



**HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION (2021-22)**

**SET - B**

**Subject: ENGLISH CORE (301)**

**Max. Marks:40**

**Grade: XI**

**Time: 90 mins**

**Name:**

**Section:**

**Roll No:**

**General Instructions:**

- The Question Paper contains THREE sections.
- Section A-READING has 18 questions. Attempt a total of 14 questions, as per specific instructions for each question.
- Section B-WRITING SKILLS has 12 questions. Attempt a total of 10 questions, as per specific instructions for each question.
- Section C-LITERATURE has 30 questions. Attempt 26 questions, as per specific instructions for each question.
- All questions carry equal marks.
- There is no negative marking.

**READING**

**II. Read the passage given below.**

**Saving for a Rainy Day**

1.The Food Bill is still in the works but has provoked a furious debate on the lack of grain storage facilities, rotting of grains and whether they should be distributed free to the hungry masses. Waking up to the fact that no food security programme can be effective without proper storage, the government is now planning to upgrade existing warehousing facilities and also adding new ones. However, between food security and large-scale storage, there's a missing link that needs to be taken note of: storage at the farm level. No one can deny the importance of decentralized storage; at least 25-30 per cent grains in the country are stored at the farm level.

2.However, it's not as if there hasn't been enough thrust on this issue: there are State institutes to look into the storage problems.

3.Yet, policy-wise we did have a sound start: the Save Grain Campaign, which was initiated 43 years ago, was supposed to do what we are floundering on now. Through this campaign, the centre was to initiate and train states in warehousing and storage of grains. The centre wanted the states to take it up on a large scale but the latter did not want any "added responsibility". Finding no takers, the campaign was withdrawn in 2008.

4."Around 15-20 per cent food grain losses occur in large storage godowns. Along with investment in large storage capacities, we must encourage farm-level storage. This can be in the form of refining and improving the local/indigenous storage technologies and providing technical and financial support at that level," says M.B. Chetti, Dean, College of Agriculture, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, Karnataka.

5.He and many experts like him suggest that if we want to leapfrog in storage capacity at the farm level (since setting up large storages is time-consuming and expensive), new technologies like vacuum packaging could be the answer. They assure quality as well as a chance to store grains almost anywhere and that it can be done in villages by trained persons.

6.“Alternatively, we have to go for cold storage facilities for food grains, which is very costly since it involves electricity supply,” says Chetti. “Instead, vacuum packing,” say experts, “helps preserve grains and seeds for long periods without any deterioration in quality. In fact, an experiment was carried out in the university on the usefulness of the packaging system (using chilli) and the results were satisfactory. The available technology offers a seven- layer packing to preserve quality for long periods of time and once sealed, climatic changes have no effect on it. Elimination of oxygen from the pack helps in extending shelf life.”

7.“At present only three-layer plastic films are manufactured in India. The seven-layered film needs to be imported. But the import duty is high,” says Mohan Bajikar, “of course, such technologies are expensive, but then delivering to the hungry isn’t enough—quality must be ensured.”

8.Food policy analyst Devinder Sharma, however, says “expensive solutions like silos and warehousing are not the answer to procurement and storage problems.” Instead, he says, “local production, local procurement and local distribution” is the answer, something like what Chhattisgarh has been doing. It procures paddy directly from farmers, buying it through cooperative societies and procurement centres at the village level. “To store,” he adds, “the government can add a small godown next to each panchayat ghar.”

9.Whichever way we look at it, decentralised storage cannot be left out of the loop if we want to ensure food security and reduce stock losses.

**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer any eight out of the ten questions by choosing the correct option:**

- 1 The necessity of proper storage has been realized because
  - a. there is lack of grain storage facilities
  - b. grain is lying in the open and rotting
  - c. no food security is possible without it
  - d. masses are hungry and without grain
- 2 Decentralised storage stresses upon
  - a. storage at farm level
  - b. storage at block level
  - c. storage at district level
  - d. storage at state level
- 3 The ‘Save Grain Campaign’ was withdrawn after 43 years because
  - a. the centre did not spare funds
  - b. proper training in warehousing was lacking
  - c. the states did not show any interest
  - d. the states wanted added responsibility
- 4 What was the result of the experiment carried out in the university?
  - a. the results were not to the mark
  - b. the results were negative
  - c. the results were satisfactory
  - d. all of the above
- 5 Experts reject silos and warehousing because
  - a. these are very costly solutions
  - b. local storage and distribution is more effective.
  - c. these are inadequate for storage
  - d. these fail to reduce stock losses
- 6 The word ‘facilities’ in para 6 means
  - a. aptitude
  - b. dexterity
  - c. conveniences
  - d. transportation

