

**Quarterly Examination - 2017-2018**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

Time : 2 hrs. 15 min.

F. M. : 50

Std. : XI

Attempt all questions :

**Question 1**

Write a composition (in 450-500 words) on anyone 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) India is a vast country, with people belonging to different religions living amicably for centuries together. What are your views on communal harmony in India?
- b) Describe some of the ways in which the place where you live has changed during the last decade. In your composition, describe whether the changes are for the better or the worse, and why do you think so.
- c) You visited a book fair recently and came across a small child who was lost. Narrate your experience.
- d) Computers have brought about a silent revolution. Express your views either for or against the proposition.
- e) Discipline
- f) You are asked to write a story for an international children's magazine. Write the story entitled, 'The Mysterious Old Man'.

**Question 2**

(10)

Answer section (a) and (b)

(a) In each of the following sentences, sentence A is complete, but B is not. Complete sentence B, making it as similar as possible to sentence A.

(1) A : He came running after hearing the news.

B : On .....

(2) A : He is a fool to do such a deed.

B : Is.....

(3) A : Only a prince can afford to live such a luxurious life

B : No one.....

(4) A : He will not pay unless he is compelled

B : Only under.....

- (5) A : John has not had his hair cut for over six months  
 B : It is.....
- (6) A : Besides buying the books for me, he gave me money.  
 B : Not only.....
- (7) A : As soon as the alarm rings, I get up.  
 B : No sooner.....
- (8) A : He said, "The rain prevented me from coming to this place."  
 B : He said that.....
- (9) A : The only way you can become a good swimmer is by training hard everyday.  
 B : Only by.....
- (10) A : He has not been to my house since May  
 B : He last.....

(b) Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(5)

1. He quarrelled \_\_\_\_\_ us \_\_\_\_\_ a trifle.
2. When he was accused \_\_\_\_\_ forging a document, he has advised to appoint a solicitor to act \_\_\_\_\_ him.
3. This is \_\_\_\_\_ all means the better book.
4. The kitchen was infested \_\_\_\_\_ rats.
5. The workers said they would call \_\_\_\_\_ the strike if their demands were met.
6. The old man passed \_\_\_\_\_ in his sleep
7. He decided to fall \_\_\_\_\_ with our plans
8. She has come \_\_\_\_\_ to our way of thinking.

### Question 3

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

1. The boy found the kites from Japan hidden in a dark passage of the house. Snehamoy helped him take out the kites from the box, lifting each delicately by its staff, and spread them out on the courtyard.
2. They fixed the day of celebration for Biswakarma – the god of machines – to be their kite-flying day. But first, they'd have to be ready with rolls of line to fly the kites, lines sharpened with a coating of finely ground glass to cut those of their rivals. A suitable field must be found, one with a good view of the horizon and free of trees to prevent the lines getting tangled up in the branches. Their hearts pounded at the thought of a kite-fight. Like a sensible teacher, Snehamoy sat the boy down with his exercise book. 'If each kite takes five hundred feet of line of fly, how many feet would twenty kites take?' He asked

the boy. The boy frowned. 'Only five hundred feet for each kite! What if they get tangled with others during a fight and keep circling away needing more and more?'

3. The two spent a whole afternoon asking neighbours for empty glass bottles. Snehamoy's aunt smashed them in her kitchen, then ground the shards in a pestle, pricking her thumb in the process. Glue was added to the glass granules, and a touch of vermilion dye to have the lines stand out against the blue sky and the clouds. After returning from school, Snehamoy joined the boy in stringing lines from one end of their courtyard to another. Then, like workers, they wrapped their palms in soft cotton cloth, took lavish dips in the pail of abrasive, and went from one end of a line to another, carefully applying a uniform layer over it. In the end, they sat back in the kitchen and admired the brilliant maze turning their courtyard into a field of red pepper.
4. For days, pedalling to and fro from school, Snehamoy heard the village buzzing with the impending kite-fight. Rival groups of boys formed teams and were spurred on by a shop-keeper who was offering his regular kites free to anyone who was willing to brave the foreign invasion. Yet on the day of the grand contest, as the first of the Japanese kites came out of the box and heaved by its flyers, went up over the school building, there was a pall of silence. It was a giant Baromon, crushing the helmet of a samurai warrior between its teeth. Scarlet and ochre, it hung still, face up, refused to be cowed by the stiff breeze.
- (5) Standing in a circle with the boys, Snehamoy strung the kites, gaze fixed on the sky. Like characters in a play, they made their appearance one by one. The Tsugaru whirred like an airplane through a clever loop fixed on its back. The crowd went into a roar over the kabuki faces, which floated in the sky like stained glass windows lit by the afternoon sun. Soon the lines were crossing and tangling up the kites with a steady stream of taunts spurring on the flyers. The boy reached inside the kite box and scooped out more. Instantly the field buzzed with humming and whistling kites shaped as cicadas, gnats, dragonflies and dancing carps. It felt like a carnival and drew the crowd's applause..

(Adapted from The Japanese Wife – Kunal Basu)

1. For each of the words given below, write a sentence of at least 10 words, using the word (5) unchanged in form but with a different meaning from that which it carries in the passage :  
(a) staff      (b) line      (c) ground      (d) uniform      (e) stream
2. Given below are five words. Find the words which have a similar meaning in the passage.  
(a) skyline      (b) competitor      (c) competition      (d) lifted      (e) acclaim      (5)