

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT - I (2016-17)
ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE
Class - IX

Maximum Marks: 70

Time: 3 hours

Instructions :

The question paper is divided into Three sections.

Section A	:	Reading	20 marks
Section B	:	Writing & Grammar	25 marks
Section C	:	Literature & Long Reading Text	25 marks

SECTION A (READING :20 marks)

1 Read the passage given below and complete the statements that follow : (1x8)

8

Parental pressure on children to excel - especially academically - is an enduring characteristic of middle class India. Over the past two decades with the accelerated growth of the pre-school sector - there are over 300,000 private pre-primaries in the country - the pressure on children to start learning begins early. Research studies in the West have confirmed that overemphasis on formal education and abstract concepts on literacy and numeracy before age five can result in a sense of failure, long term underachievement, disaffection and even truancy. The pressure to learn too much too early kills children's innate curiosity and burns them out. Unfortunately in India, there are two extremes - on the one hand there is no teaching - learning happening in the country's 1.3 million anganwadis, whereas on the other hand there is too much learning going on in private schools. Parental and societal pressure to perform well academically is a global phenomenon. Even in Australia, after the introduction of National Assessment programme for Literacy and Numeracy, parental pressure on Kindergarteners to prepare for NAPLAN has increased enormously. In countries such as Korea and Japan, it's much worse.

In Singapore, as in India, parental pressure on pre-schools to begin early reading, writing and numeracy is intense, yet, Singapore boasts of one of the world's best Early Childhood Care Education (ECCE) systems that's because not only their ECCE curriculums are standardized, but also have to be approved by the education ministry. The government is also making an effort to introduce holistic education at the pre-primary level. In India, there is no government mandated national ECCE curriculum resulting in wide disparity in programmes followed by pre-schools. The consequences of pushing children into structured formal learning are devastating, manifesting in teenage years when children are unable to cope with stress and failure. There is an urgent need for preschool managements to re-examine and re-shape their curriculums to ensure age appropriate learning, educate parents on the adverse effects of early learning, respect for child rights and the long term benefits of holistic curriculum.

- (a) Middle class parents in India _____ their children to excel academically.
- (b) Pre-primaries refer to _____.
- (c) The pressure to learn too much at an early age results in killing of innate _____ in children.
- (d) India presents two contrasting pictures of pre-schooling; one is of _____ where even the essential levels are not taught and the other is of _____ where too much is happening on the teaching-learning front.
- (e) NAPLAN is a programme in Australia that has led to _____ in parental pressure.

- (f) Singapore has a _____ ECCE curriculum that has made it one of the world's best ECCE _____.
- (g) One of the reasons of wide disparity in programmes of pre-schools in India is _____.
- (h) Which word in the last para means the same as 'results'?

2 Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow : $(2 \times 4) + (1 \times 4) = 12$

12

Want to feel better, have more energy and perhaps even live longer? Look no further than exercise. The health benefits of regular exercise and physical activity are hard to ignore. And the benefits of exercise are yours for the taking, regardless of your age, sex or physical ability.

Regular physical activity can improve your muscle strength and boost your endurance. Exercise and physical activity deliver oxygen and nutrients to your tissues and help your cardiovascular system work more efficiently. And when your heart and lungs work more efficiently, you have more energy to go about your daily chores.

Physical health affects the mind and vice-versa. Let us be clear that a sound mind in a sound body are prerequisites for high efficiency and good quality work in the office, factory or field, which lead to a sense of achievement and fulfilment.

Our health is, of course, important not only to us, but also to our families and even to our employers. No wonder then those companies everywhere have a stake in the health and fitness of their employees and are willing to spend considerable money towards this purpose. Japanese companies particularly excel in this and the more successful among them start off the day with a body bending and stretching session and even singing the company song designed to promote loyalty and motivation among the workforce!

It is estimated that some 20,000 American firms have established in-house health clubs. Typical of there is the soft drink manufacturer, Pepsi Cola which has spent about 2 million in setting up a health club at its head office in New York State. (Such expenditure has proved to be a wise investment in achieving better efficiency and high productivity. It has indirectly also helped reduce the premium on the health insurance of staff. Hundreds of consultancies have sprung up for the management of health clubs and fitness centres.

Exercise and physical activity are a great way to feel better, gain health benefits and have fun. As a general goal, aim for at least 30 minutes of physical activity every day. If you want to lose weight or meet specific fitness goals, you may need to exercise more.

