

HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION, 2018-19

ENGLISH

Class – VII

Time : 3 hrs.

M.M. : 80

Date – 22.09.2018 (Saturday)

Name of the student _____ Section _____

General Instructions –

- The question paper consists of four sections :
 - Section A : Reading (15 marks)
 - Section B : Writing (20 marks)
 - Section C : Grammar (20 marks)
 - Section D : Reader (25 marks)
- All the questions are compulsory.
- You may attempt any section at a time.
- All the questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.

SECTION – A (Reading – 15 marks)

A.1 Read the following passage carefully:

Rabindranath Tagore was one of modern India's great artistic minds. He was born into a prominent Bengali family in Calcutta in 1861 and was an avid reader and writer from his childhood.

It is interesting to know that he was not a fan of formal education and spent very brief periods of time enrolled in schools and universities – instead he preferred to be left to his own devices, reading the classics and engaging deeply with nature, culture and spirituality outside the bounds of the classroom.

Tagore believed that the role of education was to inspire curiosity, not merely to explain facts. He wrote primarily in Bengali but translated his own works to English. He also wrote in almost every genre-novels, short stories, essays and drama but his poetry and songs are what he is perhaps most famous for. Infact, both India's and Bangladesh's national anthems 'Jana Gana Mana' and 'Amar Shonar Bangla' respectively were songs that he wrote.

Complete the following statements with the correct option :

(1×5=5)

- a) From his childhood onwards Tagore was an avid
- i) reader ii) writer iii) singer iv) reader and writer
- b) Tagore was not a fan of
- i) formal education in classrooms ii) reading the classics
- iii) spirituality iv) observing nature and various cultures

- c) Tagore is most famous for his
i) novels ii) plays iii) poems iv) paintings
- d) Tagore translated his works to
i) Hindi ii) English iii) Bengali iv) Urdu
- e) Tagore is one of the great artistic minds of
i) pre-historic ii) historic India iii) modern India iv) ancient India

A.2 Read the following passage carefully:

Florence Nightingale

Florence Nightingale is revered as the founder of modern nursing. Her substantial contributions to health statistics are less well known. She first gained fame by leading a team of 38 nurses to staff an overseas hospital of the British Army during the Crimean War. Newspaper reports of unsanitary conditions at the military hospital had aroused the public, and the Secretary of war responded by appointing a team of nurses to address the situation. The Secretary was a friend of Nightingale's and knew her leadership skills. Nightingale and her team arrived in Turkey in November, 1854. They found hospital conditions were far worse than reported. The wards were vastly overcrowded, patients were covered with rags soiled with dried blood and excrement, the water supply was contaminated, and the food inedible. Sewage discharged onto floors of wards and dead animals rotted in the courtyards. According to Nightingale, the hospital case fatality rate during the first months after her arrival was 32%.

Although Nightingale did not accept the concept of bacterial infection, she deplored the crowded and unsanitary conditions. She put her nurses to work sanitizing the wards and bathing and clothing patients. Nightingale addressed the more basic problem of providing decent food and water, ventilating the wards, and curbing rampant corruption that was decimating medical supplies.

She had to overcome an inept and hostile military bureaucracy, which she did in part by paying for remediation from private sources, including her own funds. She also kept careful statistics. Within six months, the hospital case fatality had dropped to 2%.

When Nightingale returned to London 3 years later, she was a national hero. However, within a few more years she had become an invalid herself suffering at age 40 from what may have been chronic fatigue syndrome. She continued to exert substantial influence on nursing and public health through letters, books, conference presentations and personal persuasion.

Answer the following questions on the basis of your reading:

- a) Why is Florence Nightingale known as the founder of modern nursing? (1)
- b) What measures were taken by Nightingale to improve the unsanitary conditions of the hospital? (1)

- c) How did Nightingale overcome an inept and hostile military bureaucracy? (1)
- d) How did Nightingale contribute to influence nursing and public health sector? (1)
- e) State whether the following statements are true or false : (2)
- i) Nightingale died at the age of forty.
- ii) The fatality rate dropped under Nightingale's supervision in the hospital.
- f) Complete the following statements : (2)
- i) The wards were _____.
- ii) She first gained fame _____.
- g) Find words from the passage which mean the following : (2)
- i) popularly known as _____.
- ii) widespread _____.

SECTION - B (Writing – 20 marks)

- B.1** You are the Sports Captain of your school. **Write a notice in 50-60 words** for the school notice board informing the students about the Inter-school Basketball Match to be played on 20th of October, 2018. Add required details. (5)

OR

Last year during summer vacation, you went for an adventure camp that included activities like trekking, rafting, rock climbing etc. **Write an email** to a friend describing the activities.

(**Word limit 70-80 words**, venue, duration, requirements, terms and conditions associated with the trip to be mentioned)

- B.2** You and your friends have decided to start a reading club in your neighbourhood. **Prepare an attractive poster** to advertise the reading club. (7)

(Days and timing of the club, kinds of books and magazines available, membership fee, donation of old books and magazines in good condition etc.)

OR

Write a diary entry on an incident when you had a serious argument with your best friend because he felt that you were rude to your cousin in the party last night. Describe your feelings of guilt. Diary entry should not be less than **100 words**.

- B.3** **Write an application** to the Principal of your school seeking leave for 5 days on account of marriage of your cousin brother. (8)

(**Word limit : 120 words**, reasons for leave, duration to be mentioned)

OR

Write a letter to your cousin inviting him/ her to spend the Diwali vacation at your house. You must mention how much you enjoy his/her company, your plans for the vacation, what he or she must carry if there is any event in **not more than 120 words**.

