



ST. MARGARET SR. SEC. SCHOOL
MID TERM EXAMINATION 2024-25
ENGLISH CORE (301)
CLASS XI

Time: 3Hrs

SAMPLE PAPER

M.M: 80

General Instructions:

- i. The Question Paper contains THREE sections- READING, WRITING & GRAMMAR and LITERATURE.
- ii. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.
- iii. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit.

SECTION A: READING (26 MARKS)

Q.1. Read the given passage and answer the questions that follow. (10 Marks)

Floods are not new to India and this sub-continent, but in recent years the problem has received much greater attention perhaps largely because it has led to much greater damage than in the past. Even though information on the impending occurrence of floods is now more accurate and certainly more timely, often there is very little time or support infrastructure in place by which damage can be minimized. This is particularly true in the case of flash floods resulting from sudden and excessively heavy rain.

2. In the case of India flooding is very much a function of the seasonal nature of our rainfall. The monsoons are spread over a short period during the year and often bring a concentrated volume of rain, which cannot be absorbed by the earth and finds outlet only in the form of streams that join up with our major river systems. But, flooding is not confined only to the main rivers of the country, often smaller tributaries and streams can cause heavy damage as well. Once these streams spill over their banks they could cause excessive harm, mainly because those living near the banks of these streams particularly in mountain areas do not have easy recourse to moving away quickly.

3. One major factor that could lead to a higher severity of flooding in the future is the danger of climate change. While the evidence of the nature of impacts resulting from climate change on precipitation and flooding at the regional level is not entirely clear, it could happen that the Indian subcontinent witnesses and suffers the effects of a

significantly changed pattern of monsoons. One set of scientists has estimated that the monsoons could be shorter in duration, but far more intensive. In other words, much greater precipitation would take place in a much shorter period of time, thereby increasing the danger of floods. Climate change is the result of human actions through the increased concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, of which carbon dioxide is the most prominent.

4. At the local level also human actions have heightened the danger of flood through the cutting of trees in the mountains as well as in the plains. In the case of India, the ecological damage through deforestation of the Himalayas has led to large-scale erosion of the mountain slopes and high levels of siltation. This leads to deposition of silt on the riverbeds in the plains and hence spill over of water whenever the volume in the river reaches a certain level. With siltation on the river beds, flooding occurs even at very shallow water levels. The vulnerability of the population has increased substantially because of population pressures, symbolized, for instance, by the stubborn and perhaps helpless settling of slum dwellers on the banks of the river Yamuna in Delhi, which is merely a trickle most of the year, but bursting its banks during the monsoons as has been the case this year.

General Instructions:

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. Read the questions carefully before writing.
3. All the answers must be correctly numbered.
5. Flood forecasting is critical to minimizing the damage from floods. It is for this reason that the Central Water Commission has set up a network of forecasting stations, which cover the most important flood prone inter state rivers in the country. These stations produce forecasts that are used to alert the public and to mobilize various official agencies so that they take both preventive as well as relief measures whenever required. However, even in cases where forecasts have been timely and generally accurate, people have often been reluctant to move away, because in most cases they lack the means and physical options for moving away from a danger zone to one that

is relatively safe. In the case of flash floods, forecasts are difficult to make, and often the time available for relief is very short.

A. The problem of floods has been considered important recently because.....

- (a) there are flash floods
- (b) floods are unpredictable
- (c) the rivers change their courses
- (d) these cause much greater damage

B. The danger of floods is not minimised as.....

- (a) flood forecasting is inaccurate
- (b) there is little time available for safety measures
- (c) people are scared and act in panic
- (d) support infrastructure is poor

C. India suffers from floods during monsoons because.....

- (a) it rains very heavily and continually
- (b) the embankments of the rivers are weak
- (c) the streams and rivers spill over
- (d) the streams are full of silt

D. Climate change is the direct result of.....

- (a) increased concentration of green house gases
- (b) explosion of nuclear devices
- (c) fire in oil wells in the gulf region
- (d) significantly changed pattern of monsoons

E. The worst hit people are slum dwellers because.....

- (a) they are stubborn and helpless

- (b) they do not have means to move away quickly
- (c) they have concentrated in large numbers
- (d) they have settled on the banks of the rivers

F. The word 'precipitation' in para 3 means.....

- (a) forming a precipitate
- (b) separation of solid material from liquid
- (c) falling of rain in an area
- (d) the quality of being exact or accurate

G. Why does India suffer from floods during monsoons?

H. What is the result of greenhouse gases?

I. Who are the worst hit people?

J. Which human actions have heightened the danger of flood?

Q.2. Read the passage and answer any eight questions given below (1x8=8).

