** SINDHI HIGH SCHOOL, BANGALURU**

**I PRE-BOARD EXAMINATION (2023-24)**

**SUBJECT – ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE(184)**

**(Set – 1)**

**Class: X Marks: 80**

**Date: 15/12/2023 Reading Time: 8:30 to 8:45 am Number of printed sides: 10 Writing Time: 8:45 to 11:45 am**

**General Instructions:**

* **15 minute prior reading time allotted for Question paper reading.**
* **All Questions are compulsory.**
* **The Question Paper has 3 Sections.**

**Section A (Reading), Section B (Writing and Grammar), Section C (Literature) is for 15 marks. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.**

**SECTION A READING 20 MARKS**

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| **1.** | **Read the passage carefully:** | **10m** |
| (1) | Economist, ethicists and business experts persuade us that honesty is the best policy, but their evidence is weak. We hoped to find data that would support their theories and thus, perhaps, encourage higher standards of business behaviour. To our surprise, their pet theories failed to stand up. Treachery, we found, can pay. There is no compelling economic reason to tell the truth or keep one’s word. Punishment for the treacherous in the real world is neither swift nor sure. |  |
| (2) | Honesty is, in fact, primarily a moral choice. Business people do tell themselves that, in the long run, they will do well by doing good. But there is little factual or logical basis for this conviction. Without values, without a basic preference of right over wrong, trust based on such delusion would crumble in the face of temptation. Most of us choose virtue because we want to believe in ourselves and because others respect and believe us. |  |
| (3) | And due to this, we should be happy. We can be proud of a system in which people are honest because they want to be, not because they have to be. Materially, too, trust based on morality provides great advantages. It allows us to join in great and exciting enterprises that we could ever undertake if we relied on economic incentives alone. |  |
| (4) | Economists tell us that trust is enforced in the market place through retaliation and reputation. If you violate a trust, your victim is apt to seek revenge and others are likely to stop doing business with you, at least under favourable terms. A man or woman with a reputation for fair dealing will prosper. Therefore, profit maximisers are honest. This sounds plausible enough until you look for concrete examples. Cases that apparently demonstrate the awful consequences of trust turn out to be few and weak, while evidence that treachery can pay seems compelling. |  |
| i. | **Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.**  According to the passage, what do economists and ethicists, want us to believe?  (a) Businessmen should always be honest  (b) Businessmen cannot always be honest  (c) Businessmen turn dishonest at times  (d) Businessmen are honest only at times | 1 |
| ii. | What are the material advantage which the author sees in being honest? | 2 |
| iii. | Infer one reason for the following, based on information in paragraph 2. Businessmen are honest in their dealings. | 1 |
| iv. | According to the author, which of the following, is the reason for being honest in business?  (a) It gives no immediate benefits  (b) It gives no long-term benefits  (c) It makes a person self-seeking  (d) None of these. | 1 |
| v. | Supply two points to justify the following:  The author says that one can be proud of the present situation. | 2 |
| vi. | What did the author find out about the theory that ‘honesty is the best policy’?  (a) It is correct on many occasions  (b) It is correct for all businesses  (c) It is a useless theory  (d) It is a theory which seems to be correct only occasionally | 1 |
| vii. | Which of the following phrases is most nearly the same in meaning as the word ‘persuade’ as it has been used in the passage?  (a) Give an assurance (b) Give an opinion  (c) Try to convince (d) Cheat | 1 |
| viii. | Which of the following best describes what the author is trying to point out through the last sentence of the passage, “Cases that.....compelling”?  (a) The consequences of business (b) The contradictions in the real world  (c) Economists predict incorrectly (d) The contradictions is unreal | 1 |
| **2.** | **Read the passage given below:** | **10m** |
| (1) | Times view: Private coaching is a multi-million-rupee industry in India. But it is the symptom of a problem, not the problem itself. Coaching centres merely fill the gap caused by lack of quality teaching especially in government school, more so in small towns and villages. Only a sincere and sustained effort to improve education in such schools will alter the picture and prevent this huge drain on the resources of the families desperately seeking to give their children decent education. |  |
| (2) | Secondary level students topped the number of students taking private coaching with 31% males and 29% female students taking recourse to the method, a recent NSSO survey has shown. The report also showed that nearly 20% students attending pre-primary and above level (21% of males and 19% of females) were taking private coaching. |  |
| (3) | Private coaching is a thriving business across the country and according to a 2016 NSSO report more than 7.1 crore students were taking private coaching or tuition classes in addition to their basic education. |  |
| (4) | Experts attributed the trend of a larger share of students at the secondary level taking recourse to private coaching to the entrance exams for professional courses such as engineering and medicines. |  |
| (5) | Anil Swarup, former Secretary school education in the ministry of human resource development, explained the increase of students taking private coaching to the different competitive examinations and said this was a result of the dichotomy between learning and understanding.  (Source : The Times of India) |  |
|  | **Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.** |  |
| i. | Complete the following analogy appropriately, based on your understanding of paragraphs 1 and 2.  We can say that the dichotomy between learning and understanding widely considered to be the main reason for the increase in the number of students taking private coaching is comparable with two banks of a river because \_\_\_\_\_. | 1 |
| ii. | Fill in the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of paragraph 2. According to the author, private coaching is the symptom of a problem, not the problem itself is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (a/an fact/opinion) because it is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  (a/an subjective judgement/objective detail)  \_\_\_\_\_ | 1 |
| iii. | ‘Private coaching is a thriving business across the country’ according to a NSSO report issued in 2016.  Justify the reasons for this trend in about 40 words. | 2 |
| iv. | Based on the survey results, which two concerns clearly demonstrate the larger problem associated with the fact that private coaching has become a multi-million-rupee industry in India? | 2 |
| v. | What do coaching centres do?  (i) Fill the gap caused by lack of quality teaching  (ii) Only give tuition to the students  (iii) Only develop their intelligence level  (iv) None of these | 1 |
| vi. | According to the graph, which category of students take minimum private coaching?  (a) Graduate and above level (b) Pre-primary  (c) Primary (d) Diploma Certificate | 1 |
| vii. | Infer one benefit and one drawback of mushrooming of private coaching centers in India. Answer in about 40 words. | 1 |
| viii. | Below are given the main takeaways from the NSSO report mentioned in the passage about the effect of private coaching on professional courses on secondary-level students. Which of these is NOT mentioned explicitly in the report?  (a) The lack of good teachers is most felt at the secondary level.  (b) There is a dichotomy between learning and understanding.  (c) They need coaching to qualify for engineering and medical entrance exams.  (d) 27.5 % of the students depends on private coaching at this level. | 1 |
|  | **SECTION B- GRAMMAR & WRITING** |  |

