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**STD XII - ISC**  **03/03/18**

**ESSAY**

**Question 1 (30 marks)**

1. Learning a foreign language, besides English should be compulsory for all the children in school. Explain your views for or against the proposition.
2. Knowledge.

**DIRECTED WRITING**

**Question 2 (20 marks)**

You have been granted the opportunity to interview a well-known personality and you have to write an account of the whole account for your magazine.

Purpose of your interview – your own preparation for the interview – the life and career of your subject in brief – your arrival at the subject’s home – description of the subject’s home – the subject’s appearance and behavior – the interview itself – final impressions

**COMPREHENSION**

**Question 4         (30 marks)**

**Read the passage given below and answer the question**

**DAY DREAM BELIEVER**

One of the advantages of youth is that you may indulge yourselves in the wildest of fantasies. When I was young, I was an avid comic book reader. You might say I was a fanatic, wherever I went, my comics went with me. I anxiously awaited every new issue. My super-heroes depicted adventurous deed that I could easily identify with. Their experiences were for me, at the age of ten, very real. I portrayed, moreover, every character that I read.

Every one of them was capable of performing superhuman acts. Each was unique, possessing specialized powers. Some were able to fly, to become invisible, or to change their form, and some had strength far beyond the mortals. Each superhero was easily identifiable by his name and costume, which added to the story line of the particular plot.

I remember one particular afternoon I was with my parents in the country. I was reading my favorite comic book, Spiderman. Nearby some rocks towered above me. I instantly sense danger and immediately scaled the rocks as the “wild web slinger”. When I reached the top, my “spider sense” was tingling. I found myself face to face with my arch enemy, “The Lizard”. We immediately became locked in a hand-to-hand, life-to-death struggle. A large crowd gathered below, watching in suspense. I blinded the reptilian creature with a face full of web. With a swift kick, I knocked him off the cliff in defeat.

It seemed as if I was continually reprimanded for living vicariously. My mother, as all mothers, was always concerned for my well-being. She apparently misconstrued my mysterious behavior. She also, however seemed to possess the understanding and the realization that one day I would outgrow it.

All of my allowance was used to purchase comic books. On many occasions I had my comic book in class. I would secretly place the comic book in a text and read and dream while the class was in session. Although I managed to maintain a normal class standard, I had to expend more effort while dividing myself between two worlds. My teacher was suspicious of my actions and thus felt I wasn’t giving my all. She felt I had a better academic potential than I was showing, and she periodically referred me to the dean for special counselling.

I recall that once in my sixth grade math class, I was very bored. In the next moment, I was Dr. Bruce Banner, walking the streets of New York. Suddenly people were running towards me in panic. They were screaming hysterically, fearing for their lives. They were running from a monster terrorizing the city. I, too, started to run away, but I was thrown to the ground by the crowd and lay there helpless as the monster approached. With my heatbeat increasing, I knew that transformation would soon occur. In the seconds, I was eight feet tall, with green skin and solid muscle. Dr. Bruce Banner once again became the Incredible Hulk.

In this period of my life, I did not have the same interests as my friends. As my friends emulated their sports heroes, I had my superheroes. Sometimes, in the midst of a game, I would be criticized for my lack of attention. I would let a ball slip by me, or I would miss a throw. This angered my teammates as it sometimes led to the loss of the game.

Despite any obstacles placed before me, I persevered. My world was filled with fantasy, and superheroes fired my imagination with adventure. Over the years I have retained my vivid imagination. However, now I apply it to more practical ends.

**Question:**

(c) What was the writer’s attitude towards the day dream period of his youth and to what degree had he distanced himself from that role?

(i) List your ideas clearly in point form.

(ii) In about 100 words, write your points in the form of a connected passage.

**Question 4**

**1**. He behaves as one \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ expect him to do. (may / might )

**2**. Run fast lest you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ miss that bus. (would / should)

**3.** He \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (play) the piano since 6 o’clock this morning. He had just

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (stop).

**4.** He walked as though he \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ slightly lame. (was/ were)

**5**. He ran because he \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in a hurry. (is)

**6**. This bicycle \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (be) in our family for 14 years.

**7.** He was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by a sudden noise. (awake)

**8.** Our teacher taught us that virtue \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ its own reward. (to be)

**9.** He has always \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ faithful to me. (be)

**10.** She \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ about this for a long time now. (speak)

**I)** After Christopher Columbus returned (return) from his famous voyage across the Atlantic, The king of Spain \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (wish) to celebrate the great event and do honour to the man who \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (make) himself a national hero. He \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (do) so by holding a banquet in honour of the explorer. To this banquet he \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (invite) many of the nobles of the king’s court. Some of them \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (be) jealous of the success. Columbus \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (achieve). One of them sat next to Columbus. He turned towards Columbus and said, “Of course you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (be) a brave man but anyone can take a ship and sail on and on till he \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (reach) land.”

**II)** Mid-afternoon while giving (give) my report to Mrs. Biggs, I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (hear) a loud thumping \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(come) from the direction of her store room. “What \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (be) all that noise down stairs?” I asked. “Probably a rat. I don’t hear anything,” she replied. I ran downstairs and \_\_\_\_\_\_ (open) the store room door. There was Mr. Biggs \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (look) very dusty and very disgruntled; he wanted to know why Mrs. Biggs \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (shut) him for hours. He had gone into the store room in search of a walking stick and Mrs. Biggs \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(see) the door open, had promptly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(bolt) it.

**III)** There was (be) some confusion in the doorway. A man \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (get) into the compartment \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (stammer) an apology. Then the door \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (bang) and the world was \_\_\_\_\_\_ (shut) out again. I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (return) to my berth. The guard \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (blow) his whistle and we \_\_\_\_\_\_ (move) off. Once again I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (has) a game to play.

**IV)** When I \_opened (open) the door, I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (see) a man on his knees. He was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(listen) to our conversation and I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (wonder) how much he \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (hear). When I asked him what he \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (do) he said that he had dropped a five rupee coin outside the door and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (look) for it. Actually he \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (be) making notes of our conversation! By the time I recovered from the shock of this he \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (disappear) round the corner. Curiously enough when I moved my foot, I found I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (stand) on a five rupee coin. Perhaps he had been telling the truth after all!

**V)** The other day we discussed (discuss) the attitudes of people in our country. Why \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (be) most of them rude and aggressive? Pritam asked. Sanjana \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (say) that it \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (be) because there \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (be) too many people and one had to fight for everything. Nirav \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (insist) that it \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (be) the climate. We \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (be) as efficient and polite as Europeans if only our weather \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (be) better.