

Pratap Public School, Karnal

Mid-Term Examination (2023)

Class - IX

Subject - English

Time : 3 Hours

M.M : 80

Name Roll No. Section

General Instructions:-

- * This question paper comprises of three sections:
Section A Reading – 20 Marks
Section B Writing & Grammar - 20 Marks
Section C Literature -40 Marks
- * Read the questions carefully and adhere to the word limit.

SECTION A- READING SKILLS (20 Marks)

(10)

I. Read the passage given below.

1. An ecosystem is a community of organisms that live and interact within a particular environment. In an aquatic ecosystem, that environment is water and all the system's plants and animals live either in or on that water. The specific setting and type of water, such as a freshwater lake or saltwater marsh, determines which animals and plants live there. Marine, or ocean, systems cover about 70 per cent of the Earth's surface and are identified by the presence of dissolved salts in the water. The level of salinity averages about 35 parts per thousand g of water, but it can vary in response to climate or a nearby source of freshwater. Marine organisms must adapt to either a constantly changing or stable level of salt content and cannot move successfully from one to the other. saltwater ecosystems range from the abundant life of coastal areas to the nearly barren ocean bottom. In marine habitats, the food chain begins with plankton, micro-organisms that require sunlight for energy and growth, so systems closest to the surface or in relatively shallow water support more life. These include estuaries, salt marshes, coral reefs and other tropical habitats, and intertidal areas such as lagoons and kelp beds.
2. Animal life in marine ecosystems ranges from microscopic zooplankton though fish of all sizes to marine mammals, including seals, whales and manatees. Freshwater-water that is either drinkable or has little or no salt content-supports its own aquatic ecosystems. These include river and streams, lakes and ponds, wetlands and even groundwater. Each of these systems is unique and ven within categories, any specific habitat is affected by altitude/temperature and humidity. for instance, a plant native to warm shallow lake in the tropics could not survive on the steep banks of a cold, fast-moving mountain stream freshwater ecosystems provide homes for a wide variety of animal life including insects, amphibians and fish. One estimate of fish species puts the number that lives in freshwater at 40 per cent of the Earth's total. Worms, molluscs, algae and bacteria all live in freshwater systems, as do innumerable varieties of plants. In addition, animals such as birds, otters and bears use freshwater ecosystems as a food source.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

- i. Which of the following statement is true according to the passage?
- (a) 70 per cent of the Earth's surface is covered in oceans
 - (b) 70 per cent of the Earth's surface are marine bodies only
 - (c) 70 per cent of the Earth's surface is solid landmass
 - (d) 70 per cent of the Earth's surface form the entire aquatic system
- ii. Select the option that best captures the central idea of the passage from the given quotes.
- (a) There is a deep interconnectedness of all life on earth, from the tiniest organisms, to the largest ecosystems, and absolutely between each person." - Bryant McGill
 - (b) "Where there is a smoke, there is an ecologist." - Ljupka Cvetanova
 - (c) "When we reconnect with nature, we will be restore ourselves." - Lailah Gifty Akita
 - (d) "We can only predict the future ecological changes, by emergence of the past into the present." - Lailah Gifty Akita
- iii. Select the option that corresponds to the following relation below:
Saltwater ecosystems range from the abundant life of coastal area to the nearly barren ocean bottom.
- (a) In the season of spring, plenty of flowers grow while in the season of autumn, the leaves wither and fall making it a barren season for the growth of plant.
 - (b) The distinct is the most barren and backward portion of the province.
 - (c) The room was austere, nearly barren of furniture and decoration.
 - (d) This zone has an abundant rainfall, dense forests and a fertile soil.
- iv. Complete the following with a phrase from paragraph 1:
- | | |
|---------|--|
| Opinion | Reason |
| _____ | An ecosystem that lives and interacts within a particular environment. |
- v. The writer uses two contrasting words in the line:
Marine organisms must adopt to either a constantly changing or stable level of salt content. **(Paragraph 1)**
State one point of difference between constantly changing and stable.
- vi. Based on your reading of the text, list 2 reasons why the writer says that:
Shallow water relatively supports more aquatic life.
- 1. _____
 - 2. _____
- vii. The writer says, "Freshwater supports its own aquatic ecosystems".
Select the reason that appropriately justifies the statement.
- (a) Freshwater has little or no salt content.
 - (b) Freshwater provides oxygen to support the growth of aquatic ecosystem.
 - (c) It help to prevent erosion.
 - (d) It provides natural protection from flooding.

viii. Micro-organisms in the saltwater ecosystem grow in shallow water or near the surface because:

- (a) the content of salt is low (b) they get sunlight to grow
(c) they cannot breathe in deep water (d) Both (a) and (b)

ix. Supply 1 point to justify the following:

Micro-organisms in the saltwater ecosystem grow in shallow water or near the surface.