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|  | **GRAMMAR** | **10** |
| **3.** | **Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed.** | **1X10=10** |
| **i.** | Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence.  For the past few days, I \_\_\_\_\_ pleasantly \_\_\_\_\_ by world leaders who were coming to pay their respects before the inauguration.  (a) have been, besieged (b) had been, besieged  (c) was, besieged (d) was being, besieged | **1** |
| **ii.** | Read the conversation between a teacher and her students. Complete the sentence by reporting the conversation between the two.  Students : Who gets the teacher’s medal in creativity?  Teacher : Unfortunately, this student has been absent from school for some  days and is not here to receive the applause that is due to her.  When the students asked the teacher about the winner, she informed them that  unfortunately that student had been absent from school for some days and  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | **1** |
| **iii.** | Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line, from a travel magazine.  The Monyu festival of the Phoms, which marks the end of winter \_\_\_\_\_ with dancing, singing and social work, such as the \_\_\_\_\_ and construction of bridges.  (a) is celebrated, repairing (b) celebrate, repair  (c) celebrates, repairing (d) celebration, repaired | **1** |
| **iv.**  **v.** | Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a history textbook.  It is quite clear that those students who are researching for a Ph.D. read more articles then either junior lecturers or other students.   |  | | --- | | **Option No. Error Correction** | | (a) quite quiet | | (b) those these | | (c) researching research | | (d) then than |   Complete the given narrative, by filling in the blank with the correct option.  They \_\_\_\_\_ the path into the woods that disappeared perhaps into a grove of lush, old trees touching the soil with long aerial roots.  (a) went into (b) went along  (c) were going into (d) had gone into | **1**  **1** |
| **vi.** | Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter.  Dear Sir,  We \_\_\_\_\_ (organise) our Annual Function on 5th November 20xx. On this  special occasion, we would be pleased, if you accept to be the guest of honour  and send us a confirmation. | **1** |
| **vii.** | Report the dialogue between a grandson and his grandfather, by completing the sentence.  Grandson : Why are you planting so many saplings, Grandpa?  Grandfather : We need to learn the quality of giving selflessly only from the  trees.  A grandson asked his grandpa \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , to which  the old man replied that we need to learn the quality of giving selflessly only  from the trees. | **1** |
| **viii.** | Identify the error in the given sentence, from a story in a popular magazine and supply the correction.  *The woman agreed to apply for the post after suggested by the police superintendent.*  Use the given format for your response.   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Error | Correction | |  |  | | **1** |
| **ix.** | Read the response of a child to his mother:  “You have misunderstood my words, Mummy!”  Now, report the question posed by the mother.  (a) The mother asked angrily what he means by those words.  (b) The mother asked angrily what he meant by those word.  (c) The mother asked angrily what did he meant by those words.  (d) The mother asked angrily what he meant by those words. | **1** |
| **x.** | Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence.  Labelling a child as obese \_\_\_\_\_ run the risk of making him angry.  (a) will (b) can (c) might (d) should | **1** |
| **xi.**  **xii.** | Select the correct option to complete the narration of the conversation between two friends studying in different universities.  A : Recently, we honoured Professor Timothy Walsh with an award for  outstanding work in languages.  B : Do you know that his research work \_\_\_\_\_ by the students of linguistics all  over the world?  (a) was referred to (b) had been referred to  (c) will be referred to (d) is referred to  Identify the error on the door of an office and supply the correction.  Executive Bored Room  Keep Silence!  Use the given format for your response.   |  |  | | --- | --- | | ERROR | CORRECTION | |  |  | | **1**  **1** |