Music is perhaps the most popular and widely practised form of fine arts, transcending all kinds of cultural and linguistic barriers. Any form of fine art is difficult to master and almost impossible to perfect and music is no exception.

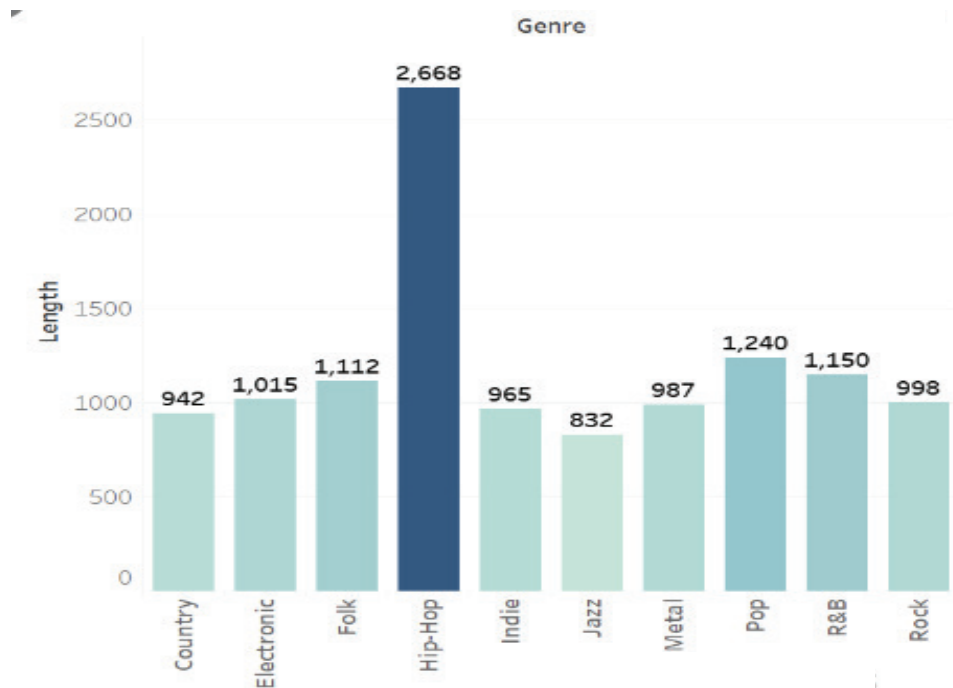
Nature, it is learnt, has blessed almost two-thirds of the human race with musical ability of some sort. Music has the power to bring out the deepest emotions. In fact, it is a magic medicine and many seek refuge in it when they are depressed or stressed. It is this intimacy that makes us listen to music or even hum or sing sometimes. This singing, or realistically speaking, expressing one's emotion musically sometimes takes a serious turn.

The desire to sing before an audience is innocent and beautiful and indeed it is perfectly alright to have such a genuine desire. But it is also important to understand that singing is an intricate art — a highly refined one at that, which requires systematic, prolonged and strict training, to be acceptable. This is an aspect we forget in our keen desire to reach the stage and perform. It is almost like preparing a formal meal for some specially invited guests, without even having learnt and trained in the basics of cooking.

These days almost everyone sings and it does not stop here. Most of us want to become professional singers. Result: a complete disregard for and ignorance of the training part, as the need is never felt to go through one and the urge to get to the stage and perform overcomes even a little desire to learn, if any. If at all, somewhere along the way one feels the need to gain some knowledge and training, it leads to hurried shortcuts and halfhearted attempts, best described as 'Crash Courses'.

It is observed that those who have attained the so called partial success, suddenly feel that they lack the required knowledge and are not learned enough. But it is too late by then. It should be understood here that the stage or a performance brings in a different mind-set within the artist.

It is always recommended and rightly said that while on stage, cover the mistakes and weaknesses if any, and get along. But the contrary is true when it comes to acquiring knowledge and during the learning process. While under training, the student is expected to make mistakes but then rectify those mistakes under the supervision and guidance of the teacher. Therefore, it is good to make mistakes and then be corrected during the process of learning as this subsequently makes one flawless and educated. This is a different mind-set. And these two mind-set discussed above, (those of a performer and that of a student) cannot coexist.



1. Music is perhaps the most popular and widely practised form of _____.
 - a) performing arts
 - b) modern arts
 - c) linguistic arts
 - d) fine arts

2. Nature has blessed almost two-thirds of the human race with _____.
 - a) singing ability
 - b) musical ability
 - c) dancing ability
 - d) all of these

3. _____ are brought out by the power of music.
 - a) Hidden talents
 - b) Feelings of joy and contentment
 - c) Deepest emotions
 - d) Hidden desires

4. How can we say that music is a magic medicine?
5. What is best described as 'Crash Courses'?
6. The word _____ in para 5 is the same as 'incomplete'.
7. How many people love electronic music?
8. Which form of music has 1240 fans?

