

**Pre-Board Examination 2024 - 25**

**Class - XII**

**Sub - English**

**SET - B**

Time : 3 Hrs.

Full Marks : 80

**Section - A:**

**Reading Skills : 22 Marks**

**A. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:-**

1. The process of ageing starts with conception in the mother's womb. When we are young, we don't recognize that there will come a time when our limbs will grow weak, our eyesight less keen and our body unable to function as smoothly as before. The state, the society and the family owe a responsibility towards senior citizens.
2. Unfortunately, of late, we have not been able to recognize the concept of respecting, caring and helping older generations in a systematic way as some of the countries have done. This is not to suggest that our culture and history does not recognize this phase of life. There have been many practices of caring and helping the elderly in our system. But, with the dismantling of the joint family system, the problem has assumed a newer and more complicated shape. Although we have started recognizing the needs of the young, when it comes to the old, we have blissfully chosen to ignore them and have left them to fend for themselves.)
3. Of all the citizens of the world, one out of ten is an Indian. The population of old people in India is the 4th highest in the world. By official estimates, there are over 77 million old people in the country now. There are some schemes by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. There are also provisions of financial assistance for different welfare schemes.
4. There are old-age homes and residential units for lower income

groups in some districts where there is a part-time Medical Officer to attend to the inmates. Then there are day-care centers and mobile medicare services besides other NGOs (Non-Government Organizations).

5. Not only are there insufficient old-age homes in the country, but they are also ill-equipped to cater to the elderly. This should be the responsibility of the state since they need close and regular monitoring. The social welfare departments in the government have very little to boast about when it comes to caring for the older generations.
6. Government officials are apathetic to the welfare of the old people and are unimaginative. However, once the need for helping senior citizens is recognized by not only by the society at large but also by the government and certain concessions are sanctioned for them, there may be some headway in this direction.
7. Society, too, has an important role to play. It must do so by respecting the aged and placing their interests before anyone else's. In the West, if an old person is climbing down the stairs, he or she is helped. It is this kind of mindset that is the need of the hour. Offering seats to the old, helping them to cross the roads, assisting them to carry their bags, fetching them water etc, are some features which increase the acceptability of the older people. )

**Answer the questions given below choosing the most appropriate option:** 1×5=5

1. Government officials are \_\_\_\_\_ to the welfare of the old people
  - a) responsible
  - b) concerned
  - c) indifferent
  - d) humanitarian
2. The issue of caring and helping the senior citizens has assumed a complicated shape with the dismantling of \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) nuclear family system
  - b) strict social system

✓ joint family system

d) social value system

✓ The society as a whole owes \_\_\_\_\_ towards senior citizens.

a) love

✓ b) responsibility

c) apathy

d) indifference

✓ The word 'dismantling' used in para 2 means -

✓ a) assembling

b) taking something to pieces

c) protecting

d) constructing an item

✓ Features that include the acceptability of the older people include \_\_\_\_\_

a) forcing people to take care of them

b) engaging moral police to keep watch

c) encouraging them to do their own watch

✓ d) helping them to carry their bags

**Answer the following questions:**

**1×5=5**

- ✓ 6. What arrangements are there for the elderly people from lower income groups in India?
- ✓ 7. What need close and regular monitoring by the state?
- ✓ 8. When does the process of ageing start ?
- ✓ 9. What is the role of the society in taking care of the elderly people?
- ✓ 10. What have we blissfully chosen to ignore?

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**B. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: -**

**2022 Census Data of India**

Total population in India	above 1.4 Billion
Population living in village	68%
Population living in cities and towns	32%
Current population growth rate	1.13%
Population below the age of 35	65%
Life expectancy men is about	69.52
Life expectancy women is about	72.17
Birth rate	19
Infant mortality	40
Death rate	7.1
Literacy rate	74.04%
Density of population	382 per sq. km
State with highest population	Uttar Pradesh
Union territory with highest population	Delhi
State with lowest population	Sikkim
Union Territory with lowest population	Lakshadweep
Total male population	623,724,248
Total female population	586,469,174
Total Urban population	377,105,760
Total Rural population	833,087,662

