

Half Yearly Examination - 2022-23

Subject : English Compulsory

Time : 3.15 hrs

Class : XI (Eleventh)

MM : 70

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE EXAMINEES :

1. Candidate must write their Roll No. on the question paper.
2. All the questions are compulsory.
3. Write the answer to each question in the given answer-book only.

4. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follows :

The culture of Rajasthan is very different and unique. The unique mixture of diverse topography, history and curious life-style is what gives Rajasthani Culture its rich heritage. The rich culture in Rajasthan is visible in each and every aspect of the state. The colourful dresses, the heavy jewellery. The palatial mansions and havelis, the diverse and joyous festivals and fairs, all are symbols of the rich and unique culture of Rajasthan.

The dull and harsh living conditions of people in Rajasthan is made a bit colourful and lively by the multitudes of fairs and festivals that are celebrated there. The only way people here enjoy the simple pleasures of life, is by celebrating each and every occasion and event on a grand scale. Rajasthan comes alive in a riot of colours and activities during fairs and important festivals. Monsoons are also the time to indulge in festivity and grand feasts, as rains are an occasion to celebrate in Rajasthan.

The most commonly language spoken in Rajasthan is Hindi. The people of Rajasthan speak in Rajasthani and Marwari. Hindi is the official language of the state. The people over here are very religious and follow all rituals and traditions piously. Hinduism is also dominant religion here followed by Islam, Jainism, Sikhism and Christianity. The forts and palaces are living testimonies of the rich cultural heritage of Rajasthan.

Rajasthan is famous for its exquisite embroidery. The most unique thing about this embroidery is that it is totally done by hands and no machines are involved. The designs like block printing, Zari, Bagaru, Tie and Die, Sanganeri are famous all over the world and are also exported to many countries abroad. The place is also famous for its kundan and golden jewellery, brass work etc.

Rajasthan is a place that is dominated by hot and dry weather almost throughout the year. However, there is no such ideal time to visit Rajasthan. The variation between the day and night is pretty high. Each and every weather and season in Rajasthan is enjoyable and has its own charm.

Questions :

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (a) What are the symbols of the unique culture of Rajasthan ?                 | 1 |
| (b) Describe the living conditions of Rajasthani people.                      | 1 |
| (c) What makes the life of Rajasthani people colourful?                       | 1 |
| (d) Why is Rajastani embroidery famous ?                                      | 1 |
| (e) How is the weather of Rajasthan?  | 1 |
| (f) Why do the people of Rajasthan follow all rituals and traditions piously? | 1 |

Choose from the passage the words that mean.....

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| (g) extremely large number of people | 1 |
|--------------------------------------|---|

5. In every country people imagine that they are the best and the deverest and the others are not so good as they are. The Englishman thinks that he and his country are the best; The Frenchman is very proud of France and everything French. The Germans and Italians think no less of their countries and many Indians imagine that India is in many ways the greatest country in the world. This is wrong.

Everybody wants to think well of himself and his country. But really there is no person, who has not got some good and some bad qualities. In the same way there is no country which is not partly good and partly bad. We must take the good wherever we find it and try to remove the bad whatever it may be. We are, of course, most concerned with our country, India. We have to see what is good in our ways and customs and try to keep it, and whatever is bad we have to throw away. If we find anything good in other countries, we should certainly take it.

Questions :

- (a) What is the general thinking of people in a country? 1  
 (b) Name the citizens of European nations mentioned here. 1  
 (c) What is wrong, according to the author? 1  
 (d) What has every person got, according to the author? 1  
 (e) What type of country is every country? 1  
 (f) Find the words from the passage which mean : 2  
 (i) Nation (ii) The usual ways of behaving

3. Write a task in 100-200 words giving description of an event "Rajiv Gandhi Rural Olympic Games 2022" based on hints given below : 7

- (i) Competitions in all games (ii) More students take part  
 (iii) Highest record (iv) A great success

OR

Write a task in 100-200 words giving description of an incident on 'Disaster caused by Flood' based on the hints given below :

- (i) Recently Disaster caused by flood (ii) Whole village in water  
 (iii) Loss of cattle, goods, property (iv) Govt. provided all help

4. Write an article "How the Information Technology has provided the younger generation new opportunities, joys of discovery and thrill of creativity". 7

OR

Your Senior Secondary Examination started yesterday. It was the first day of your exam. Write a report in about 100 words on "The scene of the examination hall".

5. Write a letter to the principal of your school complaining against the bad behaviour of the librarian of your school. 7

OR

You are Naina of Sikar. Write a letter to the Manager, Shagun Garden, Sikar to find out the rates for conducting the wedding reception of your sister on the lawns, enquiring about the catering cost per head, service and decoration charges and advance to be paid.

6. Fill in the blanks with correct form of the verb given in the brackets. (Attempt any six). 6

- (i) Alexander ..... India 2000 year ago. (Invade)  
 (ii) Fortune ..... the brave. (favour)  
 (iii) She ..... a novel now. (read)  
 (iv) She usually takes coffee but yesterday she ..... tea. (take) took  
 (v) It ..... since 10 O'clock. (rain)  
 (vi) When we ..... (arrive) there, they were having lunch.  
 (vii) He always ..... (take) milk before he goes to bed.

