



ST. XAVIER'S SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL, DELHI - 110054  
Pre-Board Examination in **ENGLISH**

Pre Board Examination 2018  
Std. 10  
05-01-2018

**Set 1**

Max. Marks : 80  
Time : 3 hrs.

The question paper is divided into three sections:

|             |                   |          |
|-------------|-------------------|----------|
| Section - A | Reading           | 20 marks |
| Section - B | Writing & Grammar | 30 marks |
| Section - C | Literature        | 30 marks |

General Instructions:

- All questions are compulsory.
- You may attempt any section at a time.
- All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.

**SECTION - A (Reading)**

1. Read the following passage carefully:

Most people can remember a phone number for up to thirty seconds. When this short amount of time remove of, however, the numbers are erased from the memory. How did the information get there in the first place? Information that makes its way to the short-term memory (STM) does so via the sensory storage area. The brain has a filter which only allows stimuli that is of immediate interest to pass on to the STM, also known as the working memory.

There is much debate about the capacity and duration of the short-term memory. The most accepted theory comes from George A. Miller, a cognitive psychologist who suggested that humans can remember approximately seven chunks of information. A chunk is defined as a meaningful unit of information, such as a word or name rather than just a letter or number. Modern theorists suggest that one can increase the capacity of the short-term memory by chunking, or classifying similar information together. By organizing information, one can optimize the STM, and improve the chances of a memory being passed on to long-term storage.

When making a conscious effort to memorise something, such as information for an exam, many people engage in "rote rehearsal". By repeating something over and over again, one is able to keep a memory alive. Unfortunately, this type of memory maintenance only succeeds if there are no interruptions. As soon as a person stops rehearsing the information, it has the tendency to disappear. When a pen and paper are not handy, people often attempt to remember a phone number by repeating it aloud. If the doorbell rings or the dog barks to come in before a person has the opportunity to make a phone call, he will likely forget the number instantly. Therefore, rote rehearsal is not an efficient way to pass information from the short-term to long-term memory. A better way is to practise "elaborate rehearsal". This involves assigning semantic meaning to a piece of information so that it can be filed along with other pre-existing long-term memories. Encoding information semantically also makes it more retrievable. Retrieving information can be done by recognition or recall. Humans can easily recall memories that are stored in the long-term memory and used often; however, if a memory seems to be forgotten, it may eventually be retrieved by prompting. The more cues a person is given (such as pictures) the more likely a memory can be retrieved. This is why multiple choice tests are often used for subjects that require a lot of memorisation.

- 1.1 Answer the following questions briefly: (1 x 8 = 8 marks)

- According to the passage, how do memories get transferred to the STM?
- Where can memory be stored?
- Why does the author mention a dog's bark?
- What is 'rote rehearsal'? Is it useful?
- How do theorists believe a person can remember more information in a short time?
- How can a lost memory be retrieved?
- What is 'elaborate rehearsal'?
- What is the meaning of the phrase 'remove of'?

2. Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow:

Childhood obesity rates have sky-rocketed in recent years. This trend is worrisome because it greatly increases children's risk for remaining obese in adulthood, which in turn increases their risk for other health related issues such as high blood pressure, heart diseases, stroke, cancer, diabetes, respiratory problems which might increase risk of premature death as adults.

Obesity can set the stage for problems too. Obese children are more likely to suffer from low self esteem, depression, anxiety and social ostracism.

It is, therefore, extremely important for parents to see that their children live a healthy lifestyle. Healthy lifestyle includes eating nutritious meals, getting plenty of exercise and adequate sleep every day. These positive health habits will help children grow strong, stay healthy, and decrease the likelihood of obesity.

Healthy diet and adequate exercise are important in preventing Type II diabetes in childhood as well as obesity. Diabetes is a metabolic disease in which the body cells cannot properly break down the sugars from food. The body then starts accumulating the sugars in the bloodstream instead and ultimately stresses out the kidneys, heart, circulatory system, and eyes. Insulin, which is created in the pancreas, is the chemical that breaks down blood sugar. In Type II diabetes, the body does not produce enough insulin to deal with all the sugars coming into the body. This medical condition is termed as "adult-onset diabetes" because the disorder primarily affects adults with poor eating and activity habits.

This trend sometimes has an adverse impact on others. In contrast to those who overeat and don't get enough exercise, other children become obsessed with over-controlling their food intake and start over exercising.

Media too can sometimes play havoc. By constantly exposing children to a barrage of perfect, photo-shopped bodies on television and magazines, children get tempted to imitate those images and go on a strict diet plan. Overemphasis on extreme thinness can again put children at risk of poor self-esteem, unhealthy exercise patterns, and eating disorders such as anorexia.

Children who practice healthy eating and exercise regularly since their childhood tend to maintain a healthy lifestyle through adulthood. It is imperative for parents to teach children to choose healthy food in preference to junk food and also eat in modest portions.

2.1. Answer the following questions in 25 - 30 words each: (2 x 4 = 8 marks)

- What concern is the writer expressing in the above article?
- Why does the writer insist that a healthy lifestyle should be adopted right from one's childhood?
- Which two factors impact children negatively?
- How does media influence children?

