



GUNDECHA EDUCATION ACADEMY

COMMON PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2018-2019

STD: X  
Two hours

DATE: 04 .01.19  
Marks: 80

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ENGLISH Paper – 1

(Two hours)

*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 four 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.*

**Question 1**

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

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

[20]

- Narrate an experience of the day, where you had to overcome your phobia and get through a tough situation. How did you feel at the end of that day? What did this experience teach you?
- You once happened to get lost in a new place. Give a vivid description the place with the different things you saw and the varied sounds you heard there. Also, describe how this place left you mesmerized.
- In today's time, the mouse has become mightier than the pen. Express your views either *for* or *against* this statement.

'Zone H CPE 2019'

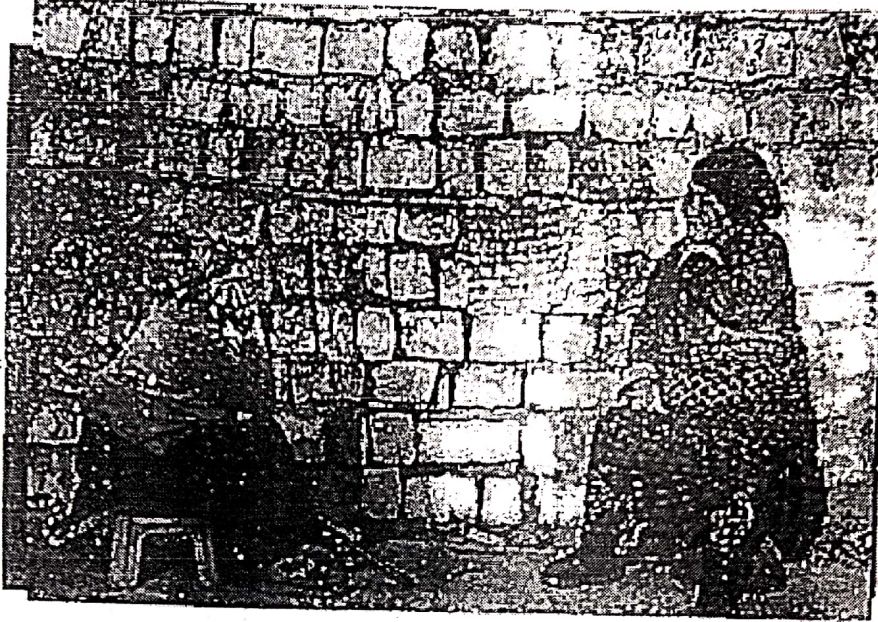
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**AMBIKA BOOK DEPOT**  
Shop No. 1, Ranoli, Vasant Utsav,  
Ranoli (E).

d) Write an original story to illustrate the saying, 'Fortune favours the brave.'

e) Study the picture given below.

Write a story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it.



### Question 2

[10]

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

Select one of the following:

- You have a cousin who is based in the U.S. Recently, you have come to know that he/she is planning to shift to your city for higher studies. Write a letter giving him/her information and advice on the following: the best college for the course he/she has chosen, place for accommodation, recreational facilities in your city.
- Recently, you had been to a five-star hotel in Lonavala for a short weekend trip with your family. Somehow, you weren't satisfied with the service provided by the hotel staff during your stay. Write a letter to the Manager of the hotel complaining against the poor infrastructure, substandard quality of food, rude behavior of the staff and extravagant room tariff.

### Question 3

[5+5]

- You are the Head Girl/ Head Boy of your school. You and your team (Student Council) are planning to organize a Book Fair to celebrate the Literature week in your school. Write a notice to be put up on the school Notice Board inviting pupils of Grades 6 to 10; to visit the fair themselves and also to invite their near and dear ones to grace the fair by their presence.
- Write an e-mail to a renowned author residing in the vicinity of your school, inviting him/her to be the Chief Guest for the book fair as mentioned in question 3 a).



Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

I rested for a moment at the door of Anand Bhavan, on Market Road, where coffee drinkers and tiffin eaters at their tables sat transfixed uttering low moans on seeing me. I wanted to assure them, 'Don't fear, I am not out to trouble you. Eat your Tiffin in peace, don't mind me ... You, nearest to me, hugging the cash box, you are craven with fear, afraid even to breathe. Go on; count the cash, if that's your pleasure. I just want to watch, that's all ... If my tail trails down to the street, if I am blocking your threshold; it is because, I'm told, I'm eleven feet tip to tail. I can't help it. I'm not out to kill ... I'm too full – found a green pasture teeming with food on the way. Won't need any for several days to come, won't stir, not until I feel hungry, unlike human beings who slaughter one another without purpose or hunger ...'

