



Brilliant Public School

Seepat Road, Bahatarai, Bilaspur (C.G.)

Pre Board –I, 2017-18

Class –XII

Subject – English

Time : 3:00 Hrs.

Date : 09.12.2017

M.M. 100

Saturday

SECTION A

(Reading)

(30 Marks)

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

(12 Marks)

1. Other animals go about the world as nature made them. Why then, did man start to adorn himself by hanging things around his neck, arms, waist and legs or putting things on his head? We can imagine many reasons. If an exceptionally strong or brave man succeeded in killing an exceptionally large bear, might he not get an idea of boring a hole through one of its teeth with a sharp flint and tying the tooth round his neck in order to remind himself of his great achievement and to show his friends what a great man he was? Gradually it might become the custom in that tribe for all strong and brave hunters to wear a bear's tooth and it might be regarded as a disgrace not to wear one and a sign that one was weak or very young.
2. People who wore ornaments would soon learn to arrange them in different ways according to their size and colour in order to make them more decorative and impressive. A necklace found in Italy with the skeleton of a young man of the Stone Age was quite elaborate. It consisted of stag's teeth, two upper rows made up of the vertebrae of fish and one row of shells. Another reason why men might tie feathers, horns, skins and all kinds of other things to themselves would be in order to make themselves look fierce and more terrifying to animals or to the men of other tribes. Objects that came from a distance and were therefore scarce – such as sea shells to people living far inland – would come in time to have a special value and might be worn only by chiefs and their families in order to show that they were particularly important people.
3. Primitive tribes living today often associate themselves with some particular animal or bird, such as an eagle or lion or with a particular place, such as a mountain or river. Man may have started doing this kind of thing very early in his history. Then, every member of a group or family may have worn something such as feathers, claws or even a stone or wooden object of a certain shape or colour to represent the animal or mountain or whatever it might be that they believed themselves to be connected with. So, as we have seen, clothing may have started as ornament or to distinguish one tribe from another or to show rank or because certain things were believed to have magic qualities. But in some places, a time came when men and women began to wear clothes for other reasons. During the Ice Age, when the polar ice spread over far more of the world than it does today, some of the districts in which human beings were living became very cold and bleak. Man must have learnt that he would be more comfortable and more likely to survive if he covered his body with the skins of animals. At first perhaps, he would simply tie a skin round his waist or over his shoulders, but as time passed, he learnt how to treat skins in order to make them softer and more supple and how to join them together in order to make better garments.
4. Flint tools have been found buried deep under the earth floors of caves in which prehistoric men sheltered when the weather became colder. Some of the tools were probably used to scrape the inner sides of skins to make them soft. Stone Age people may also have softened skins in the same way that Eskimo women do today, by chewing them. The teeth of Eskimo women are often worn down to stumps by the constant chewing of seal skins. Among the wonderful flint and bone tools and implements that later cave men made have been found some beautiful bone needles, some not much bigger than those we use today. Although the people who made them had only flint tools to work with, some of the needles are finer and more beautifully shaped than those of Roman times.

1.1. On the basis of your understanding of the above passage answer each of the questions given below with the help of the options that follow:

(1 × 4 = 4)

- (a) A hole was made in a bear's tooth by.....
- (i) using a needle and thread
 - (ii) using a blunt needle and thread
 - (iii) using a sharp flint to bore a hole
 - (iv) using a decayed tooth of a bear
- (b) Chiefs in olden days adorned themselves with objects.....
- (i) they had found or hunted
 - (ii) that they added special value to
 - (iii) that came from a distant place and were scarce
 - (iv) that were scarce and made of gold
- (c) Primitive people identified with animals connected with their lives by.....
- (i) adorning themselves with representative parts of the creature
 - (ii) wearing feathers round their necks
 - (iii) wearing their beliefs round themselves
 - (iv) looking for a particular animal in their mountains
- (d) The prehistoric men took shelter in
- (i) caves
 - (ii) huts
 - (iii) under the shade
 - (iv) for making tools of trees

1.2. Answer the following questions briefly:

(1 × 6 = 6)

- (e) Why did man start to adorn himself?
- (f) What was special about the necklace found in Italy?
- (g) Why did the men tie feathers, horns and skins to themselves?
- (j) Why did man begin to clothe himself? Give two reasons.
- (i) What tools and needles did man make use of?
- (j) Why are the caves treated as the treasury of flint tools?

