



HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION (2022-23)

Subject: ENGLISH (Core)

Max. Marks: 80

Grade: 12

Time: 3 HOURS

Name:

Section:

Roll No:

General Instructions:

1. This paper is divided into three parts: A, B and C. All questions are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions. Maintain proper sequence.
4. This question paper consists of 12 printed pages

SECTION A- Reading Comprehension

20M

1. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

1. Parkrun organises free, timed five-kilometre runs in parks every weekend around the world. People can happily run, jog, or even walk the route – the events hardly aim at competing against others. While these runs largely aim at giving people health benefits, building strong local communities is the top priority of the organisation.

2. It all began when 13 friends in London decided to do a timed run together on 2nd October 2004. By 2006, the idea had spread to other towns and cities. In 2007, the number of runs reached nearly 25,000, and Parkrun organised its first international event in Zimbabwe.

3. Parkrun's simple registration process, which just involves completing a short online form, is one of the reasons the organisation has been able to grow so rapidly. Advance registration is essential if you want to get your official time after each run. You only need to do this once, then you can turn up to any run without ever needing to register again. You'll also be emailed Parkrun's weekly newsletter. You can even set up an event yourself – simply go to the Parkrun website and submit a proposal. You will then be sent a step-by-step guide with more details.

4. Parkrun events are great for families. If children aged 4 and over want to have their time logged on the website, they must do the whole route on their own two feet. There are two-kilometre junior Parkrun events, designed specifically for children aged between 4 and 14. Junior runners can run unaccompanied at these two-kilometre events, but unless they are at least 11 years old, children can only enter the main five-kilometre events if they are accompanied throughout by an adult.

5. People who have never done a Parkrun event before might expect that they have to attach a number to their running clothes or bring special equipment. This isn't the case. Whether you're planning to walk, jog or run, just remember to have some water with you. There are no strict rules – all you need to do is show the organisers the personal barcode you received when you registered online. Then, you can just turn up ready to run at any

event – the organisers will take care of the rest.

6. Parkrun events wouldn't be possible without the help of volunteers. They do everything: organising the local routes, recording the runners' times, and posting the results online.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer each of the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option. Attempt **ten out of eleven questions**.

10M

- i. The main aim of the Parkrun organisation is
 - (a) competing against others.
 - (b) to run, jog or even walk the route.
 - (c) giving people health benefits.
 - (d) building robust local communities.
- ii. The Parkrun event initially took place in
 - (a) 2004.
 - (b) Zimbabwe.
 - (c) London
 - (d) 2007.
- iii. Pick the option that lists statements that are NOT TRUE according to the information provided in the paragraphs 3 and 4.
 - 1) Lack of sophistication in the registration process adds to Parkrun's popularity.
 - 2) You can turn up to any run without ever needing to register.
 - 3) Advance registration entails you Parkrun's weekly newsletter.
 - 4) 11 years old children can only enter the main five-kilometre events if they are accompanied throughout by an adult.
 - (a) 1&2
 - (b) 2&4
 - (c) 1&3
 - (d) 3&4
- iv. What do people have to send to the organisation in order to arrange their own Parkrun event?
 - (a) a proposal
 - (b) advance registration
 - (c) step-by-step guide with details
 - (d) attach a number to their running clothes
- v. How must children complete a Parkrun event for their time to be officially recorded?
 - (a) They should be aged 4 and over.
 - (b) They should be unaccompanied by adults.
 - (c) They should be accompanied by adults.
 - (d) They should be on own feet.
- vi. What is the relationship between statements (1) and (2)?
 - 1) Parkrun organizes free, timed five-kilometre runs in parks every weekend around the world.
 - 2) Parkrun organized its first international event in Zimbabwe.
 - (a) (2) is the cause for (1).
 - (b) (1) is the cause for (2).
 - (c) (1) is the culmination of a small beginning shown in (2).
 - (d) (1) is factual and (2) is an instance of its success.

