

Pre-Board Examination : 2022-23

Class - X

English Paper-I (Language)

Time allowed : Two Hours

Maximum Marks : 80

Answers to this paper must be written on the paper provided separately.

You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.

This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.

The time given at the head of this paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

Attempt all four questions.

*The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].
You are advised to spend not more than 35 minutes in answering Question 1 and
20 minutes in answering Question 2.*

Question 1.

Write a composition (300-350 words) on any one of the following : [20]
(Do not spend more than 35 minutes on this question.)

- Write a short story based on the statement, 'It is never too late to be what you might have been.'
- It is said that childhood is the best period of one's life. Justify this statement by describing incidents from your childhood days.
- Narrate an occasion when a furious argument took place based on a case of mistaken identity.
- Express your views either for or against the statement :
"Migration of people from villages and towns to cities should be banned."
- Study the picture given below. Write a story or an account of what the picture suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it :



P.T.O.

Question 2.

(Do not spend more than 20 minutes)

Select any one of the following :

[10]

- (a) You were down with chicken pox and had missed school for three weeks. Your friend sent you notes for the classes you missed. Write a letter to your friend thanking him for sending you the notes.
- (b) Write a letter to the Commissioner of Police requesting him/her to stop the loud music being played by some antisocial elements in your locality. This is disturbing students preparing for their annual examination.

Question 3.

- (a) Your school is organising an Inter-school Quiz Competition. Write a notice to be put up in your school informing the students about the event.

[5+5=10]

- (b) Write an email to the Principal of a neighbouring school informing him/her of the event and requesting him/her to send a team to participate in the competition.

Question 4.

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

One day, I happened to overhear two miners talking about a great School somewhere in Virginia. This was the first time that I had ever heard anything about any kind of school that was more pretentious than the little school in our town. As they went on describing the school, it seemed to me that it must be the greatest place on earth. Not even Heaven presented more attraction for me at that time than this school in Virginia. I resolved at once to go to that school.

I had very little money. By walking, begging rides both in Wagons and in the cars, after a number of days, I reached Virginia. When I reached there, tired, hungry, it was late in the night. I was completely out of money and I did not know where to go. I asked at several places for lodging, but they all wanted money. Knowing nothing else better to do, I walked the street till midnight. At last I became so exhausted that I could walk no longer. I slept for the night on the ground in a street.

The next morning I found myself somewhat refreshed, but I was extremely hungry. I noticed that I was near a large ship which was unloading a cargo of pig iron. I went near the vessel to get money for food. The captain, who seemed to be a kind hearted, consented. I worked long enough to earn money for my breakfast. My work pleased the captain so well that he told me I could continue working for a small amount per

day. I continued working on this vessel till I had saved enough money to reach my destination.

The first sight of the large, three storey school building seemed to have rewarded me for all that I had undergone to reach the place. I met the head teacher for admission. Having been so long without proper food, a bath and change of clothing, I did not make a favourable impression upon her.

I saw her admitting other students, and that added greatly to my discomfort. After some hours had passed, the head teacher said to me, "The adjoining recitation room needs sweeping. Take the broom and sweep it". It occurred to me at once that there was my chance. Never did I receive an order with more delight. I swept the recitation room three times. Then I got a dusting cloth and I dusted it four times.

When I was through, I reported to the head teacher. She was a **finicky** woman who knew just where to look for dirt. She went into the room and inspected the floor and closets. When she was unable to find one bit of dirt on the floor, or a particle of dust on any of the furniture, she quietly remarked, "I guess you will do well in this institution." I was one of the happiest soul on earth. The sweeping of that room was my college examination. I have passed several examinations since then, but I have always felt that this was the best one I ever passed.

(a) Give the meaning of each of the following words as used in the passage. One word answer or short phrases will be accepted : [3]

(i) Pretentious

~~(1)~~ Pompous

(2) Genuine

~~(3)~~ Moderate

(4) Unconceited

(ii) Consented

(1) Assent

~~(2)~~ Agreed

(3) Disapproved

(4) Refusal

(iii) Finicky

(1) Undemanding

(2) Easy

(3) Fastidious

(4) Uncritical

(b) Answer the following questions briefly, in your words :

(i) What did the narrator overhear the two miners talking about ? What was its impact on him ? [2]

(ii) How did the narrator reach Virginia ? What did the narrator do to earn money in order to reach his destination ? [2]

(iii) In what condition was the narrator when he reached Virginia ? [1]

- (iv) What did the head teacher ask the narrator to do ? What was the narrator's reaction ? [2]
- (v) How did the narrator feel on being selected for admission to the school ? [2]
- (c) In not more than 50 words describe the struggle the narrator underwent to get admission in the school. [8]

Question 5.

