



Indian School Al Wadi Al Kabir

MID TERM EXAMINATION 2024-25 COMMUNICATIVE ENGLISH SET - 1

Class: IX
Date: 19-09-2024

Time: 3 Hour
Max. Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. 15 minutes prior reading time allotted for Q-Paper reading.
2. The Question Paper contains FOUR sections- READING SKILLS, WRITING SKILLS, GRAMMAR and LITERATURE TEXT BOOK.
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION A: READING SKILLS (20 marks)

| 1. | Read the text carefully and answer the questions: | 10 M |
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| | <p>1. Floods are not new to India and this sub-continent, but in recent years the problem has received much greater attention perhaps largely because it has led to much greater damage than in the past. Even though information on the impending occurrence of floods is now more accurate and certainly more timely, yet there is very little time or support infrastructure in place by which damage can be minimized. This is particularly true in the case of flash floods resulting from sudden and excessively heavy rain.</p> <p>2. In the case of India, flood is very much a function of the seasonal nature of our rainfall. The monsoons spread over a short period during the year and often bring a concentrated volume of rain, which cannot be absorbed by the earth and finds outlet only in the form of streams that join up with our major river systems. But, flooding is not confined only to the main rivers of the country, often smaller tributaries and streams can cause heavy damage as well. Once these streams spill over their banks they could cause excessive harm, mainly because those living near the banks of these streams particularly in mountain areas do not have easy recourse to move away quickly.</p> <p>3. One major factor that could lead to a higher severity of flooding in the future is the danger of climate change. While the evidence of the nature of impacts resulting from climate change on precipitation and flooding at the regional level is not entirely clear, it might be possible that the Indian subcontinent witnesses and suffers the effects of a significantly changed pattern of monsoons. A team of scientists have estimated that the monsoons could be shorter in duration, but far more intensive. In other words, much greater precipitation would take place in a much shorter period of time, thereby increasing the danger of floods. Climate change is the result of human actions through the increased concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, of which carbon dioxide is the most prominent one.</p> <p>4. At the local level also human actions have heightened the danger of flood through the cutting of trees in the mountains as well as in the plains. In the case of India, the</p> | |

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| | ecological damage through deforestation of the Himalayas has led to large- scale erosion of the mountain slopes and high levels of siltation. This leads to deposition of silt on the riverbeds in the plains and hence spillover of water whenever the volume of water in the river reaches a certain level. With siltation on the river beds, flooding occurs even at very shallow water levels. | |
| Answer the following questions: | | |
| (i) | What harm has deforestation of the Himalayas caused? | |
| (ii) | <p>Increase in which human action has caused harm to the atmosphere?</p> <p>(a) usage of natural gas (b) cutting of plants in gardens (c) concentration of greenhouse gases (d) none of the above</p> | |
| (iii) | <p>What has heightened the danger of floods at the local level?</p> <p>(a) natural causes (b) human activity (c) weather and climate (d) animal behaviour</p> | |
| (iv) | A set of scientists has estimated that the monsoons could be shorter but _____ | |
| (v) | What is a problem for people residing in new flooding streams on mountains? | |
| (vi) | Flooding occurs even at the shallow level of river beds because of _____ | |
| (vii) | <p>What can ample time and good infrastructure support do?</p> <p>(a) politicise the situation (b) minimise the damage (c) maximise the benefits (d) classify the losses</p> | |
| (viii) | _____ happen as a result of sudden and excessive rainfall. | |
| (ix) | <p>The antonym of the word ‘recent’ in Para 1 is _____</p> <p>(a) last (b) former (c) modern (d) fresh</p> | |
| (x) | Which is the most prominent greenhouse gas that has played a major role in climate change? | |
| 2. | Read the text carefully and answer the questions: | 10 M |
| | The trunk sat in the middle of the living room on newspapers her mother had spread out to keep the dust off her carpets. They tried to force the lid open but no matter how they pulled or pried, it stayed stubbornly shut. | |

