

PRACTICE QUESTION PAPER-1**CLASS: XII****Session: 2022-23****Subject: English – Core (301)****Time Allowed : 3 hours****Maximum Marks : 80****General Instructions :**

- (1) 15-minute prior reading time allotted for Q-paper reading.
- (2) The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, WRITING and LITERATURE.
- (3) Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number in your answer sheet to indicate the option/s being attempted.

SECTION-A : READING SKILLS (20 Marks)**1. Read the following passage [10]**

- (1) From the newspaper that you are holding in your hands, textbooks and notebooks that are a part of your daily school routine to tiny scraps that you use to send a secret message to your friend while in a class, one thing that is common in all these is paper. So ubiquitous, so common place, that most of us don't even stop to think how it came to be in the first place, And yet, there were times when people didn't have a piece of paper to jot down their most fascinating ideas.
- (2) The need for it: Writing predated paper, as you might well know from the ancient stone carvings that you read about in history. Stone definitely wasn't conducive to writing and even though papyrus, parchment and silk were better alternatives, the search was on for a surface to write on. It was Cai Lun who provided a tangible solution for this problem.
Having entered the service of the Imperial Palace in the year 75, Cai Lun worked as a Chinese court official. Thirty years later, he came up with his idea of making sheets of paper. It is believed that Cai Lun presented his paper to Han Ho Ti, the Emperor of the ruling Han Dynasty. The Emperor was mightily impressed and commended Cai Lun for a job well done.
- (3) Paper-making process: Early form of paper, like the ones Cai Lun showed to his Emperor, was primarily produced from hemp waste. This fibrous plant waste was soaked in water before it was thoroughly beaten down into pulp. The pulp was then collected using a large sieve, probably made of some cloth and then allowed to dry. Fibres of bamboos, mulberries, old rags, fishnets and an assortment of other materials were then mixed with the dried pulp, which was then flattened out and made to dry again giving us paper. Paper wasn't used as a writing

material right away. It was first employed as a wrapping material for bronze mirrors and even as protective padding for medicines. But before long, people realized that this paper was much easier to work with than parchments or papyrus, and far less expensive to produce than writing materials made of silk. The Chinese widely started using paper as a material to write and document on by the third century, employing it both as a tool for administration and a medium to transfer knowledge.

- (4) Guarded as a secret : Even though the methodology of producing paper was closely guarded by the Chinese, it slowly started spreading to other Asian countries such as India, Japan and Korea with the passage of time. And when the Arabs defeated Chinese in the Battle of Talas in 751, they also took the secret of making paper with them. Central Asia and Western Asia soon started seeing paper mills, but it was nearly a millennium after Cai Lun produced paper that paper mills sprouted in Europe.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below. [1 × 10 = 10]

- (i) According to the author, why do we not think about how was paper first invented?
- (A) As it is unimportant and minute.
(B) As it is used everywhere by everyone.
(C) As it is very cheap.
(D) As it holds a less value.
- (ii) Choose an option that was NOT used for writing in the ancient times.
- I. Silk II. Papyrus III. Parchment IV. Stones
V. Paper VI. Envelope
- Options:**
- (A) I, IV and VI (B) II and V
(C) III and IV (D) V and VI
- (iii) For what was the paper first used in the era of Han Dynasty?
- (iv) Han Ho Ti, the ruling emperor, was impressed by Cai Lun. Select an option which is the reason behind it.
- (A) Cai Lun was a well orator in the kingdom.
(B) Cai Lun made a brilliant discovery.
(C) Cai Lun was King's best man.
(D) Cai Lun was the most literate of them all.
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- (v) People realized that paper was the better alternative because its was more and less
- (vi) How did the secret of paper making process transfer to the Arabs?
(A) They defeated China in the war of Talas and then grabbed the secret.
(B) They annexed China and terrorized them for the secret.
(C) They learned the process from the Chinese traders.
(D) China shared their secret with the Arabs for getting crude.
- (vii) Early form of paper was produced from
(A) hemp waste (B) mulberries
(C) bamboos (D) fishnets
- (viii) Writing on paper today has become so 'ubiquitous'. What does it mean?
(A) Extraordinary (B) Special
(C) Ordinary (D) Cheap
- (ix) Which word from the passage means the same as 'write down'?
- (x) Paper was first employed as a _____ material for bronze mirrors

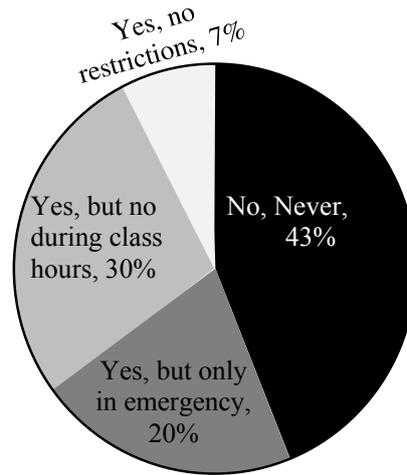
2. Read the passage given below.

