



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

PRE-MIDTERM EXAMINATION (2024-25) ENGLISH REVISION PAPER

Class: VII
Date: 04.06.2024

Max Marks: 30
Time: 1 hour

General Instructions:

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. The question paper consists of four sections. Section A-Reading (10 marks), Section B – Grammar (5 marks), Section C- Writing (5 marks), Section D- Literature (10 marks).
3. Attempt one section at a stretch and then move to the next section.

SECTION A: READING (10 marks)

Q1. Read the given passage carefully and answer the following questions:

(5M)

(1) The conquest of the upper atmosphere and outer space would not have been possible without the endeavours made by adventurous balloonists. It took great courage for the first man to step into a tiny basket and rise high into the air.

(2) On 5 June 1783 the French paper makers Joseph-Michel Montgolfier and Jacques Etienne Montgolfier, built a large fire over which they placed a massive balloon of linen and paper. As soon as the air under the balloon got heated, it inflated and began to rise. The people who watched this fascinating feat were completely awestruck.

(3) On 9 September of the same year, the brothers launched yet another balloon. It was a brightly coloured one and the basket carried a duck, a rooster and a sheep. The balloon rose high into the air and landed back safely but when the balloon hit the ground, the sheep fell upon the rooster and broke one of its wings!

(4) Encouraged by the success of these two trips, on 21 November De Rozier and Marquis De Arlandes became the first two humans ever to travel in air. Their 25-minute flight covered approximately 9 kilometres and attained an altitude of 13,000 feet, before landing on the outskirts of Paris.

(5) One of the most daring and tragic flights was undertaken in 1927 by Captain Gray, an American flyer and scientist. On 4 November he went up into the atmosphere in an open gondola and a little later the ground crew lost sight of him. As he travelled higher and higher, he kept noting down how his body was reacting to the atmosphere. He wrote that he trembled at 10,000 feet and he was compelled to use his oxygen mask. When he sailed 31,000 feet above the sea level, the temperature dropped to minus 32 degrees centigrade. It was evident from his writings that his hands trembled and the mind became foggy. As the balloon soared even higher, Gray began losing consciousness and finally he pulled the valve cord before he breathed his last. The brave balloonist's balloon bag the gondola was found near Sparta. His barometer had last recorded a height of 44,000 feet.

A. Choose the best options to complete these statements.

(½ X6=3)

1. The pioneers of hot air ballooning

- a) was a British pilot.
- b) was an American scientist.
- c) were French paper makers.

- d) Were French scientists.
2. The first time when living things went up in a balloon was in
- a) 5 June 1783.
 - b) 21 November 1783.
 - c) 9 September 1783.
 - d) 4 November 1927.
3. The balloon that took the first humans into the atmosphere went up to the height of
- a) 31,000 feet.
 - b) 44,000 feet.
 - c) 3000 feet.
 - d) 13,000 feet.
4. At the height of 10,000 feet, Captain
- a) Gray lost consciousness.
 - b) sensed the lack of oxygen.
 - c) was unable to write anymore.
 - d) Started noting down how his body was reacting to the atmosphere.
5. Who were the first two humans to travel in the air?
- a) Joseph-Michel and Jacques Montgolfier
 - b) De Rozier and Marquis De Arlandes
 - c) Captain Gray
 - d) None of the above
6. Find a word from the passage which means the same as
- a) Achieved (para 4)
 - b) very impressed/amazed (para 2)

B. Answer the following questions.

(1x2=2)

1. Who undertook a daring flight in 1927, and what were some of the conditions they faced during the ascent?
2. What animals were onboard the second flight of the Montgolfier brothers' balloon, and what happened during the landing?

QII. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

(5M)

Herbert George Wells, an English author, was born in a lower-middle class family. His father, Joseph, was a shopkeeper and his mother, Sarah, was a lady's maid. He was born on 21 September 1886. The family lived over their shop in Bremley, Kent.

As a young boy, H G Wells struggled constantly to improve his position. He read whatever he could find and scholarships enabled him to study at London University from where he graduated with first class honours and a degree in science.

He and his wife, Catherine, started their married life with €50 between them. With Catherine's support and his own extraordinary vitality, Wells smoothened various difficulties out of his path and gained enormous success.

Catherine took charge of Wells's finances and ensured that he worked without any disturbance. She also did his typing, criticized or appreciated his work. She extended every help possible. When she died in 1927, Wells underwent a period of depression and it took him a while to get back to his writing.

The novel *The War of the Worlds* was turned into an American radio dramatization in October 1938. It frightened thousands of listeners because the invasion from Mars seemed so realistic. H G Wells wrote of space travellers, when the very idea seemed ridiculous. His half a dozen scientific novels foresaw the future and also carried a message for mankind.

