

## First Terminal Examination 2016 - 2017

Class - XI

Subject - English

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 80

**General Instructions :**

- (a) This paper is divided into four sections :
- |                                                |            |
|------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Section 'A' (Reading Comprehension)            | - 20 Marks |
| Section 'B' (Writing Skills)                   | - 20 Marks |
| Section 'C' (Grammar)                          | - 10 Marks |
| Section 'D' (Literature and Long Reading Text) | - 30 Marks |
| Total                                          | - 80 Marks |
- (b) All the sections are compulsory.
- (c) Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully.
- (d) Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.
- (e) Kindly do the sub-parts of a question at one place only.
- (f) Please write down the serial number of the question in the answer script before attempting it.

**SECTION - 'A' (READING COMPREHENSION)****(20 Marks)**

1. On the basis of your reading of the poem answer the following questions by choosing the best of the given choices : (12)

***I Am the People***

- I am the people-the mob-the crowd-the mass.  
Do you know that all the great work of the world is done through me ?  
I am the workingman, the inventor, the maker of the world's food and clothes.
- I am the audience that witnesses history.  
The Napoleons come from me and the Lincolns.  
They die.  
And then I send forth more Napoleons and Lincolns.
- I am the seed ground.  
I am a prairie that will stand for much plowing.

Terrible storms pass over me. I forget.  
The best of me is sucked out and wasted.  
I forget. Everything but Death comes to me  
and makes me work and give up what I have.  
And I forget.

4. Sometimes I growl, shake myself and  
spatter a few red drops for history to remember.  
Then-I forget.  
When I, the People, learn to remember,  
when I, the People, use the lessons of yesterday  
and no longer forget who robbed me last year,  
who played me for a fool—then there will be no  
speaker in all the world say the name:  
"The People," with any fleck of a sneer in his voice or any  
far-off smile of derision.  
The mob—the crowd—the mass—will arrive then.

— Carl Sandburg

1.1 (a) 'I' in the Stanza 1 stands for :

(1×6=6)

- (i) Me, a single individual                      (ii) The common working man  
(iii) The intellectuals                              (iv) The scientists

(b) In Stanza 2, why has the poet chosen to name Napoleon and Lincoln ?

- (i) They are the greatest leaders of the world.  
(ii) They won many battles.  
(iii) They changed the lives of their countrymen.  
(iv) They came from ordinary families.

(c) 'Terrible Storms' in Stanza 3 means :

- (i) Bad weather  
(ii) Hardships, trouble and pain that the common man suffers  
(iii) Earthquakes, floods, famine and other natural disasters  
(iv) Epidemics and diseases that destroy a large population



(d) 'I forget' has been repeated several times in Stanzas 3 and 4. What trait of 'I' is represented through 'I forget'?

- (i) Weakness – as he is open to repeated exploitation.
- (ii) Strength – as he is better able to endure.
- (iii) Flaw – as poor memory is nothing to be proud of.
- (iv) Power – as thoughts of revenge do not come to him.

(e) The contextual meaning of the term 'growl' in Stanza 4 is :

- (i) The sound made by a bear
- (ii) A lion's roar
- (iii) A cuckoo's sound
- (iv) Demonstrations on road with blaring slogans.

(f) The meaning of the term 'sneer' in Stanza 4 is :

- (i) To praise
- (ii) To condemn
- (iii) To inflict mockery
- (iv) To smile

1.2 Answer the following questions :

(1×4=4)

(a) How is the best of people wasted?

(b) Why are the people addressed as 'audience'?

(c) In what ways do the people of a country spatter a few red drops for history and bring the change?

(d) Why do the people sneer at the malfunctioning of the government machinery run by elected representatives?

1.3 Find words from the poem that mean :

(1×2=2)

(a) Speck (Stanza 4)

(b) Awful (Stanza 3)

2. Read the following passage and answer the question that follow :

(8)

1. How often do we exclaim: "That was a mistake!" That bewildered expression of regret and panic gets relayed through life. Some mistakes we forget, others we don't. The mistakes can be mundane as forgetting to turn the geyser off or to pick up your passport from the airport counter.



