

MID TERM EXAMINATION**English Core****Max. Marks: 80****Grade: XII****Time : 3 hrs****General Instructions:**

1. This paper is divided into three sections: A, B and C. All the sections are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions

SECTION- A
Reading -20 Marks**1. Read the passage given below**

1. Undoubtedly women in ancient India enjoyed a much higher status than their descendants in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. From the earliest days, there had been many notable women in India – poets, scholars, capable administrators and leaders of religious movements. Even the eighteenth century produced women of the type of Ahilyabai Holkar whose administration of Indore State was considered a model for all India. But there is no doubt that, speaking generally; the condition of Indian womanhood had sunk low. Kept vigorously secluded behind the purdah , in many parts of India, they were denied facilities of education and were crushed under the system of child marriage. Even among some of the higher classes, when their sisters in other countries were in school, they were kept under subjection during marriage and forced to live a life of misery during widowhood. Indian women at the beginning of the nineteenth century were probably among the most backward of their sex all over the world.

2. The Brahma Samaj led the movement for their emancipation. The ancient rules of purdah were broken and Brahma women moved freely in society: but this was a false dawn as it was far in advance of popular opinion. As even the educated classes generally showed disinclination towards the emancipation of their womenfolk, the movement for their uplift was slow in taking shape. By the beginning of the twentieth century, the position had begun to show some change. The education of women had gradually become popular, and some of those who had tasted the fruits of modern education had taken seriously to the work of women's uplift. It was however only with Gandhiji's non-cooperation movement that women were encouraged to come forward and participate in the life of the nation.

3. From the first days of his movement, Gandhiji realised that there was a source of immense untapped power in the womanhood of India which could most advantageously be turned to the work he had nearest to his heart – rehabilitation of the villages. His appeal was addressed directly to women. Originally he seems to have been uncertain of the response, or at least of

the kind of work that women could do in the national movement, for though he was a passionate believer in the equality of women, it seemed to have been doubtful whether the women of India who had for so long a time been shut up in seclusion could shoulder the active leadership of a movement which called for so much physical suffering.

4. But when the movement was actually started, women, were everywhere at the forefront. In picketing liquor shops, in enforcing the boycott of foreign cloths, and in undertaking civil disobedience they shamed men in such a way that Gandhiji continually spoke of them as the main support of his movement. There were many prominent women associated with the movement everywhere, in villages and in towns. Women all over India came forward, defying all social taboos, sacrificing physical comforts, and denying the validity of all restrictions which had been enforced against them, to take up every kind of work connected with the national movement.

5. Equal participation of women in the struggle thus became the motto of satyagraha and this spirit of active interest in public life grew with the prolongation of the movement for over twenty-five years. It is the hardening effect of the continuing revolution and generation after generation of women growing up in an atmosphere not only of tension but calling for every sacrifice that gave women their present place in Indian life. There was no suffragette movement in India, no feminism, for the share of women in the battle of freedom gave them their position of equality without their having to fight for it separately. It was a matter of surprise to the outside world that independent India should have appointed women to the highest posts so freely, as members to the Cabinet, as Governors of Provinces, as Ambassadors and as leaders of delegations of international conferences, for in an oriental country such as India. Women are presumed to be held in subjection and therefore all this seemed to be unnatural.

1.1 On the basis of your reading of the following passage, answer any five of the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate answer. [1x5=5]

(a) The passage suggests that the condition of Indian women in the 18th and 19th century was

- i. Far worse than that of the ancient days
- ii. Far better than that of the ancient days
- iii. As good as the life of women in the ancient days
- iv. As same as the life of women in the ancient days

(b) The predicament of Indian women is said to be the worst during

- i. The beginning years of 18th century
- ii. The final years of 18th century
- iii. The beginning years of 19th century
- iv. The last years of 19th century

(c) The activities of Brahmo Samaj for the emancipation of women turned unsuccessful because

- i. it was far in advance of popular opinion
- ii. even the uneducated classes showed disinclination towards the emancipation
- iii. the movement for their uplift was too fast in taking shape.
- iv. None of the above.