- vii. A collocation is a group of words that often occur together.
The writer says Parkrun **organised** its first international event in Zimbabwe. Select the word from the options that aptly collocates with ‘organised’ in the above sentence.
(a) independently.
(b) socially
(c) carefully
(d) jointly
- viii. Complete the following sentence by choosing the most appropriate option.
Details in paragraph 3 imply that Parkrun is _____.
1) evolving and is making really a positive contribution.
2) simple and accessible to people.
3) a good guide for interested organisers.
4) is an expert in coping with large attendance in events.
(a) 1&4
(b) 2&3
(c) 1&3
(d) 1&2
- ix. Choose the best synonym of ‘specifically’ that can replace the word in the following sentence.
There are two-kilometre junior Parkrun events, designed **specifically** for children aged between 4 and 14.
(a) unequivocally
(b) explicitly
(c) supremely
(d) Both (a) and (b)
- x. The primary purpose of this passage is to
(a) convey the author’s subjective point of view regarding Parkrun.
(b) provide a positive criticism about the innovative health intervention program.
(c) advocate fervently the success of a small event.
(d) objectively narrate the success of an idea that grew from its humble beginnings with a simple format.
- xi. The writer of the passage implies all of the following about Parkrun EXCEPT
(a) Parkrun creates an environment that is inclusive.
(b) Parkrun is a gateway for people to become more health oriented.
(c) Parkrun gives priority to athletes.
(d) Parkrun is evolving across countries for its easy accessibility.

2. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

10M

1. Hand sanitizers are everywhere. They are cheap, effective disinfectants, and many are easy to carry around. But lately, these products have been scrutinized for the potential harm they can have on children. —Many caregivers are unaware of the very high alcohol content present in alcohol-based hand sanitizers, which can contain up to 60% to 95% alcohol, said Cynthia Santos, MD, from CDC’s National Centre for Environmental Health. Young children may inadvertently consume these hand sanitizers because of their appealing scents, like apple, vanilla, and citrus.

No. of cases reported to NDPS about exposure to alcohol and non-alcohol hand sanitizer in children ≤12 years old in 2011-14.

TABLE 2

Year	Alcohol	Non-alcohol	Total
Total	65,293 (92.4%)	5376 (7.6%)	70,669
2011	15,971 (92.5%)	1286 (7.5%)	17,257
2012	16,571 (92.4%)	1355 (7.6%)	17,926
2013	16,423 (92.5%)	1338 (7.5%)	17,761
2014	16,328 (92.1%)	1397 (7.9%)	17,725

2. In a new report from CDC researchers analysed data reported to the National Poison Data System (NPDS) from 2011–14 on exposures to alcohol and non-alcohol-based hand sanitizers in children who were 12 years old or younger, a total of 70,669 hand sanitizer exposures in this age group were reported to NPDS, including 65,293 (92.4%) alcohol-based exposures and 5,376 (7.6%) nonalcohol-based exposures.

3. Adverse health effects were more likely to be reported for alcohol-based hand sanitizer exposures, and they tended to be worse than those for non-alcohol-based hand sanitizer exposures. —Younger kids are more susceptible to adverse effects [from these products] because there is not as much glycogen in their liver, said Greene Shepherd, clinical professor at the University Of North Carolina Eshelman School of Pharmacy.

4. The most common type of adverse health effects for both alcohol- and non-alcohol-based hand sanitizers were ocular irritation, vomiting, conjunctivitis, oral irritation, cough, and abdominal pain. Rare effects included coma, seizure, hypoglycaemia, metabolic acidosis, and respiratory depression.

5. The researchers stratified the NPDS data into two age groups: 0 to 5 years and 6 to 12 years. They looked only at exposures to ethanol-based sanitizers, isopropanol-based sanitizers, and non-alcohol-based sanitizers—no NPDS reported calls about co-exposures to other agents were included in the analysis. Most exposures—91%— occurred in children aged 5 years or younger. Children aged 6 to 12 years had more intentional exposures, and on finding the report the authors said that it could indicate that these products are being abused among older children. Shepherd said that abuse of alcohol-based hand sanitizers can be equivalent to consuming roughly 120-proof liquor.

