

PRE BOARD EXAMINATION (FEBRUARY - 2019)

CLASS: X

ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE

Time: 3 hrs.

MAX. MARKS: 80

General Instructions:

I. The question paper is divided into three sections :

SECTION A : Reading	20 MARKS
SECTION B : Writing and Grammar	30 MARKS
SECTION C : Literature	30 MARKS

II. All questions are compulsory.

III. You may attempt any section at a time.

All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.

SECTION A (READING) (20 marks)

1 Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

In 1951 a young French doctor, Alain Bombard, remarked that shipwrecked men who found themselves afloat at sea without food or fresh water should be alive for a long time. They would live on the sea and its contents by eating raw fish and its juice. Planktons would prevent scurvy by providing Vitamin C. Dr Bombard decided to prove that he was right. He planned to put to sea in an air-filled rubber dinghy with a three-foot-square sail. This was the kind of raft on which a man might really find himself alone on the ocean after a shipwreck. The journey started from Las Palmas on a little raft named 'L' Heretique on October 18.

No sooner had he done so when he ran into trouble. First, a wave swept over the raft. The next day, the wind tore his sail. For the first two to three days he had no luck in catching fish and had nothing to drink but sea-water. He became depressed and feared failure in this test. As he became more hungry, he also became more determined to succeed.

He had with him some fishing equipment in a sealed tin, but he wanted to avoid using it. His idea was to exist like a shipwrecked sailor. He bent the point of his knife against an oar and then tied it to the end of the oar. He tried to catch a fish but could not. At last, he caught a dorado and ate it.

After these first few days, he was never without a supply of fish. Flying-fish were the main source of this supply. Once he caught a seabird and thought its flesh would be a pleasant change, but he found that it tasted almost like fish. A terrifying visitor arrived one day. This was a huge and unfriendly fish. It followed the raft for twelve hours and sometimes bumped against it. If it had really attacked the rubber raft with its vicious sword, it could have cut it to pieces very quickly and that would have been the end of the experiment. Sharks also followed his raft.

The most frightening of all Bombard's experiences on the long Atlantic journey was not due to swordfish or sharks. One day he accidentally knocked his air-filled cushion overboard and saw it floating about a hundred yards behind the raft. He swam to it but when he started to swim back he was horrified to see that the raft was moving faster than him. He put all his strength but was unsuccessful. He saw himself drowning through trying to rescue a cushion. So only a

miracle could save him and a double miracle needed if he had been attacked at that time by a shark. It happened; the anchor fell free and he pulled himself on board.

On the twenty-fourth day, Dr Bombard began to long for sonic fresh water. "Rain I" he cried aloud 30 seeing the sea strangely flattened. He undressed so that salt could be washed off his body. He collected rain-water into an inflatable rubber mattress. Following this, other rainstorms beat down on him. Tice rain which he had been so glad to see at first, now became one of his greatest difficulties. It was impossible to keep dry as everything was wet. "The last forty-eight hours", he wrote in his diary, "have been the worst of the voyage".

This same night, a great wave broke over L' Heretique and broke the oar he used as a rudder. Then, while trying to pull down the sail to save it from the storm, he tore a hole in his tent. He bailed out as much water as he could.

At last, the sun appeared and the brightness spread across the sky. "Thank God for the sun", he wrote, "I am covered with little spots but the sun has returned."

1.1 On the basis of your reading of the above passage answer any eight of the following questions

8x1=8

- a) List four problems that Bombard faced at the beginning of his sea Journey.
- b) Why did Dr. Alain Bombard undertake the sea journey himself?
- c) Why did he bend the point of a knife against an oar?
- d) From the last but one paragraph, we can tell that Bombard was not afraid of the collection of water in his dinghy because _____
- e) What was the most frightening of all Bombard's experiences on the long Atlantic journey?
- f) Describe briefly about the terrifying visitor...
- g) What optional food he tried to fish?
- h) What was it that he was glad to see at first but later became a difficulty?
- i) How did the tent get a hole?

2 Read the passage and answer the questions that follow

1. The first written public examinations were introduced over 2,000 years ago with the establishment of the imperial examination system in 606 AD in China. By the middle of the 19th century, competitive examinations had been introduced in Britain and India to select government officials. Public examination in schools have a shorter; but still considerable, history.

