



**INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR**  
**ENGLISH CORE**

**CLASS-XII**

**SAMPLE PAPER: 2020-21**

**Max.Marks:80**

**Date-**

**Time: 3 Hrs**

***General Instructions:***

- (i) *This paper is divided into two parts: A and B*

<i>Reading</i>	<i>20 marks</i>
<i>Writing</i>	<i>16 marks</i>
<i>Literature</i>	<i>44 marks</i>
- (ii) *All questions are compulsory.*
- (iii) *Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.*
- (iv) *Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*

**PART- A- (40 Marks)**  
**READING (20 marks)**

**1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions by selecting the correct answer from the options given below: **10 marks****

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a severe anxiety disorder that affects millions of people around the world. Individuals can develop PTSD after experiencing any event that results in psychological trauma. Symptoms of PTSD involve flashbacks to the traumatic event, nightmares, obsessive behavior, anger, insomnia, difficulty concentrating, and hypervigilance. Individuals who suffer from PTSD can experience significant difficulties in social relationships, have lower self-esteem, and have trouble maintaining employment. People with PTSD experience a higher risk of committing suicide, developing a drug addiction, and suffering from alcoholism. Although PTSD can affect any individual, military veterans are especially susceptible to this debilitating affliction. Furthermore, within this population, women are more than twice as likely as men to develop PTSD. Studies have also shown that former service women who do develop PTSD experience more severe symptoms than their male counterparts. Recent changes made by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs have improved treatment options for female veterans living with PTSD, but there is still more that needs to be done.

Although studies investigating precisely why women are more likely than men to experience PTSD have not yet been completed, some experts have theorized that low unit cohesion is a major factor. Unit cohesion, defined as the mutual bonds of friendship and support among members of a military

unit, is thought to be helpful in reducing the incidence of developing PTSD. According to recent surveys compiled by U.S. Army researchers, increased unit cohesion emerged as the most important factor determining whether soldiers developed suicidal thoughts. Women are more likely than men to experience low unit cohesion for a variety of reasons. One of the most obvious factors is the relative paucity of females in the military; currently, women make up only 20% of the armed forces. Pervasive male prejudice against women is another factor that can diminish unit cohesion for female soldiers. Because women are less likely than men to experience unit cohesion while serving in the military, women are less likely to develop the social support structures that will help prevent them from developing PTSD, depression, or other serious mental health problems.

Another issue at play is the stigma amongst military personnel that asking for help for mental health issues makes one “weak.” A recent Department of Defense study of returning combat troops shows that only 1 in 6 veterans acknowledged themselves to be suffering from symptoms of PTSD, and 3 out of 5 veterans were convinced that their comrades and commanding officers would lose confidence in them if they sought treatment for mental health issues. For women, this hesitation to self-identify as a sufferer of PTSD could be even greater; historically, female soldiers have struggled to be counted as equals to men on the battlefield. Women, stereotypically considered to possess less emotional fortitude than men, may be unwilling to admit that they are suffering from PTSD lest they appear to conform to this stereotype. Unfortunately for those who do not seek help, when PTSD goes untreated it is very likely to worsen over time.

Another challenge is that until very recently, treatment for PTSD has been more difficult for women than men to obtain. Before rule changes were enacted in 2010, only veterans who encountered direct combat experience qualified to receive disability payments for PTSD. Because very few women are placed on the front lines, very few were eligible to receive free treatment for PTSD. However, recent regulation changes have ended these stipulations, allowing women who serve in any capacity to be eligible for benefits.

