

COMMON PRE-BOARD SCHOOL EXAMINATION (2022-23)
CLASS : XII
SUBJECT : ENGLISH

Time Allowed : 3 hours**समय : ३ घंटे****Maximum Marks : 80****अधिकतम अंक : 80****General Instructions:**

1. 15 minute prior reading time allotted for question paper reading.
 2. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, WRITING and LITERATURE.
 3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number in your answer sheet to indicate the option's being attempted.
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SECTION A: READING SKILLS (20 MARKS)

- I. Read the passage given below. 10

1. While there is no denying that the world loves a winner it is important that you recognise the signs of stress in your behaviour and be healthy enough to enjoy your success. Stress can strike anytime, in a fashion that may leave you unaware of its presence in your life. While a certain amount of pressure is necessary for performance, it is important to be able to recognise your individual threshold. For instance, there are some individuals who accept competition in a healthy fashion. There are others who collapse into weeping wrecks before an exam or on comparing marksheets and finding that their friend has scored better.
2. It is a body reaction to any demands or changes in its internal and external environment. Whenever there is a change in the external environment such as temperature, pollutants, humidity and working conditions, it leads to stress. In these days of competition when a person makes up his mind to surpass what has been achieved by others, leading to an imbalance between demands and resources, it causes psycho-social stress. It is a part and parcel of everyday life.

3. Stress has a different meaning depending on the stage of life you're in. The loss of a toy or a reprimand from the parents might create a stress shock in a child. An adolescent who fails an examination may feel as if everything has been lost and life has no further meaning. In an adult, the loss of his or her companion, job or professional failure may appear as if there is nothing more to be achieved.
4. Such signs appear in the attitude and behaviour of the individual, as muscle tension in various parts of the body, palpitation and high blood pressure, indigestion, hyperacidity and ultimately in self destructive behaviour such as eating and drinking too much, smoking excessively, relying on tranquilisers, trembling, shaking, nervous blinking, dryness of throat and mouth and difficulty in swallowing
5. The professional under stress behaves as if he is a perfectionist followed by depression, lethargy and weakness for further work. Periodic mood shifts also indicate the stress status of students, executives and professionals.
6. In a study sponsored by World Health Organisation and carried out by Harvard School of Public Health, the global burden of diseases and injury indicated that stress diseases and accidents are going to be the major killers in 2020.
7. The ischaemic heart diseases and neurological depression, both stress diseases, are going to rank first and second in 2020. Road traffic accidents are going to be the third largest killers. These accidents are also an indicator of psycho-social stress in a fast-moving society. Other stress diseases like ulcers, hypertension and neuronal disorders including insomnia have assumed epidemic proportions in modern societies.
8. A person behaves in different ways in stress but the common ones are flight, fight and flow. Depending upon the nature of stress and capability of the person, the three responses can be elegantly chosen to cope up with the stress so that stress does not damage the system and become distress.

9. When stress crosses the threshold peculiar to an individual, it deteriorates his/her performance capacity. Frequent jumps over that threshold may result in a syndrome called chronic fatigue in which a person feels lethargic, disinterested and is not easily motivated to achieve anything. This may make the person mentally undecided, confused and accident prone as well. Sudden exposure to un-nerving stress may also result in a loss of memory.
10. The best technique is self-control. This arises by having faith in oneself, on the usefulness of the job he is doing and on any superpower who would deliver the result of the effort made.
11. There are many stress modifiers or stress busters. Some of these are diet and massage from naturopathy, food supplements and herbs from herbal medicine hobbies and relaxation techniques, homeopathy and modern medicine. Physical exercise and dance movements are excellent stress modifiers.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

1x10=10

- (i) Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option. 1

The unhealthy competition prevalent in this dog-eat-dog world causes _____

- (a) psycho-social stress (b) political stress
(c) neuro problems (d) blood pressure

- (ii) Comment on the writer's reference to stress in paragraph one, as a positive as well as negative factor.

