

- iv. The family always failed \_\_\_\_\_ want of help.
  - v. He has a craving \_\_\_\_\_ more money.
  - vi. The case has been put \_\_\_\_\_ till tomorrow
  - vii. I refrained \_\_\_\_\_ giving my opinion.
  - viii. My uncle has run \_\_\_\_\_ debt.
- c. Join the following pairs of sentences without using and, but or so : (4)
- i. Tom is intelligent. Mike is more intelligent.
  - ii. She is a very fast runner. There is no doubt about it.
  - iii. You copied my essay. Do you deny this?
  - iv. He received all that was promised to him. He was not satisfied.
- d. Rewrite the following sentences according to the given instructions : (8)
- i. We have not visited our ancestral home for ages. (Begin : It is ages....)
  - ii. Besides being active, he is wise. (Begin : Not only....)
  - iii. There is reason to believe that they have saved the crew. (Begin : It is.....)
  - iv. He will be elected secretary by the group. (Begin : The group.....)
  - v. She was too immature to understand his tricks. (Begin : She was so.....)
  - vi. If Mohan apologises, he will be given another chance. (Begin : Unless.....)
  - vii. He didn't meet Anurag and I didn't either. (Begin : Neither.....)
  - viii. If the meeting is cancelled, please inform me. (Begin : should.....)

## Half Yearly Examination - 2018-19

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE

**Class : X**

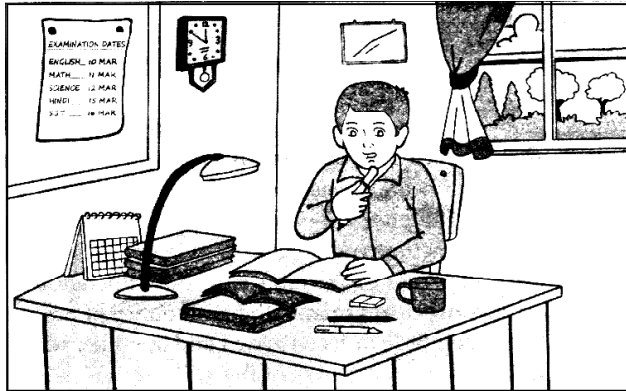
**Time : 2 Hrs. + 15 min**

**Full Marks : 80**

Q1. Write a composition (300-350 words) on any one of the following : (20)

- a. You have travelled with a school party to another town for a picnic. After seeing the sights before lunch, you slip into a shop to eat ice cream; when you come back, your group has disappeared. Describe your attempt to find the group, how you spent the rest of the time, how you got home, and what the others had done in the meantime.
- b. You are in charge of a committee that is to organise an art and craft exhibition at your school. Write an account of how you propose to carry this out. You should consider, among other things, the rooms you will need, how to select and display the material to be shown, and how to receive and guide the visitors.
- c. 'Money spent on educating women is money well-spent'. Express your views for or against the statement.
- d. Write a short story that concludes with the sentence, "Don't count your chickens before they are hatched."

- e. Study the picture given below. Write a story or description or an account of what the picture suggests to you. Your composition may be directly about the subject of the picture or may take suggestions from it, but there must be some clear connection between the picture and the composition.



Q2. Select one of the following : (10)

- Write a letter to our friend telling him about the importance of cleanliness and how your school intends to take up 'Swachha Abhiyaan' initiated by our Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi.
- As the Secretary of the 'Literary Society' of your school, write a letter to a renowned author requesting him/her to preside over the 'Annual Poetry Recitation' competition giving all the necessary details of the competition.