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|  | **WRITING** | **10** |
|  | Note : All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose . |  |
| **4 A.** | Your grandfather is very upset about the rising prices and keeps thinking of his olden times when things were very cheap. You are convinced that inflation has made life difficult for common man. Write a letter in 100-120 words to the Editor of a national daily describing the difficulties faced by poor families. You are Prabhat/Prerna of 679, Lajpat Nagar-I, New Delhi. | 5 |
|  | **OR** |  |
| **4 B**. | You are Alex/Ronny of 182, Mukherjee Nagar. You want information about German language course at Max Mueller Bhavan, Bangalore. Write a letter in 100-120 words to the Director, Foreign Languages, enquiring about the details of the courses offered by the institution. |  |
| **5 A** | Read the following excerpt from an article that appeared in the magazine section  of a local daily:  The World Health Organization defines mental health as a “state of well-being  whereby individuals recognize their abilities, are able to cope with the normal  stresses of life, work productively and fruitfully, and make a contribution to their  communities.”  Write a paragraph to analyse the given argument in 100 to 120 words.  You could think about what alternative explanations might weaken the given  conclusion and include rationale/evidence that would strengthen/counter the  given argument. | 5 |
|  | **OR** |  |

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| 5 B | ChatGPT is a large language model-based chatbot developed by OpenAI.  Study the graph and write an Analytical Paragraph in about 100-120 words, on its sudden rise to popularity in comparison to other online services. Refer the graph given below.     |  | | --- | |  | |  |