Even if female veterans are eligible for these benefits, the quality of the care a wartime PTSD sufferer receives can vary widely. The United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) pays disability benefits to service men and women who have been diagnosed with PTSD and also provides these individuals with free health care. But while mental health counseling that comes directly from VA doctors is completely free to veterans, there are often long waiting lists for those who need to be evaluated or treated. Therapy provided by non-VA professionals may not be covered by health insurance. Access to mental health professionals who have been specially trained to treat wartime PTSD is often difficult for those not living near major urban centers. Perhaps the biggest impediment to achieving quality treatment for women suffering from wartime PTSD is a lack of research. While both the VA and independent agencies have completed hundreds of studies researching the prevention of and treatment for PTSD amongst general military populations, there have been no studies completed that solely target women. Before adequate care can be provided, there must be greater understanding about the root causes of this issue as it affects women specifically. On both the research level and the policy level, more must be done to help the women who have sacrificed so much for their country.

**1. On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer ANY TEN questions from below by choosing the best option. (1x10=10marks)**

**a) The primary purpose of the passage is to**

- (i) explain why military veterans are more likely than civilians to develop PTSD

- (ii) persuade government officials to increase funding for PTSD treatment centers in non-urban areas
- (iii) denounce the United States military for the way they have handled veterans' mental health problems
- (iv) educate readers about the problem of insufficient treatment available for female veterans with PTSD

**b) According to the passage, all of the following are reasons why females develop PTSD more frequently than males except**

- (i) women experience lower unit cohesion than men
- (ii) women can face negative stereotypes in the military
- (iii) Women are more likely than men to suffer from depression
- (iv) males in the military greatly outnumber females

**c) As used in paragraph 2, which is the best antonym for paucity?**

- (i) certainty
- (ii) audacity
- (iii) deference
- (iv) abundance

**d) Based on information in the passage, it can be inferred that negative stereotypes about women in the military contribute to their increased likelihood to develop PTSD in which of the following ways?**

- I. Some male members of the armed forces subscribe to negative stereotypes about women; this prejudice may prevent women from forming close bonds with their units.
- II. Women may be less likely than men to admit to suffering from PTSD because they do not want to conform to stereotypes that portray women as weak.
- III. Women are aware of the negative stereotypes that pervade the military. This awareness may lead to a reduction in self-esteem.
- IV. (i) I only            (ii). II only            (iii). I and II only            (iv). II and III only

**e) Based on information in the passage, which of the following statements best reflects the author's opinion about the mental health care provided for female veterans?**

- (i) Although the VA has not done nearly enough, state and independent agencies have made up for government deficiencies.
- (ii) The government has done almost nothing to help; the way we treat our female veterans is a national disgrace.
- (iii) Because service women are more likely than service men to develop PTSD, mental health care has been better for female veterans.
- (iv) The amount of care provided has improved over the past few years, but it is still insufficient.

**f) Which of the following pieces of evidence, if true, would best strengthen the author's argument in paragraph 5?**

- (i) Since 2001, when operations in Iraq and Afghanistan began, more than 230,000 women have served in the United States Military.
- (ii) Studies have shown that those who receive therapy for PTSD are less likely to commit suicide and develop substance abuse problems.
- (iii) Women are 50% more likely to experience sexual assault while deployed than men.

- (iv) Although experts now argue that intensive cognitive therapy is more effective at treating wartime PTSD than prescription drugs, most mental health professionals are trained only to offer pharmaceutical solutions for PTSD.

**g) In paragraph 5, the author writes: “Access to mental health professionals who have been specially trained to treat wartime PTSD is often difficult for those not living near major urban centers.” Which of the following conjunctions, used at the beginning of this sentence, would best clarify the sentence’s role in the paragraph?**

- (i) Furthermore
- (ii) Incidentally
- (iii) Although
- (iv) Nevertheless

**h) Based on information in the passage, it can be inferred that the author is most likely someone who**

- (i) does not believe women should be allowed to serve in the military
- (ii) is a mental health care professional
- (iii) has conducted studies on PTSD among veterans
- (iv) believes that advocating for others can lead to change

**i. Find the word from the passage which means the same as ‘state of pain’ para 1.**

- (i) affliction
- (ii) comfort
- (iii) blessing
- (iv) solace

**j. Find the word from the passage which means the same as ‘togetherness’ para 2.**

- (i) unsteadiness
- (ii) cohesion
- (iii) disobedience
- (iv) inconstancy

**k. Find the word from the passage which means the same as ‘obstruction’ para 5**

- (i) benefit
- (ii) assistance
- (iii) incentive
- (iv) impediment

**2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions by selecting the correct answer from the options given below: 10 marks**

1. In my most frustrated moments of navigating chaotic Delhi traffic, I close my eyes in the back seat and imagine what it would be like if someday just a thought would transport me from one place to another.

