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Reg. No.

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Time : 3.00 hrs.

**Half-Yearly Common Examination - 2019**

Max. Marks : 90

**ENGLISH**

**Instructions :** 1) Check the question paper for fairness of printing. If there is any lack of fairness, inform the Hall Supervisor immediately. 2) Use Blue or Black ink to write and underline.

**PART - I****Answer all the questions.****20 x 1 = 20****A. Choose the most appropriate synonyms of the underlined words in the following sentences.**

1. That seemed quite absurd and undignified on her part.  
(a) impractical (b) illogical (c) insensitive (d) disloyal
2. Memories prevent them from remembering to do such small prosaic things.  
(a) mean (b) cheap (c) dull (d) stale
3. Unless you replenish it richly, coming generations will find only an empty coffer.  
(a) refill (b) decorate (c) reshuffle (d) overhaul

**B. Choose the most appropriate antonyms of the underlined words in the following sentences :**

4. The staff looked so prosperous and unsympathetic.  
(a) vile (b) poor (c) lazy (d) ugly
5. The fact remains, that few but the moral giants remember to take their medicine regularly.  
(a) bane (b) fiction (c) diction (d) trust
6. His clever little trap would earn him applause as a man of resource and astuteness.  
(a) simplicity (b) pretence (c) innocence (d) stupidity
7. Choose the correct prefix for the word "audible".  
(a) un - (b) dis - (c) in - (d) inter -
8. Fill in the blank with a suitable Phrasal Verb.  
My father always \_\_\_\_\_ for truth and honesty.  
(a) Stands up (b) Stands out (c) Stands by (d) Stands in
9. Choose the meaning of the idiom in the sentence.  
The old man was driven up the wall at the loud noise outside.  
(a) irritated (b) deceived (c) angered (d) shocked
10. Choose the clipped form of the word "University".  
(a) unity (b) varsity (c) versity (d) ubiety
11. An entomologist is the one who studies \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) artifacts (b) birds (c) earthquakes (d) insects
12. Choose the expanded form of "NGO".  
(a) Net - Governing organisation (b) New - Government organisation (c) Non - Government organisation  
(d) Neo - Government organisation
13. 'Furniture' is a \_\_\_\_\_ word.  
(a) di syllabic (b) penta syllabic (c) tetra syllabic (d) tri syllabic
14. Choose the meaning of the foreign word 'Sine die'.  
(a) advance the date (b) fix a specific date (c) postpone indefinitely (d) every alternate day
15. Choose the word that has been spelt correctly.  
(a) Volubility (b) Volability (c) Volubulity (d) Volobility
16. Choose the word that cannot be used after 'Book' to form a compound word.

- (a) worm (b) stall (c) mark (d) buyer
17. Choose the correct sentence pattern.  
The photographer had pulled a string. (a) SVC (b) SVA (c) SVO (d) SVIODO
18. Choose the plural form of the underlined word in the phrase "loaf of bread".  
(a) loaves (b) loafes (c) loafes (d) loafi
19. Choose the suitable preposition and fill in the blank.  
Was it worth waiting \_\_\_\_\_ ? (a) up (b) for (c) off (d) on
20. Add suitable question tag to the statement given below.  
Jordan attends the class regularly, \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
(a) does he (b) isn't he (c) is he (d) doesn't he

### PART - II SECTION - I

Read the following sets of poetic lines and answer any four (4) of the following :  $4 \times 2 = 8$

21. "But now they only laugh with their teeth  
while their ice - block cold eyes....."  
(a) Explain Ice - block cold eyes  
(b) Identify the figure of speech used here.
22. "Well, ego it might be pleased enough  
But zealous athletes play so rough".....  
(a) Why are athletes often rough during play ?  
(b) What are the rhyming words ?
23. "And his foot-prints are not found in any file of Scotland Yard's".  
(a) What is 'Scotland Yard' ?  
(b) Why do they need his foot prints ?
24. "We are proud of the position we hold;  
humble as we are".  
(a) What is the speaker proud of ?  
(b) Pick out the words in alliteration.
25. "The birds around me hopp'd and play'd  
Their thoughts I cannot measure".  
(a) Whose thoughts cannot be measured ?  
(b) Who does 'I' refer to ?
26. "Keeps Death his court, and there the antic sits".  
(a) Who does "antic" refer to ?  
(b) Identify the figure of speech used in this line.

\*TEN\*

### SECTION - II

Answer any three of the following questions :

27. Report the following  
"You'll get caught if you continue to do this", my friend said to me.  $3 \times 2 = 6$
28. Change the voice of the following sentence.  
Let the door not be slammed.
29. Convert the following simple sentence into a compound sentence.  
Despite having better equipment, Ravi was unable to get the best results.
30. Dinesh boarded the bus. Varsha rang him immediately. ( combine into a complex sentence).

### PART - III SECTION - I

Answer any two of the following :

2 x 3 = 6

Explain any two of the following with reference to the context.