- 7 What should we do if we want to leapfrog in storage capacity at farm-level?
- set up large storages with state funds
  - use new technologies like vacuum packaging
  - involve state governments in the storage systems
  - use cold storage facility
- 8 What is the alternate to large storage godowns?
- small storage godowns
  - cold storage facilities
  - farm-level storage
  - seven-layer packing
- 9 What are the advantages of vacuum packing?
- it helps preserve grains and seeds for long periods
  - it can be done in villages by trained persons
  - it can be done without any technical and financial support
  - it carries oxygen and bacteria
10. What is one option to prevent rotting of grains?
- distribute it free among the poor
  - export it abroad to poor countries
  - stop producing extra grains
  - create better storage facilities

## II. Read the passage given below:

1. The rapid transition to online learning, as a consequence of COVID-19, has highlighted the risks of student disengagement, and the subsequent impact on lower student achievement across multiple courses. The recent pandemic has changed how millions around the globe are educated. New solutions and innovations in the education system are the need of the hour. Looking at the new digital split, the approach may increase the equality gaps. More than 500 million students across the globe had to pause their on-going studies at various levels. These changes have and will create a degree of inconvenience, but at the same time would promote innovations and future transformations within the education system.

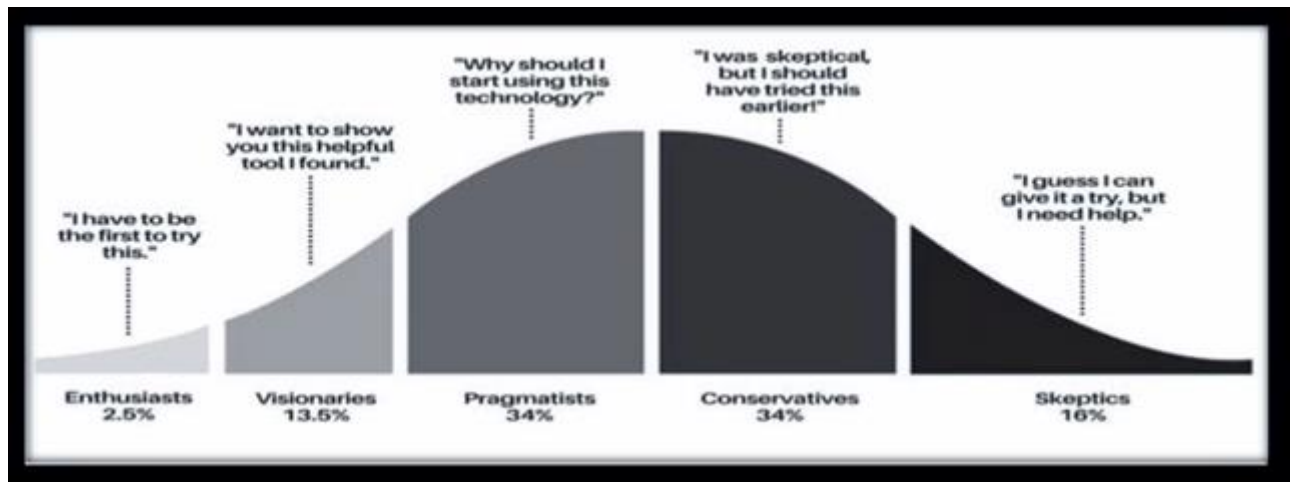
2. The ‘pile-on effect’ of the coronavirus is that, during the global COVID-19 pandemic, interruptions to education can have long term implications — especially for the most vulnerable. There is a real risk of regression for children whose basic, foundational learning (reading, math, languages, etc.) was not strong to begin with. And millions of children who have already been deprived of their right to education, particularly girls, are being more exposed to health and well-being risks (both psychosocial and physical) during COVID-19.

3. Girls: Young and adolescent girls are twice as likely to be out of school in crisis situations and face greater barriers to education and vulnerabilities such as domestic/gender-based violence when not in school.

