

CLASS X
ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (CODE 184)
SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER 2019-20

Time : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

- (i) The question paper is divided into three sections.

Section A :	Reading	20 marks
Section B :	Writing and Grammar	30 marks
Section C :	Literature	30 marks

- (ii) All questions are compulsory.
 (iii) You may attempt any section at a time.
 (iv) All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.

SECTION A : READING

20

- Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: [8]
- One of the greatest advances in modern technology has been the invention of computers. They are widely used in industries and in universities. Now there is hardly any sphere of human life where computers have not been pressed into the service of man. We are heading fast towards the day when a computer will be as much part of man's daily life as a telephone or a calculator
 - Computers are capable of doing extremely complicated work in all branches of learning. They can solve the most complex mathematical problems or put thousands of unrelated facts in order. These machines can be put to varied uses. For instance, they can provide information on the best way to prevent traffic jams. This whole process by which machines can be used to work for us has been called 'automation'. In the future automation may enable human beings to enjoy more leisure than they do today. The coming of automation is bound to have important social consequences.
 - Some years ago an expert on automation, Sir Leon Bagrit, pointed out that it was a mistake to believe that these machines could 'think'. There is no possibility that human beings will be "controlled by machines". Though computers are capable of learning from their mistakes and improving on their performance, they need detailed instructions from human beings to operate. They can never, as it were, lead independent lives or "rule the world" by making decisions of their own.
 - Sir Leon said that in the future, computers would be developed which would be small enough to carry in the pocket. Ordinary people would then be able to use them to obtain valuable information. Computers could be plugged into a national network and be used like radios. For instance, people going on holiday could be informed about weather conditions. Car drivers can be given alternative routes when there are traffic jams. It will also be possible to make tiny translating machines. This will enable people who do not share a common language to talk to each other without any difficulty or to read foreign publications.

1.1 Attempt any eight of the following questions :

[1 × 8 = 8]

- Computers need detailed instructions from to operate.
 - other computers
 - machines
 - human beings
- What complicated work are computers capable of doing?

- (a) solve complex mathematical problems
 - (b) cooking food
 - (c) none of these
- (3) How can the ordinary people get benefit by using computers?
- (4) The process by which machines can be used to work for us is called
- (a) formation
 - (b) automation
 - (c) oscillation
- (5) What is the greatest advancement in modern technology?
- (a) invention of light
 - (b) invention of paper
 - (c) invention of computers
- (6) How can computers help people going on holiday?
- (7) What was the prediction of Sir Leon about computers in the future?
- (8) How would computers as translating machines help people?
- (9) Write one use of computers.

- Q2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: [12]
1. Why does a person become overconfident? The reason lies in over assessment of his capabilities. Sometimes people over-assess their competence and jump into situations that are beyond their control.
 2. Napoleon Bonaparte who became Emperor of France would say that the word ‘impossible’ was common only amongst fools. The overconfident Napoleon invaded Russia in the winter of 1812. This proved to be a big disaster
 3. Overconfidence generally leads people into misadventures, endangering their chances in life. It is wisely said that any achievement is a result of two factors—one’s personal planning and support from the external world. People, take into account only their planning, generally ignoring external factors. As a result, they are unable to foresee future developments. Hence, a great risk of failure.
 4. Then there is the question: How can one manage overconfidence? The formula is very simple. Before taking a decision, discuss the matter with other informed people with an objective mind and when it is proved that you are about to go off the path, accept reality and say without delay, “I was wrong”.
 5. Overconfidence is a flaw characterising people who lack the virtue of modesty. Modesty makes you a realist; you become a person who is cut down to size. People of this kind become very cautious; before taking action they assess the whole situation. They adopt a realistic approach.
 6. Overconfident people live within their own thoughts. They know themselves but they are unaware of others. Living inside their own cell they are unable to make use of the experiences of others. This kind of habit is highly damaging to all concerned.
 7. There is a saying that the young man sees the rule and the old man sees the exception. With a slight change, I would like to say that the overconfident person sees the rule and the confident person sees the exception. Overconfident people are always at risk. It is said that taking risk is good, but it must be well calculated otherwise it becomes very dangerous.

2.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer any four of the following questions in 30-40 words each:

[2 × 4 = 8]

- (a) Is overconfidence a flaw in one’s character?
- (b) To what will you attribute Napoleon’s failure in Russia? Why?
- (c) How can one avoid the risk of failure?
- (d) Why should people be ‘cut down to size’?
- (e) When do, sometimes, situations get out of control?