2. At times, sitting relaxed on my terrace, I look at the green tree tops that I see every day and wonder if some day, just with the power of my thoughts I would be able to create the image of the most vivid blue ocean and a sandy beach in front of me? Then having had enough of that, could my thoughts switch the scene to that of snowy mountain peaks?

3. Just thinking of these seemingly impossible things gives me a sense of well-being, because I do believe that if you can think it, you can will it and achieve it. If it occurs as a thought, it is possible to fructify as reality. After all, everything big started with a thought. Looking at birds flying freely in the sky, humans must have thought of the possibility of flying centuries before

the invention of aero planes. The tallest skyscraper, the longest bridge across the ocean, the fastest train, the internet, cellphones-all are the end result of one thought.

4. As technology advances and we become more confident in our abilities to transform thoughts to reality, the gap between the ideas and implementation keeps shrinking. Today one of the biggest thrills of living is watching impossible-seeming thoughts turn to reality within one's lifetime!

5. If with the power of his 'big thought' Donald Trump becomes the President of the USA, what then is impossible? As he says in his book, 'Think Like a Billionaire', "I like thinking big. To me it is very simple. If you're going to be thinking anyway, you might as well think big."

6. True. None of the big achievements or discoveries in life happened by thinking small. To achieve big stuff, you have to think big. Most people avoid thinking big because of laziness, fear of extra work and the instinct to stay unnoticed – and hence out of trouble. A large part of the workforce just wants to do their designated work and get done with it.

7. And then there are those who let their own small success become the enemy of possible bigger success, later. Sitting back to celebrate a small achievement, they underestimate their own potential. Whoever said that aspirations or possibilities have any limitations? The most pleasurable moments can be spent imagining what seems the impossible – Come on, let your imagination run wild! Believe in yourself and your thoughts. Some of the tips Donald Trump shares to mould yourself to think big are, "Walk softly but carry a big attitude, conquer your doubts and ditch them; be proud of your big ego, and get into the habit of speaking your mind."

8. The power of thought is a form of energy that is impervious to time, space or present reality. It is important to hone and direct your thoughts towards bigger and better, impossible-to-imagine things. What you believe about yourself and what you believe about possibilities is crucial to not just what you become, but also critical to the world as we all experience it – now and in the future.

9. Dreams and thoughts must rule free without any limitations. Thoughts have to reach beyond and encompass the impossible, the unthinkable, the weird, the unheard-of and the shocking. Think beyond the realms of possibility and then aim to get there. Once there, think much beyond that possibility too. And then get going once again.

**2. Answer ANY TEN questions from the following by choosing the most appropriate option from the given ones: (1x10= 10 marks)**

**(a) ..... make(s) living more thrilling in modern times.**

- (i) Big thoughts
- (ii) Watching impossible-seeming thoughts turn to reality within one's life time
- (iii) Thinking small
- (iv) All of these

**(b) The passage suggests that .....**

- (i) one should stop after making a seemingly-impossible, possible
- (ii) dreams and thoughts should have limitations
- (iii) one should continue to think big forever
- (iv) time, space and present reality affect the power of thought

**(c) ..... stop(s) people from achieving big.**

- (i) Avoiding thinking big
- (ii) Sitting back to celebrate small success
- (iii) Underestimating their potential
- (iv) All of these

