

SAMPLE PAPER

Class	:	XII
Subject	:	English (Core)
Time Limit	:	3 hours
Maximum Marks	:	80

SECTION – A: UNSEEN COMPREHENSION

[15]

1. Read the passages given below and answer the questions that follow. Do any one.

(i) 1. Today's woman is a highly self-directed person, alive to the sense of her dignity and the importance of her functions in the private domestic domain and the public domain of the world of work. Women are rational in approach, careful in handling situations and want to do things as best as possible. The Fourth World Conference of Women held in Beijing in September 1995 had emphasized that no enduring solution of society's most threatening social, economic and political problems could be found without the participation and empowerment of the women. The 1995 World Summit for Social Development had also emphasised the pivotal role of women in eradicating poverty and mending the social fabric.

2. The Constitution of India had conferred on women equal rights and opportunities political, social, educational and of employment with men. Because of oppressive traditions, superstitions, exploitation and corruption, a majority of women are not allowed to enjoy the rights and opportunities, bestowed on them. One of the major reasons for this state of affairs is the lack of literacy and awareness among women. Education is the main instrument through which we can narrow down the prevailing inequality and accelerate the process of economic and political change in the status of women.

3. The role of women in a society is very important. Women's education is the key to a better life in the future. A recent World Bank study says that educating girls is not a charity, it is good economics and if developing nations are to eradicate poverty, they must educate the girls. The report says that the economic and social returns on investment in education of the girls considerably affect the human development index of the nation. Society would progress only if the status of women is respected and the presence of an educated woman in the family would ensure education of the family itself. Education and empowerment of women are closely related.

4. Women's education has not received due care and attention from the planners and policymakers. The National Commission for Women has rightly pointed out that even after 50 years of independence, women continue to be treated as the single largest group of backward citizens of India. The role of women in overall development has not been fully understood nor has it been given its full weight in the struggle to eliminate poverty, hunger, injustice and inequality at the national level. Even when we are at the threshold of the 21st century, our society still discriminates against women in matters of their rights and privileges and prevents them from participating in the process of national and societal progress.

Various Committees and Commissions have been constituted before and after the independence to evaluate the progress in women's education and to suggest ways and means to enhance the status of women. The female literacy rate has gone up in the 20th century from 0.6 per cent in 1901 to 39.29 per cent in 1991 but India still possesses the largest number of illiterate women in the world. The female literacy index for the year 1991 shows that there are eight States which fall below the national average. The most populous States of the country, UP, MP, Bihar and Rajasthan fall in the category of most backward States as far as female literacy is concerned.

5. The prevailing cultural norms of gender behaviour and the perceived domestic and reproductive roles of women tend to affect the education of girls. Negative attitude towards sending girls to schools, restrictions on their mobility, early marriage, poverty and illiteracy of parents affect the girl's participation in education.

6. Women's political empowerment got a big boost with the Panchayati Raj Act of 1993 which gave them 30 per cent reservation in Village Panchayats, Block Samities and Zila Parishads throughout the country. The National Commission for Women was also set up in 1992 to act as a lobby for women's issues.

7. The educational system is the only institution which can counteract the deep foundations of inequality of sexes that are built in the minds of people through the socialization process. Education is the most important instrument of human resource development. Educational system should be used to revolutionize the traditional attitudes and inculcate new values of equality.

(a) Mention any two attributes of a modern woman.

(b) Why are women's participation and empowerment considered necessary?

(c) Which factors adversely affect the education of girls?

(d) What benefits did the women get with the enactment of the Panchayati Raj Act of 1993?

(e) By what process can we remove the sense of inequality of sexes from the minds of the people?

(f) The cultural norms of gender behaviour have affected the-

(A) education of girls (B) marriage of girls (C) respect of girls (D) None

(g) Which of the following is **not** one of the most populous states in our country?

(A) Haryana (B) Uttar Pradesh (C) Madhya Pradesh (D) Bihar

(h) The oppressive and conservative society of India doesn't let _____ use their rights.