India, a vast fertile country, is situated in the southern part of Asia. India's population in 2022 is estimated to be 1.40 Billion (140 Crores). According to the Unique Identification Authority of India, updated Dec 2020, by mid of year 2020 the projected population is 1,370,508,600. With roughly one-sixth of the world's total population, India is the second most populous country after China and the US is the third populous country in the world. It is located in South Asia bordering with the Bay of Bengal in the east, Arabian Sea in the west and Indian Ocean in the south. India is 7th largest by land and occupies 2.41% of the world's land area but supports over 18% of the world's population. 68% of population lives in villages and 32% lives in cities and towns. Population growth rate is 1.13% as of 2017 and expected to rise more than 1.5 billion people by 2030, and is set to reach 1.7 billion by 2050. India has more than 65% of its population below the age of 35, compared to 38 in China and 49 in Japan. India is one of the oldest civilizations in the world, with a rich heritage and myriad attractions. The great urban culture of the Indus valley civilization, a society of the Indus river valley that is thought to have been Dravidian speaking, prospered around 2500 BCE. India covers an area of 32,87,263 sq.km, the 7th largest country in the world, extending from the snow covered Himalayan heights to the tropical rain forests of the south, the country is among the most popular tourist and cultural destinations, marked off as it is by mountains and the sea, which give the country a distinct geographical entity. India has two union island territories, Lakshadweep, in the Arabian Sea, and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, which lie between the Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea. Although less than one-third of India's people live in towns and cities, around seventy percent of the population lives in villages and half of all Indians still derive their livelihood directly from agriculture sector. Indian states are organized into a number of districts, the districts are tehsils or mandals or taluks or sub-divisions depending on the state structure. These are further divided into villages, each sub-division typically consisting

of about 10 to 100 villages, some of the district sub-divisions are even major cities or towns. Large cities have been growing at faster rates than small cities and towns due to the industrial and services infrastructure. India's population is young and more than half of the population is under the age of 35. Life expectancy is about 69.52 for men and 72.17 for women. Nomadic groups may be found in most parts of India and their population is around 60 million out of total 315 tribes.

**Answer each of the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option:-** **1×5=5**

11. India has more than 65% of population below \_\_\_\_\_ years of age

- a) 38      b) 37      c) 36       d) 35

12. People of Indus Valley Civilization spoke \_\_\_\_\_ language.

- a) Hindu       b) Dravidian  
c) Sanskrit      d) Prakrit

13. \_\_\_\_\_ is the third populous country in the world.

- a) India      b) China       c) The U.S.      d) The U.K.

14. As per 2017 data current growth rate of population is -

- a) 1.13 %      b) 1.14 %  
c) 1.15 %      d) 1.71 %

15. The population of nomadic group is about \_\_\_\_\_ million.

- a) 40      b) 50       c) 60      d) 70

**Answer the following questions related to the above passage briefly:** **1×7=7**

16. What is the rank of India in the world according to its size ?

17. What percentage of population in India live in villages ?

18. What is the life expectancy of men ?

19. Which is the second most populous country in the world ?

20. Find out a word from the above passage which means 'producing or capable of producing offspring, crop or fruit'.
21. Name the two union island territories of India.
22. Where was the Indian Valley Civilization situated ?

### Section - B

#### Writing Skills : 18 Marks

23. As the secretary of the science club of your school, draft a notice on the forth coming Science Exhibition for all students. You are Mohan / Mohana. (within 50 words) 4

or

As the secretary of ABC Club, draft a notice for the members of the club informing them about a Swaachh Bharat Abhiyan (Cleaning and Sweeping programme) to be organized in your locality. You are Dilip/Dipika. (Within 50 words)

24. You want to sell your motor cycle. Draft a suitable advertisement in not more than 50 words to be published in the classified column of a national daily. Mention details of the motorcycle. You are Samir from Udaipur, Tripura. 4

or

'Bright Future Book Store' requires a salesman / sales woman for their shop with at least 1 year experience. Draft a suitable advertisement for the 'situation vacant' column, stating all requirements, age, qualification, experience etc. You are Chandan / Chandni, the owner of shop. (Within 50 words).

25. Write a letter to the Editor of a local English daily expressing your concern at the increasing number of road accidents in your state. You are Akash / Asha. Write in 120-150 words. 5

or

Write an application for the post of a Graduate Teacher in Arts in response to the published advertisement in 'Tripura Times', Agartala, by the Principal of International School, Agartala.

Attach your bio-data. You are Priti / Pritam. Write in 120-150

26. As the correspondent of a local English daily. Write a news report on the devastating flood that occurred in Tripura in 120-150 words. You are Sagor / Pinki

or

Drug abuse is a self-destructive indulgence that can ruin one's physical and psychological well-being. Write an article in 120-150 words on 'Drug Abuse among Youths'. You are Kiran / Kiara.

### Section - C

#### Literature : 40 Marks

27. Read the given extract carefully and answer the questions that follow: 1×6=6

A. "... felt that old familiar ache, my childhood's fear, but all I said was, see you soon, Amma all I did was smile and smile and smile . . . ."

