

**B****COMMON HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION - 2023****Standard - X****ENGLISH****PART I**

Time: 3.00 hrs

Marks:100

Note: (i) Answer all the questions.  
 (ii) Choose the most appropriate answer from the given four alternatives and write the option code and the corresponding answer.

Choose the appropriate synonym for the italicised words:

14x1=14

1. He stepped slowly out to the *brink* of the ledge.  
 a) middle                      b) edge                      c) start                      d) inside
2. With his eyes *dilated* he began to recite a poem.  
 a) narrowed                      b) widened                      c) built                      d) constructed
3. His voice *trembled* with emotion.  
 a) reel off                      b) got in                      c) look up                      d) shivered

Choose the appropriate antonyms for the italicised words:

4. His feet *sank* into the green sea.  
 a) immersed                      b) touched                      c) floated                      d) swooped
5. The girl *disobeyed* the teacher.  
 a) afraid                      b) hell                      c) commanded                      d) obeyed
6. They *destroyed* the forest  
 a) created                      b) failed                      c) wrecked                      d) filled
7. Choose the correct plural form of 'erratum' from the following.  
 a) erratums                      b) errata                      c) erratae                      d) erratus
8. Attach a suitable prefix to the word "legal"  
 a) un                      b) il                      c) en                      d) dis
9. Choose the correct expansion of the abbreviation "INSV"  
 a) Indian National Ship Vessel                      b) International Naval Ship Vessel  
 c) Indian Naval Super Vessel                      d) Indian Naval Ship Vessel
10. Complete the following sentence with the most appropriate phrasal verb given below.  
 Many students \_\_\_\_\_ of schools due to poverty.  
 a) drop in                      b) drop up                      c) drop out                      d) drop on
11. Choose the suitable option to pair it with the word 'tooth' to form a compound word.  
 a) powder                      b) paste                      c) ache                      d) all the above
12. Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate preposition given below.  
 He even gnawed at the dried pieces \_\_\_\_\_ eggshell.  
 a) to                      b) off                      c) by                      d) of
13. Complete the following sentence using the most appropriate tense form of the verb given below. She \_\_\_\_\_ when the guests arrived.  
 a) was cooking                      b) have cooked                      c) cooks                      d) has cook
14. Choose the most appropriate linker from the given four alternatives  
 \_\_\_\_\_ the weatherman, we can expect more rain this week.  
 a) Because of                      b) Due to                      c) According to                      d) In spite

**PART II****SECTION - I**

Answer any THREE of the following questions in a sentence or two

3x2=6

15. What did the parents do, when the young seagull failed to fly?
16. Write a short note on Tara-Tarini?
17. What did Aditya offer Sanyal?
18. How many years had M. Hamel been in the village?

**SECTION - II**

Read the following sets of poetic lines and answer any three of the following

3x2=6

19. *Let us remember, whenever we are told  
 To hate our brothers, it is ourselves*  
 a) Who tells us to hate our brothers?  
 b) What happens when we hate our brothers?
20. *We can pull and haul and push and lift and drive,  
 We can print and plough and weave and heat and light*  
 a) Whom does 'we' refer to?  
 b) What is the meaning of the word 'haul'?

(2)

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21. **Strong is she in her faith and belief.**  
**Persistence is the key to everything.**  
 a) Who is strong in her faith and belief?  
 b) What is meant by the word 'persistence' here?
22. **Not a crumb to be found.**  
**On the snow - covered ground;**  
 a) Why was the ground covered with snow?  
 b) What does crumb mean?

## SECTION - III

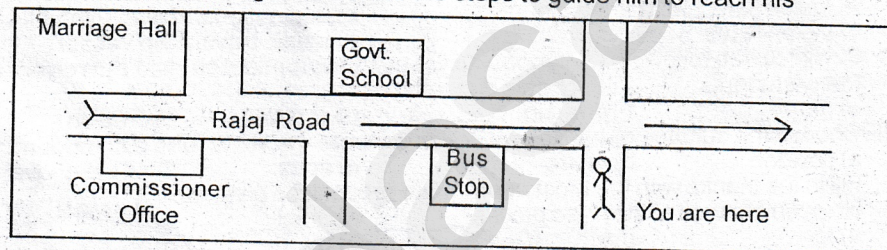
Answer any three of the following:

