

# HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION, 2017-18

## ENGLISH

Time : 3 hrs.

Class - X

M.M. : 80

Name of the student \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_ Date – 16.09.2017 (Saturday)

### General Instructions-

- This paper consists of four sections.
  - ✓ Section – A Reading (20 marks)
  - ✓ Section – B Writing & Grammar (30 marks)
  - ✓ Section – C Literature Textbook and Extended Reading Text (30 marks)
- Read the instructions carefully before attempting any question.
- All questions of a particular section must be attempted in the correct order.

### SECTION – A (Reading)

Q.1 Read the following passage carefully.

[8]

- i) Nobel Peace Prize winner Jose Ramos-Horta took office as East Timor's new prime minister on Monday, a move aimed at ending weeks of political turmoil in Asia's newest nation. President Xanana Gusmao swore in Ramos- Horta under the watchful gaze of rifle-carrying Australian commandos heading a 2,500-strong international peace-keeping force in East Timor. The two men, architects of independence from the Indonesian rule, then put their signatures to paper to cement the appointment. Ramos- Horta, dressed in a dark suit and no tie, took his oath in the president's office alongwith his two new deputy premiers. During his inauguration speech, made in a hall with unpainted concrete ceilings and bare plywood walls, he promised to send more funds to the poor and maintain security. 'The focus has to be on security so that our people, our fathers and mothers and the poor can return to their homes' said Ramos-Horta, 56, who spent years abroad as a spokesman for East Timor's struggle for independence from Indonesia. He told a news conference later on Monday that his cabinet would be sworn in and start work this week. 'We will work very hard', he said, promising to cooperate with the World Bank to speed up development in rural areas.
- ii) East Timor descended into chaos nearly three months ago when the then premier Mari Alkatiri dismissed about 600 members of the 1,400-strong army when they protested about discrimination. Gusmao named Ramos-Horta premier on Saturday, around two weeks after Alkatiri stepped down after being broadly blamed for recent crisis in the tiny Pacific nation. When rival army and police factions fought, the violence turned into arson and looting that ended only with the intervention of the Australia-led peacekeepers. At least 20 people died and 100,000 became homeless in the violence.
- iii) The swearing-in ceremony was seen by various officials and dignitaries, but was not attended by Alkatiri. Prosecutors have said they intend to question the former prime minister over his alleged role in the violence. One East Timor political

leader said at the weekend that Ramos- Horta could face opposition from a section of Fretilin, the dominant party with 55 seats in the 88-member parliament. Ian Martin, a UN special envoy, who arrived in East Timor about two weeks ago to assess the country's need for further UN help, has welcomed Ramos-Horta's appointment, saying he hoped it would bring peace and stability to the young country.

**Answer the following questions briefly.**

**(1×8=8)**

- a) Name the new nation referred to in the above passage.
- b) Who are the two architects of independence of this new country? Which country did this new country win its freedom from?
- c) What promise did Jose Ramos – Horta make to his countrymen?
- d) What led to chaos in the internal situation in East Timor?
- e) Who resigned from the premiership?
- f) What led to the end of arson and looting in East Timor?
- g) What did the violence in East Timor lead to?
- h) Why did Ian Martin welcome the new prime ministers appointment?

**Q.2 Read the following passage carefully.**

**[12]**

### **The Power of Thoughts**

- i) Ideas rule the world. You shape your fate and decide your destiny by your thoughts. You have to think high to rise. You have to believe and be sure of yourself to win a prize. Life's battles do not always go to the stronger or the faster man. But, sooner or later, the man who wins is the man who thinks he can.
- ii) Success starts with your thoughts. Whatever your mind can conceive and believe, it can achieve. And your mind is nothing more than a bundle of thoughts. Since you have the power to shape your thoughts, you automatically have the power to fashion your fate and decide your destiny. Thus, your thoughts are the most potent, powerful and prime source of your success.
- iii) For your thoughts to blossom into success, they should be combined with definiteness of purpose, perseverance and a burning, pulsating strong desire to translate them into action. Believe that you will succeed and believe it firmly. You will then do whatever is necessary to bring success about.
- iv) Faith in yourself as well as the confidence that you can and will succeed are the key to your success in any venture. If you keep your mind riveted on your goal and focus your thoughts on the great and splendid things that you wish to have, you will find yourself unconsciously seizing upon the opportunities that are required for the fulfillment of your desires.

**(2/5)**

v) Thoughts are supreme. Preserve the right mental attitude of courage, frankness and good cheer. Think of success in your work and you will then do automatically and unconsciously, the things necessary to bring success about. If your desire is weak and your efforts are erratic] your achievements will also be slight and fleeting. But, if you go after your goal with the single-mindedness of a bulldog after a cat, nothing and nobody under the sun can stop you. Your goal should also be well-defined, clear-cut and specific and should be linked to a fixed timeframe so that your definite energies and efforts can be focussed and forcefully directed towards its attainment.

**a) Answer the following questions briefly. (2×4=8)**

- i) What are the basic triggers for achieving success?
- ii) How can you shape your destiny?
- iii) How can you translate your thoughts into actions?
- iv) How should you set your goals?

