



PRINCE ACADEMY

OF HIGHER EDUCATION

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BOARD SAMPLE PAPER - II (2025-26)

SUBJECT :- ENGLISH ELECTIVE

Time : 03:00 Hours

CLASS - XII ARTS

M.M. - 80

Section : A - (Reading)

1. Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow- 12×1=12

I have often thought it would be a blessing if each human being was stricken blind and deaf for a few days at some time during his adult life. Darkness would make him more appreciative of sight, silence would teach him the joy of sound. Now and then I have tested my seeing friends to discover what they see. Recently I asked a friend, who had just returned from a long walk in the woods, what she has observed.

"Nothing in particular," she replied.

How was it possible I asked myself to walk for an hour through the woods and see nothing worthy of note. I, who cannot see find hundreds of things to interest me through mere touch. I feel the delicate symmetry of leaf. I pass my hands lovingly about the smooth skin of a silver birch or the rough, shaggy bark of a pine. In spring I touch the branches of trees hopefully in search of a bud, the first sign of awakening nature after her winter's sleep. Occasionally if I am fortunate & place my hand gently on a small tree and feel the happy quiver of a bird in full song.

At times my heart cries out with longing to see all these things. If I can get so much pleasure from mere touch, how much more beauty must be revealed by sight. And I have imagined what I should must like to see if I were given the use of my eyes, say, just for three days. I should divide the period into three parts. On the first day, I should want to see the people whose kindness and gentleness and companionship have made my life worth living. First I would like to gaze upon the face of my dear teacher, Miss Anne Sullivan Macy. She came to see me when I was a child. She opened the other world for me.

Questions:

(a) What would make one's blindness more appreciative of sight ? 01

(i) Blackness (ii) Darkness (iii) Whiteness (iv) Joyfulness

(b) What would silence teach one's deafness ? 01

(i) Joy of music (ii) Joy of voice (iii) Joy of sound (iv) Joy of speaking

(c) Where did her friend go ? 01

(i) in a village (ii) in a city (iii) in a town (iv) in a wood

(d) How could Helen Keller find hundreds of thing ? 01

(i) by mere touch (ii) by voice (iii) by sound (iv) by listening

(e) Whom would she like to see first if she was given sight ? 01

(i) Her father (ii) Her teacher (iii) Her brother (iv) Her mother

(f) Give the noun form of 'observe' ? 01

(i) Observation (ii) Observasion (iii) Obserwation (iv) Obserwasion

(g) The plural form of 'leaf' is ? 01

(i) Leafs (ii) Leaves (iii) Leaftern (iv) Leafen

(h) The verb form of 'thought' is ? 01

(i) think (ii) thought (iii) thinks (iv) to think

(i) "It would be a blessing if each human being was stricken blind and deaf for a few days at some time during his adult life." says Helen.

What makes her thing so ? 02

(j) Mention the things of interest than Helen found through the sense of touch? 02

2. Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow- 4

As concerns over climate change intensify, renewable energy sources have emerged as essential components in creating a sustainable future. Solar power harnesses sunlight through photovoltaic cells or solar thermal systems; wind energy captures kinetic energy from wind using turbines; hydroelectric power utilises flowing water; while geothermal energy taps into heat from beneath the Earth's surface.

Transitioning from fossil fuels to renewable energy not only reduces greenhouse gas emissions but also promotes energy independence by diversifying energy sources. Governments worldwide are investing heavily in renewable technologies through subsidies and incentives aimed at reducing initial costs for consumers while encouraging innovation within the sector.

Despite these advancements, challenges remain-such as storage capabilities for intermittent sources like solar and wind-and infrastructure development needs significant investment. However, with continued research and commitment from both public entities and private sectors alike, renewable energy holds promise for addressing.

Questions:

(i) What are some examples of renewable energy sources mentioned in the passage?

(ii) Why is transitioning from fossil fuels important, according to the passage?

(iii) How are governments supporting renewable energy technologies?

(iv) What challenges does renewable energy face according to the passage?

(v) What potential does renewable energy hold for the future?

3. Read the given poem carefullySomething there is that doesn't love a wall,

That sends the frozen-ground-swell under it,

And spills the upper boulders in the sun;

And makes gaps even two can pass abreast.

