

CBSE Question Paper 2008

Delhi Set-3

CBSE Class-12 English Core

General Instructions:

1. This paper is divided into three sections: A, B and C. All the sections are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.
Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION - A

(READING)

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

1. The word 'depressed' in common usage means sad, frustrated, fed up, bored up and pessimistic. The mood of a depressed person is much lower at his or her best moments than the mood of the normal person at his or her worst. Depression is a state of mind. It is specifically a mental disorder characterised by a lowering of the individual's vitality, his mood, desires, hopes, aspirations and of his self-esteem.

2. Depression arising out of environmental factors is called reactive depression whereas depression arising out of some biochemical changes in the brain is called endogenous depression. If depression is mild or moderate and if the individual is in touch with his surroundings, it is known as neurotic depression. If the individual is severely disturbed and is not able to comprehend what is happening around, such a state is called psychotic depression.

3. Old age is one of the stages of human development, where a person attains wisdom, maturity, social and economic stability with social recognition and emotional fulfillment. Generally, societies show a great respect and consideration for the aged. In ancient times, old people were considered as the guiding stars in Indian families, since they were symbols of tradition, respect, wisdom and experience. In primitive, ancient and medieval cultures, old

persons had a recognized social role. They were of great value because they could impart knowledge and skill to youngsters. The old people were considered as repositories of wisdom and traditions and were not perceived as problems.

4. At present, social structures and values are undergoing transformation from traditional to modern. There is a rapid stride in urbanization and industrialization leading to the breaking up of joint families and property. This has ultimately weakened the traditional families, social position and status of the aged in the family. From time to time changes in the institutions of marriage and family have diminished the control of parents over their children. It has increased the freedom of children and they view the aged as a useless and non-productive entity. Modernization has eventually led to the degradation of their status and authority. Consequently, the integrity of the family and the existence of the elderly as an integral part of the family are being uprooted. The importance of their functional positions thus declines and consequently their authority and much of the respect and prestige that they enjoyed earlier get faded. These changes generally bring about depression in older people.

5. As old age advances even at home may also contribute more to their problems. The 'empty nest' feeling arising as a result of the grown-up children leaving the home, daughter as a result of wedlock and sons leaving station in pursuit of higher education or jobs may make the aged more lonely. The loneliness also arises because of premature loss of spouse. This would deprive the person of a long standing emotional bond that had provided plenty of emotional succour and security. The loss wherever it might occur in the later years leaves the individual terribly lonely and at the mercy of the sons and daughter-in-law. Added to these the increasing gap and interactional stress and strain in the family may leave the elderly without peace of mind. The elderly as a result of these developments feel marginalised, alienated and left out of the main stream. The foregoing are the common problems faced by most of the elderly. These either directly or indirectly lead to a state of depression and make ageing for many an unwanted and unpleasant event to be abhorred.

6. Usually, the mild depression which is caused due to environmental factors is temporary. The person reconciles within a short time and tries to forget the loss. Kind words, and timely support of friends, relatives and family members help one recover from depression.

(a) (i) What does 'depressed' mean in common usage? (2)

(ii) What is reactive depression? (1)

(iii) What was the status of the old people in ancient India? (2)

(iv) What are the causes for disintegration of joint family system? (2)

(v) How does one recover from mild depression? (2)

Ans. (i) unhappy / sad / frustrated / fed up / mental disorder / bored up and pessimistic

(ii) depression arising out of environmental factors

(iii) – considered as guiding stars

– had a recognised social role

– were of great value as they could impart knowledge (any two)

(iv) – transformation of social structures and values from traditional to modern

– rapid stride in urbanisation and industrialization

(v) – with kind words

– timely support of friends, relatives and family members

(b) Pick out the words from the passage that mean the same as the following:

(i) decreased (para 4)

(ii) to feel that they do not belong to a group (para 5)

(iii) a husband or wife (para 5)

Ans. (i) diminished / degradation / declines / weakened

(ii) alienated / marginalised / left out

(iii) spouse

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

A vast blanket of pollution stretching across South Asia is cutting down sunlight by 10 percent over India, damaging agriculture, modifying rainfall patterns and putting hundreds of thousands of people at risk, according to a new study.

The startling findings of scientists working with the United Nations Environment Programme indicate that the spectacular economic growth seen in this part of the world in the past decade may soon falter as a result of this pollution.