2.2 On the basis of your reading of the passage, fill in any two of the following blanks with appropriate words/phrases: [1 × 2 = 2]

- (a) Overconfident people are always at _____
 (b) Overconfident people live within their own _____
 (c) Overconfidence leads people into _____

2.3 Find out the words that mean the same as under. Attempt any two of the following : [1 × 2 = 2]

- (1) putting someone at risk / at risk (paragraph 3)
 (a) endangering
 (b) external
 (c) ignoring
- (2) a sudden accident that causes damage to life (paragraph 2)
 (a) impossible
 (b) disaster
 (c) none of these
- (3) sensible (paragraph 5)
 (a) flaw
 (b) modesty
 (c) realistic

SECTION B : WRITING AND GRAMMAR

30

- Q3. Influence of friends can have both positive and negative impact on the students. Write an article in 100-150 words discussing how we can make it more positive and productive. [8]

OR

You are Apoorva / Arpit. You bought a refrigerator from Ganesh Electronics and Electricals, Gandhi Marg, Nagpur. It does not function properly. Write a letter to the Sales Manager of the shop, complaining about the defect and asking for immediate replacement or repair, as necessary. (100-150 words)

- Q4. Write a story in about 150-200 words based on the input given below: [10]
 He opened the factory door — peeped inside — some light — last shift over — could be thieves

OR

They started a trek to the peak of mountain — supposed to be a very hard journey — a five-day long trek — when they started

- Q5. Fill in any four of the following blanks choosing the most appropriate options from the ones given below. Write the answers in your answer sheet against the correct blank numbers. [1 × 4 = 4]

Reading a novel or a short story (a) _____ the second language could dramatically (b) _____ physiological responses to emotions such (c) _____ smiling (d) _____ frowning. When we read a novel or short story, we literally replicate the physiological processes (e) _____ emotions of the characters.

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| (a) | (i) of | (ii) in | (iii) from | (iv) at |
| (b) | (i) reduce | (ii) reduces | (iii) reduced | (iv) reducing |
| (c) | (i) like | (ii) similar to | (iii) as | (iv) alike |
| (d) | (i) or | (ii) from | (iii) of | (iv) as |
| (e) | (i) and | (ii) or | (iii) but | (iv) if |

- Q6. In the following passage, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing words in any four sentences of the given paragraph, along with the words that come before and the words that come after

it in the space provided.

4

		Before	Missing Word	After
A company cash was kept a safe was owned by three partners who not trust other. They decided to put locks the door and distributed the keys among themselves.	(a)	_____	_____	_____
	(b)	_____	_____	_____
	(c)	_____	_____	_____
	(d)	_____	_____	_____
	(e)	_____	_____	_____

Q7. Rearrange any four of the following word clusters to make meaningful sentences.

4

- (a) very impatient / makes / an energetic man / slow progress
 (b) to the / there are / culprit / many clues / real / pointing
 (c) the / find / murderer / who / real / out / is
 (d) can be / two / blamed / persons / the murder / for
 (e) read / I / the / the / in / paper / that / had / been / thief / caught

SECTION C : LITERATURE

30

Q8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

[1 × 4 = 4]

No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite. Even in the grimmest times in prison, when my comrades and I were pushed to our limits, I would see a glimmer of humanity in one of the guards, perhaps just for a second, but it was enough to reassure me and keep me going. Man's goodness is a flame that can be hidden but never extinguished.

- (a) Why is it easy to learn to love?
 (b) What was the opinion of Mandela about the man's goodness?
 (c) Where did Mandela and his friends have the most unpleasant time?
 (i) in prison
 (ii) in school
 (iii) none of these
 (d) Trace a word from the extract that means 'severe'.
 (i) hate
 (ii) grimmest
 (iii) flame

OR

He should be snarling around houses
 At the jungle's edge,
 Baring his white fangs, his claws,
 Terrorising the village!

- (a) Who is 'he' referred to in the above stanza?
 (i) poet
 (ii) tiger
 (iii) lion
 (b) Whom is the tiger frightening?
 (i) the villagers
 (ii) poachers

(iii) visitors

- (c) What does 'white fangs' refer to in the above lines?
(d) Find out a word that means 'showing the teeth and making fearful sound'.

- Q9. Answer any five of the following questions in 30-40 words each: [2 × 5 = 10]
(a) How did the otter appear for the first time when he was taken out of the sack?
(b) Why did Anne's teacher ask her to write another essay for the third time? Who helped her and why?
(c) How did Lencho's hope change to despair?
(d) How do people think of the world? Take reference to the poem, 'Fire and Ice'.
(e) Why did Matilda feel unfortunate?
(f) Horace Danby was not an ordinary thief. How can you say this?

- Q10. Answer one of the following questions in 100-150 words: [8]
(a) Describe the Coorgi people and their descent.

OR

- (b) From another point of view, it was God who had sent Lencho seventy pesos. Explain.

- Q11. Answer one of the following questions in 100-150 words: [8]
(a) What was the mystery behind imprints?

OR

- (b) Presence of mind and intelligence are more powerful than a gun. How far is it true in case of Ausable, the secret agent?

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