

SAMPLE PAPER - 2014

ENGLISH

Class – XI

SECTION – A [READING COMPREHENSION]

20 Marks

1. Read the following passage carefully:

8 marks

- 1 A prominent feature of the macaque monkeys is the presence of cheek pouches in which these primates temporarily store food. Offer them their favourite food and they simply stuff all that they can in these cheek pouches which can puff up on the sides. The food will be digested later.
 - 2 Most macaques obtain a good amount of their food on the ground gleaning for fruits, insects, leaves, shoots and more. Even spiders are welcome on the swelling menu of these ever-curious monkeys. Most macaques are sort of squat and thickset in build.
 - 3 Macaques have been variously regarded to be the hardiest of all monkeys. There are half a dozen species of macaques in the Indian region. While four of these (Lion-tailed, Pig-tailed, Stump-tailed and Assamese) have restricted distributional ranges, the first in the Nilgiri mountains of South India and the latter three in the north-east, the Rhesus and Bonnet are widespread.
 - 4 Rhesus monkey, with the human blood factor named after it, is the animal that was once exported in large numbers for medical research, especially for testing newly developed drugs, including the development of the Salk vaccine against poliomyelitis. The common monkey of North India, the Rhesus, can be easily recognised by a prominent patch of reddish-orange fur on its loins and rump.
 - 5 Ascending up to almost 9,000 feet in the Himalayas, it is found down south, at the Godavari river, and is possibly slowly increasing its range. Small numbers occur in Mumbai's Borivili National Park, often mixing along with a troop of Bonnets and langurs.
 - 6 The Bonnet has a longer tail and lacks the reddish-orange patch on its hindquarters (buttocks). But a centrally parted bonnet of dark, longish hair radiating from the fore-crown gives this monkey its common name.
 - 7 This is the common monkey of peninsular and southern India, found south of the Godavari river. It is seen frequently in Mumbai's National Park.
 - 8 This is the animal that also gives you company on Elephanta island, at Khandala, Matheran and at a host of other tourist spots of southern India. It is, I find, only slightly less of a temple monkey than the Rhesus is over much of north India, where a curious blend of religious and sentimental reasons just manages to prevent it from getting molested and persecuted.
 - 9 More than any other animal macaques and langurs have always shared a very intimate relationship with the human environment in India. In most places where not molested, these monkeys have become remarkably bold and conniving. Troops maintain territories often in town-centres, loaf around at railway stations, don't think twice before entering houses, raid market places, standing crops and fruit orchards and do a lot more.
 - 10 And they have managed to get away with all this. In the wild though, these monkeys live in troops that in some places have become rather wary of man. All these species have adapted to a wide variety of habitats, from forests to dry, arid regions.
 - 11 In this species dominance hierarchy in the males plays an important role in their social life. There is a central team of dominant controlling males, with a group leader, usually a big fellow.
- (a) **Make notes on the passage in a suitable format using recognisable abbreviations wherever necessary. Give a suitable title to the passage.** 5
- (b) **Write a summary of the passage based on your reading.** 3

Read the following passage carefully:

12 marks

- 1 The discovery that language can be a barrier to communication is quickly made by all who travel, study, govern or sell. Whether the activity is tourism, research, government, policing, business, or data dissemination, the lack of a common language can severely impede progress or can halt it altogether. 'Common language' here usually means a foreign language, but the same point applies in principle to any encounter with unfamiliar dialects or styles within a single language. 'They don't talk the same language' has a major metaphorical meaning alongside its literal one.
- 2 Although communication problems of this kind must happen thousands of times each day, very few become public knowledge. Publicity comes only when a failure to communicate has major consequences, such as strikes, lost orders, legal problems, or fatal accidents – even, at times, war. One reported instance of communication failure took place in 1970, when several Americans ate a species of poisonous mushroom. No remedy was known, and two of the people died within days. A radio report of the case was heard by a chemist who knew of treatment that had been successfully used in 1959 and published in 1963. Why had the American doctors not heard of it seven years later? Presumably because the report of the treatment had been published only in journals written in European languages other than English.
- 3 Several comparable cases have been reported. But isolated examples do not give an impression of the size of the problem. In the English speaking scientific world, for example, surveys of books and documents consulted in libraries and other information agencies have shown that very little foreign language material is ever consulted. Library requests in the field of science and technology showed that only 13 per cent were for foreign language periodicals.
- 4 The language barrier presents itself in stark form to firms who wish to market their products in other countries. British industry, in particular, has in recent decades often been criticised for its linguistic insularity – for its assumption that foreign buyers will be happy to communicate in English, and that awareness of other languages is not therefore a priority. In the 1960s, over two-thirds of British firms dealing with non-English speaking customers were using English for outgoing correspondence; many had their sales literature only in English; and as many as 40 per cent employed no one able to communicate in the customers' languages.
- 5 The criticism and publicity given to this problem since the 1960s seems to have greatly improved the situation. Industrial training schemes have promoted an increase in linguistic and cultural awareness. Many firms now have their own translation services; to take just one example in Britain, Rowntree Mackintosh now publish their documents in six languages (English, French, German, Dutch, Italian and Xhosa). Some firms run part-time language courses in the languages of the countries with which they are most involved; some produce their own technical glossaries to ensure consistency when material is being translated. It is now much more readily appreciated that marketing efforts can be delayed, damaged, or disrupted by a failure to take account of the linguistic needs of the customer.
- 6 The changes in awareness have been most marked in English speaking countries, where the realisation has gradually dawned that by no means everyone in the world knows English well enough to negotiate in it.

