

Roll No..... Name.....

XI-18

Half Yearly Examination 2023-24

A

## ENGLISH - (Only One Paper)

Time : 3:15 Hrs.

Class - XI

M.M. 100

Note : (i) This paper is divided into four sections of A, B, C and D.

(ii) All the sections are compulsory.

(iii) Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

### Section - A (Reading)

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

Most of the people who appear most often in history books are great conquerors and generals. Strangely enough the people who really helped civilisation forward are often never mentioned at all. We do not know who made the first boat or calculated the length of the year but we know all about killers and destroyers. We raise statues to them simply because they fought bravely. But even animals fight, so do savages. To fight is not to be civilised. Moreover, there are other ways of setting quarrels among men or nations. So really, civilised people have been those who have brought peace and happiness to mankind. They have been prophets, saints, doctors, inventors and discoverers. They have been truly great since instead of inflicting pain and hardship upon humanity, they have healed their wounds. Instead of killing, they have saved human lives. They are really civilised and deserve our admiration and respect.

(a) Who are the people that generally appear in history books? 3

(b) What is strange for the writer? 3

(c) Why can the people who fought bravely not be called civilised? 3

(d) Who are truly civilised? 1.5

(e) Give the antonym of 'Hurt'? 1.5

### Section - B (Writing)

2. Make notes on the given passage and then make summary of the passage with the help of notes :- 5

"We live in deeds and not in years." It is because of this that all of us prefer one hour crowded with glory to a whole life without fame. If providence were to put the choice before us, perhaps we should all exclaim, "Give us sixty exciting minutes and not countless millions of tame years without a name." A

(P.T.O.)

life, however short, spent in doing things useful to the world or humanity, is much better than living a hundred years and spending the time in vain and useless pursuits. It is not life that matters but noble actions. A man may have a short span of life, but if within this period he has performed noble action, he may be said to have truly lived.

Love of fame is divinely implanted in the human soul. It is the divine spark which kindles all our latent faculties and arouses us to action. Before it, all obstacles and difficulties, inseparable though they may appear at first, melt into the nothingness of a dream. However steep and rugged the path, however full of thorns and stumbling-blocks it may be, it fills us with irresistible and super human power to struggle heroically, to act nobly and die honourably. There cannot be anything nobler in the world than this love of fame combined with love of humanity.

3. Write an article for a news paper on 'Family Values and Changing Times'

or

Write an essay on "Importance of Forest"

4. Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper about terrorism.

or

Write a letter to the publisher of enquiry for quotations.

### Section - C (Grammar)

5. (a) Change any One into indirect speech :-  
 (i) The patient said, "Doctor cure my pain, please."  
 (i) The farmer will say, "I am watering the fields."
- (b) Change any One as directed :-  
 (i) The sun rose. The fog dispersed.  
 (Combine into simple sentence)  
 (i) The doctor came. The patient had died.  
 (combine into complex sentence)
- (c) Change any One into passive voice :-  
 (i) He wrote a letter to me.  
 (ii) Call him.
- (d) Correct any One of the following sentence :-  
 (i) The news is much perplexing.  
 (ii) You, we and they are friend.
- (e) Use any One of the following idioms in your own sentence :-  
 (i) A man of Letters  
 (ii) Cry of the moon.

(f) Use any one from the given phrasal verbs in your own sentence :-

(i) Make up

(ii) Act upon

(g) Give the synonym of the following words :-

(i) Calamity

(ii) Latent

(h) Give the antonym of the following words :-

(i) Acquit

(ii) Ignorance.

(i) Use any one of the following idioms/phrases in your own sentence :-

(i) One who deserts his religion

(ii) One who has great love for one's country.

(j) Use the following words in the sentences of your own sentence :-

(i) Idle

(ii) Ideal

6. Translate the following into English :-

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एक बार राजा नल अपने बाग में टहल रहा था। उसने बाग में एक हंस देखा। वह हंस बहुत सुन्दर था। अतः नल उसके पीछे दौड़ा और थोड़ी देर में उसे पकड़ लिया। उस हंस ने राजा नल से प्रार्थना की, "मुझे छोड़ दो। यदि तुम मुझे छोड़ दोगे तो मैं तुम्हारी प्रशंसा राजकुमारी दमयन्ती से करूँगा" राजा को दया आई और उसने हंस को छोड़ दिया।

### Section - D (Literature)

7. Answer any one of the following questions :-

7

(a) Draw a character-sketch of the grandmother.

(b) Describe how the CT scan of King Tut's mummy was carried out on 5 January, 2005?

8. Answer any two of the following questions :-

8

(a) Why did she stop talking to the author?

(b) What happened to Sue?

(c) What were the things buried with Tut?

9. Read the given stanza and answer the questions :-

6

The Laburnum top is silent, quite still

In the afternoon yellow september sunlight.

A few leaves, yellowing, all its seeds fallen,

Till the goldfinch comes, with a twitching chirrup

A suddenness, a startlement, at a branch end.

(a) Describe the Laburnum tree.

(b) What does the month of september signify here?

(c) What is the effect of the goldfinch's coming? (P.T.O.)

10. Write the Central Idea of any one poem of the following :- 4

(a) A Photograph

(b) The Laburnum Top

11. Answer any one of the following questions :- 7

(a) Draw a character-sketch of Mourad.

(b) What was the problem of Mrs Person? How did she think to solve it?

12. Answer any two of the following questions :- 8

(a) Who was John Byro? Why did he come to Mourad's house?

(b) What was that woman's reply to the narrator?

(c) What did Doris demand to her mother?