

ENGLISH ELECTIVE NCERT

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER

2014-15

CODE NO 001

CLASS XII

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Marks: 100

General instructions:

1. Question Nos 1-4 are compulsory
 2. Attempt either question 5 or 6
 3. Your answer should be to the point. Stick to word limit given.
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READING

Q.1 a) Read the following passage and answers the questions.

6 x 2 =12 marks

1. As the Winter Olympics opened in Sochi, Russia, in February this year, The New York Times published a prominent article headlined ,” The End of Snow?” examining the damaging effects of climate change on the ski industry. Some weeks later, Chipotle Mexican Grill , a Colorado fast food chain, caused a minor media firestorm when its annual report mentioned that global warming could cause it to “suspend” guacamole—a key vegetable ingredient –from its menu.
2. “The sky is not falling,” Chipotle spokesman Chris Arnold reassured the Los Angeles Times. “ We have guacamole in all our restaurants. As a public company we are required to disclose any potential issues that could have an impact on our business..”
3. American media covers many different aspects of climate change, from recent scientific findings to fears about its effects on recreation and dinner. Coverage increased about 30 percent in 2013 from 2012, partially because of droughts, hurricanes and other severe weather in many parts of the United States, says Douglas Fischer, editor of The Daily Climate, an aggregator of climate news.
4. Despite widespread coverage, a November 2013 study by Yale University Project on Climate Change Communication, done with George Mason University, found a seven percentage point increase since Spring 2013 in the number of people in the United States who don’t believe in global warming. Overall 23 percent of those surveyed don’t think climate change is occurring, while 63 percent do, with47 percent blaming human activities.

5. Public opinion has been swayed by a small but strident group of climate change deniers and a systematic campaign to sow doubt about the issue, says Anthony Leiserowitz, director of the Yale Project.
6. “A huge consensus---about 90 percent--- of scientists say global warming is happening, and that it is human –caused and a serious problem,” Leiserowitz says in an interview. “But only about 20 percent of Americans know that...”
7. Journalists are partly to blame for public confusion, says Bill McKibben, an environmental journalist and author whose 1989 book, “The End of Nature,” is regarded as the first book for a general audience on global warming.
8. “As journalist by training, I have to say this is an issue where our profession has done a terrible job,” McKibben says in an email. “Scientists long ago reached a strong consensus on the dangers of global warming, but for years afterward journalists kept treating it as an open issue, interviewing over and over again the few skeptics, none of whom were publishing scientific papers.”
9. Porter Fox, who wrote The New York Times article, agrees that journalists should stop treating climate change as if it were a debatable issue. “It’s journalism 101 to tell both sides of the story, but there is no other side of this story,” he says. “It’s absolutely irresponsible to put someone who doubts the basic science alongside someone who is using facts and math to explain the reality that the Earth is warming.”
10. Beth Parke, executive director of the 1,200 member Society of Environmental Journalists, believes climate change coverage is steadily improving. “You can’t just say journalists have done a lousy job,” she says in an interview, “Which journalists? Are we talking about show hosts, or people writing for Science News? There are a lot of journalists working very hard to accurately report on a complex story. It’s also true that journalists traditionally have not told an American society, ‘You have to take your medicine.’ And it’s difficult when you get into a topic that’s so depressing. Lots of people would rather read about Justin Bieber.”
11. Richie Ahuja, regional director for Asia at the Environmental Defense Fund, says news stories may not affect public attitudes on climate change significantly. Coverage comes in cycles—it flares up when there is a seminal event like a hurricane, but then it goes away,” says Ahuja. “That’s just the nature of the news media. But if you talk about media more broadly, it has been able to drive societal change. For example, it would be nice to see climate change issues embedded in the story lines of Bollywood films. That would be a good way to start conversations.
12. “Noting that most people have limited shelf space in their brains for this issue,” Leiserowitz says that understanding climate change can be distilled into what he calls

five “meta- ideas that can be expanded upon to help people make informed decisions.”
They are

- Its real
- It’s us
- It’s bad
- Scientists agree
- There’s hope

13. Leiserowitz believes that journalists should allow for confusion and lack of knowledge on climate change. It will be great if people took a course on climate change.