SECTION – C (Grammar - 20 marks)

- C.1 The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and correction in your answer sheet.** (1/2×6=3)

Project Tiger was a wild life conservation a)_____
movement initiating in India to protect b)_____
tiger. The project aims at tiger c)_____
conservation on specially constituted d)_____
'tiger reserves'. It strive to maintain a e)_____
viable tiger population in an natural f)_____
environment.

- C.2 Rearrange the jumbled words to form meaningful sentences.** (1×3=3)

- a) was / performance / impressed / with / quite / his / I.
b) everything will / sense / make / perfect / someday.
c) a child / hand / the young / had / holding / to each / woman / on.

- C.3 Fill in the blanks with the correct form of verb.** (1/2×4=2)

- a) The Prime Minister _____ a speech in the radio right now.
i) is giving ii) are giving iii) has been giving
b) The thief was arrested after he _____ from the prison.
i) have escaped ii) will escape iii) had escaped
c) The team _____ at the exhibition for five hours by the time I arrive there.
i) will work ii) will have worked iii) will had worked
d) My sister _____ play tennis.
i) don't ii) doesn't iii) will do

- C.4 Do as directed:**

- a) Rewrite the sentences as directed.** (1×2=2)

- i) He was always punctual.
(Change into a negative sentence without changing the meaning.)
ii) I am not happy with your decision.
(Change into a positive sentence)

- b) Fill in the blanks with appropriate conjunctions.** (1×2=2)

- i) _____ he is thin, he is strong.
ii) I will not talk to him _____ he apologises for what he did.

- c) Pick out conjunctions from the following sentences and state whether it is a coordinating, subordinating or correlative conjunction.** (1/2×4=2)

- i) He must be exhausted for he immediately went to bed.

- ii) Most children like cookies and milk.
- iii) Sara is not only good in studies but also sports.
- iv) The match was delayed because it started raining.
- d) Pick out the dependent clauses in the sentences given below. (1×2=2)**
 - i) The dog sniffed at the stranger who looked at it fearfully.
 - ii) Many people are frightened of facing challenges because they fear they may fail.
- e) Rewrite these sentences in reported speech. (1×2=2)**
 - i) “Get down from there !” the gardener shouted at the boys.
 - ii) Shweta said, ‘I would like to have some biscuits with a cup of hot tea’.
- f) Underline the finite verbs and circle the non-finite verbs. (1/4×4=1)**
 - i) A miser hates spending his money.
 - ii) The burning candle spreads light.
- g) Make a sentence using verbs given, where at least one verb should be used in the non finite form. Underline the non finite verb. (1)**
 help, cross

SECTION – D (Reader – 25 marks)

D.1 Answer with reference to the context (1×3=3)

‘How amused every one would be if they knew what really happened’.

- a) Who spoke the above line? What was the intention of the speaker while speaking the same ?
- b) What had really happened?
- c) From these words, can you make out that the speaker could pose a problem later?

OR

‘As I say, the question of your future was brought up and your record was discussed thoroughly.’.

- a) Who is referred as ‘I’ and ‘your’ in the above line.
- b) Why was the person’s future discussed? On what aspect was the person’s future being decided?
- c) Who is going to take care of the person’s future? What is the person expected to do in return?

D.2 Answer with reference to the context (1×3=3)

‘I shot an arrow into the air,

It fell to earth, I knew not where’.

- a) What does the arrow indicate in the poem?
- b) Why could the poet not follow the flight of the arrow?
- c) Where did the arrow finally fall?

OR

'I have answered three questions and that is enough,' said his father; 'don't give yourself airs'.

- a) On which question by the son, the father spoke the above line?
- b) Why was Father William irritated ?
- c) What does the phrase 'don't give yourself airs' mean?

D.3 Do as directed.

a) Write the antonym of the following words : (1/2×2=1)

- i) alleviating
- ii) collaborated

b) Name the following with the help of options given : (1/2×2=1)

- i) A section at the end of the play that serves as a comment on what has happened _____ (epilogue, epithet)
- ii) A literary composition in the form of a letter _____ (epigram, epistle)

c) Mention the part of speech the underlined words belong to : (1/2×2=1)

- i) From a modest beginning, the Indian Navy has grown into a formidable force.
- ii) Please do not force me to have the sandwiches he has made.

d) Answer the questions briefly (ANY 4) (2×4=8)

- i) Why was Dr. APJ Kalam known as the 'Missile Man of India'? What was the greatest honour received by him before he became the President?
- ii) Who sent a note to Bobs? What did the note say?
- iii) Why was the duke taken aback to see the lawyer who had come to the court to handle the case? Why was Shylock happy with the lawyer?
- iv) What were the rules generally followed in the home regarding orphans? What was the exception made?
- v) What are the things that Father William does which do not make him seem old?

D.4 Think and answer in 60 words (ANY ONE) (3)

Dr. APJ Kalam was an enthusiastic learner and a tireless worker. How did he manage to achieve the empowerment of the student community through his interaction with them?

OR

Describe the friendship between Antonio and Bassanio.

D.5 Value and life skills / Character sketch (ANY ONE) (5)

Mrs. Packletide wanted to keep up with Loona Bimberton and so she decides to indulge in game hunting. Do you think the end of the story was a lesson for her vain nature? Discuss.

OR

Describe the character of Portia as a wife and a human being.