**(d) The author's wish list does not include .....**

- (i) just a thought transporting her from one place to another
- (ii) creating the image of blue ocean in front of her
- (iii) switching the blue ocean image into that of snowy mountain peaks
- (iv) feeling frustrated while navigating chaotic Delhi traffic

**(e) 'Potential' in para 7 means .....**

- (i) ideas
- (ii) qualities that can be developed
- (iii) winning a game
- (iv) important thoughts

**(f) 'Impervious' in para 8 means .....**

- (i) not affected by something
- (ii) affected by time
- (iii) static
- (iv) that can be changed

**(g) Most people avoid thinking big because of laziness, fear of extra work and the instinct to stay unnoticed.**

[True/False]

**(h) You should think beyond the realms of impossibility and then aim to get there.**

[True/False]

**(i) Find the word/phrases in the passage which mean the same as 'qualities and abilities' (Para 7)**

- (i) impervious (ii) potential (iii) limitations (iv) encompass

**(j) Find the word/phrases in the passage which mean the same as 'include, cover' (Para 9)**

- (i) implementation (ii) encompass (iii) transform (iv) potential

**(k) As ..... advances, we become more confident in our abilities to transform thoughts to reality.**

- (i) thoughts (ii) aims (iii) dreams (iv) technology

### LITERATURE (20 marks)

**3. Read the extracts given below and attempt any two by answering the questions that follow:**

**(2x4=8 marks)**

**(A)** *M. Hamel went on to talk of the French language, saying that it was the most beautiful language in the world the clearest, the most logical; that we must guard it among us and never forget it, because when a people are enslaved, as long as they hold fast to their language it is as if they had the key to their prison. Then he opened a grammar and read us our lesson. I was amazed to see how well I understood it. All he said seemed so easy, so easy!*

1. Who is 'I' referred to here?

- (a) Franz
- (b) Villager
- (c) Prussian
- (d) The new teacher

2. 'Key to their prison', explain the phrase.

- (a) Key to the Alsac prison

- (b) escape from the slavery/bondage
- (c) escape from learning French
- (d) escape from the school/learnin

3. "I was amazed to see how well I understood it". Why does he feel so?

- (a) that day he paid attention to the lesson
- (b) that day was the last lesson
- (c) that day he studied the lesson
- (d) all of the above

4. The story 'The Last Lesson' highlights which human tendency?

- (a) Male Chauvinism
- (b) Procrastination
- (c) Courage
- (d) Cowardice

**(B)** *Under an ancient arrangement, the Champaran peasants were sharecroppers. Rajkumar Shukla was one of them. He was illiterate but resolute. He has come to the Congress session to complain about the injustice of the landlord system in Bihar, and somebody had probably said, "Speak to Gandhi."*

1. Where is Champaran district situated?

- (a) in the south-west plains of Orissa
- (b) in the foothills of the Himalayas in Bihar
- (c) in the northeast coast of Orissa
- (d) in the south of Bihar

2. What did the British landlords want from the peasants after synthetic indigo was developed?

- (a) indigo as rent
- (b) 15% of produce
- (c) money as compensation
- (d) a new settlement

3. Indigo is an excerpt from which book of the author?

- (a) Men and Politics
- (b) Life of Lenin
- (c) The Life of Mahatma Gandhi.
- (d) None

4. 'Resolute' here means\_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) Determined
- (b) Brave
- (c) Privileged
- (d) oppressed

**(C)** *Thrice he'd escaped from prison, and but for the recent wave of unrest in the maximum-security establishments up north, he wouldn't now be gracing the Governor's premises in Oxford; and the Governor was going to make absolutely certain that he wouldn't be disgracing them. Not that Evans was a real burden: just a persistent, nagging presence.*