1. Which two important aspects of climate change made sensational news in American media?
2. How did Chris Arnold dispel the concerns of the people?
3. How does public opinion vary from that of the scientists?
4. How according to McKibben has journalists created public confusion?
5. Explain ‘ There is no other side of this story,’
6. What suggestion does Richie Ahuja give to make general public take up climate change issues more seriously?

Q.1 b) Read the following poem and answers the questions that follow:

5+3=8 marks

WE LET YOU DOWN
(*Subhash C Chowdhury*)

Thirty four years ago
54 of you and many
responded to nation’s call of duty
put your lives on line
to defend the nation
our pride, our freedom
against an enemy
fought with valour and bravery
defeated the enemy
made us secure and proud
all else returned home
but left you behind
we celebrated the victory

with wine and dine
 while you were braving torture and crime
 could hear your screams and crying
 received your letters
 got all your messages
 you waited
 for us to take you home
 but we were too busy
 sorry, we had no time
 we let you down
 we let you down.

1. State the central idea of the poem in two sentences. 2
2. Explain the meaning of the line ‘ *put your lives on the line*’ 1
3. What was the plight of the person/ persons left behind? Quote the lines to support your answer. 2
4. What is the importance of repetition in the last two lines? 1
5. Complete the following summary of the poem by filling in the blanks with suitable words or phrases. 2

34 years ago a band of 54 soldiers were deputed to ----i----- . They fought bravely and brought honours to the country by returning -----ii----- . Most of them returned safely, but some soldiers were not as lucky. They were in enemy captivity who subjected them to torture. All appeals for rescue -----iii----- as everyone was engrossed in the celebrations. The poet seems to realize this after some time. He is remorse stricken and ashamed .He confesses that they- -----iv----- .

WRITING

Q. 2 a) Choose any one of the following topics and write an essay giving your own ideas in about

100 – 200 words.

10 marks

Space Exploration benefits are manifold .

OR

Social media and emerging mobile technologies have changed the interaction of the human landscape. Though it has made life comfortable it is funny to note that in our obsession with a

data driven world human relationships have taken a back seat. Write an essay in about 100-200 words

- Q. 2 b) Education affects economic growth. A recent UN report shows that more than a million children between the ages of six and eleven years are out of school which is a real loss of potential for a country. Prepare a speech to express your opinion on this topic in about 150-200 words. 10 marks**

APPLIED GRAMMAR

- Q.3 a) In the passage given below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it in your sheet. Ensure that the word that forms your answer is underlined. 10 x ½ = 5 marks**

The Banff townsite small, so	a) -----	-----	-----
it's easy get around in town	b) -----	-----	-----
without vehicle .That's great because parking	c) -----	-----	-----
is a premium and some lots	d) -----	-----	-----
cannot accommodate large vehicles such RV's.	e) -----	-----	-----
Street parking and municipal lots free	f) -----	-----	-----
but they time restrictions	g) -----	-----	-----
Roam is the name the local public transit system.	h) -----	-----	-----
It provides safe, affordable environmentally friendly	i) -----	-----	-----
bus service throughout town site	j) -----	-----	-----

- 3 b) Read the following conversation between Hari and Om. Then based on the information complete the paragraph given below in your own words. 5 x1=5 marks**

Hari: Today I saw a terrible scene at one of the crossings.

Om: What happened?

Hari: A man who had apparently met with a heart attack was being taken to a hospital in an ambulance. Just as we reached the crossing before the hospital, the lights turned red and all traffic came to a halt. The ambulance kept blowing its siren but no one was willing to give way.

Om: What happened then?

Hari: Since my car was just behind the ambulance I suddenly saw the rear door open and two ladies came down wailing inconsolably and cursing all the motorists—The attendant tried to hold them back but in vain. Apparently the man died during this wait.

Om: That's the tragedy. The general public seems to have lost its sensitivity. The Govt should make strict rules to penalize people who do not give way to ambulances and other emergency duty vehicles.

