

Mid-Term Examination

English

MT-2024-10(A)

Time : 3 hrs.

M. Marks : 80

General Instruction

1. *The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE.*
2. *Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.*

SECTION-A READING SKILLS 20 MARKS

1. Read the text given below: 10 Marks
1. Ethical and sustainable fashion is an approach towards sourcing, manufacturing and designing clothes. It maximises the benefits to the fashion industry and society at large and minimises its impact on the environment. The two concepts overlap in their ideology, but they each have slightly different concerns, both equally critical to the future of fashion.
2. Fashion, is a whole lot more complex than pencil skirts and shoulder pads and with all the greenwashing, it certainly does not make it easy to find ethical and sustainable clothing. While the road towards sustainability in general isn't easy, it is now critical that we all learn what qualifies as truly sustainable and ethical fashion.
3. The fashion industry accounts for ten percent of the world's total carbon footprint. Even natural fibres like organic cotton are no more sustainable than synthetics if they end up in a landfill. There they will biodegrade anaerobically and release methane gas, the most potent of all greenhouse gases.
4. So what can we do as consumers? We can use our purchasing power to make a difference. It has been stated that it is extremely important to remember that every time we make a purchase, we are casting our vote, for the kind of products we want to see made and subsequently, the type of world we want to live in. By supporting ethical brands that produce sustainable products, we are essentially saying that we want more of those products.
5. Fast fashion thrives only because we keep supporting it. There are some things that we can do, in order of impact. One needs to keep in mind that the most sensible fashion buying decision we can make is to make do with what we already have, through proper care and simple repair techniques. In addition to this, swapping clothing with friends is a great way to freshen up our everyday look without buying anything. It is not only eco-friendly but fun. If one likes getting clothes, at least let's challenge ourselves to never buy new clothes as there is a whole world of vintage clothing out there at our disposal and at absolutely bargain prices.

6. Finally, if we must buy something new, let's do it consciously. It is imperative to scrutinize the options and opt for the best quality. Brands that support sustainability and ethics are the ones we ought to support. However, no brand is 100% sustainable but we must do our absolute best to decipher which brands are the real deal and make the most impact by doing more right than wrong.

Answer the following questions based on the above passage: 10

- i. Based on your reading and understanding of the passage, list any one reason why vintage clothing should be preferred over adding new clothes. 1m
- ii. Select the option that corresponds to the meaning of the sentence from para 5 :- 1m
Fast fashion thrives only because we keep supporting it.
- A. Fast fashion is entirely dependent on our support.
 B. We are the cause for the existence of fast fashion around us.
 C. We support fashion because we want it to grow fast.
 D. Fashion is independent of any support from the society.
- iii. Based on your reading of the passage, examine in about 40 words how the act of making a purchase can be compared with casting a vote. 2m
- iv. Complete the given analogy correctly by filling a word from the passage. 1m
 Analyse : scrutinize :: antique : _____ (para 5)
- v. In sets a-e, identify two sets of synonyms. 1m
- a. Scrutinize and examine
 b. Ethical and immoral
 c. Sustainable and maintainable
 d. Synthetic and natural
 e. Critical and safe
- A. a and b
 B. a and c
 C. a and d
 D. a and e
- vi. The phrase 'The two concepts overlap in their ideology, but they each have slightly different concerns....' In paragraph 1 refers to- 1m
- A. Despite contradicting each other in concept, the two have something in common.
 B. Despite being similar in their thought, the two contradict each other.
 C. Despite being similar in their approach, they may have different impact.
 D. Despite being negative in their approach, their effects are positive.
- vii. Complete the sentence appropriately. 1m
 _____ is an eco friendly and smart approach towards ethical fashion.

