

PRACTICE PAPER-2

ENGLISH ELECTIVE

(Subject Code : 520)

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Class XII Maximum

Marks : 80

SESSION : 2023- 24

General Instructions:

1. 15-minute prior reading time allotted for Q-paper reading.
2. The Question Paper contains four sections- READING, WRITING, LITERATURE and DRAMA.
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number in your answer sheet to indicate the option/s being attempted.

SECTION - A

READING

(12 marks)

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

(6 marks)

Odysseus and his twelve ships were caught in a storm that lasted for nine days and nights. At last, they saw land and left the others by a small island. Odysseus took one ship and set sail towards the land. When do they arrive on shore?

Odysseus and twelve men set off to explore a large cave. They waited inside the cave for the owner and, at nightfall, a huge one-eyed giant returned with his flock of sheep and goats. This Cyclops was very fierce and ate two of the men. He covered the entrance of the cave with a huge rock so that there was no escape.

Whilst the monster was out with his flock the day. Odysseus and his men found a huge staff of wood. They used their swords to sharpen and smooth the narrow end. Then, they put the point in the fire to harden it. In the evening, they gave the Monster enough of their wine to send him into a deep sleep.

When the Cyclops were asleep, they thrust the sharpened stake into the fire until it was red hot. They rammed the blazing point hard into the single eye of the giant

The Cyclops woke with a terrible scream. Maddened with pain, he pulled the burning stake from his eye and hurled it away.

In the morning the Cyclops, whose name Polyphenous, pushed away the rock to let out his flock and sat with his arms out to catch the men if they tried to escape. Odysseus bound the sheep together in threes and tied a man under each middle sheep. He hung on under the largest ram, Polyphenous counted each sheep as it went out, but never guessed that the men were beneath them.

On the basis of your reading of the above passage, answer any six out of eight questions briefly:-

- (a) Why did Odysseus and his men set sail towards land?
- (b) What happened when they met the one-eyed giant?
- (c) Who was the owner of the cave?
- (d) How did Odysseus and his men manage to escape in the end?
- (e) What did Odysseus and his men do during the day while the Cyclops was with his flock?
 - 1. Explored the surroundings
 - 2. Prepared a plan to escape
 - 3. Slept to conserve energy
 - 4. Played games to pass the time
- (f) What did Odysseus and his men use to blind the Cyclops?
 - 1. Swords
 - 2. Magic spells
 - 3. Poisonous berries
 - 4. A red-hot sharpened stake
- (g) Which word is a synonym for "thrust" in the context of the passage?
 - 1. Withdraw
 - 2. Jab
 - 3. Retreat
 - 4. Surrender
- (h) What is the antonym for "hardened" as used in the passage?
 - 1. Softened
 - 2. Strengthened
 - 3. Solidified
 - 4. Toughened

Q 2. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

(6 marks)

We do not know

whether people would stay blind and deaf to
words of love.

We do not know

if a historian would live to pen down events in the hair of time

We do not know

whether the word 'freedom' would be written

on the pages of history alone We do not know if one day we would have no more questions to
ask. Yet then.

We will live to dream of a beautiful world We will give our sweat and tears, for the world
tomorrow,

and leave behind at least, a dream for those to follow.

(a) What would happen if all the people turned blind and deaf?

(b) What would happen if no historian was alive?

(c) Where would the word 'freedom' exist?

(d) What are the hopes and dreams of the poet?

(e) What is the poet's attitude towards the future in the last stanza?

1. Pessimistic
2. Optimistic
3. Uncertain
4. Indifferent

(f) What is the poet uncertain about in the poem?

1. The power of words of love
2. Whether people will be blind and deaf to words of love
3. The role of historians in documenting events
4. The certainty of the word 'freedom' in history

(g) According to the poem, what is the uncertainty about the historian?

1. Whether historians will write about the future
2. If historians will document events in the hair of time
3. Whether historians will be blind and deaf
4. The certainty of the word 'freedom' in historical records

(h) What is the central theme of the poem?

1. Uncertainty about the future
2. The power of words of love
3. The role of historians in documenting events

4. The possibility of a world without questions

SECTION-B

WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR

(2X6=12 marks)

Q 3. Attempt any two out of the following three questions in 100-120 words. (1×6=6 marks)

- (a) Write a letter to the Superintendent of Police of your district complaining about poor patrolling by the police in your area resulting in petty crimes. Sign yourself as ABC.
- (b) Write a paragraph in 80 - 100 words on the topic, 'The Role of Social Media in 21st century' .
- (c) You are Vikas/Vinita of Gandhi Sr. Sec. School, Hisar. You visited a Science Exhibition organised by the city school recently. Write a brief report in 100-125 words for your school magazine on what you liked about the exhibits and the special features of the exhibition.

Q4. Rewrite the sentences according to the instructions given:

(1×6=6 marks)

- (a) Convert the following sentences from direct to indirect speech:

She said, "I will come to the party."

- (b) Change the voice of the sentence:

They have built a new bridge across the river.

- (c) Fill in the blanks with appropriate modals:

Students _____ not be allowed to use mobile phones during the exam

- (d) Identify and correct the errors in the following sentences:

Each of the books on the shelf are interesting.

- (e) Complete the following conditional sentences:

Unless you study hard, _____.

- (f) Complete the following sentences with the appropriate conjunctions:

I would like coffee _____ tea.

SECTION-C

LITERATURE (Short Stories, Poetry and Non-fiction)

Q 5. Choose any one extract and give the answer the questions that follow: (1x5=5 marks)

In Xanadu did Kubla Khan

A stately pleasure-dome decree:

Where Alph, the sacred river, ran

Through caverns measureless to man

Down to a sunless sea.

