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Sample Question Paper 01

English Core 12th (Code 301)

General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them.

1. This question paper has 13 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. This question paper contains three sections Section A : Reading Skills, Section B : Creative Writing Skills and Section C : Literature.
3. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.
4. Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.
5. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

Time : 3 Hrs.

Max. Marks : 80

Section A Reading Skills (22 Marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully.

(12)

1. From the moment a baby first opens its eyes, it is learning. Sight and sensation spark off a learning process that will significantly shape the person they become. Among all the tools of learning, language stands out as the most crucial. It gives humans an edge in intelligence over other creatures. No other species can assemble ideas, consider them, draw conclusions and, then explain their reasoning. Man can do all this because of language.
2. Even very young babies respond to human voices uttering comforting words close to them. This emotional response provides early evidence that feeling is a vital component of language learning. Children learn to use language through interaction with other human beings especially against a backdrop of affectionate feedback from those closest to them. The interaction between parent and baby, with eyes locked together, sets the pattern for their relationship.
3. Before they can even speak, children engage in a two-way communication process that lays the foundation for their later use of language. Surrounded by language, they unconsciously build mental structures into which their speech and reading will later fit—grammatical constructions, tense sequences and more. The forms of these structures depend on the complexity of the speech they hear. Children who listen to articulate adults expressing ideas and defending opinions are fortunate. They understand that relationships are forged through speaking and listening where warmth, humor and other emotions play a role.
4. Using books is essential for a child's language development. While adults can't endlessly initiate and maintain speech with very young children, books provide a rich source of language exposure. Through reading, children absorb vocabulary, grammar and various forms of expression. Thus, language plays a critical role in shaping thought and understanding making it a powerful tool for lifelong learning.

Answer the following questions based on the above passage word/phase.

- (i) Share evidence from the text, in about 40 words, to support the view that surrou and external factors play an important role in language development. (2)
- (ii) 'This emotional response provides early evidence that feeling is a vital component language learning.' What emotional response does the author refer to in the given line? (1)
- (iii) Read and complete the following sentence suitably. (1)
The expression 'the interaction between parent and baby, with eyes locked together, sets a pattern for their relationship' indicates that a child learns to communicate with the parent with the medium of eye contact.
The passage names the concept of such a communication to be against
A. the backdrop of affectionate feedback wherein communication is learnt through eye contact with a loved one
B. the backdrop of gestures wherein facial features and emotional display becomes a source of communication
- (iv) Complete the following sentence with an appropriate word. (1)
"Sight and sensation spark off a learning process that will significantly shape the person they become."
In the above sentence, the author talks about the process in humans.
- (v) According to the passage, why do children who listen to articulate adults expressing ideas have an advantage? (1)
(a) They learn to use language more quickly.
(b) They develop stronger relationships.
(c) They understand the importance of warmth and humour.
(d) They build complex grammatical structures.
- (vi) Provide evidence with reference to Paragraph 4 to prove the following Books. (1)
- (vii) "Thus, language plays a critical role in shaping thought and understanding making it a powerful tool for lifelong learning." Explain with examples from paragraphs 3 and 4. (1)
- (viii) Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph. (1)
Listen : Hear :: Speech :
(a) Form (b) Articulate
(c) Forged (d) Fortunate
- (ix) Why is it correct to say that 'relationships are formed through communications'? (1)
(a) Effective communication with a balanced display of warmth, humour and emotions builds relationships.
(b) Relationships depend on expressing ideas and defending one's own opinions.
(c) Effective Communications is the backbone of a relationship wherein one must know when to show warmth.
(d) Relationships are forged through mental structures that forge our language and help us express our ideas.
- (x) Explain, in about 40 words, how humans can use language and do things that other species cannot. (2)

2. Read the following passage.

1. The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the adoption of online learning worldwide, transforming the way education is delivered and accessed. With schools and universities forced to close their physical campuses to prevent the spread of the virus, educators and students have turned to digital platforms to continue teaching and learning. (10)

1. Impact on Education

The shift to online learning has had profound implications for education at all levels

- (i) **Remote Learning** Schools and universities have implemented remote learning strategies using video conferencing tools learning management systems, and online resources to deliver lectures, assignments and assessments remotely.
- (ii) **Access to Education** Online learning has expanded access to education allowing students from remote or underserved areas to participate in classes and access educational resources without the need for physical presence.

