

# HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION - 2024

**XII** - Std

ENGLISH

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Time : 3.00 Hrs

Marks : 90

## PART - I

20 X 1 = 20

- I Choose the correct answer for each of the following from the option given:**
- A. Choose the most appropriate synonym of the underlined lexical item in each of the following sentences:**
1. He is very cautious in his work.  
a) Incautious    b) careful    c) attentive    d) slow
  2. You will be liable for any damage caused.  
a) Responsible    b) liberty    c) licence    d) libel
  3. You may be in a hurry, and seeing your car pulled up by his insolence of office, feel that your liberty has been outrage.  
a) Comfortable    b) consolation    c) rudeness    d) amiable
- B. Choose the most accurate of the four given words which is opposite to the usage of the underlined word in the following sentences:**
4. One does not feel wise, braver or more optimistic.  
a) Opportunistic    b) cheerful    c) realistic    d) pessimistic
  5. In those days, they had only primitive heart surgery.  
a) Sophisticated    b) modern    c) latest    d) conventional
  6. There was a curious smothering noise from my friend.  
a) Suppressed    b) expressed    c) smoothened    d) suffocated
- C. Answer all the questions:**
7. Choose the correct expansion of the acronym of TOEFL  
a) Trade of England and Foreign Lands    b) Test of English as a Foreign Language  
c) Test of English and Foreign Language    d) Trade of Engine and Famous Latest Material
  8. Choose the correct combination for the compound word finger print  
a) Verb + noun    b) preposition + noun    c) noun + verb    d) noun + noun
  9. Choose the correct combination for the blended word melodrama.  
a) Melodious + drama    b) melody + drama  
c) melodo + drama    d) melodeum + drama
  10. Choose the meaning of the foreign word in the sentence: 'Intoto'  
a) In cognito    b) In disguise    c) Totally    d) In fact
  11. Fill in the blank with the suitable prepositional phrase.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Gandhiji, Ahimsa means infinite love.  
(a) In connection with    (b) Except for    (c) On behalf of    (d) According to
  12. Choose the appropriate linker and complete the sentence. I could not attend the party \_\_\_\_\_ I had to take care of my ailing mother.  
(a) Although    (b) until    (c) otherwise    (d) because
  13. Replace the British English word with its equivalent in American English.  
Ramesh lifted the car's bonnet to check the engine.  
(a) Trunk    (b) Hoot    (c) Hood    (d) Boot
  14. Replace the underlined word with a suitable phrasal verb.  
The meeting was postponed as the chairman was on an official tour.  
(a) Put away    (b) put off    (c) put out    (d) put on



15. Choose the word that has been spelt correctly.  
(a) Existence (b) espionage (c) repercussions (d) technicality
16. Identify the correct combination of the word 'sunlight'.  
(a) Adjective + Verb (b) Gerund + Verb (c) Adverb + Noun (d) Noun + Noun
17. Form a new word by adding a suitable 'prefix' to the underlined word.  
Today, I am certainly the most partial judge in England.  
(a) Im (b) un (c) in (d) de
18. The expansion of the abbreviation IMF.  
(a) Indian Mountaineering Foundation (b) Indian Medical Foundation  
(c) International Military Force (d) International Manpower Force
19. Choose the appropriate question tag and complete the sentence.  
Let's close our eyes and meditate for some time, \_\_\_\_\_?   
(a) Shall we (b) can't we (c) shan't we (d) can we
20. Choose the unclipped form of 'champ'.  
(a) Champagne (b) champaign (c) chamberlain (d) champion

### PART - II SECTION - 1

Choose any four of the following sets of poetic lines and answer the questions that follow :- 7X2=14

21. "All through that summer at ease we lay,  
And daily from the turret wall  
We watched the mowers in the hay".  
(a) Who does "we" refer to? (b) What could they watch from the turret wall?
22. "Then the whining school-boy, with his satchel  
And shining morning face, creeping like snail"  
(a) Which stage of life is being referred to here by the poet?  
(b) Identify the figure of speech employed in the second line.
23. "\_\_\_\_\_ free imaginations  
Bringing changes into a world resenting change".  
(a) How does free imagination help the world? (b) Identify the figure of speech.
24. "The giant wears the scarf, and flowers are hung  
In crimson clusters all the bough among!"  
(a) Who is the giant here? (b) Pick out the words in alliteration in the given lines.
25. "For some three Suns to store and hoard myself,  
And this grey spirit yearning in desire  
To follow knowledge....."  
(a) Explain "three Suns". (b) What does Ulysses yearn for?
26. "Legs wide, arms locked behind,  
As if to balance the prone brow  
Oppressive with its mind".  
(a) Whose action is described here? (b) What is meant by 'prone brow'?

### SECTION - 2

Do as directed Answer any three questions.

27. Raju said, "I was playing tennis the whole morning". (Change into Indirect speech)
28. By whom will the new stadium be built?. (Change the voice)
29. Unless you do these exercises regularly, you will not recover.  
(Rewrite as a compound sentence)
30. The work was over. We went home. (Rewrite using "when")

### PART - III

Answer any seven of the following:

7 x 3 = 21

a) Explain any two of the following with reference to the context:

31. When first my casement is wide open thrown.  
At dawn, my eyes delighted on it rest,

32. ....the sixth age shifts  
Into the lean and slippered pantaloons.

