

Pratap Public School, Karnal

Set-A

TERM-II Practice Test-1

Class - XII

Subject - English (Core)

Time : 1 Hour

M.M :40

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, WRITING and LITERATURE.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION – A: READING SKILLS 14 MARKS**Q 1) Read the passage given below:**

1. I saw 'Jaws', the popular shark movie, the summer it came out, in 1975 and became paranoid about sharks. Though I kept swimming after Jaws, it was always with the vague fear that a shark's teeth could tug on my leg at any moment. Never mind that there'd been only two shark bites since 1900 on the Connecticut coast, where I lived.
2. So, when I got this assignment for the National Geographic magazine, I decided to accept and do what I'd never wanted to do: swim with the sharks. I had to go to a place in the Bahamas known as Tiger Beach and dive with tiger sharks, the species responsible for more recorded attacks on humans than any shark except the great white. It was to be my first dive after getting certified—which meant it would be my first dive anywhere other than a swimming pool or a quarry—and without a diver's cage. Most people who got wind of this plan thought I was either very brave or very stupid.
3. But I just wanted to puncture an illusion. The people who know sharks intimately tend to be the least afraid of them, and no one gets closer to sharks than divers. The divers who run operations at Tiger Beach speak lovingly of the tiger sharks the way people talk about their children or their pets. In their eyes, these sharks aren't man-eaters any more than dogs are.
4. The business of puncturing illusions is never just black and white. My fellow divers had hundreds of dives under their belt and on the two-hour boat ride to the site in the morning of our first dive, they kept saying things like, "Seriously, I really can't believe this is your first dive." All this was okay with me until I reached the bottom and immediately had to fend off the first tiger shark, I had ever laid eyes on. However, when I watched the other divers feeding them fish and steering them gently, it became easy to see the sharks in a very benign light.
5. I think it would be unfair not to mention that though tiger sharks are apex predators. They act as a crucial balancing force in ocean ecosystems, constraining the numbers of animals like sea turtles and limit their behavior by preventing them from overgrazing the sea grass beds. Furthermore, tiger sharks love warm water, they eat almost anything, have a huge litter and are the hardiest shark species. If the planet and its oceans continue to warm, some species will be winners and others will be losers, and tiger sharks are likely to be winners.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer ANY EIGHT questions from the nine given below:

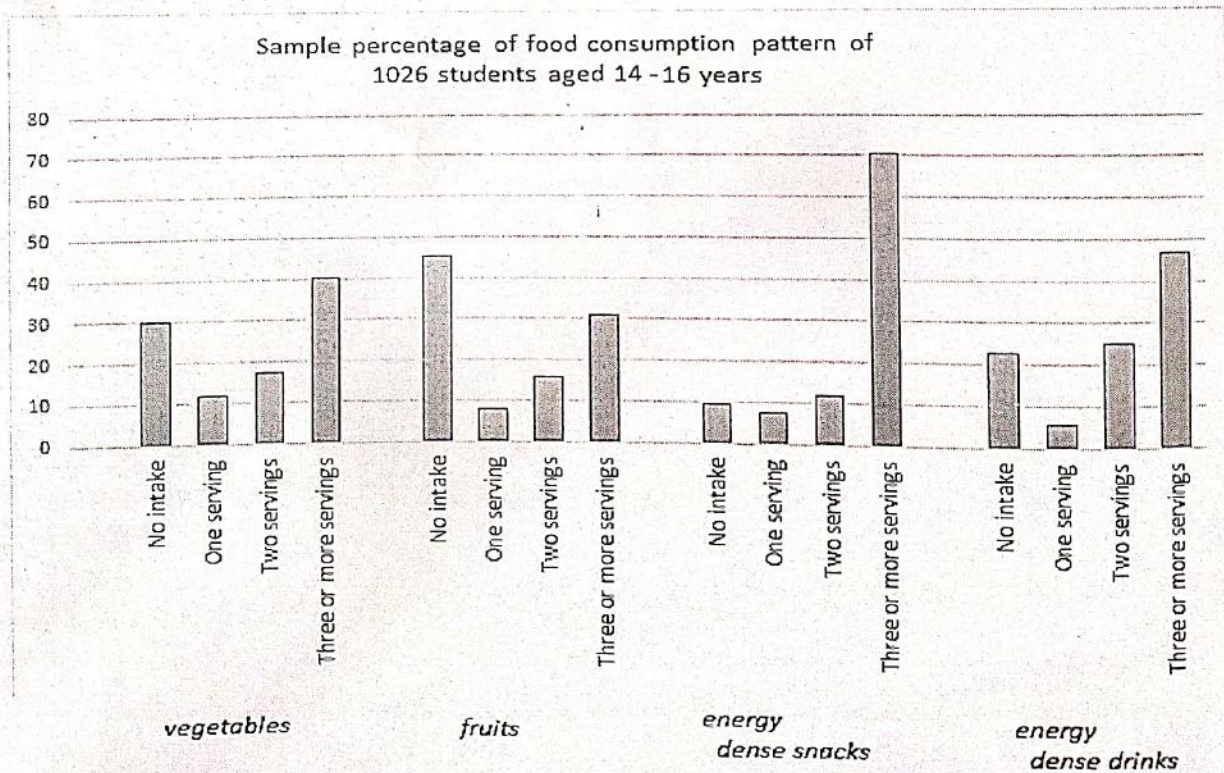
- i. State any one trait of the writer that is evident from paragraph 2 and provide a reason for your choice.
- ii. What does the use of the phrase 'benign light' suggest in the context of the writer's viewpoint about the tiger sharks?
- iii. People thought the writer was 'either brave or very stupid'. Why did some people think that he was 'very stupid'?
- iv. Why does the writer say that people who know sharks intimately tend to be least afraid of them?