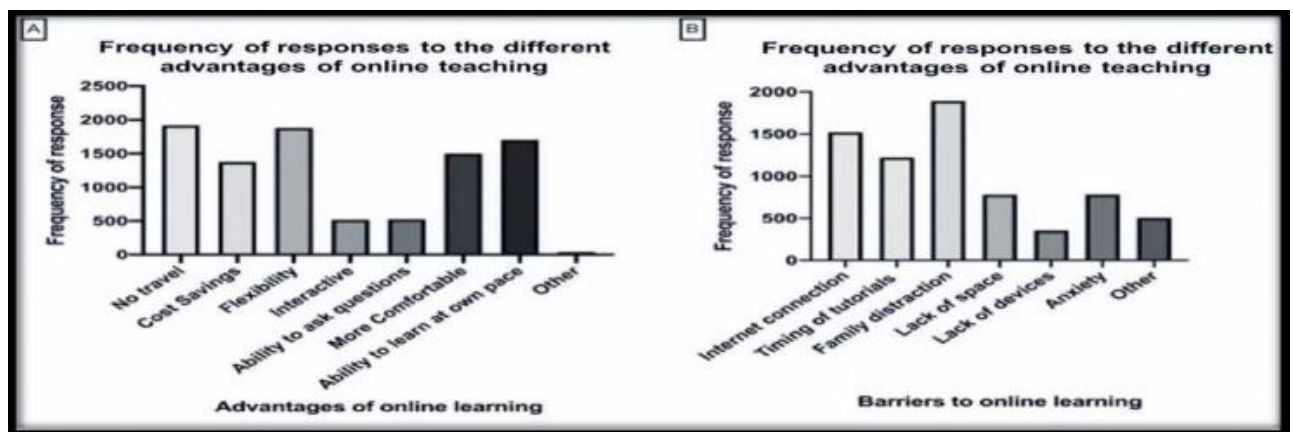
4. Refugees, displaced and migrant children: These populations often fall between the cracks as national policies might not necessarily include these vulnerable groups and they must be included and catered for in any global responses to this crisis if this has not already occurred.

5. Children and youth with disabilities: Along with other marginalized populations, including children from minority groups, they are neglected in the best of times and have lower educational outcomes than their peers.

6. Young people affected by trauma or mental health issues: Schools and learning centers are places for communities to address health related issues, including mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), which the most vulnerable students rely on for their wellbeing and development in order to learn.



The graphic above, made by the consulting firm CB&A, shows how the adaption curve typically impacts in the online learning method users.



Based on your understanding of the passage, answer any six out of the eight questions by choosing the correct option:

11. With the recent shift to online education, the world saw-
  - a. a decreasing trend in school drop outs
  - b. a decreasing trend in student accomplishments
  - c. decreased challenges in innovations
  - d. decreased investments in education sector
12. The word 'regression' in para 2 means
  - a. improvement
  - b. inappropriate
  - c. inadequate
  - d. relapse
13. Online classes were advantageous for some learners due to-
  - i. Self-paced courses
  - ii. family interactions
  - iii. Cost efficiency
  - iv. Reduced commuting
  - a. i, ii, iii
  - b. ii, iii, iv
  - c. i, ii, iv
  - d. i, iii, iv

14. Which of the underlined words in the sentence can be replaced by 'disengagement' (para 1) to bring out its usage as applied in the text above-
- He stopped and gazed off at the distant hills.
  - His air of detachment lost him many friends.
  - He mumbled in delirium all night.
  - He was startled and gave a discordant shriek.
15. Which of the following is a synonym of 'aggravation'- (para 1)
- innovation
  - achievement
  - inconvenience
  - pandemic
16. 'Pragmatists' refers to-
- someone who is irrational
  - someone who is very idealistic
  - someone who pleases everyone
  - someone who acts sensibly
17. The 'Pile-on effect' has effected the following the most-
- children with higher academic scores
  - children with abilities
  - children with weak basic foundations
  - children with strong basic foundations
18. The new digital split will-
- divulge convenience
  - diminish equal opportunities
  - increase innovations
  - improve spirits

