

HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION, 2017-18

ENGLISH

Time : 3 hrs.

Class – IX

M.M. : 80

Date – 14.09.2017 (Thursday)

Name of the student _____ Section _____

General Instructions-

- This paper is divided into three sections: A, B and C. All the sections are compulsory.
- Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions carefully and adhere to them.
- Do not exceed the word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION – A (Reading – 20 marks)

Q.1 Read the following passage carefully:

- Sarojini Naidu was one of the greatest Indian freedom fighters, popularly known as Bharata Kokila or the Nightingale of India. She was spoken highly of, for her contribution to poetry, and was the first Indian woman to become the President of the Indian National Congress. She also served as the Governor of Uttar Pradesh. Sarojini Naidu was born as the eldest daughter of scientist and educator Agorenath Chattopadhyaya and Barada Sundari Devi, a poetess. Her first brother, Birendranath Chattopadhyaya, was a noted activist and another brother, Harindranath Chattopadhyaya, was a renowned playwright, poet and actor.
- Sarojini Naidu entered Madras University at the age of twelve and attained national fame as a child prodigy. At the age of sixteen, she travelled to England for higher studies. She was well versed in different languages, such as Urdu, Telugu, Bengali, English and Persian. Sarojini Chattopadhyaya met Dr Muthyala Govindarajulu Naidu and fell in love with him. At the age of 19, she married him at a time when inter-caste marriages were not allowed. They had five children: Jayasurya, Padmaja, Randheer, Nilawar and Leelamani. In 1905, she published the first volume of her collection of poems, as 'The Golden Threshold', and two more volumes, 'The Bird of Time' (1912) and 'The Broken Wing' (1917). Then 'The Wizard Mask' and 'A Treasury of Poems' were published.
- She played an active role in the Indian Independence Movement joining Mahatma Gandhi in the Salt March to Dandi. In 1925, she was elected as the President of the Congress. When Mahatma Gandhi organized the Non-Cooperation Movement, Naidu was the first to join. In 1928, she became a member of the Congress Working Committee. She was arrested along with Mahatma Gandhi and released due to her poor health. In 1942, she was again arrested during the Quit India protest and stayed in jail with Gandhiji.

Answer the following questions briefly.

(1×8=8)

- a) Why was Sarojini Naidu spoken highly of?
- b) At the age of twelve, she attained national fame. Why?
- c) What was Sarojini Naidu good at?
- d) At the time and age when inter-caste marriages were not allowed, what did she do?
- e) In which movement was she actively involved?
- f) In which year did she become a member of the Congress Working Committee?
- g) She was arrested but was later released. Why?
- h) What were her brothers known for?

Q.2 Read the passage given below -

[12]

- i. What is Discipline? Is it absolute freedom to do what a person wants? Is freedom regardless of consequences? Does it mean corrective action after a problem occurs or a wrong is done? Is it imposition? Is it abuse? Does it take away freedom?
- ii. The answer is none of the above. Discipline does not mean that a person takes a belt and beats up kids. That is madness. Discipline is loving firmness. It is direction. It is prevention before a problem arises. It is harnessing and channeling energy for great performance. Discipline is not something you do to but you do for those you care about.
- iii. Discipline is an act of love. Sometimes you have to be unkind to be kind: Not all medicine is sweet, not all surgery is painless, but we have to take it. We need to learn from nature. We are all familiar with that big animal, the giraffe. A mama giraffe gives birth to a baby giraffe, standing. All of a sudden, the baby falls on a hard surface from the cushion of mama's womb, and sits on the ground. The first thing mama does is to get behind the baby and give him a hard kick. The baby gets up, but his legs are weak and wobbly and the baby falls down. Mama goes behind again and gives him one more kick. The baby gets up but sits down again. Mama keeps kicking till the baby gets on its feet and starts moving. Why? Because mama knows that the only chance of survival for the baby in the jungle is to get on its feet. Otherwise it will be eaten up by wildcats and become dead meat.
- iv. Children brought up in a loving, disciplined environment end up respecting their parents more and become law-abiding citizens. The reverse is just as true. Good parents are not afraid of momentary dislikes by children to enforce the subject. Allowing a child to eat a box of chocolate could lead to sickness. At the same time, the discipline of eating one or two pieces a day can be an enjoyable experience for a longer time. Our instinct makes us do whatever we want regardless of the consequences. Freedom is not procured by a full enjoyment of what is desired but controlling the desire.

