

PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION-2020-21

SUBJECT - ENGLISH

Class: XII (CBSE)

Total Marks: 80

Date.....

Time: 3 hrs.

General Guidelines:

- (i) This paper is divided into three Sections: A, B and C. All the sections are compulsory.
- (ii) Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
- (iii) Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION - A READING - 20 MARKS

1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

It is not cool to be fat, but that has not prevented an obesity epidemic from occurring among America's youth. Childhood obesity increased from 5% in 1964 to about 13% in 1994. Today it is about 20% and rising. Children, on average, spend up to five to six hours a day involved in sedentary activities like watching television, using the computer, and playing video games, which is partly to blame for this escalating rate. Perhaps it wouldn't matter if they were sufficiently active at other times, but most of them aren't.

To make matters worse, children are bombarded with TV ads from fast food chains and other purveyors of high fat, high sugar meals and snacks. These highly effective advertising campaigns, combined with a physically inactive lifestyle, have produced a generation of kids who are at high risk for obesity-associated medical conditions. The major health threat is the early development of Type 2 diabetes (adult onset), particularly in children with a family history of disease. Doctors are reporting a surge in young adolescents developing Type 2 diabetes- which can lead to heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney disease, stroke, limb amputations and blindness. People who develop diabetes in adolescence face a diminished quality of life and shortened life span, particularly if the disease progresses untreated.

It's a scary prospect for our children, but, in many cases, obesity and diabetes are preventable.

When children are spending most of their free time sitting in front of televisions and computers, they are not outside running, jumping or engaging in team sports that would keep their weight down. Parents need to set limits on the time their children are engaged in passive activities. Paediatricians recommend restricting children to one to two hours per day on TV and computers combined – though older children may need additional time for learning activities.

Parental involvement remains the most important key to our children's healthy diets. Programmes to educate parents about nutrition are essential. Fast food should be consumed only in moderation. Caregivers who are often busy and harried, must avoid the temptation to whisk their kids into fastfood restaurants or to pick up fast food for dinner at home. Changing eating habits and lifestyle is not easy. But the health benefit for our children is a wonderful payoff for parents willing to take on the risk.

1.1) On the basis of your reading of the passage answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given choices. (1x6=6)

1) One of the major reasons behind obesity among children _____ 1

- a) Studying
- b) Playing indoor games
- c) Their sedentary lifestyle
- d) Eating fast food

2) Early development of Type 2 diabetes is normally found in children with _____ 1

- a) Sedentary lifestyles
- b) Strict parents
- c) Voracious appetite
- d) A family history of the disease

3) The most important factor to improve our children's diet is _____ 1

- a) Parental involvement
- b) Not watching TV advertisements
- c) Not having fast food
- d) All of these

4) Adolescents who develop diabetes may have _____ if not treated promptly. 1

- a) Poor quality of life
- b) Reduced span of life
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

5) The word _____ in para 1 means 'inactive' 1

- a) Watching
- b) Sedentary
- c) Escalating
- d) Sitting

- 6) The word _____ in para 3 means ‘poorer’ 1
- a) Untreated
 - b) Shortened
 - c) Meagre
 - d) Diminished

1.2) Answer the following Questions: (1x6=6)

- 1) How advertisements are responsible for obesity associated medical problems? 1
 - 2) How does Diabetes affect adolescents? 1
 - 3) Type 2 Diabetes can lead to _____? 1
 - 4) In order to keep children’s weight in check, the parents need to _____. 1
 - 5) ‘Inundated’ is the synonym of _____ in the second paragraph. 1
 - 6) The word _____ in the last paragraph means ‘within limits’. 1
2. Read the poem carefully and answer the questions that follow: 8

*The sun descending in the west,
 The evening star does shine;
 The birds are silent in their nest,
 And I must seek for mine.
 The moon, like a flower
 In heaven’s high bower,
 With silent delight
 Sits and smiles on the night.
 Farewell, green fields and happy grove,
 Where flocks have took delight;
 Where lambs have nibbled, silent move
 The feet of angels bright;
 Unseen they pour blessing
 And joy without ceasing
 On each bud and blossom,
 And each sleeping bosom.
 They took in every thoughtless nest
 Where birds are covered warm;
 They visit caves of every beast,
 To keep them all from harm:
 If they see any weeping
 That should have been sleeping,
 They pour sleep on their head,
 And sit down by their bed.*

- 1) When does the evening star rise?