### **WRITING & GRAMMAR**

#### **WRITING**

#### **III Answer any five out of the six questions given, with reference to the context below.**

- .
- The Secretary of R. S. P. Green Valley Towers, Chennai has to put up a notice to inform the residents about the timings of drinking water supply.
19. What is the most appropriate Heading?
- Information about Water supply.
  - Information about timings of Water supply.
  - Timings in Green Valley Towers.
  - None of the above.
20. What is the most accurate opening for this notice?
- This is to inform all the residents of Green Valley Towers that the timings of drinking water supply will be regularized.
  - Hi to all the residents of the Green valley Towers.
  - I wish to share with all the residents of the Green Valley Towers about water supply.
  - This notice is written to share some news about water supply.
21. Which of the following must be avoided by a speaker while writing or delivering a speech?
- forcibly get his point of view accepted
  - respect the view of all and sundry
  - present the facts before others
  - make sure that the audience understand his/ her view
22. What is written after greeting the audience while writing a speech?
- pros and cons
  - consequences
  - advantages
  - introduction of the topic
23. What is the tone used in a complaint letter?
- friendly and warm
  - friendly and concerned
  - cool and impolite
  - polite and formal

24. We write complaint letters in order to
- vent our frustrations and feel better
  - change a situation for the better
  - hurt others and enjoy pleasure
  - all of the above

### GRAMMAR

#### IV Answer any five out of the six questions given.

25. I was too tired to do \_\_\_\_\_ work.
- any
  - some
  - single
  - all
26. It is already ten but he \_\_\_\_\_ as yet.
- would not be returned
  - had not returned
  - has not returned
  - was not returned
27. Un-jumble the following words to form a meaningful sentence.  
(A) plays an / (B) upbringing / (C) important / (D) development / (E) role in
- DACEB
  - EBACD
  - BDACE
  - BACED
28. Which option displays the correct change of the following to reported speech?  
The teacher said, "Water boils at 100°C."
- The teacher said that water would boil at 100°C.
  - The teacher said that water boiled at 100°C.
  - The teacher said that water boils at 100°C.
  - The teacher said that water might boil at 100°C.
29. Un-jumble the following words to form a meaningful sentence.  
(A) free time / (B) with / (C) little / (D) left her / (E) her job
- ADEBC
  - EDBCA
  - ADBCE
  - EDACB
30. Tomorrow afternoon at this time we \_\_\_\_\_ over the Caribbean.
- flying
  - were flying
  - shall be flying
  - have been flying

### LITERATURE

**This section has sub-sections: V, VI, VII, VIII, IX. There are a total of 30 questions in the section. Attempt any 26 questions from the sub-sections V to IX.**

#### V. Read the given extract to attempt questions that follow:

When he finally reached the mummy, though, he ran into trouble. The ritual resins had hardened, cementing Tut to the bottom of his solid gold coffin.

31. Who is the 'he' in the above mentioned lines?
- Henry Carter
  - Howard Carter
  - Harry Carter
  - None of the above
32. What did he do after cutting down Tut's body?
- they covered it back
  - they left it as such
  - they placed it on a layer of sand in a wooden box
  - they clicked photographs
33. How did they remove the resins?
- with the help of chisel and hammer
  - with the help of water
  - with the help of man power
  - with the help of smoke

34. What was in the first coffin?
- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| a. flowers and coins | b. garlands of olives, lotus petals, and cornflowers |
| c. silver wares      | d. none of the above                                 |
35. What is the cemetery of Tut called?
- |                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| a. Valley of Flowers | b. Tut's Resting Place |
| c. Resting Peace     | d. Valley of the Kings |

**VI Read the given extract to attempt questions that follow:**

The Chinese painter does not want you to borrow his eyes; he wants you to enter his mind. The landscape is an inner one, a spiritual and conceptual space.

36. *Shanshui* literally means \_\_\_\_\_
- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| a. man - water      | b. mountain - river |
| c. mountain - water | d. land - road      |
37. The mountain is \_\_\_\_\_
- |         |         |
|---------|---------|
| a. Ying | b. Yang |
| c. Yin  | d. Yan  |
38. The water is \_\_\_\_\_
- |         |         |
|---------|---------|
| a. Yin  | b. Yan  |
| c. Yang | d. Ying |
39. Yang is \_\_\_\_\_
- |                             |                           |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| a. unstable, warm, and dry  | b. stable, moist, and dry |
| c. unstable, moist, and dry | d. stable, warm, and dry  |
40. Yin is \_\_\_\_\_
- |                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| a. fluid, moist, and warm | b. fluid, dry, and warm |
| c. fluid, moist, and cool | d. fluid, dry, and cool |

