

COMMON PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION 2017-2018

ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE

CLASS X

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

I. The question paper is divided into three sections

Section A – Reading 20 Marks

Section B – Writing & Grammar 30 Marks

Section C – Literature 30 Marks

II. All questions are compulsory

III. You may attempt any section at a time.

IV. All the questions of that particular section must be answered in the correct order.

Section A – Reading (20 Marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully.

Perhaps the environmental crisis at hand has not yet touched your life, but the time is shortly to come. Recent NASA reports of a 60% loss of ozone over the Arctic provide an explanation for increased severity in the world's weather patterns which has only begun to affect whether directly or indirectly. The social, political and economic implications are difficult to imagine as our ozone layer continues to thin, forests disappear and desertification is occurring at an alarming rate.

Today, almost one million acres of forest disappear each week. This alarming rate of deforestation is forcing many world economies to rethink their business and manufacturing practices. A seventy-foot tree cut for its lumber takes 65 years to replace. A seventy-foot bamboo cut for the market can be replaced in less than three months and bamboo is officially recognized as the world's fastest growing plant. Some species can grow three feet each day.

Driven by the constantly growing demand for environmentally friendly products, bamboo is gaining momentum as a reliable source of high quality and durable green building material over traditional non-sustainable products. Bamboo is known to produce 30% more oxygen than a hardwood forest of comparable size, while preventing erosion, restoring soil, providing sweet edible shoots and removing toxins from contaminated soil. Ecologists tout bamboo as a logical, renewable source of building material. Many promote bamboo planting for erosion

prevention, and to reverse the effect of global warming. Being a grass, bamboo regenerates without replanting after harvesting.

Traditional hardwood lumber trees such as oak, maple, and birch take 40-50 years to regenerate. In the meantime, there is less oxygen produced, less carbon dioxide consumed and more soil runoff in the spot where those trees were harvested – all producing negative environmental effects. Our planet is suffering from resource depletion, habitat loss, extinction of species and ecosystem pollution. The choice of bamboo as a building material will greatly help reverse those negative trends.

1.1. Attempt any eight of the following questions on the basis of the passage you have read. (1x8=8 Marks)

- a. According to NASA reports, there has been a loss of _____ over the Arctic.
- b. Use of bamboo is gaining momentum because _____.
- c. The greatest advantage of bamboo is that _____.
- d. Traditional hardwood lumber trees _____.
- e. 'More soil runoff in the spot' means _____.
- f. The antonym of the word 'reliable' is _____.
- g. The problems troubling the earth are _____.
- h. The author is promoting _____.
- i. Traditional hardwood trees take _____ to regenerate.

2. Read the following passage carefully.

Long, long ago, in a big forest, there were many trees. Among the cluster of trees, there was a very tall pine tree. He was so tall that he could talk to the stars in the sky. He could easily look over the heads of the other trees. One day late in the evening, the pine tree saw a ragged, skinny girl approaching him. He could see her only because of his height. The girl was in tears. The pine tree bent as much as he could and asked her, "What is the matter? Why are you crying?"

The little girl, still sobbing, replied, "I was gathering flowers for a garland offer to goddess Durga, who I believe, would help my parents to overcome their poverty and I have lost my way." The pine tree said to the little girl, "It is late in the evening. It will not be possible for you to return to your house, which is at the other end of the forest. Sleep for the night at this place." The pine tree pointed to an open cave-like place under him. The little girl was frightened of wild animals. The girl quickly crept into the cave-like place. The pine tree was happy and pleased with himself. He stood like a soldier guarding the place.

The little girl woke up in the morning and was amazed to see the pine tree standing guard outside the cave. Then her gaze travelled the heap of flowers that she had gathered the previous night. The flowers lay withering on the ground. The pine tree understood what was going on in the girl's mind. He wrapped his branches around the nearby flower trees and shook them gently. The little girl's eyes brightened. But a great surprise awaited her. The pine tree brought out a bag full of gold coins which had been lying for years in the hole in its trunk and gave it to the girl. With teary eyes she thanked her benefactor and went away.

2.1. On the basis of your reading of the above passage, answer the following questions briefly. (2x4=8 Marks)

- a. Why was the girl crying?
- b. Where did the pine tree want the little girl to sleep for the night?
- c. Why was the girl disappointed when she looked at the flowers?
- d. How did the pine tree make her happy?
- e. What lesson does the story teach us?