1.3. Find words that mean the same as :

(1 × 2 = 2)

- (a) valiant (Para 1)
- (b) soft and flexible (Para 3)

2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

(10 Marks)

1. Babies may be small but they have a big impact on the environment. That is why green-conscious parents are dressing their children in hand-me down clothing, buying wooden toys instead of plastic ones and feeding them from regular steel utensils.
2. That the green parenting wave has caught the fancy of Indians is apparent from the long list of brands that have launched earth-friendly kids' products, ranging from cloth diapers to clothing. Some retailers claim that in recent years at least 400-500 pieces of cloth diapers are sold by retail outlets with zero advertising. Almost as many are marketed by US-based firms who use advertising to push their products. Other green retailers record their success with selling organic clothes. Some outlets claim that they get at least 2500 orders for rompers and party wear in a month. Old players, who had virtually gone out of business when a diaper boom had first struck, have surged a revival in recent months. A toy manufacturer who has been manufacturing non-toxic and eco-friendly toys has seen its online sales rise from one toy a day to 75 plus orders daily, this year. Many parents are also opting for BPA-free plastic toys or borrowing toys from toy libraries.
3. Indian parents who have got used to the comfort of diapers are also being serviced by the green manufacturers. As most children use up to 500 diapers in the first two years of their life, the new green diapers are a viable option. They are made with absorbent materials like bamboo cotton and are as efficient as disposables. Other firms have improvised a cotton insert so instead of the whole cloth only the insert needs washing.

4. Green parenting, of course, doesn't come cheap but they are practical. The diapers made now can be resized with snap buttons as the child grows and cost between ₹ 500 and above, a piece. This has deterred many mothers from opting for it. Thus a whole lot of green mothers have turned to the old fashioned way and are sitting at their sewing machines churning out homemade diapers of soft, washed and used cloth. The new-age mom is definitely shunning the shelf available conveniences for her baby and a lot of them are resorting to making their own substitutes.
5. As for prams, the regular way of taking baby out on a stroll has caught on. Green-conscious mothers now resort to the cloth sling so common among mothers in mountainous regions in India. Their babies look on to the world at shopping malls and in parks through slings made from old saris and tied to their mother's torsos. The eco-aware parents will do anything they say to reduce their baby's carbon footprints.
6. Thus the new-age parents are not following granny's tips to cut costs but to raise their children without harming the planet. The days when hip moms dolled up their little ones in Swarovski studded rompers are now on the way out. These mothers continue to practice the greening act on the older sibling as well. While his discards now adorn his younger sibling, he is happy making his drawings on the back of old bills and newspapers. His mother in the meantime has ensured that seven trees are safe on the planet for that is the amount of carbon footprint from a two year consumption of diapers per child.

2.1. Choose the correct alternatives from the options given below: (1 × 2 = 2)

- (a) The green parenting wave comprises parents using -----
 - (i) Leaf nappies and bamboo clothing
 - (ii) Second hand clothes and old saris
 - (iii) Hand-me down clothes and wooden toys
 - (iv) Plastic toys and Swarovski studded rompers
- (b) The new green diapers are made from-----
 - (i) Bamboo and cotton
 - (ii) Cotton and plastic
 - (iii) Cotton inserts on plastic tops
 - (iv) Absorbent bamboo cotton only

2.2. Answer the following questions: (1 × 6 = 6)

- (e) How do green conscious parents choose toys for their babies?
- (f) What have young mothers adopted from their grannies?
- (g) How are older siblings helping to make the environment green?
- (h) Why have young parents adopted these methods?
 - (i) Explain the term: 'dolled up'.
 - (j) How has online sales benefited the toy manufacturer?

2.3. Find words in the passage which mean the same as: (1 × 2 = 2)

- (a) Shops that sell goods to the public (Para 2)
- (b) Stop somebody from doing something (Para 4)

3. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

(8 Marks)

The word 'depressed' in common usage means sad, frustrated, fed up, bored and pessimistic. Depression is a state of mind. It is specifically a mental disorder characterized by a lowering of the individual's vitality. His mood, desires, hopes, aspirations and of his self-esteem.

