

**AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION BOARD**

**HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE**

**CLASS XII**

**MODEL EXAMINATION PAPER 2020**

**English Compulsory Paper I**

**Time: 55 minutes    Marks: 40**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Read each question carefully.
2. Answer the questions on the separate answer sheet provided. DO NOT write your answers on the question paper.
3. There are 100 answer numbers on the answer sheet. Use answer numbers 1 to 40 only.
4. In each question, there are four choices A, B, C, D. Choose ONE. On the answer grid, black out the circle for your choice with a pencil as shown below.

Correct Way		Incorrect Ways	
1		1	
		2	
		3	
		4	

**Candidate's Signature**

5. If you want to change your answer, ERASE the first answer completely with a rubber, before blacking out a new circle.
6. DO NOT write anything in the answer grid. The computer only records what is in the circles.

## Listening Comprehension Section

In this section, you will hear two passages. Each one will be played two times.

Listen carefully to the first passage and then read questions 1 to 10. You will have two minutes' reading time.

The passage will be played one more time. You can make notes on your question paper.

When the passage has finished, enter your answers on your separate answer sheet. You will have three minutes to record your answers.

Follow the instructions on the front page of Paper I to show which of the options, A, B, C or D, you have selected for each question.

### Listening Passage I

This passage talks about online communities.

Source: Adapted from '*Consumer Behaviour*' by Leon G. Schiffman and Leslie Lazar Kanuk.

Now listen to the passage.

Mark your responses to these questions on your multiple choice answer sheet.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1. The speaker introduces the heard passage by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. defining what virtual reality is.</li><li>B. explaining the idea behind online forums.</li><li>C. mentioning the rise of online communities.</li><li>D. elaborating on the importance of online communities.</li></ul>  | <p>3. The speaker mentions amateur photographers' online community as an example of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. dangers of online social groups.</li><li>B. significance of online photo sharing.</li><li>C. social interactions between like-minded people.</li><li>D. ways to encourage others to take interest in photography.</li></ul> |
| <p>2. The speaker begins the heard passage by saying, "Thanks to computers and internet...".</p> <p>The purpose of using the word 'thanks' is to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. catch the reader's attention.</li><li>B. acknowledge the importance of technology.</li><li>C. mock the emergence of online groups.</li><li>D. signify the importance of socialisation.</li></ul> | <p>4. The speaker mentions that before online communities, the word 'community', was defined on the basis of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. global interaction.</li><li>B. physical proximity.</li><li>C. indirect communication.</li><li>D. social relations among people.</li></ul>  |

5. According to the heard passage, the speaker is
- A. stating the advantages of online communities.
  - B. highlighting issues that develop during formation of virtual groups.
  - C. disapproving of online communication.
  - D. tracing the development of online groups.
6. According to the speaker, on the internet, people
- I. are free to express their thoughts
  - II. learn about amateur photography
  - III. get into conflicts with each other
  - IV. try to escape from those they normally interact with
- A. I and III.
  - B. II and IV.
  - C. I, II and IV.
  - D. I, III and IV.
7. The characteristic of virtual communities NOT mentioned by the speaker is that it is a means of
- A. benefitting financially.
  - B. increasing socialisation.
  - C. gaining new information.
  - D. exploring human behaviours.
8. The text type of the heard passage is
- A. satirical.
  - B. analytical.
  - C. persuasive.
  - D. informative.
9. A BEST alternative title for the heard passage could be
- A. 'Global Village'.
  - B. 'Social Relations'.
  - C. 'Collaborative Learning'.
  - D. 'Technological Advancements'.
10. The LAST information given by the speaker is that the internet has
- A. become an essential part of people's lives.
  - B. provided extensive amounts of information.
  - C. changed social interaction between communities.
  - D. given possibilities for exploring one's identity online.

Now, we will play the second passage. It will also be played two times.

Listen carefully to the first playing, and then read questions 11 to 20. You will have two minutes' reading time.

The passage will be played one more time. You can make notes on your question paper.