**b) Choose the most appropriate option in each of the following. (1×2=2)**

- i) The word ‘conceive’ (para ii) means the same as :  
a) disbelieve            b) neglect      c) comprehend      d) disregard
- ii) The word ‘potent’ (para ii) means the same as –  
a) ineffective            b) fragile      c) dynamic            d) weak

**c) Think and answer. (1×2=2)**

- i) How are your thoughts the most powerful and prime sources of your success?
- ii) How should your goals be, so that you are able to achieve them?

### **Section B (Writing & Grammar)**

**Q.3** You are Rohan/Ritika of Nehru Nagar, Ghaziabad. Using your own ideas and ideas from the MCB unit ‘Health and Medicine’ **write a letter** in about **100-120 words** to the Municipal Commissioner, Ghaziabad, complaining about the lack of garbage bins and the indifferent attitude of the municipal sweepers towards the mounting piles of garbage in your locality. Also mention that such unhygienic condition can lead to the spread of diseases like malaria and dengue in the area. **[8]**

**OR**

You are Mohit/Meeta from Raigarh. You have recently purchased the set of course books for standard X from Suryaprakash Book Store. While reading the English literature book you found that few pages were missing from the book. **Write a letter** of complaint within **100-120 words** to the store owner describing the problem and asking for a replacement.

**Q.4 Write a short story in about 200-250 words using the beginning given below. Also give it a suitable title. [10]**

Rahul was hit by an auto rickshaw when he was crossing the road. He lay on the road, suffering the injuries on his hands and legs. None came forward to help him. All of a sudden.....

**OR**

With the help of the given hints, **write an inspiring story within 200-250 words.** Also give it a suitable title.

Life – journey – one must move on – Rohit – shattered when lost his parents – accident – regains faith in life – meets orphans in an orphanage – learns to enjoy life – takes pledge – to serve mankind.

**Q.5 Fill in the blanks using a suitable word from the options given below. [4]**

While an academic edge (a)\_\_\_\_\_ commended, we also (b) \_\_\_\_\_ equip ourselves with a competitive corporate profile. That will (c) \_\_\_\_\_ us the confidence to (d) \_\_\_\_\_ an increasingly demanding world.

- |              |               |                 |             |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------|
| a) i) must   | ii) should be | iii) ought to   | iv) can     |
| b) i) will   | ii) may not   | iii) could have | iv) need to |
| c) i) given  | ii) give      | iii) giving     | iv) gave    |
| d) i) facing | ii) faced     | iii) will face  | iv) face    |

**Q.6 In the passage given below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word, the word that comes before it and the word that comes after it. Ensure that the word that forms your answer is underlined. The first one has been done as an example. [1×4=4]**

	<b>Before</b>	<b>Missing</b>	<b>After</b>
Fasting removes poisons the body	eg. poisons	from	the
Take liquids every four hours the fast.	a) _____	_____	_____
Juice of lemons or oranges should taken.	b) _____	_____	_____
Your doctor also recommend vegetable	c) _____	_____	_____
soup a dash of ginger juice in it.	d) _____	_____	_____

**Q.7 Rearrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences. [4]**

- a yellow coloured bus / full of / excited children / we saw
- on the way / they were / we guessed / to the planetarium
- part / this / study tour / of their / was
- were very eager / what they were going / the children / and excited / to see / about / in the planetarium

## **Section – C (Literature Textbook and Extended Reading Text)**

**Q.8 Read one of the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:** [4]

“Of course, everything is so difficult now, food so scarce and dear, we could not keep going unless we charged a fee. But every week, Lucia’s brothers have made their payment.”

- Who spoke these lines and to whom?
- Who was Lucia?
- What had happened to her?
- For what purpose were Lucia’s brothers making the payment?

**OR**

‘Animals for miles around  
Flocked towards the magic sound  
And the frog with great precision  
Counted heads and charged admission’

- Why did the animals flock towards the magic sound?
- What did the frog do in the meantime?
- What does the term ‘charged admission’ mean in the above stanza?
- Who had become a sensation?

**Q.9 Answer the following questions in 30-40 words.** [2×4=8]

- How does the ghost undermine the narrator’s faith in his ability to write ghost stories?
- What is the woman searching for in the depths of the lake?
- Do you think Mrs. Packletide was able to achieve her heart’s desire? Give reasons.
- The poet says that neither the forces of nature nor wars can destroy his poetry. In fact, even godly powers of Mars will not have a devastating effect on his rhyme. What quality of the poet is revealed through these lines?

**Q.10 Answer any one of the following questions in 100-120 words.** [8]

- One feels other’s pain only when one goes through it himself. Explain the postmaster’s change of heart and why it took place.
- When children find it difficult to spend enough time with their parents during their old age, would you agree if the parents decide to find their own companions when they feel lonely or drained emotionally? Share your opinion with reference to ‘The Dean Departed’.

**Q.11 Answer any one of the following questions in about 200-250 words.** [10]

- Attempt a character sketch of Miss Anne Sullivan.
- Describe the scene and the events in the school room when Helen was invited on Christmas eve. What changes did this experience bring about in Helen’s personality? Comment.