Hari told Om about a terrible scene that he had seen at one of the crossings near a hospital. An ambulance carrying a patient who -----i----- was blowing its sirens continually -----ii----- Suddenly the lights turned red and all vehicles came to a halt. Still no one gave way. Hari's car was just behind the ambulance. Two women came out of the van wailing inconsolably and cursing all the motorists. Apparently -----iii----- .

Om commented that -----iv----- people. He felt that Govt should enforce strict laws to -----v----- who do not give way to vehicles on emergency duty.

TEXT FOR DETAILED STUDY

Q.4 a) Choose any two of the following extracts and answer the questions that follow.

4 x2=8 marks

- 1) *The nineteenth autumn has come upon me
Since I first made my count;
I saw, before I had well finished,
All suddenly mount
And scatter wheeling in great broken rings
Upon their clamorous wings*

a. What is the significance of the first line in the above stanza?

- b. How does the poet describe what he saw?
- 2) *She did her job well, and for a long time, above all during the war years, when reality was more sinister than nightmares. Only she could decide at breakfast what each should do that day, and how it should be done, until her predictions became the sole authority in the house. Her control over the family was absolute: even the faintest sigh was breathed by her order.*
- a. Why does the narrator say that reality was more sinister than nightmares?
- b. 'Her control over the family was absolute.' How did she manage to get the sole authority?
- 3) MOTHER. *O, you stupid girl, how could you be so reckless?
There will be a price to pay for this madness! Don't
you know what caste you were born in?*
- a. What reckless act had the girl committed?
- b. Why did mother say that she would have to pay the price for her act?

Q. 4 b) Answer any two of the following questions in about 100 words each.

6 +6 =12 marks

- 1) Eveline is tossed between the past and the future. Explain her dilemma.
- 2) The Bhikshu is instrumental in helping Prakriti journey through self ignorance to self awareness. Do you agree? Support your answer with examples from the text.
- 3) Kubla Khan is a poem full of spooky and intense images juxtaposed against each other. Describe some of the images in your own words.

Q. 4 c) Answer any five of the following questions in about 60 words each. 5 x3 = 15 marks.

- 1) Shadows reflect different phases of love in the poem, ' a Lecture Upon the Shadows'. Explain.
- 2) Justify the title of the poem 'Blood' by Kamala Das
- 3) The Mark on the Wall triggers off a stream of reflections in the inner mind of the narrator. Elucidate.

4) Explain the context and significance of the Manjula's utterance when she says, '... the creative self continues to be Manjula Nayak. There are areas in which we must not let marriage intrude too much.'

5) A film maker is nothing more than a conjuror who lets his audience believe what he wants to tell them. How does Ingmar Bergman explain this?

6) Why does Tao Ying want the officers to explain her son that she had done no wrong?

Q. 4 d) Answer the following question:

5 marks

All of us have a double personality —what we are and what we wish to project ourselves as. It is only when we peep into our inner selves that the mirror projects the true self. How does Girish Karnad convey this reality to his audience?

FICTION

NOTE: Attempt either question 5 or 6

Q.5 a) Answer any one of the following in about 100 words. 6 marks

- 1) Do you agree with the statement that Raja is a tiger possessed with the soul of an enlightened human being.
- 2) Tradition and transformation is the core theme of the novel – A Tiger for Malgudi. Discuss.

Q. 5.b) Answer any one of the following in about 60 words. 4 marks

- 1) How does Master describe the presence of God?
- 2) Raja's encounter with the Master is the journey of self-realization. Do you agree?

Q. 6 a) Answer one of the following in about 100 words. 6 marks.

- 1) Money has an overbearing influence on Margayya, the financier. Substantiate with suitable textual instances.
- 2) Vividly describe the incident between Margayya and the temple priest.

Q. 6 b) Write short notes on any one of the following in about 60 words. 4 marks

1. How did Margayya overcome his temporary lull in fortune making?
2. How does the priest come up with a solution to Margayya's problem?