- v. Analyze why having a large litter is one of the features that empowers tiger sharks to emerge winners if global warming persists.
- vi. Cite a point in evidence, from the text, to suggest that the writer's post-*Jaws* fear was not justified.
- vii. Rewrite the given sentence by replacing the underlined phrase with another one, from para 3 & 4
Some academicians think that reward, as a form of discipline, is a simple right or wrong issue.
- viii. Select a suitable phrase from paragraphs 4 & 5 to complete the following sentence appropriately:
I agree the team will find this experience tough but competing will be easier next time after they get this tournament _____.
- ix. Apex predators serve to keep prey numbers in check. How can we say that tiger sharks are apex predators?

Q 2) Read the passage given below:

1. Changing food preferences have brought about rapid changes in the structure of the Indian diet. The rapid proliferation of multinational fast-food companies and the influence of Western culture have replaced traditional home-cooked meals with ready-to-eat, processed foods thus increasing the risk of chronic diseases in urban Indians. Therefore, nurturing healthy eating habits among Indians from an early age would help to reduce health risks.
2. To date, little is known about the quality and quantity of foods and beverages consumed by urban Indian adolescents. This lack of evidence is a significant barrier to the development of effective nutrition promotion and disease prevention measures.
3. Therefore, a self-administered, semi-quantitative, 59-item meal-based food frequency questionnaire (FFQ) was developed to assess the dietary intake of adolescents. A total of 1026 students (aged 14-16 years) attending private, English-speaking schools in Kolkata completed the survey.

A sample percentage of the food consumption pattern is displayed (Fig. 1)



4. The survey results report poor food consumption patterns and highlights the need to design healthy eating initiatives. Interestingly, while there were no gender differences in the consumption of legumes

and fried snacks, the survey found more females consumed cereals, vegetables and 20 fruits than their male counterparts.

5. In conclusion, the report suggested that schools ought to incorporate food literacy concepts into their curriculum as they have the potential of increasing the fruit and vegetable intake in teenagers. Additionally, healthy school canteen policies with improved availability, accessibility, 25 variety and affordability of healthy food choices would support the consumption of nutritious food in students.

Adapted from: <https://nutritionj.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12937-017-0272-3>

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer **ANY SIX** out of the seven questions given below.

- i. Why was this survey on the food consumption of adolescents undertaken?
- ii. Identify a word from lines 9 - 18 indicating that the questionnaire was specifically designed to be completed by a respondent without the intervention of the researcher collecting the data.
- iii. With reference to fig.1, write one conclusion about students' consumption of energy-dense drinks.
- iv. There were no gender differences observed in the consumption of healthy foods, according to the survey. Substantiate.
- v. What can be concluded by the 'no intake' data of fruit consumption versus energy dense snacks, with reference to fig.1?
- vi. What does the researcher mean by 'changing food preferences'?
- vii. Why is 'affordability' recommended as a significant feature of a school canteen policy?

SECTION B – WRITING SKILLS **8 MARKS**

- Q 3) You are the President, Literary Society of Sunshine International School. Draft an invitation to author, Ms Manjul Bajaj requesting her to conduct a workshop on creative writing in your school. You are Romi/Rohit of Zenith Public School. **3 marks**

Q 4) Attempt **ANY ONE** from A and B given below: **5 marks**

- A. Draft an application with bio-data in about 120-150 words for the post of the Librarian in Vision Senior Secondary School, Calicut. You are Radhika/Rajeev from 21, Cherry Road, Madurai.
- B. The country is celebrating 75 years of Independence, to mark the occasion the Government has launched the campaign "Azaadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav". As part of these celebrations your school recently organized several activities highlighting the contributions of the freedom fighters in India's liberation from the British rule. Write a report in about 120-150 words for your school magazine. You are Akshay/ Akshita of Brightland Public School, Patiala.