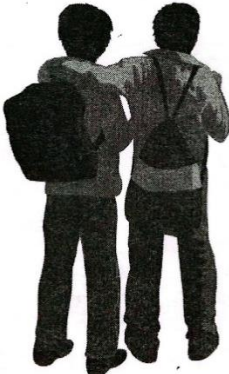
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| | <p>"There must be a way," Mom said. "There's no lock and no place to put a lock so the lock must be in the box itself." They wiped the box, getting every speck of dust and cobweb off it. Then they studied it from every direction.</p> <p>It wasn't a particularly beautiful box. It was longer than it was wide. It had a slightly rounded top. There were two ribs in the top. The sides were roughly carved with horses. "Interesting carvings," Gran said. "They show the integrity of the carver. There's no concern for the marketplace."</p> <p>"Folk art is in," Mom replied. "Hand-crafted. It should be worth quite a lot."</p> <p>Frances ran her fingers lightly over the horses. They were wonderful. No details, just the outline of horses running freely like unfettered spirits. The numbers, 1873, were not, as they'd first thought, part of the lid, but each number was fixed in place with a single brass bolt. The trunk had been painted blue and the numbers red. Now most of the paint had faded away.</p> <p>"We'll have another look at it in the morning," Mom finally said. "I need to put myself together."</p> <p>Frances woke up while it was still dark. She looked at her bedside clock. Four a.m. She lay in bed and listened to the waves on the beach. That was one of the best things about the cottage. She loved going to sleep to the sound of the waves and waking up to the sound of the waves.</p> <p>As she lay there, she could see the box, just as if it was sitting in front of her except that she was staring at the ceiling. She turned it around in her head, the way she could turn pictures of objects around on the computer.</p> <p>There was a mystery to it, and she loved mysteries. When she grew up, she thought she might be a detective or a coroner or an anthropologist someone who was always trying to find answers.</p> <p>"Why do you want to know the answers to everything?" her mother often chided her.</p> <p>"I don't know," Frances replied. "I just do. Questions need to be answered."</p> | |
| On the basis of your understanding of the passage above, answer the following questions: | | |
| (i) | Why did the mother believe that the box was worth a lot of money? | |
| (ii) | What do the 'interesting carvings' on the trunk indicate? | |
| (iii) | The figure of speech used in the expression 'horses running freely like unfretted spirits' is _____ | |
| (iv) | What is the similar characteristic found among a detective, a coroner and an anthropologist? | |
| (v) | <p>What had they thought first about the numbers 1873?</p> <p>(a) the year of manufacturing the box.</p> <p>(b) the year of transition to industrial capitalism</p> <p>(c) It was a part of the lid</p> <p>(d) It was the total number of brass bolts on the box</p> | |

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| (vi) | The idiomatic expression opposite to the meaning of the word 'chide' is _____ (a) to give someone a dressing down (b) give a talking to someone (c) to tell off someone (d) to go into rapture over someone | |
| (vii) | Pick out the odd one: Frances loved solving mysteries and so set her heart to be (a) a coroner (b) a detective (c) an undertaker (d) an anthropologist | |
| (viii) | Pick out the incorrect option: Mother and daughter duo found the firmly locked trunk to be particularly enchanting because- (a) of the carved horses on the sides of the trunk (b) the horses had intricate detailing and could be worth a lot (c) the carvings reflected the integrity of the carver (d) the carvings were minimalistic and represented folk art | |
| (ix) | Replace the underlined word in this statement with the correct synonym such that the meaning does not change: <i>They tried to force the lid open but no matter how they pulled or pried, it stayed <u>stubbornly</u> shut.</i> (a) inflexibly (b) determinedly (c) half-heartedly (d) firmly | |
| (x) | As used in the passage, which of the following sentences has the closest alternative to the word 'ribs'? (a) I ribbed him a bit about fumbling such an easy play. (b) These soft pointed handles have a diagonal rib swirled like ice cream in a cone. (c) The movie is a rib of the "dramatic love story" that was so popular in the 1950s. (d) The horse was so emaciated; you could count its ribs. | |

SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS (24marks)

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| 3. | You are Mahender/Mahima, Sports Captain, St. John's School, Lucknow. Write a notice in about 50-60 words for the school notice board informing the students about an Inter School Football match to be played in your school. Invite them to watch and cheer the teams. Put the notice in a box. | 4 |
| 4. | Complete the dialogue by choosing the appropriate option | 5 |
| | Father: Mohan, what do you have to say about your performance in Maths? Mohan: (1) _____. I thought that I would score better. Father: (2) _____? | |

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| | <p>Mohan: I did put in all my efforts. (3) _____.</p> <p>Father: Then there must be a problem in your concepts.</p> <p>Mohan: No, father. (4) _____.</p> <p>Father: Then you should learn to calm yourself before you begin. A bit of breathing exercises and a lot of practice will go a long way.</p> <p>Mohan: Thanks Papa! (5) _____.</p> <p>1. (a) I'm happy with my score.</p> <p>(b) I'm satisfied with my grades.</p> <p>(c) I'm sorry.</p> <p>2. (a) Didn't you practise harder?</p> <p>(b) I don't think that is enough.</p> <p>(c) That is a bad excuse.</p> <p>3. (a) I also prayed to God.</p> <p>(b) I even solved additional papers.</p> <p>(c) I sat for long tuition classes.</p> <p>4. (a) I got very nervous before the paper.</p> <p>(b) I wasn't in my luck.</p> <p>(c) I wrote the wrong paper.</p> <p>5. (a) That's great advice.</p> <p>(b) I don't think it will work.</p> <p>(c) I'll use that technique going forward.</p> | |
| 5. | Your father has sent a beautiful gift on your birthday from New York. Write a letter to him expressing your feelings of love and admiration for him. You are Sapna/Suraj, living at D-30, Saraswati Kunj, Chennai (120 words) | 7 |
| OR | | |
| | Your married sister Rachna lives in Mussoorie. You like this place very much. Write a letter to your sister informing her about your plan to visit her during your Winter break | |

