



Date: 16 Dec 2022 Grade: XII	Model Exam – I English Core (301)	Max. Marks: 80 Time: 3 hours
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General Instructions:

- 1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections – Reading, Writing and Literature.**
- 2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.**

Q.No.	Section A: Reading	Marks
I.	<p>Read the passage given below:</p> <p>1. One of the greatest sailing adventures of the past 25 years was the conquest of the Northwest Passage, powered by sail, human muscle, and determination. In 100 days, over three summers (1986-88), Canadians Jeff Mac Innis and Mike Beedell accomplished the first wind-powered crossing of the Northwest Passage.</p> <p>2. In Jeff Mac Innis's words... Our third season. We weave our way through the labyrinth of ice, and in the distance we hear an unmistakable sound. A mighty bowhead whale is nearby, and its rhythmic breaths fill us with awe. Finally we see it relaxed on the surface, its blowhole quivering like a volcanic cone, but it senses our presence and quickly sounds. We are very disappointed. We had only good intentions - to revel in its beautiful immensity and to feel its power. Mike thinks how foolish it would be for this mighty beast to put any faith in us. After all, we are members of the species that had almost sent the bowhead into extinction with our greed for whale oil and bone. It is estimated that as many as 38,000 bowheads were killed off eastern Baffin Island in the 1800s; today there are about 200 left.</p> <p>3. The fascinating and sometimes terrifying wildlife keeps us entertained during our explorations. Bearded harp and ring seals greet us daily. The profusion of bird life is awesome; at times we see and smell hundreds of thousands of thick-billed murrets clinging to their cliffside nests. Our charts show we are on the edge of a huge shoal where the frigid ocean currents upswell and mix nutrients that provide a feast for the food chain. At times these animals scare the living daylight out of us. They have a knack of sneaking up behind us and then shooting out of the water and belly flopping for maximum noise and splash. A horrendous splash coming from behind has a heart-stopping effect in polar bear country.</p> <p>4. We have many encounters with the 'Lords of the Arctic' but we are always cautious, observant and ever so respectful that we are in their domain. In some regions the land is totally devoid of life, while in others the pulse of life takes our breath away. Such is the paradox of the Arctic-its wastelands flow into oasis that are found nowhere else on the face of the earth. Many times we find ancient signs of Inuit people who lived here, superbly attuned to the land. We feel great respect for them; this landscape is a challenge at every moment.</p>	

5. We face a 35 mile open water passage across Prince Regent Inlet on Baffin Island that will take us to our ultimate goal - Pond Inlet on Baffin Bay. The breakers look huge from the water's edge. Leaning into the hulls, like bobsledders at the starting gate, we push as hard as we can down the gravel beach to the sea. We catch the water and keep pushing until we have plunged waist deep, then drag ourselves aboard. Immediately, we begin paddling with every ounce of effort. Inch by agonizing inch, Perception moves offshore. Sweat pours off our bodies. Ahead of us, looming grey-white through the fog, we see a massive iceberg riding the current like the ghost of a battleship. There is no wind to fill our sails and steady the boat, and the chaotic motion soon brings seasickness. Slowly the wind begins to build. Prince Regent Inlet now looks ominous with wind and waves. The frigid ocean hits us square in the face and chills us to the bone.

6. We were on the fine edge. Everything the Arctic had taught us over the last 90 days was now being tested. We funneled all that knowledge, skill, teamwork, and spirit into this momentous crossing... If we went over in these seas we could not get the boat back up. Suddenly the wind speed plummeted to zero as quickly as it had begun. Now we were being pushed by the convulsing waves toward sheer 2,000 foot cliffs. Two paddles were our only power. Sailing past glacier capped mountains, we approached the end of our journey. At 05:08 on the morning of our hundredth day, speeding into Baffin Bay, the spray from our twin hulls makes rainbows in the sun as we complete the first sail powered voyage through the Northwest Passage.