(A) men (B) women (C) children (D) all of these

(i) Women's literacy has gone up in the 20th century by –

(A) 0.5 % (B) 0.6% (C) 0.7% (D) 1.6%

(j) Title to the given passage can be –

(A) Role of Women in Society (B) Women's Situation in Contemporary India
(C) Necessity of Women's Education (D) None of these

(ii)

1. For many years now the Governments have been promising the eradication of child labour in hazardous industries in India. But the truth is that despite all the rhetoric no Government so far has succeeded in eradicating this evil, nor has any been able to ensure compulsory primary education for every Indian child. Between 60 and 100 million children are still at work instead of going to school, and around 10 million are working in hazardous industries. India has the biggest child population of 380 million in the world; plus the largest number of children who are forced to earn a living.

2. We have many laws that ban child labour in hazardous industries. According to the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986, the employment of children below the age of 14 in hazardous

occupations has been strictly banned. But each state has different rules regarding the minimum age of employment. This makes the implementation of these laws difficult.

3. Also, there is no ban on child labour in nonhazardous occupations. The act applies to the organised or factory sector and not the unorganized or informal sector where most children find employment as cleaners, servants, porters, waiters, among other forms of unskilled work. Thus, child labour continues because the implementation of the existing law is lax.

4. There are industries, which have a special demand for child labour because of their nimble fingers, high level of concentration and capacity to work hard at abysmally low wages. The carpet industry in U.P. and Kashmir employs children to make hand-knotted carpets. There are 80,000 child workers in Jammu & Kashmir alone. In Kashmir because of the political unrest, children are forced to work while many schools are shut. Industries like gem cutting and polishing, pottery and glass want to remain competitive by employing children.

5. The truth is that it is poverty which is pushing children into the brutish labour market. We have 260 million people below the poverty line in India, a large number of them are women. Poor and especially woman-headed families have no option but to push their little ones in this hard life in hostile conditions, with no human or labour rights.

6. There is a lobby which argues that there is nothing wrong with children working as long as the environment for work is conducive to learning new skills but studies have shown that the children are made to do boring, repetitive and tedious jobs and are not taught new skills as they grow older. In these hellholes like the sweet shops of the old, there is no hope.

7. Children working in hazardous industries are prone to debilitating diseases which can cripple them for life. By sitting in cramped, damp and unhygienic spaces, their limbs become deformed for life. Inside matchstick, fireworks and glass industries they are victims of bronchial diseases and T.(B) Their mental and physical development is permanently impaired by long hours of work. Once trapped, they can't get out of this vicious circle of poverty. They remain uneducated and powerless. Finally, in later years, they too are compelled to send their own children to work. Child labour perpetuates its own nightmare.

8. If at all the Government was serious about granting children their rights, an intensive effort ought to have been made to implement the Supreme Court's Directive of 1997, which laid down punitive action against employers of child labour. Only compulsory primary education can eliminate child labour.

9. Surely, if 380 million children are given a better life and elementary education, India's human capital would be greatly enhanced.

- (a) On which two counts has the Government not succeeded so far in respect of children?
- (b) What makes the implementation of child labour law difficult?
- (c) Why do industries prefer child labour?
- (d) What are the adverse effects of hazardous industries on children? Given any two.
- (e) What does the Supreme Court's Directive of 1997 provide?
- (f) Find the word from the paragraph 1 which means the same as 'risky or dangerous'.
 - (A) hazardous
 - (B) ineffective
 - (C) amiable
 - (D) terrific
- (g) What will happen when we give 380 million children better elementary education?
 - (A) Human Capital would deteriorate.
 - (B) Human Capital would flourish.

(C) Human Capital would perish.

(D) No effect.

(h) What is the main reason for children doing hazardous works in industries?

(A) Pauperism

(B) Boredom

(C) Lack of interest in Education

(D) Mind-set of Parents

(i) How many child labourers are present in Jammu and Kashmir?

(A) 10000

(B) 20000

(C) 40000

(D) 80000

(j) Why can Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 **not** be implemented effectively?

(A) Each state has different executive bodies.

(B) Each state has different minimum age of employment.

(C) Each state uses different parameters for measurement.

(D) Each state is diverse.