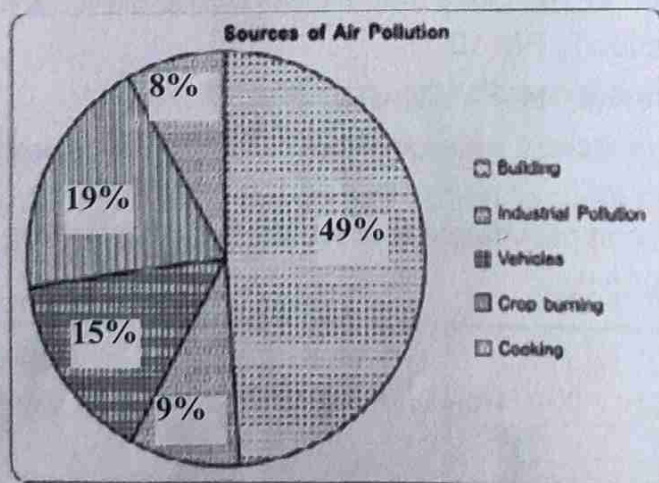
x. State whether the following statement is True or False :

Saltwater ecosystems range from the abundant life of coastal areas to the nearly barren ocean bottom.

II. Read the passage given below.

(10)

1. Air pollution affects health seriously. Of the most polluted 30 cities in the world, 21 were in India in 2019. As per a 2016 study, at least 140 million Indians breathe air that is 10 times or more over the WHO safe limit and 13 of the world's 20 cities with the highest annual levels of air pollution are in India.
2. Air pollution kills 2 million Indians prematurely every year. Emissions come from vehicles and industry, whereas in rural areas, much of the pollution stems from biomass burning for cooking and keeping warm. In autumn and winter months, large scale crop residue burning in farms — a cheaper alternative to mechanical tilling — is a major source of smoke, smog and particulate pollution.
3. India has a low per capita emission of greenhouse gases but the country as a whole is the third largest greenhouse gas producer after China and the United States. A 2013 study on non-smokers has found that 30% have weaker lung function than Europeans.
4. The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 has failed to reduce or regulate pollution because of poor enforcement of the rules.

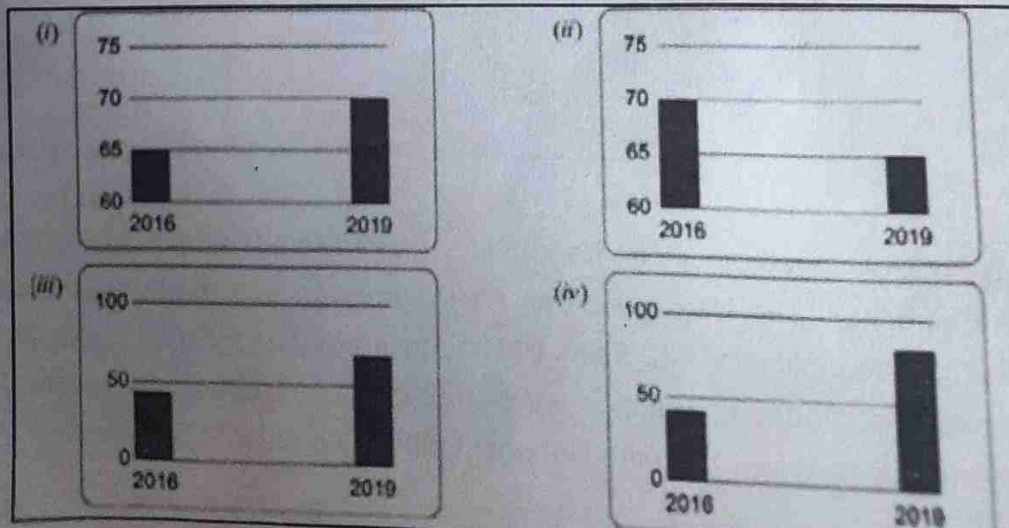


5. In 2015, GOI, together with IIT Kanpur launched the National Air Quality Index. In 2019, India launched 'The National Clean Air Programme' with tentative national target of 20%- 30% reduction in PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ concentrations by 2024, considering 2017 as the base year for comparison. It will be rolled out in 102 cities that are considered to have air quality worse than the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