SECTION C – LITERATURE **18 MARKS**

Q 5) Attempt **ANY FIVE** of the six questions given below, within 40 words each:

2x5: 10 Marks

- i. He was involved, he told the court, in a "conflict of duties" ...What is Gandhi talking about?
- ii. What did the gift of the rat trap signify?
- iii. Adrienne Rich chose to express her silent revolt through her poem, *Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*, just as Aunt Jennifer did with her embroidery. Explain.
- iv. When and why did Gandhi say, 'the battle of Champaran is won?' Was it true?
- v. What makes Jack feel caught in an ugly middle position?
- vi. Why is 'grandeur' associated with the 'mighty dead'?



Q 6) Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 120-150 words each.

- i. *"The tigers in the panel that she made
Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid."*

Discuss the lament of the women as brought out by Adrienne Rich in these two lines of the poem "Aunt Jennifer's Tigers".

- ii. *He said, "You think that in this unequal fight it would be helpful if we have an Englishman on our side. This shows the weakness of your heart. The cause is just, and you must rely upon yourselves to win the battle. You should not seek a prop in Mr. Andrews because he happens to be an Englishman". "He had read our minds correctly," Rajendra Prasad comments, "and we had no reply ... Gandhi in this way taught us a lesson in self-reliance"*.

Discuss how self-reliance, the lack of it & instilling it in the people of Champaran, played a major role in liberation of fear of the British from the hearts of the sharecroppers.

- iii. *"From childhood all of us learn to control some of our natural aggression that is directed back at ourselves as self-aggression. In milder forms, it is experienced as self-doubt and self-criticism. In more self-defeating forms, it intensifies to self-negation, self-condemnation, self-rejection, and self-hatred." Self-condemnation can often be reflected as hostility towards the outside world. How? Discuss with reference to the context of the story "On the Face of It".*

Class: XII
Subject: English

M.M.- 40
Time -2 Hrs

General Instructions:

1. The question paper contains **THREE** sections-**READING, WRITING and LITERATURE**
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.
3. All the answers must be correctly numbered and written in the answer sheet provided to you.
4. Ensure that questions of each section are answered together.

SECTION-A [Reading] [14 MARKS]

1. Read the following passage carefully:

[8]

Danger from Space

- (i) Man, it seems is living on borrowed time. There are not one or two but thousands of dangers looking the face of the earth. These are like the proverbial Damocles' Sword hanging on us in space. They are the celestial bodies-asteroids, minor planets and comets that haphazardly orbit in space, not too far from the earth. These bodies are a part of the debris left over after the solar system's formation. Many of them are as big as 800 km in diameter.
- (ii) Like other planets, these too go round the sun and if any of them happens to cut across our earth's path, it could lead to an unimaginable catastrophe, beginning with an intense flash around the horizon and filling the sky with a glare thousands times more intense than our sun. Anybody looking at it is sure to be blinded instantly. Then would follow an unbearable boom, as if the skies were going to tear apart. And the whole earth would tremble. It would appear that some heavenly hammer, determined to crush our planet, has hit it with great force.
- (iii) This is not an imaginary scenario taken from science fiction. Such incidents or accidents have really taken place on earth during the last 4.60 billion years of its existence. And each time it resulted in the extermination of higher life forms. The last time some 65 million years ago, an asteroid or comet measuring 10 to 20 km in diameter, crashed into our planet, wiping out not only the dinosaurs but also about 70 percent of all plant and animal species then present on the earth.
- (iv) Today, if a meteorite of merely one kilometer in diameter were to fall on Delhi, it will cause a million times more devastation than the atom bomb that was dropped on Hiroshima. Nearly 300 km area around Delhi will become barren like the moon. Big cities like Delhi, Agra, Chandigarh and Jaipur will become a thing of the past. Dust and rock bits raised due to the collision and fumes from the resulting fires will engulf the earth and block the sun resulting in nights that never end for years. In the absence of the sun, whose energy they use to synthesize their food, plants will die. All life-forms depend on plants for food. With withering away of the plants, other organisms including man, will starve to death.
- (v) Barely a few years back, scientists were not serious about such a catastrophe. But then we witnessed the now famous collision of comet Schumacher Levy with Jupiter, the biggest planet of our solar system. Mere twenty bits of the comet, most not bigger than a mile in size, rammed into Jupiter, producing such a strong glare that it was even visible from the earth.
- (vi) You might have often seen shooting stars on a clear night. These are not stars. These are meteorites, tonnes of which annually rain upon the earth. Actually most of them are so small, almost like pebbles, that they are burnt up by the air-friction in the atmosphere, before reaching the earth. Sometimes a few bigger ones escape total burning and are found as stones in the fields.
- (vii) Developed countries like the USA and Russia have underground seismographs at numerous points that register tremors set in not only by earthquakes but also by meteorite impact. Till recently, such information was kept secret. But with the end of the cold war this has now become available to the astronomers. These reveal that from 1970 to 1992, at least 132 meteorites collided with the earth. Put together, some of them had a devastating power equivalent to about 15,000 tonnes of TNT, or the bomb dropped on Hiroshima. Usually these explosions pass undetected for about 90 percent of earth's area, including oceans, is barren and unpopulated.