- (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]

Example :

(0) discussed.

The other day we (0) (discuss) the attitudes of people in our country. Why (1) (be) most of them rude and aggressive? Pritam asked Sanjana (2) (say) that it (3) (be) because there (4) (be) too many people and one had to fight for everything. Nirode (5) (insist) that it (6) (be) the climate. We (7) (be) as efficient and polite as Europeans if only our weather (8) (be) better.

- (b) Fill in the blanks with an appropriate word : [4]

- (i) He was touched pity when he heard the tale.
- (ii) There is always a demand good tailor.
- (iii) She insists wearing that dress.
- (iv) I met an old friend the party.
- (v) She is a year older I am.
- (vi) They could not elicit any information the prisoner.
- (vii) The cat sprang the table.
- (viii) I shall return an hour.

- (c) Choose the correct option to join the following sentences without using 'and', 'but' or 'so' : [4]

- (i) The airhostess was injured. She helped the victims.
- (1) Since the airhostess was injured, she helped the victims.
- (2) After being injured, the airhostess helped the victims.
- (3) Despite being injured, the airhostess helped the victims.
- (4) Being injured, the airhostess helped victims.

- (ii) He knows nothing. He feigns ignorance.
- (1) As he knows nothing, he feigns ignorance.
 - (2) Knowing nothing, he feigns ignorance.
 - (3) Though he knows nothing, he feigns ignorance.
 - (4) He feigns ignorance due to his lack of knowledge.
- (iii) You may succeed or not. She is not interested in it.
- (1) You will succeed or not, she has no interest in that.
 - (2) She neither succeeds nor having interest in it.
 - (3) She might succeed or not, she had no interest in it.
 - (4) She is not interested in whether you succeed or not.
- (iv) There is something in store for him. He does not know it.
- (1) He does not know what is in store for him.
 - (2) There was something in store for him that he does not know.
 - (3) There is something in store for him.
 - (4) What is in store for him, he does not know?

(d) **Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence. Choose the correct option :** [8]

- (i) Raju was making a kite. (Convert into the Passive voice)
- (1) A kite was being made by Raju .
 - (2) A kite is being made by Raju.
 - (3) A kite is made by Raju.
 - (4) A kite was made by Raju.
- (ii) The woman is too old to walk around the town. (Remove 'too'.)
- (1) The woman was so old that she could not walk around the town.
 - (2) The woman was so old that she cannot walk around the town.
 - (3) The woman was so old that she could walk around the town.
 - (4) The woman was so old to walk around the town.
- (iii) On going upstairs, I heard a noise in the attic.
(Begin : As soon as)
- (1) As soon as I went upstairs then I heard a noise in the attic.
 - (2) As soon as I went upstairs I hear a noise in the attic.
 - (3) As soon as I went upstairs, I heard a noise in the attic.
 - (4) As soon as I go upstairs I heard a noise in the attic.

(iv) If you do not improve your attitude towards work, you will not progress.

(Begin : Unless)

(1) Unless you do not improve your attitude towards work, you will not progress.

(2) Unless you do not improve your attitude, you will not be able to progress.

(3) Unless you don't progress, you will not be able to improve your attitude towards work.

(4) Unless you improve your attitude towards work, you will not progress.

(v) My family has always been lucky; our luck is well known.

(Begin : My family)

(1) My family is famous for always being lucky.

(2) My family luck is well known.

(3) My family have considered a very lucky family.

(4) My family has a good luck as we are lucky to be known as a lucky family.

(vi) How cruel Shylock was to demand his pound of flesh !

(Begin : It was cruel)

(1) It was cruel that Shylock was to demand his pound of flesh.

(2) It was cruel Shylock who demands for pound of flesh.

(3) It was very cruel of Shylock to demand his pound of flesh.

(4) It was cruelty that Shylock was asking a pound of flesh .

(vii) She didn't know where the key was and I didn't either.

(Use : neither nor)

(1) Neither she knew nor I knew where the key was.

(2) Neither she nor I knew where the keys were.

(3) She neither knew nor I knew where the key was.

(4) Neither she nor I knew where the key was.

(viii) He said to me, "When do you intend to pay me?"

(Begin : He asked me)

(1) He asked me when I intend to pay him.

(2) He asked me when did you intend to pay me.

(3) He asked me when I intended to pay him.

(4) He asked me when I had intended to pay him.