

COMMON HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION - 2024

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Standard - XII

Time : 3.00 hrs

ENGLISH

Marks: 90

- Instructions: 1. Check the question paper for fairness of printing. If there is any lack of fairness, inform the Hall Supervisor immediately.
2. Use Blue or Black ink write and underline and pencil to draw diagrams

Part - I

Note: -i) Answer all the questions. ii) Choose the most appropriate answer from the given four alternatives and write the option code and the corresponding answer.

20×1=20

Choose the most appropriate Synonyms of the underlined words in the following sentences.

- 1) These are not the only controversial points to arise in connection with tea drinking.
a) acceptable b) peaceful c) arguable d) agreeable
- 2) His shoulder and arm were amputated.
a) fixed b) cutoff c) mended d) regulated
- 3) He would clean and burnish it everyday.
a) tarnish b) admonish c) polish d) sluggish

Choose the most appropriate antonyms of the underlined words in the following sentences.

- 4) They are sufficient to show how subtilized the whole business has become.
a) refined b) modernised c) unrefined d) developed
- 5) We were irritated that our sleep was being thus disturbed.
a) pleased b) disturbed c) offended d) annoyed
- 6) The end of such liberty would be universal chaos.
a) confusion b) orderliness c) disorder d) commotion
- 7) Choose the correct combination for the compound word sunlight.
a) Noun+verb b) verb+Noun c) Adverb+Noun d) Noun+Noun
- 8) Choose the correct meaning of the foreign word 'en route'.
a) returned to b) on the way to c) on the short cut d) in the wrong route.
- 9) Choose the correct question tag for the following statement.
Radha never comes late to the office _____?
a) doesn't she b) do she c) does she d) didn't she
- 10) Form a newword by adding a suitable prefix to the root word: 'Prison'.
a) un b) im c) dis d) in
- 11) Choose the suitable meaning for the idiom 'under a cloud'.
a) to view with suspicion b) very near c) to wait for d) to be relaxed
- 12) Replace the underlined word with its polite form.
Misfortunes have rained heavily upon the oldman.
a) Senior fellow b) Senior citizen c) old fellow d) old chap
- 13) Choose the right word that can be placed after the word 'ship' to form a compound word.
a) deck b) wreck c) break d) cabin
- 14) Choose the right definition for the term 'Anglophobia'.
a) Fear of meeting strangers b) Fear of drinking alcohol
c) Fear of using English d) Fear of playing outdoor
- 15) Fill in the blanks with the right verb.
I think suresh _____ for chennai tomorrow morning.
a) will be leaving b) will leave c) will have left d) leaves

- 16) Choose the correct spelling of the word given
 a) secretry b) secretary c) secrctery d) secratory
- 17) Choose the correct American English equivalent for the British English word:
Wind screen
 a) wind sail b) wind shield c) wind sheet d) wind glass
- 18) Choose the appropriate linker and complete the sentence.
 They had an unpleasant experience _____ they were staying in the resort.
 a) but b) and c) because d) while
- 19) Choose the Mono-syllabic word from the following:
 a) ago b) boast c) demon d) unit
- 20) Identify the sentence pattern of the following sentence.
 My sister keeps the house clean. a) SVAA b) SVOC c) SVIDOD d) SVOA

Part - II

Section - 1

Read the following sets of poetic lines and answer any four sets: 4×2=8

- 21) They have their exits and their entrances
 And one man in his time plays many parts.
 a) What does the poet mean by the terms 'exits and entrances'?
 b) How many parts does a man play in his time?
- 22) "All through that summer at ease we lay,
 And daily from the turret wall,"
 a) Who does the word 'We' refer to?
 b) How did the soldiers spend the summer days?
- 23) "Like a huge python, winding round and round
 The rugged trunk, intended deep with scars"
 a) What did the trunk have on it? b) Identify the poetic device employed here.
- 24) "A film the mother-eagle's eye
 When her bruised eaglet breathes"
 a) Who is compared to the mother-eagle's eye?
 b) Pick out the words in alliteration.
- 25) "Life is a soft loam; be gentle; go easy
 And this too might serve him."
 a) Why does the poet suggest to take life easy?
 b) Identify the figure of speech in the above line.
- 26)for my purpose holds
 To sail beyond the sunset, and the baths
 of all the western stars, until I die
 a) What was Ulysses' purpose in life? b) How long would his venture last?

Section - 2

Do as directed. Answer any three questions:-

3×2=6

- 27) Rewrite the following dialogue in reported form.
 Old man: Could you show me the way to the hospital?
 Woman: Sure, I will guide you.
- 28) The offered the job to Sundari. (Change the voice)
- 29) Rewrite the following sentence using 'if' without changing the meaning.
 Unless you walk fast, you cannot catch the bus.
- 30) The mountain was steep but he was able to climb it.
 (Rewrite as a complex sentence)

Part - III

Section - 1

Explain any two of the following with reference to the context.

