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INTERNATIONAL INDIAN SCHOOL, DAMMAM
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION – 2013

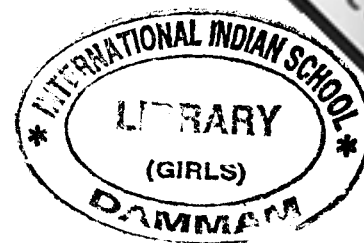
CLASS XII
SUBJECT : ENGLISH CORE

MAX.MARKS: 100
TIME : 3 HRS

SET – A

General Instructions:

- (i) The paper consists of three sections – A, B & C. All sections are compulsory.
- (ii) Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.
- (iii) Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions. Marks will be deducted if this limit is crossed.
- (iv) Please write down the serial number of the question in the answer script.
- (v) Do not split sections.



Q1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

12 Marks

LIFE AND TIMES OF A FREEDOM FIGHTER

1. The play of names has almost a touch of fable here-Nirakar, the formless one, regenerating the primal form of a forest that had passed into the mist. For the last 20 years Nirakar Mallick, a small farmer in Orissa's Kendra Para district, has been greening a coastal landscape that had of late been experiencing more of brown. Droughts, as they are wont be, are cruel in these parts. At other times, it's excess water that's the bane. Nirakar's latest sally-the rebirthing of a forest on a two hectare stretch circling the river Brahmani near his village- came after the green patch was denuded in the 1999 super cyclone.
2. The tidal waves that had swamped Orissa's coasts had led to heavy soil erosion, rendering these villages forever vulnerable to floods. But now thanks to Nirakar, over five thousand trees of sundry varieties cover the area. This has not only helped restore the local ecosystem but also provided a potential source of income to the community. People, however, were skeptical in the beginning. They were losing out on grazing ground for cattle. Some were also suspicious of Nirakar's motive, fearing he was out to grab government land. But once the trees began shooting up and the entire village looked rejuvenated, everybody was won over. Nirakar, for one, never made any bid to corner the fruits of his labour.
3. So now there are fruit bearing trees in the forest-jackfruit, mango, guava,coconut-as well as timber rich ones like teak, casuarinas, eucalyptus. Not all of the seven thousand seedlings he'd planted, and looked after as if they were his own offsprings, survived the elements. That didn't deter him, and Nirakar proudly says that as long as he is alive, no one from the area would ever harm a tree.
4. Over the years, Nirakar has spent a small fortune out of his own hard earned savings in greening mission. As a driver in Orissa Lift Irrigation Corporation (OLIC), he'd get about Rs 3000 a month. From this, he would put aside Rs 500 for planting trees. For the last two years he has not been receiving his salary from the defunct OLIC. He manages to make both ends meet by working his share on the one acre farmland inherited from his father.

5. Born in 1962 in a poor Harijan family in Aliha village, Nirakar inherited a feel for the soil and a green thumb of his father. A good student, he had to quit studies after class 9th to take up a job. He joined the OLIC in 1982 and got married the same year. Today he is father of three sons and a daughter.

6. Though officially a driver, Nirakar is a jack of all trades, doubling up as mechanic, fitter, electrician and operator at Aliha's lift irrigation project. For the area's small farmers who depend on the waters supplied through lift irrigation, he is nothing short of a hero.

7. Antihero too, for some, at a point of time. Traditionally, the Harijans of Aliha never planted coconuts. The Brahmins had told them that if they dared to plant the forbidden fruit, there would be death in the community. Nirakar broke this "divine" taboo. He got some agricultural farm and distributed it among his people. Today almost every courtyard in Aliha village has half a dozen fruit bearing coconut trees and no one died.

8. Nirakar's wife is an enthusiastic partner in his green ventures. His children also help. He has now taken a plantation of 20,000 seedlings along the three kilometers stretch from Manipatna to Singri in his block. Nirakar aims to plant at least one lakh trees before he dies.