7. We have journeyed through these waters on their terms, moved by the wind, waves and current. The environment has always been in control of our destiny; we have only tried to respond in the best possible way. We've been awake for nearly 23 hours, but we cannot sleep. The joy and excitement are too great. Our Hobie Cat rests on the rocky beach, the wind whistling in her rigging, her bright yellow hulls radiant in the morning sunlight. She embodies the watchword for survival in the Arctic - adaptability.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions briefly:

1. Which is the sea creature that seems to be the highlight of this passage? **1**

2. Which species was responsible for the near extinction of this sea creature? **1**

3. What is the meaning of "breakers"? You know of this word from the chapter "The Enemy". **1**

4. What is the paradox of the Arctic? **1**

5. How did certain skills help the author and his partner survive the adventure? **1**

6. Pick out the words and phrases from the passage which are similar in meaning as abundance (Para 3). **1**

7. Which word in Para 5 is the antonym of "peaceful"? **1**

8. How does one survive in the Arctic? **1**

9. Which chapter from your syllabus does this passage remind you of? Why? **2**

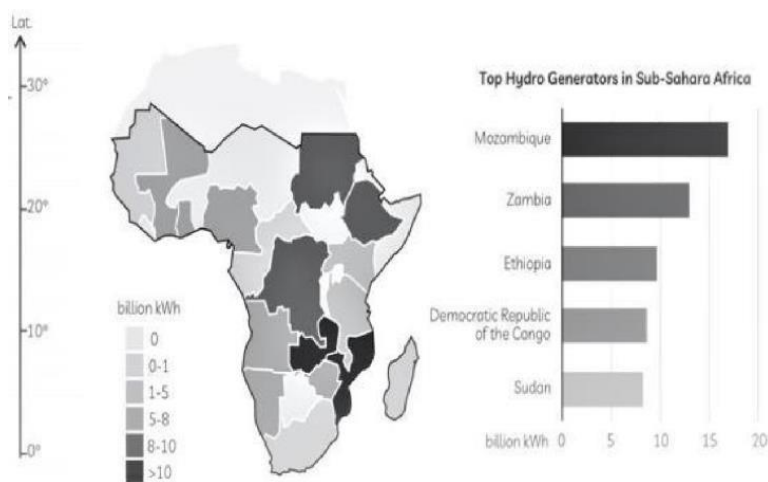
II. Read the passage given below.

1. The Sahara sets a standard for dry land. It's the world's largest desert. Relative humidity can drop into the low single digits. There are places where it rains only about once a century. There are people who reach the end of their lives without ever seeing water come from the sky. Yet beneath the Sahara are vast aquifers of fresh water, enough liquid to fill a small sea. It is fossil water, a treasure laid down in prehistoric times, some of it possibly a million years old. Just 6,000 years ago, the Sahara was quite a different place. It was green. Prehistoric rock art in the Sahara shows something surprising: hippopotamuses which need water year-round.

2. We don't have much evidence of a tropical paradise out there, but we had something perfectly livable, says Jennifer Smith, a Geologist at Washington University in St. Louis. At times when the Northern Hemisphere tilts sharply towards the sun and the planet makes its closest approach, the increased blast of sunlight during the North's summer months can cause the African monsoon (which currently occurs between the Equator and roughly 17°N latitude) to shift to the North as it did 10,000 years ago, inundating North Africa.

3. Around 5,000 years ago, the monsoon shifted dramatically southward again. The pre-historic inhabitants of the Sahara discovered that their relatively green surroundings were undergoing something worse than a drought (and perhaps they migrated towards the Nile Valley, where Egyptian culture began to flourish at around the same time).

4. As the land dried out and vegetation decreased, the soil lost its ability to hold water when it rained. Fewer clouds formed from evaporation. When it rained, the water washed away and evaporated quickly. There was a kind of runaway drying effect.



5. Around 4,000 years ago, the Sahara became what it is today. No one knows how human-driven climate change may alter the Sahara in the future. It's something scientists can ponder while sipping bottled fossil water pumped from the underground. Robert Giegengack, a University of Pennsylvania geologist, said "It's the best water in Egypt - clean, refreshing mineral water". If you want to drink something good, try the ancient buried treasure of the Sahara.