Region	Increase in Online Learning
North America	85% of colleges and universities moved classes online
Europe	94% of schools implemented online learning
Asia	70% of students engaged in online learning

Challenges and Opportunities

- (i) **Digital Divide** The shift to online learning has highlighted existing disparities in access to technology and internet connectivity, exacerbating inequalities in education.
- (ii) **Adaptation and Innovation** Educators have embraced new pedagogical approaches and technologies fostering innovation in teaching methods and curriculum design.

3. Future of Education

The pandemic has prompted a reimagining of education with online learning likely to remain a prominent feature in the post-pandemic era. Blended learning models, combining online and traditional classroom instruction are expected to become more prevalent, offering flexibility and personalised learning experiences for students.

4. Conclusion

The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the adoption of online learning, transforming education and shaping the future of learning. While challenges such as the digital divide persist, the pandemic has also provided opportunities for innovation and the exploration of new ways to deliver quality education to students worldwide.

Answer the following questions based on the above passage.

- (i) Complete the following sentence appropriately. (1)
With schools and universities forced to close their physical campuses, educators and students have turned to to continue teaching and learning. **8P-01**
- (ii) What has accelerated the adoption of online learning worldwide? (1)
(a) Globalisation (b) The COVID-19 pandemic
(c) Government policies (d) Technological advancements
- (iii) How have educators adapted to the shift to online learning? (2)
- (iv) Impact of education talks about Remote Learning and Access to Education. (1)
Classify the following cases as such.
Case 1 Mohit is recovering from a fatal illness but is still able to attend his classes and do his assignments on time.
Case 2 Jay belongs to Shillong and wants to do a Graphic Design course without leaving his parents behind. (1)
- (v) Read the following.
Institution A is located in a region wherein 90% of its schools have shifted to online learning to teach. Institution B is located where 85% of educational institutions teach students through the internet. Institution C is located in a place where 70% students are engaged in online learning.

State where these Institutions are located.

- (a) Institution A- Asia, B- Europe, C- North America
 (b) Institution A- Europe, B- Asia, C- North America
 (c) Institution A- North America, B- Europe, C- Asia
 (d) Institution A- Europe, B- North America, C- Asia
- (vi) Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the future of education post-pandemic? (1)
- (vii) How has the COVID-19 pandemic reshaped the landscape of education and what are the key implications of this transformation?
- (viii) What has transformed the way education is delivered and accessed? (1)
- (a) Lack of physical infrastructure (b) Online learning
 (c) Pre pandemic factors (d) Number of activities (2)

Section B Creative Writing Skills (18 Marks)

Note: All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

3. Attempt **ANY ONE** of two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. (4)

A. Your school is organising a fete to collect funds for charity. Only school students are eligible to put up stalls. As the Head Boy/Head Girl of Meera International School, draft a notice for the school notice board announcing the sale of stalls. Invent all necessary details.

OR

B. Residents' Welfare Association (RWA) of Silver Crystals Society, Paschim Vihar is planning to organise a free hypertension check-up session for its residents. You are Ratna Sharma, the Secretary of the mentioned society. Draft a notice informing the residents about the time and venue of the upcoming session.

4. Attempt **ANY ONE** of two, (A) or (B), in about 50 words. (4)

A. You are Sachin Bansal, the Head Boy of Springdales Public School, Gurugram. On the occasion of Van Mahotsav function in your school, draft an invitation to invite a renowned environmentalist for a tree plantation drive in your school.

OR

B. You are Priyanka Bose, Life Skills Trainer. You are invited by Shiksha Public School Patel Nagar to be the keynote speaker at its Annual Conclave on 'Significance of honing 21st century life skills'. Draft a reply letter accepting the invitation and confirming your presence

5. Attempt **ANY ONE** of two, (A) or (B), in about 120-150 words. (5)

A. You are Karan/Kiran Bhardwaj. Draft an application for the post of an accountant, in response to the advertisement given below. Also, enclose your bio-data.

