

**COUNCIL OF CBSE AFFILIATED SCHOOLS IN THE GULF  
GULF SAHODAYA EXAMINATIONS  
SAUDI CHAPTER – 2015**

**SUBJECT : ENGLISH CORE  
CLASS : XI**

**SET – A**

**MAXIMUM MARKS : 80  
TIME : 3 HRS**

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 1) This question paper is divided in to three sections namely A,B& C.
- 2) Separate instructions are provided with each question wherever necessary.
- 3) Do not exceed the word limit while answering. Marks will be deducted.
- 4) Do not split sections.

**SECTION – READING                      20 MARKS**

**Marks  
12**

**Q.1**      Read the given passage and answer the questions that follow:-

Right from childhood, a human being starts enjoying the pleasure of reading. As a child, he learns the ways of life through reading and writing. He is thrilled by going through new little things and learning through them. Any new lesson that comes his way, excites his emotions by giving his little mind freshness of knowledge. A little poem about an animal, a little prose about the toys and a little sentence about society he lives in, give him strange pleasure.

The pleasure one derives from reading, is indeed re-creative as well as instructive. The mental effects of reading create a strange sense of pleasure. Reading provides an ecstasy and intellectual exertion. Reading of novels or their interesting literature makes a person forget the worries and cares of life. The reading of a newspaper, periodical, journal etc., which is light reading, gives the reader knowledge about human life around and solves his curiosity for knowledge about the world. Newspapers and journals give information about the events taking place in the world and happenings in the state and the locality a person lives in. The newspapers also publish important news and views in the field of economics, politics and science. Reading of newspaper is indispensable for even a little educated citizen in modern society.

The reading of novels is the most popular pastime of a large number of people. The attraction of novel lies in its ability to create interest, to sustain it and take the reader to the heights of imagination and luxurious fiction. All fictions are somewhat connected with life and give in words the pictures drawn from real life or from imagination. As such all forms of literature, novels are the most popular and interesting. They portray pen pictures from our real life and society and present the character of the people we see around or wish to see. A novel inspires the interest and intention of a reader because in it, scenes rapidly shift and change and there are unexpected turns of events giving shocks and shakes to the mind.

Next we come to the books of travel and adventure. The spirit of adventure is in the very blood of man. A man wants glamour and romantic life, full of adventure and the material spirit. Books of travel and adventure infuse a spirit of fearlessness which the travellers who are heroes of the books, may inspire in us. Among the books of adventure lies the best literature of the world.

Whatever type of books one reads, the reading is always a source of pleasure and enjoyment, the habit of reading is a sign of good culture. It is a source of knowledge and the best means of making use of one's leisure. Books are, after all, a gold mine of knowledge, art, literature and science. Books are not only useful, instructive but also entertaining and re-creative.

1. On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given choices. 6x1=6
- (a) How does a child learn the ways of its life?
- i) By imitating his elders. ii) by observing  
iii) through reading and writing. iv) through school education.
- (b) What are the two salient features of reading?
- i) Re-creative and instructive. ii) Information and views.  
iii) pleasure and intellectual exertion iv) all the above
- (c) How does the reading of a novel inculcate the interest of a reader?
- i) Novels take the reader to the heights of imagination and give pen pictures from real life.  
ii) Novels create interest and sustain it.  
iii) Novels present the characters of people we see around us.  
iv) Scenes in novels shift and change and unexpected events take place.
- (d) Why is the reading of books of travel and adventure, a source of immense pleasure and thrill?
- i) These books provide glamour and romance.  
ii) These books inspire us to be like heroes depicted by them.  
iii) They are the best literature in the world.  
iv) These books infuse fearlessness in the reader.
- (e) Choose the synonym of the word 'unavoidable' from the options.
- i) indispensable ii) avoidable  
iii) urgent iv) foremost
- (f) Find the antonym of the word 'rest' from the given passage.
- i) ecstasy ii) pleasure  
iii) exertion iv) curiosity

2. Answer the following questions briefly:-

- a) How does any new lesson affect a child?  
b) How does the newspaper help to solve his curiosity?  
c) Why is the habit of reading regarded as a sign of culture?  
d) Why are novels the most popular books of reading?

4x1=4

3. Find words from the passage which mean the following:-

- i) Excited with joy ii) educative

2x1=2

Q.2 Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :-

How often do we exclaim: "That was a mistake!" That bewildered expression of regret and panic gets replayed through life. Some mistakes we forget, others we don't. The mistakes can be as mundane as forgetting to turn the geyser off or to pick up your passport from the airport counter.

8

Absentmindedness, preoccupation, carelessness, nervousness.....there are umpteen excuses to justify mistakes. However, major decisions like relocations of home or an unwarranted resignation letter can cause much trouble and upheaval and lead to regrets that leave you sad and depressed. Some mistakes are irreversible – then is there room for hope?

In fact, there are no mistakes, only experiences. There are no problems only challenges. Every experience teaches us something in life. Every mistake inspires retrospection and introspection. The experience is humbling and it makes us wiser. That is, if every mistake is regarded as an experience and not as a source of self-pity or self-condemnation. Many times people are unable to reconcile with change grooved in the frame culture and rooted in the past, they fail to realize the lifetime benefits they receive from changes.

