

V I B G Y O R H I G H

Second Preliminary Examination

2018-2019

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Grade : X

Max. Marks : 80

Date : 03/01/2019

Time allowed : 2 hours

INSTRUCTIONS:-

- 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.
- The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given alongside the questions.
- Attempt all five questions.

Question 1

[20]

(Do not spend more than 35 minutes on this question.)

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

- (a) An emergency is described as a sudden unforeseen situation that requires an immediate action.

Narrate an incident from your life where you had to face such circumstances. Stating what made you take the decision, mention how it brought about a change in your attitude and personality.

- (b) Describe a hot summer afternoon when you sat by the window and watched the world go by.

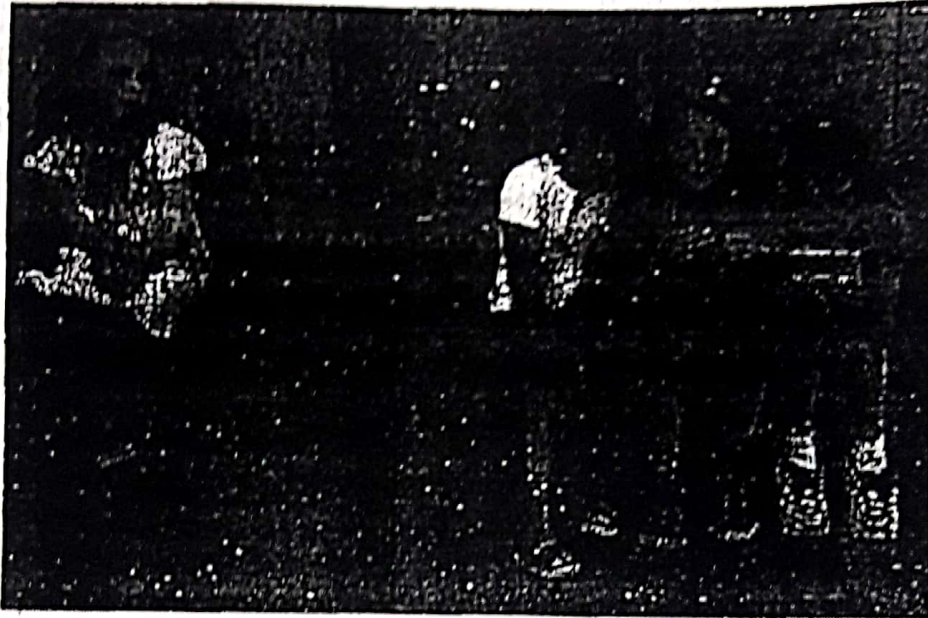
- (c) Life is all about taking risks. If you never take a risk, you will never achieve your dreams.

State your views keeping in mind the risks that the current generation is willing to take in life.

- (d) Write an original short story beginning with:

I was returning home late at night when the street lights went off.

- (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; however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



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Question 2

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

[10]

Select any one of the following:

- (a) Write a letter to your uncle describing the initiatives taken by you and your friends to implement the plastic ban in your locality. You must mention the difficulties you faced in doing so.

OR

- (b) Write a letter to the Police Commissioner of your city requesting him to appoint a police constable on duty at the crossroads near your school. Mention reasons for making such a request.

Question 3

[10]

- (a) Your school is hosting an Inter House Solo Singing Competition. Draft a notice for the school notice board requesting the students of Grades 8 and 9 to enrol at the earliest.
- (b) Write an email to a famous singer requesting him/ her to judge the solo singing competition that will be held in your school. Use the details given in Question 3(a).

Question 4

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. [20]

Nathu grumbled to himself as he swept the steps of the Pipalnagar Bank owned by Seth Govind. He used the broom hurriedly and carelessly, and the dust, after rising in a cloud above his head, settled down again on the steps. As Nathu was banging his pan against a dustbin, he saw Sitaram, the washerman, out on his delivery rounds.

"Do not raise such dust," he yelled out to Nathu. "Are you annoyed because they are still refusing to pay you an extra two rupees a month?"

"I do not wish to talk about it. (I have not received my regular pay and it is already the 20th of the month.) Who would think a bank would hold up a poor man's salary?" Nathu banged the pan against the dustbin several times, just to emphasize his point and give himself confidence.

"Well, I wish you luck," said (Sitaram) "I will keep a look out for any jobs that might suit you." (उज्ज्वल ने नथु को बताने की कोशिश की)

At the fourth home he visited, (Sitaram heard the lady of the house mention that she was in need of a sweeper.) Wanting to be of service to both his customer and his friend he said, (I know of a sweeper boy) who is looking for work. He is with the bank just now but they are not giving him his pay, (and he wants to leave.) Agreeing to meet Nathu the next day, the lady, Mrs. Srivastava, left to meet her friend at the market place.

(The news was then delivered to her friend.) "Do you know, my dear, that (Seth Govind's bank has no money to pay its employees?) Only this morning I heard a complaint from their sweeper, who has not received his wages for over a month!"