The work of hunters is another thing:

I have come after them and made the repair

Where they have left not one stone on a stone,

But they would have the rabbit out of hiding,

To please the yelping dogs. The gaps I mean,

No one has seen them made or heard them made,
But at spring mending-time we find them there.
I let my neighbour know beyond the hill;
And on a day we meet to walk the line
And set the wall between us once again.
We keep the wall between us as we go.
To each the boulders that have fallen to each.
And some are loaves and some so nearly balls
We have to use a spell to make them balance:
"Stay where you are until our backs are turned!"
We wear our fingers rough with handling them.
Oh, just another kind of out-door game,
One on a side. It comes to little more:
There where it is we do not need the wall:
He is all pine and I am an apple orchard.
My apple trees will never get across
And eat the cones under his pines, I tell him.
He only says, "Good fences make good neighbours."
"Spring is the mischief in me, and I wonder
If I could put a notion in his head:
"Why do they make good neighbours? Isn't it
Where there are cows? But here there are no cows.
Before I built a wall I'd ask to know
What I was walling in or walling out,
And to whom I was like to give offence.
Something there is that doesn't love a wall,
That wants it down." I could say "Elves" to him,
But it's not elves exactly, and I'd rather
He said it for himself. I see him there
Bringing a stone grasped firmly by the top
In each hand, like an old-stone savage armed.
He moves in darkness as it seems to me,
Not of woods only and the shade of trees.
He will not go behind his father's saying,
And he likes having thought of it so well
He says again, "Good fences make good neighbours."

Choose the correct alternatives from the options given below:

- (a) 'Good fences make good neighbours,' means
(i) a strong fence is essential for good relations
(ii) a strong fence keeps out enemies
(iii) a strong fence helps in maintaining peace between neighbours

- (iv) none of the above
- (b) The two neighbours 'walk the line' because
 - (i) they have to draw a line on which they build the wall
 - (ii) they have to check the gaps in the wall
 - (iii) they have to mend the gaps in the wall
 - (iv) none of the above

Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:

- (c) Why do the hunters make the holes in the wall?
- (d) What does the narrator mean by saying that 'he is all pine and I am an apple orchard'?

Section B: Writing and grammar

4. Frame any three of the given long compositions- 5x3=15
- (i) Family is an essential part of our lives. It provides us with a sense of belonging, unconditional love and support. The importance of family cannot be overstated as it plays a crucial role in shaping our personalities and shaping our future. Discuss the importance of family in 150-200 words
 - (ii) Increase in the number of vehicles causes pollution and traffic jams. Write an article in 150-200 words for 'The New Indian Express', Delhi, highlighting the urgent need to solve these man made problems, giving suitable suggestions. You are Madhav/Madhuri.
 - (iii) It is inevitable that traditional cultures will be lost as technology develops. Technology and traditional culture are incompatible. Write an essay based on this topic.
 - (iv) In spite of the advances made in agriculture, many people around the world still go hungry. Why is this the case? What can be done about this problem? Share your views on this topic.
5. You are Sweety/Suresh of L.M. Jain School, Ajmer. As Secretary of your School Co-curricular Activities Club, you visited a slum area in your city where the people suffered a great loss of life and property in a massive fire. The students of your school rendered their services and material help to the victims. Write a report in 120-150 words for your school magazine. 5

OR

Media has a strong hold on society. Write a speech in 120-150 words on how media influences public opinion to be delivered in the school assembly. 5

6. Rewrite the sentences according to the instructions given after each one.
- Attempt any eight out of the ten questions that follow: 8×1=8
- (i) I have not been able to reform him. I have made many efforts. (Begin with: In spite of...)
 - (ii) My friends believe with me in his honesty. (Use: Not only....but also)
 - (iii) He is poor, he is honest. (Begin with: Although...)
 - (iv) I would rather eat fruit than a lot of unhealthy junk food. (Begin: I prefer)
 - (v) The tree was cut down ruthlessly. (Begin: They)
 - (vi) The librarian orders books for the school library every year. (Begin: Books...)
 - (vii) The delegates arrived. The meeting started immediately. (Start the sentence with No sooner....)
 - (viii) The sign said, "Do not enter the room." (Begin: The sign stated.....)
 - (ix) She is so busy that she finds no time to entertain her friends. (Rewrite using 'too')
 - (x) Sheela will be selected for the competition only if she goes for the auditions. (Begin: Unless....)

Section C: Literature

7. **Read the given extract and answer the questions that follow-**

6×1=6

For when as each thing bad thou hast entomb'd,
And last of all, thy greedy self consum'd,
Then long Eternity shall greet our bliss
With an individual kiss;
And Joy shall overtake us as a flood,
When every thing that is sincerely good
And perfectly divine,
With Truth, and Peace, and Love shall ever shine
About the supreme Throne.