6. Patients, parents, and caregivers should be informed about the potential dangers associated with alcohol-based hand sanitizers. The report stated that alcohol-based hand sanitizers should be used under adult supervision with proper child safety precautions and stored out of reach of young children to reduce unintended, adverse consequences. Washing hands with soap and water when available, is currently the recommended method

of hand hygiene in non-health-care settings. If soap and water are not available, use of a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol is recommended, or a non-alcohol-based hand sanitizer or wipe can be used.

Based on your understanding of the above passage and the given data, answer each of the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option. Attempt **ten out of eleven questions**.

- i. According to the passage, National Poison Data System (NPDS) report on children under the age of 12 highlights the.....
 - (a) need for using non-alcoholic sanitizer more frequently
 - (b) need for using alcoholic hand sanitizers more frequently.
 - (c) effective treatment for confusion, vomiting and drowsiness.
 - (d) severity of even a little exposure of alcoholic hand sanitizer.
- ii. Ethanol, isopropyl alcohol, and hydrogen peroxide are all _____ of alcohol-based hand sanitizers.
 - (a) end products
 - (b) ingredients
 - (c) by-products
 - (d) types
- iii. Pick the option that lists statements that are NOT TRUE according to the passage.
 - 1) Alcohol based hand sanitizer exposure is potentially more harmful than non-alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
 - 2) None of the alcohol-based hand sanitizer and non-alcohol-based hand sanitizer cause minor to major adverse health effects.
 - 3) Non-alcohol-based hand sanitizer exposure is potentially more harmful than alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
 - 4) Both alcohol-based hand sanitizer and non-alcohol-based hand sanitizer can cause minor to major adverse health effects.
 - (a) 1&2
 - (b) 3&4
 - (c) 2&3
 - (d) 1&4
- iv. The word “scrutinized” as used in paragraph 1, means the same as
 - (a) scout
 - (b) search
 - (c) inspect
 - (d) explore
- v. Arrange the most recommended method of hand hygiene from the least favourite to the most favourite, from the following –
 - 1) Use of non-alcohol-based hand sanitizer or wipe can be used.
 - 2) Use of hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol
 - 3) Washing hands with soap and water
 - 4) Washing with plain water
 - (a) 1, 3, 4, 2
 - (b) 3, 2, 1, 4
 - (c) 2, 4, 3, 1
 - (d) 4, 1, 2, 3

- vi. According to the passage, which statement is not one of the reasons for popular use of hand sanitizer as disinfectant.
- Hand sanitizers are effective disinfectant.
 - Hand sanitizers are easy to use in absence of availability of water and soap.
 - Hand sanitizers are better than washing with soap and water.
 - Hand sanitizers are economical disinfectant.
- vii. Young children may inadvertently consume these hand sanitizers because of their appealing scents. Replace the underlined word with the most appropriate synonym.
- unintentionally
 - conscientiously
 - mischievously
 - disastrously
- viii. CDC recommends use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers contain _____ alcohol
- more than 60%
 - less than 60%
 - at least 60%
 - exactly 60%
- ix. Based on the table in the passage, choose the option that correctly states percentage of total cases reported to NDPS about exposure to alcohol and non-alcohol hand sanitizer in children ≤ 12 years old in 2011-14.



- Image 1
 - Image 2
 - Image 3
 - Image 4
- x. According to the diagram which of the following is common to both types of hand sanitizers?