Research carried out in India indicates that the haze caused by pollution might be reducing winter rice harvests by as much as 10 per cent, the report said.

“Acids in the haze may, by falling as acid rain, have the potential to damage crops and trees. Ash falling on leaves can aggravate the impacts of reduced sunlight on earth’s surface. The pollution that is forming the haze could be leading to several hundreds of thousands of premature deaths as a result of higher levels of respiratory diseases.” it said. Results from seven cities in India alone, including Delhi, Mumbai, Ahmedabad and Kolkata, estimate that air pollution was annually responsible for 24,000 premature deaths in the early 1990s. By the mid-1990s they resulted in an estimated 37,000 premature fatalities.

“The haze has cut down sunlight over India by 10 per cent (so far) — a huge amount! As a repercussion, the North West of India is drying up,” Prof. V. Ramanathan said when asked specifically about the impact of the haze over India. Stating that sunlight was going down every year, he said. “We are still in an early stage of understanding of the impact of the haze. Asked whether the current drought in most parts of India after over a decade of good monsoon was owing to the haze, he said, “it was too early to reach a conclusion. If the drought persists for about four to five years, then we should start suspecting that it may be because of the haze.”

India, China and Indonesia are the worst affected owing to their population density, economic growth and depleting forest cover. The preliminary results indicate, that the buildup of haze, a mass of ash, acids, aerosols and other particles is disrupting weather systems, including rainfall and wind patterns and triggering droughts in western parts of the Asian Continent. The concern is that the regional and global impacts of the haze are set to intensify over the next 30 years as the population of the Asian region rises to an estimated five billion people.

(a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary. **(5)**

Ans. NOTE MAKING

Distribution of Marks

Abbreviations / Symbols (with /without key) – any four Title

Content (minimum 3 sub-headings, with proper Indentation and notes)

Suggested Notes

Title: Pollution / Effects of Pollution / Global Impact of Pollution / Any other suitable title)

1. Effects of polln. (in S. E. Asia)

1.1 cuts sunlight – 10% in India

1.2 damages agri.

1.3 modifies rainfall patterns

1.4 people at risk / hindering eco. growth

2. Findings of UNEP

2.1 blanket of polln. across S. E. Asia

2.2 growth may falter

2.3 might reduce winter rice harvest

3. Research about India

3.1 acid rains damage crops & trees

3.2 ash on leaves reduces sunlight

3.3 respiratory diseases

3.4 2400 premature deaths

3.5 N. W. India drying up due to drought

4. Far reaching global impact

4.1 esp. in India, China, Indonesia due to

- popu. density
- economic growth
- depleting forest cover

4.2 effect

- haze disrupts weather system
- triggers drought in West Asia

(b) Write a summary of the passage in 80 words using the notes made and also suggest a suitable title. **(3)**

Ans. Summary

The summary should include all the important points given in the notes.

Content

Expression

SECTION B
(ADVANCED WRITING SKILLS)

3. You lost your wrist watch in your school auditorium. Write a notice in not more than 50 words for your school notice board giving a detailed description of the watch. You are Anirudh/Arundhati of class XII of Spring fields School, Pune. **(5)**

OR

You are Dr. Madhu, M.D. You are looking for an independent house in Ghaziabad on a reasonable rent for your residence-cum-clinic. Draft a suitable advertisement in not more than 50 words to be published in Hindustan Times, New Delhi. Your telephone no is 12341234.

Ans. NOTICE

Format

Content

Expression

Suggested value points

(CULTURAL PROGRAMME)

- what
- where
- when
- details of cultural programmes
- conditions of participation
- last date for submission of names

OR

ADVERTISEMENT

Content

Expression

Suggested value points

(FOR SALE / CAR FOR SALE)

- make, model and mileage
- colour, condition and price
- contact name and address

– any other feature

4. You are Amrit/Anuradha of B.M.B. Public School, Dalmianagar. Recently your school celebrated Environment Week. Giving details of the celebrations write a report in 100-125 words for your school magazine. **(10)**

OR

You are Akash / Ambika. You attended a seminar arranged for class XII students by AMC School, Chennai on the topic, 'How to face the examination with confidence.' Write a report in 100-125 words for your school magazine. Invent the necessary details.