23. Rewrite the following sentence to the other voice.  
 Did he write a letter? 3x2=6
24. Rewrite using indirect speech.  
 Johnson said to Nancy, "Have you been to Coakers Walk?"
25. Punctuate the following sentence.  
 i said no i m not
26. Transform the following sentence as directed (to simple sentence)  
 As soon as the children saw the teacher, they stood up.
27. Rearrange the words in the correct order to make meaningful sentences:  
 a) function / the / the / collector / over / presided  
 b) village / flood / the / waters / encircle / began / to

## SECTION - IV

Answer the following questions:

28. A stranger wants to go to a marriage hall. Write the steps to guide him to reach his destination. 1x2=2

PART III  
SECTION - I

Answer any TWO of the following:

29. Describe the struggles underwent by the young seagull to overcome its fear of flying. 2x5=10
30. Write in detail about the selection and training process which the crew underwent.
31. Write the character sketch of Sasanka Sanyal in detail.
32. Give an account of the last day of M. Hamel in school.

## SECTION - II

Answer any TWO of the following:

33. What is the central theme of the poem 'No men are foreign'? 2x5=10
34. Describe the journey of life as depicted in the poem by Henry Van Dyke.
35. **Read the following stanza and answer the question given below:**  
*They growl at that and they growl at this;  
 Whatever comes, there is something amiss;  
 And whether their station be high or humble,  
 They are all known by the name of Grumble.*
- i) Identify the rhyming words of the given lines. ii) Identify the rhyme scheme of the given lines.  
 iii) Identify the figure of speech employed in the first line. iv) Pick out the alliterating in the third line.

36. Paraphrase the following stanza.

There's a family nobody likes to meet;  
 They live, it is said, on Complaining Street  
 In the city of Never-Are-Satisfied,  
 The River of Discontent beside.

## SECTION - III

Answer any one of the following:

37. **Rearrange the following sentences in coherent order.** 1x5=5  
 i) The son made up his mind to take back his mother home.  
 ii) A farmer decided to leave his old mother on top of a mountain.  
 iii) Filled with dread, he hid his mother in his home.

(3)

X English

- iv) Once in Shining, a cruel ruler declared that all old people must be put to death.  
v) On the way, mother had dropped twigs as markers and advised the son to return home with the aid of twigs.

38. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

Just then, he heard a noise. It was the sound of trickling water! He stopped and looked down. There was a small hole in the dike, through which a tiny stream was flowing. Any child in Holland is frightened at the thought of a leak in the dike. Peter understood the danger at once. If the water ran through a little hole, it would soon make a larger one, and the whole country would be flooded. In a moment, he saw what he must do. Throwing away his flowers, he climbed down the side of the dike and thrust his finger into the tiny hole. The flowing of the water was stopped.

- i) What did Peter hear? ii) What did Peter see?  
iii) What were the children of Holland afraid of? iv) What did Peter do?  
v) What happened to the flowing water?

## SECTION - IV

Answer any four of the following:

4x5=20

39. Prepare an attractive advertisement using the hints given below.  
Mobile Galaxy - Smart phones - accessories - SIM cards - Recharge - Free power banks - on Mobile purchase - No. 1, Toll gate, Trichy.  
40. You are Mrs. Deepa an NGO write a letter to the wholesale book shop dealer, placing order for 100 copies of medium size English Oxford Dictionary.  
41. You are Ganesh / Gayathri Head boy / Head girl of your school. Write a notice for your school notice board informing the students about the 'Fancy Fete' that is going to be organized in your school campus on the 10th of next month.  
42. Look at the following picture and express your views on it in about five sentences.



43. Make notes or write a summary of the following passage.

Developing good habits at an early age can help to pave the way for a bright and successful future. There are a lot of things that we do on day to day basis but only a few of them stay with us as we grow. Reading is one such habit that we should all develop as this not only adds to our knowledge and enlightens our mind, but also helps to polish our language skills and vocabulary. Reading books that you like can help you to release stress and relax. Whether you are reading a school textbook or a novel, books expand your horizon and open your door to a vast ocean of knowledge. Once you start reading and make books your companion, there is no-looking back. Books benefit you in ways you would have never even thought of. Reading helps to stimulate your mind and divert your focus from issues and problems that are responsible for your stress. A Book has the power to take you to other realms and fill your mind with positivity. You can try reading motivational books and novels. By reading, you come across a lot of information that may come in handy at the most unexpected times. It is believed that the depth of a person's knowledge is directly proportional to his/her ability to tackle any challenging situation. The more you know, the better it is. One of the best things that you can do is read a book and then start discussing it with your friends.

