

PRACTICE QUESTION PAPER (2023-24)
CLASS: X
SUBJECT : ENGLISH

Time: 3 Hours

M.M. : 80

General Instructions:-

- (i) The Question Paper contains four sections – Reading Skill, Grammar, Writing Skill and Literature.
- (ii) Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION - A
(READING SKILL)

20 Marks

Q1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

- (i) Today we know about each and everything about the world. There is no land or sea that is not known to us. Man has explored every corner of the world, and he knows all the ways and routes from anywhere to everywhere in the world. He can reach from one place to the other as safely, easily and quickly as he likes. He has maps to guide him and fastest means of transport to carry him.
- (ii) But for ages, most of the world was unknown to man. To begin with, he lived in caves. Then he came out of caves and started making homes in little corners of forests or behind the hills. He was afraid of wild animals and also of the clouds and the winds. He offered prayers and sacrifices to gods who, he thought, controlled the clouds and the winds. But slowly, through long centuries, men began to explore what lay beyond their caves, hills and forests where they had homes. They went in their boats, first on the rivers and then across the seas. At first they remained close to the shore, and each new voyager went a little further than the previous one.
- (iii) To those early travellers, the earth seemed to be a vast, flat world. They feared what would happen if they reached the edge. They believed that if they sailed southward, the sea would become so hot and boiling that life would be impossible. Toward the north, they thought, it must be too cold for anything to live. Till only five hundred years ago, nearly all men believed this. When some Portuguese explorers began to sail southward, their seamen revolted and refused to go further. They believed that the steaming waters of the southern seas would boil them like potatoes.

- (iv) When some clever men of those days said that the earth was not flat but a ball or sphere, people would laugh at them. 'How could there be people or trees on the other side of the world? They would say "Would men walk and trees grow upside down? And how could they stay on the other side? Surely they would fall off.'

Questions :

1. We can travel as we like _____.

- (a) safely
- (b) easily
- (e) quickly
- (d) all the above

2. The modern man can reach anywhere he likes with the help of _____ .

- (a) maps to guide him
- (b) fastest means of transport
- (c) both (a) and (b) above
- (d) neither (a) nor (b)

3. After leaving the caves, man started making little homes _____ .

- (a) in corners of forests
- (b) behind the hills
- (c) either (a) or (b)
- (d) neither (a) nor (b)

4. Why would people not believe that the earth was not flat but round?

- (a) They said that if the earth were round, it would roll away like a ball.
- (b) They said that if the earth were round, people and trees on the other side would fall off.

- (c) They said that if the earth were round, water would not stay at one place.
- (d) They said that if the earth were round, it would look like the sun and the moon.

5. What is meant by the word 'voyager'?

- (a) A person who makes sacrifices in order to please gods.
- (b) A person who goes about begging from place to place.
- (c) A person who wants to explore new lands.
- (d) A person making a long journey

6. Where did men in ancient times build their homes and why?

7. Why were sacrifices offered to gods?

8. What did the early explorers think about the earth?

9. What did the early sailors think about the northern and southern 'ends' of the world?

10. Why did the seamen of Portuguese explorers revolt?

Q2. Read the Passages given below and answer the questions that follow: (10)

(i) Srinivasa Ramanujan Aiyangar was an Indian mathematician. He was born on 22 December, 1887 in Erode, in present-day Tamil Nadu. His father, Kuppuswamy Srinivasa Iyengar, originally from Thanjavur district, worked as a clerk in a sari shop. His mother, Komalamm, was a housewife and sang at a local temple.

(ii) Just before turning 10, in November, 1897, he entered Town Higher Secondary School, where he encountered formal mathematics for the first time. Since paper was expensive, Ramanujan often used to derive his results on a 'slate'. Ramanujan was shown how to solve cubic equations in 1902.

(iii) When he graduated from Town Higher Secondary School in 1904, Ramanujan was awarded the K. Ranganatha Rao prize for mathematics by the school's headmaster, Krishnaswami Iyer. Ramanujan failed his Fellow of Arts exam in December, 1906. On 14 July, 1909 Ramanujan married Janaki, a girl his mother had selected for him. On 6 December, 1917, Ramanujan was elected to the London Mathematical Society. On 2 May, 1918, he was elected a Fellow of the Royal

Society, the second Indian admitted, after Ardaseer Cursetjee in 1841. At age 31, Ramanujan was one of the youngest Fellows in the Royal Society's history. He was elected "for his investigation in elliptic functions and the theory of Numbers."