Nature abounds in examples of flexibility and relocation in case of birds and beasts. Scientific research in the behavior of birds has confirmed this. Birds, animals and even nomads, travel miles and miles in search of better food, congenial climate and safety. These relocation may cause some amount of stress, no doubt, but they are the sources of survival : helping to group bonding and cooperation; and to explore the beauty of new space and better environment.

“To the weak, problems are stumbling blocks, to the brave, they are stepping stones.”

An untimely resignation and or termination letter is certainly traumatic and disturbing. But think of possibilities it can throw open for you. A young man felt disappointed when he failed in an interview for a corporate job. At that point of time he felt dejected. Today looking back he says, “It was a blessing in disguise I would have never reached this far.” Some mistakes bring in very important messages. Believe and achieve! And in order to do so, faith is essential. It is the triple faith that men need today – faith in oneself, faith in the world around us, and above all faith in God!

- a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage makes notes on it, using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations and give an appropriate title. 5
- b) Give a summary of the passage in your own words. 3

### SECTION – B : WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR ( 30 Marks)

- Q.3 Your company is sending you on a three year deputation to the United States of America. Before you go, you wish to sell some of your electronic items. Place a classified advertisement in the columns of a local daily giving necessary details. You are Mohan /Medha. 4
- Q.4 You are Seetha/Sethu living in Bangalore. You and your friends are planning a week long holiday. You come across an advertisement. Select a destination of your choice. Write a letter making necessary enquiries from the tour operator before you make your final decision. 6
- Q.5 In a meeting of World Water Forum at Kyoto, the 24,000 delegates from 182 countries focused on the escalating global water crisis. Global water consumption has increased tenfold in the last century, largely due to growing population, industrial development and expansion of irrigated farming. The speakers said that water or Blue Gold will be the next object of conquest by the year 2020. 10  
You are Anamika/ AnujSinha, Head Girl/Boy of Loyolla School, Patna. Deliver a speech in the school assembly on the need to conserve water.

**Q.6** There is one error in each of the lines of the following passage. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet as given below against the correct blank number **4**

It is very important to has goals in life  
 and work towards them. In an absence of  
 a goal one only wastes his time and  
 energy. There are short-term goals and  
 long-term goals. If you work to achieve both  
 of them you cannot hope  
 to success. So you must focus  
 on your goals. Never forgot them, but never allow  
 them to overpower you. Remain calm  
 and steady. Whoever you do, you should  
 aim at perfection. But remember, you will  
 achieve little than what you have expected.

e.g.: has.....have  
 a) .....  
 b) .....  
 c) .....  
 d) .....  
 e) .....  
 f) .....  
 g) .....  
 h) .....

**Q.7** In the passage given below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and the word that comes after it in your answer sheet. Ensure that the word that forms your answer is underlined. **3**

It is difficult reverse the wrong decisions  
 taken in past but it is possible to train  
 ourselves becoming a good decision-maker  
 for the future. If we don't, we'll end up doing what  
 we've always done, thus getting what we've always  
 got....All sorts decisions punctuate our life.  
 Sometimes we don't even realize we are taking a  
 decision. Thoseavoid taking a decision leave  
 everything chance.

e.g: difficult to reverse  
 a) .....  
 b) .....  
 c) .....  
 d) .....  
 e).....  
 f).....

**Q.8** Rearrange the following jumbled word to form meaningful sentences:- **3**

1. was born/a little town/Helen Keller/in 18180/ North Alabama/at Tuscombia.
2. Helen's eagerness/very strong/her babyhood/to talk/as/from.
3. an/expert/Miss Sullivan/teaching/the blind/,/in/Helen's/became/teacher.

**SECTION – C : LITERATURE AND LONG READING TEXT ( 30 Marks)**

**Q.9** Read the stanza and answer the question that follow:- **1x3 =3**

And forever,by day and night, I give back life to my origin,  
 and make pure and beautify it;  
 (For song, issuing from its birth place, after fulfillment, wandering  
 Reck'd or unrecke'd, duly with love returns.)

1. What is the 'origin' of the rain and how does it serve its origin?
2. What is common between rain and music?
3. Name the poem and the poet.

**Q.10** Answer the following questions briefly:-

**3x3=9**

1. Why was the Grandmother not happy with the city education?
2. Describe the Garoghlanian family. Why and what were the members of the family proud of?
3. ZahiHawass says, "The mummy is in very bad condition because of what Carter did in the 1920s". What harm did Carter do to Tut's mummy?

**Q.11** Answer the following In about 120-150 words:-

The earth's vital signs reveal a patient in declining health. What are these vital signs?

**6**

**LONG READING TEXTS 2X6=12**

Answer the following in about 120 – 150 words:-

**Q.12.** "With the enthusiastic egotism of the true artist, he went over his most celebrated performances." Why? What were his performances?(THE CANTERVILLE GHOST)

**6**

**OR**

Describe Booker T Washington's early life as a slave at the plantation before getting freedom.(UP FROM SLAVERY)

**Q.13** Why did Mr. Otis offer to give the jewels back to Lord Canterville? What was his reaction? (THE CANTERVILLE GHOST)

**6**

**OR**

Describe Booker T. Washington's famous speech at the Atlanta Exposition. Describe how the speech was received by the audience and the press. (UP FROM SLAVERY)

XXXXXXXXXXXX