

INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR
UNIT TEST - 1 (2023-2024)
CLASS XII – ENGLISH CORE

DATE :

MAX. MARKS : 30

TIME : 1 HR

SECTION A – READING (10 MARKS)

Q1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: (10 marks)

1. The analysis of handwriting has a long history—some say it goes back to Roman times. Modern graphology began early in the 19th century when French churchman Jean Hippolyte Michon created the first graphological “catalogue” examining, for example, where letters fall on the line, their shape and the pressure exerted.
2. Allan Conway, a professional graphologist for 12 years says, “Handwriting says more about you than many chosen words, simply because you cannot hide yourself in your handwriting—it’s not really your hand that’s writing, but your brain. It’s your personality frozen in ink.” Despite public skepticism, graphology plays a covert role in British management.
3. Many companies use it for executive recruitment and analysis. Graphology tells them about the candidates’ temperaments, highlighting both weaknesses and strengths. There are about 300 movements on an unlined A4 page of writing and students must find and interpret them all. He also needs to know three things about the writers: their sex, their age and if they are left or right-handed.
4. Then he looks for 16 dominant elements, including the size of the writing, the pressure, the speed and slant of the words, how connected the characters are as well as the form of the connections, the proportions of the “middle zone” (covered by small letters such as “o” and “n”) and “upper” and “lower” zones (where letters extend up or down, as with “d” or “p”), and the rhythm and regularity of writing. “But there is one golden rule,” Rees says, “No single sign on its own must ever be taken to mean anything.”
5. The principles, according to Conway, are straightforward. The baseline—whether the writing goes straight across the page or slants up and down—helps to determine the writer’s state of mind. A very upward baseline shows a creative, ambitious and outgoing person. A slightly downward one can reveal dissatisfaction or unhappiness though it could simply be a sign of fatigue. “A sharp downward baseline usually indicates serious problems or illness, probably emotional”, says Conway, “while a straight one is an excellent sign of emotional stability. An irregular baseline can mean an excitable writer with poor self- discipline.”
6. The way letters are formed and connected is important: a writer with angular letters, for example, is often persistent and decisive. Arched letters suggest the writer is

reluctant to express emotions freely and may appear cold. Where the bottoms of letters are curved like a cup the writer is likely to be open to the world and at ease. And writing with letters threaded—connected together as if by a length of cotton—can indicate speed or laziness.

7. The more connected the letters, the more co-ordinated the patterns of thought. Character size can also be significant. Larger letters tend to suggest vitality, enterprise and self-reliance, while small letters can reveal a lack of self-confidence, but are also found in fields of research where concentration and exactness are necessary. The slant of a person's writing indicates their emotional make-up. Where all the letters are vertical the writer is likely to be someone uncomfortable in groups. For right-handers, left-word slant shows introversion while rightward slant reveals someone outgoing, friendly and ambitious. A constantly varying slant betrays an unpredictable personality.
8. The spacing between words points to the writer's organizational abilities: wide spacing suggests individuality, extravagance, self-confidence and sociability. Even the colour of ink a person chooses can be telling. Blue may indicate someone with no desire to be exceptional or pretentious, green likes to impress and red to shock. Brown is often used by people who work in high-security jobs, able to keep secrets, while black shows a demanding or forceful character who wants to make an impression.

A. Choose the most appropriate option: (1 x 4 = 4 marks)

(a) The upward baseline proves that the person is.....

1. creative
2. ambitious
3. outgoing
4. all of the above

(b) The letters small in size reveal that the writer may be.....

1. a researcher
2. confident
3. arrogant
4. humble

(c) The spacing between words reveals.....

1. the writer's organisational abilities
2. the writer's predicament
3. the writer's grief
4. the writer's delight

(d) An irregular baseline can mean.....

1. forceful character
2. exceptional talents
3. poor self discipline
4. oratorical abilities

B. Answer the following questions briefly as directed: (1 x4 =4)

- (a) Graphology is the
- (b) British management uses graphology to
- (c) What helps us to determine the writer's state of mind?.
- (d) Angular letters reveal that

C. Find words in the passage similar in meaning as: (1 x 2 = 2)

- (a) prominent, very important (para 4)
- (b) an excessive outlay of money (para 8)

SECTION B – WRITING (5 MARKS)

Q2. On behalf of Mr and Mrs V.K. Mehra, draft a printed invitation card for the marriage of their daughter Prabha with Mayank (S/o Mr & Mrs L.K. Dhingra of Faridabad). Give other details such as date, time and venue. (Word limit- 50 words) (5 marks)

OR

Send a formal invitation to Shree. K.B. Vaid, noted novelist and educationist, to speak on 'The importance of devotion, dedication and discipline' in the Value Education Club of your school. You are the Head boy/ Head Girl of Tagore Vidyaniketan, Bangalore. (5 marks)

SECTION C – LITERATURE (15 MARKS)

Q3. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: (4X1=4 marks)

*“Driving from my parent’s
home to Cochin last Friday
morning, I saw my mother,
beside me,
doze, open mouthed, her face
ashen like that
of a corpse and realized with pain
that she was as old as she
looked but soon
put that thought away...”*

1. Choose the option that best applies to the given extract.
 - 1) a conversation
 - 2) an argument

- 3) a piece of advice
- 4) a strategy
- 5) a recollection
- 6) a suggestion

- a) 1, 3 & 6
- b) 2, 4 & 5
- c) Only 5
- d) Only 1

2. Choose the option that applies correctly to the two statements given below.

Assertion: The poet wards off the thought of her mother getting old quickly.

Reason: The poet didn't want to confront the inevitability of fate that was to dawn upon her mother.

- a) Assertion can be inferred but the Reason cannot be inferred.
- b) Assertion cannot be inferred but the Reason can be inferred.
- c) Both Assertion and Reason can be inferred.
- d) Both Assertion and Reason cannot be inferred.

3. The poem is in a single sentence punctuated only by commas. The poet wants to convey....

4. The speaker says that she soon "put that thought away". She did that by

- a) talking to her mother
- b) contrasting her mother's age to the little children playing
- c) by reaching the airport
- d) by looking out

Q4. Answer *any three* the following questions in 30-40 words each: (3X2=6 Marks)

- 1. What does the writer mean when she says, "Saheb is no longer his own master"?
- 2. Why did the booking clerk refuse to accept the money by stating "That ain't money, Mister"?
- 3. "We've all a great deal to reproach ourselves with." Why did M. Hamel blame the parents and himself too for not showing due attention and care to the learning of French?
- 4. How does Charley, the narrator, describe the third level at Grand Central Station?

Q5. Answer *any one* of the following questions: (1X5=5 Marks)

Why do you think that the third level was a medium of escape for Charley? What made him believe that he was actually standing at the third level? Give incidents from the text to support your answer.

OR

What is 'linguistic chauvinism'? Analyse the order from Berlin in this light and justify M. Hamel's views about French and the new-found love of the people towards their language?