Ans. Suggested value points:

(PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS)

– what

– when

– where

- platinum jubilee celebrations
- cultural programmes / inter school competitions
- dignitaries present etc
- audience response
- any other relevant details

OR

Suggested value points:

(TRAIN ACCIDENT)

– what

– when

– where

- reasons for derailment
- no loss of life
- damages
- rescue operation

5. You are Saurabh/Surabhi of class XII at B.S.N. School, Gurgaon. You are aware that the present-day youth are equipped with knowledge and information besides having energy and enthusiasm. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily highlighting how their energy can be tapped into removing poverty from India. **(10)**

OR

You are the Stores Incharge of B.P.J. Senior Secondary School, Meerut. You require various items of furniture such as chairs, desks, almirahs etc for your school. Mentioning the details of the items, write a letter to Messrs Chadda Furniture House, 15 Karol Bagh, Delhi placing the order for furniture. Ask for the discount available on the purchase.

Ans. LETTER WRITING

Format

1. sender's address, 2. date, 3. receiver's address, 4. Subject heading, 5. salutation, 6. complimentary close.

Content

Expression

Grammatical accuracy, appropriate words and spelling

Coherence and relevance of ideas and style

(POOR CONDITION OF ROADS)

Suggested Value Points

- frequent traffic jams / accidents

- great inconvenience to all
- inaction by Chennai authorities
- suggestions for improvement i.e. improvement of roads, better implementation of laws, greater awareness
- any other relevant details

OR

(APPLICATION FOR JOB)

Suggested Value Points

- post applied for
- skills
- resume
 - name
 - father's name
 - age
 - address and contact no
 - educational qualification
 - experience
 - hobbies
 - references
 - testimonials attached

[NOTE: resume may be a part of the letter or attached separately]

6. National Cadet Corps is an organization which not only inculcates discipline in the youth but also prepares them for the defence of the country. It also provides an opportunity to the students to participate in various other activities such as adventure, culture etc. Write an article in 150-200 words on the need to make N.C.C. compulsory in all schools in the country.

(10)

OR

Joint family system is gradually disintegrating in the country. Many elderly people get neglected because of the nuclear set up of families. It increases the need of homes for the aged. Write an article in 150-200 words on the topic entitled “Should there be Homes for the Aged in India.

Ans. ARTICLE WRITING

Format: (Title and writer's name) 1 mark

Content

Expression

Grammatical accuracy, appropriate words and spelling

Coherence and relevance of ideas and style

Suggested Value Points

(EDUCATED UNEMPLOYED)

- qualification without direction
- leading to educated unemployed
- some drift into unsocial activities (any two)

suggestions

- guidance and counselling to create awareness of employment opportunities
- need for vocational courses
- scope for self-employment
- any other relevant point (any two)

OR

Suggested Value Points

(HELPING CYCLONE VICTIMS)

- devastation caused by cyclones in coastal areas
 - loss of life and property
 - short-term and long-term help / rehabilitation programmes required from public and private agencies
 - scientific mechanism required for warning / precautions
 - disaster management cells – medical and financial help
 - appropriate construction norms to be established
 - training / awareness programmes on coping with the aftermath (any four)
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Section C (LITERATURE)

7. (a) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

..... but soon
put that thought away, and
looked out at young
trees sprinting, the merry children spilling
out of their homes.

- (i) Who looked out at young trees? **(1)**
- (ii) Which thought did she put away? **(2)**
- (iii) What do young sprinting trees signify? **(1)**

OR

Perhaps the Earth can teach us

as when everything seems dead
and later proves to be alive.
Now I'll count up to twelve
and you keep quiet and I will go.

- (i) What does the earth teaches us? **(2)**
- (ii) Why does the poet count up to twelve? **(1)**
- (iii) What will be keeping quiet help us achieve? **(1)**

Ans. (a) Value points:

- (i) – not to harm the whales
- peace / togetherness may prevail / to protect the environment
- (ii) – he would look at his hurt hands / introspect / will stop all work
- (iii) – hurtful / hostile activities of man / symbolic of unending toil / work

OR

- (i) – a thing of beauty is a source of constant joy
- its beauty increases
- never passes into nothingness / emptiness (any two)
- (ii) – sweet dreams, peaceful breathing, health and comfort

(b) Answer any three of the following questions in 30-40 words each: 3x2 = 6

- (i) What was the plea of the folk who had put up the roadside stand?
- (ii) What does the poet wish for the children of the slums?
- (iii) How does the poet describe Aunt Jennifer's tigers?
- (iv) What makes human beings love life in spite of troubles and sufferings? (A Thing of Beauty)

Ans. (i) – to stop and buy / to pay attention to what they sell

– they want to earn more money to improve their standard of living

(ii) – have the traits of the beasts of prey

– topaz denizens of green forests

– well-built and well groomed

– chivalric and full of confidence (any two)

(iii) – because the map does not depict the poor / negative world of narrow lanes and hovels

– sharp contrast to the cheerful world outside

(iv) – reassure her that they would meet again

– emotions hidden behind the smile

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

(a) Garbage to them is gold. Why does the author say so about the rag-pickers?