When the passage has finished, enter your answers on your separate answer sheet. You will have three minutes to record your answers.

### Listening Passage II

In this passage, the speaker narrates a brief history of the Mayan Indians.

Source: Adapted from, '*Mayan Indians*' published on [www.pearsonlongman.com](http://www.pearsonlongman.com)

Now listen to the passage.

Mark your responses to these questions on your multiple choice answer sheet.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>11. The FIRST information shared about the Mayan Indians was that they were</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. culturally rich.</li><li>B. believers of many gods.</li><li>C. builders of beautiful cities.</li><li>D. knowledgeable about nature.</li></ul>  | <p>14. According to the speaker, Mayan cities and temples are still standing today because they have been</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. built well.</li><li>B. rebuilt recently.</li><li>C. built in the recent past.</li><li>D. built by the Mayan gods.</li></ul>                  |
| <p>12. According to the speaker, Mayan farmers used pointed sticks for plantation of seeds. The information given DIRECTLY before this is about</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. establishment of Mayan villages.</li><li>B. cutting down trees with stone axes.</li><li>C. provision of food for many by farmers.</li><li>D. farming not being the main occupation of Mayans.</li></ul> | <p>15. The information presented in the heard passage is MAINLY through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. cultural references.</li><li>B. figurative expressions.</li><li>C. historical facts and figures.</li><li>D. effective arguments and opinions.</li></ul>                        |
| <p>13. According to the speaker, who lived in the Mayan cities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Only the priests</li><li>B. Professional cloth makers</li><li>C. Mostly the skillful workers</li><li>D. Those who could afford to live there</li></ul>  | <p>16. The measurement system for time was developed by the Mayans because they needed to know when to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. build their cities.</li><li>B. harvest their crops.</li><li>C. celebrate their festivals.</li><li>D. study the Sun, Moon and planets.</li></ul> |

17. According to the heard passage, the Mayans did NOT believe in
- A. sun gods.
  - B. rain gods.
  - C. corn gods.
  - D. stone gods.
18. How many months did the Mayan calendar had according to the heard passage?
- A. 5
  - B. 15
  - C. 18
  - D. 20
19. The MAIN idea of this heard passage is that the
- A. Maya were excellent farmers.
  - B. Mayan calendar was very accurate.
  - C. Mayan cities were difficult to build.
  - D. Maya were a culturally rich and advanced society.
20. According to the heard passage, the MOST likely reason for Mayans to have abandoned their habitat is due to a/ an
- A. invasion.
  - B. natural disaster.
  - C. economic disparity.
  - D. outbreak of disease.

### Reading Comprehension Section

You have 30 minutes' time for this section. This section has two reading passages; each followed by 10 multiple choice questions. You are advised to spend approximately 15 minutes on each of the given passages.

Read the passage carefully and then answer the multiple choice questions which follow:

#### Reading Passage I

Children naturally want to learn to read, just like they want to learn to ride a bike or tie their shoes. It is the job of educators to engage and instruct them in the most effective manner. Most successful young readers have support both at home and at school. The educators should emphasise the importance of establishing good reading habits with the children's parents from an early age.

They should relay this message and the value of family literacy throughout the school communities. This communication should take place every single year, initiated by the teacher. This is especially important throughout elementary school, when we are building the foundations of reading.

It's also important not to assume that all parents know how to work with their children at home. Instead, the educators should try to encourage parents to complete a variety of exercises at home and to simply nurture a love of reading in their homes.

Research shows that children who read at least twenty minutes a night most often perform on or above grade level in language arts. Author Rosemary Wells (of Max and Ruby series fame) created her Read to Your Bunny programme and book based on this research – and the idea that this type of reading nurtures the “growth of the [child's] mind and spirit”. Those twenty minutes, she says, are the most valuable gift you can ever give your child.