9. Recognition has evaded him so far and Nirakar is least bothered. His only regret is that the government has not taken over maintenance of the forest from him so that it can be preserved for posterity. He hopes his good work is not lost after he is gone. He is, as you must have realized by now, crazy about his trees. "The trees speak to me," he says, "God has paid me back richly in many ways. I need nothing more".

(a) Answer the following questions briefly:

9 marks

- (i) How has Nirakar and his family helped in the greening mission? (2)
- (ii) Why did Nirakar quit his studies in childhood? (1)
- (iii) Why did the Harijans of Aliha village never plant coconut trees? (2)
- (iv) What is Nirakar's only regret? (2)
- (v) How did Nirakar win over the heart of the villagers? (2)

(b) Find the words from the passage which mean the same as:

3 x 1=3

- (i) lay bare
- (ii) several
- (iii) discourage/prevent

Q1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

8 marks

1. The handwriting of any two persons can be similar but never identical. Our handwriting is as personal as our finger prints. The size, slant, pressure, letter shapes and spacing vary from person to person. In my 31 years experience of teaching thousands of young students, I have not so far found any two persons' handwriting exactly alike.
2. Our handwriting mirrors our personality. Every time we write our name, we make a pen portrait of ourselves. Our handwriting records our development from childhood onwards.
3. The happy news is that by changing our handwriting, we can bring changes in our life. Our hidden talents can be discovered and put to positive use. Our weak points can be detected and

4. Graphology (the study of handwriting) maintains that the amount of pressure which we exert while writing reveals our emotional state. Spacing reveals the state of our mind. The margins indicate our sense of proportion. The speed of writing indicates the amount of energy we have. The style of writing indicates the sharpness of our mind. The slope of the writing reveals the degree of our affections. The size of our handwriting shows our power of concentration. Our terminal strokes reveal how generous we are. Our capital letters indicate our personal tastes. Our small letter reflects our mental development. Our signature reflects our individuality.
5. To analyze a person's handwriting one needs two or three samples of his writing. These should have been written over a period of one or two months. No especially designed pens must be used. It must be written on an unruled page. It is better if the samples include all the letters of the alphabet as in the sentence: The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.
6. Consistent strokes in handwriting denote a logical, well ordered mind. But occasionally broken connections denote a flexible mind which welcomes new ideas. Connection entirely broken with no ends joining denote an intuitive nature. If the 'Ts' are crossed it denotes that the person has a great capacity for getting things done. The person is stubborn and obstinate if the words are joined by continuous sweep of connecting terminal strokes.
7. Have you ever realized how the pressure with which you write varies with every change in your feelings? Cramped, small handwriting, with short "T" bars, a backward slant, narrow writing in a large hand, poor rhythm in writing, and uncontrolled variation in handwriting, indicate fear psychoses in the person whose handwriting is being analyzed.
8. Narrow – minded people lack imagination. This trait is reflected in their handwriting. Their handwriting is narrow. There is no age limit to bringing about a change in one's handwriting. By changing your handwriting you can change your life. And with a change in your life, your handwriting automatically gets changed.

(a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it, use recognizable abbreviation (minimum 4) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it. **5 marks**

(b) Write a summary of the notes prepared in about 80 words: **3 marks**

SECTION-B : ADVANCED WRITING SKILLS

(35 Marks)

3. You are Aneesh/Aneesha, Personal Assistant to G.M., ABC Metal Tools Company, Mumbai. Your General Manager has asked you to draft a Classified advertisement for a local daily for the post of two engineers. Draft the advertisement in not more than 50 words. **5 marks**

OR

Recently almost 60 people including several children were burned to death when a crackers factory went into flames. Draft a poster against engaging children in such harmful work. Also highlight the laws against child labour. **5 marks**

4. You are Roshan /Roshini, Hyderabad Public School, Hyderabad. The Empowerment and Sustainable Development Initiative (ESDI) in association with the Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), both NGOs, observed the Women Empowerment Day at Jagmohan Palace Hall. You were invited to attend the function. Write a report to be published in the local daily. **10 marks**

