

Half Yearly Examination-2014-15

Class - XI

Subject - English Core {301}

M. M. : 40

Time : 2 hrs.

General Instructions :- This paper is divided into three sections. All are compulsory.
Don't exceed the prescribed word limit.

Section - A (Reading Skill)

(10)

Q.1. Read the following passage carefully.

(07)

THE WAY HUMAN BODY DEFENDS

1. The defence mechanism of human body is a gift of nature provided to human beings. The power of our body to fight against various disease-producing agents is known as defensive mechanism. This defensive mechanism depends upon various factors which can be categorised mainly into two types—common factors and special factors.
2. Amongst the common factors, the most important is the health beings. We all know we are having a good health, our body automatically remains protected against the diseases. For keeping good health one should have nutritious balanced diet. A balanced diet is that which contains carbohydrates, fat, proteins, vitamins in proportionate amount.
3. The skin of our body saves us against many micro-organisms producing diseases, provided that it is intact. In case there are cuts or abrasions on it, the micro-organisms penetrate the body through those cuts and abrasions and can cause diseases. Therefore, a cut or an abrasion should never be left open. In case there is no bandage, etc. available, it may be covered by a clean cloth.
4. Some bacteria are residing on and inside the human body. They are our friends and are useful for us. They do not cause any disease and by their presence they do not allow disease-causing organisms to settle on those places. For example, the micro-organisms, present in human saliva secrete a chemical which does not allow diphtheria causing bacteria to grow inside the oral cavity.
5. The human body secretes a variety of fluids, which are killers for disease causing micro-organisms. For example, gastric juice (acidic in nature) secreted by our intestinal tract kills all organisms which enter our body through food.
6. There are a few automatic activities of our body known as "reflex phenomenon" which protects the body against many infections. This reflex phenomenon includes sneezing, coughing and vomiting.

7. Fever is one of the most important constituents of the defensive mechanism of our body. The organ which regulates the temperature of our body is known as hypothalamus and it is situated in the brain. When micro-organisms after entering the body release toxic products and these reach the brain through blood, the hypothalamus starts increasing the temperature of body the person gets fever. This fever is very useful for the human body because by the increase of temperature the micro-organisms which are the root cause of the problem get killed.

8. We are living in an environment which is full of bacteria. Many of these bacteria can produce serious diseases, but all of us do not suffer from such diseases. It is due to a special power present in our body to fight these diseases. A part of this special power of our body is known as innate immunity. This is inherited by us. The other part of this special power is called acquired immunity. This we gain during our lifetime.

In a nutshell, we can say since nature has provided us with defensive mechanism to fight against so many diseases, let us maintain it and rather increase it by the way of immunisation.

—Rakesh Singh [The Tribune]

Q.A. Answer questions 1 & 2 by selecting the most appropriate options from the ones given and questions 3 to 4 by supplying answers on the basis of your reading the passage: (5)

- (i) One should have nutritious balanced diet because
- (a) it has food items of various tastes (b) it is recommended by a dietician
(c) it keeps one healthy (d) it has all essential items
- (ii) The defence mechanism of human body is important as
- (a) it protects us from diseases (b) it checks deterioration of body
(c) it saves us from depression (d) it builds up the wear and tear
- (iii) Why should a cut or abrasion never be left open?
- (iv) How is gastric juice helpful to our body? When is it produced?

Q.B. Find words from the above passage that mean the same as the following :

- (a) produce (para 4)
(b) poisonous (para 7)

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

1. It has been said that everyone lives by selling something. In the light of this statement, teachers live by selling knowledge, philosophers by selling wisdom and priests by selling spiritual comfort. Though it may be possible to measure the value of material goods in terms of money, it is extremely difficult to estimate the true value of the services which people perform for us. There are times when we would willingly give everything we possess to save our lives, yet we might grudge paying a surgeon a high fee for offering us precisely his service. The conditions of society

are such that skills have to be paid for in the same way that goods are paid for at a shop. Everyone has something to sell.

2. Tramps seem to be the only exception to this general rule. Beggars almost sell themselves as human beings to arouse the pity of passers-by. But real tramps are not beggars. They have nothing to sell and require nothing from others. In seeking independence, they do not sacrifice their human dignity. A tramp may ask you for money, but he will never ask you to feel sorry for him.