2.2. Complete the following statements using one word or phrase. (1 x 4 = 4 marks)

- By saying obesity rates have \_\_\_\_\_ the writer implies that they have increased drastically.
- Both overweight and underweight children tend to suffer from \_\_\_\_\_.
- Obesity can lead to \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ including premature death in adulthood.
- Type II diabetes can be prevented by \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

#### SECTION - B (Writing and Grammar)

3. You wish to visit Kashmir along with your family in the month of October. Write a letter in about 100 -120 words, to D. Paul's Travels, Connaught Place, New Delhi, enquiring about the cost per person and services they would provide you for one week tour of four people. You are Lalit / Lalita residing at 74, Pushpanjali Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi - 34.

(OR)

You recently got your internet broadband connection upgraded. Since then the internet speed has reduced and many websites don't get loaded easily. You made a complaint with the customer care but there has been no response yet. Write a letter of complaint in about 100-120 words, to the Manager of Windtel Broadband Company, Okhla, Delhi, highlighting the problems you are facing. Ask him to take necessary steps to resolve your problem and to take action against the unwilling staff. You are Anisha / Anish living in Vasant Vihar, Delhi. (8 marks)

4. Write a short story based on the given cue in about 200 - 250 words. Also provide a suitable title (10 marks)

Today was the dreaded PTM. The teacher would give away the report card for the first term. Bhupesh, a nervous wreck, as he walked past the school corridor...

(OR)

Uday's dream was to do something brave, win recognition far and wide and be famous in the world. One fine day, he saw this opportunity when.....

5. Read the following passage carefully and fill in the blanks with an appropriate word: (4 marks)

The gooseberry tree (a) \_\_\_\_\_ dear to Lord Vishnu because it emerged (b) \_\_\_\_\_ him says the Vishnu Purana. Another story links the tree's origin to Brahma. The ninth day (c) \_\_\_\_\_ the bright fortnight of the month of Karthika (d) \_\_\_\_\_ observed as Amla Navami.

6. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word in one column and the corresponding correct word in the other column: ( $\frac{1}{2} \times 8 = 4$  marks)

|                   |   | Incorrect | Correct |
|-------------------|---|-----------|---------|
| Std. 10           | Childhood was a time of enchantment as well as innocent.  | _____     | _____   |
|                   | page 3  | _____     | _____   |
| ENGLISH (Set - 1) |   |           |         |
|                   | The child's eye transform even mundane incidents and objects with the contours of the magical landscape; and perhaps the much potent magic of all is created in the miracle in reading. | _____     | _____   |
|                   |   | _____     | _____   |
|                   |   | _____     | _____   |
|                   |   | _____     | _____   |

7. Read the conversation below and complete the report that follows by transforming direct speech into reported speech: (1 x 4 = 4 marks)

Reporter: Congratulations, Virat on being declared the Man of the Match! You have added another feather in your cap. How do you feel?  
 Virat: Great! Just want to concentrate on my game so that I can bring more honor to my country.  
 Reporter: You have a long innings to go. What are your plans?  
 Virat: I want to be like Sachin- great at my game and yet humble.

At an interview with Virat, the reporter congratulated him on being declared the Man of the Match. He added that Virat (a)\_\_\_\_\_ feather in his cap. He then asked (b)\_\_\_\_\_. Virat replied that he felt great and said that he just (c) \_\_\_\_\_ on his game so that he could bring more honor for his country. The reporter then asked Virat (d)\_\_\_\_\_. Virat replied that he wanted to be like Sachin.

SECTION - C (Literature)

8. Read the following excerpts and answer the questions that follow: (1 x 4 = 4 marks)

"Nor dim nor red, like God's own head  
 The glorious sun uprist:  
 Then all averred, I had killed the bird  
 That brought the fog and mist.  
 'Twas right, said they, such birds to slay  
 That bring the fog and mist."

- Explain the other sailors' opinion about the ancient mariner's act of killing the Albatross, according to the above lines.
- What does this tell about the character of the other sailors?
- Explain the phrase, "like God's own head".
- Name the poetic device used by the poet in the first line.

(OR)

"O pardon me, thou bleeding piece of Earth  
 That I am meek and gentle with these butchers!"

- Name the speaker.
- What is referred to as "bleeding piece of earth"?
- Who are referred to as "butchers"?
- Why is the speaker asking for pardon?

9. Answer the following questions in about 30 - 40 words each: (2 x 4 = 8 marks)

- "The incidental expenses are so heavy", she confides to an inquiring friend. Who is the speaker? What is the speaker referring to here?
- Justify the title- A Shady Plot.
- What is the poet's state of mind toward the end of the poem 'Snake'?
- Describe the final rescue of Sebastian Shultz.

10. Answer the following question in 100 - 120 words: (8 marks)

Mentors can play a very useful role in one's life. Bring out the truth of this statement through the example of Pakrashi.

(OR)

The Play brings out the harsh reality of the senior citizens of today. In Able Merryweather, we can see a unique representation of the older generation. Comment.

11. Answer the following question in 200 - 250 words: (10 marks)

Give a brief character sketch of Albert Dussel.

(OR)

How did Germans force the Franks to lead a hellish life? What restrictions were put on the Jews?

-x-x-x-x-x-