

PREBOARD EXAMINATION – 2020-21

Class: IX (CBSE)

Total Marks: 80

Date.....

SUBJECT - ENGLISH

Time: 3 hrs.

SECTION -A READING

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

I know poverty and misery and I quite appreciate by personal experience what it is to be poor, what it is to have no clothes, what it is to have no books, what it is to struggle through life, what it is to walk through the streets without an umbrella, without conveyance along miles on dusty roads. I have been through it all and I can understand the difficulties that most of you graduates have to face today. I am speaking from a long experience of 60 years. Please do not imagine that all the 60 years are milk and roses. To be able to accomplish something, I want to tell you that you have to go through such experiences.

I admit success in life is not always to be intelligent or be strong, and it is to some extent a bit of a gamble, but those who got their minds right and those who know their job sooner or later, will sooner perhaps than later make their way in life. But they should not be disappointed if they do not, they have to face up life and take it as they find it.

What I say is that the great things in life are not really great things in life. What I love is to enjoy the common things of life. I am happy that I am still able to sleep at night provided I have three miles walk in the evening. I am still able to enjoy a good lunch or a good dinner. I am still able to look at the blue sky and like it. I still like to walk in the open fields and like the smell of the Ragi or the Jowar.

We think that happiness consists of going to pictures and seeing thrilling films and technicolor dramas. Not at all, the great things in life are the God-given things which cost nothing. What you need is the desire to appreciate them. If you have your minds and hearts open, you have around your things which give you joy. There is the butterfly jumping about in flourishing colors on all sides. Look at the wonderful thing that God has given for our enjoyment. We have to love nature and appreciate nature and appreciate her wonderful gifts, of nature's marvelous ingenuity, its resourcefulness, and infinite variety. It is the same thing that has inspired me all my life.

(a) How had C.V. Raman's childhood been difficult? **1**

- i. He had lived life as a poor
- ii. He had access to books only
- iii. He had to run on the streets
- iv. He never drank milk as a child

(b) Why has life been termed as a gamble? **1**

- i. It disappoints you always
- ii. Life is good to only hardworking people
- iii. Even an intelligent or strong person is unsure of success
- iv. CV Raman has lost money in this gamble

- (c) How does C.V. Raman's speech inspire us? 1
- i.He told us easy ways to enjoy life
 - ii.He told us one needs to be poor to succeed in life
 - iii.He told us to work day and night
 - iv.He told us that life is never easy
- (d) What according to C.V Raman consists of happiness? 1
- i.Seeing thrilling films and technicolor dramas
 - ii.Things that cost money
 - iii.God-given gifts which cost nothing
 - iv.A graduate student's life
- (e) According to the text, what should we love? 1
- i.Life
 - ii.Gamble
 - iii.C.V Raman
 - iv.Nature
- (f) Which smell did he like in the fields? 1
- i.Butterflies in fields
 - ii.Ragi and Jowar
 - iii.Dinner
 - iv.Dusty Roads
- (g) What has inspired C.V Raman all his life? 1
- i. Gamble
 - ii.Family
 - iii.Nature
 - iv.Films
- (h) How many years of experience does C.V Raman have? 1
- i.6 years
 - ii.60 years
 - iii.16 years
 - iv.66 years
- (i) Choose the best option from the words given below which mean the same: 1
- 1.despair**
- i.disappointment
 - ii.hopelessness
 - iii.misery
 - iv.distress
- (j) Choose the best option from the words given below which mean the same: 1
- endless**
- i.unlimited
 - ii.continuous
 - iii.infinite
 - iv.unreachable

2. **Read the passages given below and answer any 10 questions that follow them:**

January 26 is celebrated as Republic Day in our country. It was on this day, in 1950, the new constitution of independent India came into force and India became a democratic republic. The Constituent Assembly headed by Dr. Rajendra Prasad, with Dr. B.R. Ambedkar as the Chairman of the Drafting Committee, took more than two years to bring the world's lengthiest constitution to its final shape.

The enormous task before the Constituent Assembly was to frame the basic law that would formalize India as a truly democratic nation. Democracy is aptly defined as a system of Government by the people, for the people and of the people. The founding fathers of the Constitution, therefore, had to ensure that the basic law of the land contained sufficient provisions for the fulfilment of the democratic aspirations of the people of India not only in the political sphere but also in the social and economic spheres. That explains the inclusion of a separate part in the Constitution, called the Directive Principles of State Policy.