2. Read the passage given below and make notes. Also, supply a suitable title to the passage.(4+1)

Colour Therapy is a complementary therapy for which there is evidence dating back thousands of years to the ancient cultures of Egypt, China and India. If we define it in simple terms, Colour is a light of varying wavelengths, thus each colour has its own particular wavelength and energy.

Colours contribute to energy. This energy may be motivational and encouraging. Each of the seven colours of the spectrum are associated with energy. The energy relating to each of the seven spectrum colours of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet, resonates with the energy of each of the seven main chakras/energy centres of the body. Colour therapy can help to re-balance and/or stimulate these energies by applying the appropriate colour to the body.

Red relates to the base chakra, orange the sacral chakra, yellow the solar plexus chakra, green the heart chakra, blue the throat chakra, indigo the brow chakra (sometimes referred to as the third eye) and violet relates to the crown chakra.

Colour is absorbed by the eyes, skin, skull, our ‘magnetic energy field’ or aura and the energy of colour affects us on all levels, that is to say, physical, spiritual and emotional. Every cell in the body needs light energy – thus colour energy has widespread effects on the whole body. There are many different ways of giving colour, including; Solarised Water, Light boxes/lamps with colour filters, colour silks and hands on healing using colour.

Colour therapy can be shown to help on a physical level, which is perhaps easier to quantify, however there are deeper issues around the colours on the psychological and spiritual levels. Our wellbeing is not, of course, purely a physical issue. Fortunately, many more practitioners, both orthodox and complementary, are now treating patients in a holistic manner.

Colour Therapy is a totally holistic and non-invasive therapy and, really, colour should be a part of our everyday life, not just something we experience for an hour or two with a therapist. Colour is all around us everywhere. This wonderful planet does not contain all the beautiful colours of the rainbow for no reason. Nothing on this earth is here just by chance; everything in nature is here for a purpose. Colour is no exception. All we need to do is to heighten our awareness of the energy of colour, absorb it and see how it can transform our lives.

SECTION – B: WRITING SKILLS**[15]**

3. **Answer any one of the following questions in about 100 words.** 5
- On the occasion of Environment day, the school has decided to organise a Fair. Nandita, the secretary of the environmental studies department, wants to call a meeting of the department students to discuss the details about the fair. Write a notice for the same.
 - You are the manager, Herbal India Ltd. Draft an advertisement for your company for the post of two Sales Executives. Specify your requirements, qualifications, experience, and personality of the candidates.
 - You are a member of the social awareness team of your school and you have to participate in an awareness drive regarding the importance of water. Prepare a poster highlighting the importance and ways of rainwater harvesting that can be implemented by the residents of the area.
4. **Answer any one of the following questions in about 100 words.** 5
- Write a paragraph on 'Importance of English Language'.
 - 5th June has been recognised as World Environment Day. Your school conducted various activities to commemorate the day. Write a report as Karan/Karuna.
5. **Answer any one of the following questions in about 100 words.** 5
- Write a letter to the Editor of The Times Newspaper, highlighting increasing technological addiction among the youth.
 - You are Prem/Parul, 16, TT Nagar, Bamla. You would like to apply for the post of the Marketing Manager in a reputable firm in Mumbai. Write a letter to the Public Relations Officer, Chaitanya Enterprises, Mumbai, applying for the job. Write the letter giving your biodata.

SECTION – C: GRAMMAR**[10]**

6. **Answer any ten questions in all, choosing two from each sub-part.** $1 \times 10 = 10$
- Fill in the blanks with correct form of verb.** $1 \times 2 = 2$
 - May God _____ you!
 (A) blesses
 (B) bless
 (C) blessed
 (D) will bless
 - Does he _____ to the temple everyday?
 (A) goes
 (B) gone
 (C) went
 (D) go
 - It _____ right now.
 (A) were raining
 (B) is raining
 (C) raining
 (D) rain
 - Change the narration.** $1 \times 2 = 2$
 - I said, "I am a student."
 (A) I said that I was a student.
 (B) I say that I was a student.
 (C) I said that I am a student.
 (D) I said that I had been a student.
 - I said, "He was my senior in school."
 (A) I said that he has been my senior in school.
 (B) I said that he was my senior in school.

