

ST. GREGORIOS HIGH SCHOOL  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2018

CLASS: X

TIME: 2 HRS

MARKS: 80

DATE : 20<sup>th</sup> Dec.2018

Candidates are allowed additional fifteen minutes for reading the question paper. During that time they are not allowed to write anything on the answer sheet.

Q1. Write a composition on any one of the following (300-350 words): (20)

- a) My biggest fear.
- b) Boredom leads to trouble. Write for or against this proposition.
- c) You wake up one morning to find no electricity in your house. There is a note under your door informing you that the electricity will be out all over the area for two days. Tell the story of your days without electricity.
- d) Write an original story which has the beginning – “I enter the kitchen to make myself a cup of tea when I notice something moving behind the pans...”
- e) Study the picture given below. Write a story or account of what the picture suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or may take suggestions from it; but there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



2



Q2. There has been a fire in your neighbourhood and a family was trapped in a building. You along with your neighbours saved them before the fire brigade could arrive. Write a letter to your grandfather/grandmother telling him/her about the incident and what you learnt from the experience.

OR

Write to the Manager of the biscuit factory closed to your school seeking permission to visit it with your classmates. (10)

Q3. a) You are the Head Boy/Head Girl of your school. Write a notice to be displayed on the school notice board asking the pupils of classes IX and X to submit their names for the Inter-School Quiz Competition in the school auditorium on the occasion of the Founders Day of your school. Give all the necessary details. (5)

b) Write an e-mail to the Principals of two schools, requesting them to send the names of three participants for the Inter-School Quiz Competition to be organized by your school. Use the details given in Q. 3 a). (5)

Q4. Read the given passage and answer the given questions:

Scientists had known from research that brain cells deprived of sufficient oxygen do not perform their work efficiently; and the intellect and reasoning powers fade as a result. Conversely, mental alertness improved when larger amounts of pure oxygen were delivered to the brain cells. A group of clinical psychologists demonstrated this a few years ago when they administered pure oxygen to senile patients placed in a pressurized chamber. After two pure-oxygen treatments daily for fifteen days, the patient's scores in standard memory tests jumped by as much as twenty-five per cent.

Scientists also knew that simple exercises, walking, jogging, swimming and others, made people more active, feel better and enjoy their lives more. But the most striking result was the improvement in "oxygen-transport capacity" - the amount of oxygen that each heartbeat delivers to the rest of the body.



These two studies strongly suggest that a programme of regular exercise which increases oxygen transport to the brain can significantly improve mental performance. Inactivity can actually do harm.

The notion of an adult brain-hygiene programme challenges traditional scientific fatalism about the brain. One usual view has been that genetic inheritance plays the essential role or that the brain, protected by its blood barrier and other back-up mechanisms, in a sense goes its own way in life. Yet recent scientific experience has contradicted these notions.

True, the number of neurons - cells that are the fundamental units of nervous tissue in the human brain is set at birth - an estimated ten thousand million. But these cells must still mature, and the tens of thousands of millions of connective glia cells that support and feed the neurons increase as the brain matures. Stimulating environment can clearly affect the growth of brain cells as shown by scientists.

The current view is that while the number of neurons may be fixed at birth, their rate of maturation may be influenced, even appreciably modified, by outside means all through life. But the brain's capacity can be modified unfavourably as well as favourably. Unhappily, too many of us choose a lifestyle that may lead to unfavourable changes.

For example, it is now believed that heavy alcohol intake levies a toll in clogged brain capillaries and oxygen-starved neurons. Microscopic evidence indicates that alcohol can bring on this condition, in which rich blood cells form wads, plugging capillaries so that oxygen can't get through. Without oxygen, neurons die. Autopsies of the brains of heavy drinkers reveal numerous areas which have atrophied where brain cells have died.

Similarly, cerebral vascular disease - the narrowing of the brain's blood vessels - is a major affliction of middle age and later. It kills neurons by denying them oxygen. The most suspected causes of cerebral vascular disease are fatty diets with high quantities of cholesterol, lack of exercise and lifestyles of tension or aggression. But all these can be modified.

Considering all these factors, what is needed to counter the adult brain drain is, basically, a new attitude - a recognition that the brain is affected by how we live, and a determination to heed the scientific implications regarding brain performance. If alcohol and fatty diets harm the brain, avoid them.

(1d)



The ideal programme to improve brain power will include both mental and physical, exercises. Purely mental exercises are helpful too, especially those that make new demands, such as learning a new language, taking up the guitar, meeting new people. You will work better and feel alive.

A. Give the meaning of the following words as used in the passage. One word answers or short phrases will be accepted:

- 1. Deprived
- 2. Notion
- 3. Fundamental

(3)

B. Answer the following questions in your own words:

- 1. When do the brain cells not function normally? (2)
- 2. How does physical exercise benefit the body? (2)
- 3. State the effect of alcohol on brain cells. (2)
- 4. What are neurons? (1)
- 5. What are the causes of cerebral vascular disease? (2)

C. In not more than 50 words of your own, describe how brain cells get badly affected and how they can be kept healthy? (6+2)

Q4. A. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate form of the words given in brackets.

At a seminar on road safety a number of startling facts \_\_\_\_\_ (1) (come) to light. It \_\_\_\_\_ (2) (be learn) that in the USA more than two million Americans \_\_\_\_\_ (3) (kill) since the auto was invented – a figure exceeding the toll of the nation’s wars. Traffic scientists \_\_\_\_\_ (4) (show) that one American— (5) (die) in a traffic accident every eleven minutes of the day. In our country, fatal motor accidents, though fewer, \_\_\_\_\_ (6) (cause) serious alarm as the number is steadily increasing. Most serious traffic accidents \_\_\_\_\_ (7) (to be) the result of rash driving. Motorists must \_\_\_\_\_ (8) (be make) aware of the danger of violating traffic regulations. (4)

B. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words:

(4)

1. We are all responsible \_\_\_\_\_ God for our actions.
2. Do you agree \_\_\_\_\_ the views of Professor Lal?
3. The driver was rewarded \_\_\_\_\_ honesty in returning the purse.
4. Aurangzeb was suspicious \_\_\_\_\_ his sons.
5. The son takes \_\_\_\_\_ his father.
6. My mother has recovered \_\_\_\_\_ her illness.
7. The train is running \_\_\_\_\_ schedule.
8. He meets his family only \_\_\_\_\_ Christmas time.

C. Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using 'and', 'but' or 'so':

(4)

1. It does not matter where you go. You will always have friends.
2. The permit is for two years. They will issue it to us.
3. She was alarmed by the explosion. She ran to the window.
4. She spoke to the clerk. He was a friendly, helpful man.

D. Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given. Make changes as necessary, but do not change the meaning of the sentence.

(8)

1. No sooner did I lift the box than I felt a pain in my back. Begin: Hardly....
2. Only a millionaire can afford such extravagance. End: ..... millionaire
3. The dog is too old to learn new tricks. Use 'so' instead of 'too'
4. If you promise support, I will help you. Begin: Provided...
5. He was successful in his attempt to summit the mountain peak. Use "success"
6. Follow my advice or you will repent. Begin: Unless....
7. Hearing the principal's footsteps, the boys ran away. Use: As soon as
8. She asked me how much that book cost. Begin: She said