

**ENGLISH ELECTIVE**  
**SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER**  
**2019-20**  
**CODE NO. 001**  
**CLASS XII**

Time allowed: 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks: 80

**General Instructions:**

- 1. This paper is divided into four sections: A, B, C and D. All sections are compulsory.**
- 2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.**
- 3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.**

<b>SECTION – A</b>		
<b>Reading – 20 Marks</b>		
<b>Q.1</b>	<b>Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:</b>  1. I was only a year and some months younger than Valodya; we grew up, studied and played together. No distinction of elder and younger was made between us. But just about the time I am speaking of I began to realize that I was no companion for him, either in age, in interests or in ability. It even seemed to me that Valodya himself was aware of his superiority and was proud of it. This idea (it may have been a wrong one) was inspired by my vanity which suffered every time I came in contact with him. He was better than me in everything; at lessons, in arguments and in manners, and all this took me farther from him and caused me moral anguish which I could not understand. When Valodya was given a tucked linen shirt for the first time I was unhappy for not having a shirt like that. I am sure I would have felt happier if I was convinced that every time he arranged his collar it was not done to annoy me.  2. What tormented me most was that it sometimes seemed to me Valodya understood what was going on inside me but tried to hide it. But perhaps my sensitiveness and tendency to analyse deceived me in this case. It may be Valodya did not feel at all as I did. He was impulsive and his enthusiasm in different hobbies did not last long.  3. He would suddenly develop a passion for pictures, himself take up painting, spend all his money buying them and beg them of his drawing-master, of papa and of grandmamma. Then it would be a craze for curios to decorate his table, collecting them from every room in the house, or a mania for novels which he obtained on the sly and read all day and night. I could not help being impressed by his hobbies but I was too proud to imitate him and too young and not independent enough to choose a hobby for myself. But there was nothing I envied so much as Valodya's happy large heartedness which showed itself most strikingly when we quarreled. I always felt that he was behaving well but I could not do likewise.  4. Once when his passion of ornaments was at its height, I went up to his table and accidentally broke an empty bright-coloured little scent bottle.	<b>12 Marks</b>  (1 x 12)

“Who asked you to touch my things?” demanded Valodya coming into the room and seeing how I had upset the symmetry of the different treasures on his table. “And where is the scent bottle? You must have....”

5. “I knocked it over by accident and it broke. What does it matter?”

“Do me the favour-never dare touch my things again”, he said, putting the pieces of broken flask together and looking at them sorrowfully.

“And you please don’t issue orders” I retorted, “that’s all.” And I smiled, though I did not feel in the least like smiling.

“Yes, its nothing to you but it does matter to me,” pursued Valodya, jerking his shoulder, a gesture he had inherited from pap. “He goes and breaks it and then laughs, the nasty little brat!”

“I am a little brat; and you’re big but you’re stupid.”

“I am not going to quarrel with you,” said Valodya, giving me a slight push, “go away.”

“Don’t push!”

“Get away!”

“Don’t push, I tell you!”

Valodya took my word and tried to drag me away from the table; but I was beside myself by now; I got hold of the leg of the table and tipped it over. “There now!” And all his china and glass ornaments crashed to the floor. “You disgusting little boy!” cried Valodya, trying to save some of his falling treasures.

“Well, now it is all over between us,” I thought as I left the room, “we have quarreled for good.”

6. As soon as afternoon lessons were over I left the room. I was too scared, uncomfortable and ashamed to be alone with my brother. After our history lesson in the evening I took my exercise books and started towards the door. As I passed Valodya, though I wanted to go up to him and make friends I scowled and put on an angry expression. At that moment Valodya raised his head and, with a meaningful smile, looked me full in the face. Our eyes met and I knew that he understood me; but some irresistible feeling made me turn away.

7. “Nicky!” he said in a most natural voice without a scrap of pathos. “Don’t be cross any more. Forgive me if I offended you.” And he held out his hand. Something that came higher and higher seemed to be pressing my chest and stopping my breath but this only lasted a second; tears came to my eyes and I felt better. “Forgive....m-me, Val-dya,” I stammered, squeezing his hand. Valodya looked at me as if he could not make out at all why there should be tears in my eyes.

