



INDIAN SCHOOL DARSAIT
SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER (2) – SEPTEMBER, 2017
ENGLISH CORE



Class: XI

Max. Marks: 80
Time: 3 hrs

General Instructions:

- (i) All the sections are compulsory.
- (ii) Read the instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
- (iii) Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.
- (iv) Attempt all questions of a section without mixing them with another section.

Section A –Reading (20)

1 Read the following passage carefully :

1. Today there is a lot of talk about the environment. All nations are coming to an agreement to save planet earth. Like we pollute the earth, we pollute the water; we also pollute the subtle environment through our negative feelings and emotions. We have become a victim of our environment. We are not in control of our mind. We hear a lot about other things in life but we spend very little time to hear ourselves. How to handle our mind? How to be in the present moment? How to be happy and grateful? This we have not learnt. This is the most unfortunate thing. Then, what is the solution? This is where we miss a very fundamental principle that governs our environment, our mind, our emotions and our life in general.
2. Our body has the capacity to sustain much longer the vibration of bliss and peace than it does negative emotions because positivity is in the centre of our existence. Just like in the structure of atom, protons, and neutrons are in the centre of the atom and electrons are only the periphery, same is with our lives; the centre core of our existence is bliss, positivity and joy, but it is surrounded by a cloud of negative ions. Through the help of the breath we can easily get over negative emotions in a short period of time. Through meditation and certain breathing techniques, we can clear this negative cloud.
3. This life has so much to offer you. You can see this once you take some time off, rejuvenating the soul. Your soul is hungry for a smile from you. If you could give this, you feel energized the whole year and nothing, whatsoever, can take the smile away from you.
4. Everyone wants to be successful in life. But without knowing what success is, you want to be successful. What is the sign of success? Just having a lot of money, is that success? Why do you think money means success? Because money gives you freedom so that you can do whatever you want. You may have a big bank balance, but you have stomachaches, ulcers, you may have to go for bypass surgery; can't eat this, can't do this, can't do that. We spend half our health to gain wealth and spend half of our wealth to gain back the health. Is this success? It is very bad mathematics.
5. Look at all those who claim to be successful- are they successful? No, they are miserable. Then, what is the sign of success? It is confidence, compassion, generosity, and a smile that none can snatch away, being really happy and being able

to be more free. These are the signs of a successful person.

6. Take some time off to look a little deeper into yourself and calm the mind down. Thus, erasing all the impressions that we are carrying in our minds and experience the presence, the divine that is the very core of our existence. This is feeling the presence!

1.1 Based on your reading of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given choices. 1x6=6

- (a) How do we pollute our environment?
 - (i) by becoming victims to our environment
 - (ii) by not listening to indications about ourselves
 - (iii) through our negative thoughts and feelings
 - (iv) by not being in control of our mind

- (b) How can we get rid of our negative emotions?
 - (i) By keeping longer the vibrations of bliss
 - (ii) Through meditation and using some breathing techniques
 - (iii) By ignoring clouds
 - (iv) By preserving the protons and neutrons

- (c) In para 2, 'positivity' has been compared to _____.
 - (i) Protons and neutrons
 - (ii) Electrons
 - (iii) Cloud of ions
 - (iv) Atom

- (d) We can feel the presence of the divine at the core of our existence if we _____.
 - (i) Are healthy
 - (ii) Take time off
 - (iii) Can erase the impressions in our minds
 - (iv) Meditate

- (e) 'Sustain' in paragraph 2 means _____.
 - (i) Keep alive
 - (ii) Experience
 - (iii) Remember
 - (iv) Create

- (f) 'Erase' in paragraph 6 means _____.
 - (i) Cover
 - (ii) Wipe off
 - (iii) Hide
 - (iv) Destroy

1.2 Answer these questions briefly: 1x6=6

- (a) What, according to the author is 'bad mathematics'?
- (b) What are the signs of a successful person?
- (c) What can happen if you can calm the mind down?
- (d) What does the author mean by saying "positivity is in the centre of our existence"?

(e) Find out the word which means the same as ‘to make someone feel or look younger and more lively’.(para3)

(f) Find out the word which means the same as ‘edge’.(para 2)