Need for Accountant

An Accountant is required to work at a reputed organisation. The candidate should meet the following criteria

- Bachelor's degree in accounting
- Hindi & English proficiency
- At least 3 years of experience in handling accounts
- Transferable Visa

Interested persons are requested to send their CVs to 2, Judges Court Road, Bhopal.

OR

- B. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily suggesting possible ways to eliminate the 'Menace of Dowry' which has led to many deaths and suffering of women. You are Kamal/Komal. You can use the following clues

Clues

- Atrocities committed on women
- Multi-dimensional strategy required
- Mechanism of effective reporting
- In case of offence, strict action to be taken

6. Attempt **ANY ONE** of two, (A) or (B), in about 120-150 words. (5)

- A. Places of pilgrimage have turned into tourist spots. As a result of this, they are losing their importance and grace, thereby disturbing nature too.

You are Swati/Sandeep Sharma, a columnist for an e-zine. Draft an article in about 120-150 words on the theme of maintaining the grace of places of pilgrimage. Explore possible reasons for the prevailing situation and include suggestions for addressing it. You can use the clues given below.

- Flooded with tourists
- Construction of roads, hotels, etc.
- Litter and pollute pilgrimages
- Located on high mountains
- Excess footfall
- Realise the real essence

OR

- B. Once women were worshipped as goddesses in India but gradually their status has deteriorated. The crime against women are increasing day by day and today, the greatest number of crimes are committed against them.

Write a report on 'Crime Against Women'. You are Varsha/Siddhartha Malik, the junior correspondent of a Local Daily. The following clues may be used to frame the report.

- Due to patriarchal nature of society
- Female foeticide
- Abduction and rape
- Remedies are women's education and economic independence
- Burnt for dowry
- Eve-teasing
- Exploitation at workplace

Section C Literature (22 Marks)

SP-01

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the given two (A) or (B). (6)

A.

*Those who prepare green wars,
wars with gas, wars with fire,
victory with no survivors,
would put on clean clothes
and walk about with their brothers
in the shade, doing nothing.*

(Keeping Quiet)

- (i) Explains 'Victory with no survivors'. (1)
- (ii) Which of the following expressions has the same literary device as used in "green wars, wars with gas, wars with fire". (1)
- (a) And the fever called 'living' is over at last
- (b) It was the best of times, it was the worst of times
- (c) A lonely cab-horse steams and stamps
- (d) But Custard cried for a nice safe cage

- (iii) Complete the following sentence with reference to the extract. (1)
The phrase 'clean clothes' here symbolises
- (iv) Select the correct option to fill in the blank. (1)
By green wars, the poet refers to (pollutions caused by/wars between) nations causing damage to the natural landscape.
- (v) Read the Assertion and the Reason below, with reference to the given extract.
Assertion The poet takes a stand against wars and all violent acts.
Reason The poet states that wars and victory is vain.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship.
(a) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, and the Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion.
(b) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, but the Reason is not the correct explanation of the Assertion.
(c) The Assertion is true, but the Reason is false.
(d) The Assertion is false, but the Reason is true.
- (vi) What message do you infer from the given stanza? (1)

OR

B.

*I saw my mother, beside me,
doze, open mouthed, her face ashen like that
of a corpse and realised with pain
that she was as old as she looked*

(My Mother at Sixty-Six)