1. Evan wanted to appear in 'O' Level \_\_\_\_ Examination
  - (a) French
  - (b) Italian
  - (c) Spanish
  - (d) German
2. What kind of a person was Evans?
  - (a) Kleptomaniac
  - (b) pleasing personality and a tendency to mislead
  - (c) stealing habit
  - (d) All these
3. 'nagging'; here means
  - (a) Oppressing
  - (b) Irritating
  - (c) Repeating
  - (d) Embarrassing
4. 'Evans Tries an O Level is a \_\_\_\_ the criminal and the jail authorities
  - (a) the narration of
  - (b) satire of
  - (c) battle of wits between
  - (d) tragic conflict between

**4. Read the extracts given below and attempt any one by answering the questions that follow:** **(1x4= 4 marks)**

(A) ".....She

looked but soon

put that thought away, and

looked out at Young

Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling  
out of their homes,"

1. The person in the car, beside the poetess, was,

- (a) her aunt
- (b) her niece
- (c) her uncle
- (d) her mother

2. 'Trees sprinting' is a poetic device. It is

- (a) personification
- (b) alliteration
- (c) repetition
- (d) simile

3. Find words from the passage which mean: 'running fast'

- (a) moving out.
- (b) sprinting
- (c) merry
- (d) spilling

4. Which Rhyme scheme is used in the poem?

- (a) coupled rhyme



- (b) mono rhyme
- (c) Alternate rhyme
- (d) free verse

**OR**

(B) “When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie  
Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by.  
The tigers in the panel that she made  
Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.”

1. The poem ‘Aunt Jennifer’ is written by
  - (a) Elizabeth Arden
  - (b) Adrienne Rich
  - (c) Kamla Das
  - (d) Sarojini Naidu
2. ‘Still ringed’ means
  - (a) oppression will continue
  - (b) too many rings on her fingers
  - (c) ring of the bell
  - (d) quiet and peaceful
3. The attitude of the poet towards Aunt Jennifer is that of
  - (a) hatred
  - (b) love
  - (c) sympathy
  - (d) casual
4. What is the aunt afraid of?
  - (a) her husband’s domination
  - (b) the bold tigers prancing
  - (c) Uncle’s death
  - (d) Her inability to sew

**5. Answer any eight questions from the following by choosing the most appropriate option from the given ones: (1x8= 8marks)**

1. What does M. Hamel’s motionless posture reflect?
  - (a) the school is dismissed
  - (b) sense of finality
  - (c) changing order of life
  - (d) feeling of nostalgia
2. The misadventure at the Y.M.C.A pool happened when
  - (a) Douglas was accompanied by friends
  - (b) he was with his father
  - (c) he was alone
  - (d) he was with his mother
3. What happened when Gandhi visited the secretary of British landlord’s association?
  - (a) the secretary proceeded to bully him
  - (b) the secretary advised him forthwith to leave Tirhut

- (c) the secretary said that they could not give any information to an outsider  
(d) the secretary was very helpful
4. The poet talks about 'grandeur'. Whose grandeur is he talking about?  
(a) dooms of mighty dead  
(b) tombs of our ancestors  
(c) grand palaces  
(d) grand towers
5. The American landlady had once helped Sadao when  
(a) she nursed him through influenza  
(b) she gave him food for a month  
(c) she had mended his clothes  
(d) had not taken rent for a month
6. 'Should Wizard hit mommy?' is a \_\_\_\_ within a story.  
(a) story  
(b) digression  
(c) metaphor  
(d) moral
7. The names of the officers who visited Evans before the examination were \_\_\_\_  
(a) Jackson and Stephens  
(b) Jackson and Bell  
(c) Jackson and Carter  
(d) Carter and Bell
8. Shakespeare is wicked because he \_\_\_\_\_ the children.  
(a) educates  
(b) tempts  
(c) loves  
(d) hates
9. 'Cold sea' is a poetic device  
(a) personification  
(b) transferred epithet  
(c) metaphor  
(d) alliteration
10. What kind of a moment would it be when everyone is silent  
(a) terrible  
(b) painful  
(c) exotic  
(d) unforgettable

**PART- B- (40 Marks)**

**WRITING (16 marks)**

**6. Attempt any one of the following in 50 words (3marks)**

**(A)** Your school is organizing a SPICMACAY programme on the occasion of the World Dance Day wherein the renowned Bharatanatyam dancer, Geeta Chandran would be giving a lecture demonstration. As the President, Cultural Society of your school, draft a notice in about 50 words, informing the students about the same. You are Rakhsita/Rohit of MVN Public School.