These principles signify the fact that the framers of the Constitution were well aware of the wide gaps and inequalities that existed among the various sections of the Indian population. The Constitution makers had the wisdom to appreciate that political democracy is meaningless when an overwhelming majority of the population is historically trapped in poverty, illiteracy, ill-health and superstition. The Central and State Governments were expected to frame policies so that every citizen is assured of a decent living standard irrespective of sex, caste, religion, language and region.

The makers of our Constitution describe India as a Union of States and not as a federation. Being well conversant with the diversity of the nation in terms of the language, religion, caste and region, and its implications on the intended socio-economic development of the country as a whole, the makers of the Constitution opted for a political system in which the Central Government is equipped with overwhelming administrative, legislative and financial muscle. Most of the nations' policies and programmes for socio-economic development originate at the Central Government, and the responsibility for their successful implementation is entrusted to the states.

- a) The programmes for the socio-economic development originate at 1
- i) state level
 - ii) regional level
 - iii) district level
 - iv) central government level
- b) The British had left behind 1
- i) a developed India
 - ii) a wealthy India
 - iii) a poverty-stricken, illiterate India
 - iv) a strong and healthy India
- c) The constitution-makers describe India as a _____ 1
- i) Union of states
 - ii) Union of nations
 - iii) Union of territories
 - iv) Union of districts

- d) The constitution-makers took more than two years to bring the world's _____ constitution to its final shape. **1**
- i) simplest
 - ii) lengthiest
 - iii) heaviest
 - iv) shortest
- e) Find the word from the passage which means the same as recognizing the good quality of somebody. **1**
- i) overlook
 - ii) appreciate
 - iii) disparage
 - iv) condemn
- f) Who is the Chairman of the Drafting Committee? **1**
- i) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
 - ii) Dr. Rajendra Prasad
 - iii) Jawahar Lal Nehru
 - iv) Sachchidananda Sinha
- g) Who is the Head of the Constituent Assembly? **1**
- i) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
 - ii) Dr. Rajendra Prasad
 - iii) Jawahar Lal Nehru
 - iv) Sachchidananda Sinha
- h) _____ is equipped with overwhelming administrative, legislative and financial muscle. **1**
- i) State Government
 - ii) Constitution
 - iii) Central Government
 - iv) Supreme Court
- i) When did the Indian Constitution come into force? **1**
- i) 1949
 - ii) 1947
 - iii) 1948
 - iv) 1950
- j) In how much time our Constitution made? **1**
- i) In two years
 - ii) More than two years
 - iii) In one year
 - iv) More than three year

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

Friends had conjectured that the bear would not recognize her. I had thought so too. But while she was yet some yards from his cage Baba saw her and recognized her. He howled with happiness. She ran up to him, petted him through the bars, and he stood on his head in delight.

- a) From which lesson is the above passage taken from? **1**
- i) The Bond of Love
 - ii) House is not a Home
 - iii) The Adventures of Toto
 - iv) The Happy Friends
- b) Who is Baba? **1**
- i) Monkey
 - ii) Bear
 - iii) Donkey
 - iv) Dog
- c) Who is the author of the story? **1**
- i) Kenneth Anderson
 - ii) Ruskin Bond
 - iii) Oscar Wilde
 - iv) Zia Gaudioso
- d) Find out the correct meaning of the word 'Conjectured' **1**
- i) Guessed
 - ii) Doubted
 - iii) Understood
- e) Who is 'she' in the lines? **1**
- i) Narrator's wife
 - ii) Narrator's sister
 - iii) Baba's mother
 - iv) Baba's sister

4. Along the sand
he lay until observed
and chased away, and now
he vanishes in the ripples
among the green slim reeds.
- a) Name the poem. **1**
- i) On Killing a Tree
 - ii) The Snake Trying
 - iii) The Legend of Northland
 - iv) Road Not Taken
- b) Name the poet. **1**
- i) Robert Frost
 - ii) Ogden Nash
 - iii) Gieve Patel
 - iv) W.W.E Ross
- c) About whom does the poet write in the given lines? **1**
- i) Trees
 - ii) Snakes
 - iii) Bears
 - iv) Bees

- d) Find the antonym of the word 'Vanish' 1
- i) Appear
 - ii) Disappear
 - iii) Fade