is a/an _____

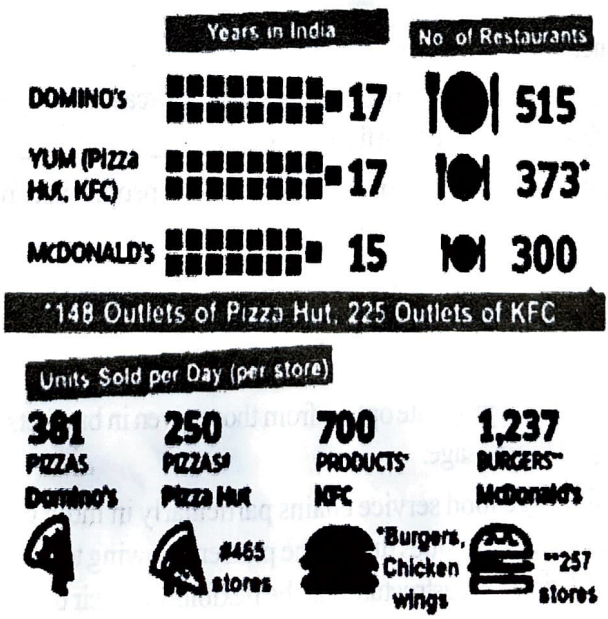
in the passage? 1m

vii What is the tone of the writer in the given line from paragraph 6. Rationalize your response in around 40 words.

'...no brand is 100% sustainable but we must do our absolute best to decipher which brands are the real deal...' 2m

Q2. Read the following text. 10

1. According to the National Institute of Health (NHI), fast foods are a quick alternative to home-cooked meals. They are also high in saturated fat, sugar, salt and calories. Eating too much fast food has been connected, among other things to obesity, colorectal cancer and high cholesterol. Still the traditional family dinner is increasingly being replaced by eating "on the run". As a result, the time invested in food preparation is getting lower and lower. 54% of the Indians are aged below 25 years and eating out is their favourite outdoor entertainment. Much of the retail boom in India could be attributed to these young consumers.
2. Organized fast food service sector in India and elsewhere, busy lifestyles of people and dual-working families with children have provided the perfect platform for fast food companies to flourish, which offer quick meal solutions. As a result, the fast food industry has witnessed a tremendous growth rate. McDonald's alone serves 46 million people worldwide each day. Fast-food chains are still less than 5% of India's food services market-the global average rests at 20%.
3. India's food services market was estimated at 24,236 billion in 2020. Fast food chains in India have a market size of 2348 billion and account for 54% of the total sales. This is estimated to reach 64% by 2025. Covid dealt a body blow to the food services industry because of long lockdowns. However, large players were quick to remedy the impact on business by scaling their existing delivery capabilities. Fortunately, these chains had the infrastructure and process for delivery services in place long before the spread of the pandemic, which enabled them to adapt swiftly to government regulations.



4. The large food chains are set to gain a bigger share of the food services market on the back of a young population, value pricing, and increased penetration in tier two and three cities. The more recent popularity of online food ordering and food delivery platforms has enabled food chains to reach more consumers. Fast food chain Burger King reported a blockbuster IPO last year; meanwhile, Domino's pizza franchise in India recently revised its potential store opening target in India from the earlier 2,000 to 3,000. McDonald's, Burger King, Domino's plan to deepen their reach in India's smaller cities, and benefit from a younger demographic expecting to clock a compound annual growth rate of 23% between 2021 to 2025

Answer the questions based on the above passage :

- i. Complete the following analogy appropriately, based on your understanding of paragraphs 1 & 2- 1m
- The convenience that fast food can be eaten 'on the run' is comparable with _____ on one's person or in a handbag as opposed to having a desktop that keeps one tied to their work desk.
- ii. Identify the tone in the given statement- 1m
- 'Eating too much fast food has been connected, among other things to obesity, colorectal cancer and high cholesterol.'
- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. sympathetic | 2. cautionary |
| 3. informative | 4. comic |
| 5. cynical | 6. imploring |
| 7. pragmatic | |
| A. 1 and 4 | B. 2 and 3 |
| C. 5 and 6 | D. 1 and 7 |
- iii. Justify the following, in about 40 words. 2m
- "The traditional family dinner is increasingly being replaced by eating on the run".
- iv. Complete the sentence given below- 1m
- Based on the results of the study, the two concerns that showcase the flip side of the popularity of fast foods as referred to in the passage are _____
- v. Study the statement: 'McDonald's alone serves 46 million people worldwide each day.' State any one inference that can be drawn from this. 1m
- vi. Infer the reasons responsible for the large food chains set to gain a bigger share of the food services market on the back of a young population in India. Answer in about 40 words. 2m
- vii. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate option from those given in brackets, based on your understanding of the passage. 1m
- We can infer that the large food service chains particularly in India were able to buffer their businesses and revenues during the pandemic owing to their ability to adapt to the new regulations, infrastructure and the flexibility of their delivery service

10m Em A2

is a _____ (fact/ opinion) because it is a/an _____ (subjective judgement/ objective detail).

viii. Which of the following is NOT a take away from the study mentioned in the passage? 1m

- A. the fastfood industry has witnessed a tremendous growth rate.
- B. eating out is the favourite outdoor entertainment of youngsters today.
- C. Covid dealt a body blow to the food services industry because of long lockdowns.
- D. Much of the retail boom in India could be attributed to the young consumers.