(d) The present position of women in Indian life is said to be an effect of

- i. education
- ii. renaissance
- iii. generation of women growing up in an atmosphere of tension and sacrifice
- iv. activities of feminist movements.

(e) Gandhiji realized that

- i. women are as strong as men
- ii. there was a source of immense untapped power in the womanhood of India
- iii. equal opportunity for women is the motto of Satyagraha
- iv. the uneducated classes showed disinclination

(f) Gandhiji had intended to use the women power for

- i. educational development
- ii. National Integrity
- iii. India's freedom
- iv. rehabilitation of Indian villages

1.2 Answer the following questions briefly

[1x5=5]

- a. What was Ahilyabai Holkar famous for?
- b. How did the women come in the front of the life of the nation?
- c. What were the kinds of activities in which the women participate during the movement?
- d. 'It was a matter of surprise to the outside world', What was the surprise ?
- e. What was the life of women in ancient like?

1.3 Pick out the words or phrases from the passage which are similar in meaning to the following

[1x2=2]

- a. Unwillingness (Para-2)
- b. Extension of the duration (Para – 5)

2. Read the passage given below

Tourism was recognized as a potential instrument for post-independence development in India during the 1950s. Tourism development was taken up by the government with a series of five-year plans, and in 1966, the India Tourism Development Corporation was set up to promote India as a tourist destination. Tourism development gathered momentum during the 1980s, with the formulation of a National Policy on Tourism and the creation of the Tourism Finance Corporation to fund tourism projects. In 1988 the government produced a comprehensive plan for achieving sustainable growth in tourism, which was followed up by a National Action Plan for Tourism in 1992.

The India Tourism Development Corporation continues to be a leading force in tourism development. It not only plays a marketing and consultancy role, but also provides training for tourism and hospitality workers and manages tour companies, hotels, transportation systems, duty-free shops and restaurants. The Ministry of Tourism also works in conjunction with agencies such as the Indian Institute of Tourism & Travel Management, the National Institute of Watersports and the Indian Institute of Skiing and Mountaineering.

India's capital, Delhi, on the River Ganges, has numerous cultural attractions, top class shopping and international cuisine. The so-called "Golden Triangle" is also located in this province, and includes the city of Jaipur and historic Agra, home of the Taj Mahal. Given these destinations' popularity, they offer a huge range of accommodations, tours and other amenities targeted at foreign visitors, which makes vacation planning in the region relatively easy. Cities in Rajasthan include Jodhpur and Udaipur, while Amritsar and Chandigarh lie in the Punjab. Northern India is bordered by the Himalayan Mountains, which provide a center for adventure tourism, with activities such as trekking, mountaineering, rafting and paddling. These activities are seasonal, with July and August the peak months.

Chennai is one of the largest and most historic cities in southern India, offering dozens of palaces, temples and forts. Bangalore is renowned for its mild climate and beautiful royal palaces, while Hyderabad is a city of domes and minarets, interspersed with colorful bazaars. The state of Kerala, along the southwestern seaboard, offers idyllic, unspoiled beaches, quaint ports and resort towns such as Kovalam. The coastal backwaters are a good area for cruising and wildlife watching, and the coral islands of Lakshadweep, near Kochi, are a top location for diving and snorkeling.

Mumbai's cultural attractions include monuments and museums, colonial forts and hill stations, but downtown Mumbai also offers excellent shopping and dining. The Arabian Sea coastline is characterized by picturesque fishing villages surrounded by coconut groves, with a few developed beach resorts such as Goa, Manori and Madh Island. Western India is also renowned for its cave systems, the most prominent including the Ellora and Ajanti Caves, which contain ancient carvings and rock paintings.

Eastern India lies along the Bay of Bengal, and Kolkata is its largest city. West Bengal's attractions include imperial palaces, forts, temples, bazaars, museums and a historic miniature train, and this area is also the country's leading golf destination. The district of Assam, best known for its tea plantations, has numerous wildlife preserves, housing endangered species such as the Asian

elephant, Bengal tiger and Indian rhino. Kaziranga and Manas National Parks are UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Beach destinations include the Andaman Islands.