Wells was a man of great moral and physical courage. During World War II, when many of his neighbours disappeared into the countryside, Wells refused to move out. He even defied superstitions by choosing the number 13 for his house while living at his country estate.

The most fascinating thing about Wells was that he did whatever he considered right. He once said, "I do not care whether I am crowned king or starving in the gutter - I follow my own leading." By his own leading he meant his own beliefs. He died in August 1946, at the age of 79.

A. Choose the best options to complete these statements.:

(½ X6=3)

1. How did H.G. Wells initially struggle to improve his position?
 - a) By working odd jobs
 - b) By studying diligently
 - c) By inheriting wealth
 - d) By engaging in business ventures

2. Wells' educational expenses were covered by
 - a) his own earnings.
 - b) his father's earnings.
 - c) scholarships.
 - d) donations.

3. Catherine helped Wells by
 - a) typing and analysing his work.
 - b) imparting writing skills to him.
 - c) ensuring he came out of his depression.
 - d) writing out stories for him.

4. In 1938, *The War of the Worlds*
 - a) was adapted for a TV show in America.
 - b) was made into a film in Britain.
 - c) was used for a radio dramatization in Russia.
 - d) was used for a radio dramatization in America.

5. _____ caused Wells to experience a period of depression?
 - a) The success of his radio dramatization
 - b) The death of his wife, Catherine
 - c) The outbreak of World War II
 - d) The publication of his scientific novels

6. The word 'defied' in para 5 means

- a) disliked.
- b) challenged.
- c) appreciated.
- d) refused.

B. Answer the following questions.

(1x2=2)

1. What impact did the American radio dramatization of "The War of the Worlds" have on its listeners?
2. What was Wells's attitude towards superstitions, as mentioned in the passage?

SECTION B: GRAMMAR (5 marks)

QIII. Choose the correct verb that agrees with its subject.

(½ X5=2.5)

1. Both the flights _____ (has/have) been cancelled.
2. Which one of these pens _____ (is/are) yours?
3. Her spectacles _____ (is/are) of the latest fashion.
4. The members of the jury _____ (meet/meets) every Sunday at the Golf Club.
5. Neither the captain nor the sailors _____ (is/are) on the ship.

QIV. Use appropriate forms of the given verbs and fill in the blanks in these sentences.

(½ X5=2.5)

1. Several of our neighbours _____ (be) going on a vacation.
2. My uncle, along with his wife, _____ (come) home tonight for dinner.
3. Each of these soldiers _____ (is/are) highly trained in combat.
4. Some of the notes _____ (seem) to have been forged.
5. This choir of singers _____ (be) very melodious.

SECTION C: WRITING- DESCRIPTIVE (5 marks)

Q V. Reflect on a recent conflict or disagreement you had with your best friend and express your thoughts and feelings about the situation in a diary entry in about 150 words.

You could write about:

- How the day began
- How the fight occurred
- How you felt when you fought with your best friend
- Your final feelings at the end of the day

SECTION D: LITERATURE – DESCRIPTIVE (10 marks)

QVI. Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow.

(1x3=3)

1. *“But the most difficult task remained.”*

- a) What was ‘the most difficult task’?
- b) Why was it ‘the most difficult task’?
- c) Who attempted ‘the most difficult task’?

QVII. Match the following word with the meaning:

(½ X 3=1½)

Column A	Column B
1. ken	a. amused but annoyed
2. wry	b. a deep opening or break in the ground
3. chasm	c. sight
	d. a very steep side of a high cliff

QVIII. Choose the correct meaning of the words from the options given.

(½ X 3=1½)

1. precipice

- a) a deep, very narrow valley with steep sides
- b) wild plants with leaves that have pointed edges
- c) a very steep side of a high cliff

2. smarting

- a) feeling of a sharp pain
- b) acting very smart
- c) able to move quickly and easily

3. toppling

- a) very good or pleasing; excellent.
- b) becoming unsteady and falling down
- c) spread or lying over a surface

Q IX. Answer ANY TWO of the following questions in short:

(1x2=2)

- 1. Why did the man in the poem, ‘The Fog’, rap the stones?
- 2. Why did everyone on the road turn their heads to stare at Binya?
- 3. Where is the poem, ‘The Fog’, by William Henry Davies, set?

Q X. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in detail:

(2x1=2)

- 1. How do you think the poet realized that the man whose help he had sought was actually blind? What do you think the poet learned from this experience?
- 2. How did Binya get the blue umbrella? What happened when Binya dozed in the shade of a pine tree?