2×3=6

- 31) To strive, to seek, to find and not to yield.
- 32) I'm killed, sire! And his chief beside smiling, the boy fell dead.
- 33) Is second childishness and mere oblivion
sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything.

Section - 2

Answer any two of the following questions in not more than 30 words:

2×3=6

- 34) How did the boy who played the mechanic lose his eye sight?
- 35) Define 'liberty' as perceived by the author?
- 36) How does army tea taste?

Section - 3

3×3=9

Answer any three of the following:-

- 37) Rearrange the following jumbled sentences correctly
 - a) a personal / liberty / affair / but a social contract / is not
 - b) problems / to challenges / seek out / convert them / and / the we must
 - c) judge / don't / cover / a book / its / by.
- 38) Describe the process of making fruit salad.
- 39) Write a dialogue between two friends with three exchanges regarding future studies.
- 40) Fill in the blanks with appropriate words
 - a) Too many cooks _____ the broth. (prepare/spoil/taste)
 - b) _____ waters run deep. (hill, will, still)
 - c) Always put your best _____ forward. (foot, eyes, fingers)

Part - IV

7×5=35

Note: Answer the following:-

Answer the following in a paragraph of about 150 words:-

- 41) a) What message is conveyed through the story "Two Gentlemen of Verona"?
[or]
b) Give an account of the journey set off to the summit by Edmund Hillary and Tenzing.
- 42) a) Describe the reminiscences of the poet when she sees the Casuarina Tree.
[or]
b) The young soldier matched his emperor in courage and patriotism. Elucidate your answer.

43) Answer the following in a paragraph of about 150 words by developing the hints.

- a) Aksionov - made a trip to a fair - wife stopped him - bad dream - local police officer arrested - charged him murder - Aksionov swore - he had not done - imprisoned - grew old - respected by inmates - met makar semyonich - found out the truth - Makar confessed - Aksionov found dead - order for his release. [or]
- b) Ausable - secret agent - fowler - young writer - disappointed - unlocks door - find man with a pistol - wants report about missiles - Ausable talks - about balcony - knock at door - Max nervous - Ausable - says - police arrived - in fear - Max jumps from window - dies - door opens - fowler - shocked to learn no police - no balcony.

44) a) Summarize the following passage:-

Clean water supply is essential for good health and cleanliness in the home. Often, the only source of drinking water is polluted. More than seventy percent of rural households have no safe drinking water. Their supplies are often carried

some distance from a river, pond or well or a community pump or tap. Carrying water takes time and if necessary, it is, rationed carefully.

Several diseases are spread by polluted water. These include diarrhoea, Cholera and typhoid. Families using water from uncovered ponds or wells are likely to suffer more frequently from all these infections than those whose water comes from protected sides. An adequate supply of water is also needed for personal cleanliness and general hygiene in the home.

If there is no tap, the main water container in the house must be kept clean, covered and free from debris. Over night storage in the earthenware vessels reduces the number of bacteria in the water. Health workers should encourage the provision of good water supplies to the house holds. [or]

- b) Write a paragraph on the topic 'The Hazards of using Mobile phone'
- 45) a) Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper about the nuisance created by the roadside vendors blocking the pavements and occupying the parking zone. [or]

- b) Write a letter to your friend who is admitted in hospital for treatment of his/her fractured leg. Advise him/her not to worry and to be positive.
- 46) a) Read the following sentences, Spot the errors and correct them.
- He said that he can drive a car
 - Neither Ramya is a singer nor a dancer.
 - Let's organize a trip to Goa, can we?
 - Though he is rich but he is unhappy.
 - Rahim is senior than Mani in college.
- [or]

b) Fill in the blanks appropriately:

- Sheela has a pain in the _____ so she went to a doctor to _____ it (heel/heal)
 - I _____ to play hockey when I was a student (Fill in with semi-modal)
 - Take the umbrella _____ it rains. (Use a suitable/ink word)
 - I was angry that I _____ (make) such a mistake. (Use correct tense)
- 47) a) **Read the following passage and answer the questions below:**

Today we don't think of a cartoon as being associated with great art, but at one time it was. During the period of Italian Renaissance, the term 'cartoon' meant the first sketch in actual size of a large work of art like wall painting. When newspapers and magazines began to use drawings to illustrate News and editorial opinion and to provide amusement, these drawings came to be known as cartoons. In the days before the newspaper, artists like Hogarth, Davmair and Rawlandson made a series of drawings on a single theme. They were the ancestors of present day cartoons and comic strips. In the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, there were a number of magazines which specialized in cartoons. In Paris there was one called 'Charivari' and in London there was the famous 'punch'. Nowadays movies based on cartoon characters are also made.

Questions

- Identify the purpose for which cartoons were used in newspapers.
- In what sense did the Italians use the term 'Cartoon' during the Renaissance period?
- Who were the ancestors of the present-day cartoons and comic strips?
- Name the two magazines mentioned in the passage which specialised in cartoons.
- Name one famous cartoon character you are familiar with. [or]
- Build a conversation between a Bank clerk and a student who wishes to open an account with a minimum of five exchanges.