- (a) Who will consume its greedy self?
- (b) What does it mean by consuming itself?
- (c) When will the joy overtake one as a flood?
- (d) Describe the joyful conditions that the poet describes?
- (e) What does the poet want to convey in this stanza?
- (f) Which of the following words is synonym of 'to bury'-

- (i) Eternity (ii) Entomb'd (iii) Consum'd (iv) None of the above

Or

A damsel with a dulcimer
In a vision once I saw:
It was an Abyssinian maid,
And on her dulcimer she played,
Singing of Mount Abora.
Could I revive within me
Her symphony and song,
To such a deep delight, 'twould win me,
That with music loud and long,
I would build that dome in air,
That sunny dome! Those caves of ice!

- (a) What is dulcimer?
- (b) What does the poet wish to do once he could revive the symphony?
- (c) Write the name of the poem and the poet of this poem?
- (d) What was the damsel doing in the vision of the poet?
- (e) 'That sunny dome! Those caves of ice!' which poetic device has been used in this line?
- (f) Find out the option which is a synonym of 'a young maiden'-

- (i) Abyssinian (ii) Dulciomer (iii) Damsel (iv) Symphony

8. **Choose any one extract out of the two extracts given below and answer the questions that follows-**

6×1=6

I glanced over his shoulder and it was true. Three tables away sat an intrepid woman in an old fashioned felt hat and a purple scarf, eating without haste and staring at him. I recognized her right

away. She had grown old and fat, but it was Frau Frieda, with the snake ring on her index finger. She was travelling from Naples on the same ship as Neruda and his wife, but they had not seen each other on board. We invited her to have coffee at our table, and I encouraged her to talk about her dreams in order to astound the poet. He paid no attention, for from the very beginning he had announced that he did not believe in prophetic dreams.

(i) Who was the woman?

(ii) How did the author recognize her?

(iii) Where was the woman coming from?

(iv) Why did the author encourage the lady to talk about her dreams?

(v) Why did Neruda not pay any attention to the lady's conversation?

(vi) What is the correct meaning of 'intrepid'?

(a) Fearless or unafraid (b) Unbeatable (c) Cunning (d) Fraud

OR

The evening deepened in the avenue. The white of two letters in her lap grew indistinct. One was to Harry; the other was to her father. Ernest had been her favourite but she liked Harry too. Her father was becoming old lately, she noticed: he would miss her. Sometimes he could be very nice. Not long before, when had been laid up for a day, he had read her out a ghost story and made toast for her at the fire. Another day, when their mother was alive, they had all gone for a picnic to the Hill of Howth. She remembered her father putting on her mother's bonnet to make the children laugh.

(i) What possibly could be the content of the two letters?

(ii) Who were Ernest and Harry?

(iii) Where did the family go for a picnic?

(iv) Give the two instances when the father was nice to her?

(v) Why does she say that he would miss her?

(vi) What does it mean by bonnet?

(a) A woman's hat tied the chin with a brim framing the face

(b) The corset used to keep the woman's waist slim

(c) A long gown worn by woman

(d) None of the above

9. **Answer any one of the given questions in about 40-50 words-** **2×1=2**

Why did Oppenheimer quote Krishna's words saying, "I have become death, the destroyer of the world"?

OR

What is the role of memories in Eveline?

10. **Answer any one of the given questions in about 60-80 words -** **3×1=3**

Why does the author compare Neruda with the renaissance pope?

OR

Why does the poet call time envious?

11. **Answer any one of the given questions in about 120-150 words-** **5×1=5**

How does Virginia Woolf describe her reflections on a variety of subjects in her essay, "The Mark on the Wall"? Which technique of story telling is used by her?

OR

How does the spell of Prakriti's mother work? In what condition is Ananda made to come?

12. Answer any one of the given questions in about 40-50 words- 2×1=2
What type of life was the master living before becoming a Sanyasi?

OR

How was Raja tamed by the Captain for his circus performances?

13. Answer any one of the given questions in about 60-80 words - 3×1=3
The creation of the role of master is intended to serve as an ideal. Justify?

OR

How can you say that Rita was an example of a true Indian woman?

14. Answer any one of the given questions in about 120-150 words- 5×1=5
How does "A Tiger for Malgudi" explore the theme of the relationship between humans and animals?

OR

"R.K. Narayan succeeds in giving human qualities to the Tiger." Discuss.