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| | in the last week of December. You are Deepthi/Deepu living at 150-1 st floor, Dilshad Apartments, Delhi. | |
| 6. | <p>Write a paragraph on a person who is very near to your heart. Write about his or her qualities and behaviour. You can take the help from MCB Unit 'People' and the visual given below.</p>  | 8 |
| OR | | |
| | <p>Write a paragraph about your subject teacher. You may take help of the cues:</p> <p>Disciplinarian – strict – kind hearted – hard working – guides students in matters of career decisions – organises cultural events – promotes participation in debates and quizzes.</p> | |
| SECTION C: GRAMMAR (10 marks) | | |
| 7. | Complete the tasks, as directed. | 10 M |
| (i) | <p>Fill in the blanks (a)-(c) with the appropriate option from those in the brackets.</p> <p>Drug addiction (a) _____ (has become, became, will become) a serious problem and the reasons for it (b) _____ (is, are, will be) not difficult to find. The home environment (c) _____ (will, shall, is) a major contributory factor.</p> | 3 |
| (ii) | <p>Fill I the blanks with correct determiners.</p> <p>Today morning I saw an accident. (a) _____ (one/several) car drove into the back of (b) _____ (other/ another). Fortunately (c) _____ (neither/either) of the drivers were injured, nor the occupants, but (d) _____ (both/all) the cars were badly damaged.</p> | 4 |
| (iii) | <p>Identify the error and supply the corrections for the following questions</p> <p>(a) Practice make a man perfect</p> <p>(b) Actions speak loud than words</p> <p>(c) Every dark cloud have a silver lining</p> | 3 |

Use the following format to answer the questions:

| Question No. | Error | Correction |
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SECTION D: LITERATURE TEXT BOOK (26 marks)

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| 8. | Read the given excerpts and answer ANY TWO briefly. | 8 M |
| (i) | <p>“A voice so thrilling ne’er was heard In spring time from the Cuckoo bird Breaking the silence of the seas Among the farthest Hebrides”</p> | |
| (a) | Whose voice is being talked of? | 1 |
| (b) | In what season are cuckoos to be heard? | 1 |
| (c) | Another word meaning of ‘thrilling’ is _____? | 1 |
| (d) | Which word is associated with the rains in India? Why? | 1 |
| (ii) | <i>The professor answered with a phrase that was to become familiar to all of us. “No Sergeant. It’s all a matter of intelligent reading.”</i> | |
| (a) | Who is the professor? | 1 |
| (b) | What was the phrase that was to become familiar? | 1 |
| (c) | What is the opposite of the word ‘intelligent’? | 1 |
| (d) | <p>The term ‘intelligent reading’ in the passage indicates:</p> <p>(i) clever guesswork (ii) focused commonsense (iii) pertinent referencing</p> | 1 |
| (iii) | <i>Her husband couldn’t talk; he could only breathe and see and his vision was double.</i> | |
| (a) | Who is ‘her’ in this line? | 1 |
| (b) | Why could he only breathe and see? | 1 |
| (c) | Give a synonym of ‘vision’ as used in the passage? | 1 |
| (d) | What does ‘vision was double’ mean? | 1 |
| 9. | Answer any SIX of the following SEVEN questions in about 30-40 words. | 12 M |
| (i) | What kind of treatment did Private Quelch get from his colleagues? | 2 |
| (ii) | What is the theme of the novel ‘Kashi Yatre’? | 2 |
| (iii) | How was Marcy’s attitude towards Duke different at the end of the story from that of the beginning? | 2 |
| (iv) | What favour does the brook do for the lovers? | 2 |

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| (v) | What guesses does the poet make about the content of the reaper's song? | 2 |
| (vi) | What lesson does the poem give to its readers regarding the problem of decision making? | 2 |
| (vii) | In spite of being so knowledgeable, Quelch couldn't get the desired rank in the army. Why? | 2 |
| 10. | Answer ANY ONE of the following TWO questions in about 120 words. | 6 M |
| (i) | 'Education is important for everyone, whether young or old'. Discuss, with reference to 'How I Taught My Grandmother to Read.' | |
| (ii) | Dogs are commonly referred to as 'man's best friend.'-Discuss on the basis of the story 'A Dog Named Duke'. | |