- 2) What does 'bower' represent here?
- 3) What does the poet compare the moon with?
- 4) Why do the angels come down to earth?
- 5) Why are the bird's nest described as thoughtless?
- 6) What figure of speech is used in the line 'In heaven's high bower'?
- 7) Find word in the poem similar in meaning as 'crying'.
- 8) Find word in the poem similar in meaning as 'chewing slowly'.

Section – B Advanced Writing Skills (30 Marks)

3. Your school is hosting an Inter-School Debate Competition. Write a notice in about 50 words informing the students about the program and advising them to go and enjoy it. You are Mohan/Mohini, Head Boy/Head Girl, Shantiniketan Indian School, Doha, Qatar. 4

OR

You are Ratan/ Rani, General Manager of Hotel Green Park, Lucknow. You need a receptionist for your hotel. Draft an advertisement in not more than 50 words to be published in Hindustan Times Lucknow, calling for applications. Contact: 2758902.

4. The Literary Club of your school is putting up the play 'Waiting For Godot'. As Secretary of the Club, draft an invitation inviting the famous writer Ruskin Bond to be the guest of honour at the function. Write the invitation in not more than 50 words. You are Govind/ Gauri. 6

OR

You have received an invitation to be the judge for a literary competition in St. Ann's School. Send a reply in not more than 50 words, confirming your acceptance. You are Mr. Khatri/Ms. Khatri.

5. Nowadays just about everyone owns a cellphone but most of the users do not follow even the basic rules of cellphone conduct. They are seen speaking loudly, taking a phone call in the middle of a meeting or even at a funeral etc. Write a speech in 150-200 words to be delivered in the assembly of your school to appraise the fellow students of cellphone etiquette. 10
6. In many parts of our country girls are still discouraged from going to school. Consequently, a sizeable section of the population is deprived of education. Schemes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, CBSE scholarship to the single girl child and the Government's policy of giving free education to girls have come as a boon to our society. Write an article in 150-200 words on the education of the girl child in the country. 10

OR

Advertisements have become a big business. They are promoted by celebrities drawn from various fields like films, sports, etc., leaving their influence on all people specially the young. Write an article in 150-200 words on 'The Impact of Advertisement on the younger generation'.

Section – C Literature (30 marks)

7. Read the given lines and answer the questions:

**They do not fear the men beneath the tree;
They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.**

- i) Are Aunt Jennifer's tiger real? Give reasons for your answer. 2
- ii) Why do the tigers not fear the man beneath the tree? 1
- iii) What do you understand by 'chivalric certainty'? 1

**8. A thing of beauty is a joy for ever
Its loveliness increases, it will never
Pass into nothingness; but will keep
A bower quiet for us.**

- i) 'A thing of beauty is joy forever' – Explain. 2
- ii) Why does a beautiful thing 'pass into nothingness'? 1
- iii) What does the poet mean by 'a bower quiet for us'? 1

9. Answer any five of the following in 30-40 words each: (2x5) 10

- 1) For Franz, what was much more tempting than going to school and why?
- 2) Mention any two hazards of working in the glass bangles industry.
- 3) How did Douglas overcome the old terror?
- 4) The crofter can be called as a good host. Why?
- 5) Do you think that the third level was a medium of escape for Charlie? Why?
- 6) Why has the mother been compared to 'late winter's moon'?
- 7) What harm do the fishermen do and why do the salt gatherers hands hurt?

Answer the following in 120-150 words each:

10. Why did Roger Skunk go in search of the wizard? (Should Wizard hit Mommy) 6

OR

What is the theme of the play 'On The Face Of It'? How has it been worked out?

Answer the following in 120-150 words each:

11. The modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry and stress. What are the ways we attempt to overcome them – substantiate your points with reference to "The Third Level" 6

OR

There are moments in life when we have to make hard choices between our roles as private individuals and as citizens with a sense of national loyalty? Discuss with reference to the story you have just read.