**SECTION C:LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 marks)**

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| **6.** | **Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.** | **5** |
| **A.** | “We have an Indian legend too. Bodhidharma, an ancient Buddhist ascetic, cut off his eyelids because he felt sleepy during meditations. Ten tea plants grew out of the eyelids. The leaves of these plants when put in hot water and drunk banished sleep.”  “Tea was first drunk in China,” Rajvir added, “as far back as 2700 B.C.! In fact, words such as tea, ‘chaff’ and ‘chini’ are from Chinese. Tea came to Europe only in the sixteenth century and was drunk more as medicine than as a beverage.” The train clattered into Mariani Junction. The boys collected their luggage and pushed their way to the crowded platform*. (Glimpses of India)* |  |
| **i.** | In the statement, ‘The boys collected their luggage and pushed their way to the crowded platform’ what does ‘pushed their way’ mean? | **1** |
| **ii.** | Why did Rajvir have to convince Pranjol with an Indian legend about the origin of tea too? Answer in about 40 words. | **2** |
| **iii.** | State **TRUE** or **FALSE.**  Below are given some sentences (a)-(d) with the word ‘legend.’ Only (b) has expressed the same meaning as in the passage?  (a) The football superstar, Messi is a living sports legend of our times.  (b) The Legend of Rama also has an animated version very popular even in Japan.  (c) The arrogance of some world politicians cum dictators is legendary.  (d) That the cantonment is haunted is merely an urban legend. | **1** |
| **iv.** | Which word in the extract is similar in meaning to a ‘short loud repeated sound’? | **1** |
|  | **OR** |  |
| **B.** | She was not convinced. ‘No’, she replied, “there is nothing more humiliating than to have a shabby air in the midst of rich women.”  Then her husband cried out, “How stupid we are! Go and find your friend Madame Forestier and ask her to lend you her jewels.”  She uttered a cry of joy. ‘It is true!’ she said. “I had not thought of that.” |  |
| **i.** | Why did she need the jewels?  (a) To go to a party of rich people  (b) For a photoshoot  (c) To get a replica made  (d) For wearing them at home | **1** |
| **ii.** | What kind of a person is Mme Loisel and why is she always unhappy? Answer in 40 words. | **2** |
| **iii.** | Read the following descriptions (a)-(c) and identify which one correctly corresponds to the extract.  (a) A debate is a formal discussion on a particular topic, usually with two or more people presenting different viewpoints and arguments.  (b) A soliloquy is a speech given by a character alone on stage, which reveals their innermost thoughts and feelings to the audience.  (c) A dialogue is a conversation between two or more people as a feature of a book, play, or film. | **1** |
| **iv.** | What did Matilda’s husband suggest to her? | **1** |
| **7.** | Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two, given. | **5** |
| **A.** | It sits looking  over harbour and city  on silent haunches  and then moves on. *(Fog)* |  |
| **i.** | In the given extract, the poet uses the poetic device, \_\_\_\_\_ in which one line runs onto another without any punctuation mark. | **1** |
| **ii.** | The poet has used short lines to compose the given poem. Choose the option that lists the most appropriate explanation for the same.  a. By keeping the lines short, the poet keeps the liberty in stepping away from rule,  traditional form, logic, or fact, in order to produce a desired effect.  b. By keeping the lines short, the poet wants the reader to omit some parts  of a sentence, which gives the reader a chance to fill the gaps while reading it out.  c. By keeping the lines short, the poet wants to introduce ambiguity or contradiction  into an otherwise straightforward sentence.  d. By keeping the lines short, the poet is controlling the pace to make the reader slow  down thereby reflecting the slow rolling in of the fog. | **1** |
| **iii.** | Choose the option with qualities of the cat that Carl Sandburg applies to the fog?  (1) Cats are independent animals, they don’t follow rules, they slip and slide in and  out of our lives as they please.  (2) Cats are distrustful of strangers and can be jealous and moody.  (3) Cats are stealthy, moving in slow motion at times and they appear to be moving  in a mysterious fashion.  (4) Cats often communicate with a combination of a distinctive sound and body  language.  (5) Cats like to move on at their own pace and before you know it, they’ve  disappeared.  a) Only 1 b) 2, 3 and 4 c) 1,3 and 5 d) Only 4 | **1** |
