY sitting in cramped, damp and unhygienic spaces, their limbs become deformed for life. Inside matchstick, fireworks and glass industries, they are victims of bronchial diseases and tuberculosis. Their mental and physical development is permanently impaired by long hours of work. Once trapped, they can't get out of this vicious circle of poverty. They remain uneducated and powerless. Finally, in later

years, they too are compelled to send their own children to work. Child labour perpetuates its own nightmare.

8. If at all the government was serious about granting children their rights, an intensive effort ought to have been made to implement the Supreme Court's directive of 1997 which laid down punitive action against employers of child labour. Only compulsory primary education can eliminate child labour.

9. Surely, if 380 million children are given a better life and elementary education, India's human capital would be greatly enhanced. But that needs, as former President Abdul Kalam says, "a Second Vision".

1.1 Answer each of the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option: **(5x1=5)**

- (i) As per the passage, how many children are employed in hazardous industries in India?
(a) 10 million (b) 60 to 100 million
(c) 260 million (d) 380 million
- (ii) The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 is applicable to what sectors of industry?
(a) Unorganised or informal sector (b) Organised or factory sector
(c) Both (a) and (b) (d) None of these
- (iii) Which of the following industries prefer to employ child labour?
(a) Gem cutting and polishing industries (b) Pottery and glass industries
(c) Hand-knotted carpets industry (d) All of these
- (iv) Which of the following is the major reason for children working as labour instead of attending school?
(a) Parents want them to work (b) Children like to earn money
(c) Financial needs of the family (d) None of these
- (v) Supreme court's directive of 1997 lays down that
(a) Punitive action should be taken against employers of child labour
(b) Criminal proceedings be taken against the employers of child labour
(c) Criminal proceedings be taken against the children
(d) Child labour law be implemented

1.2 Answer any five of the following questions briefly **(5x1=5)**

- (i) Why do the industries prefer to employ child labour?
(ii) State any two adverse effects of hazardous industries on children.
(iii) What have actual studies disproved about people who are in favour of child labour?
(iv) What does the Supreme Court's directive of 1997 provide for?
(v) Successive Indian Governments have failed on two important counts regarding children. What are they?
(vi) Why is the implementation of child labour law difficult?

1.3 Pick out the words/phrases from the passage which are opposite in meaning to the following (2x1 =2)

- (i) Favourable (para 5) (ii) Invigorating (para 7)

2. Read the passage given below carefully: (8 Marks)

Shakespeare, Milton, Chaucer, Spenser and Dr Johnson are among the literary masters who contributed greatly to the growth, enrichment and development of the English language. Among them Shakespeare has no equal with regard to extent and profundity of his influence on the language. Critics conclude that his mind is not shown by the fact that he was acquainted with around 20,000 words but by the fact that since he wrote about it in a great variety of subjects and touched upon several human facts and relationships that he depicted in his writings. He also had a remarkable familiarity with technical expressions. He also used language to individualise the characters in his plays. The everyday of the artisans in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' is comic and different from the diction or the other superior characters. A great many words used

by Shakespeare have another value than they had then. For instance, the word 'bonnet' was a man's cap and not a woman's headgear. To charm a person was in his time associated with 'witchcraft' while 'notorious' was used for someone well known in a good sense.

Chaucer's writings too had a powerful influence on the English language although it is difficult to prove this fact by definite examples. He was regarded as a poet of new thought. He not only imported hundreds of words from other languages but also created hundreds of them. Like him, Milton contributed about 7000 words to English vocabulary. Words like 'pandemonium' are examples of his coinage, and phrases such as 'the human face divine' are examples of his phrases. Another poet of our time, Spenser, left his mark on the English poetic style. Though many of his expressions have now become obsolete, in the middle of the 18th century writers and poets were eager to adopt his romantic style when they wanted to move away from everyday realities.

By far the greatest influence on English has come from the Bible and many of its words have become household words today. The best judges of English style recommend a constant study of the Bible as a training ground in English. The scriptural 'holy of holies' which contains the Hebrew manner of expressing the superlative, has given rise to phrases such as 'horror of horrors'. Some scriptural proper nouns such as 'Jehu', are mentioned when a driver is driving furiously in context with Jehu's driving mentioned in the Bible. In poetry it is due to the Biblical influence that the 'th' forms began to be used by poets in words such as 'loveth' 'hath', etc. Besides giving us words, the Bible had a tremendous influence on the technical grammar of modern poetry, particularly in the works of Milton, Tennyson and Shakespeare.