2. Absent mindedness, preoccupation, distraction, carelessness and nervousness are among the umpteen excuses to justify mistakes. However major decisions like relocations of home or an unwarranted resignation letter can cause much trouble and upheaval and lead to regrets that leave you sad and depressed. Some mistakes are irreversible - then is there any room for hope? In fact, there are no mistakes, only experiences. There are no problems only challenges. Every experience teaches us something in life. Every mistake inspires retrospection and introspection. The experience is humbling and it makes us wiser. That is, every mistake is regarded as an experience and not as a source of self-condemnation. Many times people are unable to reconcile with the change grooved in the blame culture and rooted in the past. They have to realize the life time benefits they receive from changes.
3. Nature abounds in examples of flexibility and relocation in case of birds and beasts. Scientific research in the behavior of birds has confirmed this. Birds, animals and even nomads, travel miles and miles in search of better food, congenial climate and safety. These relocations may cause some amount of stress, no doubt, but they are the source of survival: helping in group bonding and cooperation; and to explore the beauty of new space and better environment. To the weak, problems are stumbling blocks, to the brave, they are stepping stones. An untimely resignation and or termination letter is certainly traumatic and disturbing. But think of the possibilities it can throw open for you. A young man felt disappointed when he failed an interview for a corporate job. At that point of time, he left dejected. Today, looking back he says, "It was a blessing in disguise. I would have never reached this far." Some mistakes bring in a very important message. "Believe and achieve! And in order to do so, faith is essential. It is the triple faith that men need today. Faith in one self, faith in the world around us, and above all faith in God!"
4. Unfortunately, educators and leaders have helped make many people petrified of mistakes. The responsibility is also shared by a host of others - most of them well meaning parents, spouses, friends, religious authorities, co-workers and employers. However, in order to succeed, people should not be afraid to make errors. They must actually make hundreds of mistakes fearlessly as part of the process of learning. Why do we hesitate to go back in time and attempt to learn from our own failures? The short answer is, because it can be painful. It takes a certain level of understanding and self confidence to examine our own mistakes as these are the learning experiences that propel people towards success. One cannot buy or plan the kind of education the mistakes and failures provide. Rejoice in your mistakes and celebrate as you gain experience 'the hard way' and imbibe the valuable life lessons.



- 2.1 On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it using heading and subheadings. Also use recognizable abbreviations, wherever necessary (Minimum 4). Supply a suitable title. (5)
- 2.2 Write a summary of the above passage in 60-80 words. (3)

**SECTION – 'B' (WRITING SKILLS)**

**(20 Marks)**

3. You are Deepak / Dipti, the School Captain. The Principal has permitted you to organize a class picnic to Surajkund / Badhkal Lake under the supervision of your class teacher. Write a notice for the school notice board giving necessary details and inviting the names of those who would like to join the picnic. (4)

OR

You are Shirish Sharma of 47, Mall Road, Simla. With seven years of experience as an expert executive, you now seek an immediate change to some prestigious export house in Mumbai. Draft a suitable advertisement for the same for a national daily.

4. You are Mohan / Mahima, a student of class X in ABC Sr. Secondary School, New Delhi. Write a letter to the Principal, requesting him to open a Career Counseling Centre in the school, to guide the students in the choice of subjects in class XI and to give other valuable guidelines. (6)

OR

You are Anu Mehra, a resident of B Block, Sector 19, Noida. The residents are inconvenienced due to the frequent digging up of roads by various departments such as electricity, water supply, sewage, telephone etc. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily, highlighting the problem and suggesting remedial measures.

5. You are Naveen / Neha. The following headlines grab your attention and you wish to share your views on the prevalent problem of child labour. Write an article on the same in 150-200 words advocating a total ban on Child Labour. (10)

- Rescued from Child Labour

- Chennai Fisherman's Daughter Aces School Exams

- 63 Children rescued from Food Products Manufacturing Unit in Hyderabad

- Children Need to Learn, Not Earn

OR

You are Ankit / Ankita. You have to deliver a speech on the topic "Education Gives One Power" in your school assembly on the occasion of World Literacy Day. Draft the speech in 150-200 words.

