

Series: SIME



Code No. 18/E

Roll No

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Candidate must write code on the title page of answer sheet

**CLASS X**

- Please check that this question paper contains 5 printed pages & one graph paper
- Code number given on the right hand side of the question paper should be written on the title page of the answer book by the candidates
- Please check that this question paper contains 30 questions
- **Please write down the serial number of the question before attempting it**
- 15 minute time has been allotted to read this question papers

Time Allowed: 3Hours

**ENGLISH**

Max Marks. 80

I, The question paper is divided into three sections.

Section A	:	Reading	20 marks
Section B	:	Writing & Grammar	30marks
Section C	:	Literature Text book & Long reading Text	30marks

II. All questions are compulsory.

III. You may attempt any section at a time.

IV. All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order

**Section A Reading (20marks)**

1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. [8]

1. By the side of the *Jheel (Lake)*, the poachers were at their dirty work. The flare remained unlit, for Baputi was not going to take the risk that had attracted the guards the previous night.
2. At a command from his leader; Gobindai, who had been entrusted with the canister; waded into the water. He unscrewed the can and poured out its content a frown of perplexity suddenly creasing his features. He had performed the task before, and had

always been overcome by a pungent colour. But the liquid being used this time seemed to be odourless. He shrugged his shoulders and returned to the bank.

3. The gang waited for the familiar, gruesome sight. Time passed. The surface of the Jheel remained undisturbed. Twenty minutes. Nothing happened. The water remained still and unruffled.
4. Forty-five minutes later, when the familiar sight of hundred of gasping fish failed to materialise, the gang became restive. They looked expectantly at Baputi, silently querying, what had gone wrong.
5. Baputi's face was a picture of dismay. He snorted like an angry bull and turned to the others. Something's wrong here, men! We should have been at the fish by now."

"I think it's the chemical, Baputi," Gobindai gave voice to the doubt lurking in his mind. "When I poured it out, it didn't smell as strongly as it usually does."

"Ah! That's it," Baputi said, his voice rising in anger. "The shop I bought it from must have sold me adulterated stuff. Wait till I get my hands on the shopkeeper. I'll wring his neck."

"What's to be done now?" one of the men asked. "Do we leave or do we wait?"

6. Baputi pondered for a few minutes and then said in a frustrated voice, "We'll Wait ... for another, half hour. Maybe the stuff in the container wasn't as strong as that we used last night. Maybe it takes longer to take effect!"
7. But in his heart Baputi knew that there was little hope. He had been hoodwinked by the shopkeeper who had sold him a spurious chemical. All the night's labour had been in vain.

**a. Answer the following questions briefly and in your own words.**

- i. Why was the flare not lit? [1]
- ii. Why was Gobindai slightly worried immediately after pouring the contents of the can into the Jheel? [1]
- iii. What familiar sight did the gang wait for? [1]
- iv. Why did the poachers look anxiously at their leader? [1]

- v. Which sentence from the passage shows that Baputi was furious when he realized that something was wrong? [1]
- vi. Who had tricked Baputi and how had he done so? [1]
- vii. What labour had been in vain?
- viii. Which word in paragraph no.4 means the same as 'Restless'?

**2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow**

**The hardest language**

1. People often ask which is the most difficult language to learn? And it is not easy to answer because there are many factors to take into consideration. Firstly, in a first language the differences are unimportant as people learn their mother tongue naturally, so the question of how hard a language is to learn is only relevant when learning a second language.
2. A native speaker of Spanish, for example, will find Portuguese much easier to learn than a native speaker of Chinese, for example, because Portuguese is very similar to Spanish, while Chinese is very different, so first language can affect learning a second language. The greater the differences between the second language and our first, the harder it will be for most people to learn. Many people answer that Chinese is the hardest language to learn, possibly influenced by the thought of learning the Chinese writing system, and the pronunciation of Chinese does appear to be very difficult for many foreign learners. However, for Japanese speakers, who already use Chinese characters in their own language, learning writing will be less difficult than for speakers of languages using the Roman alphabet.
3. Some people seem to learn languages readily, while others find it very difficult. Teachers and the circumstances in which the language is learned also play an important role, as well as each learner's motivation for learning. If people learn a language because they need to use it professionally, they often learn it faster than people studying a language that has no direct use in their day to day life.
4. Apparently, British diplomats and other embassy staff have found that the second hardest language is Japanese, which will probably come as no surprise to many, but the language that they have found to be the most problematic is Hungarian, which has 35 cases (forms of a nouns according to whether it is subject, object, genitive, etc). This does not mean that Hungarian is the hardest language to learn for everyone, but it causes British diplomatic personnel, who are generally used to learning languages, the most difficulty. However, Tabasaran, a Caucasian language has 48 cases, so it might cause more difficulty if British diplomats had to learn it.

5. Different cultures and individuals from those cultures will find different languages more difficult. In the case of Hungarian for British learners, it is not a question of the writing system, which uses a similar alphabet, but the grammatical complexity, though native speakers of related languages may find it easier, while struggling with languages that the British find relatively easy.
6. No language is easy to learn well, though languages which are related to our first language are easier. Learning a completely different writing system is a huge challenge, but that does not necessarily make a language more difficult than another. In the end, it is impossible to say that there is one language that is the most difficult language in the world.