6. There are other initiatives such as a 1,600 kilometre-long and 5 kilometre-wide The Great Green Wall of Aravalli — an ecological corridor along Aravalli range from Gujarat to Shivalik Hills with the planting of 1.35 billion native trees over 10 years to combat the pollution.
7. In 2019, IIT Bombay, in partnership with the McKelvey School of Engineering (USA), launched the USA, launched the Aerosol and Air Quality Research Facility to study air pollution in India.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

- i. Infer one reason for the following, based on information in paragraph 2.
Air pollution is fatal to human health.
- ii. Select the appropriate option to fill in the blanks.
Mechanical tilling is an _____ method to remove stubs from the fields with the farmers preferring to get rid of the agricultural residue by _____.
- (a) Insensitive, tilling (b) Inconsiderate, firing
(c) unpopular, burning (d) Extensive, winnowing
- iii. Complete the following analogy correctly with a word/ phrase from paragraph 2.
The _____ the alternative to mechanical tilling, the _____ are smoke, smog, and particulate pollution.
- (a) Cheaper, more
(b) Cheapest, most
(c) worse, more dangerous
- iv. Select the correct option to complete the following sentence.
The ambitious objectives that the National Clean Air Programme plans to achieve by 2024 are _____.
- 20%-30% reduction in PM 2.5
 - study air pollution in 102 cities that are worst affected
 - 20%-30% reduction in PM 10
 - take 2017 as the base year
- (a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 and 3
(c) 1 and 3 (d) 2 and 4
- v. Select the chart that appropriately represents the deteriorating health of air in the cities from 2016 to 2019.



vi. Fill in the blank by selecting the correct option.

The ecological corridor from Gujarat to the foothills of the Himalayas has good chances of succeeding because of its emphasis on _____.

- (a) planting 1.35 billion trees
- (b) to set the target of plantation for 10 years only
- (c) to cover a long stretch of 1600 kilometres
- (d) to opt for native trees

vii. Substitute the word from paragraph 2 in the blank below whose meaning in the passage is 'originate.'

A dam _____ the tide of high waters when a river threatens to inundate its banks and the nearby areas.

viii. List any two examples of indoor or domestic pollution as mentioned in the passage.

1. _____

2. _____

ix. List one reason why the earlier laws and recommendations were not effective enough.

x. Select the option that titles paragraphs 1, 2 and 5 appropriately, with reference to information in the text.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| (a) 1. Extent of pollution | 2. Factors |
| 3. Prognosis | |
| (b) 1. Factors | 2. Effect |
| 3. Solutions | |
| (c) 1. Extent | 2. Cause and effect |
| 3. Steps for reduction | |
| (d) 1. WHO standards | 2. initiatives |
| 3. preventive measures | |

SECTION B- GRAMMAR (10 Marks)

Question 3. Attempt ANY TEN of the following questions.

(10)

i. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the magazine article.

The thief and the eye-witness _____.

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) has escaped | (b) has been escaping |
| (c) was escaping | (d) have escaped |

ii. Read the conversation between Rohit and Amal and complete the narration that follows

Rohit : I'm really looking forward to the class picnic tomorrow.

Amal : Yes, after a long time we will be meeting all our friends and teachers.

When Rohit said that he was looking forward to their class picnic, Amal affirmed that _____.

iii. Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line to complete an online update.

During the college days, I _____ beat them all in the race!

- (a) could (b) should
(c) can (d) might

iv. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from self-help book:

Goals provides direction to our behaviour and guide our actions and thoughts.

Option No.	Error.	Correction
(a)	provides	provide
(b)	behaviour	behaviours
(c)	to	for
(d)	guide	guides

v. Complete the notice by filling in the blank with the correct option:

The swimming pool _____ at 6 a.m. daily.

- (a) open (b) is opening
(c) opened (d) opens

vi. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket.

The forecast _____ (mention) a quiet start to the day with a spell of rain to come later on in the afternoon.

vii. Report the dialogue between two friends, by completing the sentence:

Susan : Do you have any story books to read, Dorothy?

Dorothy : I prefer watching movies in my free time.

In response to the question about story books, Dorothy says that _____.

viii. Identify the error in the given sentence from an article and supply the correction.

Overeating is one of the more wonderful practices among those who think that they can afford it.

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

ix. Rohit shared some information with Ankit, about a movie. Report Ankit's question.

Is the movie enjoyable?

x. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence.

It was a long day. You _____ be hungry.

- (a) must (b) might
(c) need to (d) should

xi. Select the correct option to complete the narration of the dialogue between Abraham and his brother John.