2. At present, the examination system in India in characterized by heterogeneity. They differ in their vintage, organizational design, financial stability, autonomy, organizational culture and credibility. For instance, the National Institute of Open Schooling is unique in conducting exams through the distance mode; the Indian School Certificate Examination confines itself to only private schools; and the West Bengal Board of Madrasa Education is for Islamic educational institutions only. In a situation where public funds are involved, the equity, efficiency and transparency of this expenditure need to be assessed to ensure that the taxpayers' money is being spent with due care and concern. The Amrik Singh report (1997) on reorganizing boards wondered, "Can there also be a system whereby it becomes possible to grade and categorize the boards in respect of how efficiently and honestly examination are organized?"

3. To do so, a set of parameters were chosen to measure effectiveness, quit, transparency and economic efficiency of the functioning of these organizations. These include indicators like cost incurred per students, fee charged per student, number of examinees per employee and number

of affiliated schools per employee. An analysis was made of the boards chosen on the basis of these parameters. The functioning of a total of 20 boards was analysed in terms of 18 performance indicators in 2005.

4. The data collected from the states shows that most boards have an operating surplus. However, the boards seem to be more sensitive to the needs of the disabled. All of them have some special provisions for such candidates. While these provisions vary widely in scope, most provide for a longer duration of examination, concessions in the examination of languages. The CBSE, along with the Maharashtra board, seem to fare the best.

5. Another important measure of effectiveness of the functioning of the boards is the time taken for declaration of examination results. It was found that this ranged from a mere 26 days in the case of Karnataka Secondary Education Examination Board in 2005 to 48 days for class X in neighbouring Maharashtra. The Supreme Court has recently issued directions that results should be declared within 45 days from the end of examinations. In 2005, 10 of the 20 boards, which provided this information, could not declare results within 45 days.

6. The reason for such a wide variation in performance in such a vital parameter was the processes utilized. Boards, which have adopted a centralized system of assessment in comparison to the earlier system of sending answer sheets to examiners, have an obvious edge. Similarly many boards have outsourced the work of compilation of results faster and used technology extensively. These boards are also able to declare results. In addition, agencies, which have consciously designed question papers with a high proportion of multiple-choice responses, do not need much time for evaluation. In fact, the Karnataka board has 60 percent of all the questions as objective type.

7. The quality of assessments is measured by the reliability of results. Even minor errors serve to destroy confidence in exams. Considerable variation was found between boards on this measure. The criteria was the number of applications made for scrutiny of marks after results had been declared, and the number of corrections made subsequently by the board. Of the 18 boards for which such figures were available, over 40 per cent had more than 10 per cent such corrections. The Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations reported the lowest number; the highest number of mistakes found in the results declared was by the Bihar Intermediate Education Council at a shocking 60.36 percent. Surprisingly, the Bihar School Examination Board fared much better. It would be interesting to explore the reasons for such a vast difference between the functioning of two similar organization in the same state.

8. A similar discrepancy was noticed in Assam where the Higher Secondary Education Council reported an error level of 19.14 per cent while the Board of Secondary Education had only 7.27 per cent errors. The third such case was in West Bengal where the West Bengal Board of madrasa Education had an error rate of 8.81 per cent while the West Bengal Board of Secondary Education reported a much higher rate of corrections made in the results declared of only 24.92 per cent.

9. The Karnataka Secondary Education Examination Board exhibited interest in results. It has the lowest cost per examinee and also manages to declare results the fastest

2.1 On the basis of your reading of the above passage answer any four of the following 4x2=8 questions in about 30 – 40 words.

- a) How have the Chinese played an important role in enhancing the education system?
- b) Mention any four distinguishing features of examination in India?
- c) What are the basic parameters to measure effectiveness in functioning of an organization?

- d) What are the factors that help in declaring the results faster?
- e) How the quality of assessment measured and what is the criteria for it?

2.2 On the basis of your reading of the above passage fill in *any two* of the following blanks. 2x1=2

- a) Even minor errors serve to destroy _____ in exams.
- b) The boards seem to be more _____ to the needs of the disabled.
- c) The examination system in India is characterized by _____

2.3 Find out the words that mean the same as under. Attempt *any two* of the following. 2x1=2

- a) Keep on hold/restrict (Para 2)
- b) easily seen / clear (Para 6)
- c) thorough and detailed examination (Para 7)

SECTION B (CREATIVE WRITING AND GRAMMAR) (30 marks)

3. You are Gladys / Joshua of Shantiniketan Indian School, Doha. You have seen an advertisement in “The Gulf Times” related to new batches of “Young Speaker’s Club initiated by Toast Master’s Club, Qatar, starting from the coming fortnight .You wish to join the Club. Write a letter to the Director, enquiring about the venue, duration, fee- structure, activities, transportation etc. Invent other necessary details (100-120 words) **8**