44. Identify the errors in the following sentences and rewrite them correctly.

- a) I am born in Chennai. b) Each one of you has to write dairy daily.  
c) Look to this beautiful picture. d) Kavin tore the paper into two halves.  
e) Karthi bought the same bag like Ram.

## SECTION - V

45. Quote from memory.

Some water, coal .....  
..... and drive

1x5=5

(4)

X English

## PART - IV

46. Write a paragraph about 150 words by developing the following hints: 2x8=16
- a) Prospero lived - daughter Miranda - island cave - help of Ariel - raised storm - Antonio, King of Naples - Ferdinand - ship wrecked - Prospero commands Ariel - bring Ferdinand - to cave - Miranda - sees first time - human being - Ferdinand surprised to see - Miranda - Prospero - engages - Ferdinand - hard tasks - Miranda - pleads with father - Prospero chides Miranda - Ariel brings King of Naples - Antonio - to Prospero - they realize - mistake - repent - restores the dukedom to Prospero - Prospero agrees - marriage of Miranda and Ferdinand. (OR)
- b) Dr. Ashok - entrusts his pet bird - Dr. Krishnan - children excited of his entry it can speak - 21 African languages - Zigzag - sleeps endlessly with heavy snore - no peace at - home - Mrs. Krishnan - not happy - shouts and asks for solutions - Dr. Krishnan writes to Ashok - finding solutions - no reply - Dr. Krishnan - takes Zigzag to clinic - turn of event - Zigzag - takes care of the orderliness - clinic - very quiet - all surprised - zigzag commands - Dr. Krishnan happy - finds secret - Zigzag must be engaged - if not he sleeps - family is happy with his presence.

47. (i) Read the following passage and answer the questions given below:

A sanctuary may be defined as a place where Man is passive and the rest of Nature is active. Till quite recently, Nature had her own sanctuaries, where man either did not go at all or only as a tool-using animal in comparatively small numbers. But now, in this machinery age, there is no place left where man cannot go with overwhelming forces at his command. He can strangle to death all the nobler wild life in the world today. Tomorrow he certainly will have done so, unless he exercises due foresight and self-control in the meantime. There is not the slightest doubt that birds and mammals are now being killed off much faster than they can breed. And it is always the largest and noblest forms of life that suffer most. The whales and elephants, lions and eagles, go. The rats and flies, and all mean parasites, remain. This is inevitable in certain cases. But it is wanton killing off that I am speaking of to-night. Civilized man begins by destroying the very forms of wild life he learns to appreciate most when he becomes still more civilized. The obvious remedy is to begin conservation at an earlier stage, when it is easier and better in every way, by enforcing laws for close seasons, game preserves, the selective protection of certain species, and sanctuaries.

## Questions :

- a) What is a sanctuary?  
 b) Why do you think man is dominant in machinery age?  
 c) Do you think that birds and mammals are reduced nowadays? Why?  
 d) How can we save the birds and mammals?
- (OR)
- ii) Read the following poem and answer the questions given below:

Woodman, that tree!  
 Touch not a single bough  
 In youth, it sheltered me  
 And I'll protect it now  
 'T was my forefather's hand  
 That placed it near his cot  
 There, woodman, let it stand,  
 Thy axe shall harm it not!  
 When but an idle boy  
 I sought its grateful shade;  
 In all their gushing joy  
 Here, too, my sisters played,  
 My mother kissed me here,  
 My father pressed my hand  
 Forgive this foolish tear,  
 But let that oak stand!  
 My heartstrings round thee cling  
 Close as thy bark, old friend!  
 Here shall the wild birds sing,  
 And still, thy branches bend.  
 Old tree! The storm still brave!  
 And woodman leave the spot,  
 While I have a hand to save,  
 Thy axe shall harm it not -  
 George Pope Morris

## Questions :

- a) Why does the poet want the woodman to spare the trees?  
 b) Who planted the trees?  
 c) What was the poet's favourite time pass?  
 d) How can we save trees?

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