33. On a little mound, Napoleon  
Stood on our storming-day.

**b) Answer any two of the following questions briefly:**

34. What does the "Rule of the road" mean?  
35. How does adding sugar affect the taste of tea?  
36. Describe the appearance of Nicola and Jacopo.

**c) Answer any three of the following.**

37. Re-arrange the shuffled words and frame into meaningful sentences:  
i) His / to convey / his shoulders / struggled / his disapproval / of their / appearance shabby.  
ii) There / hope / of / recovery / to / little / was  
iii) Time / the ridge / was / and / passing / seemed / never - ending
38. Extend the conversation with three more exchanges.  
Shop keeper : What do you want?  
Raju : I want a gel pen.
39. Complete the proverb by using the words given below.  
a) A burnt child dreads the \_\_\_\_\_ b) \_\_\_\_\_ bird catches the prey.  
c) A known \_\_\_\_\_ is better than an unknown angel. [ *devil, fire, early* ]
40. Describe the process of making a glass of apple juice.

#### PART - IV

7X5=35

**Answer the following in a paragraph of about 150 words**

41. a) Justify the title of the story "Two Gentle Men of Verona". (OR)  
b) What do you infer from Gardiner's essay 'On the Rule of the Road'?

42. **Answer the following in a paragraph of about 150 words.**

- (a) Describe the various stages of a man's life picturised in the poem "All the World's a Stage". (OR)  
(b) How was the young soldier's patriotism described in the poem, 'Incident of the French camp'?

43. **Answer the following in a paragraph of about 150 words, by developing the hints.**

- (a) Pi - survived - shipwreck - life boat - gets stranded in the Pacific - Bengal tiger - Richard Parker - on board - Pi searched for water - found stacks of cans - drinking water - elixir of life - gave him energy - managed to overcome fear - realized that alive - because of Parker - scared him earlier - brought peace - purpose - helped him survive for 227 days - left Parker in a jungle - reunited - family. (OR)  
(b) Ausable - clever - secret agent - entered - his room - found - Max - aimed - pistol - lose - courage - quick - witted man - complained - balcony - intruder - window - management did not block - knocking - door - police - extra protection - important paper - Max - hid - balcony - fell to death - no police - no balcony - Ausable's plan - to get rid of Max.

44. **Write a summary OR make notes of the following:**

The aim of education is the overall development of the personality of man. It means the development of not only the mind but also the body. Games keep the body fit: A healthy mind can dwell only in a healthy body. For keeping a body healthy, games are indispensable. People who have developed the habit of playing games regularly can maintain good health. Games help to build a muscular body. They include sound sleep which is a sign of good health.

Therefore, games are food for the body, as knowledge is food for the mind. In fact, 'all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy'. Everybody likes games because these keep them physically fit and mentally alert.

Games help us to keep our body active and vigorous. They enable us to face dangers boldly. When a person plays games, his blood circulation increases and his digestive system improves. He does not fall prey to any disease. Games inculcate in the us the spirit of sportsmanship. They also teach us courage and perseverance.

45. (a) Write a letter to the Headmaster of your school requesting him to help you to obtain a duplicate mark sheet of class XII , which you lost while travelling. **(OR)**  
**Read the following advertisement and prepare an application with bio-data.**

Wanted  
 English Teacher  
 Young and dynamic Post Graduate for the post of an English Teacher with  
 good communication skills.  
 Apply to:  
 The Principal,  
 Holy Cross Hr, Sec, School, Valasaravakkam,  
 Chennai-600 087.

46. (a) **Read the following sentences, spot the errors and correct them.**

- i) Usha is not only a writer but an orator.
- ii) Though she is weak but she is active.
- iii) The bus conductor gave me an one rupee coin.
- iv) Children prefer sweets than snacks.
- v) Pradeep is my cousin brother.

**(OR)**

- (c) **Fill in the blanks appropriately.**

- (i) I had no. \_\_\_\_\_. My friend gave me a \_\_\_\_\_ of advice. (peace / piece)
- (ii) How \_\_\_\_\_ you open my bag ! (Fill in the blank with a semi - modal verb)
- (iii) We \_\_\_\_\_ (see) a wonderful film at the cinema last night.  
(Fill in the blank with the right tense form )
- (iv) \_\_\_\_\_ ( shop ) is my favourite hobby.  
(Use the gerundial form of the verb in the bracket)

47. **Identify the following sentences with the field in the list given below;**

- a) The flight was cancelled due to fog.
- b) The fertility of the soil can be preserved by the use of Bio- Fertilizers.
- c) The number of drop outs had reduced drastically.
- d) The captain was reprimanded for insulting the umpire.
- e) The USB port is not functioning properly.

**(Computer, Sports, Agriculture, Weather, Education) (OR)**

**Read the following passage and answer in your own words:-**

In 1920, after some thirty - nine years of problems with disuse, high costs and politics the Panama canal was officially opened. Finally linking the Atlantic and Pacific oceans by allowing ships to pass through the fifty mile canal zone instead of travelling some seven thousand miles around cape Horn. It take a ship approximately eight hours to complete the trip through the canal and cost an average ship to round the Horn more than fifteen thousand ships pass through its laocks each year.

The French initiated the project but sold their rights to the United States. The letter starts controlling it until the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century after Panama took over its duties.

- 1) Mention the length of Panama canal.
- 2) Which oceans are connected by the Panama canal?
- 3) In Which year did the authorities begin the construction of the Panama canal?
- 4) How many hours will it take to complete the trip through the canal?
- 5) Who controlled the Panama canal until the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century?