- (iii) List the two signs of stress shown by a professional. *as perfect 100%
periodic mood swings* 1

- (iv) Select the option that conveys the opposite of 'perform lesser than others', from words used in paragraph two or three. 1

- (a) imbalance (b) surpass
(c) reprimand (d) professional

(v) The writer would not agree with the given statements based on paragraph three, EXCEPT: 1

- (a) A person behaves in same way in all types of stress.
- (b) A person behaves in different ways in stress but the common ones are flight, fight and flow.
- (c) A person behaves in different ways in stress but the common one is fight.
- (d) All persons behave in same ways in stress.
- (vi) What is chronic fatigue? 1
- (vii) What happens when stress crosses threshold? 1
- (viii) Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference, with respect to the following: 1

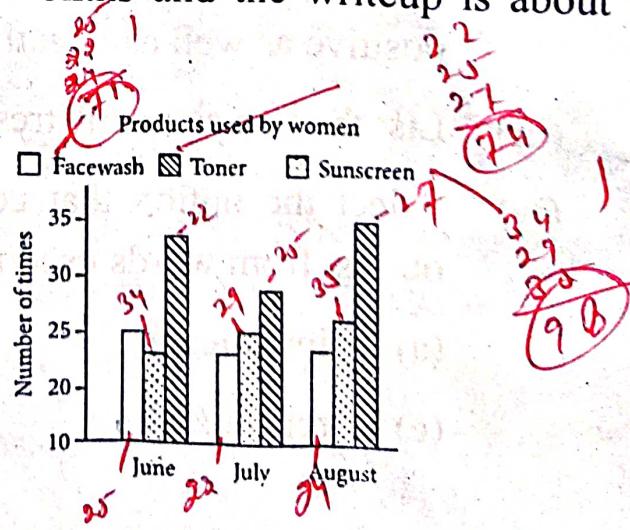
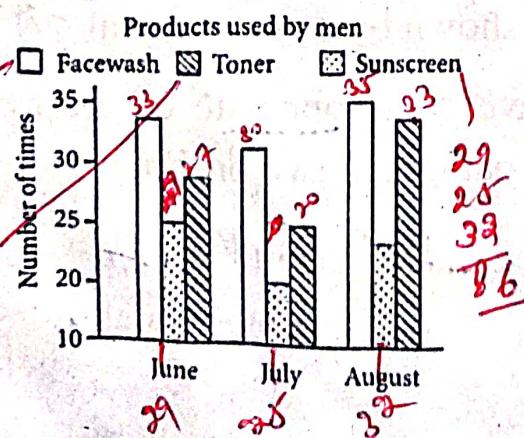
Everyone who is under stress can overcome it by self control and trying various stress busters as -

- (ix) How can the solutions, suggested in paragraph eleven, best be described? 1
- (a) practical ✓
(b) presentable ✓
(c) popular ✓
(d) prejudiced ✓

- (x) Find words in the passage similar in meaning as inactivity, apathy (Para 5) Lethargy 1

2. Read the passage:

The given bar graph shows the increasing use of skin care products by men and women over the period of three months and the writeup is about the usage of skin care products.



Skin care is one of the most important but underrated processes: Honestly, only a few people actually know how to rightly use skincare products. Only if you use all the products correctly, you can enjoy the benefits that they are slated to provide. There are many instances where two people use the same product but experience different results. This is due to different usage. Even after choosing expensive and branded products, if you do not know the right way to use it, then you do not get the benefit. Products with watery consistency such as face serums and toners should be applied first followed by thick consistency products like facial oil and moisturiser and lastly, heavy products like sunscreen. This helps the skin get necessary nourishment and protection. The given bar graph shows the usage of skin care products by men and women over the time of three months. The products used are facewash, toner and sunscreen. The bar graph of men shows that the most used product by men is facewash. In the month of June the facewash was used around 33 times, in July 30 times and in August 35 times. The toner was used around 27 times in the month of June, 20 times in July and around 33 times in the month of August. The sunscreen was used 29 times in the month of June, 25 times in July and 32 times in August. The bar graph of women shows that the most used product is sunscreen. In the month of June the facewash was used 25 times, in July 22 times and in August 24 times. The toner was used 22 times in the month of June, in July 25 times and in August 27 times. The Sunscreen being the most used product was used 34 times in June, 29 times in July and 35 times in August. To conclude the given information, the usage of facewash by men saw a rise in the month of August and reached its peak and usage of sunscreen by women saw its rise in the Month of August too, reaching its peak of 35 times of usage

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below. 1x10=10

- (i) Does the following statement agree with the information given in the above passage?

The researcher believes that usage of skincare products is a nice idea.

