

**North Ex Public School
Jain Nagar
Half Yearly Examination 2019-2020
Subject: English
Class: XII**

Time: 3 hours

M.M: 80 marks

Instructions:

- **This paper is divided into three sections A, B and C. All the sections are compulsory.**
- **Read the instruction very carefully and follow them faithfully.**
- **Do not exceed the prescribed limit while answering the question.**

SECTION A (Reading)

1. Read the passage carefully.

(12)

1. Too many parents these days can't say no. As a result, they find themselves raising 'children' who respond greedily to the advertisements aimed right at them. Even getting what they want doesn't satisfy some kids; they only want more. Now, a growing number of psychologists, educators and parents think it's time to stop the madness and start teaching kids about what's really important: values like hard work, contentment, honesty and compassion. The struggle to set limits has never been tougher –and the stakes have never been higher. One recent study of adults who were overindulged as children, paints a discouraging picture of their future: when given too much too soon, they grow up to be adults who have difficulty coping with life's disappointments. They also have distorted sense of entitled that gets in the way of success in the work place and in relationships.

2. Psychologists say that parents, who overindulge their kids, set them up to be more vulnerable to future anxiety and depression. Today's parents themselves raised on values of thrift and self – sacrifice, grew up in a culture where 'no' was a household word. Today's kids want much more, partly because there is so much more to want. The oldest members of this generation were born in the late 1980's, just as PCs and video games were making their assault on the family room. They think MP3 players and flat screen TV as essential utilities, and they have developed strategies to get them. One survey of teenagers found that when they crave for something new, most expect to ask nine times before their parents give in. By every measure, parents are shelling out record amounts. In the heat of this buying blitz, even parents who desperately need to say no find, themselves reaching for their credit cards.

3. Today's parents aren't equipped to deal with the problem. Many of them, raised in the 1960's and 70's, swore they'd act differently from their parents and have closer relationship with their children. Many even wear the same designer clothes as their kids and listen to the same music. And they work more hours; at the end of a long week, it's tempting to buy peace with 'yes' and not mar the precious family time with conflict. Anxiety about the future is another factor. How do well intentioned parents say no to all the sports gear and arts and language lessons they

believe will help their kids thrive in an increasingly competitive world? Experts agree: too much love won't spoil a child. Too few limits will.

4. What parents need to find, is a balance between the advantages of an affluent society and the critical life lessons that come from waiting, saving and working hard to achieve goals. That search for balance has to start early. Children need limits on their behaviour because they feel better and more secure when they live within a secured structure. Older children learn self-control by watching how others, especially parents act. Learning how to overcome challenges is essential to becoming a successful adult. Few parents ask kids to do chores. They think their kids are already overburdened by social and academic pressures. Every individual can be of service to others, and life has meaning beyond one's own immediate happiness. That means parents eager to teach values have to take a long, hard look at their own.

Questions:

A. Answer each of the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option: (4)

(i) What do the psychologists, educators and parents want to teach the children?

- (a) To teach them about treachery. (b) To teach them about discipline
(c) To teach them about the values of life like hard work, contentment, honesty and compassion
(d) None of these

(ii) What is essential to become a successful adult?

- (a) Learn not to overcome challenges (b) learn how to overcome challenges
(c) Nothing is essential (d) None of these

(iii) What is the drawback of giving children too much too soon?

- (a) They fail to cope with life's disappointments when they grow up.
(b) They do not study seriously
(c) They become quarrelsome when they grow up
(d) None of these

(iv) Today's parents have learnt much from _____ .

- (a) thrift and sacrifice (b) anxiety and depression
(c) future anxiety (d) teaching their kids

B. Answer the following questions:

(6)

- (i) What values do parents and teachers want children to learn?
(ii) Why do today's children want more?
(iii) What is the necessity to set limits for children?
(iv) How do older children learn self-control?
(v) Why is raising children a difficult task for parents?
(vi) What is the balance which the parents need to have in today's world?

C. Pick out the words/phrases from the passage which are similar in meaning to the following:

(2)

- (i) a feeling of satisfaction (para 1)
(ii) prosperous (para 4)

2. Read the passage given below:

(8)

1. Effective speaking depends on effective listening. It takes energy to concentrate on hearing and to concentrate on hearing and to concentrate on understanding what has been heard. Incompetent listeners fail in a number of ways. First, they may drift. Their attention drifts from what the speaker is saying. Second, they may counter. They find counter arguments to whatever a speaker may be saying. Third, they compete. Then, they filter. They exclude from their understanding those parts of the message which do not readily fit with their own frame of reference. Finally, they react. They left personal feelings about a speaker or subject override the significance of the message which is being sent.

2. What can a listener do to be more effective? The first key to effective listening is the art of concentration. If a listener positively wishes to concentrate on receiving a message his chances of success are high.

