



DHIRUBHAI AMBANI  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

**PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2018 - 2019**

**Subject: English Language**

**Date: January 7, 2019.**

**Std.: X A**

**Time: 2 hours  
(plus 15 minutes reading time)**

**Marks. 80**

*Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.  
You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.  
This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.  
The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.*

*Attempt all five questions.*

*The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given  
in brackets [ ].*

*You are advised to spend not more than 30 minutes in answering Question 1 and  
20 minutes in answering Question 2.*

*This paper has 7 printed sides.*

**Question 1**

*(Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question)*

**[20]**

Write a composition (300-350 words) on any one of the following:

- Write a story in which a mobile phone, a burglar and a little girl play an important role.
- 'Grading in School must be based on academic performance only.' Express your views either for or against this statement.
- You have done something you never thought would be possible for you to do. Narrate what you did and how you felt. How has this experience left an impact on you and your life?
- It is the Parent teacher meeting day in your School for Classes 8, 9 and 10. You are waiting for your parents as they would be coming a little late. Describe what you see, hear and feel while you are waiting in the foyer.

**ANTHUS BOOK DEPOT**

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- e) Study the picture given below and write a short story or an account or a description based on it. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it.



### Question 2

(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question)

[10]

Select any one of the following: -

- a) Your grandmother has not been keeping well. Write a letter to her, attempting to cheer her up, while keeping her updated with all the happenings at home.

OR

- b) Write a letter to the Manager of a Mall you had recently visited, complaining about the poor maintenance and lack of facilities. Suggest measures for improvement.

### Question 3

- a) You are the school captain. You, along with the student council are organizing a thanksgiving party and lunch for the service staff of the school. Write a notice giving information about the same, to the high school students.

[5]



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b)

Write an e-mail to the Principal of your school seeking permission to display the notice and requesting the use of the auditorium, and the dining hall for the event.

[5]

#### Question 4

Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

They drank their tea listening to the sharp notes of the tailor bird and the noisy chatter of the seven sisters. As the brief twilight faded, most of the birds fell silent.

Sunder Singh lit his oil-lamp and said it was time for him to inspect the tunnel. He moved off towards the tunnel, while Suraj sat on the cot, sipping his tea. In the dark, the trees seemed to move closer to him. And the night-life of the forest was conveyed on the breeze- the sharp call of

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a barking deer, the cry of a fox and the quaint tonk tonk of a nightjar. There were some sounds that Suraj didn't recognize- sounds that came from the trees, creakings and whisperings, as though the trees were coming to life, stretching their limbs in the dark, shifting a little, flexing their fingers.

Sunder Singh stood inside the tunnel, trimming his lamp. The night sounds were familiar to him and he did not give them much thought; but something else- - padded footfall, a rustle of dry leaves- made him stand still for a few seconds, peering into the darkness. Then humming softly to himself, he returned to see where Suraj was waiting. Ten minutes remained for the night-mail to arrive. As Sunder Singh sat down on the cot beside Suraj, a new sound reached both of them quite distinctly- a rhythmic sawing sound, as of someone cutting through the branch



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of a tree. "What's that?" whispered Suraj. "It's the leopard," said Sunder Singh. "I think it's in the tunnel." "The train will soon be here," said Suraj. "Yes, my friend. And if we don't drive the leopard out of the tunnel, it will be run over and killed. I can't let that happen." "But won't it attack us if we try to drive it out?" asked Suraj, beginning to share the watchman's concern. "Not this leopard. It knows me well. We have seen each other many times. It has a weakness for goats and stray dogs, but it will not harm us. Even so, I will take my axe with me. You stay here, Suraj." "No, I'm coming with you. It will be better than sitting here alone in the dark!" "Alright, but stay close behind me. And remember, there is nothing to fear."

Raising his lamp, Sunder Singh advanced into the tunnel, shouting at the top of his voice to try and scare away the animal. Suraj followed close behind; but he found that he was unable to do any shouting. His throat was quite dry. They had gone about twenty paces into the tunnel when the light from the lamp fell upon the leopard. It was crouching between the tracks only five meters away from them. It was not a very big leopard, but it looked lithe and sinewy. Baring its teeth and snarling, it went down on its belly, tail twitching.

Suraj and Sunder Singh both shouted together. Their voices rang through the tunnel. And the leopard, uncertain as to how many terrifying humans were there in the tunnel with him, turned swiftly and disappeared into the darkness. To make sure it had gone, Sunder Singh and Suraj walked the length of the tunnel.



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a) Give the meaning of each of the following words as used in the passage. One word answers or short phrases will be accepted. [3]

(i) peering

(ii) advanced

(iii) terrifying

b) Answer the following questions briefly and in your own words.

(i) What sounds were they listening to as they drank their tea? [1]

(ii) What do you think Sunder Singh's occupation was? Give a reason? [2]

(iii) How are the trees personified? [2]

(iv) What sounds made Sunder Singh wary initially? [2]

(v) Where was Sunder Singh going? Why did Suraj want to accompany him? [2]

c) In not more than 50 words, narrate the encounter with the leopard. [8]

### Question 5

a) Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. [4]

Example: There (0) \_\_\_\_\_ (be) an important job to be done.

Answer: was.

Everybody, (i) ..... (ask) to do it. Everybody was sure  
Somebody (ii) ..... (will) do it. Anybody (iii) ..... (can) have  
done it, but Nobody. (iv) ..... (do) it. Somebody (v) .....  
(get) angry about that, because it was Everybody's job.  
Everybody (vi) ..... (think) Anybody could do it but Nobody



realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It (vii) ....(end) up that Everybody(viii) ... (blame) Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

- b) Fill in each blank with an appropriate word: [4]
- (i) The errant driver was let off \_\_\_\_\_ a fine.
  - (ii) Did you ever come \_\_\_\_\_ this word?
  - (iii) The task was completed \_\_\_\_\_ six o' clock in the evening.
  - (iv) Radhika managed to pull \_\_\_\_\_ the crisis with ease.
  - (v) Sudhir is answerable \_\_\_\_\_ his actions.
  - (vi) One should live \_\_\_\_\_ one's means.
  - (vii) Their demand is \_\_\_\_\_ the rules.
  - (viii) The child fell \_\_\_\_\_ meekly to his parent's wishes.

- c) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence **without using and, but or so.** [4]
- (i) The leader was missing. The follower was missing.
  - (ii) The bank was open. I withdrew the necessary amount.
  - (iii) I need no man's favour. I frankly told this to my guests.
  - (iv) Some students do not like to read books. They come to grief in life.

- d) Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence. [8]
- (i) She likes strawberries more than grapes. (Use 'much')
  - (ii) The boat turned over and we were all thrown into the raging water. ( Use 'threw')
  - (iii) As soon as the alarm bell rang, people proceeded calmly to the exit. ( Use: No sooner)



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(iv)

Mother said, 'Did you switch off the geyser this morning?'  
(Begin: Mother asked...)

(v)

Inspite of a strong student support, Monica could not defeat her opponent. (Use: 'yet')

(vi)

The students are writing an examination now. (Begin: An)

(vii)

I realized that my ideas were working and my opinion mattered a lot. (Begin: Not only)

(viii)

If you do not exercise, you will be ill. (Begin: Either.)

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