Select from the following:

- (a) True - if the statement agrees with the information
- (b) False - if the statement contradicts the information
- (c) Not Given - if there is no information on this
- (d) Partially True

- (ii) Do you think the researchers of the study aimed to change the mindset of skin product users. Support your answer with reference to the text. 1
- (iii) Select the option that displays the most likely reason for including this issue as a Research study. 1
- (a) Skin care is a very important issue
- (b) People don't know the importance of maintaining skin.
- (c) People don't know how to use products effectively
- (d) All of the above
- (iv) Complete the sentence based on the following statement. 1

Toners are the products that need to be applied in initial stage.

We can say this because *products with heavy consistency such as face serum and toners should be applied first.*

- (v) The bar graph of men shows that the most used product by men is face wash. 1
- (vi) Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option. 1
- Sun screen was used _____ times by both men and women in the month of August.

- (a) 30 (b) less than thirty
 (c) more than thirty (d) innumerable

- (vii) The data shows that sunscren (tow) is the most liked product by women and face wash is the most liked by men. 1
- (viii) Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option. 1

_____ was the worst month for the usage of sunscreen for both men and women.

- (a) July (b) February
(c) March (d) April

- (ix) Complete the sentence appropriately with one/ two words. 1

In the context of the passage.

The peak of usage of skin products was _____.

(x) The word in the passage that means 'expected' is predicted. 1

Questions for visually impaired students:

In lieu of Q(vii)

Q. What is the first step after choosing expensive and branded products?

In lieu of Q(viii)

Q. Which product is considered 'heavy' as compared to the others.

SECTION B-CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (20 MARKS)

III. All the names and addresses used in the questions are fictitious. Resemblance, if any, is purely coincidental

1. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below. 5

A. You are Ruhi/Rahul, head girl/boy of ABC convent school. Your school is going to organize an Annual Sports Day involving various activities. Write a notice for your school notice board asking the students to submit the names to their respective class teachers for the activity they are interested in.

OR

B. You are Avani/Avinash. As the Secretary of Students' Forum of Eminent School you want to start a Wall Magazine for the students of the school. Write a notice inviting articles, stories, poems and campus news for the Wall Magazine.

2. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below. 5

A. You are Diti/Danish living at 39, Kandaghat, Shimla. You decide to hold a dinner party to congratulate your grandparents on their golden wedding anniversary. Draft an invitation in not more than 50 words to all family members to attend a grand dinner at home.

Card

OR

Your friend Sanjay has invited you to attend the wedding of his sister, Jyoti. You find that you have an important paper of pre-board examination on the day of the wedding. Thus you cannot attend the event. Write in about 50 words a formal reply to the invitation expressing your regret. You are Vipul/Vineeta.

Note down

3. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.

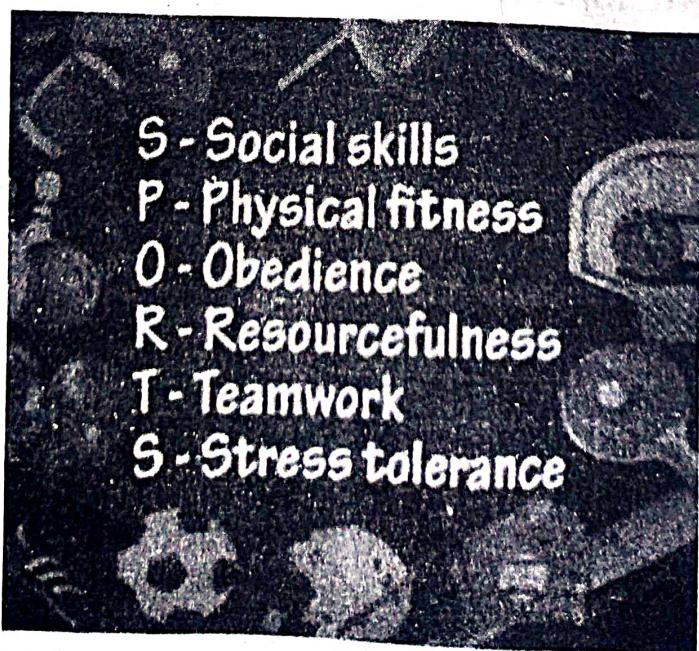
- A. You are Sandhya Sharma, a graduate from Delhi University. You are seeking a suitable job. You came across an advertisement in The Times of India, inviting young and dynamic fresh graduates as Receptionists in a reputed company. Apply for the said job to The HR Manager, New Age Solutions, Gurugram. (120-150 words)

OR

You are Tarun/Taruna of RK Puram, Delhi. You feel that extensive use of computers and typing has become a deterrent for good and legible handwriting. It is compromising with the writing ability of the students and increase in the tendency to copy-paste thus killing creativity. Write a letter to the Editor of a National Daily expressing your concern regarding the same. (120-150 words)

4. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.