SECTION - B

GRAMMAR AND CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (20 Marks)

GRAMMAR

3. Complete ANY TEN of the following twelve tasks, as directed : 10 × 1 = 10m

i/ Dheer and Devika had a conversation about their best friend. Report Dheer's question.

Do you have anything to say on behalf of our best friend?

ii/ Identify the error in the given sentence from a school magazine report and supply the correction :

When I was a child, my grandmother often repetition the story of her childhood days.

Use the given format for your response.

ERROR	CORRECTION

iii/ Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the slogan by the Animal Welfare Board.

_____ WE CUT TREES AND DESTROY NATURAL HABITAT ?
STOP ! BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE.

- A. MIGHT
- B. MAY
- C. MUST
- D. COULD

iv/ Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word given in the brackets, for the given portion of a letter :

Subject : Request for permission to participate in the Meet.

Dear Sir,

I would like to request for permission to participate in the forthcoming Inter-school cultural meet. I _____ (interest) in taking part in the dance drama.

v/ Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line from a neighbourhood weekly.

Residents are requested to segregate the wet waste from the dry waste.
Residents _____ adhere to civic norms.

- A. can
- B. ought to
- C. will be
- D. might

vi. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line from a magazine article :

Blogging today is increasingly gaining on popularity.

OPTION	ERROR	CORRECTION
A	Popularity	Popular
B	On	In
C	Increasingly	Increase
D	Today	Yesterday

vii. Fill in the blank with the correct option :

There is something wonderful waiting _____ her when she reaches home.

- A. of
- B. about
- C. for
- D. inside

viii. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction :

Do you know that slouching should cause many problems ?

Use the given format for your response.

ERROR	CORRECTION

ix. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the brackets

The package _____ (arrive) at nine in the morning, the day after tomorrow.

- A. will arrive
- B. would arrive
- C. can arrive
- D. cannot arrive

x. Report the dialogue between Tony and Sarita, by completing the sentence.

Tony : Why did you call me ?

Sarita : Will you go to the museum with me ?

Tony asked Sarita why she had called him. Sarita wanted to know whether

Tony _____.

xi. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option.

If I were attending the workshop, I _____ have stayed on till the end of the second session as well.

- A. would
- B. may
- C. can
- C. should

xii. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket.

When a satellite _____ (launched), the rocket begins by slowly going upwards.

Q4. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.

5m

A.

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You are Anita/Ashok. You came across the advertisement given above. You are keen on doing a short-term course in web -designing. Write a letter in 100-120 words to the Director, Excellence Technology, inquiring about their short-term courses in web-designing and asking for all necessary details such as eligibility, duration, fees and placement services.

5m

OR

B. You are Sudha/Sudhir, Principal of Vasant School, Agra. Your school is planning to expand the Music Department. Write a letter in 100-120 words to the Manager of Melody House, M.G Road, Agra, wholesale suppliers of musical instruments, placing a detailed order for musical instruments for the school. Invent necessary details. 5m

Q5. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below

5m

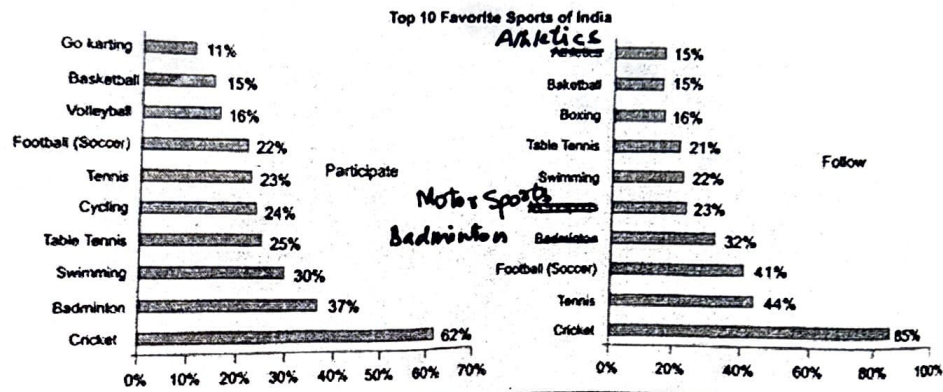
A. Read the following excerpt from an outline post of a website on the significance of professional counselling for today's teenager:

Today's teenager is a victim of too much pressure-be it parental, academic or entering the rat race in a highly competitive world. It adds to unnecessary stress leading to negative feelings and psychological problems. Though efforts are being made by the schools and the government to induct counsellors in schools, it still has to take flight. There are various factors leading to need for proper counselling and giving right direction to the youngsters who feel lost walking on the most important path of their lives.

Write a paragraph in 100-120 words analyzing how relevant professional counselling is for today's youth. 5m

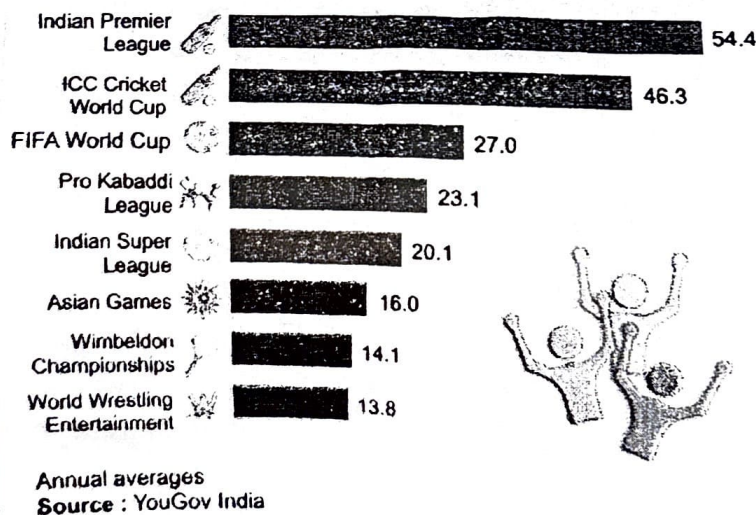
OR

B. The data given below shares some facts about ten most famous sports in India based on the criteria of people's preference to play and watch each of them. Write an analytical paragraph in 100-120 words based on the data given. 5m



The Sports Seen Most Positively in India

Index values showing the level of positive attitudes towards sport leagues/events in India (2020)



SECTION C: LANGUAGE THROUGH LITERATURE (40 marks)

6. Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given. 5m

A. The fog comes
on little cat feet.
It sits looking
over harbour and city
on silent haunches
and then moves on.

Choose the option that details the qualities of the cat that Carl Sandburg applies to the fog. 1m

1. Cats are independent animals, they don't follow rules, they slip and slide in and out of our lives as they please.
2. Cats are distrustful of strangers and can be jealous and moody.
3. Cats are stealthy, moving in slow motion at times and they appear to be moving in a mysterious fashion.
4. Cats often communicate with a combination of a distinctive sound and body language.
5. Cats like to move on at their own pace and before you know it, they've disappeared.

- A. Only 1 B. 2, 3 and 4
C. 1,3 and 5 D. Only 4

ii. Which one of the following does not apply to the lines given above? 1m

1. **Personification** is a literary device where you give an animal, object or natural phenomenon, qualities or abilities that only a human can have.
2. **A Transferred Epithet** is a literary device where the epithet is transferred from the noun it is meant to describe to another noun in the sentence.
3. **Oxymoron** is a figure of speech in which contradictory terms appear side by side.
4. **Imagery** is the language used by poets and writers to create visual representation of ideas in the minds of the readers.

- A. 1 and 4 B. 2 and 3
C. Only 1 D. Only 3

iii. Describe the image of cat as created by the poet in the poem. 2m

iv. Choose the option that DOES NOT list the movement of the fog. 1m

- A. It stole in on us like a foot-pad somewhere out of the sea and air—E.J.Pratt
- B. The Fog -it tricks the eye
The wonder of the veil of white
Under the clear blue sky
-K.C.Cox
- C. A fog drifts in, the heavy-laden- cold white ghost of the sea-Sara Teasdale
- D. ..comes gliding,
Rolling

in at ground level,
 pressing its white featureless face
 against....R.H. Grenville

OR

B. 'My head is full of whispers
 which tomorrow will be silent.
 Listen. The glass is breaking.
 The trees are stumbling forward
 into the night. Winds rush to meet them.
 The moon is broken like a mirror,
 its pieces flash now in the crown
 of the tallest oak.'