[10]

Human life changes constantly over time. Mobile phones were previously seen only among a few high-class people and were considered something lavish. Then slowly, even the average or the common men on the street like a cobbler or vegetable vendors, could be seen having a cell phone. In the world today, even young kids and school-going children are found busily chatting away on their mobile phones. Now kids as young as seven and eight, too, have started owning a mobile phone. Welcome to the new age world!

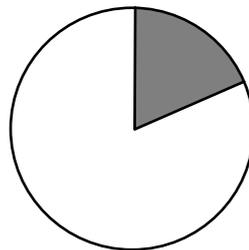
Studies recommend that mobile phones should only be given to children above 16 years of age. Children below the age of 16 should not be given mobile phones since their brain is too sensitive to withstand the effects of mobile radiation. Since the tissues in the brain and body are still developing, these radiations can cause cell damage. Due to the absorption of radiation, children can have severe health issues. Although adults also get affected by these radiations, it will be more severe in children because of increased absorption of these radiation levels. Experts also believe there is a link between childhood cancer and mobile phone usage among children. A survey was conducted to get the views of the parents and teachers as to whether children below 16 years of age should be given mobiles or not. The responses received were formulated into a pie diagram as under:

Whether students should be given mobiles or not



Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

- (i) Complete the given statement, with reference to the text
The minimum age, prescribed by the studies to give mobile phones to children is _____
- (ii) Does the following statement agree with the information given in the passage?
Childhood cancer is linked to mobile phone usage.
True-if the statement agrees with the information
False- if the statement contradicts the information
Given-if there is no information on this
- (iii) Select the option that displays the nearest percentage of parents and teachers who are unwilling to give mobile phones to students in any situation
(A) 7% (B) 20% (C) 30% (D) 43%
- (iv) Which of these categories is represented by this pictorial representation?



- (A) Yes, no restrictions (B) Yes, but not during class hours
(C) Yes, but only in emergency (D) No, never
- (v) Do you think that human life really changes constantly over time? Support your answer with reference to the text.
- (vi) Complete the statement: The brain of children below the age of sixteen is

- (vii) The word 'conducted' used in Para 3 here means:
(A) Steered (B) Sold (C) Planned (D) Finalized
- (viii) Nowadays, who are found busily chatting on their mobile phones?
(A) Vegetable vendors (B) Cobblers
(C) Executives (D) Kids
- (ix) Mobile phones affect students _____ the most.
(A) heart (B) brain (C) kidney (D) lungs
- (x) Select the option that conveys the opposite of
(A) Minor (B) Negligible (C) Gentle (D) All of these

SECTION-B : CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (20 Marks)**III.**

1. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below [5]

- (A) You are a Librarian of a public library. The following decisions have been taken. The library will remain open Sundays and closed on Mondays. The working hours will be from 9.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. instead of 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. The period for which the books can be borrowed has been reduced from three weeks to two weeks. Now write a notice 50 words informing the members and the public about these decisions.

OR

- (B) You are Vikram, School Captain of Meerut Public School, Shastri Market, Varanasi. Write a notice informing the students of Class XII about a guest lecture by Mr. Rajiv, an environmentalist on the topic 'Conservation Of Water'. Write the notice in not more than 50 words.

2. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below [5]

- (A) You are Dhruv/Deepa. Your father, Shri Dheeraj Garg of Gurugram wants you to draft an invitation to be sent to friends and relatives on the occasion of your elder sister's marriage. Prepare the invitation giving necessary details, in not more than 50 words.

OR

- (B) You are Ajay Mathur, staying at 51-B, Apsara Apartments, Greater Kailash, New Delhi. You have recently been promoted to the rank of General Manager, Tata Motors. Draft an invitation inviting your friends for dinner at Taj Palace, S.P. Marg, on 30 July 20XX.

3. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below [5]

- (A) Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper expressing your disapproval of the so called inaugural functions which cause enormous/huge national waste: Give instances of such waste from your observation.

OR

- (B) Vidya Public School, Bhilai, urgently requires a post-graduate teacher to teach Political Science for which they have placed an advertisement in The Bhilai Express. You are Sanjay/Sanjana Sharma of 21, Vasant Marg, Bhilai. Draft a letter including a CV, applying for the advertised post. (120-150 words)

4. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below [5]

- (A) Traffic police has launched a special drive against pollution-causing vehicles. This has led to traffic jams and crowds at important intersections. Write a report, to be published in 'Chennai Times'. You are Prince/Priya, 12, M.G. Road, Adayar, Chennai.