Abraham : (humming) By the rivers of Babylon we sat and wept at the memory of Zion,.....

John : What are you singing , Abraham ?

Abraham : Dear me , don't you know its Psalm number 137?

John : If one priest found it difficult, then I'll keep asking, till you know about it!

While Abraham was singing, John asked him what he was singing. Abraham, surprised, asked John if he did not know that it was Psalm number 137. John exclaimed good-humouredly that if a priest found it difficult then _____.

- (a) he would kept asking till he know about it.
- (b) he would keep asking till he knew about it.
- (c) he would be keeping to ask until he came to know about it.
- (d) None of the above

xii. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.
 There are so much ways of entertainment in life.
 Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction

SECTION B CREATIVE WRITING (10 MARKS)

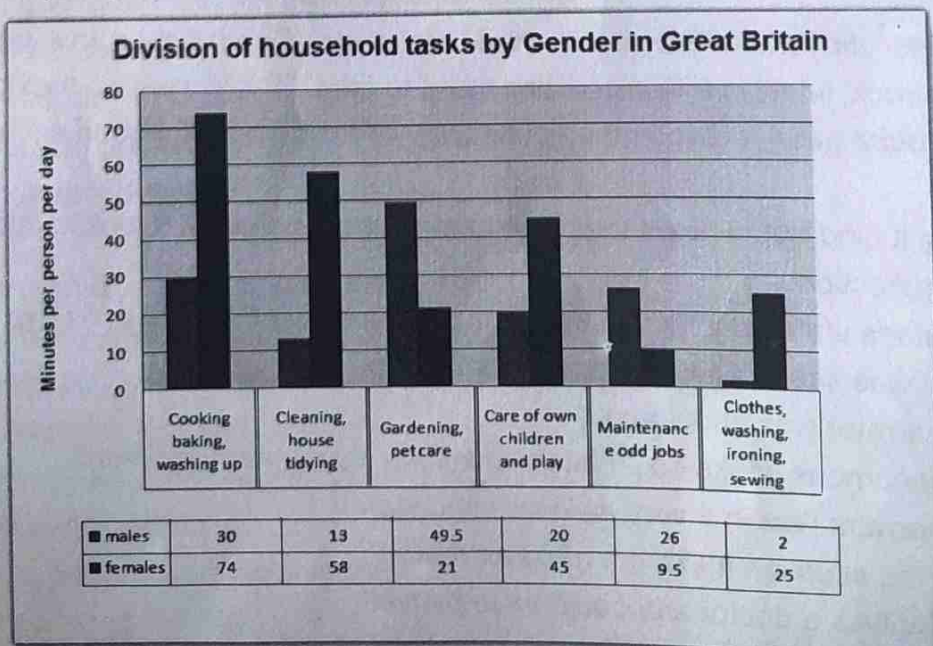
(5)

4. Attempt any one from A and B given below :

- A. Your elder brother is working in Mumbai. As he has not enough time your parents decide to visit him for the first time. After coming to your place i.e. Delhi you decide to write a diary entry in about 100-120 words expressing your feelings regarding the first plane journey. Also write how you enjoyed the time in Mumbai with your family.
- B. Write a descriptive paragraph in about 100 to 120 words to describe a person who is well known in your area for his /her act of kindness and charity. You might like to include the following points in your description.

- Name
- Age
- Looks
- Build
- Area of work / achievements and honours
- Some examples of his / her kindness and charity
- His / her values and philosophy of life
- What the commun

5. The chart shows the division of household tasks by gender in Great Britain. Write an analytical paragraph describing the chart given in not more than 150 words. (5)



OR

You are Ashish/Astha, a resident of #254, Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi. You are worried to see your younger brother's frequent habit of using Internet as a homework tool. Write a letter to the Editor of a popular news paper, expressing your opinion on the advantages, disadvantages of the dependence of youth and the computers in the present times. (100-120 words)

(SECTION-C) (LITERATURE) (40 MARKS)

6. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow.

(5)

They turned the pages, which were yellow and crinkly, and it was awfully funny to read words that stood still instead of moving the way they were supposed to-on a screen, you know. And then when they turned back to the page before, it had the same words on it that it had had when they read it the first time. "Gee," said Tommy, "what a waste. When you're through with the book, you just throw it away, I guess. Our television screen must have had a million books on it and it's good for plenty more. I wouldn't throw it away." "Same with mine," said Margie.