(iv) On 13 October, 1918, he was the first Indian to be elected a Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. During his short life, Ramanujan independently compiled nearly 3900 results. commemorated as the National Mathematics Day in India, because it is Ramanujan's birth anniversary.

Questions:

1. Who was Srinivasa Ramanujan Aiyangar?
2. What was the name of his father ?
3. With which prize was Ramanujan awarded for mathematics by the school's headmaster ?
4. On which date was Ramanujan elected to the London Mathematical Society ?
5. When do we commemorate as the National Mathematics Day in India?
6. In which city was Ramanujan born?
 - A. Haryana
 - B. Madhya Pradesh
 - C. Tamilnadu
 - D. Rajasthan
7. His mother was a _____.
 - A. doctor
 - B. teacher
 - C. housewife
 - D. nurse
8. On 14th July 1909, he married a girl named _____.
 - A. Sita
 - B. Janaki

- C. Jannat
- D. Jamuna

9. How many results did he compile independently during his short life?

- A. nearly 4000
- B. nearly 3800
- C. nearly 3700
- D. nearly 3900

10. Which word in paragraph 4 means the same as 'celebrated'?

- A. elected
- B. commemorated
- C. compiled
- D. anniversary

Section B

(Grammar)

10 marks

3. Attempt any ten sentences by choosing the most appropriate answer from the given options : (10 X 1 =10)

(a) Choose the correct form of verb from the given choices :

(1) My servant _____ (paint) the door if you had given him a brush.

- A. will paint
- B. had painted
- C. would have painted
- D. would paint

(2) They _____ (leave) the park when we reached there.

- A. left
- B. have left

C. would be leaving

D. had left

(b) Choose the correct answer for the punctuation of the given sentences:

(3) harpreet is a student of khalsa college amritsar

A. Harpreet is a student of Khalsa College Amritsar

B. Harpreet is a student of Khalsa College Amritsar?

C. Harpreet is a student of Khalsa College, Amritsar?

D. Harpreet is a student of Khalsa College, Amritsar.

(4) mahatma gandhi was cremated at rajghat delhi

A. Mahatma Gandhi was cremated at Rajghat, Delhi.

B. Mahatma Gandhi was cremated at Rajghat Delhi?

C. mahatma Gandhi was cremated at Rajghat Delhi.

D. Mahatma gandhi was cremated at Rajghat Delhi.

(c) Choose the correct article to fill in the blanks:

(5) Keep to _____ right.

A. a

B. an

C. the

D. no article

(6) The more _____ merrier.

A. no article

B. A

- C. an
- D. the

(d) Choose the correct indirect speech of the following :

(7) The teacher said to the students, "Stop making a noise."

- A. The teacher ordered the students that stop making a noise.
- B. The teacher ordered the students to stop making a noise.
- C. The teacher ordered the students stop to making a noise.
- D. The teacher said to the students to stop making a noise.

(8) He said, "Farewell, my friends!"

- A. He bid farewell to his friends.
- B. He bade farewell to his friends.
- C. He bid farewell his friends.
- D. He wished his friends to bid farewell.

(e) Fill in the blanks with appropriate modals:

(9) _____ God grant peace to the departed soul!

- A. May
- B. Can
- C. Should
- D. Will

(10) _____ I sit on the chair, please?

- A. May
- B. Dare
- C. Will

D. Must

(f) Choose the correct option to combine the following sentences :

(11) She said something. I did not hear it.

- A. I did not hear what she said.
- B. I did not hear how she said.
- C. I did not hear that she said.
- D. I did not hear why she said.

(12) He will pass this year. It is certain.

- A. It is certain that he will pass this year.
- B. He will pass this year as it is certain.
- C. He will pass this year because it is certain.
- D. It is certain that will he passe this year.

SECTION – C

(Writing Skill)

10 marks

Q4. Attempt any one of the following : (5)

(i) You bought some goods from Scientific Goods Emporium and found them in broken condition. Write a letter to them asking to replace the goods.

(ii) Suppose you are Sohan/Sona. Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper about the incidents of violence taking place with the aged alone at home, drawing the attention of the authorities towards the problem.

Q5. Attempt anyone of the following: (5)

(i) Write a story on the topic 'Honesty is the Best Policy' with the help of the given outline.