(viii) Scientists are now taking meteorites rather seriously. Previously, they assumed that the earth suffered a devastating meteorite hit once every 100 million years. But now they believe that such collisions could occur every 10 million years. Soon after the Jupiter collision, an expert committee, comprising space and defence scientists, was set up in the USA to suggest a way to prevent such mishaps. One of their suggestions was that such approaching comets or meteorites be burnt or blown up using nuclear warheads. Another proposal was shattering it up with bullets of tungsten like hard metal. But recent studies show that most of the meteorites are highly brittle and their smallest bits would cause more devastation than an intact one.

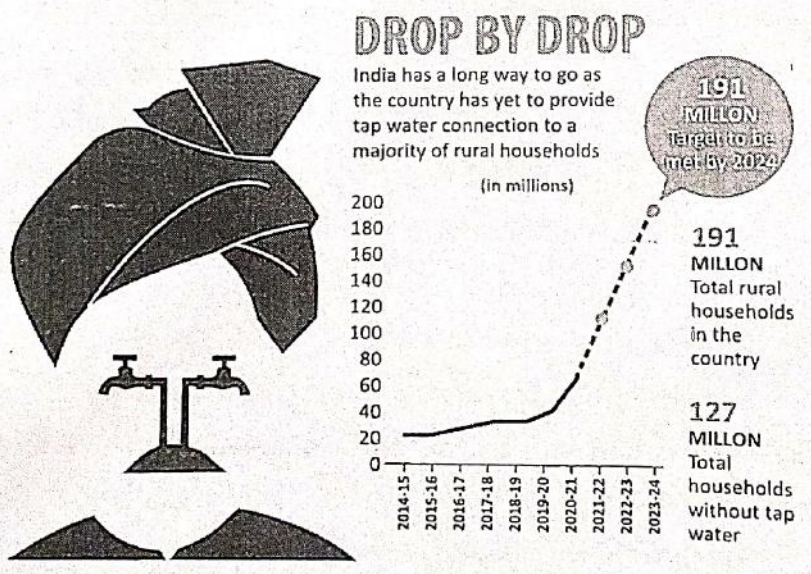
Based on your understanding of the passage, answer ANY EIGHT questions from the nine given below: (1x8=8)

- (i) Man is living on borrowed times. He faces many dangers. Which dangers are mentioned in this passage?
- (ii) The first effect of the collision of an asteroid or meteor with the earth will be on our eyes. How?
- (iii) What would happen if a meteorite of merely one kilometer were to fall on Delhi?
- (iv) Such dangers are not imaginary. What evidence does the writer give to show that they are real?
- (v) Rewrite the given sentence by replacing the underlined word with word or group of words from para 3.
Great strides had been made, but eradicating poverty, Johnson's aim, was far from complete.
- (vi) Select a phrasal verb from para 5 or para 6 to complete the following sentence appropriately.
Another driver ignored a red light and _____ us in the middle of intersection.
- (vii) There are many explosions caused by meteorites or shooting stars when they collide with the earth, yet they are not noticed. Why?
- (viii) Why are scientists taking meteorites seriously now?
- (ix) Scientists suggest two ways to prevent the possible collision of a meteorite with the earth. Write any one.

2. Read the passage given below carefully:

[6]

JAL JEEVAN MISSION: DRINKING WATER FOR THE RURAL INDIA



(1) At the headquarters of the Union Jal Shakti Ministry in New Delhi, Bharat Lal, additional secretary and director, Jal Jeevan Mission, clicks on his computer to check on the progress of the government's massive programme to ensure that every rural household has a functional tap connection for drinking water by 2024. The dashboard of the ministry website flashes that 127,000 households across the country have been provided with a functional tap connection on that particular day. Next, he checks the total number of households that...

connections since the mission was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 15, 2019. The figure stands at 38.46 million. That's phenomenal progress considering that prior to that date, only 32 million households had received functional tap connections since Independence.