Of course, educators know how important it is for parents to read aloud to children; parents are a child's very first teacher. By simply reading a story aloud, parents expose their children to new vocabulary while modelling oral language. They are showing a young child how expression and tone in their voice can effectively deliver reactions and understanding of the text to the reader. It is fine to read aloud the same story over and over again as many children may request to hear the same book; children love repetition. It is also good to increase the level of difficulty of the text, one reads aloud to children as they grow older and become readers themselves.

It is a good idea to reinforce with parents that reading is a developmental process, which differs from one child to the next. It is not fair to compare a child to his or her siblings or friends, as learning to read varies across the board. Instead, we should observe the child's strengths and weaknesses in reading within a classroom and share them with their parents. Provide them with suggestions to focus on both factors at home.

Finally, teachers should consider creating a 'sacred' time for reading on a daily basis in the classroom – and invite parents to do the same in their homes. As Rosemary Wells says, “Read to your child often, and your child will read to you”.

Source: Adapted from '*Practice Makes Perfect, Especially in Reading*' by Kathryn Starke

Mark your responses to these questions on your multiple choice answer sheet.

21. According to the given passage, most successful young readers have the support of their
- A. school.
  - B. home and school.
  - C. entire community.
  - D. home and social circle.
22. What does the underlined term, 'family literacy', mean in the context of the passage?
- A. Reading practices at home
  - B. Teacher-Family reading practice
  - C. Methods of educating the entire family
  - D. Development of family values through education
23. A suitable title for Paragraph 3 would be
- A. 'Nurturing Young Minds'.
  - B. 'Motivating Parents to Read'.
  - C. 'Helping Parents Nurture Young Readers'.
  - D. 'Encouraging Parents to Complete Exercises'.
24. Paragraph 4 mainly discusses
- A. importance of twenty minutes of reading.
  - B. multiple researches on importance of reading.
  - C. author Rosmary Wells's Max and Ruby series.
  - D. the importance of Read To Your Bunny programme.
25. According to the passage, children may request to hear the same story book from the reader. This will help them
- A. build their confidence.
  - B. formulate better questions.
  - C. develop their language skills.
  - D. increase their analytical skills.
26. The author has MOSTLY validated her opinion about reading by
- A. quoting a famous author.
  - B. stating examples from real life.
  - C. narrating a story on reading habits.
  - D. mentioning research by a well-known doctor.
27. Which reason does the author give for NOT comparing a child with his/ her siblings and friends?
- A. Every child is unique.
  - B. It can discourage the child.
  - C. Every child has the right to learn on his/ her own terms.
  - D. It can make children envious of their siblings and friends.

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28. The word 'sacred' in line 30, can BEST be replaced with the word
- A. blessed.
  - B. specific.
  - C. religious.
  - D. dedicated.
29. The text type of the given passage is
- I. informative
  - II. persuasive
  - III. critique
- A. I only.
  - B. II only.
  - C. I and II.
  - D. I and III.
30. The author concludes the passage with a quote by Rosemary Wells. The purpose of using this quote is to
- A. create awareness regarding child care.
  - B. speculate about young readers in the future.
  - C. stress the importance of reading to children.
  - D. improve schools curriculum regarding reading.

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Now read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

### Reading Passage II

Not long ago, the ultimate put-down among children was calling someone ‘ugly’. Today, the most common reason kids are bullied is weight. And the consequences are no joke. Compared to their peers, children with obesity have lower self-esteem and are also more likely to refuse to participate in extra-curricular activities. Fat shaming is damaging the self-esteem and confidence of millions of people. Millions of adults are fat-shamed, some very publicly.

All that is really known about obesity by the general public is that less exercise and more food makes a person fat. Fat people are aware of this equation. The failure to lose weight is taken as evidence of ignorance of this golden formula, which thin people constantly remind obese people of, often to feel better about their own bodies and an imagined expertise in fitness.

If the fat person claims that he already knows the rule, the next assumption made is that he’s too lazy or undisciplined to act on this information.

Individuals born with metabolic silver-spoons in their mouths snicker at people struggling with their weight problem, much like rich kids who roll their eyes at poor people struggling to pay their bills.