- (C) I said that he was my senior in college.
 (D) I said that he had been my senior in school.
- (c) We said, "We all love our country."
 (A) We say that we all love our country.
 (B) We say that they all love our country.
 (C) We said that we all love our country.
 (D) We said that they all love our country.
- (iii) **Fill in the blanks with suitable articles.** 1 × 2 = 2
- (a) ___ U/university I am talking about is very reputed.
 (A) A
 (B) An
 (C) The
 (D) ×
- (b) I am a citizen of _____ India.
 (A) a
 (B) an
 (C) the
 (D) ×
- (c) An idle mind is _____ devil's workshop.
 (A) a
 (B) an
 (C) the
 (D) ×
- (iv) **Change the sentences in active voice into passive voice and vice versa.** 1 × 2 = 2
- (a) Ram eats apples.
 (A) Apples eat Ram.
 (B) Apples are eaten with Ram.
 (C) Apples are eaten by Ram.
 (D) None of these
- (b) The peon rang the bell.
 (A) The bell was rang by peon.
 (B) The bell was rung by the peon.
 (C) The peon rings the bell.
 (D) None of these
- (c) Who taught you this poem?
 (A) By whom were you teach this poem?
 (B) By whom did you teach the poem?
 (C) By whom were you taught this poem?
 (D) By whom was this poem taught to you?
- (v) **Fill in the blanks with suitable modals.** 1 × 2 = 2
- (a) You _____ quit smoking. You are going to get cancer.
 (A) should
 (B) might
 (C) must
 (D) would
- (b) You _____ drive fast. We might miss the flight.
 (A) must not
 (B) needn't
 (C) shouldn't
 (D) need to
- (c) _____ you like to have tea or coffee?
 (A) Would
 (B) Should
 (C) Must

(D) Might

SECTION – D: LITERATURE**[40]****[I. FLAMINGO (Prose)]****7. Read the passages given below and answer the questions that follow. Do any one.** 1×5=5

(i) When I presented my first doctoral dissertation in Italy, one of the professors said, "Scholars learn a lot of a certain subject, then they make a lot of false hypotheses, then they correct them, and at the end, they put the conclusions. You, on the contrary, told the story of your research. Even including your trials and errors." At the same time, he recognized I was right and went on to publish my dissertation as a book which meant he appreciated it.

- (a) Where did the speaker present his first doctoral dissertation?
 (A) Italy
 (B) Mexico
 (C) Spain
 (D) Greece
- (b) Name the chapter from which these lines have been taken.
 (A) The Interviewer
 (B) A Roadside Stand
 (C) The Last Lesson
 (D) The Interview
- (c) Who is the speaker?
 (A) Roland Barthes
 (B) Umberto Eco
 (C) V.S. Naipaul
 (D) Rudyard Kipling
- (d) Name the author.
 (A) Christopher Silvester
 (B) William Shakespeare
 (C) Charles Dickens
 (D) Frederick Forsyth
- (e) Who published speaker's dissertation as a book?
 (A) Teacher
 (B) Professor
 (C) Guide
 (D) Mentor
- (ii) Gandhi decided to go first to Muzzafarpur, which was enroute to Champaran, to obtain more complete information about conditions than Shukla was capable of imparting. He accordingly sent a telegram to Professor J.B. Kripalani, of the Arts College in Muzzafarpur, whom he had seen at Tagore's Shantiniketan school. The train arrived at midnight, 15 April 1917. Kripalani was waiting at the station with a large body of students. Gandhi stayed there for two days in the home of Professor Malkani, a teacher in a government school.
- (a) Name the chapter.
 (A) My Mother at Sixty-Six
 (B) Indigo
 (C) The Last Lesson
 (D) The Interview
- (b) Name the author.
 (A) Louis Fischer
 (B) William Shakespeare
 (C) Charles II
 (D) Louis XVI
- (c) J.B. Kriplani was professor in