- ethanol
- glycerine

- (c) hydrogen peroxide
(d) iodine
- xi. Young children unknowingly consume hand sanitizers because they are attracted by its
(a) taste
(b) colour
(c) fragrance
(d) packaging

SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING

20M

3. You are Rohan/Rohini, the Secretary of the English Literary Association of Tagore Memorial School, Patna. Write out a notice in not more than 50 words for the noticeboard, inviting names of those who would like to participate in the proposed inter-house poetry recitation and elocution contest. Invent all needed details. 5

OR

Write a notice for the school notice board informing the students about the visit of the Prime Minister in your school on 10th October 20XX. Write the notice in not more than 50 words asking the students to maintain punctuality, cleanliness and discipline. You are Rohan/Rohini, the headboy/headgirl of Sunrise International School, Indore.

4. As the President of the club, send a formal letter invitation to K.B. Vaid, noted novelist and educationist, to inaugurate The Value Education Club of your school (Sunrise International School, Indore) and address the students on the special occasion. Invent all relevant details. (Word limit:50) 5

OR

Your friend Rajat/Ranjini has invited you to his/her house for Diwali celebration. Reply him/her in not more than 50 words declining the invite. Invent necessary details.

5. You are Asha/ Anand of C-55 Radha Apartment Preet Vihar. You saw an advertisement in the newspaper for the post of Tech Head in advanced animation required for Software Solutions Pvt ltd. Apply for the post along with your biodata giving necessary details. (Word limit: 120-150 words) 5

OR

You have come across an advertisement concerning education abroad.

Grab the opportunity!

<p>The BTN University in collaboration with its Indian counterpart offers the first year of study in India and the three subsequent years in the UK</p>

Imagine that you joined the above course. Despite having spent a substantial amount as fees and completing two years of course, you haven't been able to proceed to the UK for your studies. Write a letter in 120- 150 words to the Editor of a Newspaper drawing the attention of the public and the education authorities to such advertisements which befool students. Suggest measures which could be taken up against unscrupulous vendors of education.

6. No Indian city complies with air quality standards prescribed by the World Health Organization. This is becoming a serious public health issue with repercussions for the quality of life and the economy. The report 'Apocalypse' by the NGO, Greenpeace, assessed air quality in 168 cities across 24 states and union territories in India pinpoints fossil fuels as one of the main culprits for the deteriorating air quality. As an important 5

stakeholder, write an article in 120-150 words for the news-site Youth Ki Awaaz, expressing your views and suggestions to tackle this growing problem. You are Arun/ Arunima of City Montessori School, New Delhi

OR

Some people think that we rely too much on eating convenience food nowadays. Here are two comments from your friends:

I think it lets me have more time to do other things.

I wish I knew how to cook things for myself.

Write an article for your school magazine, giving your views. The comments above may give you some ideas, and you should try to use some ideas of your own. Your article should be between 120-150 words.

SECTION C- 40 MARKS

LITERATURE

7. Read the poetry extracts given below and answer the questions that follow. **Attempt any 1 out of 2 extracts.** **1x6=6**
- A *"Life is what it is about;
I want no truck with death.
If we were not so single-minded
about keeping our lives moving,
and for once could do nothing,
perhaps a huge silence might interrupt this sadness
of never understanding ourselves"*
- i. "It" in the first line refers to
(a) life that is dynamic
(b) introspection
(c) rejuvenation in spring
(d) stopping green war
- ii. The expression "no truck with death" is a
(a) visualization of trucks moving with dead bodies from the battlefield.
(b) reference to no association of doing nothing with war mongers.
(c) warning against a probable misinterpretation.
(d) suggestion to stop wars and to think about fraternity
- iii. What are we single-minded about?
(a) doing nothing
(b) waging wars that kill innocent people.
(c) making our lives happy.
(d) the material advancement in life.
- iv. In "a huge silence might interrupt this sadness," the literary device is same as in
(a) the world might end in doom.
(b) the sea roars in rage.
(c) silence is sweet.
(d) silence is as scary as doom.