- (i) Select the phrase that suggests the following. (1)
The author realised that her mother was nearing her death.
- (ii) Select the option that has the same literary device used in the extract. (1)
(a) I am as happy as I can be. (b) Life is a roller coaster ride.
(c) Nature is God's gift to us. (d) The dazzling divas enchanted all.
- (iii) Complete the following sentences with reference to the extract. (1)
The pain the poet is feeling is the pain of
- (iv) Select the correct option to fill in the blank. (1)
The poet doesn't want to stay away from her mother she feels
(guilty/ashamed) of leaving her mother behind, knowing that her mother might die soon.
- (v) Read the Assertion and the Reason below, with reference to the given extract. (1)
Assertion The poet does not want to leave her mother and move on in her life.
Reason The poet realises that her parents had aged and is pained to leave her behind.
Choose the correct option regarding their relationship.
(a) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true and the Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion.
(b) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, but the Reason is not the correct explanation of the Assertion.
(c) The Assertion is true, but the Reason is false.
(d) The Assertion is false, but the Reason is true.
- (vi) State in one sentence what the use of the words 'ashen face' indicates to you. (1)

8. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the given two (A) or (B). (4)

A. "Not by you, but by someone who does not know him. I have my own private assassins. Suppose I send two of them to your house tonight or better, any night. You need know nothing about it. It is now warm – what would be more natural than that you should leave the outer partition of the white man's room open to the garden while he sleeps?"
(*The Enemy*)

- (i) Complete the following sentence. (1)

The white man was hated because

- (ii) The reference to the white man in the extract indicates a cultural disparity. Do you agree? What is this cultural disparity? (1)

- (iii) Select the appropriate option. (1)

"I have my own private assassins. Suppose I send two of them to your house tonight or better, any night."

- (a) Describes the General's care and kindness
(b) Indicates the ignorance and self-centred nature of the General
(c) Shows the General's humanist and patriotic side
(d) Creates a suspense air around the General

- (iv) What do you infer from the last line of the extract? (1)

OR

B. Students on Ice, the programme I was working with on the Shokalskiy, aims to do exactly this by taking high school students to the ends of the world and providing them with inspiring educational opportunities which will help them foster a new understanding and respect for our planet. It's been in operation for six years now, headed by Canadian Geoff Green, who got tired of carting celebrities and retired, rich, curiosity-seekers who could only 'give' back in a limited way.

With Students on Ice, he offers the future generation of policy-makers a life-changing experience at an age when they're ready to absorb, learn and most importantly, act.

(*Journey to the End of the Earth*)

- (i) Complete the following sentence with reference to the extract.

Students on Ice is a programme which was started by Geoff Green to (1)

- (ii) List any one emotion that students must have felt in the Students on Ice Programme. (1)

- (iii) According to the extract, Green chose the high school students for the programme as (1)

- (a) he wanted candidates who were physically fit.
(b) he wanted them to have an opportunity to learn more about the planet.
(c) he wanted young minds that he could mould to his will.
(d) he wanted to start a colony on the Southern pole. (1)

- (iv) Why did Greene favour students against the rich for the Antarctica tour? (1)

9. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the given two (A) or (B). (6)

A. The news of Gandhi's advent and of the nature of his mission spread quickly through Muzaffarpur and to Champaran. Sharecroppers from Champaran began arriving on foot and by conveyance to see their champion. Muzaffarpur lawyers called on Gandhi to brief him; they frequently represented peasant groups in court, they told him about their cases and reported the size of their fee. (Indigo)

- (i) Why is the reference to the lawyers' fee important? (1)

- (ii) Select the correct option from those given in bracket to fill in the blank.
The cases referred to in the extract were the cases fought against
(East India Company/the British Landlords). (1)
- (iii) Complete the following suitably.
They told him about their cases. The phrase 'their cases' refers to (1)
- (iv) What does the fact that the sharecroppers from Champaran began arriving on foot show? (1)
- (v) Based on the above extract, it is True for the lawyers that (1)
- (a) The lawyers wanted to help the poor.
(b) The lawyers stood with Gandhiji in his mission.
(c) The lawyers were apathetic to the condition of the poor.
(d) All of the above
- (vi) What does the following line from the extract showcase? (1)
- The news of Gandhi's advent and of the nature of his mission spread quickly....
- (a) seriousness of the problem
(b) popularity of the problem
(c) Gandhi's popularity
(d) Importance of the event related to the problem