	<p>On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions.</p> <p>1. Where is the Sahara Desert located? a. North Africa b. South Africa c. East Africa d. West Africa</p> <p>2. How is the presence of water in this region 6000 years ago justified?</p> <p>3. What played an important role in the formation of Sahara as we know today?</p> <p>4. Name the three top hydro generators in Sub-Saharan Africa.</p> <p>5. How is the "fossil water" formed?</p> <p>6. Which is referred to as "the ancient buried treasure of the Sahara"?</p> <p>7. Write two rhyming words for "ponder".</p> <p>8. What are two items that you would take if you planned a trip to the Sahara Desert? Explain why you chose these two.</p>	<p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>2</p>
III.	Section B: Writing	20
	<p>Attempt ANY FOUR of the following:</p> <p>A. You are a Senior Scientist at ISRO. Gyan Vatika School of Raebareilly has invited you as the guest of honour for their Science Exhibition. Write a reply to their invitation accepting the same in about 50 words.</p> <p>B. The Director of Fatima Convent School, Nainital, has placed an advertisement in The Times of India for a Warden requirement in their hostel. Draft a job application for the same.</p> <p>C. Write a report of 100-120 words on the 17th Annual Athletic Meet which was held in the school campus on 26 November 2022. You can include details of the Chief Guest, the march past, highlights of track and field events, and any other details which you seem fit.</p> <p>D. As the school librarian, draft a notice in not more than 50 words asking all the students to return the library books on or before 18 Dec 2022, before they go home for the Christmas vacation.</p> <p>E. As you were coming to school today, your vehicle was damaged due to construction equipment which lay haphazardly along the road. Write a letter to the editor of Malayala Manorama addressing the issue.</p> <p>F. Visiting new places and meeting new people enhances our understanding and knowledge besides being a source of great pleasure. Write an article titled "Travel: The More We Know". You are Fathima/Fahad.</p>	<p>(5)</p> <p>(5)</p> <p>(5)</p> <p>(5)</p> <p>(5)</p> <p>(5)</p>

IV.	Section C: Literature	1x6=6
A.	<p>Attempt <u>ANY ONE</u> of the two extracts given below</p> <p>Extract 1</p> <p>It is in the news that all these pitiful kin Are to be bought out and mercifully gathered in To live in villages, next to the theatre and the store, Where they won't have to think for themselves anymore, While greedy good-doers, beneficent beasts of prey, Swarm over their lives enforcing benefits That are calculated to soothe them out of their wits, And by teaching them how to sleep they sleep all day, Destroy their sleeping at night the ancient way. (<i>A Roadside Stand</i>)</p> <p>1. What is the tone of the poet in the above lines? (i) aggressive (ii) tolerant (iii) sarcastic (iv) resigned (v) sentimental</p> <p>Choose the most appropriate option.</p> <p>A. Only (i) B. (ii) and (iii) C. (i), (iv) and (v) D. Only (iii)</p> <p>2. Identify the phrase from the extract that suggests overcrowding or taking control over.</p> <p>3. What quality of the villagers can be inferred through these lines? A. gullible B. futuristic C. hypocritical D. ambitious</p> <p>4. What is the figure of speech in Line 5? A. simile B. hyperbole C. personification D. alliteration</p> <p>5. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to (1) and (2) given below. (1) The city dwellers make promises for the betterment of the villagers. (2) The city dwellers have ulterior motives.</p> <p>A. (1) is true but (2) is false. B. (2) is true but (1) is false. C. (2) is the reason for (1). D. Both (1) and (2) cannot be inferred from the extract.</p>	1x6=6

6. Fill the blank with an appropriate word, with reference to the extract.

'... calculated to soothe them out of their wits' implies that 'them' are being _____.

A. welcomed B. fooled C. troubled D. appreciated

OR

Extract 2

A thing of beauty is a joy forever
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.
Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing
A flowery band to bind us to the earth.
(*A Thing of Beauty*)

1. Choose the option that displays the same poetic device as used in the first line of the extract.

- A. I'm as happy as I can be.
- B. Life is a roller coaster ride.
- C. Nature is God's gift to us.
- D. The dazzling divas enchanted all.

2. What does the phrase 'a bower quiet' indicate?

- A. serenity
- B. morality
- C. superiority
- D. diversity

3. The benefits of a thing of beauty for humans include _____.

- (i) healthy body
- (ii) calm mind
- (iii) struggle-free life
- (iv) better relationships
- (v) hope to carry on

Choose the most appropriate option.

- A. Only (v)
- B. (i), (ii) and (v)
- C. (i), (iii) and (iv)
- D. (ii) and (iv)

4. When the poet says that 'a thing of beauty' will never pass into nothingness, he means that it is _____.

5. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below.

- (1) We are surrounded by beautiful things.
- (2) Beautiful things provide us joy.

- A. (1) can be inferred from the extract but (2) cannot.
- B. (2) can be inferred from the extract but (1) cannot.
- C. Both (1) and (2) can be inferred from the extract.
- D. (2) is the reason for (1) and can be inferred from the extract.