31. "Athletes, I'll drink to you, or eat with you, or anything except compete with you ...."
32. "Honour is a property, common to all :  
In dignity and pride no one need to be poor".
33. "Have I not reason to Lament  
What Man has made of Man ?"

### SECTION - II

Answer any two of the following questions.

2 x 3 = 6

34. What was the happiest time of the day for grandmother ?
35. What did Mary Kom consider as her greatest achievement ? Why ?
36. What are the human memories filled with ?

### SECTION - III

Answer any three of the following questions :

3 x 3 = 9

37. Prepare a notice to be displayed on the notice board of your school for the students of class XI and XII informing them about a Workshop on First Aid.
38. Describe the process of making a side dish that would go well with idlis.
39. Expand each of the following news headlines into a single sentence.
  - (a) Cost free Bicycles for Higher Secondary First year students to be issued.
  - (b) TN Western dams filling up-flood alert in Nilgiris.
  - (c) Teen makes history at US open.
40. Rearrange the following to make the meaningful proverbs.
  - (a) in a bush/a bird/two/in hand/ is worth
  - (b) his money/ a fool/ are/ soon parted/and
  - (c) the head/ uneasy/ a crown/ lies/ that wears

### PART - IV

Answer the following questions. Answer in a paragraph in about 150 words :

7 x 5 = 35

41. How does the speaker highlight the importance of giving back to the society ? (OR)  
Why was Mary Kom Christened as the 'Queen of Boxing' and 'Magnificent Mary' ?
42. The poet Okara painfully condemns the falsity displayed by adults both in their words and actions. Elucidate. (OR)  
What are the causes for King Richard's grief ?
43. Write an essay about 150 words by developing the following hints :  
The Policeman on the beat - stranger at the hardware store - twenty years ago - dined with Jimmy Wells - policeman wishes him well - a tall man questions Bob - introduces as Jimmy Wells - the man from the west outlines his career - realises not his friend - gets arrested. (OR)  
The narrator went to the photographer - photographer looked grave - remarked he didn't like the face - the narrator angry - called on Saturday - the photographer made changes - photograph looked different - narrator was frustrated.
44. Write a summary or make a notes of the following passage.  
It is easy to say, "Enlarge your Vocabulary", first that you may enter upon the privileges of cultivated women; and secondly, that you may be able to tell the truth easily and accurately. But it is another and more difficult matter to prescribe the means by which this is to be done. Every girl must, to a large degree, work out her own method. The reading of the best books and conversation with cultivated folk -

both helps to the free use of words. The dictionary is the best friend for your task. Never allow a strange word to pass unchallenged. Usually, it is wise to look at it up at the moment. If that is impossible it must be written firmly on the memory and traced at the first opportunity. It is good to encourage the habit of dawdling a little over the dictionary. It is the only place where dawdling reaps a harvest. By learning two new words a day thoroughly, you can ensure a large vocabulary before you reach middle age.

45. You have borrowed a branded cricket bat from your reluctant friend for an outstation match. After returning home, you realize you have absent-mindedly left it in the hotel room. Write a letter of apology and regret to your friend. **(OR)**

Mahendran is the sport secretary of your school. He writes a letter to the proprietor of a sports shop requesting him to supply the sports material to the school.

46. Spot the error in each of the following sentences and correct them suitably.

- (a) John as well as Henry are expected shortly.
- (b) Ganges is a sacred river.
- (c) Vinodh picked a quarrel on me.
- (d) Though she came late but she was allowed to write the exam.
- (e) Nithya and her cousin sister are going to Ooty next week. **(OR)**

(a) When I entered the room, the baby \_\_\_\_\_ (sleep) soundly.

(Fill in the blank with the correct tense of the verb given in brackets)

(b) There is a lot of time left, so you \_\_\_\_\_ not panic.

(Fill in the blank with a suitable semi - modal verb)

(c) Leela has recovered from the accident \_\_\_\_\_ her leg is still in a cast.

(Fill in the blank with a suitable linker)

- (d) Your ring is \_\_\_\_\_. Don't \_\_\_\_\_ it.

(loose, lose)

47. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below :

The word 'Victory' is generally associated in our minds with war and calls up visions of battles, bloodshed and conquest by force; and we think of war as a glorious thing because of its famous victories and splendid triumphs. But when we think of the achievements of great men - statesmen, scholars, social reformers scientists, philanthropists, explorers, discoverers and honest workers - for the betterment of the human race and the progress and civilization of the world, we realize that the victories of peace are even more glorious than the victories of war.

**Questions :**

- (a) What do we realize when we think of the achievements of great men ?
- (b) What is 'Victory' usually associated with ?
- (c) What works for the betterment of the human race ?
- (d) Who is a philanthropist ?
- (e) Pick out the words from the passage :
  - (i) Synonym of "understand".
  - (ii) Antonym of "illiterate".

**(OR)**

Frame a dialogue between two friends on a picnic they enjoyed recently, in not less than five exchanges.