- Leo Tolstoy

*(Excerpts from his autobiographical novel ‘Boyhood’ originally written in Russian, translation by C.J. Haqar)*

	<p><b>On the basis of your reading of the above excerpt, answer the following questions briefly:-</b></p> <p>(a) Why did Nicky feel that he was not an apt companion for Valodaya? 1</p> <p>(b) About which aspect of Valodya’s personality was Nicky most upset? 1</p> <p>(c) Why did Nicky feel uncomfortable and ashamed to be alone with his brother ? 1</p> <p>(d) What did Nicky do to show that he was sorry for all that he had done in the morning? 1</p> <p>(e) Was the narrator repentant for his behavior? How do you know? 1</p> <p>(f) What does Valodaya’s behavior show about his character? 1</p> <p><b>(g) Choose the correct option:</b> Which of the following is NOT true for Valodaya? 1</p> <p>(i) He was fond of reading.</p> <p>(ii) He was inclined towards painting.</p> <p>(iii) He was reckless with money.</p> <p>(iv) He liked collecting curios and works of art.</p> <p>(h) “I am a little brat, and you’re big but you are stupid.” 1 This line highlights that Nicky –</p> <p>(i) was disrespectful towards his brother</p> <p>(ii) was impulsive and volatile, but loved his brother 1</p> <p>(iii) was jealous of his brother</p> <p>(iv) was unapologetic towards his brother</p> <p>(i) Choose the synonym of <i>pride</i> (para 1)</p> <p>(i) vanity</p> <p>(ii) superiority</p> <p>(iii) anguish</p> <p>(iv) distinction</p> <p>(j) Choose the antonym of <i>comforted</i> (para 2)</p> <p>(i) deceived</p> <p>(ii) tormented</p> <p>(iii) impulsive</p> <p>(iv) enthusiasm</p> <p><b>(k) Choose the right answer which explains the underlined phrase:</b> We have quarreled <u>for good</u></p> <p>(i) It is very good 1</p> <p>(ii) Forever</p> <p>(iii) For good reason</p> <p>(iv) For good things to follow</p> <p>(l) “Something that came higher and higher seemed to be pressing my chest,” implies</p> <p>(i) his brother towered over him.</p> <p>(ii) he was in a state of confusion. 1</p> <p>(iii) his brother tried to overpower him.</p> <p>(iv) he felt choked with emotions.</p>	
Q.2	<p><b>Read the poem given below and answer the questions that follow:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings</b> <i>By Maya Angelou</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">The free bird leaps on the back of the wind and floats downstream</p>	8 marks (2 x 4)

	<p style="text-align: center;">till the current ends and dips his wings in the orange sun rays and dares to claim the sky.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">But a bird that stalks down his narrow cage can seldom see through his bars of rage his wings are clipped and his feet are tied so he opens his throat to sing.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The caged bird sings with fearful trill of the things unknown but longed for still and his tune is heard on the distant hill for the caged bird sings of freedom</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The free bird thinks of another breeze and the trade winds soft through the sighing trees and the fat worms waiting on a dawn-bright lawn and he names the sky his own.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">But a caged bird stands on the grave of dreams his shadow shouts on a nightmare scream his wings are clipped and his feet are tied so he opens his throat to sing</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The caged bird sings with a fearful trill of things unknown but longed for still and his tune is heard on the distant hill for the caged bird sings of freedom.</p> <p><b>On the basis of your reading of the poem, answer the following questions in 50-60 words each.</b></p> <p>a) What is the grave of dreams and why does a caged bird stand on it? 2</p> <p>b) Why does a bird that stalks down his narrow cage can seldom see through his bars of rage? 2</p> <p>c) Who are referred to as free bird and caged bird in the poem? Why? 2</p> <p>d) Is the situation of the caged bird relevant to the contemporary times? 2</p>	
	<p><b>SECTION - B</b> <b>Creative Writing Skills and Applied Grammar – 30 Marks</b></p>	
<p><b>Q. 3</b></p>	<p><b>Attempt any two of the following three questions in 120-150 words each.</b></p> <p>a) Describe an influential person and explain why you feel this person is a positive role model.</p> <p>b) Water is the force behind agriculture, industries, trade and commerce. Lately, India has been facing severe scarcity of this vital resource. Write an article for your school magazine on the need for water conservation. You are Rajiv/Ragini.</p> <p>c) Technology appears to create global network, bringing people together. But, it also replaces real life communication, thus bringing social isolation. Write your views on the impact of technology on human connections for an e-journal. You are Sourabh/Surabhi.</p>	<p>12 marks (6 x 2)</p>

