

**G. D. SOMANI MEMORIAL SCHOOL(ISC)**

**PRELIM EXAMS**

**STD XII**

**SUB: ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**DATE: 09/1/2024**

**MARKS:80**

**TIME: 3 HRS**

*Candidates are allowed additional 15 minutes for only reading the paper.*

*They must **NOT** start writing during this time*

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

*[You are advised to spend not more than 45 minutes on Question 1, 55 minutes on Question 2, 30 minutes on Question 3 and 50 minutes on Question 4 ]*

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**Question: 1**

**Write a composition (in approximately 400-450 words) on any one of the following subjects:**

**[20]**

(You are reminded that you will be rewarded for orderly and coherent presentation of matter, use of appropriate style and general accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar)

- i] Describe how your school has influenced your life and prepared you for a world of work.
- ii] Concern for the environment is the only way to protect mankind from natural disasters.
- iii] Artificial Intelligence.
- iv] You are walking on the road and suddenly you see someone who resembles your long-lost friend. Describe what you did next.
- v] 'The joys and sorrows of adolescence'. Explain the theme by referring to your own experiences.
- vi] Narrate an account of how a strange rumour spread in your city and its effect on the citizens.

**Question: 2**

- i] Write your Personal Profile to be submitted to the Principal of your school for being selected as the Head Boy/Girl of your school.  
Use the hints given below:

**[15]**

Personal traits - academic achievements – achievements in extra – curricular activities and sports – laurels won for your school – leadership qualities – reasons for you being selected as the Head Boy/Girl of your school.

(You may also include other relevant details)

- ii] As a member of the Student Council of your school, you have been assigned the responsibility of setting up a 'Counselling Centre'. Write a proposal in not more than 150 words, stating the steps you would take to successfully establish this particular centre.

**[10]**

(The proposal should include (i) An introduction (ii) Objectives (iii) List of measures to be taken. A concluding statement is desirable)

Question: 3

Answer sections (a), (b) and (c).

- [a] In each of the following items, sentence A is complete, while sentence B is not. Complete sentence B, making it as similar as possible to sentence A. Write down sentence B complete in each case:

(1) (A) We could barely see the narrow path. It was raining heavily.

(B) Use : so .....that

(2) (A) The old lady had no company but her dog.

(B) Apart .....

(3) (A) As soon as the doorbell rings, my dog rushes to the door.

(B) No sooner.....

(4) (A) This ticket admits two people to the concert.

(B) .....with this ticket.

(5) (A) But for his help, I'd have drowned.

(B) Had.....

[5]

- b] Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (Do not write the sentence):

[5]

1] This ice cream leaves a taste .....strawberries in the mouth.

2] Roumita has a taste .....western classical dance.

3] Sheetal has been corresponding .....the authorities for the last seven days.

4] The model of the stadium does not correspond ....the sanctioned plan.

5] Would you like a slice .... plum cake?

6] Slice ..... some onions for me.

7] Trading .....furs and animal skins is banned in this country.

8] We traded..... our old furniture for some new one.

9] Mr. Sharma doesn't care ..... Continental food very much.

10] Children nowadays don't seem to care.....their parents' wishes.

- c] Fill in the blanks in the passage given below with the appropriate form of the verb given in brackets. Do not write the passage but write the verbs in the correct order.

[5]

I looked up and saw Salim.....(1) (stand) in front of me. He was .....(2)(clench) his fists and his face was slowly .....(3)(turn) red. I was afraid. I didn't know what was wrong. Salim had never .....(4) (behave) in this manner. "Was he going to hit me?" I.....(5)(wonder). Holding on to my courage, I asked him why he seemed disturbed. His expression became fiercer and he .....(6)(stride) towards my table. I jumped out of my chair, .....(7)(keep) the table between him and me. Quietly and slowly, so that Salim wouldn't notice, I .....(8) (stretch) out my hand and grabbed the heavy paperweight from my desk. Salim reached the table and let out a sigh. Slowly the redness.....(9) (recede) from his face and he smiled. "Let me get back my breath," said Salim. I remained mystified. ....(10)(See) my confusion, Salim said that he was practising holding his breath as a part of his new yoga regime. I let out a sigh.