7. Write suitable modals with the help of the words given in the brackets : (attempt any four) 4

- (i) Students ..... respect their teachers. (obligation)  
 (ii) ..... you please tell me the time? (polite request)

- (iii) Ramesh is ill. We ..... call a doctor. (necessary)  
 (iv) If you pass, I ..... give you a watch. (promise)  
 (v) He learnt English for six months but he ..... write even two correct sentences. (inability)  
 (vi) She ..... go to Mumbai alone. (prohibited)

8. Fill in the blanks with suitable determiners: (Attempt any four) 4

- (i) They called me ..... ass. (a / an)  
~~(ii)~~ There was not ..... milk. (any / some)  
~~(iii)~~ Subhash fought for ..... freedom of our country. (a / the)  
 (iv) She is wearing ..... blue sarree. (a / an)  
~~(v)~~ Ramesh went by ..... bus. (x / a)  
~~(vi)~~ How ..... students are there in the class? (many / much)

9. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below : (One out of two extracts): 3

When I went in to comfort the children, Jon asked, "Daddy, are we going to die?" I tried to assure him that we could make it. "But, Daddy", he went on "We aren't afraid of dying if we can all be together - you and mummy, sue and I". I could find no words with which to respond, but I left the children's cabin determined to fight the sea with everything I had. To protect the weakened starboard side, I decided to heave to --- with the undamaged port hull facing oncoming waves, using an improvised sea anchor of heavy nylon rope and two 22 litre plastic barrels of paraffin.

Questions :

- (a) What did Jon ask his father?  
 (b) What was the writer determined to do?  
 (c) Find out the words from the passage which mean the following :  
 (i) Reply (ii) Right-hand side of the ship

OR

My grandmother always went to school with me because the school was attached to the temple. The priest taught us the alphabets and the morning prayer. While the children sat in rows on either side of the verandah singing the alphabet or the prayer in a chorus, my grandmother sat inside reading scriptures. When we both finished, we would walk back together. This time the village dogs would meet us at the temple door. They followed us to our home growling and fighting with each other for the chapattis we threw to them.

When my parents were comfortably settled in the city, they sent for us. That was a turning point in our friendship.

Questions :

- (a) Why did the author's grandmother go to school with him?  
 (b) What did the priest teach the children?  
 (c) What did the dogs fight for?

10. Attempt four out of six short answer type questions (around 10-15 words): 4

- ~~(i)~~ How does the grandfather look in the portrait? (The Portrait of a Lady)  
~~(ii)~~ Name the two Crewmen that went with the family on the Voyage? How did they contribute to the project? ("We're not afraid to die.... If we can all be together")  
~~(iii)~~ In which year was the tomb discovered? (Discovering Tut : The saga continues)  
 (iv) The story "landscape of the soul" is tale about whom? (Landscape of the Soul)  
 (v) What does frank ask Toplow when he first sees him at the school doing the extra work? (The Browning Version)  
 (vi) Who is "the world's most dangerous animal?" Why is it so? (The Ailing Planet : The Green Movement's Role)

11. Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow (one out of two extract)

Some twenty thirty years later  
 She'd laugh at the snapshot "See Betty  
 And Dolly". She'd say, "and look how they  
 Dressed us for the beach" The sea holiday  
 was her past, mine is her laughter. **Both wry**  
 with the laboured ease of loss.

- (i) Which snapshot is the poetess talking about?
- (ii) What made the mother laugh?
- (iii) Which two things now belong to the past according to the poetess?
- (iv) Explain 'Both wry with the laboured ease of loss'.

OR

I descend to leave the droughts, atomies, dustlayers of the globe,  
 And all that in them without me were seeds only, latent, unborn;  
 And forever, by day and night, I give back life to my own origin,  
 And make pure and beautify it.

- (i) Who does 'I' here refer to?
  - (ii) What does the rain do?
  - (iii) What does the 'I' do for its origin?
  - (iv) How does the 'I' give life to its origin?
12. Attempt three out of six short answer type questions (around 20-25 words) (one mark each):
- (i) Which Incident has been captured in the snapshot?
  - (ii) How long does the Laburnum top remain silent and still?
  - (iii) What would happen to the seeds if the rain did not bathe them?
  - (iv) What does the rain call herself?
  - (v) How did her mother look in the photograph?
  - (vi) In what manner does the goldfinch approach the tree?

13. Attempt one out of two questions :

- (i) Compare and contrast the two cousins Aram and Mourad?

OR

- (ii) Justify the title of the play "Mother's Day".

14. Attempt two out of three short-type questions :

(1½+1½) 3

- (i) Who gave the address to the narrator and why? (The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse)
- (ii) What is Hosahali? What does the narrator had to say about it in the story? (Ranga's Marriage)
- (iii) What made Mr. Braun speech less? (Albert Einstein at School)

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