- v. In "this sadness", the poet refers to the sadness caused by
 (a) fighting wars that kill people.
 (b) looking into hurt hands
 (c) seeing misery of brothers in the shade.
 (d) the absolute lack of perception about the self
- vi. The poet of the above lines is _____
 (a) John Keats
 (b) Pablo Neruda
 (c) Robert Frost
 (d) Kamala Das

(OR)

B *"... her face
 ashen like that
 of a corpse and realised with
 pain
 that she was as old as she
 looked but soon
 put that thought away, and
 looked out at Young
 Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling..."*

- i. Which option is incorrect based on your reading of the above extract?
 (a) The poet's old mother's face is dull and misty like a winter's moon.
 (b) There was pain in the poet's realisation.
 (c) The poet tries to divert herself from the painful realisation.
 (d) Looking at the young trees and children gives her a different perception of life.
- ii. What is the most likely reason that the poet capitalised 'Young Trees'?
 (a) highlight the adjective-noun combination.
 (b) convey a clearer meaning
 (c) emphasise a contrast.
 (d) emphasise on the pain the poet felt while looking at her old mother
- iii. The poetic device in "merry children spilling" is
 (a) Personification
 (b) Transferred Epithet
 (c) Simile
 (d) Metaphor
- iv. Complete the sentence with the most appropriate option.
 The noted structural feature of these lines is _____
 (a) a single line poem suggesting a single thread of thought interspersed with observations.
 (b) the observation interrupted by a set of recollections of the past
 (c) the single thread of thought interrupted by observations.
 (d) the single thread of thought suggested by punctuation.
- v. Which theme is best highlighted in the above lines of the poem?
 (a) Life versus death
 (b) Find the beauty in nature to love yourself
 (c) Nature is all powerful
 (d) Late realisation of love

- vi. The poet's realization was that _____
 (a) her mother was getting old, and she would die soon
 (b) her mother was pale as a corpse.
 (c) her mother may die soon as she was growing old, and she would feel the pain of separation.
 (d) her mother was as old as she looked
- 8.** Read the prose extracts given below and answer the questions that follow. **Attempt 1 out of 2 extracts.** **1x6=6**
- A.** *"That ought to set him up in a nice little hay, feed and grain. business: he always said that's what he really wished he could do, and he certainly can't go back to his old business. Not in Galesburg, Illinois, in 1894. His old business? Why, Sam was my psychiatrist."*
- i. "That ought to set him up..." What is referred to as "That"?
 (a) Using third level to reach Galesburg.
 (b) Exchanging old currency
 (c) Buying old currency worth 800 dollars.
 (d) Experience as a psychiatrist.
- ii. "He certainly can't go back to his old business." Why?
 (a) He hated his old business because people always came to him with problems.
 (b) Galesburg was a saturated place for psychiatrists as it was a calm and placid place.
 (c) People in Galesburg hated psychiatrists because it was a cool place.
 (d) Lack of requirement.
- iii. The psychiatrist's surname was
 (a) Sam
 (b) Wheeler.
 (c) Weiner.
 (d) Wiener.
- iv. The narrator's name is:
 (a) Sam
 (b) Charley
 (c) Stephen
 (d) Jack
- v. It can be inferred that the psychiatrist
 (a) loved the tranquility of the country.
 (b) liked hay, feed, and grain business.
 (c) loved the urban life and that's why he moved to Galesburg
 (d) loved to escape from the loneliness of rural life.
- vi. The author of the above extract is:
 (a) Stephen Spender
 (b) William Douglas
 (c) Jack Finney
 (d) Anees Jung

(OR)

- B.** *"It's been in operation for six years now, headed by Canadian Geoff Green, who got tired of carting celebrities and retired, rich, curiosity-seekers who could only 'give' back in a limited way. With this programme, he offers the future generation of policymakers a life-changing experience at an age when they're ready to absorb, learn, and most importantly, act."*

