

FIRST MID TERM EXAMINATION - 2023

CLASS : XII

ENGLISH

Reg.No :

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TIME : 1.30

MAX. MARKS : 50

PART - I

Answer all the questions.

Choose the most appropriate synonyms of the words underlined in the following sentences. 15x1=15

1. As trade slackened we went over.
a) succeeded b) prevented c) reduced d) increased
2. China tea has virtues which are not to be despised nowadays.
a) decided b) hated c) liked d) developed
3. They were childish enough and in many ways quite artless.
a) arrogant b) increased c) innocent d) guilty

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

4. One does not feel wise, brave or more optimistic.
a) pessimistic b) attractive c) opportunistic d) fantastic
5. I imagined that our destinations would be some humble dwellings.
a) modest b) ordinary c) rich d) opportunistic
6. ... but they are sufficient to show how subtilized the whole business
a) enough b) suffocative c) inadequate d) submissive
7. Form a derivative by adding a suitable prefix to the underlined word. You are really very patient.
a) be b) ir c) re d) im
8. Form a new word by adding a suitable suffix to the word 'willing'.
a) ness d) ment c) tion d) sion
9. Replace the underlined word with a suitable phrasal verb. The firefighters put out the fire.
a) started b) stopped c) set fire d) damaged
10. Fill in the blank with a suitable word. Rafiq is an professor of English.
a) efficient b) good c) reputed d) kind
11. Choose the suitable modal verb to fill in the blank. You help the needy
a) may b) among c) a d) over
12. Fill in the blank with suitable preposition. There was a skirmish my brother and sister.
a) between b) the c) a d) no article
13. Choose the suitable article to fill in the blank. Jacopo was lively as squirrel.
a) an b) the c) a d) no article
14. Choose the word that can be placed after the word 'break' to form a compound word.
a) first b) fast c) slow d) man
15. Replace the underlined idiom with its suitable meaning. Teaching English is my cup of tea.
a) unwanted activity b) favourite activity c) unreasonable activity d) tiresome activity

PART - II SECTION - I

Read the following sets of poetic lines and answer any two sets.

2x2=4

16. We could do nothing, being sold.
a) Why couldn't they do anything? b) Why did they feel helpless?
17. The giant wears the scarf, and flowers are hung in crimson clusters all the boughs among!
a) Who is the giant here? b) Identify the figure of speech used in the Lines.
18. Our gates were strong, our walls were thick, So smooth and high, no man could win
a) How safe was the castle? b) What was the firm belief of the soldiers?

SECTION -2

Do as directed. Answer any one of the following.

2x2=4

19. Brindha said, "I am learning English". (Change into Indirect speech)
20. Vijay and Giri said that they couldn't attend the party. (Change into Direct speech)
21. i) Ananthi _____ (teach) Maths for four years. (Use a suitable tense form of the verb)
ii) We _____ (see) a wonderful film at the cinema last night. (Use a suitable tense form of the verb)

PART - III SECTION -1

Explain any one of following with reference to the context.

1x3=3

22. It is the tree's lament, an eerie speech.
23. Our only enemy was gold

SECTION -2

Answer any two of the following questions in not more than 30 words.

2x3=6

24. Who took the author to the cubicle?
25. How does adding sugar affect the taste of tea?
26. The boys did not spend much on clothes and food. Why?

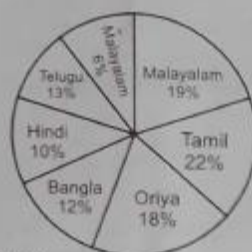
SECTION -3

Answer any one of the following.

1x3=3

27. Study the pie-chart given and answer the questions that follow.

Percentage of people speaking different languages in a city



Questions:

- i) Which language is spoken by many people?
- ii) What is the percentage of the people who speak Hindi?
- iii) Which language is spoken by 13 % of people?

28. Describe the process of planting a tree.

PART - IV

Answer the following.

3x5=15.

Answer any three of the following in a paragraph of about 150 word.