- A. In the present world scenario we need to pay enough attention to athletics and outdoor games. It is time we realize that sports should be an important part of school's daily routine. Write an article in 120-150 words in 'Importance of Outdoor Games'. You are Sonal/Ankit.



OR

- B. You are Kanika/Karan. You recently attended a workshop on Calming the mind using Music Therapy organized by Music for Life Foundation. Write a report in 120-150 words for your school magazine giving necessary details of the workshop.

SECTION C-LITERATURE (40 MARKS)

IV. Read the given extracts to attempt the questions with reference to context.

1. Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given. 1x6=6

A. The polished traffic passed with a mind ahead,

Or if ever aside a moment, then out of sorts

At having the landscape marred with the artless paint

Of signs that with N turned wrong and S turned wrong

Offered for sale wild berries in wooden quarts,

Or crook-necked golden squash with silver warts,

Or beauty rest in a beautiful mountain scene,

(i) What does 'the polished traffic' mean?

- (a) Shiny Cars
- (b) Huge Traffic
- (c) Sophisticated civilized people on the road (d) All of these

(ii) What mars/destroys the beauty of the landscape in the countryside?

(iii) What was sold there at roadside stands ?

- (a) Small artifacts
- (b) Gold and silver ornaments (c) Squash bottles
- (d) None of these

- (iv) Where does beauty rest according to the poet?
- (v) Which poetic device is used in 'Beauty rests'?
- (a) Personification ✓ (b) Simile
 - (c) Pun (d) Alliteration
- (vi) Pick out a pair of rhyming words from the stanza.

OR

(B) I saw my mother,

beside me,
doze, open mouthed, her face
ashen like that

pain
that she was as old as she
of a corpse and realized with
looked but soon
put that thought away.

(i) What does the poet notice in the outer world?

- (a) sprinting trees and merry children ✓
- (b) schools and roads
- (c) other vehicles
- (d) many people on the road

(ii) What did the poet realize with the pain?

- (a) her mother's appearance like a corpse with growing age ✓
- (b) she is helpless
- (c) old age is painful
- (d) she has duties

(iii) What does 'ashen face' signify?

- (a) to show the poet's fears
- (b) to tell aging is painful
- (c) Pale and lifeless face of poet's mother
- (d) to show old age

(iv) Sprinting Trees refers to youth.

(v) Which poetic device is used in Ashen like that of a corpse"?

- (a) Personification
- (b) Simile
- (c) Pun
- (d) Alliteration

(vi) Putting thought away means _____

2. Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.

1x4=4

A. You think.... Here's a boy." You look at me... and then you see my face and you think. 'That's bad. That's a terrible thing. That's the ugliest thing I ever saw. You think, 'Poor boy. But I'm not. Not poor. Underneath, you are afraid. Anybody would be. I am. When I look in the mirror, and see it, I'm afraid of me.

(i) Why doesn't Derry want to be called poor?

- (a) For he was rich
- (b) He was embarrassed
- (c) He had ample resources
- (d) None of these

(ii) What is people's opinion when they look at Derry?

(iii) 'You' referred to in the above lines is

- (a) People
- (b) Mr. Lamb
- (c) Narrator
- (d) All the beautiful ladies

(iv) What character trait of Derry is evident in these lines?

OR

B. From that day onwards it was celebration time for all the tigers inhabiting Pratibandapuram. The State banned tiger hunting by anyone except the Maharaja. A proclamation was issued to the effect that if anyone dared to fling so much as a stone at a tiger, all his wealth and property would be confiscated. The Maharaja vowed he would attend to all other matters only after killing the hundred tigers. Initially the king seemed well set to realise his ambition. Not that he faced no dangers. There were times when the bullet missed its mark, the tiger leapt upon him and he fought the beast with his bare hands. Each time it was the Maharaja who won. At another time he was in danger of losing his throne.

(i) Why did the Tigers have a celebration time?

- (a) as they had a lot of space to live
- (b) as they were protected by the king
- (c) as the king banned the killing of tigers by anyone else
- (d) as the king called himself the tiger king

(ii) The phrase 'fling a stone' means

- (a) To have a fling
- (b) To injure slightly/lightly
- (c) To collect stones
- (d) To aim and hit someone with a stone

(iii) The Maharaja made a _____ to kill hundred tigers.