OR

Write a factual description of a shopping mall in your city in about 125 words. Include details of layout, special facilities like ATM, restaurants, escalators etc. You are Roshan/Roshni. **10 marks**

5. You are Suresh/Sarika Jain of No-20 Jawahar Nagar, Jaipur. Two months ago you bought a desert cooler from M/s Cool Home Coolers, Jaipur. Now you discover that it is not working properly. Write a letter to the Manager, Customer Care complaining about the malfunctioning of the unit and asking them to repair and if needed to replace it against warranty. **10 marks**

OR

You are Jolly/Jose of Class XII . You are interested in pursuing a course in Visual Communication. You have seen an advertisement issued by National Institute of Communication, Pune, offering courses in Media and Communication. Write a letter to the Director, seeking information about their courses, fee structure, placement opportunities etc. **10 marks**

6. India is standing at the threshold of joining the developed nations but that is not possible till we achieve complete literacy in the country. The contribution of students may be very significant in achieving our goals. Write an article in 150-200 words expressing your views on 'The Role of the Students in Removing Illiteracy.' You are Manish /Manisha. **10 marks**

OR

"To use the latest technology the right way, is in the hands of the youth today." Write a speech in 150-200 words discouraging the misuse of technological products like cell phones, computers etc and highlighting the need to use them to promote harmony and goodwill in the society. You are Manish/Manisha. **10 marks**

SECTION: C : (LITERATURE)

(45 Marks)

7. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

1x3=3 marks

"Unless, governor, inspector, visitor,

This map becomes their window and these windows

That shut upon their lives like catacombs."

(a) Why does the poet invoke 'governor, 'inspector' and 'visitor'?

(b) Which literary device has been used here? Explain.

(c) What have 'these windows' done to their lives?

OR

"yes , in spite of all,

Some shape of beauty moves away the pall

From our dark spirits. Such the sun, the moon,

Trees old, and young, sprouting a shady boon

For simple sheep..."

a. What does 'in spite of all' refer to?

b. What, according to the poet, drives away the sadness from our life?

c. What according to Keats are the things that cause suffering and pain?

8. Answer any three (3) of the following questions in 30-40 words each:

2x3=6marks

1. 'Under the apparent stillness there is life'. Justify

2. How is Aunt Jennifer affected by the 'weight of matrimony'?

9. Answer any three (3) of the following in 30- 40 words:

- (a) Why was the YMCA pool considered safer when compared to the Yakima River?
- (b) Why did the Peddler choose to go through the forest?
- (c) How did the legal advisor bring a sad end to the brief and brilliant acting career of an extremely talented in the studios?
- (d) Why was 'Name of the Rose', a success?

10. Answer any one of the following in 125-150 words:

10 marks

'Lost Spring', is a sad commentary on the political system of our country that condemns thousands of people to a life of abject poverty. Comment.

OR

Why did Gandhiji's casual visit to Champaran get extended to over a year?

11. The makeup boy was not at all satisfied with his job and always complained that he was kept back in such a mean job for long years, even though he had higher caliber, only because of the influential person Subbu. The office boy never liked or tried to like his job. Being a resentful employee, he fails to understand the glory and importance of every work, be it high or low. Unless we love our work, we cannot be productive, but a mere waste. Your engineering graduate sister is working as a clerk in a firm. She is not satisfied with her work. Learning lessons from the office boy's behaviour, You realized the value of 'Glory of Labour' and the need to be satisfied and committed to what one gets to be progressive in life. Write an article in about 100 words on this topic.

5 marks

12. Answer any one of the following questions in 125-150 words:

7 marks

Do you think that the Third Level was a medium of escape for Charley? Elaborate.

OR

How did the Tiger King meet his end? What is ironical about his death?

13. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each:

2x4=8 marks

- 1. What were Geoff Green's reasons for including high school students in the 'Students on Ice' expedition?
- 2. Why was Dr.Sadao not sent with the troops?
- 3. How did Roger Skunk's Mommy react when he went home smelling of roses?
- 4. Mr. Lamb says to Derry; 'it's all relative, beauty and the beast', what essentially does he mean?

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