2.1 Based on your reading of the passage answer any four of the following questions: (8)

- a. Why is the question of how hard a language to learn relevant to only second language acquisition?
- b. Why do many people think Chinese is the hardest language to learn?
- c. Name any two agents that play a vital role in learning a language.
- d. Which languages are easier to learn well?
- e. Is it difficult to learn second language? Give reasons



2.2 On the basis of your reading of the passage, fill any two of the following blanks with appropriate words/phrases. (2x1=2 Marks)

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ is a person born in a specified place.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ is an official representing a country abroad.
- c. \_\_\_\_\_, a Caucasian linguistic

2.3 Find out the words that mean the same as under. Attempt any two of the following: (2)

- a. Appropriate (para 1)
- b. Ambassador (para 4)
- c. Fonts (para 2)

**SECTION- B(30 Marks)**



**(WRITING AND GRAMMAR )**

3. You are Vishnu/Vishali of 2, Camp road, Chennai You intend to join coaching classes at National Coaching Centre situated in Chennai. The institute specializes in teaching science to classes XI -XII. Write a letter of enquiry 100 - 120 words addressed to the administrator in-charge of the institute seeking clarification about the timings, duration, staff, transport and other necessary details for joining the institute

**OR**

You are varuna/ Varun. Write a letter to the Editor of a news paper complaining about the irregular and inadequate bus service in your area.

**Q4. Write a story in about 200 -250 words, with any one set of cues given below.**

**Give a suitable title to the story.**

**10 Marks**

It had been two hours waiting for the train. Diya was getting restless. Suddenly she noticed a child begging at a platform. The child .....

**OR**

“..... Ultimately I won it as I was determined to achieve my goal.”

The Closing of the Story is given above. You can start your own story but you cannot change the end. Write the story in 200 -250 words.

Hints: humble family background – no guidance or support – ambition- difficulties – didn't give up – long struggle paved the way for success

**Q5. Read the passage given below and fill in any four of the blanks by choosing the most appropriate options from the ones that follow: 4 Marks**

Sparrows (a) \_\_\_\_\_ (have/are/were)small, chubby, brown-grey birds which (b)\_\_\_\_\_ (has/have/had) short tails, short and blunt (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (yet/so/because) powerful beaks.Sparrows love (d) \_\_\_\_\_ (and/to/at) live in close proximity (e) \_\_\_\_\_ (with/among/by) human beings.



Q6. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write any four incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet against the correct question number. The first correction has been done as an example.

4 Marks

	Incorrect	Correct
They fed primarily on seeds	fed	feed
and kitchen scraps. Insects so as	a. _____	_____
aphids or caterpillars form an	b. _____	_____
important part on the diet of	c. _____	_____
young chicks. Sparrows builds	d. _____	_____
untidy nest. They rare occur very	e. _____	_____
far from humans.		

Q7. Rearrange any four of the following words and phrases to make meaningful sentences. (4)

- a. an / species / today / endangered / is actually / sparrow
- b. seven years /in the wild / a sparrow / around / can live /
- c. thirteen years of age / but/ in captivity / they / up to / live
- d. commonly / species / agricultural areas /sparrow / many / live in
- e. predators/ to escape/ sparrows / swim / can / from



### SECTION C (30 marks)

(LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND LONG READING TEXT)

8. Read the extract given below and answer any one of the questions that follow: 4  
Marks

a. “And immediately I regretted it,  
I thought how paltry, how vulgar,  
What a mean act,  
I despised myself and the voices of  
My accursed human education”.

- a. Why did the poet regret?
- b. Why did the poet accurse his human education?
- c. What does the word ‘despised’ mean?

d. Name the poem and poet.

OR

b. "But here's a parchment with the seal of Caesar;  
I found it in his closet, 'tis his will:

Let but the commons hear this testament- "

- a. Who speaks these words?
- b. Why does the speaker read Caesar's will to the citizens?
- c. Where did the scene take place?
- d. What does the word 'testament' mean?



Q9. Answer any four of the following questions in 30-40 words each. 2x4=8 Marks

- a. What makes Helen, the ghost, and here other co-ghosts organize "The writer's Inspiration Bureau"?
- b. How do we know that Patol Babu was a meticulous man?
- c. 'Nothing beside remains' what does the narrator mean when he says these words?
- d. Why couldn't Michael save Sebastian in the game 'jailbreak'?
- e. What message is conveyed by Vikram Seth through the poem 'The frog and the Nightingale'?

Q10. Attempt any one out of the two following long answer questions in 100 -120 words. (8)

- a. Describe how S T Coleridge develops the theme of sin, revenge and repentance in 'The Rime of the Ancient Mariner'.

OR

- b. Idealism, freedom and republicanism were the values that Brutus cherished the most. What reason does Brutus give for murdering Caesar?

Q11a. Answer the following question based on prescribed novel for extended reading in about 200-250 words. (The Story of My Life)

- i) Attempt a character sketch of Miss. Anne Sullivan.

OR

- ii) Describe Helen Keller's struggle at the Cambridge school to be prepared for Radcliffe College. How did she succeed in her mission?  
10 Marks

Q11b. Answer the following question based on prescribed novel for extended reading in about 200-250 words. (The Diary of Young Girl)

i) Give a pen portrait of Mr. Van Dann

OR

ii) What tells you that human beings continue to be petty-minded even in the most trying circumstances after reading 'Diary of a Young Girl'?