So twice five miles of fertile ground

With walls and towers were girdled round:

And there were gardens bright with sinuous rills,

Where blossomed many an incense-bearing tree;

And here were forests ancient as the hills,

Enfolding sunny spots of greenery.

1. What is Xandu?
2. What do you understand by measureless to man?
3. Why are gardens bright with sinuous rills?
4. Which spots of greenery were trapped by forests ancient?
5. What is described as ancient as the hills in the poem?
 - a) Gardens
 - b) Forests
 - c) Rivers
 - d) Towers

OR

One day you look up and see one of them

eyeless, silent, a zigzag sky showing

through the knocked-out clockwork, after a riot,

a peace-march time bomb, or a precise act

Of nature in a night of lightnings.

1. Who are eyeless, silent and zig-zag sky showing?
2. How can one, look up the misdemeanants?
3. What is Zig-Zag sky?
4. What is a peace march time bomb?
5. What is mentioned as a possible cause of the disturbance in the sky?
 - a) A riot
 - b) A peace march
 - c) A precise act of nature
 - d) A political protest

Q 6. Choose any one extract and answer the questions that follow (1X5=5 marks)

The evening deepened in the avenue. The white of two letters in her lap grew indistinct. One was to Harry; the other was to her father. Ernest had been her favourite but she liked Harry too. Her father was becoming old lately, she noticed; he would miss her. Sometimes he could be very nice. Not long before, when she had been laid up for a day, he had read her out a ghost story and made toast for her at the fire. Another day, when their mother was alive, they had all gone for a picnic to the Hill of Howth. She remembered her father putting on her mother's bonnet to make the children laugh.

1. How skilfully, the author has exhibited the effect of evening?
2. Why does Miss Hill (Eveline as pseudonym) think in a moment, she has decided to elope with her lover, her father's becoming old?
3. Do you think there are sweet memories of father in the heart of Miss Hill (Eveline)??
4. What is the similarity in "Eveline" and "Evening" here.
5. What emotion does Eveline feel towards her father based on the events mentioned in the story?
 - a. Love and nostalgia
 - b. Fear and resentment
 - c. Indifference
 - d. Disgust and annoyance

OR

Something moist begins to glisten in Xiao Ye's eyes. Leaving his mother behind and without a backward glance, he starts to run away. He trips. One moment he is in the air, taking flight like a bird, another and he has dropped to the ground with a heavy thud. Tao Ying rushes over to lend a hand but just as she is about to reach him Xiao Ye has picked himself up and is off again. Tao Ying stops in her tracks. If she gives chase Xiao Ye will only keep falling. Watching her son's

vanishing silhouette, her heart begins to break: Xiao Ye, aren't you going to look back at your mother?

1. Which event had caused a blow upon emotion for Xiao Ye?
2. What at conation side of Xiao Ye, do you see as reaction?
3. Why does Tao Ying restrict her from chase to Xiao Ye?
4. What causes impatience to Tao Ying?
5. What does Xiao Ye's mother, Tao Ying, feel as she watches her son's vanishing silhouette?
 - (a) Anger
 - (b) Happiness
 - (c) Heartbreak
 - (d) Indifference

Q 7. Answer any two out of the following three questions in 120-150 Words. (2x5=10 marks)

- (a) Selling dreams was her only trade, yet it gave Frau Frieda gainful employment for a numbe of years. Elaborate.
- (b) 'Pablo Neruda made the desire to eat contagious.' Explain.
- (c) Which things do reveal that Captain Hagberd was emotionally broken down?

Q-8 Answer any four out of the following five questions in 30-40 Words (2x4=8 marks)

- (a) What are the things associated with the temporal and what are associated with the eternal?
- (b) Who are miniature creatures?
- (c) Why does Milton feel it is not necessary to put up a monument in stone for Shakespeare?
- (d) What does the title "The Human Abstract" refer to?
- (e) Why are the shadows formed?

SECTION D

DRAMA

Q 9. Answer any one out of the following questions in 120-150 Words (1x5=5 marks)

- (a) Why did Prakriti become intoxicated at the words of the Bhikshu?
- (b) How did the mother scold Prakriti when she did not return from school on time?

Q 10. Answer any one out of the following questions in 120-150 Words (1x5=5 marks)

- (a) Who was Malini and what was she suffering from?
- (b) What challenges did Manjula face after the birth of Malini in her family?

Q-11 Answer any four out of the following six questions in 30-40 Words (2x4=8 marks)

- (a) How was the relationship between Manjula's sister, Malini with Pramod?
- (b) Why did the girl Prakriti in the drama says she is reborn?

- (c) How genuine is the love that Manjula expresses for her sister?
- (d) What truth was revealed by the Buddhist monk to the girl Prakriti?
- (e) Which line did Manjula mention that a pundit had started?
- (f) "What are you afraid of, mother"? Why did Prakriti say these words to her mother?

Q-12 Answer the questions based on poetic devices and figure of speech. (1X4=4 marks)

- (a) Which figure of speech is in the sentence?

"Her smile was as bright as the morning sun."

- (b) Identify a metaphor in the following line and explain its meaning.

"Her voice was a sweet melody that filled the room."

- (c) What poetic device is used in the following line?

"The darkness swallowed the last remnants of daylight."

- (a) Personification
 - (b) Simile
 - (c) Hyperbole
 - (d) Metaphor
- (d) Define Simile.