Q.3. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. (8 marks)

Modernism is both a philosophical and arts movement that arose from broad transformations in Western society during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The movement reflected a desire for the creation of new forms of art, philosophy, and social organization which reflected the newly emerging industrial world, including features such as urbanization, architecture, new technologies, and war. Artists attempted to depart from traditional forms of art, which they considered outdated or obsolete. The poet Ezra Pound's 1934 injunction to "Make it New" was the touchstone of the movement's approach.

Modernist innovations included abstract art, the stream-of-consciousness novel, montage cinema, atonal and twelve-tone music, and divisionist painting. Modernism explicitly rejected the ideology of realism and made use of the works of the past by the employment of reprise, incorporation, rewriting, recapitulation, revision and parody. Modernism also rejected the certainty of Enlightenment thinking, and many modernists also rejected religious belief. A notable characteristic of modernism is self-consciousness concerning artistic and social traditions, which often led to experimentation with form, along with the use of techniques that drew attention to the processes and materials used in creating works of art.

While some scholars see modernism continuing into the 21st century, others see it evolving into late modernism or high modernism. Postmodernism is a departure from modernism and rejects its basic assumptions.

Historians, and writers in different disciplines, have suggested various dates as starting points for modernism. Historian William Everdell, for example, has argued that modernism began in the 1870s, when metaphorical (or ontological) continuity began to yield to the discrete with mathematician Richard Dedekind's (1831–1916) Dedekind cut, and Ludwig Boltzmann's (1844–1906) statistical thermodynamics. Everdell also thinks modernism in painting began in 1885–1886 with Seurat's Divisionism, the "dots" used to paint *A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte*. On the other hand, visual art critic Clement Greenberg called Immanuel Kant (1724–1804) "the first real Modernist", though he also wrote, "What can be safely called Modernism emerged in the middle of the last century—and rather locally, in France, with Baudelaire in literature and Manet in painting, and perhaps with Flaubert, too, in prose fiction.

(a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using heading and subheadings Use recognizable abbreviations and a format you consider suitable. Also supply a title to it. (5)

(b) Write a summary of the passage in not more than 80 words using the notes made. (3)

SECTION B
GRAMMAR & WRITING SKILLS (23 MARKS)

Q.4. Prepare a poster in not more than 50 words, on behalf of Care NGO to promote the donation of clothes for poor. (3 marks)

OR

RMK Public School will be organizing 'Red Day' to spread the awareness about Cancer. Draft a poster for the event.

Q.5. Write a speech to be delivered in the school assembly on the topic 'Importance of Adult Education'. You are Rahul/Reena. (5 marks)

Q.6. Children usually come to school without taking breakfast in the morning and eat junk food from the school canteen. This habit adversely affects the performance of students in academics and sports. Write a speech in 120-150 words to be given in your school assembly about 'How Health is Affected by Lifestyle.' (5 marks)

Q.7. Do the following as directed:

(A) Read the following paragraph and fill in the blanks with appropriate form of verbs given in brackets (1/2 x 6 = 3 marks).

I (a)_____ (meet) my best friend last Friday who (b)_____ (tell) me about her new job. I (c)_____ (happy) to know about the same. Right now (d)_____ (think) if I should change my job. I (e)_____ (see) an ad two days ago about a vacancy in HCL. It (f)_____ (seem) great at that time.

(B) The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each line against which a numeral is given. Write the incorrect word and the correction. Remember to underline the word that you have supplied. (1/2x 6=3)

	Incorrect	Correct
Stick with regular meal timings.	With	to
Else your body is thrown of balance	(a) -----	-----
attempting to compensate. However, eat a	(b) -----	-----
good breakfast followed by a moderated lunch	(c) -----	-----
and light dinner. Highly fat meals are	(d) -----	-----
particularly to be avoided at dinner as there are	(e) -----	-----
little physical activity after consumption so excess	(f) -----	-----

calories are converted into fat.

(C) Rearrange the following words or phrases to form meaningful sentences (1x4=4 marks).

- i. confident/to/ it's /and /in/feel/life /important/ happy
- ii. optimistic/ makes/ lively/ this/ very/ an/ and/ individual
- iii. providence/Vivekananda/in/of/believed/the/God
- iv. world/country/finest/is/the/in/the//India/our

SECTION C: LITERATURE (31 MARKS)

Q.8. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow.