- (a) How is exercising the most inexpensive way to keep healthy?
- (b) How does regular physical activity help us?
- (c) What shows that the health of the employees is important in a company?
- (d) Why is expenditure on health considered a wise investment?
- (e) What is meant by 'ignore'? (Para 1)
- (f) What is meant by 'prerequisites'? (Para 2)
- (g) Find the word opposite in meaning to 'low-grade'. (Para)
- (h) Find the word opposite in meaning to 'exact'. (Para 4)

SECTION B (WRITING & GRAMMAR: 25 Marks)

3/ You are a member of your school adventure club. You went for a five days hiking expedition. 5
Using the following clues, write an article in about 100 - 120 words on 'Adventure-A Passion for Today's Generation'. You can also use ideas from the MCB unit Adventure.

Hints: thrill, overwhelming experience, curious, courage, uncertainty, memorable experience.

Write a story in about 150-200 words beginning with the following line and give it a suitable title. 10

"I was walking alone near the sea beach when I suddenly heard somebody screaming from the pine bushes..."

5 Complete the following passage by choosing the most appropriate options from the ones given below. Write your answers in the answer sheets against the correct blank number. Do not copy the entire passage. 3

While planning your career, it is very important that (a) _____ understand yourself. You need to evaluate (b) _____ recognize your abilities. You (c) _____ make sure that your interest and aptitude are suitable for the career you wish to pursue.

- (a) (i) you (ii) I (iii) we (iv) they
 (b) (i) or (ii) and (iii) but (iv) so
 (c) (i) could (ii) will (iii) must (iv) shall

6 The following passage has not been edited. One word is missing from each line. Identify the missing word and write it in your answer sheet along with the word that comes before and after it. Remember to underline the missing word. The first one has been done as an example for you. 4

	Word	Before	Missing	Word	Word	After
Mark Twain, had earned a reputation				eg. Twain	<u>who</u>	had
as a humour writer, got invitation to	(a) _____	_____	_____			
address public meeting. He reached the city	(b) _____	_____	_____			
on the day the meeting. When he reached	(c) _____	_____	_____			
there, he did not find single	(d) _____	_____	_____			
person. He realised the joke was on him.						

7 Read the conversation given below and complete the passage given below : 3

Malika : Will you come to my birthday party on Wednesday?

Manjula : Are you celebrating it at your home?

Malika : No, I have booked a few tables at Mc Donald's.

Malika asked Manjula (a) _____ on Wednesday. Manjula wanted to know (b) _____. Malika informed her (c) _____ Mc Donald's.

SECTION C (LITERATURE & LONG READING TEXT: 25 Marks)

Read one of the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow.

8 *"For a good cause if you are determined, you can overcome any obstacle."* 3

- (i) Who is the speaker of the above lines ?
 (ii) What is the good cause the speaker is talking about ?
 (iii) Which word in the above passage means the same as 'hurdle'?

OR

And both that morning equally lay

In leaves no step had trodden black.

Oh, I kept the first for another day!

- (i) What does 'both' in the above lines refer to ?
 (ii) What do you mean by 'In leaves no step had trodden black'?
 (iii) What does the poet keep for another day ?

Answer the following questions in about 30 - 40 words:

9a Do you think that Hooper owed his new life to Duke ? Why ? 2

9b Why was Mrs. Al Smith so eager to buy the villa ? 2

9c Why did the chieftain want to cross Lochgyle with his bonny bride in the dark and stormy weather ? 2

9d Why was the poet affected by the song of the solitary reaper ? 2

Answer one of the following questions in about 80-100 words

✓ 10 Both Jeanne and Juliette were duped by Gaston in the play *Villa for Sale*. How could this have been prevented? Describe the values Gaston should have possessed, that would have shown him in a positive light. 4

OR

'Obstacles and hurdles are part and parcel of life'. The Brook teaches us never to give up under any circumstances. Express your views in 80 -100 words on the given statement. 4

Answer one of the following questions in about 150-200 words.

11 Give a brief account of the diversions of the court of Lilliput arranged by the Emperor. 10

OR

✓ How does Swift portray the character of the Queen of Brobdingnag in his novel? 10

OR

The story 'Three Men in a Boat' by Jerome K. Jerome is full of valuable lessons. Elaborate. 10

OR

Elaborate on how the narrator compares his 'taste for dresses' with that of his friends. What does it tell us about him? 10

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