Once a woodcutter... cutting a tree... axe fell into the water... God appeared... golden axe... woodcutter refused... silver axe.. iron axe... God happy... moral

(ii) Suppose you are Dr. Sahil, MD. You are looking for an independent house in Ghaziabad on a reasonable rent for your residence- cum-clinic. Draft a suitable advertisement to be published in The Hindustan Times, New Delhi.

Section : D

(Literature)

40 marks

Q6. Do any one of the passages given below and answer the questions that follow:
(5)

In life, every man has twin obligation -obligations to his family, to his parents, to his wife and children, and he has an obligation to his people, his community, his country. In a civil and humane society, each man is able to fulfil those obligations according to his own inclinations and abilities. But in a country like South Africa, it was almost impossible for a man of my birth and colour to fulfil both of those obligations. In South Africa, a man of colour who attempted to live as a human being was punished and isolated.

Questions:

1. What twin obligations does the writer mention ?
2. What can one do in a civil and humane society?
3. What was impossible for the blacks in South Africa to do and why?
4. How were the blacks treated if they tried to live as human beings.?
5. Find in the passage words that mean (i) a written contract or bond (ii) to put apart.

Or

The baker made his musical entry on the scene with the jhang, jhang' sound of his specially made bamboo staff. One hand supported the basket on his head and the other banged the bamboo on the ground. He would greet the lady of the house with "Good morning" and then place his basket on the vertical bamboo. We kids would be pushed aside with a mild rebuke and the loaves would be delivered to the servant. But we would not give up. We would climb a bench or the parapet and peep into the

basket, somehow. I can still recall the typical fragrance of those loaves. Loaves for the elders and the bangles for the children. Then we did not even care to brush our teeth or wash our mouths properly. And why should we? Who would take the trouble of plucking the mango-leaf for the toothbrush? And why was it necessary at all? The tiger never brushed his teeth. Hot tea could wash and clean up everything so nicely, after all!

Questions:

1. Name the chapter and its author.
2. How did the baker make his musical entry?
3. What can the author still recall?
4. What did the author and other kids do to look into the baker's basket?
5. Find from the passage words which mean the same as :
(i) helped (ii) welcome.

Q7. Attempt any two of the following questions : (2 X 3 =6)

- (i) Why was Mr Keesing annoyed with Anne Frank? What would he ask her to do?
- (ii) When and why did Maxwell think of keeping an otter as a pet?
- (iii) What type of a person is the conductor in 'Madam Rides the Bus'?
- (iv) How did Siddhartha get the name of the 'Buddha'?

Q8 Attempt any one of the following questions : (6)

'The sight of the food maddened him.' What does this suggest? (His First Flight)

or

Justify the title of the play 'The Proposal'.

Q9. Attempt any one of the following stanzas : (5)

The true Chameleon is small,
A lizard sort of thing:
He hasn't any ears at all, And not a single wing.
If there is nothing on the tree.
'Tis the chameleon you see.

Questions:

1. Name the poem and its poet.
2. What is the rhyme scheme of the stanza?
3. How does a chameleon look like?
4. Where can you see a chameleon?
5. Identify the poetic device used in the given extract.

Or

Belinda paled, and she cried Help! Help!
But Mustard fled with a terrified yelp,
Ink trickled down to the bottom of the household,
And little mouse Blink strategically mouseholed.

Questions :

1. Why did Belinda cry for help?
2. How did Ink behave?
3. What did Mustard do when it heard Belinda's cry?
4. Where did the mouse slip away?
5. Name the poem and the poet.

Q10. Attempt any two of the following questions:

(2 X 3 = 6)

- (i) Where was the poet standing and what happened to him there?(Dust of Snow)
- (ii) What is the effect of the loss of the ball on the boy? (The Ball Poem)
- (iii) What is Amanda asked to do or no to do?
- (iv) What did the old religious man declare in the poem 'For Anne Gregory'?

Q11. Attempt any two of the following questions: (2 X 3 = 6)

- (i) Why did the thief boy want to become an educated man? (The Thief's Story)
- (ii) Why were the two boys in London surprised and fascinated? (Footprints without Feet)
- (iii) What did Matilda and her husband do when they found the necklace missing? (The Necklace)
- (iv) Who are in the library on the earth? What are they doing there?
(The Book that Saved the Earth)

Q12. Attempt any one of the following questions : (6)

Give a brief character sketch of Horace Danby. (A Question of Trust)

Or

Why does Think-Tank decide not to invade the earth? (The Book that Saved the Earth)