- (A) Arts College, Champaran
 (B) Arts College, Lucknow
 (C) Medical College, Muzzafarpur
 (D) Arts College, Muzzafarpur
- (d) Gandhiji stayed at professor Malkani's house for-
 (A) one day
 (B) two days
 (C) three days
 (D) one week
- (e) Find the word in the passage, which means the same as 'on the way'.
 (A) arrived
 (B) enroute
 (C) capable
 (D) body
8. Answer any *one* of the following questions in about 100 words. 5
 (i) 'Educating children is the responsibility of the society.' Justify. (*The Last Lesson*)
 (ii) How did the swimming instructor build a swimmer out of Douglas? (*Deep Water*)
9. Answer any *four* of the following questions in about 20-30 words. $2 \times 4 = 8$
 (i) Why do bangle makers end up losing their eye – sight? (*Lost Spring*)
 (ii) How did the Crofter entertain the Rattrap seller? (*The Rattrap*)
 (iii) Give a brief character-sketch of Kothamangalam Subbu. (*Poets and Pancakes*)
 (iv) Why is Sophie attracted to Danny Casey? (*Going Places*)
 (v) How is the mother tongue important to a person? What does M Hamel say about this? (*The Last Lesson*)

[II. FLAMINGO (Poetry)]

10. Read the stanzas given below and answer the questions that follow. Do any *one*. $1 \times 5 = 5$

- (i) Driving from my parent's
 home to Cochin last Friday
 morning, I saw my mother,
 beside me,
 doze, open mouthed, her face
 ashen like that
 of a corpse and realized with pain
 that she was as old as she
 looked but soon put that thought away...
- (a) Name the poem.
 (A) My Mother at Sixty-Six
 (B) An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum
 (C) Keeping Quiet
 (D) Aunt Jennifer's Tigers
- (b) Name the poet.
 (A) Kamala Das
 (B) Stephen Spender
 (C) Pablo Neruda
 (D) Adrienne Rich
- (c) Choose the option that best applies to the given extract.
 (A) A conversation
 (B) A recollection
 (C) An argument
 (D) None of these
- (d) The poetic device in the line 'ashen like that of a corpse' is-
 (A) Simile
 (B) Oxymoron

- (C) Metaphor
(D) Allusion
- (e) A synonym to the word 'corpse' can be-
(A) Cadaver
(B) Carcass
(C) Both (A) and (B)
(D) None of these
- (ii) When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie
Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by.
The tigers in the panel that she made
Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.
- (a) Name the poem.
(A) My Mother at Sixty-Six
(B) An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum
(C) Keeping Quiet
(D) Aunt Jennifer's Tigers
- (b) Name the poet.
(A) Kamala Das
(B) Stephen Spender
(C) Pablo Neruda
(D) Adrienne Rich
- (c) What was Aunt Jennifer mastered by?
(A) Art
(B) Tiger
(C) Ordeals
(D) None of these
- (d) The idea conveyed through the last line is about –
(A) the immortality of human spirit
(B) the victory of good over bad
(C) the immortality of art
(D) unending joy from beauty
- (e) What does the word 'unafraid' mean?
(A) Terror
(B) Feared
(C) Courageous
(D) Scared

11. Answer any *two* of the following questions in about 50 words. $3 \times 2 = 6$

- (i) What kind of an imaginary and ideal world does the poet visualize? (*Keeping Quiet*)
(ii) Justify the title of the poem 'A Thing of Beauty'.
(iii) How can we say that marriage was a compromise for Aunt Jennifer? (*Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*)

[III. VISTAS (Supplementary Reader)]

12. Answer any *one* of the following questions in about 100 words. 5

- (i) How does Charley try to escape the world of fear, insecurity, war, worry and stress?
(*The Third Level*)
(ii) Why did the Tiger King decide to kill a hundred tigers? Describe the efforts he made to attain his target.
(*The Tiger King*)

13. Answer any *three* of the following questions in about 30-40 words. $2 \times 3 = 6$

- (i) Antarctica is the doorway to the past. Explain. (*Journey to the End of the Earth*)
(ii) What efforts did Dr. Sadao and Hana do in order to save the American Soldier? (*The Enemy*)
(iii) What is common between Derry and Mr. Lamb? (*On the Face of It*)
(iv) Why did landlord's man asked Bama's brother on which street he lived?
(*Memories of Childhood*)