

Question Paper
2015 - 2016
CBSE Class – 11 English Core

General Instructions:

- This paper consists of four sections A, B, C, D.
- Attempt all questions.
- Do not write anything in the question paper.
- All the answers must be correctly numbered as in the question paper and written in the answer sheet provided to you.
- Ensure that questions of each section are answered together.
- Read each question carefully and follow the instructions.

Section-A (Reading Skills)
(20 marks)

1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow by choosing the answers from the given options: **(1×6=6)**

It's not just the company's financial health that makes it to boardroom discussions. In the highly competitive business world, healthy employees mean a lot as well. Realizing this, many corporate houses in the city have now chalked out comprehensive health programmes as part of their executive 'well-being plan'. 'In an era of globalization and competition, corporate houses have realized the importance of having a healthy workforce. So many companies have now introduced health programmes for their executives,' says Dr. Motia Talapade from a multi speciality hospital.

Doctors agree that due to long working hours and irregular eating habits, most executives are now suffering from hypertension, headache, fatigue, and exhaustion. 'With competition increasing by the day, it's tough for the white collared workforce. In addition, IT revolution has brought about many changes in offices,' says Ankur Dave, who has been working closely with a number of corporates on health plans.

For people in the hospitality industry and call centres, the work involves a shift system too

and irregular working hours means going against the biological clock. 'Stress is the silent killer for young professionals. Most of them have lifestyle problems. Interestingly, many executives also take to smoking under the pretext of work pressure,' says Dr. Dave. Tarun Patel, medical officer contribute to the growth of the organization. Apart from regular health check-ups, we have other programmes like yoga and meditation workshops for executives,' says Patel.

A leading telecom company recently organized an obesity detection and ophthalmology camp for its employees. 'Apart from having a gym, we also conduct regular classes in yoga and aerobics to keep our employees fit. Lectures and workshops also create awareness,' an official of the firm said. Food too has come under scrutiny. An oil company now has introduced lowcalorie lunch for its personnel.

But sometimes even such preventive measures can't safeguard employees from mental strain. No wonder then that some firms are now organizing counselling sessions for employees. 'Though we have started operations recently, we are in the process of formulating a health programme for our staff. Employees' health matter for the company's performance in the long run,' says Chris Robinson, head of a BPO. Pumping iron and building muscles might not be everybody's cup of tea but staying healthy is certainly the mantra for staying in business.

1. What is the chief concern of companies these days?

- (a) employees' salary
- (b) employees' working conditions
- (c) management's profit
- (d) employees' health

2. Choose the factors that lead to ill health :

- (i) long working hours
- (ii) long periods of relaxation
- (iii) irregular eating habits

(a) (i) & (ii)

(b) (i) & (iii)

(c) (ii) & (iii)

(d) all of the above

3. How does ill health manifest itself?

(a) through chronic diseases

(b) through stress and lifestyle problems

(c) through family problems

(d) through bad performance

4. What do corporate houses do to ensure the health of their employees?

(a) they conduct health check-ups

(b) they take them for excursions

(c) they give them vacations

(d) all of the above

5. Why has counselling been introduced in the corporate sector?

(a) to enhance employees' salary

(b) to ensure employees' mental strength

(c) for pumping iron and building muscles

(d) to ensure company's profit

6. Find a word in the passage which means the same as 'investigation'.

(a) comprehensive

(b) exhaustion

(c) scrutiny

(d) formulating

2. Read the poem given below and answer the questions that follow by choosing the answers from the given options : **(1×6=6)**

I Wandered Lonely As A Cloud

I wandered lonely as a cloud

That floats on high o'er vales and hills,

When all at once I saw a crowd,

A host, of golden daffodils;

Beside the lake, beneath the trees,

Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine

And twinkle on the milky way,

They stretched in never-ending line

Along the margin of a bay:

Ten thousand saw I at a glance,

Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced, but they

Out-did the sparkling leaves in glee;

A poet could not be but gay,

In such a jocund company!

I gazed—and gazed—but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:
For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.

William Wordsworth

1. What did the poet see?

- (a) crowd of people
- (b) golden daffodils
- (c) vales and hills
- (d) a cloud

2. What the poet saw, reminded him of _____.

- (a) trees
- (b) daffodils
- (c) stars
- (d) waves

3. Who are 'they' in the line "They stretched in never-ending line"?

- (a) stars

(b) daffodils

(c) waves

(d) dancing people

4. Name the figure of speech used by the poet in last line of stanza 2.

(a) metaphor

(b) simile

(c) personification

(d) alliteration

5. How did the poet feel in their company?

(a) he felt nostalgic

(b) he felt lonely

(c) he felt happy

(d) he felt gloomy

6. Find a word in the poem which means the same as, 'gloomy'.

(a) gay

(b) solitude

(c) glee

(d) pensive

3. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow : (8)

1. To make our life a meaningful one, we need to mind our thoughts, for our thoughts are the foundation, the inspiration, and the motivating power of our deeds. We create our entire world by the way we think. Thoughts are the causes and the conditions are the

effects.