(b) How was the scene in the school in the morning of the last lesson different from that on other days?

(c) Why did Raj Kumar Shukla want to take Gandhiji to Champaran?

(d) Who was Subbu's enemy? Why?

(e) What did the publisher think of 'The Name of the Rose'?

Ans. (a) – gold

– Dhaka / Bangladesh because homes and fields had been swept away by storms

(b) – experience haunted him for years / hated / feared water

– finally conquered his fear and realised that there is terror only in fear of death / all we have to fear is fear itself

(c) – imagined she met Danny Casey in the arcade – asked for his autograph – did not have a pen – invited her for a date

(d) – Gandhiji was ready to be imprisoned for the sake of sharecroppers' cause

– lawyers realised it was also their duty to support the cause

(e) – looked alarmed

– peddler decided to keep quiet and hide his actual identity / thought ironmaster might give him a couple of kroners/ told him he was mistaken

9. Answer the following question in 125-150 words: (10)

A big boy threw Douglas into the swimming pool. How did this experience affect Dougals?

OR

How did the peddler betray the confidence reposed in him by the Crofter in 'The Rattrap'?

Ans. Distribution of marks:

Content

Expression

Grammatical accuracy, appropriate words and spelling

Coherence and relevance of ideas and style

Value points:

- Gemini Studios was a warm host
- MRA was a counter movement to international communism
- MRA presented two plays – 'Jotham Valley' and the 'Forgotten Factor'
- the Gemini family of 600 saw the plays over and over again
- it was something different from their regular schedule of Tamil drama

- Mr Vasan played into the hands of MRA, so it was welcomed
- any other relevant point (any five)

OR

- order had far reaching effect on the life of the school
- German to replace French language
- school unusually quiet
- M. Hamel in his best clothes
- Hamel patient and not cranky as before
- villagers present in the classroom
- Hamel patiently delivered his lectures
- appealed to preserve French
- Little Franz could understand easily
- everybody regretted not having paid attention to French earlier (any five)

10. Answer the following question 125-150 words: (7)

How did Mr. Lamb's meeting with Derry become a turning point in Derry's life?

OR

The world's geological history is trapped in the Antarctica. How is the study of this region useful to us?

Ans. Distribution of marks:

Content

Expression

Grammatical accuracy, appropriate words and spelling

Coherence and relevance of ideas and style

Value Points:

- prediction after the King's birth
- tiger king resolved to kill 100 tigers / told to be careful of the 100th tiger / hunt became an obsession / tigers became extinct / bullet missed 100th tiger
- bought wooden tiger for his son / a sliver of which infected and killed the king
- accept 'yes' or 'no' as answer provided proper justification is given

OR

- both Bama and Zitkala-Sa victims of discrimination
- Zitkala-Sa faced racial discrimination e.g. compulsory cutting of hair hurting her native culture / had to adopt alien way of dress, food, rules etc.
- Bama discriminated due to caste
- both rebel against discrimination by fighting for their rights / through education / presenting their viewpoints / earning a name for themselves

11. Answer the following question 30-40 words: 4x2 = 8

- (a) Do you think that the third level was a medium of escape of Charlie? Why?
- (b) Why did the Dewan Decide to give up his own tiger to be killed by the Maharaja?
- (c) Why did the servants leave Dr. Sadao's house?
- (d) How does Jo want the story to end and why?

Ans. (a) – the American sailor to be quietly killed by secret assassins

- body would be removed by professional killers
- outer portion of the room to be kept open

– assassins knew the trick of inward bleeding (any two)

(b) – by infusing optimism

– laying more stress on the inner self rather than external beauty

(c) – remains fresh as it has never sustained human population

– half a million year old carbon records lie trapped in its layers of ice

– consequences of global warming can be seen and felt

(d) – Skunk's mother hit the wizard on his head and he agreed to restore the original foul smell of Roger Skunk