29. Justify the title of the story "Two Gentlemen of Verona."
30. Describe the reminiscences of the poet when she sees the casuarina tree.
31. Ivan Dmitrich Aksionov - young merchant - sets out to fair - against wife's warning - stays in an inn - next morning sets off - gets arrested - suspected to have killed the merchant - is sent to Siberia spends the time reading and praying - gains respect - Makar Semyonich - comes there - finally learns that Makar had murdered the merchant Aksionov forgives Makar orders of release arrive - Aksionov is dead.
32. a. You had been to your Grandma's house during the summer holidays. You enjoyed your stay in her company. Write a letter to your Grandma stating how much you miss her after returning to your home.
(OR)
b. Write a summary or make notes of the following passage.

Newspapers bring us news and views from all corners of the world. Any incidents or occurrence of importance that takes place as reported by the newspapers. The word NEWS is interpreted as North, East, West and South. It means that the newspaper provides us with information and news regarding various subjects from all directions. Newspapers also give us articles on all kinds of topics such as political, social and economic monetary, business, commerce, sports, education, health etc. Newspapers publish advertisements that attract the attention of the customers. They also contain book reviews of literary, historical and other books by the scholars. We must cultivate the habit of reading newspapers to know what is happening around the globe. The one who reads newspapers and interprets editorial pages can only be master in current affairs and general knowledge. Reading newspapers helps you to find out what news is and how it is written. The one who dreams of being a journalist should not spare a day without reading the newspaper. They should be aware about the editorial and be well versed with vocabulary.

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FIRST MIDTERM EXAMINATION -2023

STD: XII

07.08.2023

SUBJECT: ENGLISH

TENTATIVE KEY ANSWER.

MARKS: 50

PART - I		15X1 = 15
<u>Synonyms</u>		
1.	Slackened	- c)reduced
2.	Virtues	-c)liked
3.	Artless	-c)innocent
<u>Antonyms</u>		
4.	Optimistic	- a)pessimistic
5.	Humble	- c)rich
6.	Sufficient	- c) inadequate
<u>Vocabulary</u>		
<u>Prefix & suffix</u>		
7.	d)Impatient	
8.	a)Willingness	
<u>Phrasal verbs</u>		
9.	b)Stopped	
<u>Suitable word</u>		
10.	a)Efficient	
<u>Modal verb</u>		
11.	(Given options are wrong) here ,	Must /should
<u>Preposition</u>		
12.	a)Between	
<u>Articles</u>		
13.	c)a	
<u>Compound word</u>		
14.	b)breakfast	
<u>Idiom</u>		
15.	b)Favourite activity	

PART -II - SECTION - I	
Read the following sets of poetic lines and answer. 2X2= 4	
16.	a) As they were sold out for gold they could not do anything.
	b) They felt helpless because they had to surrender without fighting.
17.	a) The casuarina tree is the giant here.
	b) personification
18.	a) The castle was very safe as its gates were strong and the walls were very thick. The walls were so smooth and tall that no one could climb them.
	b) The firm belief of the soldiers was that no one could win them.
SECTION -2	
Do as directed 2x2=4	
19.	Brindha said that she was learning English.
20.	Vijay and Giri said , “ we cannot attend the party”.
21.	i) has been teaching.
	ii) saw.
PART - III -SECTION -1	
1x3=3	
22.	<p>Reference : This line is taken from ‘<u>Our Casuarina Tree</u>’ written by <u>Toru Dutt</u>.</p> <p>Context : The poet imagines that she hears a murmur which is the lament of the tree.</p> <p>Explanation : The poet feels that the tree is dear to her not for its gallant appearance but for the nostalgic memories of her happy childhood that it brings to her. The poet laments the loss of loved ones. She already imagines consolation for such a loss. She alludes to an “unknown land” that is nevertheless “well-known to the eye of faith” The murmur which she imagines to hear is like an eerie speech which means strange and frightening.</p>
23.	<p>Reference : This line is taken from ‘<u>The Castle</u>’ written by <u>Edwin Muir</u>.</p> <p>Context: The poet says this to explain that they lost the battle because of avarice for gold.</p> <p>Explanation : The soldiers were very confident that the enemies could not enter their castle because they had very strong gates and thick and tall walls. Moreover they had enough and more amenities and provisions for the soldiers. They thought the enemies could never win over them. But a wizard warder after receiving gold from the enemies opened the gate to the enemies so the castle fell to the hands of the enemies. Their enemy was not human but gold. So they could not fight</p>