2. Our circumstances and conditions are not dictated by the world outside; it is the world inside us that creates the outside. Self-awareness comes from the mind, which means soul. Mind is the sum total of the states of consciousness grouped under thought, will and feeling. Besides selfconsciousness we have the power to choose and think. Krishna says : “no man resteth a moment inactive”. Even when inactive on the bodily plane, we are all the time acting on the thought plane. Therefore if we observe ourselves, we can easily mould our thoughts. If our thoughts are pure and noble, naturally actions follow the same. If our thoughts are filled with jealousy, hatred and greed, our actions will be the same.
3. Karmically, however, thought or intent is more responsible and dynamic than an act. One may perform a charitable act, but he does not think charitably and is doing the act just for the sake of gain and glory, it is his thoughts that will determine the result. Theosophy teaches us that every thought, no matter how fleeting, leaves a seed in the mind of the thinker. These small seeds together go to make up a large thought seed and determine one’s general character. Our thoughts affect the whole body. Each thought once generated and sent out becomes independent of the brain and mind and will live upon its own energy depending upon its intensity.
4. Trying to keep a thought from our mind can produce the very state we are trying to avoid. We can alter our environment to create the mood. When, for instance, we are depressed, if we sit by ourselves trying to think cheerful thoughts, we often do not succeed. But if we mix with people who are cheerful we can bring about a change in our mood and thoughts. Every thought we think, every act we perform, creates in us an impression, like everything else, is subject to cyclic law and becomes repetitive in our mind. So, we alone have the choice to create our thoughts and develop the kind of impression that make our action more positive.
5. Let us choose the thought seeds of right ideas, noble and courageous aspirations that will be received by minds of the same nature. Right introspection will be required of us to determine what we really desire to effect. Everything in the universe is inter-related and inter-dependent, that we live in one another and by accepting the grand principle of universal brotherhood we shall be in a position to appreciate what a heavy responsibility is ever ours to think right. Let us reflect and send loving and helpful thoughts and lighten the load of the world’s suffering.

(a) On the basis of reading the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use abbreviations wherever necessary (minimum 4). Also supply an appropriate title to it. **(5)**

(b) By choosing from the given options find words from the passage which mean the same as : **(3)**

1. lasting for a short time

(a) intent

(b) fleeting

(c) dynamic

(d) determine

2. to think a lot

(a) aspirations

(b) thought

(c) introspection

(d) appreciate

3. reduce

(a) lighten

(b) reflect

(c) determine

(d) heavy

Section-B (Writing Skills)
(20 marks)

4. One day your pet dog, Snowy was hit badly by a careless teenage scooterist. His injury

caused you great sadness and worry but you did not panic or lose your cool. You quickly gave him first aid and took him to a vet (doctor of animals). Write about this experience in about 100 words. **(5)**

OR

Recently your school expanded its library in which facility of borrowing educational audio and video tapes has been included. The catalogues are computerized. The building is spacious and well ventilated. As Rakesh of class XI-B of Vikas Public School, Abohar, write about your personal feeling, when you visited this new library for the first time, in about 100 words.

5. Many precious lives are being lost in road accidents. In most cases rash and negligent driving or reckless driving is the major cause for these tragic accidents. Write an article in 120-150 words on the topic 'Prevent Road Accidents'. You are Suresh/ Seema. **(8)**

OR

You are Bharat of class XI of S.D. Public School, Dehradun. You have to give a speech on the topic "Education Gives Power" in the morning assembly of your school. With the help of the following notes write the speech. (120-150 words)

– education trains minds – sharpens skills and abilities – Education gives power to improve oneself – be independent – earn money – frees a person from ignorance – important for women – gives them freedom from social evils.

6. Computers have become a rage with children as well as adults. Here are some pictures showing young boys and girls sitting glued to their computers. You understand the positive role that computers play in today's age. But sometimes they serve as a major distraction and have their hazards. Write a letter to the Editor of the Indian Express highlighting the role and significance of computers and also pointing out the hazards their excessive use can cause. You are Amit/Amita of 67-A, Tilak Nagar, Allahabad. **(7)**



OR

You want to join a coaching centre to improve your conversational skills in English. Write a letter to the Director of the British School of Languages, K.G. Marg, New Delhi, inquiring about the details of the course, fees, employment prospects, etc. You are Ankit/Anita of 45-B Kirti Nagar, New Delhi.