OR

- (B) The tendency to use violence at the slightest provocation and thus to solve personal and general problems is growing among people in our society. This is not a civilized way of dealing with problems. Violence solves no problem; it must be shunned. Write an article in 120-150 words on the topic, "Don't take law into your own hands".

You are Shan/Shobha.

You may use the given cues along with your own ideas.

Problems

- increase in the number of cases of violence in all spheres
- no respect for the law or each other
- no fear of consequences

Reasons

- stressful lifestyle
- hype given by media
- growing intolerance
- mob mentality

Solutions

- the responsible role of schools/parents/media in spreading awareness
 - effective policing
 - stricter laws, stricter implementation
 - encourage de-stressing alternatives
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SECTION-C : LITERATURE (40 Marks)

IV. Read the extract to attempt the questions with reference to context.

[1 × 6 = 6]

1. (A) Attempt any one of the two given extract.

What I want should not be confused

with total inactivity

Life is what it is about;

I want no truck with death,

If we were not so single-minded

about keeping our lives moving-

and for once could do nothing

Perhaps a huge silence

might interrupt this sadness

of never understanding ourselves

and of threatening ourselves with

Death

(i) The poet's intention in the first line is to -

- (A) give warning to the readers.
- (B) give right direction to the readers
- (C) give choice to the readers.
- (D) give a clarification to the readers

(ii) _____ best explains the stand of the poet in the expression:

I want no truck with death.

(iii) Select the option that aptly describes the tone of the poet in the expression -

"If we were not so single-minded.

- (A) Regretful
- (B) Encouraging
- (C) Critical
- (D) Friendly

(iv) According to the poet, who is to blame for the condition of threatening ourselves with death?

(v) The tone of the poet in the expression "perhaps a huge silence might interrupt this sadness" is _____

- (A) unsure yet optimistic
- (B) sure & confident
- (C) poetic & melodramatic
- (D) hopeful but not confident

(vi) The essence of this poem is _____

OR

1. (B) Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing

A flowery band to bind us to the earth,

Spite of despondence, of the inhuman dearth

of noble natures, of the gloomy days,

Of all the unhealthy and o'er darkened ways

Made for our searching: yes, in spite of all,

Some shape of beauty moves away the pall

from our dark spirits.

(i) In which of the following options can the underlined words be replaced with 'despondency'?

(A) The man paced about the room showing restlessness.

(B) A chat with a close friend can take away our blues.

(C) I was in jitters, seeing the boy trapped in the trench.

(D) Being dogged is what led him to negotiate the challenges.

(ii) Pick the option that is NOT an example of 'unhealthy and o'er darkened ways'.

(A) A person who is egoistic and looks down upon others.

(B) A person who seeks God's help for all his problems.

(C) A person who uses evil ways to deceive others.

(D) A person who is corrupt and manipulative.

(iii) Pick the option that enumerates what 'noble natures' would include.

1. Selflessness 2. Insensitivity 3. Enthusiasm 4. Aggression

5. Meticulousness 6. Judiciousness

(A) 1, 4 and 5 (B) 2, 3 and 6 (C) 2, 4 and 5 (D) 1, 3 and 6

(iv) **Based on the poem, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below:**

Statement 1: The earth without beautiful things is a place full of despair and unpleasantness.

Statement 2: The ornate band created by human beings ushers hope in their lives.

(A) Statement 1 is true but Statement 2 is false.

(B) Statement 1 is false but Statement 2 is true.

(C) Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 can be inferred.

(D) Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 cannot be inferred

- (v) The flowery band, according to the poet, helps to _____
- (vi) Identify the phrase from the extract, that suggests the following -
Shortage of human beings with good values

2.(A) You think..... 'Here's a boy. You look at me.... and then you see my face and you think. "That's bad. That's a terrible thing. That's the ugliest thing I ever saw. You think, 'Poor boy. But I'm not. Not poor. Underneath, you are afraid. Anybody would be. I am. When I look in the mirror, and see it, I'm afraid of me.

- (i) Who is the speaker in the lines above?
- (A) Derry (B) Susan (C) Mr. Lamb (D) Jack
- (ii) Which part of the speaker's face was destroyed?
- (A) Leg (B) Face (C) Intestine (D) Hands
- (iii) Why does the speaker thinks his face is bad?
- (A) His face was destroyed in a war
(B) His face was destroyed in a car accident
(C) His face was destroyed in an accident and acid fell on his face
(D) His face was destroyed in a fight
- (iv) What was the speaker's reaction when he looked at his face?
- (A) He was (B) He was amazed
(C) He was astonished (D) He was petrified

OR

2.(B) I have come forward to tell you why he came to be known as Tiger King, I have no intention of pretending to advance only to end in a strategic withdrawal. Even the threat of a Stuka bomber will not throw me off track. The Stuka, if it likes, can beat a hasty retreat from my story.