To the great delight of children, schools were being hurriedly closed. Children of all ages and size were running helter – skelter screaming joyously. 'No school, no school. 'Tiger, tiger!' They were shouting and; laughing and even enjoyed being scared. They seemed to welcome me. I felt like joining them, and bounded away from the restaurant door and trotted along with them, at which they gleefully cried, 'The tiger is coming to eat us; let us get back to school!'

I followed them through their school gate while they ran up and shut themselves in the school hall securely. I ascended the steps of the school, saw an open door at the far end of a veranda, and walked in. It happened to be a headmaster's room, I believe, as I noticed a very dignified man jumping on his table and heaving himself up into an attic. I walked in and flung myself on the cool floor, having a partiality for the cool stone floors, with my head under the large desk – which gave me the feeling of being back in the Mempi caves ...

As I drowsed, I was aware of cautious step and hushed voice all around. I was in no mood to bother about anything. All I wanted was a little moment of sleep; the daylight was dazzling. In half sleep I heard the doors of the room being shut and bolted and locked, I didn't care. I slept. While I slept a great deal of consultation was going on. I learnt about it later through my master, who was in the crowd – the crowd which had gathered after making sure that I had been properly locked up – and was watching. The headmaster seems to have remarked some days later, 'Never dreamt in my wildest mood that I'd have to yield my place to a tiger ...' A wag had retorted, 'Might be one way of maintain better discipline among the boys.'

'Now that this brute is safely locked up, we must decide', began a teacher. 'At this moment my master pushed his way through the crowds and admonished. Never use the words "beast" or "brute". They're ugly words coined by humans in their arrogance. The human being thinks all other creatures are "beasts". Awful word!"

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

- i. craven (line 4)
- ii. threshold (line 6)
- iii. admonished (line 30)

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

- i. What reassurance did the tiger give the coffee drinkers? [2]
- ii. In what way are tigers different from human beings? [2]
- iii. Why were the children delighted? [2]
- iv. What was the wag's response? [2]
- v. Which sentence tells us that the tiger's owner had respect for the tiger? [1]

c) In not more than fifty words describe the tiger's activities from the time it followed the school children till it slept. [8]

Question 5

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

Example:

Self-discipline is often \_\_\_\_\_ (0) (take) as a burden.

Answer: taken

Self-discipline, in fact, \_\_\_\_\_ (1) (do) not kill joy but \_\_\_\_\_ (2) (build) it. You see people with talent and \_\_\_\_\_ (3) (able), and yet they are unsuccessful. They \_\_\_\_\_ (4) (frustrate) and the same behavior pattern \_\_\_\_\_ (5) (affect) their business, their health, and their relationships with others. They \_\_\_\_\_ (6) (dissatisfy) and \_\_\_\_\_ (7) (blame) it on luck without \_\_\_\_\_ (8) (realize) that many problems are caused by lack of discipline.

- b) Fill in each blank with an appropriate word: [4]
- i. Rusting \_\_\_\_\_ is idleness and passivity.
  - ii. One positive thought early morning sets the tone \_\_\_\_\_ the day.
  - iii. Teachers will put you \_\_\_\_\_ a path to seek answers.



- iv. It is not uncommon to see people going \_\_\_\_\_ nature's law.
- v. The normal response \_\_\_\_\_ fear is escape.
- vi. Nita hardly glanced \_\_\_\_\_ the letter before signing it.
- vii. The weather has been warm \_\_\_\_\_ Monday.
- viii. I was walking \_\_\_\_\_ Chowringhee street when I saw him.

c) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using 'and', 'but' or 'so': [4]

- i. He was wealthy and educated. He never made a name.
- ii. A gypsy was wandering across the fields. He found the baby.
- iii. He finished his homework. He put away his books.
- iv. The rain stopped. We put the clothes out to dry.

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. He sympathized with me over my sad loss, and this was some comfort.  
(Begin: His .....)
- ii. To escape punishment you must confess your fault.  
(Begin: Either .....)
- iii. No sooner did Arti see the thief she went into action.  
(Begin: Hardly .....)
- iv. Janet was sorry she had cheated in the test.  
(Use: 'regretted')
- v. Very few history books are as comprehensive as this one.  
(End: ..... many others.)
- vi. Everyone admired the beautiful painting.  
(End: ..... admiration.)
- vii. Bella requested Simon to come to her house that day.  
(Begin: Bella said .....)
- viii. The old man told the children a story about dragons.  
(Begin: A story .....)

**AMRITA BOOK DEPOT**  
 Shop No. 11, Bazaar, Vasant Utsav,  
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