- i. Who is the composer of the poem?
- ii. Name the poem.
- iii. What were the parting words of the poet?
- iv. What was the poet's childhood fear?
- v. Why did the poet smile repeatedly?
- vi. Find out a word from the above passage which means 'pain'.

or

- B. "A thing of beauty is a joy forever

Its loveliness increases, it will never  
Pass into nothingness; but will keep  
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep  
Full of sweet dreams, and health and quiet breathing.”

- i. Where from has the extract been taken ?
- ii. Name the poet of the poem.
- iii. Why does not a beautiful thing pass into nothingness?
- iv. Whose loneliness will keep on increasing ?
- v. A thing of beauty is -
  - a) short lived joy
  - b) joylessness
  - c) eternal joy
  - d) occasional joy
- vi. What does the poet mean by ‘A bower quiet for us’

**28. Read the given extract carefully and answer the questions that follow: 1×4=4**

A. MR. LAMB: Later on, when it's a bit cooler, I'll get the ladder and a stick and pull down those crab apples. They're ripe for it. I make jelly. It's a good time of year, september. Look at them . . . orange orange and golden. That's magic fruit. I often say. But it's best picked and made into jelly. You could give me a hand. <https://www.tripuraboard.com>

- i. Name the chapter from which the above lines are taken.
- ii. Who is the author of the extract ?
- iii. Why does Mr. Lamb pick apples ?
- iv. With whom is Mr. Lamb talking to ?

or

B. “ The First day in the land of apples was a bitter cold one for the snow still covered the ground, and the trees were bare. A large bell rang for breakfast, its loud metallic voice crashing

through the belfry overhead and into our sensitive ears. The annoying clatter of shoes on bare floors gave us no peace.”

- i . Where from are the above lines taken ?
- ii . Name the author.
- iii . What was disturbing the peace of the narrator ?
- iv . How was the first day in the land of apples ?

**29. Read the given extract carefully and answer the questions that follow: 1×6=6**

A. “The news of Gandhi’s advent and of the nature of his mission spread quickly through Muzzafarpur and to Champaran. Share croppers from Champaran began arriving on foot and by conveyance to see their champion. Muzzafarpur lawyers called on Gandhi to brief him; they frequently represented peasant groups in court; they told him about their cases and reported the size of their fee. Gandhi chided the lawyers for collecting big fee from share croppers. He said, “ I have come to the conclusion that we should stop going to law courts . . . the real relief for them is to be free from fear.”

- i . Where do these lines occur ?
- ii . Who started arriving on foot ?
- iii . What was the news that spread quickly through Muzzafarpur and Champaran ?
- iv . Find out a word from the passage that means ‘rebuked’ .
- v . Who is the ‘Champion’ referred to here ?
- vi . What according to Gandhiji was the real relief for the share croppers ?

or

B. “ I started for school late that morning and was in great dread of scolding, especially because M. Hamel had said that he would question us on participles, and I did not know the first word about them. For a moment I thought of running away and

spending the day out of doors. It was so warm, so bright! The birds were chirping at the edge of the woods; and in the open field back of the sawmill the Prussian soldiers were drilling. It was all much more tempting than the rule for participles, but I had the strength to resist, and hurried off to school."

- i. Name the chapter from where these lines have been taken.
- ii. What did the narrator think for a moment?
- iii. Why was the narrator in great dread of a scolding from Mr. Hamel?
- iv. Where were the Prussian soldiers drilling?
- v. What did the narrator do instead of running away from school?
  - a) he hid behind the wall
  - b) he hurried off to school
  - c) he joined the Prussian soldiers
  - d) he went back home
- vi. How was the day outside according to the narrator?

**Answer the following questions (40 - 50) words (any five):**

**2×5=10**

30. Why was Edla happy to see the gift left by the peddler?
31. How did Gandhi contribute to the social and cultural upliftment of the Champaran villages?
32. Why does the narrator compare garbage with gold?
33. Why was Douglas determined to get over his fear of water?
34. How does keeping quiet save our earth?
35. Why are Aunt Jennifer's hands 'fluttering through her wood'?

Answer any two of the following questions 40-50 words:

2×2=4

36. What qualities of Mr. Lamb attracted Derry towards him ?
37. What was common between Zitkala Sa and Bama ?
38. What did the chief astrologer predict at the time of the princes's birth ?

Answer any one of the question below in 120 -150 words:

5×1=5

39. How did the instructor make Douglas a good swimmer ?
40. Write in your own words the substance of the poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers'.

Answer any one of the question given below in 120 -150 words:

5×1=5

41. Why was the tiger king in fear of losing his kingdom? How did he finally manage to save it?
42. How did Zitkala Sa and Bama respond to the oppression and discrimination experienced by them in their respective situations?

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