OR

(B) You are the Dean, Admissions, MNT Professional College, Chandigarh. Draft an advertisement in about 50 words giving information about admission to undergraduate courses offered by your College. Include all relevant details.

**7. Attempt any one of the following in 50 words (3marks)**

(A) You are the President, Literary Society of Sunshine International School. Draft an invitation to author, Ms Manjul Bajaj requesting her to conduct a workshop on creative writing in your school. You are Romi/Rohit of Zenith Public School.

OR

(B) Draft a formal reply expressing your inability to attend the inauguration of the showroom 'Regalia' on Sunday, the 20th July 20XX, at 11 a.m. at B-12, Rohini. You are Navin Jain of C-5, G.K.J, New Delhi and your friend is G.L. Bansal of 23, Sunder Nagar, New Delhi.

**8. Attempt any one of the following in 102-150 words (5 marks)**

(A) You are Navtej/Navita, Secretary, Environment Club, Akash Public School, Agra. You, along with a group of students, went on a 3-day tour through Corbett National Park. You found how the tourists abuse the available facilities and thus endanger the environment. Write a letter in 120-150 words to the editor of a national daily highlighting the situation.

OR

(B) You see a classified advertisement in the newspaper inviting applications for the post of a Sales Executive in a reputed bank. Write a letter with bio-data in about 120-150 words to the HR Manager, HABC Bank, Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi, applying for the post advertised. You are Avani/Aviral of 120, Kirti Nagar, Delhi.

OR

**9. Attempt any one of the following in 120-150 words. (5marks)**

(A) 5<sup>th</sup> June has been recognized as World Environment Day. Your school conducted various activities to commemorate the day. Write a report about it in about 150-200 words for your school magazine. You are Karuna/Karan.

OR

(B) On the occasion of Earth Day you participated in various eco-friendly campaigns initiated by your school. Write an article in about 150-200 words for your school magazine giving details of these campaigns and the impact on you. You are Akshay/ Akshita of Brightland Public School

**LITERATURE (24 marks)**

**10. Answer any five questions from the following in 30-40 words each: (2X5=10 marks)**

- How and why was M. Hamel dressed differently that day?
- Mention any two long term consequences of the drowning incident on Douglas.
- How did Mahatma Gandhi uplift the peasants of Champaran?
- What is the poet talking about in the poem 'Keeping Quiet'?
- What are the flowery bands that bind us to the earth according to Keats?
- Why does the speaker call Shakespeare wicked and the map a bad example?

**11. Answer any two questions from the following in about 30 -40 words each:(2X2=4marks)**

- "But Sadao searching the spot of black in the twilight sea that night, had his reward". What was the reward?
- How does Evans escape from the jail?
- Why did Roger Skunk go to the wizard?

**12. Answer any one of the following questions in about 120-150 words: (5X1=5marks)**

(A) Do the poor have the right to dream? Why then does the author call Mukesh's dream 'a mirage'? Justify with reference to the lesson 'Lost Spring'.

**OR**

(B) Edla is able to bring about a change of heart in the peddler. Justify this with reference to the story, 'The Rattrap'. What qualities helped her bring about this transformation?

**13. Answer any one of the following in 100-120 words: (5X1=5 marks)**

(A) Mr. Lamb and Derry are two different sides of the same coin. Do you agree? Justify your answer with evidence from the text.

**OR**

(B) The modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry and stress. What are the ways in which we attempt to overcome them? (The Third Level)