- (i) The pages were "yellow and crinkly" because
- (a) Somebody had put the book in the sun
 - (b) Somebody had accidentally spilled tea on the pages
 - (c) the book was centuries old and had suffered the ravages of time
 - (d) The pages had been given a yellow tinge to make them attractive
- (ii) List two differences between Tommy and Margie's telebooks and the book they found.
- (iii) Complete the analogy by selecting the suitable word from the text. Awfully: extremely :: : wrinkled
- (iv) As used in the extract above, 'Gee' is an expression of
- (a) Sympathy
 - (b) appreciation
 - (c) Disgust
 - (d) Encouragement
- (v) What does Margie mean when she says, "Same with mine"?

OR

At my slightest movement the snake would strike me! Death lurked four inches away. Suppose it struck, what was the medicine I had to take? There were no medicines in the room. I was but a poor, foolish and stupid doctor. I forgot my danger and smiled feebly at myself.

It seemed as if God appreciated that. The snake turned its head. It looked into the mirror and saw its reflection.

- (i) The narrator's statement "Death lurked four inches away" emphasizes that
- (a) Death was still at a safe distance from him
 - (b) The narrator was about to die
 - (c) the venomous snake could bite and kill the narrator any moment
 - (d) The narrator was in a very awkward situation
- (ii) What did the situation make the narrator realize?
- (a) That he was a doctor and could save himself
 - (b) That he was not well-equipped to treat himself in the event of a snake-bite.
 - (c) That he was immune to snake venoms.
 - (d) That it is better to die of a snake bite than be poor

(iii) The doctor called himself 'stupid' and 'foolish' because.....

(iv) According to the narrator, what did God appreciate?

(v) Select the option that correctly captures the usage of the word 'poor' from line 4 of the extract.

(a) Many people are eating a very poor diet.

(b) She gives a lot of money to the poor.

(c) That poor dog looks like it hasn't been fed in a while.

(d) At last month's meeting, attendance was poor.

7. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.

(5)

Remember, no men are strange, no countries foreign

Beneath all uniforms, a single body breathes

Like ours: the land our brothers walk upon

Is earth like this, in which we all shall lie.

(i) What makes men 'strange'?

(a) Races and cultures

(b) Colours of skin and creeds

(c) geographical and political boundaries

(d) All of the above

(ii) "All uniforms" refers to

(a) Uniforms in all schools

(b) all pieces of uniforms

(c) uniforms of the army of different countries

(d) The physical body of all people in the world

(iii) The expression "our brothers" refers to

(a) The people of the poet's community

(b) The people of the poet's country

(c) the people of the enemy countries

(d) The people of the whole world

(iv) The expression "we all shall lie" means

(a) Will sleep

(b) will lie buried

(c) Will die

(d) Will hide

(v) Quote a phrase from the extract that conveys the idea of inherent similarity between all human beings.

OR

Now in memory comes my mother,

As she used in years ago,

To regard the darling dreamers

Ere she left them till the dawn:

O! I feel her fond look on me

As I list to this refrain

Which is played upon the shingles

By the patter of the rain.

- (i) The poet has a memory of her mother
- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (a) Going to her bed-chamber | (b) At her workplace |
| (c) doing the household chores | (d) Cooking food in the kitchen |
- (ii) The memory of the poet's mother is revived by
- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| (a) His dreams | (b) His imagination |
| (c) the raindrops on the roof | (d) The shingles on the roof |
- (iii) Who are the 'darling dreamers', according to the extract?
- (iv) What was the mother in the habit of doing every night?
- (v) The literary device used in line 3 is

8. Answer **ANY FOUR** of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words. (4×3=12)

- What lesson can you learn from the poem "The Road Not Taken"?
- The doctor showed great presence of mind when the snake landed on him. Why?
- How did Einstein's job at the patent office turn out to be a blessing in disguise for him?
- What made Saint Peter angry? What did he do in his anger?
- Music ran in Bismillah Khan's family. Discuss.

9. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words. (2×3=6)

- How did the guru come to his disciple's rescue?
- Exaggeration was Iswaran's speciality. Do you agree/disagree? Give reason.
- Grandfather's decision to bring Toto home turned out to be a very costly mistake. How?

10. Answer any **ONE** of the following two questions in about 100-120 words. (1×6=6)

"Children need love and compassion, not rebuke." Discuss in the light of the story "The Little Girl".

OR

"Evelyn was not disabled. She was differently abled." Do you agree? Why/Why not?

11. Answer any **ONE** of the following two questions in about 100-120 words. (1×6=6)

The swallow's value of selfless devotion proved to be an indispensable asset for the Happy Prince. Discuss.

OR

Should parents be strict or should they be kind and lenient? Discuss with reference to the story "The Lost Child".