2.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage make notes on it in points only, using headings and subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary- minimum four)and a format you consider suitable . Also Supply an appropriate suitable title to it

[4 Marks]

2.2 Write a summary of the passage in 80 words

[4 Marks]

**SECTION- B
WRITING SKILLS: 30 Marks**

3. Andereson Boys' Hostel, GK-1, Mangalore needs the service of a Warden. Draft an advertisement for publication in a local daily, asking deserving candidates to appear for a walk in interview on 5th and 6th August from 9a.m. to 1 p.m. at G-9/56 (Ground Floor) Star Enclave, Mangalore. (50 words)

[4 Marks]

OR

Your school is planning to organise the 20th Alumni Meet on Sunday the 28th October, 2019 at 8 p.m. at Empire hotel, Mumbai. Write a Notice for all the old students to attend the meet giving all the details of the program, to be fixed on the School Notice Board (50 words)

4. You are the Director of NICE Orientations a leading institute in postal coaching for competitive examinations including IIT-JEE and CBSE-PMT. Write letters to the principals of some prestigious schools inviting the names of two brilliant students from each institution to attend their counseling Session free of cost (120-150 words)

[6 Marks]

OR

You are Sanjay / Sanjana the librarian of your school at Bangalore. You have been asked by the management to place an order for some books for the school library. Write a letter to the Sales Manager, DC Books, Gandhi Road, Bangalore placing an order for the books that you need. (120-150 words)

5. You are Varshini from Grade 12. This year your school is bringing out a special Issue of School Magazine on account of the Youth Day Celebrations. Write an article in 150-200 words on 'The Role of Youth in National Development.'

[10 Marks]

OR

You are Sanket/ Sandya of Chandrakant Public School, Ahmedabad. Recently, your school celebrated its Golden Jubilee with great pomp and show. Write a report in 150-200 words for your school magazine, describing the various programs arranged in the school for the celebration.

6. You are Susheel Kumar. You read an article in The Times of India on ‘Healthcare for Indian Students.’ Write a speech in 150- 200 words on the importance of health care to be delivered at the School Assembly, to create awareness among the students. [10 Marks]

OR

‘Aggression and sledging are an essential part of sports.’ Write a debate in 150-200 words either for or against the motion. You are Manoj or Madhu

**SECTION-C
LITERATURE TEXT BOOKS: 30 Marks**

7. Read the extracts given below and briefly answer the questions that follow each

a. ‘Awarding the world its world. And yet, for these children, these windows, not this map, their world, Where all their future’s painted with a fog. A narrow street sealed in with a lead sky Far far from rivers, capes and stars of words’ **[1x4=4]**

- a) Who are the children referred here?
- b) Which is their world?
- c) How is their life different from that of other children?
- d) What is the future of these children?

b. ‘For once on the face of the Earth let’s not speak in any language, let’s stop for one second, and not move our arms so much.’

- a) Name the poem and the poet of these lines. **[1x4=4]**
- b) ‘Let’s not speak in any language.’ Says the poet, Why?
- c) What should we not do for a second?
- d) What do you understand by ‘the face of the Earth’?

8. Answer any five of the following questions in 30 to 40 words each

[2x5=10]

- a) How is Mukesh's attitude to his situation different from that of his family?
- b) Why were the old men of the village present in the classroom?
- c) What made the peddler accept Edla Willmansson's invitation?
- d) Why has the mother been compared to the 'late winter's moon'?
- e) How did Yumi react, when Hana asked her to obey the command of her master?
- f) Do you sympathize with Aunt Jennifer? What is the attitude of the speaker?
- g) Why did the Maharaja ban tiger hunting in the state?

9. Answer the following questions in 120 -150 words.

[6 Marks]

How did Gandhiji succeed in getting justice for the Indigo sharecroppers?

OR

Roosevelt says that 'All what we have to fear is fear itself.' Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.

10. Answer the following questions in 120-150 words

[6 Marks]

How did the world help Charley to confirm his doubts regarding the existence of a third level?

OR

How has the rapid increase of human population left its mark on nature and her resources? What are its indications for the future of human kind?

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