

ICSE Paper 2011

ENGLISH-I

Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately,
You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.

This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.

The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

Attempt **all four** questions.

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].

You are advised to spend not more than 35 minutes in answering Question 1 and 20 minutes in answering Question 2.

Question 1:

[25]

(Do not spend more than 35 minutes on this question.)

Write a composition (350 – 400 words) on any one of the following:

(a) “Private tuitions are a necessary evil.” Give your views either for or against this statement.

(b) Write an original story entitled : Lost and Found.

(c) Relate a special incident or experience in your life which you still recall with happiness.

(d) Children’s Day is celebrated in your school every year. Write what you particularly liked about this year’s celebration. What did you learn from the efforts of those who planned and organized the function? How did you express your gratitude to them?

(e) Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description on an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however, there

must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



Question 2:

(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.)

Select one of the following:

[10]

- (a)** Write a letter to the local Municipal Corporation complaining about the malaria epidemic in your city. State the causes and suggest ways to deal with the problem.
- (b)** You have just acquired an unusual pet. Write a letter to your friend telling him / her about it. Give details about the care you have to take in looking after and feeding the pet.

Question 3:

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

I rested for a moment at the door of Anand Bhavan, on Market Road, where coffee drinkers and tiffin eaters at their tables sat **transfixed** uttering low moans on seeing me. I wanted to assure them, 'Don't fear, I am not out to trouble you. Eat your tiffin in peace, don't mind me.... You, nearest to me, hugging the cash box, you are craven with fear, afraid even to breathe. Go on, count the cash, if that's your pleasure. I just want to watch, that's all.... If my tail trails down to the street, if I am blocking your threshold : it is because, I'm told, I'm eleven feet tip to tail. I can't help it. I'm not out to kill.... I'm too full—found a green pasture teeming with food on the way. Won't need any for several days to come, won't stir, not until I feel hungry again. Tigers attack only when they feel hungry, unlike human beings who slaughter one another without purpose or hunger....'

To the great delight of children, schools were being hurriedly closed. Children of all ages and sizes were running **helter-skelter** screaming joyously, 'No school, no school. Tiger, tiger!' They were shouting and laughing and even enjoyed being scared. They seemed to welcome me. I felt like joining them, and bounded away from the restaurant door and trotted along with them, at which they gleefully cried, 'The tiger is coming to eat us; let us get back to the school!'

I followed them through their school gate while they ran up and shut

themselves in the school hall securely. I ascended the steps of the school, saw an open door at the far end of a veranda, and walked in. It happened to be the headmaster's room, I believe, as I noticed a very dignified man jumping on his table and heaving himself up into an attic. I walked in and flung myself on the cool floor, having a partiality for cool stone floors, with my head under the large desk—which gave me the feeling of being back in the Mempī cave....

As I drowsed, I was aware of cautious steps and hushed voices all around. I was in no mood to bother about anything. All I wanted was a little moment of sleep; the daylight was dazzling. In half sleep I heard the doors of the room being shut and blotted and locked. I didn't care. I slept.

While I slept a great deal of consultation was going on. I learnt about it later through my master, who was in the crowd—the crowd which had gathered after making sure that I had been properly locked up—and was watching. The headmaster seems to have remarked some days later, 'Never dreamt in my wildest mood that I'd have to yield my place to a tiger....' A wag had retorted, 'Might be one way of maintaining better discipline among the boys.'

'Now that this brute is safely locked up, we must decide,' began a teacher. At this moment my master pushed his way through the crowds and **admonished**, 'Never use the words "beast" or "brute". They're ugly words coined by humans in their arrogance. The human being thinks all other creatures are "beasts". Awful word!'

(a) Give the meaning of each of the following words or phrases as used in the passage.

One word answers or short phrases will be accepted.

[3]

1. transfixed (line 2)
2. helter-skelter (line 12)
3. admonished (line 35)

(b) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words.

1. What reassurance did the tiger give the coffee drinkers? **[2]**
2. In what way are tigers different from human beings? **[2]**
3. Why were the children delighted? **[2]**
4. What did the headmaster say some days later? **[2]**
5. What was the wag's response? **[2]**
6. Which sentences tell us that the tiger's owner had great respect for the tiger? **[2]**

(c)

(i) In not more than 60 words describe the tiger's activities from the time it followed the school children till it slept. **[8]**

(ii) Give a title to your summary in 3 (c) (i). Give a reason to justify your choice. **[2]**

Question 4:

(a) Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage, but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. **[4]**

Example:

(0) We were not (allow) to talk during the lecture.

Answer: allowed.

The children (1) (sit) in a neat circle and (2) (begin) (3) (copy) their multiplication tables. Most (4) (scratch) in the dirt with sticks they had (5) (bring) for that purpose. The more fortunate (6) (has) slate boards that they (7) (write) on with sticks (8) (dip) in a mixture of mud and water.

(b) Fill in the blanks with appropriate words:

1. He congratulated me my great achievement.
2. The poor man is afflicted arthritis.
3. She is blind the faults of her husband.
4. The boss had many complaints Shyam.
5. You must prepare the examination.
6. She is not aware the danger.
7. Ravi was accurate his calculations.
8. They hid the money the carpet.

(c) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using and, but or so. [4]

1. The minister was wise. The king did not trust him.
2. We reached the port. The storm came on.
3. One should not borrow money. One should not lend money.
4. She will win the prize. She deserves it.

(d) Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change

the meaning of each sentence. **[8]**

1. This horse is better trained than yours.
(Begin :)
2. The children will sit out in the garden, if the weather is cool.
(Begin : The children won't.....)
3. The thief ran so fast that the police could not catch him.
(Rewrite using: too)
4. Her attitude often annoys me.
(Rewrite using : annoyance.....)
5. The child disappeared as soon as the bus stopped.
(Begin : Hardly.....)
6. There is no success without effort.
(Begin : Whenever.....)
7. "Please teach me to cycle" she asked her brother.
(Rewrite in indirect form.....)
8. The peasants regarded him as a thief and called him a villain.
(End : the peasants)