OR

You are the In-charge of the Medical Section of Shantiniketan Indian School, Doha, Qatar. Your stock of medicines is about to finish .Write a letter to the Director of Atlas Pharmacy, Doha, ordering medical items like glucose, breufen, penadol, bandages, tincture, pain-healers, ointments etc. Ask for discount on bulk order. Invent other necessary details. (100-120 words)

4. Write a short story, in about 200-250 words, with any one set of the cues given in the boxes below. Give a suitable title to the story. 10

Kevin, Riya and two other friends decided to go on a picnic to a hill station. They packed their bags and were quite excited. They reached the picnic spot and came across a small child who was crying

OR

During my Summer vacation we were waiting to meet my Dad after 3 long years.. My heart was filled with excitement. But a call came from the factory in Dubai where my father was working.....

5 Complete the paragraph given below by filling in *any four* the blanks with the help of the options that follow : 4x1=4

A. Very few people (a) _____ loneliness. It seems to me that most people (b) _____ scared of (c) _____ left on their own. It's like being in a place with a thousand people but feeling invisible to (d) _____ one of them. They feel (e) _____ even in a group.

- (a) (i) enjoy (ii) enjoys (iii) enjoyed (iv) enjoying
- (b) (i) is (ii) am (iii) are (iv) was
- (c) (i) be (ii) being (iii) been (iv) having
- (d) (i) all (ii) each (iii) every (iv) some
- (e) (i) beautiful (ii) isolated (iii) cowardice (iv) together

- 6 Rearrange *any four* of the following words to make meaningful sentences. 4x1=4
- a) rain water / flooding / helps/ harvesting / in / chances of / reducing
 - b) saves us / turns away / soft answer / anger and / a / a pitfall / from many
 - c) plant growth / in/storing /rainwater / can/ help / improving
 - d) is/ from / stored/ natural and/ pollutants /rain water /free/ man- made
 - e) love / of others / good manners / and / win the / respect

7 There is an error in each of the following lines. Find the error. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet.as given below. Remember to underline the word that you have supplied. Attempt any *four*. 4x1=4

	e.g.	Error	Correction
You should not always be with me.		should	<u>can</u>
a) Four suspects, who has		_____	_____
b) been hold in connection with		_____	_____
c) the kidnapping or murder have confessed		_____	_____
d) to his interrogators		_____	_____
e) and accepted there crime.		_____	_____

SECTION – C (Literature and Long Reading Text)

8 Read the following extract and answer the following questions. Write your answers in a line or two. 4x1=4

- a) *“My Lavinia fell forgivingly into my arms. I kissed her once or twice fervently, and then I shoved her aside, for I felt a sudden desire to write. The sheets of paper on my desk spread invitingly before me. I have got the bulliest plot for a ghost story”*
- i. Why did Lavinia forgive the author?
 - ii. Why did the author feel a sudden desire to write?
 - iii. What is the meaning of the word “bulliest?”
 - iv. How had the author got the plot to write a story?

OR

- b) *“And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed:”*
- i. What is the ambiguity juxtaposition in line ‘3’?
 - ii. What does ‘wrinkled lip’, ‘sneer’ and ‘cold command’ tell us
 - iii. How can we say that the sculptor read those expressions well?
 - iv. How do you think that the artist has become more powerful than the king?

9 Answer ***any four*** of the following questions in 30-40 words. 4x2=8

- a) Who was Ali? What did he do when he was young?
- b) Why does the narrator hesitate to be a partner to Laura Hinkle during the Ouija Board party?
- c) Do you agree with the frog's assessment that the nightingale is a brainless bird?
- d) "Water, water, everywhere, Nor any drop to drink" explain
- e) Why does Calpurnia say Caesar's wisdom is consumed in confidence? What does she mean?

10 Answer ***any one*** of the following questions in 100 – 120 words. 8

Compare the speeches of Brutus and Antony.

OR

Punishment follows the sinner! Justify with "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner"

Long Reading text

11 A) Answer the following question based on prescribed novel text for extended reading in about 200- 250 words. 10

The Diary of a Young Girl

- a) What are Anne's views about the Laws that restrict the Jew's freedom?
- OR**
- b) Write the pen portrait of Mr. Van Dann

OR

B) Answer the following question based on prescribed novel text for extended reading in about 200- 250 words.

The Story Of My Life

- a) 'The best and most beautiful things in the world can't be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart.' Justify the famous quote of Helen Keller.
- OR**
- b) Helen had a great strength and courage which helped her come out of her dark and silent world." Justify.