3. It may need determination. Some speakers are difficult to follow, either because of voice problems, or because of the form in which they send a message. There is then a particular need for the determination of a listener to concentrate on what is being said.

4. Concentration is helped by alertness. Mental alertness is helped by physical alertness. It is not simply physical fitness, but also positioning of the body, the limbs and the head. Some people also find it helpful to their concentration if they hold the head slightly to one side. One useful way for achieving this is intensive note-taking, by trying to capture the critical headings and sub-headings the speaker is referring to.

5. Note-taking has been recommended as an aid to the listener. It also helps the speaker. It gives him confidence when he sees that listeners are sufficiently interested to take notes; the patterns of eye-contact when the note-taker looks up can be very positive; and the speaker's timing is aided –he can see when a note –taker is writing hard and can then make effective use of pauses.

6. Posture too is important. Consider the impact made by a less competent listener who pushes his chair backwards and slouches. An upright posture helps a listener's concentration. At the same time it is seen by the speaker to be a positive feature amongst his listeners. Effective

A. On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations. Also supply an appropriate title to it.

B. Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words.

SECTION B (Writing)

3. You are the Secretary of Modern Flats Welfare Association, Bangalore. Write a notice to circulate to the members of the association, requesting them to attend a meeting to discuss the parking of the vehicles of the residents. **(4)**

Or

Design a poster for promoting cleanliness in the surroundings of your colony.

4. As manager, Spring Blossoms School, Dharwar, place an order for (at least 4 item) school furniture. Write a letter to Curzon & Co., Furniture Manufacturers, Dharwar. **(6)**

Or

You are Amit Chakraborty staying at 81, Chitranjan Park, New Delhi. Last month you got an inverter installed at your house through 'Electronical World' of Rajpat Nagar, New Delhi. Now you find that the inverter is not working and the local electrician who examined it at your request has told you that it is having some technical defect. Write a letter to the dealer asking him to replace it immediately under terms and conditions of the deal.

5. You have been awarded a prize for doing the best social services under 'Each one, teach one' project. Write an article for a monthly magazine in not more than 200 words on 'The Role of Students in Removing Illiteracy'. (10)

Or

After the rainy season is over, mosquitoes start breeding. They cause malaria, dengue, chikungunya, etc. These diseases can sometimes prove to be fatal. As Principal of your school, you have decided to deliver a speech on protection from mosquitoes, write a speech in 150-200 words.

6. You are Mohan Bhatia, a Press Correspondent of P.T.I. at Mumbai. You got the information about a building collapse. Write a report in 150-200 words. (10)

Or

Aruna Pillai is the Cultural Secretary of her school. She has been asked to present a brief report on the co-curricular activities of the school for the Annual Day. Write in about 150-200 words.

SECTION C (Literature)

7. Read the extract given below and answer the following questions: (4x2 = 8)

i.

Its loveliness increases, it will never
Pass into nothingness; but will keep
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep
Full of sweet dreams, and health, and
Quiet breathing

- Whose loveliness will keep on increasing?
- Identify the phrase which says that 'it' is immortal.
- What is a 'bower'?
- Why do we need sweet dreams, health and quiet breathing in our lives?

ii. The players who played the crowd were the responsibility of the office boy (even the make-up department of the Gemini Studios had an 'office boy'!). On the days when there was a crowd shooting, you could see him mixing his paint in a giant vessel and slapping it on the crowd players. The idea was to close every pore on the surface of the face in the process of applying make-up. He wasn't exactly a 'boy'; he was in his early forties, having entered the studios in the hope of becoming a star actor or a top writer, director or lyrics writer. He was a bit of a poet.

- What work did the 'office boy' do in the Gemini Studios?

- b. Why did he join the studios?
- c. Why was he disappointed?

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

1. Mr. Lamb advice to Derry was the product of his goodness of heart or to befriend him to overcome his loneliness. Give reason.
2. What impression do you form of Jack as a father in the story, 'Should Wizard Hit Mommy?'
3. 'Saheb is no longer his master,' says the writer. Explain.
4. Why did Gandhi agree to a settlement of 25 percent refund to the farmers?
5. How does the hundredth tiger takes its final revenge upon the Tiger King?
6. Did the people at Gemini Studios have any particular affiliations?
7. How can a visit to Antarctica be an enlightening experience?

9. Answer the following in 120-150 words:

- (a) What had Charley found out about Grand Central Station? How did his wife Louisa, his psychiatrist friend, Sam and his other friends react to it? (6)

Or

How does Douglas make clear to the reader the sense of panic that gripped him as he almost Drowned? Describe the details that have made the description vivid.

- (b) What is your stance regarding the two endings to the Roger Skunk story? (6)

Or

How does the Peddler interpret the acts of kindness and hospitality shown by the crofter, the ironmaster and his daughter?