6. Name the poet of this poem and another Romantic poet who has been a part of your syllabus.

B. Attempt ANY ONE of the two extracts given below:

1x4=4

Extract 1

DERRY: You're... peculiar. You say peculiar things. You ask questions I don't understand.

MR LAMB: I like to talk. Have company. You don't have to answer questions. You don't have to stop here at all. The gate's open.

DERRY: Yes, but...

MR LAMB: I've a hive of bees behind those trees over there. Some hear bees and they say, bees *buzz*. But when you listen to bees for a long while, they hum... and hum means 'sing'. I hear them singing, my bees.

DERRY: But... I like it here. I came in because I liked it... when I looked over the wall.

MR LAMB: If you'd seen me, you'd not have come in.

DERRY: No.

(On the Face of It)

1. List the playwright's purpose of using ellipses (...) in this extract.
2. Select the option that best describes Derry and Mr. Lamb in the extract.
 - A. Derry: introvert; Mr. Lamb: friendly
 - B. Derry: fearful; Mr. Lamb: domineering
 - C. Derry: friendly; Mr. Lamb: weird
 - D. Derry: open minded; Mr. Lamb: charming
3. Which of the following best summarises Mr. Lamb's attitude towards the bees?
 - A. Beauty is being true to yourself.
 - B. There is a kind of beauty in imperfection.
 - C. Beauty is the promise of happiness.
 - D. The beauty of the world lies in the details.
4. Derry says, "I came in here because I liked it" What was the one significant thing Derry might have liked about the place, as per the extract?

OR

Extract 2

Students on Ice, the programme I was working with on the Shokalskiy, aims to do exactly this by taking high school students to the ends of the world and providing them with inspiring educational opportunities which will help them foster a new understanding and respect for our planet. It's been in operation for six years now, headed by Canadian Geoff Green, who got tired of carting celebrities and retired, rich, curiosity-seekers who could only 'give' back in a limited way. With Students on Ice, he offers the future generation of policy-makers a life-changing experience at an age when they're ready to absorb, learn, and most importantly, act.

(Journey to the End of the Earth)

1. Complete the sentence appropriately, with reference to the extract:
The writer refers to the educational opportunities as 'inspiring' because

2. Which of the following would NOT be 'a life changing experience'?

- A. Being given the lead role in a play.
- B. Going on an adventure trip.
- C. Brushing your teeth.
- D. Meeting a great leader you admire.

3. Why does the writer refer to 'act' as being more important than 'absorb' or 'learn'?

4. Name two sea creatures found in the Antarctic region.

C. Attempt ANY ONE of the two extracts given below:

1x6=6

Extract 1

A girl from the countryside, she hadn't gone through all the stages of worldly experience that generally precede a position of importance and sophistication that she had found herself catapulted into. She never quite recovered from the terror she felt that day. That was the end of a brief and brilliant acting career — the legal adviser, who was also a member of the Story Department, had unwittingly brought about that sad end. While every other member of the Department wore a kind of uniform — *khadi* dhoti with a slightly oversized and clumsily tailored white *khadi* shirt — the legal adviser wore pants and a tie and sometimes a coat that looked like a coat of mail. Often, he looked alone and helpless ...

(Poets and Pancakes)

1. Select the option that completes the given sentence appropriately.

'Stages of worldly experience' in the given context would refer to.

- A. good education to gain knowledge.
- B. situations that require one to be street smart.
- C. smaller, not so important roles in acting.
- D. training in soft skills.

2. Select the suitable word from the extract to complete the analogy:
sealed : closed :: propelled: _____

3. Select the correct option to fill in the blank.

The harm done to the actress was a/an _____

- A. well-planned act.
- B. unintentional act.
- C. act of jealousy.
- D. act of male dominance.

4. Based on the above extract, choose the statement that is **TRUE** for the legal adviser.

- A. He disliked the actress from the countryside.
- B. He acted after thinking through things carefully.
- C. He did not gel well with others in the Department.
- D. He was always dressed smartly.

5. Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that the writer is sympathetic towards the professional fate of the actor. (*Clue: a phrase*)

6. Write down two departments which were a part of Gemini Studios.

OR

Extract 2

Some might make quite extravagant claims for it as being, in its highest form, a source of truth, and, in its practice, an art. Others, usually celebrities who see themselves as its victims, might despise the interview as an unwarranted intrusion into their lives, or feel that it somehow diminishes them, just as in some primitive cultures it is believed that if one takes a photographic portrait of somebody then one is stealing that person's soul.