OR

- B. When I saw who it was, I said, "Excuse me, but aren't you Danny Casey?" And he looked sort of surprised. And he said, "Yes, that's right. And I knew it must be him because he had the accent, you know, like when they interviewed him on the television. So I asked him for an autograph for little Derek but neither of us had any paper or a pen. So then we just talked a bit. About the clothes in Royce's window. He seemed lonely. After all, it's a long way from the West of Ireland." (Going Places)
- (i) Why did Geoff doubt Sophie's claims about meeting Danny Casey? (1)
- (ii) Select the correct option from those given in brackets to fill in the blank.
Danny Casey could not give Sophie an autograph because they did not have any paper or pen. This imagery is..... (vivid/vain) that it seems that Sophie had really met the athlete. (1)
- (iii) Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract.
The speaker said, "It was nothing like that, Geoff" because (1)
- (iv) Rationalise to support the given opinion.
Sophie – the speaker is a very imaginative girl. (1)
- (v) How did Sophie know that it was Danny Casey? (1)
- (a) As he had a football in his hands
(b) As he was moving his feet like a footballer
(c) As his accent matched Casey's
(d) As he was wearing football dress
- (vi) For whom did Sophie ask Danny to give autograph? (1)
- (a) For Geoff
(b) For Jansie
(c) For her mother
(d) For little Derek

10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in about 40-50 words each. (5 × 2 = 10)

- (i) "If he knew its meaning – lord of the universe – he would have a hard time believing it." Describe the irony in Saheb's name? (*Lost Spring*)
- (ii) "The reaction to Stephen Spender at Gemini Studios was no longer a mystery." Explain why Stephen Spender visited Gemini Studios. (*Poets and Pancakes*)
- (iii) "but all I said was, see you soon, Amma"
Elucidate how the pain of separation is expressed both literally and metaphorically in 'My Mother at Sixty-Six'.
- (iv) What evidence from the last lines reveal that Aunt Jennifer's Tigers does not end on a note of hope? (*Aunt Jennifer's Tiger*)
- (v) "We must guard it among us and never forget it"
What opinions did M Hamel hold with regards to one's mother tongue? (*The Last Lesson*)
- (vi) 'From the beginning, however, I had an aversion to the water when I was in it.'
What does it reveal about Douglas' fear of water? (*Deep water*)

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions in about 40-50 words each. (2 × 2 = 4)

- (i) Do you think an author who induces several instance of satire in a story faces the risk of being too cynical? Explain. (*The Tiger King*)
- (ii) The conversation the two women had at the bus stop affected Derry deeply. Justify. (*On the Face of It*)
- (iii) Sadao and Hana have a moral compass which wages them to save the prisoner's life. Do we all need this moral compass? Why? (*The Enemy*)

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120-150 words. (5)

A. After reading 'A Roadside Stand' and 'Indigo' you realise that both the village people and peasants have been oppressed or exploited by the influential group of people.

As a social activist, you have to write an article in a newspaper on the need to amplify the voices of the common people.

You may begin like this

Social inequality has persisted in the society

OR

B. 'My Mother at Sixty-Six' and 'Deep Water' depict two stories about different types of fear that people experience and its impact on them. Justify the statement with reference to the poem 'My Mother at Sixty-Six' and the text 'Deep Water'.

You may begin like this

Fears are often experienced by people in different forms and severity.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120-150 words. (5)

A. "The modern world, as has been said, is full of stresses, anxieties and worries for innumerable things. In the face of these stresses, we want an escape as did Charley in the story *The Third Level*. Charley's escape, however, is the past."

You read the given lines in a journal. Write what do you think about the given opinion.

You can begin like this

The modern world is full of fear, insecurity, war, worry and stress.

OR

- B. "Where there is oppression, there will be resistance." This statement stands true for the life experiences of Zitkala – Sa and Bama, both of whom had gone to various ordeals that had changed their ways of thinking and living. People like them teach us to face challenges and rise above everything.

Having read their stories, you had written a paragraph on "Where there is oppression, there will be resistance". Including how the stories of Zitkala- Sa and Bama teaches the saying, frame the paragraph. You may begin like this

It is true that "Where there is oppression, there will be resistance."