
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ENGLISH Paper – 1

(Two hours)

Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.

*You will **not** be allowed to write during the first **15** minutes.*

This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.

The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

*Attempt **all five** questions.*

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].

*You are advised to spend not more than **30** minutes in answering **Question 1** and **20** minutes in answering **Question 2**.*

Question 1

(Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question.)

Write a composition (300 - 350 words) on any one of the following:

[20]

- (a) Write an original short story which clearly illustrates the friendship between a boy and his dog.
- (b) You mistakenly went to your school on a day which was a holiday. Everything was closed and the school was empty. Write a description of what you saw and heard. What were your feelings at the end of the visit?
- (c) Your room has been very untidy for a long time and your parents have been urging you to tidy it. Narrate your experience of cleaning and tidying your room. What did this experience teach you?
- (d) Express your views either *for* or *against* the statement:

"Life's best lessons are learnt from friends."

- (e) Study the picture given below. Write a short story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



Question 2

[10]

(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.)

Select **any one** of the following:

- (a) You have behaved very rudely to a friend. Write a letter to him / her apologizing for the rude behavior. Explain what happened and tell him / her what you plan to do to make amends.
- (b) You are in charge of the Nature Club in your locality. Write a letter to the Secretary of the Sports Club in the neighbourhood requesting permission to hold a Nature Fest on the club grounds nearby. Give details of your plans for the event.

Question 3

- (a) Your school is hosting an Inter-school music competition. Write out a notice to be put up in your school informing students about the event and inviting them to participate in the Inter-school music competition. [5]

- (b) Write an e-mail to the Principal of a neighbouring school requesting him / her to send a team to participate in the event. [5]

Question 4

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

With dry lips, parched throat, and ink-stained fingers, and exhaustion on one side and exaltation on the other, Swaminathan strode out of the examination hall on the last day.

Standing in the veranda, he turned back and looked into the hall and felt slightly uneasy. He would have felt more comfortable if all the boys had given their papers as he had done, twenty minutes before time. With his left shoulder resting against the wall, Sankar was lost to the world. Rajam, sitting under the second ventilator, between two third-form boys, had become a writing-machine. Mani was still gazing at the rafters, scratching his chin with the pen. The Pea was leaning back in his seat, revising his answers. One supervisor was drowsing in his chair; another was *pacing* up and down with an abstracted look in his eyes. The scratchy noise of active nibs, the rustle of papers, and the clearing of the throats, came through the brooding silence of the hall. 10

Swaminathan suddenly wished that he had not come out so soon. But how could he have stayed in the hall longer? The Tamil paper was set to go on till five o'clock. He had found himself writing the last line of the last question at four-thirty. Out of the six questions set, he had answered the first question to his satisfaction, the second was doubtful, the third was satisfactory, the fourth he knew was clearly wrong (but then, he did not know the correct answer). 20

The sixth answer was the best of the lot. It took only a minute to answer it.

He had read the question at two minutes to four-thirty, started to answer a minute later, and finished it at four-thirty.

He had found it hard to kill time. Why wasn't the paper set for two and a half hours instead of three? He had looked **wistfully** at the veranda outside. If only he could pluck up enough courage to hand in the paper and go out – he would have no more examinations for a long time to come – he could do what he pleased – roam about the town in the evenings and afternoons and mornings – throw away the books – command Granny to tell endless tales.

30

He had seen a supervisor observing him, and had at once pretended to be busy with the answer paper. He thought that while he was about it, he might as well do a little revision. He read a few lines of the first question and was bored. He had to pretend that he was revising. He set his pen to work. He went on improving the little dash under the last line indicating the end, till it became an elaborate complicated pattern.

He had looked at the clock again, thinking that it must be nearly five now. It was ten minutes past four-thirty. He saw two or three boys giving up their papers and going out, and felt happy. He briskly folded the paper and wrote his name.

40

The bell rang. In twos or threes the boys came out of the hall. It was a thorough contrast to the preceding three hours. There was **din** of excited chatter.

- (a) Give the meaning of the following words as used in the passage:

[3]

One word answers or short phrases will be accepted.

(i) pacing (line 11)

(ii) wistfully (line 26)

(iii) din (line 42)

- (b) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words.
- (i) Why did Swamy feel slightly uneasy as soon as he came out of the examination hall? [2]
- (ii) Why did he think he had answered the sixth question best of all? [1]
- (iii) What did he plan to do with his books once the examination was over? [2]
- (iv) Which word in the passage tells you that Swami used to bully his grandmother? [2]
- (v) Why do you think Swami drew an elaborate complicated pattern after his last answer? [2]
- (c) In not more than 50 words, describe what Swami's classmates and supervisors were doing in the examination hall. [8]

Question 5

- (a) Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage, but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. [4]

Example:

(0) *looked*

Suraj (0) _____ (look) out of the door. He (1) _____ (catch) sight of the board (2) _____ (bear) the station's name. He was so (3) _____ (astonish) that he almost (4) _____ (fall) out of the compartment. He was back in his home town! After (5) _____ (travel) for forty or fifty kilometers, here he (6) _____ (is) home again. He (7) _____ (can) not understand it. He (8) _____ (climb) out of the compartment slowly.

- (b) Fill in each blank with an appropriate word: [4]
- (i) Bobby waited in front _____ the school.
 - (ii) The children were told to return home _____ it became dark.
 - (iii) He wore an old muffler wrapped _____ his neck.
 - (iv) We saw the bird fly high _____ the tower and disappear.
 - (v) Music therapy is a cure _____ many ills.
 - (vi) The thief ran _____ the staircase and out into the yard.
 - (vii) Mr. Roy jumped into his car and drove _____ as fast as he could.
 - (viii) Please do not get carried _____ by these rumours.
- (c) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence **without using and, but or so**: [4]
- (i) The teacher arrived. The class started.
 - (ii) The drive was so tedious. I fell asleep on the backseat.
 - (iii) He was found in possession of the stolen goods. He was punished.
 - (iv) Stop talking. Leave the classroom.
- (d) Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence. [8]
- (i) "I saw a panther this morning", he said modestly.
(Rewrite using indirect speech.)
 - (ii) Kiran is the fastest runner in our school.
(Begin: No other.....)
 - (iii) Susan hid her grandmother's spectacles.
(Begin: Her grandmother's.....)

- (iv) Ali was too embarrassed to speak clearly.
(Begin: Ali was so.....)
- (v) As soon as the election results were out, the victory procession started.
(Begin: No sooner.....)
- (vi) Ranji prefers reading a book to watching a movie.
(Begin: Ranji would rather.....)
- (vii) Anu does not study enough, but she still stands first.
(Begin: Despite.....)
- (viii) If Aruna practices, she will win the competition.
(Begin: Unless.....)