<b>Q. 4</b>	<p><b>Attempt any one of the following two questions in 150-180 words.</b></p> <p>a) It is seen that public property is often defaced and damaged. The infrastructure (public transport, subways, roads, gardens) provided by the government helps the nation develop and it's the responsibility of each citizen to ensure that it remains unharmed. Write a speech voicing your concerns over the need to have a sense of ownership and national pride. You are Rati/Rahul.</p> <p>b) You are Malini/Manoj. Write an article to be published in a leading daily urging all parents to give their time and moral support to their children, especially the adolescents who face multiple pressures in this crucial phase of their lives. Many of your friends are getting expensive gifts from their parents, but not their attention and time.</p>	10 marks (10 x 1)
<b>Q. 5</b>	<p><b>Transform the following sentences as per the given instructions.</b></p> <p>a) <i>I am reading a book at the moment. It is very interesting. (combine the sentences using the beginning given)</i> The book _____</p> <p>b) The fire alarm has been sounded by him. (<i>transform to active voice</i>)</p> <p>c) "What do you mean by these words?", asked the teacher angrily. (<i>transform to indirect speech</i>)</p> <p>d) Though he was powerful, he was lonely. (<i>rewrite as a compound sentence</i>)</p> <p>e) The teacher insists that the students write neatly. (<i>Rewrite the sentence using 'writing'</i>)</p> <p>f) Open the window. (<i>rewrite using the beginning given</i>) Would _____</p> <p>g) The soldiers who were victorious were honoured by the President. (<i>rewrite as a simple sentence</i>)</p> <p>h) She was so tired that she could not finish the task. (<i>rewrite the sentence using 'too'</i>)</p>	8 marks (1 x 8)
<b>SECTION – C</b> <b>Literature (20 Marks)</b>		
<b>Q. 6</b>	<p><b>Answer any one of the following two questions in 50-60 words.</b></p> <p>(a) What do the swans in the poem, 'The Wild Swans at Coole' symbolize? (b) What type of relationship does Eveline have with Frank?</p>	2 marks (2 x 1)
<b>Q.7</b>	<p><b>Answer any two of the following three questions in 60-80 words each.</b></p> <p>(a) Comment on the use of the shadows for the idea that the poet wants to convey in the poem – (A Lecture Upon the Shadow) (b) How can the poem Kubla Khan by Coleridge be read as an illustration of the power of imagination? (c) Why did the author think that Frau Frieda's dreams were a stratagem for surviving? Did he believe in her prophetic ability? (I Sell My Dreams)</p>	8 marks (4 x 2)
<b>Q.8</b>	<p><b>Answer any two of the following three questions in 80-100 words each.</b></p> <p>(a) How does D.H. Lawrence assert that the novel is a book that can touch</p>	10 marks (5 x 2)

	<p>the life of a whole man alive and that is why the novel matters?</p> <p>(b) Nature may have tricks up her sleeves to check us if the chemists exploit her too greedily. Critically comment on the statement. (Freedom)</p> <p>(c) Girish Karnad's 'Broken Images' explores the crisis of identity and rips the mask of a celebrity. Comment.</p>	
	<p><b>SECTION-D</b> <b>Fiction (10 marks)</b></p>	
<b>Q.9</b>	<p><b>Answer any one of the following questions in 60-80 words</b></p> <p>(a) Describe the business agreement between Captain and Madan.</p> <p>(b) The creation of the role of Master is intended to serve as an ideal. Justify.</p> <p>(c) Margayya's rise and fall in life makes the readers introspect on various notions of ethics and integrity. Elaborate.</p> <p>(d) Describe briefly Margayya's new found career in the publishing house.</p>	<p>4 marks (4 x 1)</p>
<b>Q.10</b>	<p><b>Answer any one of the following questions in 120-160 words.</b></p> <p>(a) Why does the Master advise the frightened villagers not to use the words 'beast' or 'brute'?</p> <p>(b) The Master's early life is a total contrast to his present philosophical leanings. Comment.</p> <p>(c) Margayya, the hero of The Financial Expert is probably Narayan's greatest single comic creation. Justify.</p> <p>(d) In what way is Margayya ruined through his own son?</p>	<p>6 marks (6 x 1)</p>