"Shocking! If they cannot pay the sweeper, they must surely be in a bad way." Leaving Mrs. Srivastava to make her customary tour of the shops, the friend went in search of her husband to reveal to him the ghastly news of the local bank going bankrupt.

"What's that? Which bank?" asked the man sitting up suddenly.

"Why, (the Pipalnagar Bank, of course. I hear they have stopped paying their employees. I fear the bank is about to collapse. We must get our money out as soon as we can."

(The awful news spread with the rapidity of a forest fire.) People tried getting in touch with Seth Govind who was holidaying in Kashmir. Since he was not at home, it was believed that 'the bird has flown', the man is absconding and it definitely meant a collapse. Men

stood in groups at street corners, discussing and speculating over the crisis. Some boasted of their far sightedness, congratulating themselves on having already taken out their money, or on never having put in any; others discussed the reasons of the crash. The gossip centred around Seth Govind who was believed to have gone into hiding or fled the state.

By noon, the small bank had finished its cash reserve and the manager was in a dilemma. Emergency funds could only be obtained from another bank thirty miles away and the crowds waiting for their money were gradually losing their patience. They had gathered outside on the bank steps, threatening to break in. Nothing the manager said could placate them. Suddenly, from somewhere bricks and stones hurtled through the air crashing through the glass window.

Nathu arrived next morning to sweep the steps of the bank. He saw the broken glass and the stones cluttering the steps. Raising his hands he cried, "As though it is not bad enough to be paid late, it seems my work has also to be increased."

Just then came his friend, Sitaram. He waved cheerfully and said, "Are you ready to take up a new job from next month? You will have to, I suppose, now that the bank is going out of business. Everyone is coming in to claim their money."

Nathu went back to sweeping, muttering to himself. When he had finished his work, he sat down on the highest step to await the arrival of the manager. He was determined to get his pay. "Who would have thought the bank would collapse!" he said to himself and looked thoughtfully into the distance. "I wonder how it could have happened....."

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

(i) customary

(ii) ghastly

(iii) placate

(b) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:

(i) What were the reasons for Nathu to grumble while at work? [2]

(ii) How had Sitaram been of service to both his customer and his friend? [2]

(iii) What was not right in the information given by Mrs. Srivastava to her friend? [1]

- (iv) Why was Seth Govind declared to be an absconder? [2]
(v) Elaborate upon the dilemma faced by the manager. [2]

(c) In not more than 50 words of your own, describe how gossip mongering led to the collapse of a healthy financial institution. [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: (0) saving

The _____(0)_____ (save) of certain wild animals from _____(1)_____ (extinct) has for many years been a problem for zoologists and other specialists; but more recently the problem _____(2)_____ (become) so acute and _____(3)_____ (receive) so much publicity, that most people are now _____(4)_____ (concern) about it.

This may at first seem strange because one of the most gratifying developments of the last few years _____(5)_____ (be) the _____(6)_____ (pass) of strict laws to protect wild animals and the consequent decline in the hunting of big-game for sport.

Why is it, then, that some rare wild animals are still _____(7)_____ (threaten) with disappearance and even some of the less rare ones _____(8)_____ (rapid) declining in number?

The reason is the 'march of civilization'.

- (b) Fill in each blank with an appropriate word: [4]

- (i) He will be dropped _____ the team if he does not make a big score.
(ii) We had agreed to meet at the school at 7:30am, but he never turned _____.
(iii) The Principal called _____ a written explanation.
(iv) The news of the policeman's death cast a gloom _____ the village.
(v) I have decided to lodge a complaint _____ the corrupt official.
(vi) Living in Canada has made him accustomed _____ the harsh weather.
(vii) The diplomats met in secret to iron _____ their differences.
(viii) If you want to continue working here, you must abide _____ our rules.

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

- (i) My mother was very exhausted. She could not keep her eyes open.
- (ii) He has many admirers. He also has several detractors.
- (iii) You are not keeping good health lately. Can you tell me the reason?
- (iv) We may have been deceived. I do not know.

(d) Rewrite 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.

- (i) Both the answers are incorrect. [1]
(Begin: Neither)
- (ii) He was too occupied with important matters to meet us. [1]
(Rewrite without using 'too'.)
- (iii) She said, "Mother, I will never again make the mistake of opening this door to a stranger." [1]
(End:stranger.)
- (iv) Running and swimming are the best exercises. [1]
(Rewrite using the positive form of the adjective.)
- (v) It is distressing to know that you have cheated in the class test. [1]
(Begin: How.....)
- (vi) As soon as he finished narrating the story all gave him a standing ovation. [1]
(Begin: Hardly.....)
- (vii) Sachin was the only person capable of being the Earth House Captain. [1]
(Rewrite using: 'capability'.)
- (viii) The peasants regarded him as a thief and called him a villain. [1]
(End:: the peasants.)