**VII. Read the given extract to attempt questions that follow:**

*All three stood still to smile through their hair  
At the uncle with the camera. A sweet face,  
My mother's, that was before I was born.  
And the sea, which appears to have changed less,  
Washed their terribly transient feet.*

41. Who are on both sides of her mother?
- |                              |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| a. cousins, Betty, and Dolly | b. her parents |
| c. cousins, Dolly, and Adam  | d. her friends |
42. What are the three of them doing in the photograph?
- |                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| a. standing beside house  | b. holding hands and went for paddling |
| c. standing beside a tree | d. playing                             |
43. Which material was the frame of the photograph made of?
- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| a. cardboard | b. wood    |
| c. steel     | d. plastic |
44. What would the mother show to her daughter while showing her the photograph?
- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| a. how her parents dressed her for the beach | b. her cousins    |
| c. her own childhood photograph              | d. the background |

45. Which option has the underlined phrase corresponding to the poetic device used for '*terribly transient*'?
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| a. This bag is <u>as heavy as lead</u> . | b. I reached under the desk and <u>grabbed the gross gum</u> . |
| c. He's a <u>walking Encyclopedia</u> .  | d. Amy <u>never stops talking</u> .                            |

**VIII Read the given extract to attempt questions that follow:**

Seeing so many people there, Ranga came out with a smile on his face. Had we all gone inside, the place would have turned into what people call the Black Hole of Calcutta. Thank God it did not.

46. Why was Ranga's homecoming a big event?
- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| a. because he brought gifts for everyone                                  | b. because he was new in the village |
| c. because he returned from Bangalore after studying there for six months | d. all of the above                  |
47. The old lady checked for Ranga's \_\_\_\_\_.
- |              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| a. attitude  | b. wealth   |
| c. character | d. janewara |
48. What was the opinion formed by the crowd about Ranga?
- |                                   |                              |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| a. that he had changed a bit      | b. that he had changed a lot |
| c. that he had not changed at all | d. that he was a new person  |
49. What was the narrator's opinion about Ranga?
- |                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| a. that he was disrespectful | b. that he was well mannered |
| c. that he was forgetful     | d. that he changed his caste |
50. What is the name of the narrator of the tale?
- |             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| a. Rangappa | b. Shastri |
| c. Rama Rao | d. Shyama  |

**IX. Attempt the following.**

51. How did the sparrows express their sorrow at the death of their grandmother?
- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| a. they didn't come that day | b. they came and sat silently in the verandah |
| c. they ate the bread crumbs | d. all of the above                           |
52. What happened when the author's head smashed into the wheel?
- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| a. he was hurt but steady | b. he flew overboard, sinking below the waves |
| c. he was not hurt        | d. he gained control immediately              |
53. How did the poet describe the top of the Laburnum tree in the poem 'The Laburnum Top'?
- |                     |                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| a. still and silent | b. moving and angry like |
| c. silent yet noisy | d. none of the above     |
54. What sort of an understanding did Mourad mention with horse?
- |                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| a. mature            | b. brief       |
| c. simple and honest | d. complicated |
55. "I thought that no one had come back." Why does Mrs. Dorling say this?
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| a. because she was happy to see the protagonist                       | b. because she had been waiting for the protagonist for a long time |
| c. because she thought everyone in the protagonist's family were dead | d. none of the above  |
56. How old was the poet's mother when the photograph was taken?
- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| a. ten years old | b. five years old |
|------------------|-------------------|



- c. twelve years old                      d. twenty years old
- 57.** For how many years did Amenhotep III rule Egypt?
- a. almost 5 years                      b. almost 20 years
- c. almost 10 years                      d. almost 40 years
- 58.** What is the third element compared with?
- a. prayer                      b. travel
- c. yogic practice of pranayama                      d. nirvana
- 59.** How does the narrator describe Ratna?
- a. pretty girl of eleven                      b. from a big town
- c. disrespectful                      d. both (a) and (b)
- 60.** What according to Aram, was his first longing?
- a. to ride a horse                      b. to visit a vineyard
- c. to become rich                      d. none of the above