2.1 Read the given questions and write the answer in 20-30 words. (2×4=8)

- a) What according to the writer is not discipline?
- b) Why do you think a mama giraffe kicks her baby immediately after birth?
- c) What is the role played by parents in creating law-abiding citizens?
- d) What according to you is discipline?

2.2 Find the word from the passage which is closest to the meanings given below. (1×2=2)

- a) Designed to correct something undesirable. (para i)
- b) A set of straps used for controlling. (para ii)

2.3 Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct option. (1×2=2)

- a) The synonym of the word 'momentary' in para (iv) is _____
 - i) an exact point ii) short lived
 - iii) very important iv) none of these
- b) The synonym of the word 'procured' in para (iv) is _____
 - i) obtained ii) postponed iii) produced iv) none of these

Section - B (Writing & Grammar – 30 marks)

Q.3 Today, you saw a long queue outside the ATM and bank that you visited with your mother. Non-availability of cash made the people agitated, security personnel had a tough time controlling the crowd. Write a page of your **diary entry** reflecting on the scenario in **100-120 words**. You may use the following clues : **(8)**

- * demonetisation
- * waited four hours
- * to exchange demonetized bill
- * returned empty hand

OR

You are concerned at the increasing number of people affected by cancer. You hold the degradation of the environment as the main reason for the spread of this deadly disease. Using the clues given below and ideas from the MCB unit 'Environment', write **an article** for your school magazine about the same in about **100-120 words**.

- * Cancer – the silent killer
- * no breakthrough till date
- * high level of benzene in the air
- * high level of pesticides in our foods

Q.4 Write a story in about **200-250 words** based on the following clues. Give it a suitable title. **(12)**

I was travelling with my father and baby – train reaches past midnight – cold and foggy - husband not on platform – fearsome looking porter approaches – father looks

for husband – baby likes porter – I am scared – father and husband come – porter refuses payment – blesses.

OR

Write a story in 200-250 words beginning with the following line. Give it a suitable title.

Jyoti was a teenager who used to live with her mother. Her father worked in another city. One day, a stranger

Q.5 Complete the passage given below with the most appropriate words. [½×6=3]

An ATM is (i)_____ simple machine which (ii)_____ an extension of a bank even (iii)_____ the bank is closed. The machine (iv)_____ usually placed (v)_____ a small room. You can (vi)_____ money, anytime from it.

Q.6 In the passage given below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word and the word that comes before and after it against the correct blank number. Also underline the missing word. [1×4=4]

	Before	Missing	After
The refrigerator a cabinet which is	a)_____	_____	_____
used keeping fresh vegetables, cooked	b)_____	_____	_____
food and other eatables a cool place	c)_____	_____	_____
so that they not get spoiled.	d)_____	_____	_____

Q.7 Rewrite the following words/phrases to form meaningful sentences. [1×3=3]

- a) the / watermelon / thirst / quenchers / in summers / is / one / of the best
- b) around / it is / 96 countries / cultivated in / the world
- c) in Africa / about / 5000 years / ago / grown / it was / first

Section – C (Literature and Extended Reading Text - 30 marks)

Q.8 Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. Write each answer in your answer sheet in one or two lines only. [1×4=4]

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I
I took the one less travelled by
And that made all the difference.

- a) Does the poet seem to be happy with his choice?
- b) What will the poet be telling with a sigh?

- c) What is the rhyme scheme of the above stanza?
- d) What is the meaning of the word 'sigh'?

OR

'We fled'.

- a) Who are 'we' here?
- b) From which chapter has this extract been taken.
- c) Why did they flee?
- d) What is the meaning of 'fled' here?

Q.9 Answer the following questions. (word limit 30-40)

[2×4=8]

- a) What made Triveni a popular writer?
- b) What is the message that the narrator wants to convey to the readers in the story 'A Dog Named Duke'?
- c) What was the professor's ambition in the army?
- d) What is the poet's lament in the poem 'The Solitary Reaper' and what does he assume about the reaper's song?

Q.10 Should opportunism and self interest be the guiding principles of life?

[1×8=8]

With reference to the above, write about Juliette and Gaston and also explain who according to you is better in business. Support with examples from the text. (word limit 100-120 words)

OR

The journey of Charles Hooper from his meeting with the accident, his paralysis, his constant struggle to recover, Duke's assistance and finally his promotion shows how the values of self support, strong determination, willingness and loyalty to duty bring success to our lives. Elaborate.

Q.11 Describe the king's adverse views about Gulliver's country, his countrymen and English institutions. How does he differentiate them with the customs of Brobdingnag in about 150-200 words.

[10]

OR

Attempt a character sketch of Glumdalclitch in about 150-200 words.