**SECTION – 'C' (GRAMMAR)**

**(10 Marks)**

6. The following passage has not been edited. Edit and write the corrections : ( $\frac{1}{2} \times 8 = 4$ )

	<u>Incorrect</u>	<u>Correct</u>
In the stressful 21 <sup>st</sup> century, it was imperative	was	is
that both parents work. In addition, a family feel	(a)	
a great need of luxuries like two or three cars,	(b)	
air conditioners in every room, expensive holidays,	(c)	
branded clothes or shoes. As a result, parents	(d)	
are in the rat race to earning more money and	(e)	
have little time for their children who feels denied.	(f)	
The damage be done when they try to	(g)	
compensate their involvement in parenting after	(h)	
showering expensive gifts on their kids.		

7. Read and transform the following sentences by choosing the correct option : ( $1 \times 3 = 3$ )

(a) When my uncle arrives tomorrow, I ..... my examination.

- (i) will write my exam
- (ii) should write my exam
- (iii) will be writing

(b) CLEAN CHIT FOR EXILED BCCI CHIEF :

- (i) The Supreme Court has given a clean chit to the sidelined BCCI President N Srinivasan.
- (ii) The Supreme Court will be giving a clean chit to the sidelined BCCI President N Srinivasan.
- (iii) The Supreme Court gave a clean chit to the sidelined BCCI President N Srinivasan.

(c) ....., he is not very popular.

- (i) Though he is very rich and clever.
- (ii) That he is very rich and clever.
- (iii) Since he is very rich and clever.



8. Look at the words and phrases given below. Rearrange them to form meaningful sentences : (1×3=3)

E.g. ensures/the whole/of/and is/the basis/discipline/order/universe

Discipline ensures order and is the basis of the whole universe.

- (a) all/of/life/scenario/the/existing/lacking/that/reveals/sadly/in/discipline/  
is/spheres
- (b) a/in/inculcates/discipline/and/duty/essential/of life/all/obedience/walks/us/  
of/sense/which is so/in
- (c) guidance/parents/proper/help/can/restore/counselling/discipline/teachers/  
and/by/and

**SECTION - 'D' (LITERATURE & LONG READING TEXT)** (30 Marks)

9. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow : (1×3=3)

*"And who art thou?" said I, to the soft falling shower,  
Which, strange to tell, gave me an answer, as here translated;  
"I am the Poem of the Earth", said the voice of the rain.*

- (a) What does the expression 'soft falling shower' suggest?
- (b) Explain: 'I am the Poem of the Earth'.
- (c) Explain the poetic device used in 'I am the Poem of the Earth'.

OR

*"A sweet face  
my mother's, that was before I was born.  
And the sea, which appears to have changed less,  
Washed their terribly transient feet."*

- (a) Name the poem and the poet.
- (b) Why is the reference to the sea significant?
- (c) Explain the poetic device used in the last line of the stanza.

10. Answer ANY THREE of the following questions in about 40-50 words each : (3×3=9)

- (a) 'A suspicious man would believe his eyes instead of his heart.' In what context was this observation made in the chapter 'The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse' ?
- (b) Describe the harrowing experience of the narrator as mighty waves struck the 'Wavewalker' on the evening of 2<sup>nd</sup> January.
- (c) "I stopped horrified. I was in a room I knew and did not know." Why did the author feel so ? (The Address)
- (d) The author's grandmother was a person of strong character. Substantiate. (The Portrait of a Lady)

11. The chapter 'We're Not Afraid to Die...if we can all be together' is a daring description of an adventurous voyage where the narrator, his family and the crew encounter danger boldly and fearlessly. Write an article in about 100 words, on the values which gave them strength and kept their spirits high. (6)

OR

'The Address' is a story of human predicament that follows war. Comment with special emphasis on the values and ethics essential in people going through the time of war.

12. 'The Ghost chuckled to himself and turned the corner; but no sooner had he done so, than, with a piteous wail of terror, he fell back and hid his blanched face in his long bony hands.'

Highlight the incident in 120-150 words when he was made to react like this and why did he do so ? (6)

13. Oscar Wilde presents a materialistic and rational American Stereotype in Mr. Otis. Elaborate his character traits in 120-150 words. (6)