| **iv.** | What is the significance of the use of the word “little’ to describe the fog in the poem and how does this word choice contribute to the overall mood and tone of the poem? | **2** |
|  | OR |  |
| **B.** | “Ink trickled down to the bottom of the household,  And little mouse Blink strategically mouseholed.  But up jumped Custard, snorting like an engine,  Clashed his tail like irons in a dungeon,  With a clatter and a clank and a jangling squirm,  He went at the pirate like a robin at a worm.” |  |
| **i.** | Fill in the blank with suitable words on the basis of your understanding of the given  lines.  The outcome of the clash between Custard and the pirate was that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. | **1** |
| **ii.** | What is the significance of the use of the words - ‘trickled down’ and ‘mouseholed’ to describe the reactions of Belinda’s pets and how does this word choice contribute to the overall situation in the poem? Answer in about 40 words. | **2** |
| **iii.** | Match the figures of speech with their correct definitions (in the box given below) that have been used by the poet in the given extract. 1   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Column A** | **Column B** | | (A) poetic licence | 1. words like ‘and’ like’ used  repetitively | | (B) repetition | 2. use of the word mouseholed to rhyme  with household. | | (C) onomatopoeia | 3. sound of dragon is compared with  sound of engine | | (D) simile | 4. use of sound words like clatter, snorting, jangling, etc. |   a) A -4, B -2, C-1, D3 b) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3  c) A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4 d) A-4, B2, C-4, D-1 | **1** |
| **iv.** | Name the rhyme scheme of the stanza. | **1** |
| **8** | Answer **ANY FOUR** of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words | **4x3=12** |
| **i.** | What does courage mean to Mandela?  *(Nelson Mandela - Long Walk to Freedom*) | **3** |
| **ii.** | Anne believed that paper has more patience than people. Why? | **3** |
| **iii.** | Write the central idea of the poem ‘For Anne Gregory’ | **3** |
| **iv.** | How does Natalya react when she comes to know that Lomov had come to propose for her hand? *(The Proposal)* | **3** |
| **v.** | How does the poet suggest that you identify the lion and the tiger? When can you do so according to him? | **3** |
| **9.** | Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words | **2x3=6** |
| **i.** | Why were the two boys surprised to see imprints of a pair of bare feet?  *(Footprints without Feet)* | **3** |
| **ii.** | How was Tricki treated in the first two days of his visit to the surgery?  *(A Triumph of Surgery)* | **3** |
| **iii.** | Did Ebright have other interests besides science? Mention them.  *(The Making of a Scientist)* | **3** |
| **10.** | Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. | **1 x 6=6** |
| **(A)** | Imagine you are the air hostess of the flight on which Maxwell flew with his otter. Narrate the events on board the plane. *(Mijbil the Otter)* |  |
|  | **OR** |  |
| **(B)** | After reading ‘The Sermon at Benares’, it dawned upon you that the life of mortals in this world is troubled and brief and combined with pain, yet many behave in a selfish manner thinking that we are eternal. Write a Diary Entry on your reflections about the same. You can relate it to the lesson and the value that Kisa Gotami learnt after going to every house. *(Sermon at Benares)* |  |
| **11.** | Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. | **1X6=6** |
| **(A)** | “Education can change a person’s perspective towards life and take care of all the deficiencies. With reference to the chapter ‘Bholi’, write an article about the given topic. |  |
|  | **OR** |  |
| **(B)** | ‘Misunderstanding of Cultural differences between various races can cause  confusion and conflict.’ Comment, based on the chapter ‘The Book that Saved the  Earth’ and present it as a speech in the morning assembly. |  |

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