## Question: 4

Read carefully the passage given below and answer the questions (a), (b) and (c) that follow: [20]

"Where Eelie came from, I'll never know, but I vividly remember her arrival at Tiger Haven, my home in northern India, in early 1970. That morning I was sitting on a river bank when I noticed a gang of road workers approaching. Behind them followed a forlorn and diminutive sandy coloured creature that looked like a jackal. Only the jaunty twist of its tail, standing up straight and curling over the top, showed that it was a dog.

But out of the perky face there shown a pair of lustrous, black-rimmed eyes, and as she ingratiatingly accepted a piece of toast, I knew she had come to stay. The peculiar shape of her tail reminded me of eel and I called her Eelie.

Eelie settled into the routine of Tiger Haven within a few days. As we set off on our daily walks, the first few steps took us out of the domain of man and into that of the forest animals. For a small dog, it was a world full of danger; leopards, for instance, rate dogs high on their list of delicacies. But Eelie's instincts served her well, and she assessed her new environment with remarkable speed.

But to bring a leopard into the household seemed altogether more audacious. Nevertheless, I had no hesitation in accepting the offer of a four-month old leopard cub that had been found abandoned in Bihar and reared in Calcutta by two outstanding fellow conservationists, Anne Wright and her daughter Belinda. My aim was to see if I could bring him up and set him free in the wild, and so make a small, but perhaps valuable, contribution to the dwindling leopard population in the forest behind my home.

The Wrights brought him by train to Lucknow, where I met them in my jeep. We got out of the vehicle, Anne Wright holding the leopard on a collar and leash. Eelie came up and immediately tried to nip the cub in the rump. Eelie remained to be aggressive all day.

On the second day the atmosphere was calmer. By the third, Eelie and the cub, whom I called Prince, went off together to explore some nearby bushes. Acceptance seemed complete. We spent that night together on the veranda, Eelie and Prince sleeping on either side of my bed. That both were growing up make it easier for them to forge links of friendship between the two species. As the familiarity between the two animals grew, they would set off into the forest together to hunt, and they made a surprisingly successful team. Once Eelie and Prince caught a young chital stag and between them pinned it to the ground, but displayed their immaturity by coming in search of me, allowing the stag to get away.

Having never brought up a leopard before, I took advice from anyone able to give it. So when I was told by a zoo authority that roughage in the form of bird feathers was an essential item in a leopard's diet, I began going out into the jungle with a point two two rifle to shoot parrots or doves. It fascinated me to see how quickly both Eelie and Prince learned to associate the crack of a shot with the fall of a bird. I am willing to bet that Prince was the only gun-trained leopard in the world. It was not for several weeks that I realized the futility of the entire proceeding. One day I found Prince carefully plucking a dove, pulling feathers out with his teeth and so rejecting the allegedly indispensable roughage.



One of Prince's favourite tricks was to climb a slender tree on the riverbank, which would bend and bend until it dumped him back into the water. He never tired of this game and would alternate it with his frantic beach chases with Eelie. It was a fantastic sight, for Prince measured more than two metres and outweighed Eelie by about five times, yet he took the greatest care not to injure her, even when in the course of their riotous games, the leopard knocked the dog down and sat on her.

One morning a few weeks later, we found the leopard guarding his first kill of a full-grown chital hind but was then astonished to see him driven off his own kill by his small canine companion. I would never have taught such a feat possible, for the leopard was hungry and the kill was his. It was an amazing display of forbearance on the leopard's part, for he would not have tolerated such interference from anyone else. He could have killed or disabled Eelie, yet there was never any question of that, such was the trust and affection between them. It was almost as if, in this unlikely bond, species had ceased to matter.

- [a] [i] Given below are three words or phrases. Find the words which have a similar meaning in the passage: [3]

- 1] tiny and undersized
- 2] bold and daring
- 3] uselessness

- [ii] For each of the words given below write a sentence of at least 10 words using the same word unchanged in form, but with a different meaning from that which it carries in the passage. [3]

- 1] bank
- 2] well
- 3] train

- [b] Answer the following questions as briefly as possible in your own words:

- 1] How did the narrator meet Eelie? [2]
- 2] Why did the narrator accept the offer of the Wrights? [2]
- 3] What was unusual about the friendship between Prince and Eelie? [2]
- 4] What advice did the narrator get from zoo? What was his reaction. [2]

- [c] In about 100 words of your own describe how Prince and Eelie began with hostility but ultimately proved that friendship overcomes all barriers.

You will be required to :

[6]

- (i) list your ideas and points.
- (ii) Write your points in the form of a connected passage.