- (i) Who is the author of these lines?
- (A) Jack Finney (B) Tishani Doshi
(C) Kalki (D) Pearl Buck
- (ii) Complete the given statement:
The author is about to tell the story of
- (A) Tiger King (B) Prophecy
(C) Toy Tiger (D) Astrologers
- (iii) The author introduces the king with the title _____
- (iv) Which word has the similar meaning as to move backward?
- (A) Intention (B) Withdrawal
(C) Stuka (D) Retreat

3. (A) "So in a way I reached only a small percentage of readers, But it is exactly these kinds of readers who don't want easy experiences. Or at least don't always want this." I myself, at 9 PM after dinner, watch television and want to see either 'Miami Ne or 'Emergency room'. I enjoy it and I need it,

But not all day.

- (i) Who is I referred to in these lines?
- (A) Mukund from the Hindu
(B) Christopher Sylvester
(C) Umberto Eco
(D) Lewis Carroll
- (ii) Why does the speaker conclude "reached only a small percentage of leader's"?
- (A) 10 million copies is small number compared to worldwide readers
(B) Novel was read only in Europe by few people
(C) Eco's novel was appreciate only by literary figures of his time
(D) The novel did not become very popular
- (iii) What does the author mean by "Easy Experiences" in reading?
- (A) Some humorous reading material like comics, etc.
(B) Horror stories which keep you engaged
(C) Reading material which is entertaining and easy to understand
(D) Reading of newspapers, magazines, etc.
- (iv) Why does the author love to watch T.V. after 9 pm?
- (A) To listen to important news (B) To relax
(C) To entertain himself (D) Both (B) and (C)
- (v) Why does the speaker say the given lines?
- (vi) What does the speaker say about himself?

OR

3. (B) Naturally, the first thing he saw was the tall ragamuffin who had eased his way so close to the furnace that steam rose from his wet rags. The ironmaster did not follow the example of the blacksmiths, who had hardly deigned to look at the stranger. He walked close up to him, looked him over very carefully, then tore off his slouch hat to get a better view of his face.

- (i) Who is 'He' in the first line?
- (ii) Select the correct option to fill in the blank with reference to the given statement.
The ironmaster did not follow the example of the blacksmiths. This shows that the ironmaster was
- (A) haughty (B) furious (C) curious (D) dominant
-

- (iii) How was the attitude of the ironmaster different from that of blacksmith?
- (iv) Choose the option from the passage means 'to do something that one considers to be below one's dignity'?
- (A) Ragamuffin (B) Deigned (C) Tore (D) Slouch
- (v) Complete the sentence appropriately, with reference to the extract: The ironmaster associates the ragamuffin with _____
- (vi) How did the ragamuffin react towards the ironmaster's invitation?
- (A) He agreed readily (B) He was angry
(C) He denied it completely (D) He started screaming

V. Answer five of the following in about 40-50 words each. [2 × 5 = 10]

- (i) How is the mother tongue important to a person? What does M. Hamel, the teacher say about it?
- (ii) How does Kamala Das try to put away the thoughts of her aging mother?
- (iii) What made the Lieutenant Governor drop the case against Gandhi?
- (iv) What image does the poet use to describe the beautiful bounty of the earth?
- (v) Why did Edla still entertain the peddler even after she know the truth about him?
- (vi) What are the 'ordeals' Aunt Jennifer is surrounded by, why is it significant that the poet uses the word 'ringed'? What are the meanings of the word 'ringed' in the poem?

VI. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40-50 words each. [2 × 5 = 10]

- (i) Do you think Mr. Lamb believes in universal brotherhood? Give reasons for your answer.
- (ii) What conflict in his mind troubled Dr. Sadao when he came to know that the wounded man was an American POW?
- (iii) How did Charley ascertain that he had reached the 1894 world?

VII. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words. [5 × 1 = 5]

- (i) What was the objective of the Students on Ice programme?

OR

- (ii) Examine the way the writer A.R Barton plays with the reader's perception in 'Going Places'.

VIII. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words. [5 × 1 = 5]

- (i) Based on Mukund Padmanabhan's interview of Umberto Eco, describe the relationship between an interviewer and interviewee.

OR

- (ii) Contrast the world in which Charley lives and the world he accidentally bumps into.