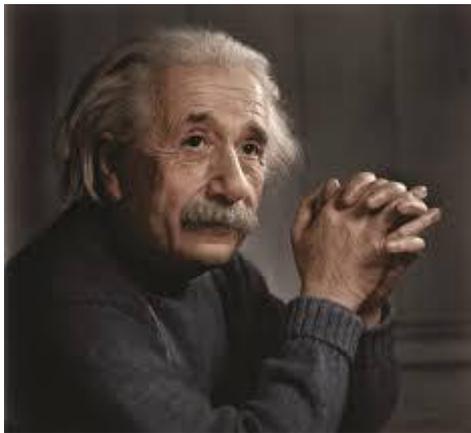
- (e) What message does the poet give through this poem? 1
- (i) Not to kill trees
 - (ii) Not to kill snakes
 - (iii) Not to kill animals

WRITING AND GRAMMAR

5. Your teacher has assigned you a project on Child Labour. You interviewed a child of a slum near your locality and was greatly moved to see her/his interest in study in spite of his/her poor plight. Write a diary entry sharing your thoughts, emotions about the child in about 150-200 words. 5

OR

Write a descriptive paragraph about Albert Einstein in 150-200 words.



6. Write a short story based on the given outline or cue/s in about 150-200 words.

The telephone rang. One of us dashed to the newspaper rack to take the call. Bad weather had played truant and the call was dropped. We were again wrapped by a thick blanket of silence. Suddenly, the telephone rang again. Vikas took the call. What he had heard left him still. 5

7. Read the sentence given below and fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate options from the ones that follow. 4

Writing (a) always been the medium of expression for those (b) are shy and nervous. But, today, writing is more than that. It is one of the most important (c) to judge the academic merit of a learner. No wonder, every learner has set his or her mind (d) becoming a great 'writer'.

- (a) (i) had (ii) is (iii) has (iv) have
(b) (i) which (ii) who (iii) that (iv) whoever

- (c) (i) parameters (ii) parameter (iii) none of the above (iv) both (i) and (ii)
(d) (i) at (ii) in (iii) on (iv) with

8. Choose the most appropriate option from the ones given below to complete the following passage. **6**

Everyone (a)..... mistakes. To judge mistakes (b)..... to make yet another mistake. It is.....condemning process .To benefit from (d)..... blunder, we must look (e)..... mistakes as not mistakes at all, but the stepping stones to (f)..... All students need to realize that they are the judges of their own lives.

- (a) (i) make (ii) makes (iii) is making (iv) made
(b)(i) is (ii) are (iii) was (iv) were
(c) (i) some (ii) the (iii) a (iv) an
(d) (i) all (ii) more (iii) every (iv) most
(e) (i) on (ii) upon (iii) at (iv) into
(f) (i) liberate (ii) liberating (iii) liberated (iv) liberation

LITERATURE

9. Answer any four of the following questions in 20-30 words each: **8**

- (a) How did the Happy Prince and the Swallow help the poor woman and her ill son?
(b) What role did the women of Kalikuda play after the cyclone? (Weathering in Ersama)
(c) What is the role of Olga in the story the Beggar’?
(d) How did the author spend time with his tabby cat ? (House is Not a Home)
(e) What punishment did Saint Peter give to the old lady ?

10. Answer any four of the following questions in 40 to 50 words each **12**

- (a) Who went in search of the goldsmith? Who accused the goldsmith and why?
(b) How did Montmorency create a mess? (Packing)
(c) Draw a comparison between Maria Sharapova and Santhosh Yadav.
(d) How does the poet suggest that all people on earth are same in the poem ‘No Men are Foreign’?
(e) What happened to Abdul Kalam when he visited his Science Teacher’s House the second time?

11. **Long Answer Questions [100-120words]**

5

(a) Teachers can either 'make' or 'break' their students' lives. Cite two incidents from "My Childhood" to prove the truth of this statement.

OR

(b) Imagine Ustad Bismillah Khan is going to play the Shehnai in your school annual function. You have been given the duty to introduce and welcome him. How would you introduce him?

12. **Long Answer Questions [100-120words]**

5

(a) The future of a country depends upon the power of youth. Explain how Prashant organized the youth in Ersama to help the cyclone-affected people.

OR

(b) A friend in need is a friend indeed; Discuss with reference to Sue in the story 'The Last Leaf'.