Q3. a. You are the President of the ECO club of your school. Draft a notice to be displayed on the school notice board, requesting the students of Std VI to X to donate either in cash or kind for the people of flood affected areas in Kerala. (5)

- What did Mrs. Peter suspect after showing the silver gifts to their guest? (2)
  - What mistake had the Pigeoneotes made? (2)
  - What explanation did Mrs. Peter give to Wilfrid, the Attache to cover up her mistake? (1)
- c. In not more than 50 words, narrate the discomfort of the Pigeoncotes during Wilfrid's visit to their house. (8)

Q5. a. In the following passage fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage, but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. (4)

"Once I had the opportunity to witness the warm welcome that two American astronauts 1 (give) in Paris. Thousands of people 2 (gather) in front of their hotel. When both of them came out, Armstrong stepped aside, broke the barrier of policemen and, instead of 3 (go) to the waiting car, went straight to a person sitting on a wheel chair. The man as physically handicapped and could not walk. Armstrong 4 (notice) him from the window of his room. Then all of us 5 (stand) there saw something beautiful: the astronaut began talking with that man as if they 6 (be) old friends. A friend of mine who was with me at that moment said: "Is that not wonderful? The fastest man in the world with the slowest one." Then a question kept coming back to my mind: Which is more difficult? 7 (go) to the moon or to show concern for a 8 (paralyse) man?"

- b. Fill up the blanks with appropriate words : (4)
- The old man is leaning \_\_\_\_\_ the wall.
  - He set \_\_\_\_\_ a big business.
  - Do not brood \_\_\_\_\_ your failure.

- b. Write an e-mail to the President of the Red-Cross Society, requesting him to make arrangements for collecting all the donations made by the students of your school and sending them to the people in the relief camps. (5)

Q4. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Wilfrid Pigeoncote had suddenly become heir to his uncle's estate. He was a young man of about twenty-five, and was known to a wide circle of his cousins and kinsfolk more by reputation than by person. The numerous Wilfrids in the family were distinguished from one another chiefly by the names of their residences or professions, and this young man was known by the disgraceful nickname of Wilfrid, the Snatcher.

From his late school days he had been possessed by an acute form of Kleptomania – a recurring urge to steal. Anything that was small, portable and of some value had an irresistible attraction for him, provided that it fulfilled the necessary condition of belonging to someone else.

Presently Peter Pigeoncote and his wife, who were celebrating their silver wedding anniversary had received a telegram from a certain Wilfrid, saying he would be visiting them to pay his respects. Assuming that it was surely the newly rich Wilfrid the Snatcher, their awkwardness was obvious as all the silver gifts were set out in the drawing room. Awkwardness prevailed that evening when the visitor was being entertained. The guest was not at all stealthy, as expected, but appeared polite and well-assured.

After dinner in the drawing room a nervous and awkward Peter carefully showed Wilfrid the silver presents displayed. Mrs. Peter was very vigilant throughout. Nevertheless after they said 'Goodnight' to their visitor, Mrs. Peter was sure that he had taken

something. Immediately it was decided that the next day when Wilfrid would be in the bath, his luggage would be searched. Next morning, an alert watch was kept and as soon as he made his way to the bathroom, the couple searched his bags. The quest was brief, there embedded in the folds of his shirts, lay a silver cream jug. They took it and hurried back.

During breakfast, Wilfrid blurted out, 'I'm afraid you have a thief among your servants. Something has been stolen from my bags. It was a present for you from my mother Lady Ernestine and myself, only it happened to be another silver cream jug, and because you already had seven, I thought I'd get it changed for something else.'

Both the Pigeoncotes turned pale, as the mention of the mother had thrown a sudden light on the situation. This Wilfrid was Wilfrid, the Attache, who had been mistaken for Wilfrid, the Snatcher and they had searched his bags. Mrs. Peter finally had an inspiration and when her husband was away, she suggested to Wilfrid in all confidentiality that Peter also possessed the little weakness that ran in the family, he too was kleptomaniac like cousin Snatcher. She apologised profusely and the matter ended, except for thereafter all their visitors kept a close watch either on their luggage or on Peter.

- a. Give the meaning of the following words as used in the passage. (3)
- i. disgraceful    ii. portable    iii. embedded
- b. Answer the following questions :
- i. Who was Wilfrid, as referred to in the first paragraph? How was he popularly known? (2)
- ii. Why were the Pigeoncotes feeling awkward while entertaining their guest? (2)

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