- (2) Yet, despite the Jal Jeevan Mission fast-tracking supply, only around 36.9 per cent, or a little more than a third of the 191 million households, have piped water supply. That about 63 per cent of India's rural population still has to step outside their homes and wait in queues, sometimes for hours, to get their daily requirement of water should be a matter of shame for a country and its leaders.
- (3) That's why Lal and his colleagues are pursuing the Jal Jeevan Mission, which promises to provide functional tap water connections to all rural households apart from schools by 2024, with missionary zeal and keeping a hawk's eye on the calendar. While there have been massive efforts to provide drinking water in the past, including the National Drinking Water Mission launched by Rajiv Gandhi in 1986, none compares with the magnitude of the task the Jal Jeevan Mission has set for itself. To meet its 2024 target under the 'Har Ghar Nal Se Jal (Tap water in every house)' programme as it is called, the government has to provide annually 30 million new households with tap water for the next four years.
- (4) Money is not an issue, with the Narendra Modi government setting aside Rs 3.6 lakh crore to accomplish it. But what the Jal Jeevan Mission team is doing is injecting a massive amount of technology to monitor the progress of the mission, apart from pushing for standardisation of pipes, taps and other equipment needed to provide tap water. Lal can zero in on any district in the country or any village to find out the progress achieved in terms of infrastructure being provided and water being supplied. It is such constant monitoring that ensures that not only the quantity of water supplied but its quality too is being checked.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer ANY SIX questions from the seven given below:

(1x6=6)

- (i) What is the chief aim of 'Jal Jeevan Mission', according to the first paragraph?
- (ii) When was 'Jal Jeevan Mission' launched and by whom?
- (iii) Based on the information given in the visual, sum up the progress of the Jal Jeevan Mission.
- (iv) What has been described as a 'matter of shame' by the author?
- (v) The annual target of new functional tap connections is _____ in the next four years.
- (vi) Give the meaning of the expressions: 'missionary zeal' and 'hawk's eye'.
- (vii) Which expression in paragraph 3 or 4 can be paraphrased as 'there is no shortage of funds'?

SECTION-B [Writing] [8 MARKS]

3. You are Karan/Karuna. You have received an invitation from Heritage Public School, Gurgaon, Delhi to judge their flower show on 'Gardening Day' that they are going to organize. Write a letter in reply, declining the invitation.. [3]
 4. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below: [5]
 - A. Indian Army School, Dehradun has given an advertisement in 'The Hindustan Times' for requirement of Physical Education Teachers. Apply for the same, giving your detailed bio data. Invent all necessary details. You are Karan/ Karuna, 54, Gulab Road, Dehradun.
- OR
- B. You are Kirti/Kamal, the Cultural Secretary of your school. Recently your school celebrated the 20th anniversary of its foundation. Write a report for your school magazine in 150-200 words on the celebration of Founder's Day in your school.

SECTION-C [Literature] [18 MARKS]

5. Attempt ANY FIVE of the six questions given below, within 40 words each. [2x5=10]
- It is not only Edla's goodness that transforms the rattrap but also the tramp's own guilt. Discuss with reference of Selma Lagerlof's story 'The Rattrap'.
 - As the host of a talk show, introduce Rajkumar Shukla to the audience by stating any two of his defining qualities.
You may begin your answer like this:
Meet Rajkumar Shukla, the man who played a pivotal in the Champaran Movement. He.....
 - "Aunt Jennifer's Tigers" is a poem about woman's exploitation and abuse in matrimony. Discuss.
 - "Rubbish? Look, boy, look....what do you see?"
What is the 'rubbish' referred to here? How does the speaker view this rubbish? (On the Face of it)
 - Do you approve of the decision of Roger Skunk's mother to have his original smell restored? Why/Why not?
 - What is the message that John Keats wants to give through the poem "A Thing of Beauty"?

6. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 120-150 words each: [4x2=8]
- "Evans Tries an O-Level" is like a tug of war in which the law breaker eventually outsmarts the custodians of the law. Discuss. 4
 - In any social, economic, political or cultural transformation, the role of class and common people is of utmost importance. Discuss with reference to "Indigo" by Louis Fisher. 4
 - How does Keats' poem, "A Thing of Beauty" appeal richly to the senses, stimulating the reader's inner sight as well as the sense of touch and smell. Write your answer in about 120-150 words. 4