He has deliberately chose to lead he life he leads and is fully aware of the consequences. He may never be sure where the next meal is coming from, but he is free from the thousands anxieties which afflict other people. His few material possessions make it possible for him to move from place to place with ease. By having to sleep in the open, he gets far closer to the world of nature than most of us ever do. He may hunt, beg, or steal occasionally to keep himself alive, he may even, in times of real need, do a little work; but he will never sacrifice his freedom. We often speak with contempt for tramps and put them in the same class as beggars, but how many of us can honestly say that we have not felt a little envious of their simple way of life and their freedom from care?

- Q.2A.** On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on the contents, using recognisable abbreviations wherever necessary. (5)

Section - B (Writing Section & Grammar) (17)

- Q.3.** You are Ashish Mehta, 2/37 L, Raja Garden, New Delhi-110032. You have lost your purse. Draft an advertisement suitable to be given in the local daily. (Invent details). Your advertisement should not exceed 50 words. (3)

OR

As Asha/Abhinav, School Pupil Leader, D.P.S., Meerut. Write a notice for the school notice board, informing about proposed picnic at Rose Gardens/Sukhana Lake, Chandigarh, inventing all the necessary details of the picnic. (W. L. 50 words)

- Q.4.** You are Supriya/Suraj Pathak of Indira Nagar, Banaras. Write a letter to the Editor of The Times of India, New Delhi about the misuse and poor maintenance of public parks in your city. (W. L. : 100-150 words) (4)

OR

You are Rohan/Rohini Khanna of 149, Circular Road, Panipat. Write an application to the Manager, D.A.V. Senior Secondary School, Panipat in response to an advertisement for the post of a music teacher in that school, giving your detailed bio-data (curriculum vitae). Invent all necessary details. (W. L. : 150-200 words) (4)

Q.5. You are ABC of Class XII. Write an article in 150-180 words for your school magazine on 'Environmental Protection'. (5)

OR

To enforce strict discipline in schools and colleges is a great problem nowadays. As Mohan/Mohini, write an article in 150 to 180 words for The Hindustan Times, Delhi about the problems and your views on punishment as a corrective measure.

Q.6. There is an error in each of the following lines. Find the error. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answersheet as given below. Remember to underline the word that you have supplied. (½ × 4 = 2)

	Incorrect word	Correct word
Once there is a king.	eg. is	was
A king was very famous for the justice.	(a).....	.....
The people uses to believe him.	(b).....	.....
one day two women come in the court.	(c).....	.....
They were cry for the justice.	(d).....	.....

Q.7. In the following passage, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes after it and that comes before it as given in the example. (½ × 4 = 2)

Shahjahan made Taj.	eg. made	<u>the</u>	Taj
It is one of most beautiful monument.	(a).....	.....	.....
Many tourists come visit this every year.	(b).....	.....	.....
The people surprised by the beauty of the Taj.	(c).....	.....	.....
Agra become famous due the Taj Mahal.	(d).....	.....	.....

Q.8. Rearrange the following jumble words to form meaningful sentences. (½ × 2 = 1)

(i) the / there / numberless / are / sky / stars / in

(ii) the / stars / sky / twinkle / the / in / at night

Section - C (Literature & Novel)

Q.9. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow : (13)

And of this circumstance
There is nothing to say at all.
Its silence silences.

(1 × 2 = 2)

- (a) Name the poem and the poet.
(b) What does this circumstance refer here ?

And who art thou ? said I to the soft falling shower
which, strange to tell, gave me an answer, here
translated:

- (a) Name the poem and the poet.
- (b) For whom have the words 'I' and 'thou' used ?

Q.10. Answer any two of the following questions in about 30 to 40 words. (2 × 2 = 4)

- (i) What unforeseen problem did Carter encounter when he reached king Tut's mummy ?
- (ii) How does the poet's past differ from her mothers ?
- (iii) How did Aram justify Mourad's act of stealing a horse ?
- (iv) How did Shastri, the astrologer defend his profession by a snide remark of the narrator 'Shyam'?

Q.11. In today's world due to the nuclear family, the elder people are facing a lot problems. But the main is the isolation of them. Write a speech on the topic 'Isolation : the Biggest Problem of the Elderly', taking clues from the lesson 'The Portrait of a Lady'. (W. L. : 70-80 words) **(3)**

OR

Justify the title of the story "The Address".

Q.12. Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words. (2 × 2 = 4)

- (a) What type of comment was done by Mr. Otis over the chains of the ghost ?
- (b) Describe the twins in your own words.