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

2.2 Write a summary of the passage in about 100 words. **(4 Marks)**

Section – B

WRITING SKILLS

(30 Marks)

3. You are Health Secretary, Students' Council, D C Public School, DayalBagh, Ambala. The Council has decided to start from the second of October a week-long cleanliness drive around the school. Draft a notice in about 50 words asking the class XI students to enrol for the drive. **(4 Marks)**

Or

Govind Travels, Saket, Robin Complex, Karnal, is offering attractive holiday package for 3 nights and 4 days tour to Port Blair. As Manager of the travel agency, Draft an advertisement, in about 50 words, for publication in the classified column of local newspaper.

You are disturbed on the seeing the growing tendency to drink among the youth these days. You feel strongly about it and decide to write a letter to the Editor 'The Indian Express' on the evils of drinking. You are Raman /Rashmi, Secretary, Citizens' Vigilance Forum, Chandigarh. Make use of the following inputs: **(6 Marks)**

Drinking - addiction a cruse among youth – familial, social problems – disturbing trend – hazards of drunken driving – health issues – need for awareness – evil to be

Or

Anil Ramsey of G-215, B-Block, Civil Lines Roorkee recently purchased a Cassio Wristwatch from Delmo Watches, Haridawar. Within a few days, the watch stopped functioning properly. Since it was still within warranty period, Anil Ramsey decided to write a letter to the dealer asking for immediate replacement. Write his letter mentioning all necessary details in about 120 -150 words. Together with your own ideas, use of the following inputs: **(6 Marks)**

Watch dysfunctional – specific defects – bought for special occasion – still under warranty – replacement at the earliest – restore customer faith

4 The main purpose of education should be to instil moral values in children apart from grooming them with life skills to survive in the morden-day competitive world. A little more meaningful effort needs to be

made in this direction. Write an article in 150-200 words for your school magazine on the topic, 'Declining Moral Values among Today's Youngsters'. You are CCA Captain of APJ Public School, Jagadhari.

(10Marks)

Or

"The Internet cannot replace a dedicated teacher". Write a debate in 150-200 words either for or against the motion.

5 VineshPhogat won three International gold medals in wrestling recently. Every Indian felt proud of her. You, the student- captain of your school, wish to deliver a speech in order to express your feelings.

Write the speech in 150-200 words. Apart from your own ideas, use the following inputs:(10 Marks)

Wrestling mostly a male sport – Vinesh born in conservative surroundings - most unfavourable gender ratio for females- parental encouragement – one can't forget the look of determination on her face in the last three minutes of the bout.

Or

Vibrant Vision Club, Bright Land Public School, Mohali, organised an adult literacy camp in its neighbourhood. Write a report in 150-200 words on the camp for your school newsletter. You are Arpit Mehta, Organising Secretary. Use the following inputs.

Number of volunteers- hours spent in teaching – location of the class – chairs, blackboards-Number of people attending the camp- benefits.

Section C (Literature Text books)

30Marks

7. Read the extracts given below the answers the question that follow:

(a) Unless, governor, inspector, visitor,

(4x1=4

Marks)

This map becomes their window and these windows

That shut upon their lives like catacombs.

(i) The authorities associated with the school are the governor, the inspector and visitors. (True/ False)

(ii) The poet urges the authorities to make the classroom map the children's _____ outer world.

(iii) The windows of the classroom have been compared to _____.

(iv) _____ in the classroom is an outlet to the world beyond.

(b) Yakima River was treacherous. Mother continually warned against it, and kept fresh in my mind details of each drowning in the river. But the Y.M.C.A. pool was safe. It was only two or three feet deep at the shallow end, and while it was nine feet deep at the other, the drop was gradual. I got a pair of water wings and went to the pool. (4x1=4 Marks)

(i) Mother warned the author about the _____ river.

(ii) The pool was safe because it was not very deep. (True/False)

(iii) The author ignored each drowning in the river. (True/False)

(iv) Find a word from the extract that is the opposite of 'deep'.

8. Answer any FIVE of the following questions.

(5x2=10 Marks)

(a) What was Franz's fear as he was hurrying to school?

(b) Why did the rattrap peddler think illof the world?

(c) What has man single-mindedly focused on and with what result?

(d) What, according to the poet, moves away the pall of gloom from our lives?

(e) What is ironical about the Tiger King's death?

(f) Why did the Governor instruct Jackson to search McLeery?

(g) Explain Bama's first encounter with untouchability?

9. Answer the following question in 120-150 words.

(6 marks)

“Understanding and love can truly transform a life” How does the ‘Rattrap’ live upto this belief?

Or

‘Sophie’s ambitions are not rooted in reality and she carries her fantasies too far’. Comment on this statement with reference to “Going place”.

10. Answer the following question in 120-150 words.

(6 marks)

“Humanity is the noblest form of patriotism”. Illustrate the fact of this statement with reference to “The Enemy”

Or

“A Physical disability is not a handicap for an individual to live life to the hilt”.

How does On The Face Of It’ bring this out?