Depression arising out of environmental factors is called Reactive Depression whereas depression arising out of some biochemical changes in the brain is called Endogenous Depression. If depression is mild or moderate and if the individual is in touch with his surroundings, it is known as Neurotic Depression. If the individual is severely disturbed and is not able to comprehend what is happening around him, such a state is called Psychotic Depression. Old age is one of the stages of human development, where a person attains wisdom, maturity, social and economic stability with social recognition and emotional fulfillment. Generally, societies show a great respect and consideration for the aged. In ancient times, old people were considered as the guiding stars in Indian families, since they were symbols of tradition, respect, wisdom and experience. The old people were considered repositories of wisdom and traditions and were not considered as problems.

At present, social structures and values are undergoing transformation from traditional to modern. There is a rapid stride in urbanization and industrialization leading to the breaking up of joint families and property. From time to time, changes in the institution of marriage and family have diminished the control of parents over their children. It has increased the freedom of children and they view the aged as a useless and non-productive entity. Modernization has eventually led to the degradation of their status and authority. Consequently, the integrity of the family and the existence of the elderly as an integral part of the family are being uprooted. The importance of their functional position thus declines and consequently their authority and much of their respect and prestige that they enjoyed earlier fades away. These changes generally bring about depression in older people.

The loneliness also arises because of premature loss of a spouse. This would deprive the person of a long standing emotional bond that had provided plenty of emotional succour and security. The loss, if it occurs in the later years, leaves the individual terribly lonely and at the mercy of the sons and daughters-inlaw. Added to this, the increasing gap and interactional stress and strain in the family may leave the elderly without peace of mind. The elderly as a result of these developments feel marginalized, alienated and left out of the main stream.

Usually, the mild depression which is caused due to environmental factors is temporary. The person reconciles within a short time and tries to forget the loss. Kind words and timely support of friends, relatives and family members help one recover from depression.

(a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Also use recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary (minimum 4) (5)

(b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. (3)

Section B (Writing)

Q.4 You are Vijay Mathur, President of Radha Kunj Society, Noida. Draft a notice informing the residents that there will be no water supply for two to three days. Invent the necessary details. (4)

OR

Draft a poster spreading awareness and sensitivity against bullying in school.

Q.5 Write a letter to a national daily expressing your concern about frustrated adolescence and its perilous consequences. You are Pratik / Ritika. (6)

OR

You are selected for a reality show for which you would be missing the school for two months. Write a letter to the Principal seeking her permission for the same.

Q.6 An apple a day keeps the doctor away, but these days the market is full of adulterated and harmful products, vegetables and other eatables. Write an article on the same concern. (10)

OR

.Parents put their children in the summer camps but you feel that children learn more when they are left to explore their own. Write an article expressing the same.

Q.7 You have witnessed an interschool debate event. Write a report on the event in 150-200 words to be published in the magazine of your school. You are Namit/Namita of class XII. (10)

OR

Draft the content for a debate either in favour or against the topic "Print Media is more reliable than Internet" in about 150-200 words.

Section C (Literature)

- Q.8 Read the extract given below and answer the following questions that follow: - (4)
- And such too is the grandeur of the dooms
We have imagined for the mighty dead;
All lovely tales that we have heard or read;
An endless fountain of immortal drink
- a) Who are the mighty dead?
b) What have they done for us?
c) How is the grandeur of the dooms related to the theme of the poem?
d) What does the word 'grandeur' mean?
- Q.9 Answer the following questions: (any 4) (3x4=12)
- a) How did Saheb's life change at the tea stall?
b) Why did Rev. McLeery bring a rubber ring with him to the prison?
c) An Elementary School Classroom in a slum paints a dismal picture of poverty. Comment.
d) What was Sophie's dream? Why did Jansie discourage her dream?
e) Why did the author Zitkala-Sa begin to cry in the dining hall?
f) Why was Franz surprised while entering the classroom that day?
- Q.10 Aunt Jennifer is very different from her tigers. Do you agree? Justify. (6)
- OR
- Nature was, is and always will be a source of happiness. How did John Keats justify it?
- Q.11 Crime and Punishment is a battle of wits. Discuss with respect to the story Evans tries an O-level. (6)
- OR
- Why was Bama disturbed? How did Annan help her to overcome? (6)
- Q.12 How did the Vicar lose his money? (6)
- Q.13 Dr. Kemp and Griffin represent the two different faces of Science. Elucidate the statement (6)

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