2.2. Fill in any two of the following blanks. (1x2=2 Marks)

- a. The girl was collecting flowers for _____
- b. The girl was amazed to see _____
- c. The great surprise that awaited the girl was _____

2.3. Attempt any two. Find out the words that mean the same as the following. (1x2=2 Marks)

- a. group (Paragraph 1)
- b. coming close (Paragraph 1)
- c. drying (Paragraph 3)

Section B – Writing & Grammar (30 Marks)

3. You are Katik / Kartika of 59 Indrapuram, Meerut. The sanitary condition of your community is appalling and there are fears of an outbreak of communicable diseases. Write a letter to the chairman of your local government area, drawing his attention to the problem and suggesting ways of dealing with it, in about 120 words. (8 Marks)

OR

You are Amit/Amita. You happened to take part in a medical camp organized by the Health Club of your school in a remote village near Delhi. You were surprised to find that most of the people there had no awareness of basic health and hygiene. As a concerned citizen you decide to take up their cause and organize camps to make the villagers aware of the importance of hygiene. Taking ideas from the given notes, write a letter to the editor of a newspaper, in about 120 words, expressing your concern and encouraging youngsters to take part in such campaigns. (8 Marks)

4. Write a story in about 200-250 words based on the input given below. (10 Marks)

“It’s going to be a long and boring night”, Sandhya thought to herself. Her parents had gone for a wedding dinner at some fancy hotel. She picked up her ‘Alice in Wonderland’ story book and began reading.....

OR

There was a young girl who wished to see the world. She wanted to observe new things. She told her mother about her wish. Her mother promised that they would go to a hill station. Next Sunday they set out on their journey. On their way.....

5. Read the dialogue given below and complete the paragraph. (1x4=4 Marks)

- Mother : What are you doing in the kitchen?
Reena : I am busy helping Ramya.
Mother : What work does Ramya have there?
Reena : She is eating the jalebis that you made for the guests.

Mother was waiting for the guests. Suddenly she heard a noise in the kitchen. She called out to her daughter Reena and asked her (a) _____. Reena put her head out of the door and said that (b) _____. Mother wondered (c) _____. Reena then replied that (d) _____.

6. Rearrange any four of the following words/ phrases to form meaningful sentences. (1x4=4 Marks)

- standing/ woman/ doorway/ a/ the/ in/ was
- young/ dressed/ in red/ and/ was/ she/ was
- was/ for/ friend/ she/ her/ waiting
- is its/ remarkable feature/ preciousness/ the most/ of time
- slip away/ not/ we/ allow/ must/ time to/ such precious

7. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line against which a number is given. Write any five of the incorrect words and the correction against the correct number. (1x4=4 Marks)

- Deepak Parekh is widely known
- as a senior statesmen of Indian business.
 - He is respecting not just for his financial
 - acumen but also for her integrity and unflinching
 - moral courage. He has spoke out against corruption
 - and communalism at a time that many other leading business persons chose to steer clear of such subjects.

Section C – Literature & Extended Reading (30 Marks)

8. Read the following extract and answer the questions. (1x4=4 Marks)

“It is pink with speckles. I have looked at it so long
I think it is a part of my heart. But it flickers.
Faces and darkness separate us over and over”

- What is pink with speckles?
- When does it flicker?
- Who is ‘us’ in the last line?
- What does the word ‘speckles’ mean?

OR

“And truly I was afraid, I was most afraid, But even so, honoured still more
That he should seek my hospitability
From out the dark door of the secret earth.”

- i. Who was the speaker afraid of? Why?
- ii. What do we come to know about the speaker's character from these lines?
- iii. What told him that he was afraid?
- iv. Why did he feel honoured?

9. Answer any four of the following questions in 30-40 words each. (8 Marks)

- a. What qualities of Jacopo and Nicola impressed the author? How did they help him?
- b. Why did the sailors hail the albatross in the name of God?
- c. What impression do you form of the postmaster after reading the story 'The Letter'?
- d. Why does Shakespeare refer to time as being sluttish?
- e. What was Michael's theory about how Sebastian Schultz had entered the game?

10. Answer the following question in 100-120 words. (8 Marks)

Bring out the irony in the drama 'The Dear Departed'.

OR

Describe the dreams that scared Calpurnia.

11. Answer the following question in 150-200 words. (10 Marks)

Describe the events that took place on Good Friday.

OR

What impression do you form of Anne's father, Otto Frank, from the entries in Anne's diary?