

Half Yearly Examination 2018-2019
English Language

Class : XI

Time : 3 hrs. 15 Mins.

Full Marks : 100

(You are advised to spend not more than **50** minutes on Question **1**, **40** minutes on Question **2**, **30** minutes on Question **3** and **1** hour on Question **4**.)

Question 1

1. Write a composition in 400 — 450 words on any one of the following subjects. (You are reminded that you will be rewarded for orderly and coherent presentation of material, use of appropriate style and general accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar.) (25)
 - (a) Your grandmother is soon going to be seventy five. Her birthday is coming up the next month. Describe your plan to make this birthday celebration a memorable one for her. Write in detail the venue for celebration, the decoration, people you would invite, the gifts that you would like to give her, the menu etc.
 - (b) During your holidays you took some of your friends to your ancestral house in the countryside for a week. Narrate your experience of time spent with your friends and also the medley of your feelings having paid a visit to your ancestral home after ten years.
 - (c) "There is no longer any service Professions. Nowadays everyone, whether doctor, lawyer, nurse or educator works for as much money as can be got." Argue for or against the statement.
 - (d) Power
 - (e) Write an original short story entitled ' "I am the Boss"'

{Turn Over}

2. (a) Write a review of a movie that you watched recently, based on the hints given below :

Name the film—date of release—producer—director—leading cast—plot—type of film—screenplay—music—suitability for audience—photography—critical appreciation. (You may also include other relevant details.) (20)

- b. Being the Cultural Minister of your school, you have to organize an interschool folk dance competition in your school. Write a proposal, giving measures how you would make the programme a success. (10)

3. **Answer sections (a), (b) and (c).**

- (a) In each of the following items, sentence A is complete, while sentence B is not. Complete sentence B, making it as similar as possible to sentence A. Write sentence B in each case. (10)

Example: (0) (A) Though it was a cloudy day, the temperature was 45C.

(B) Despite.....

Answer: (0) Despite it being a cloudy day, the temperature was 45 C.

1. A: It is an investment as well as hobby.
B: Besides.....
2. A: If you do not improve your workmanship, you will be dismissed.
B: You.....
3. A: Without the help of his father in Mathematics, he could not have improved.
B: Had his father.....

- (ii) For each of the words given below, write a sentence of at least ten words, using the same word **unchanged in form, but with a different meaning** from that which it carries in the passage: [4]

1. minutes
2. passage
3. position
4. left

- (b) Answer the following questions in your own words as briefly as possible:

- (i) Explain briefly the circumstances that made Martin to seek shelter in the farm garden. [2]
- (ii) Why did the old man take Martin in ? [2]
- (iii) How was Martin in a comfortable position in the cottage ? [2]
- (iv) How did the old man help Martin to escape from the cottage ? [3]

- (c) Describe, in not more than 100 words, how hounds of fate caught up with Martin Stoner (Paragraphs 10 to 15). Failure to keep within the word limit will be penalised. You will be required to write your points in the form of a connected passage in about 100 words. [8]

- (10) In the cold light of morning Stoner laughed mirthlessly as he slowly realised the position in which he found himself.
- (11) The old man told him that all his things are just as he had **left** them and with almost an offended air he added, "The folk around here haven't forgotten or forgiven you, so no one will come near you."
- (12) Martin wondered, as to what was the bygone crime which had come to him as a legacy from the absent Tom.
- (13) He feared ignominious exposure, and remained curious to glean at least some fragmentary knowledge of the young man whose place he had usurped and whose ill-repute he had fastened on himself.
- (14) A few days before Christmas, one night the old man asked him to slip away quietly, thrusting a few sovereigns in his hand, as some Michael Ley was socking Tom, to settle an old score.
- (15) Martin stole away from the back gate of the farm, and was feeling relieved ceasing to be the uneasy ghost of another. Suddenly stepped out from the shadow of an oak tree a man with a gun. There was no need to wonder who he might be; the moonlight falling on his white set face revealed a glare of human hate. He was Michael Ley for sure. The hounds of fate had caught up with Stoner.

(a) (i) Given below are four words and phrases. Find the words which have a similar meaning in the passage:

[4]

1. tiredness
2. deadend
3. earing
4. guiding

4. A: What cannot be cured must be endured.
B: If one.....
5. A: Although he looked tough, he had a child's heart.
B: Despite.....
6. A: He was aware that someone had been following him, yet he kept on.
B: In spite of.....
7. A: No sooner had Ruby entered the hall than her fans mobbed her.
B: Hardly.....
8. A: "Why did you act in that manner yesterday?" His mother asked him.
B: His mother asked him why.....
9. A: Harry claimed that he was nowhere near the scene of the crime.
B: The claim which.....
10. A: Only two people are allowed against this free pass.
B: Not more.....

(b) Fill in the blanks with suitable words:-

1. The police are inquiring _____ the cause of the murder.
2. We inquired _____ him in our letter.
3. One should not jump _____ the first job offer.
4. Never jump _____ hasty conclusions.

5. He is an honest man, he lives _____ honest work.
6. Some birds live _____ insects.
7. He is forgetful, but not negligent _____ his work.
8. I am _____ need of your help.
9. The poor farmers were supplied _____ food grains.
10. Food grains were supplied _____ the poor farmers.

c) Fill in the blanks in the passage given below with the appropriate form of the verb given in the brackets. (5)

The arrival of the train did not _____(1)(disturb) Sir Mohan Lal's calm. He _____(2) (continue) to sip Scotch and _____(3)(order) the bearer to tell him when he had moved the luggage to a first class compartment. Excitement, bustle and hurry were exhibition of bad breeding and Sir Mohan was eminently well bred. He _____ (4)(want) everything in perfect order. In his five year abroad, Sir Mohan _____(5)(acquire) the manners and attitudes of the upper class. He rarely _____(6)(speak) Hindustani. When he _____(7)(do), it was like an Englishman. But he _____(8)(fancy) his English, finished and refined at no less a place than the University of Oxford. He _____ (9)(fond) of conversation and like a cultured Englishman he could talk on almost any subject. How frequently had he _____ (10) (hear) English people say that he spoke like an Englishman.

Question 4

Read the passage given below and answer the questions (a), (b) and (c) that follow:

- (1) In the fading light of a close dull autumn afternoon Martin Stoner plodded his way along muddy lanes and rut-seamed cart tracks. He was going nowhere in particular.
- (2) The hounds of Fate were certainly pressing on him with unrelenting insistence; hunger, fatigue and despairing hopelessness had numbed his brain.
- (3) With the clothes he stood up in, a half penny in his pocket and no single friend or acquaintance to turn to, he trudged stolidly forward. He came to a halt by an open gateway leading to a spacious and rather neglected farm garden. A drizzle was setting in and Stoner thought of obtaining shelter for a short while.
- (4) Before he had time to knock, the door opened and a bent, withered-looking old man stood aside in the doorway as though to let him pass in.
- (5) "Could I come in out of the rain?" Stoner began, but the old man interrupted him.
- (6) "Come in, Master Tom. I knew you would come back one of these days."
- (7) The old man showed a strange quavering eagerness to usher him in. Stoner's legs gave way from weariness and he sank inertly into a chair. After just a few **minutes** he was devouring the meal served to him.
- (8) "I'll go and tell your aunt that you've come; she won't be seeing you, but she'll let you stay," the old man said.
- (9) The old man hobbled away down a long **passage**, escorting him to his room. Without a word Martin followed his ministering angel along, into a large room lit with a cheerfully blazing fire. The night passed peacefully.