SECTION – 2		2x3=6
24.	<u>Nurse</u> took the author to the cubicle.	
25.	According to the author, tea without sugar gives the real taste. Sugar destroys the taste of tea. It is as good as adding pepper and salt. If we add sugar, we taste only the sugar, and not the tea.	
26.	Though the boys earned enough money, they did not spend much money on clothes and food because they had to pay every week for the treatment of their sister.	
SECTION – 3		1x3=3
27.	i) Tamil	
	ii) 10%	
	iii) Telugu	
28.	Any relevant answer.	
PART – IV		3x5=15
29.	<u>TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA</u> -A.J.CRONIN	
<p>Archibald Joseph Cronin (1896-1981) was a Scottish novelist, dramatist and physician. A doctor by training, Cronin was one of the most renowned storytellers of the twentieth century. Cronin has very well carved the idea of '<u>selfless help</u>' and explained the importance of dedication towards relationships in the story Two Gentlemen of Verona. <u>The story revolves around the two boys named Nicola (13) and Jacopo (12) who do numerous things to earn money only to pay for their sister's treatment who suffers from tuberculosis of the spine.</u> The story begins with the narrator driving down the foothills of the Alps (Mountain). Here is when he first encounters the two brothers selling wild strawberries, <u>they had dressed in rags and shabby appearance with tangled hair, dark earnest eyes, and brown skin.</u> Even after the driver forbade (stopped) the narrator to buy the wild fruits, he bought the biggest basket and drove towards the town. <u>Next day, the boys were found shining shoes in the public square.</u> Here, the narrator is shown to develop a soft corner for them in his heart.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid green; border-radius: 10px; padding: 10px; text-align: center; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p>“Their love and emotional strength is exemplary but most exemplary is their maturity and sense of responsibility”.</p> </div> <p><u>They are very willing to satisfy all that the narrator required. They were also found selling newspapers by the narrator one stormy night.</u> When the narrator asked if he could help them in any way, they said they would be very grateful if they got a lift to the nearby village Poleta. Although it didn't come in the narrator's way, he took them there. The boys got down in a building and asked the author to wait an hour in a nearby café for a drink. Eagerness led the narrator to follow the boys up to a place which was actually a hospital. On peeping (look) through a room led by a nurse, he realized that the boys were talking to a girl who resembled (be like) them.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid green; border-radius: 10px; padding: 10px; text-align: center; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p>“True love is selfless .it is prepared to sacrifice”</p> </div> <p>This is when the nurse told him the heart rendering story about <u>their father, a widower, a singer had been killed in a war and home being destroyed in a war and their sister suffering from tuberculosis.</u> The brothers lived in a shelter and literally starved only so that they could pay for</p>		

their sister's treatment. They keeping a secret and helping their sister showed that war had not shaken their spirit. . Undoubtedly, their selfless action brought a new nobility and a greater hope to human life.

Humanity inculcates (teaches) virtues, sympathy and selfless action.

30.

OUR CASUARINA TREE

-TORU DUTT

“Our Casuarina Tree” is a most celebrated poem of Toru Dutt. Toru Dutt (1856-1877) was a Bengali poetess. She wrote poem and literary works in English and French. The theme of the poem is about “lost Friendship” and “lost childhood”. The poet Toru Dutt remembers how her days started with the ecstatic sight of the Casuarina tree from her casement. The tree is tall and strong, with a creeper is winding around it like a python. She remembers how well the tree accommodated birds to sing songs sweetly at nights.

“Dear is the Casuarina to my soul
Beneath it we have played though years may roll”.