Section-C (Grammar) (10 marks)

7. Given below is a set of instructions to be followed by a person suffering from influenza. Use these to complete the paragraph that follows. Write the correct answer in your answer sheet against the correct blank number. The first blank is filled for your help. (4)

- Avoid milk and milk products.
- Make a decoction of about ten mint leaves in a cup of water.
- Add a teaspoon of honey before drinking it at bedtime.
- Keep a cut onion by the side of the bed to inhale.
- Take salad prepared from radish twice a day.

Milk and milk products are to be avoided. A decoction of about (a) _____ in a cup of water. A teaspoon of (b) _____ at bedtime. A cut onion (c) _____ so that it can be inhaled. A salad prepared (d) _____ a day.

8. The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each line. Find the error and write the error and the correct word in your answer sheet. The first one has been done for you as an example. ($\frac{1}{2} \times 8 = 4$)

		Error	Correction
He just did not knew what to say.	e.g.	knew	know
Till a short while before his	(a)	_____	_____
race about the Springs	(b)	_____	_____
had seem so important but	(c)	_____	_____
now it is the last thing on his mind.	(d)	_____	_____
And Vimal which he had thought	(e)	_____	_____
a useless person has proved so	(f)	_____	_____
thoughtful but efficient.	(g)	_____	_____
He awkward shook hands with Vimal.	(h)	_____	_____

9. Read the sentences given below. They are not in correct sequential order. Rewrite the sentences in a paragraph form, placing them in correct order. (2)

- (a) It is first mentioned in the writings of a Greek scholar named Plato.
- (b) Before this the story had been passed on by word of mouth.
- (c) Many people believe that a lost world is buried under the waters of the Atlantic Ocean.
- (d) Greek scholar had heard the story in Egypt.

Section-D (Literature) (30 marks)

10. Read the following extract and choose the right answer of the questions that follow : (4)

Then sleek as a lizard, and alert, and abrupt,

She enters the thickness, and a machine starts up

Of chitterings, and a tremor of wings, and trillings-

The whole tree trembles and thrills.

(i) Who is 'she' in the first line?

- (a) lizard
- (b) goldfinch bird
- (c) machine
- (d) tree

(ii) What is the 'machine' referred to in line 2?

- (a) leaves of the tree
- (b) Goldfinch's family
- (c) wings of the bird
- (d) skin of the lizard

(iii) Explain the meaning of the last line.

- (a) The tree trembles with fear
- (b) The tree feels alert suddenly
- (c) The tree seems to be full of life
- (d) The tree behaves like the lizard.

(iv) Find a word in the extract which means the same as 'excited'.

- (a) abrupt
- (b) chitterings
- (c) tremor
- (d) thrills

OR

I would have

Him prodigal, returning to

His father's house, the home he knew,

Rather than see him make and move

His world. I would forgive him too,

Shaping from sorrow a new love.

(i) Who is 'I' in the above stanza?

(a) father

(b) son

(c) poet

(d) friend

(ii) What does 'I' not want?

(a) that the son should drift away from family

(b) that the son should come home

(c) that the son should be sad

(d) that the son should be ashamed of his behaviour.

(iii) What would 'I' forgive?

(a) son's anger

(b) son's mistakes

(c) son's wish to leave the house

(d) son's coming late in the house

(iv) What is the meaning of the word 'prodigal' in the above lines?

- (a) skillful
- (b) careful
- (c) careless
- (d) extravagant

11. Answer any five of the following questions in about 30 words each : (5×2)

- (a) What did the child notice about his mind in the poem "Childhood"? How important was the discovery?
- (b) What does the voice of the rain say in the poem of the same name?
- (c) What is the significance of placing a mirror in the zoo at Lusaka, Zambia?
- (d) How did the narrator suffer due to the wave hit?
- (e) Why is Jan. 5, 2005 important in the saga of King Tut?
- (f) Explain "As a Buddhist, he told me, he knew that it didn't really matter if I passed away, but he thought it would be bad for business."

12. Answer any one of the following questions in about 100-125 words : (6)

Khushwant Singh's grandmother wrote a letter to her sister describing her views on the education her grandson was receiving in the city school. She compares the situation with education in the village. Write this letter on her behalf.

OR

Gangadharpanth was able to find the precise moment 'where history had taken a different turn for India. What was this moment? How did it affect India and the Indian people?

13. Answer any one of the following questions in about 100 words : (4)

Mrs. Fitzgerald's efforts do not go in vain, as the family changes for the better. Justify.

OR

How did the narrator carry out his resolve to get Ranga married to Ratna?

14. Answer any two of the following questions in 30-40 words each : **(3×2)**

(a) How do you distinguish between information gathering and insight formation? (Albert Einstein at School)

(b) Comment on the title “The Ghat of the Only World”.

(c) How important was that evening’s work in the career of Dr. Andrew at Blaenelly?