- i. What is headed by Geof Green?
 - (a) "Students on Antarctica" programme.
 - (b) "Students for Future" programme.
 - (c) "Back to Nature" programme
 - (d) "Students on Ice" programme.
- ii. "...who could only give back in a limited way" Which option best describes this limited way?
 - (a) Celebrities and retired, rich and curiosity seekers were not paying him respect.
 - (b) Celebrities and retired, rich and curiosity seekers were polluting the environment of Antarctica
 - (c) Celebrities and retired, rich and curiosity seekers did not share their experience in the coldest continent.
 - (d) Celebrities and retired, rich and curiosity seekers treated Antarctica as a tourist destination or a place of exploration with zero contribution towards its collapsing state.
- iii. Who are referred to as the 'policy-makers'?
 - (a) Students.
 - (b) Celebrities.
 - (c) Leaders.
 - (d) Politicians.
- iv. "...he offers the future generation of policymakers a life-changing experience at an age when they're ready to absorb, learn, and most importantly, act.

Choose the best option that can replace the underlined adjective in the above quoted statement appropriately.

- (a) purifying
 - (b) momentous
 - (c) evolutionary
 - (d) Both (b) and (c)
- v. Name of the lesson is:
 - (a) Journey on Earth
 - (b) Journey towards the End of the Earth
 - (c) Journey for the End of the Earth
 - (d) Journey to the End of the Earth
- vi. The author of the above lesson is based in ____ in India.
 - (a) Chennai
 - (b) Cochin
 - (c) Kolkata
 - (d) Bangalore

9. Read the prose extracts given below and answer the questions that follow. Attempt 1 out of 2 extracts.

1x4=4

- A.** *It seemed a long way down. Those nine feet were more like ninety and before I touched bottom, my lungs were ready to burst. But when my feet hit bottom, I summoned all my strength and made what I thought was a great spring upwards. I imagined I would bob to the surface like a cork. Instead, I came up slowly.*

- i. What had happened with the narrator?
- ii. What does the extract tell us about the narrator?

- iii. "I would bob to the surface like a cork". What is the figure of speech used here?
- iv. Which word in the extract would also mean "Make an effort to produce a reaction from within oneself"?

(OR)

- B.** *I heard Hamel say to me, "I won't scold you, little Franz; you must feel bad enough. See how it is! Every day we have said to ourselves. 'Bah! I've plenty of time. I'll learn it tomorrow.' And now you see where we've come out. Ah, that's the great trouble with Alsace; she puts off learning till tomorrow.*
- i. What reason Franz could have been scolded for?
 - ii. Why should Franz be feeling bad enough now?
 - iii. The given lines indicate how Hamel is feeling. Describe his feelings in one sentence.
 - iv. Which human tendency in life is highlighted in the above extract?

10. Answer any five of the following questions in 30-40 words each: 5x2=10

- i. How did the instructor 'build a swimmer' out of Douglas?
- ii. What shows Hamel's love for French language?
- iii. Why, according to Keats, should we bind us to the earth?
- iv. "Garbage is gold for ragpickers" Explain.
- v. What symbol does Neruda invoke to convey the idea of life under apparent stillness?
- vi. Describe the central theme that is portrayed through "My mother at sixty-six" by Kamala Das.

11. Answer any two of the following questions in 30-40 words each: 2x2=4

- i. What did the psychiatrist think about Charley's stamp collection? Why didn't Charley agree to his inference?
- ii. 'Take care of small things and big will take care of themselves'. What is the relevance of this statement in the chapter? (Journey to the end of the earth)
- iii. What traits of the Maharaja and the British officer are exposed and satirised through the episode of refusal of permission for tiger hunt by the British officer?

12. Answer any one of the following questions in about 120-150 words: 5
 What kind of an imaginary and ideal world does the poet visualize in the poem, "Keeping Quiet"? Does the poet indicate a hope of change in this world by changing our ways and embracing a new path in life?

(OR)

"Dream, coupled with determination, can decide the destiny of a person." How far can you explain the character traits of Mukesh in the above light? In what way does Sahib differ from him?

13. Answer any one of the following questions in about 120-150 words: 5
 Write down the character sketch of 'The Tiger King'

OR

The student companions of Tishani Doshi returned from Antarctica with a feeling to save the world. What are the ways to protect this world in your opinion?