(The Interview)

1. What is the most likely reason some people consider the practice of interview to be an art?

This could be because it requires-

- A. fluency of words.
- B. sensitive and careful handling.
- C. creativity and imagination.
- D. probing and focusing on details.

2. Rewrite the sentence by replacing the underlined phrase with its inferred meaning.

Celebrities feel that an interview diminishes them.

3. On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below.

- (1) Celebrities don't consent to be interviewed.
- (2) Interviews intrude the privacy of celebrities.

- A. (1) Can be inferred from the extract but (2) cannot.
- B. (1) cannot be inferred from the extract but (2) can.
- C. (1) is true but (2) is false.
- D. (2) is the reason for (1).

4. Rationalise the given opinion in your own words:

To say that an interview, in its highest form, is a source of truth, is an extravagant claim.

5. Replace the underlined word with its antonym from the extract.

Some celebrities hate the idea of having to give an interview because it makes them feel like attackers.

6. The author's views on interview, in the extract, can best be described as statements based on_____.

- A. facts
- B. hypothesis
- C. beliefs
- D. superstitions

V. Answer ANY FIVE of the following in about 40-50 words each.

5x2=10

1. "You realise the true value of a thing only on losing it." Comment on this statement in the light of the story, *The Last Lesson*.

2. State the common issue faced by most of the aged in the current times, with reference to the poem *My Mother at Sixty-six*.

3. What do we come to know about the author of *Lost Spring*, Anees Jung, through her interactions with Saheb and Mukesh?

4. Give two reasons why, according to Pablo Neruda, is 'keeping quiet' essential to attaining a better, more peaceful world. (*Keeping Quiet*)

5. If the Christmas spirit is about selflessness, forgiveness and becoming 'better' versions of ourselves amongst other things, Edla Willmanson is the epitome of this spirit. Justify with two points of evidence from *The Rattrap*.

6. How can we say that marriage was a compromise for Aunt Jennifer? Support your response with two justifications. (*Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*)

VI. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40-50 words each.

2x2=4

1. 'It's easy to judge others and give advice, but much more difficult to apply it to ourselves.' Elaborate with reference to the character of Sam in *The Third Level*.

2. Comment on any one aspect of the writing style of the author, Kalki in *The Tiger King*.

3. How do we know that Dr. Sadao was conscientious as well as loyal? (*The Enemy*)

VII. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words.

1x5=5

- A.** The prose selections, *Deep Water* and *Indigo*, bring out the importance of overcoming fear, in order to be able to lead our lives successfully. Imagine yourself to be a motivational speaker who has to address high school students. Write this address in 120 – 150 words elaborating on occurrences from the two texts to inspire your audience and to convince them about the importance of overcoming fear.

You may begin like this ...

Good morning, students!

We all know what it's like to be afraid. Fear is our body's natural response to a perceived threat or danger. But when ...

OR

- B.** *'Their mother sighed.*

Sophie watched her back stooped over the sink and wondered at the incongruity of the delicate bow which fastened her apron strings.'

The prose selection, *Going Places* includes this telling comment about Sophie's mother.

In *Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*, we are told that - *'The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's Hand.'*

Imagine a conversation between Sophie's mother and Aunt Jennifer. Create this exchange with reference to the two extracts given above.

You may begin the conversation like this ...

Sophie's mother: Your embroidery is so beautiful. Do you love tigers?

VIII. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words.

1x5=5

- A.** On returning home, Tishani Doshi writes her thoughts reflecting on how her decision to enroll for the *Students on Ice* programme has been the single most important decision of her life that has completely transformed her.

Imagine yourself to be Tishani and express these thoughts.

You may begin like this:

I can't thank my stars enough for having cashed in on the opportunity of ...

OR

- B.** Both Bama and Zitkala Sa experienced the harsh reality of discrimination in their childhood. Instead of letting it pull them down, they both found a way to overcome it. You wish to include a cameo* of both in your upcoming blog post.

As a part of the research, compare and contrast the experiences faced by the two and their response/s to these experiences, in 120-150 words.

[Clue: Include the similarities and differences in the discrimination they faced - their feelings - determination to overcome - success]

*a short description that neatly encapsulates someone or something