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

1. “Don’t solve people’s problems, just identify them. The people will solve their problems better than you would.”
2. Sounds simple. It isn’t. Which perhaps explains the well-worn image of India-outstretched hands lamenting the lack of *sarkari* charity decades after independence. Be it an epidemic, calamity or a man-made disaster, dowry deaths or just taps running dry, we are used to seeing an India buckling under, unable to get up and be counted.
3. But there is another India, the Other India, found in random pockets. An India where people have shrugged off their sloth and picked up the shovel to make their villages, towns and cities better places, an India that Gandhi would have been proud of.
4. Nearly two decades back, two young doctors, Anilbhai and Lataben Desai, who had been practicing in New York for almost five years, decided to return home and pitch their tents in Jhagadia town in Gujarat’s Bharuch district. It was in keeping with the vow they had taken as medical students in Ahmedabad that they would serve the poor in their own country. The inspirations came from the teachings of Ramakrishna Paramhansa and Swami Vivekananda. Living up to the adage “Let Life Be An Offering”, Anilbhai, 58 and Lataben, 57 have turned Jhagadia and its surrounding areas into oases of good health care through their voluntary body SEWA (Society Education Welfare Action) - Rural. The results are very visible. The 40-odd village are almost cataract-free when the condition affects 13 of every 1,000 people elsewhere in India. Infant mortality has come down to 42 (national average: 65) from 172 in 1980, when the Desai began work in the region, while the birthrate has come down from 38 to 20 per 1,000. Impressed, the State Government handed over the task of running the primary health care centre for Jhagadia region to SEWA – Rural in 1989, perhaps the only instance of the government asking an NGO to manage the rural health care on its behalf. Poor patients, mostly tribals from the 1,000- odd villages in the region, through the 75-bed, well-equipped hospital of SEWA – Rural from as far as 300 km away. Skipping government hospitals close to them, they come to Jhagadia simply because they have faith in the Desais.
5. Take education and unemployment. Shrinath Kalbag in Pabal, Maharashtra, has helped hundreds of dropouts to be economically independent. He has proved you don’t need multi-core universities, only an understanding of what is required by the villagers. And contrary to what government would have us believe, people are not looking for any largesse. “These did not want anything free”, says Kalbag.
6. Earlier this year, pockets of Gujarat remained untouched by the drought because people like Mansukh Suvagiya and Mathur Savani taught villagers that it costs little to insure themselves against the uncertainties of nature.
7. The failure of the government’s development efforts clearly has more to do with systems and less with resources. As T. Chandrashekhar, the Municipal Commissioner, who led the transformation of Thane from urban chaos to a model township, points out, “The current system underestimates the community’s ability to contribute. Finance is not the issue. More important is participation for them to see that things can be changed.”
8. Sadly, replications of successful models are few and far between. Often while there is a need for group effort, individuals are not there. Probably, the idea of dealing with vested interests and the effort involved is discouraging.

- a) Make notes on the passage using recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Give a suitable title to your notes. 5
- b) Write a summary of the passage based on your notes in about 80 words. 3

Section B-Writing & Grammar(30)

3. You are Jona, Sports Secretary. Write a notice about the practice schedule for the forthcoming Inter-school Cricket Tournament.(50 words) 4

OR

You want to sell your car. Draft a suitable advertisement to this effect (50 words)

4. Write a letter to the Editor of The Deccan Herald Bangalore highlighting the issue of increasing crime in your locality. Write the letter in about 150 words. 6

OR

Write a letter to Melody Musical Instruments LLC, Delhi placing an order for musical instruments required for your school. You are the Finance Manager of Springdale Public School, Agar Nagar, Noida.

5. Write an article on the topic ‘Are senior citizens leading a safe, happy and healthy life.’ You are Aradhya / Aryan. (150-200 words) 10

OR

Prepare a speech on ‘the Importance of Discipline’ to be delivered in the morning assembly of your school.

6. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and correction in your answer sheet: 1/2x6=3

	Incorrect	Correct
The most important thing was that we	a) _____	_____
should have freedom of thought. This is not so easy	b) _____	_____
as it sounds, for everyone likes to have their	c) _____	_____
freedom for himself, and is not ready	d) _____	_____
to give it to others when we express	e) _____	_____
different opinions. This is particularly a case	f) _____	_____
when differences of opinion arise on such		
important matters, as religion or politics.		

7. Complete the following passage by filling in the blanks with suitable words. 1/2x6=3

Yoga (a)----- good for health. We may attend Yoga classes early (b)----- the morning. We can take a mat (c)----- us and follow the demo given by the instructor. Pranayama (d)----- a very effective exercise. It (e)----- obstruction in the respiratory organs. The patient, after regular practice (f)----- relieved.

8. Rearrange the words in each set to make meaningful sentences: 1x4=4

- i) reeling under/ a tsunami / at present/ the blow/ is/ of / Japan
- ii) the second world war/ is/ as great as/ it/ a catastrophe
- iii) encouragement/seem/ and/ deep/ inspiration/ gone/ to have/ temple/into / the

- construction//the/of
 iv) Japanese bush that/ in gardens and yards/ is grown/Japonica / is a

Section C -Literature & Long Reading Text(30)

9.	The sea holiday Was her past, mine is her laughter. Both wry With the laboured ease of loss.	1x3=3
	(a) In what sense is the sea holiday mother's past?	
	(b) Explain 'Both wry with the laboured ease of loss.'	
	(c) Name the poet and the poem .	
10.	Answer any three of the following questions in 30-40 words each.	3x3=9
	(a) Why did the narrator finally decide to forget the Address?	
	(b) Why was Tut's body buried along with gilded treasures?	
	(c) How does Aram establish that his uncle Khosrove had a crazy streak?	
	(d) Why were people surprised to see Ranga after his homecoming?	
11.	Answer the following question in 120-150 words.	6
	(a) Discuss the significance of the title 'We're not Afraid to Die- If we can all be together'.	
	OR	
	(b) How did Einstein succeed in leaving school?	
12.	Answer the following questions in about 120 words each.	2x6=12
	(a) Bring out the humour in the elaborate preparations conducted by the ghost in the desperate bid to tame the twins.	
	(b) Elaborate the ghost's desire to befriend another ghost.	