(iv) What attributes of Maharaja have been listed in this passage?

- (a) Brave
- (b) Determined
- (c) Whimsical
- (d) All of the above

3. Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.

$$1 \times 6 = 6$$

A. It seemed a long way down. Those nine feet were more like ninety, and before I touched bottom my fungs were ready to burst. But when my feet hit bottom I summoned all my strength and made what I thought was a great spring upwards. I imagined I would bob to the surface like a cork. Instead, I came up slowly. I opened my eyes and saw nothing but water-water that had a dirty yellow tinge to it. I grew panicky. I reached up as if to grab a rope and my hands clutched only at water. I was suffocating. I tried to yell but no sound came out. Then my eyes and nose came out of the water but not my mouth.

- (i) Nine feet refers to

 - The depth of the pool
 - The length of pool
 - Height of the narrator
 - Width of the pool

(ii) Lungs ready to burst means that he could not _____

(iii) When he reached to the bottom, he _____

(iv) In an attempt to save himself, the narrator _____

 - tried to jump upwards
 - tried to grab a rope
 - Both a and b
 - Only a

(v) The narrator became _____ when he could not see anything except water.

(vi) The story by Douglas is a/an _____

 - Biography
 - Autobiography
 - Tragedy
 - Comedy

OR

Sophie watched her back stooped over the sink and wondered at the incongruity of the delicate bow which fastened her apron strings. The delicate-seeming bow and the crooked back. The evening has already blacked in the windows and the small room was steady from the stone and cluttered with the heavy-breathing man in his vest at the table and the dirty washing piled up in the corner. Sophie felt a tightening in her throat. She went to look for her brother Geoff.

- (i) This passage has been taken from the lesson _____
- (ii) Her back refers to whom
- (a) Sophie
 - (b) Jansie
 - (c) Sophie's mother
 - (d) None of the above
- (iii) The small room was _____
- (iv) Sophie belonged to
- (a) A family of football players
 - (b) A lower middle class family
 - (c) An educated and well to do family
 - (d) A reputed family
- (v) The writer has tried to present a _____ between the delicate bow and crooked back.
- (a) Contrast
 - (b) Similarity
 - (c) Both a and b
 - (d) Neither a nor b
- (vi) The lesson focuses on mental and social issues related to _____
- (a) infants
 - (b) adolescents
 - (c) women
 - (d) marginalised section of the society

V. Answer ANY FIVE of the following in about 40-50 words each. (5x2=10)

- (i) Seemapuri is a place on the periphery of Delhi, yet miles away from it, metaphorically. Elaborate.
- (ii) Why does the aunt create fearless and chivalric tigers?
- (iii) Why does the rattrap peddler betray the trust of the crofter but not Edla?
- (iv) Why do many people despise being interviewed?
- (v) Why did Gandhiji feel that taking the Champaran case to the court was useless?
- (vi) What can make children like Mukesh realize their unfulfilled dreams?

VI. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40-50 words each. (2x2=4)

- (i) What qualities of Mr Lamb attract Derry towards him?
- (ii) Subbu was the life and soul of Gemini Studios. Justify this statement.
- (iii) Why did Charley long to go to Galesberg?

VII. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words. (1x5=5)

- (i) After reading the chapter ‘The Last Lesson’ you realize that man has an intense desire to subjugate others. You feel that in the modern world there is a strong need of brotherhood. Write an article in about 120 to 150 words.
- (ii) Exploitation is a universal phenomenon. The poor indigo farmers were exploited by the British landlords to which Gandhiji objected. Even after our independence we find exploitation of unorganised labour.

What values do we learn from Gandhiji’s campaign to counter the present day problems of exploitation? Write a paragraph on “Gandhian Values are Universal”. (120-150 words)

VIII. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words. (1x5=5)

- (i) We need a new system for the ecology- a system which is embedded in the care of all people and also in the care of the earth and all life upon it. With reference to the lesson Journey to the end of the Earth' write a speech in 120-150 words on the topic "Take care of the big things and small things will fall into place.
- (ii) Imagine Dr Sadao and Tom, the American soldier meet after the war gets over. Write a conversation between the two where both share their experiences and feelings of their first encounter together.
(You may begin like this

Tom: Hello sir, Im standing here today just because of you....)