The tree stands like a giant with a colorful scarf of creeper's flowers and allowed the creeper to embrace it like a lady love. She remembers how a baboon seated at the crest of the tree had watched beautiful sunrise while her young ones were leaping and playing in the lower branches of the giant tree. The cows are grazing in the lush green meadows around the tree. Water lilies add to the charm of the pond. She recalls that the casuarina tree is dear not because of its majestic looks but because of the nostalgic memories attached to it. Like Wordsworth, Toru Dutt is also a great lover of nature. The emotional bonding between herself and the giant Casuarina tree is beyond reason.

“There is no greater sorrow than to recall a happy time When miserable”

She remembers the happy times she had spent with her siblings, who are now blessed sleep. Their absence makes the tree much more endearing to the poet. She strongly believes that nature communicates with human beings as she hears the lament of the tree when she is on the shores of France and Italy. The Surprising thing is that she was able to see the tree in its prime in her own “loved native clime”. Though her verse may be weak, her love will confer immortality on the Casuarina tree. She immortalizes the tree through her poem like the poet Wordsworth who sanctified (holy) the ‘YEW TREE’ of borrowdale in verse. She expresses her wish that the tree should be remembered out of love and not just because it cannot be forgotten.

“Nature can communicate those who love it”

31.

GOD SEES THE TRUTH, BUT WAITS**- LEO TOLSTOY**

Leo Tolstoy was (1828-1910) a Russian writer who is regarded as one of the greatest authors of all time. In “God sees the truth, But waits” the author’s deep seated faith in God and moral values is expressed. Ivan Dmitrich Aksionov is a merchant living in Vladimir, town in Russia. He was respected by all the inmates due to his gentle behavior. He lived with his wife and children. He was full of life. One summer, he set out on his journey (fair) to sell his goods. His wife tried to stop him saying that she had a bad dream in which he returned from the town with grey hair (grey hair-symbol of bad omen).

“I dreamt you returned from the town,
and when you took off your cap I saw that your hair was quite grey”

But Ivan ignored his wife warning and went to the fair. As he liked cool weather, he left the inn early. Within a few minutes, he was stopped by the police who searched his belongings. Finding a blood stained knife in his bag, he was arrested on charges of murder of the merchant. Despite Aksionov’s claimed that he was not murderer, he was sentenced (punished). His wife’s petition for clemency (mercy) to the czar (Czar-one having great authority) was turned down. So he only prayed to god to show mercy on him. He was flogged. After the wounds healed he was sent to work in the mines of Siberia. Staying 26 years in Siberia, he grew a long beard. In prison, he learnt to make boots and earned a little money and bought a book “The Lives of the Saints’. He was respected by all the inmates due to his gentle behavior. His fellow-prisoners called him ‘grandfather’ and “The Saint’. One day a new convict namely Makar Semeyonich came there. When Makar blurted out how the knife went to his bag kept under his head, Ivan found out the truth that makar was a real killer.

“There is no love without forgiveness,
And there is no forgiveness without love”.

But he saved makar from the officials when he tried to escape. Eventually, Makar confessed his guilt as being a real criminal. Aksionov forgave him. When the order for Ivan’s release came, he was already dead. Thus, the title reflects in this story that every decision of God needs enough time and one should have patience for the truth to win.

“Forgiveness and forgetfulness are the best form of revenge”

32. a)

yyy,
07.08.2023.Dear Grandma,

I hope you are doing well and your knee pain is ok now. I thank you for the wonderful time I had with you during my summer holidays. The place itself is wonderful but your affection and concern made my life very pleasant. Our walk around the garden is memorable and I will cherish such experience throughout my life. You made me plant 10 saplings and I watered them every day. The green fields around the house are still in my mind. It was a fine experience to watch the harvesting process. It was a real learning for me. Now I miss you a lot. I am waiting for my next chance to be with you.

Convey my regards to all.

Yours lovingly,
XXX.

Address on the envelope :

To
XXX,
YYY.

Prepared by;

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