

Sparsh Gayd
XI-A 37

HALF YEARLY EXAMINATIONS (2017-2018)
SUBJECT- ENGLISH CORE [SET-B]
CLASS- XI

TIME-3hrs.

F.M.100

General Instructions:

- 1) All the sections are compulsory.
- 2) Read the questions carefully and adhere to the word limit.
- 3) Do not answer the questions randomly. Attempt all the questions of one section before moving on to another section.
- 4) Do not write anything on the question paper.

Section A Reading Comprehension 20 Marks
Section B Writing 25Marks
Section C Grammar 10 Marks
Section D Text Books 45 Marks

SECTION A (READING)

1. Read the passage given below and answer the question that follow:- (12 Marks)

Life is an institution. We have a principal, God, who looks over the entire working of our life. He allots teacher, namely our parents, to guide us through this path. We learn lessons and it is up to us whether we want to pass or fail. Every morning we wake up and give a tick mark to the attendance file of our lives. The only difference in this school of life is you cannot play truant even for a day! Though from time to time one may doze off and not pay heed to the message that is being given to us. From the start my parents taught me and my sister to be good human beings first. Life has been kind, sometimes harsh but mostly fair. We make many mistakes, some of which we admit and others, we conceal. But now that I'm 22 years old, I can review every step taken by me. Think positive. Yes, it's that simple. Thoughts are actions. Imagine if there are a billion good thoughts, the universe will throw back a billion good actions, taking the final exam. I am not at all close to being perfect but I know I want to get near it. A perfect self, according to me.... is kind, compassionate, and empathetic one who sees the good in people and shares the good within themselves. The true test is for us to examine, and to be honest to ourselves before we give a tick mark to our answer sheets. I had a lot of questions ready, my doubt all written, point by point since I could not get the answer from my teachers I made an appointment with God. Doubts about life, love, death, fear, sorrow. I was angry. Why can't He guide us? God was there by my side, every minute, every step. Even though I haven't got all the answers I know I

will get them.... He will take me there, in my own time, the same way He has got me here, where I am now. Some say one should never pity nor envy anyone else..... and I am happy to be me. The first important teaching to learn, count your blessings. We all stand to be a little more aware about what life is really trying to teach us... and for some be aware that life is trying to teach us something. Money is like our grades in school... it helps us move to the next steps but after that, who remembers what we scored in maths in the third standard? People forget that when we die..... money does not come along with us. It becomes like our grades, we don't remember how much we earned or how much we lost. Families fight, friendships are ruined; parent child bonds are broken. Isn't that a waste..... why would anyone choose paper over love? Here's plea for whoever is reading thislet us all try and be the best pupils in this school called life. Be truelove not only others but also yourself . Love God wholeheartedly because that's all He wants, and you know what they say. "Be in his good books and you will go to the head of the class."

- A) Choose the correct option :- 1
- a) All our questions can be answered by
(i) Parent (ii) Friends (iii) God (iv) Ourselves
- b) We can be good pupils by :- 1
(i) Loving ourselves (ii) Loving others
(iii) Both a and b (iv) Only a

B) Answer the following questions :- 2 x 4 = 8

- (c) How is God equal to a principal?
- (d) What is the difference between life at school and school of life?
- (e) Why are good thoughts compared to good actions?
- (f) 'Money is like our grades in school.' 'Explain'?
- (g) Pick out a word similar in meaning to:- Correct/right. 1
- (h) Pick out a word opposite in meaning to:- uncover 1

2. Read the following passage and make a note of the following :-

(8 marks)

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, nervousness there are umpteen excuses to justify mistakes. However major decisions like relocations of home of 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 room for hope?

3. 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, if 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.

4. Nature abounds in examples of flexibility and relocation in case of birds and beasts. Scientific research in the behaviour 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 to group bonding and cooperation; and to explore the beauty of new space and better environment.

5. To the weak, problems are stumbling blocks, to the brave, they are stepping stones. An untimely resignation or termination letter is certainly traumatic and disturbing. But think of 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's self, faith in the world around us, and above all faith in God!"

(A) 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 Marks)

- (B) Write a summary of the above passage in your own words. (3 Marks)

SECTION B (WRITING)

3. Design a poster on 'Educate the girl child' 4
4. Write an article for your school magazine in about 150-200 words on the 'Hazards of Polythene Bags'. You are Amit / Amita. (10)
5. You are Rupa/Ranjit, living in Bangalore. While going through a magazine, you come across an advertisement on destitute children. Your heart goes out to the hundreds of destitute children who are denied the pleasures of life. Write a letter to the editor of a renowned daily expressing your views. (10)

SECTION C (GRAMMAR)

6. The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correct word in the answer sheet against the correct blank number. 4

	Wrong	correct
"Either you or your friend Shalu have stolen my note	(a)
book", shouted Shreya. Neither I nor my friend were	(b).....
your culprit, said Shalu. We both are not in the class since	(c)
morning. We are out for the annual day function.	(d)
But who are the culprit then? asked Shreya.	(e)
I don't know that but we both were not guilty.	(f)
Shreya was not convince with Shalu's explanation	(g)
and so stop talking with her.	(h)

7. Fill in the following blanks with suitable modals: (½ x 6 = 3)

1. He said that he go as soon as it was possible.
2. You..... rather read a novel than watch that stupid movie.
3. you mind lending me your pen for a minute?
4. If I..... fly like a bird, Ihave been with you now.
5. Till last year, I read without glasses.

8. Rearrange the following into meaningful sentences: (1 x 3 = 3)

1. time /did /much/ the/ you/ yesterday/ spend/ how/ in/ library/
2. song / in/ beginning/ the/ a/ lovely/ the/ sang/ of/ school/ we/ played / and
3. park/ I/ go/ the/ meet/ friends/ to/ and /my/ tomorrow/ will/

SECTION D (LITERATURE)

9. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: 4

"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 Earth, said the voice of the rain,
Eternal I rise impalpable out of the land and the bottomless sea."

1. Who is 'I' in the first line?
2. What is the poetic device used in the third line?
3. Why does the rain call itself 'The poem of the earth'?
4. Why is the rain impalpable?

10. Answer the following in 30-40 words: (any 5) 3 x 5 = 15

1. Explain "Both wry with a labored ease of loss"
2. What reasons did the head teacher give for expelling Albert from school?
3. 'The narrator's grandmother could never have been pretty but she was always beautiful', explain.
4. How did Sue try to enliven the gloomy atmosphere?
5. What were the narrator's view about stealing?
6. Why did the narrator decide to leave Mrs. Dorling's house without taking the things?

11. Answer any one of the following in 120-130 words: 8

From a foster mother in the village to a lonely old lady in the city..... describe the grandmother's journey.

OR

How does the story "we're not afraid to die...." suggest that optimism helps endure 'direst stress'?

12. Answer any one of the following:

6

What kind of a family did Aram and Maurad come from? Do you think they possessed the families' special traits?

OR

Why was Albert miserable at school? What was his theory of education?

13. Answer the following in detail (NOVEL)

(6 x 2 = 12 Marks)

- i) Describe the role of twins in driving the ghost to a depressed state of mind in 130 words.
- ii) What role does Virginia play in the novel? (130 words)