On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given choices.

6

(a) What are the major effects of the language barrier on the progress of a nation?

- (i) It can slow down or stop progress.
- (ii) It can affect tourism.
- (iii) It can affect the foreign exchange situation.
- (iv) It can affect health services.

- (b) When is communication failure publicised?
- (i) when the country's revenues fall
 - (ii) when a war breaks out
 - (iii) when major consequences occur
 - (iv) all the above
- (c) What did library requests in the field of science show?
- (i) Many people consulted foreign language material.
 - (ii) 13 per cent requests were for foreign language periodicals related to science and technology.
 - (iii) Very less people consulted periodicals in English.
 - (iv) A large number of journals are written in European languages.
- (d) Which of these has not improved the problematic situation of language barrier?
- (i) Industrial training scheme
 - (ii) Firms having their own translation services
 - (iii) Production of technical glossaries
 - (iv) Neglecting the individual linguistic needs

- (e) Find the word from the passage that is an exact antonym of the word 'native' (para 2).
- (i) common
 - (ii) foreign
 - (iii) translated
 - (iv) customer's
- (f) Find the word from the passage that is exact synonym of the word 'secluded' (para 3).
- (i) combined
 - (ii) united
 - (iii) specific
 - (iv) isolated

2.2 Answer these questions briefly. 6

- (a) What is the meaning of 'Linguistic insularity'?
- (b) What evidence has been collected from the surveys of libraries in the English-speaking scientific world?
- (c) How have British companies tried to solve the problem of the language barrier since the 1960s?
- (d) How are some companies trying to satisfy the linguistic needs of customers? Mention any two steps taken.
- (e) Find the word in the passage which means the same as 'hinder' (para 1).
- (f) Which word in para 4 is opposite to 'praised'?

SECTION - B [WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR]

30 Marks

3. You are Joseph Mathew, Vice Principal of Sr. Aloysius Higher Secondary School. Write a notice for the school notice board informing the students about the audition schedule for the annual play festival to be organised soon. **4 marks**
4. You are Pushpit/Pushpa, 62 B, Mayur Vihar, Delhi. Write a letter to the Editor of the Hindustan Times about 'Misuse of Computers, TV and Mobile by children' in about 120-150 words. **6 marks**
5. You have to give a speech in the special assembly to be held on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. Lately, many doubts have been expressed about the validity of Mahatma Gandhi's principle of non-violence in modern times. In your speech, impress upon your audience that non-violence is the only way to bring peace to the troubled world of today. Your speech should be of about 150-200 words. **10 marks**
6. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet. Remember to underline the word that you have supplied: **½ × 6 = 3 marks**

Dr Carver was an American Negro slave, who by the dint of his ability becomes a scientist or educator of worldwide fame.

| Incorrect | Correct |
|-----------|---------|
| (a) | |
| (b) | |

A national monument had now been erected (c)
 to honour him. This monument has been build (d)
 at his birthplace in the United States of America.
 Carvers life and achievements support the American (e)
 saying, "You couldn't keep a great man down." (f)

7. Complete the given paragraph with the most appropriate word. ½ × 6 = 3 marks
 Martin Cooper (a)..... Motorola researcher and executive (b).....an inventor of (c).....
 first mobile phone in 1973. There are (d)..... categories of mobile phones ranging from basic phones
 and feature phones (e)..... as music phones, camera phones to smart phones which (f).....be
 recharged.
8. Read the sentences given below. They are not in the correct sequential order. Rewrite the
 sentences in a paragraph form placing them in the correct order: 4 marks
- (a) The first cause that he took up was of an indigo farmer of Champaran, Bihar.
 (b) Mahatma Gandhi is called the Father of the Nation.
 (c) Among the well-known movements led by Mahatma Gandhi are the Dandi March and Quit India
 Movement.
 (d) He started fighting for India's freedom after he returned from South Africa.

SECTION - C [LITERATURE AND LONG READING TEXTS] 30 Marks

9. Read the lines given below and answer the questions, choosing the best option from those given
 below: 3 marks

*And make pure and beautify it;
 (For song, issuing from its birth-place, after fulfilment,
 wandering
 Reck'd or unreck'd, duly with love returns.)*

- (a) Name the poem and the poet.
 (b) What is being talked about in these lines?
 (c) 'recked' or 'unreck'd' means.....
10. Answer the following questions briefly. 3 × 3 = 9 marks
- (a) Why does the father say he does not understand his son?
 (b) What were the findings of the CT scan of Tut's mummy?
 (c) Why did the narrator of the story want to forget the address?
11. "What causes endless anguish is the fact that laws are never respected nor enforced in India", says Nani
 Palkhivala, the author of 'The Ailing Planet : The Green Movements Role'.
 What is your opinion on this issue? How has their attitude towards law affected the lives of Indians? Write
 an article of about 120-150 words expressing your views. 6 marks
12. The antics of the Ghost are amusing as well as pathetic. Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer. Answer
 in about 120-150 words. 6 marks
13. Imagine you are the Canterville Ghost. Describe the Otis family as you see them. Write in first person
 Answer in about 120-150 words. 6 marks

N.B. ASL (Assessment of Speaking and Listening Skills) 20 marks