The point above is lost on many who see seven billion humans as their own biological clones — assuming that any technique or remedy working for them for weight loss, must also work for everyone else. This is especially true for those people who have been obese in the past and have succeeded in losing significant weight themselves.

The absurdity of that assumption is easily noted by physicians like myself, who wonder why the same drug, with dose carefully adjusted according to each patient’s weight and age, has varying degrees of effects on different patients — even outright failing to show any response in, say, 10 percent of them.

The answer can be complicated. While the golden formula of weight gain as food intake minus exercise is theoretically true, it does not take into account many genetic, pathological, socioeconomic and pharmacological factors that either facilitate or impede weight gain. Idiosyncrasies matter tremendously.

To begin with, there actually is such a thing as an ‘obesity gene’. A fault in the gene — responsible for storing energy as fat rather than burning for heat — may explain many cases of early-onset and sustained obesity. Even the absence of certain gut microbes can affect satiety, hence, cause weight gain. Contrary to the public’s perception of obesity as a symbol of greed and decadence — used frequently in political caricatures to depict corrupt politicians and bureaucratic ‘fat cats’ — obesity may paradoxically be a consequence of poverty and malnutrition.

Fat shaming isn’t just unkind, it’s physically, economically and psychologically damaging. Yet it remains socially acceptable.

Source: Adapted from ‘*Fat-Shaming is Not Community Service*’ by Faraz Talat

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Mark your responses to these questions on your multiple choice answer sheet.

31. Why does the author compare adults with children in paragraph 1?

- A. To argue that fat shaming may motivate adults but demoralise children
- B. To emphasise that children are more sensitive and hence easily hurt by peers
- C. To inform about the different consequences of obesity for adults and children
- D. To highlight that children and adults face similar pressure about their physique

32. Which two words have the same meaning in paragraphs 1 and 2?

A	Fat	Obese
B	Put-down	Consequence
C	Failure	Ignorance
D	Bullied	Shaming

33. The purpose of paragraph 2 is to highlight

- A. the problem of obesity in general public.
- B. the most appropriate weight loss formula.
- C. how overweight people are criticised socially.
- D. how thin people can help the overweight people.

34. The phrase 'metabolic silver spoon' (paragraph 4) MOST LIKELY refers to those who

- A. are born rich.
- B. burn fat more effectively.
- C. eat better food items than others.
- D. consume more proteins than fats.

35. You would not laugh at a financially underprivileged person to encourage him to pull himself out of poverty. Why, then, would one insult those having a hard time losing weight and pretend that it's community service?

The mentioned text may be added to which paragraph to enhance and support its meaning?

- A. 2<sup>nd</sup>
- B. 3<sup>rd</sup>
- C. 4<sup>th</sup>
- D. 5<sup>th</sup>

36. The author says in paragraph 5, "The point above is lost on many who see seven billion humans as their own biological clones". Which of the following supports the mentioned sentence MOST closely?

- A. Obesity is a problem for people all over the world.
- B. By exercising and eating healthy food, one can maintain fitness.
- C. Health concerns should be highlighted at international platforms.
- D. Everyone is unique and hence, respond to medicines and exercises differently.

37. The passage seems to give which advice to the reader?
- A. We should motivate others to be healthy.
  - B. We should not seek advice about weight loss.
  - C. We should give suggestions about weight loss if we are healthy.
  - D. We should not label overweight people as lazy or undisciplined.
38. According to the author, which factors affect the efficacy of drugs on human body?
- A. Age and weight
  - B. Height and habits
  - C. Daily exercise routine
  - D. Daily consumption of food
39. The author mentions in paragraph 6 that he is a physician (doctor). He mentions this in order to establish the credibility of his claims about the
- A. link between habits and weight.
  - B. link between digestion and weight.
  - C. biological factors that affect weight.
  - D. social factors that affect self-esteem.
40. The passage gives LEAST information about
- A. awareness regarding obesity.
  - B. the effect of obesity on one's health.
  - C. social disadvantages of being overweight.
  - D. author's personal experience of weight gain.

Please use this page for rough work

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