(1x3= 3 marks):

*She'd laugh at the snapshot. "See Betty
And Dolly," she'd say, "and look how they
Dressed us for the beach."*

i. Who is 'she'?

- (a) poet's friend (b) poet (c) poet's mother (d) her cousin

ii. Why did she laugh?

- (a) felt shy (b) because of their funny dress
(c) she was dreaming (d) she cracked a joke

iii. Who are 'they'?

- (a) poet's mother and her cousins (b) poet's neighbours
(c) poet and her cousins (d) school children

OR

*I descend to lave the droughts, atomies, dust-layers of the globe,
And all that in them without me were seeds only, latent, unborn;*

- i. 'I' here refers to _____.

- (a) rain (b) cloud (c) thunder (d) waterman

ii. Name the poem.

- (a) The Voice of the Rain (b) Childhood
(c) A Photograph (d) The Laburnum Top

iii. What is the meaning of 'latent'?

- (a) surprise (b) hidden (c) magic (d) powerful

Q.9. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow: (1×3=3)

In the evening a change came over her. She did not pray. She collected the women of the neighbourhood, got an old drum and started to sing. For several hours she thumped the sagging drum.

(A) Who is 'she'?

- (a) author (b) his aunt (c) grandmother (d) his mother

(B) What change came over her?

- (a) she did not pray (b) became sad (c) became excited (d) got annoyed

(C) What was the result of the action performed?

- (a) fell ill (b) stopped singing (c) became silent (d) left the house.

OR

"Take the wheel", I shouted as I scrambled for the hatch.

Larry and Herb were pumping like madmen. Broken timbers hung at crazy angles, the whole starboard side bulged inwards; clothes, crockery, charts, tins and toys sloshed about in deep water.

(a) "Take the wheel" means.....

(b) What is statement "Larry and Herb were pumping like madmen" an example of?

(c) The meaning of the expression 'sloshed about' here is.....

- (i) thrown around (ii) floated around

- (iii) spilled around (iv) strewn around

Q.10. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow (1×4=4)

I knew my cousin Mourad enjoyed being alive more than anybody else who had ever fallen into the world by mistake, but this was more than even I could believe.

In the first place, my earliest memories had been memories of horses and my first longings had been longings to ride.

(a) The phrase 'being alive' refers to.....

- (i) he was a living being (ii) he was adventurous
(iii) he had a flourishing life (iv) being courageous

(b) The words "fallen into the world by mistake" match with.....

- (i) suddenly appear (ii) born in this world
(iii) stumble into this world (iv) took birth by mistake

(c) What is the meaning of the word 'longing'?

(d) Complete using a word or a phrase.

"This was more than even I could believe' refers to Mourad.....and offering Aram a ride.

OR

'Well, you knew my mother?' I asked.

Have you come back?' said the woman. I thought that no one had come back.

'Only me.'

A door opened and closed in the passage behind her. A musty smell emerged.

(a) What does Mrs. Dorling mean by this when she says: "I thought that no one had come back"?

- (i) She thought that everyone in Mrs S's family was dead.
(ii) She thought that Mrs S had left her homeland for good.
(iii) She thought that Mrs S 's family had abandoned all hopes to retrieve their things.
(iv) She was happy to see Mrs S's daughter.

(b) Why does the author say "Only me"?

(i) She had travelled alone to see Mrs Dorling. (ii) Probably, her family had become immigrants.

(iii) Only the author had returned to her motherland. (iv) Only the author had survived the war in her family.

(c) The word 'musty' can be perfectly replaced with.....

(d) What was the probable reason for the musty smell that lingered in the house?

Q.11. Answer one of the following in 40-50 words. (3 marks):

(a) How did the narrator's children Jonathan and Suzanne show courage in the hour of great storm?

OR

(b) What problem did Carter face when he reached the mummy of King Tut? How did he find a way out?

Q.12. Answer ONE of the following in 40-50 words. (3 marks):

(a) What is the engine of the machine? What is its fuel? (The Laburnum Top)

OR

(b) What do you understand by the *laboured ease of loss*?

Q.13. Answer one of the following in 40-50 words (3 marks):

(a) Why do you think Mrs. Dorling, knowingly refused to recognize the narrator when she went to meet after years?

OR

(b) Who was John Byro? Why was he upset?

Q.14. (a) The grandmother herself was not formally educated but was serious about the author's education. How does the text support this? (120-150 words) (6 marks)

OR

(b) How did the presence and behaviour of his children during the crisis affect the narrator?

Q.15. (a) Aram and Mourad define a perfect example of following their conscience. Elaborate. (120-150 words) (6 marks)

OR

(c) Justify the title of the story 'The Address.'

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