(The Trees)

- i. What is the tone of the events taking place in the extract? 1m
- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| 1. dynamic | 2. stagnant |
| 3. monotonous | 4. vile |
| 5. revolutionary | |
| A. 1, 5 | B. 4, 5 |
| C. 2, 4 | D. 2, 3 |
- ii. Which event is leading to 'glass is breaking', according to the extract? 2m
- iii. Complete the analogy correctly by choosing the suitable word from the extract : 1m
- loud : silent :: today : _____.
- (Clue : Just like loud is the opposite of silent similarly today is the opposite of...)
- iv. Select the sentence in which the word 'flash' is used in the similar manner as used in the extract. 1m
- A. Before fainting, she told me she was experiencing a hot flash and it got worse.
- B. The police asked him for the details but it all happened in a flash that he could not remember.
- C. I could see the flash of the torch through my mirror in the room.
- D. We were waiting at the airport and saw a news flash about floods in the North.

Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.

5m

- A. Max was slender, a little less than tall, with features that suggested slightly the crafty, pointed countenance of a fox. There was about him - aside from the gun - nothing especially menacing. "The report," he murmured. "The report that is being brought to you tonight concerning some new missiles. I thought I would take it from you. It will be safer in my hands than in yours." Ausable moved to an armchair and sat down heavily. "I'm going to raise the devil with the management this time, and you can bet on it," he said grimly. "This is the second time in a month that somebody has got into my room through that nuisance of a balcony!"

(The Midnight Visitor)

- i. Choose the option that displays the correct analogy. 1m
- A. crafty : fox :: menacing : gun
 B. report : missile :: management : devil
 C. crafty : fox :: management : balcony
 D. armchair : grim :: balcony : nuisance
- ii. Which word in the extract means the same as 'a person's face or expression'? 1m
- A. crafty B. countenance
 C. features D. pointed
- iii. Explain the phrase-'raise the devil.' 1m
- iv. Give a brief description of Max as given in the extract? Answer in about 40 words. 2m

OR

- B. "Tell me another!" scoffed Pranjol.

"We have an Indian legend too. Bodhidharma, an ancient Buddhist ascetic, cut off his eyelids because he felt sleepy during meditations.

Ten tea plants grew out of the eyelids. The leaves of these plants when put in hot water and drunk, banished sleep."

"Tea was first drunk in China," Rajvir added, "as far back as 2700

B.C.! In fact, words such as tea, chai and chini are from the Chinese.

Tea came to Europe only in the sixteenth century and was drunk more as medicine than as beverage."

- i. The main idea of this extract is _____ . 2m
- ii. Why do you think Pranjol 'scoffed'? 1m
- iii. Pick the option that includes the tea label information that corresponds to the given sentence. 1m

"The leaves of these plants when put in hot water and drunk, banished sleep."

(1) Its calming effects may be attributed to an antioxidant called apigenin, which is found in abundance in chamomile tea. Apigenin binds to specific receptors in your brain that may decrease anxiety and initiate sleep.

(2) It increases levels of a neurotransmitter called gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA) and improves overall sleep quality by shortening the time it takes to fall asleep and decreasing night-time awakenings.

(3) It interferes with REM sleep, has some unwanted side effects, keeps sleep away and allows the possibility of inducing hours of sleeplessness and increased night-time awakenings.

(4) It alleviates anxious thoughts and soothes the spirit before bedtime. It improves energy levels and helps banish stress and results in a better night's sleep, naturally.

A. option 1

B. option 2

C. option 3

D. option 4

iv Based on this extract, how do you think Rajvir felt while narrating? 1m

A. excited and agitated

B. hysterical and nervous

C. nervous and agitated

D. enthusiastic and passionate

Q8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words.

(4×3=12)

- i List any two characteristics of the speaker in the poem 'Amanda'.
- ii What careful and painstakingly elaborate plans did Valli have to make for her first journey? How did she save money for it?
- iii Responsibility is self-taught. How does the poem address this thought? (The Ball Poem)
- iv The Tale of Custard The Dragon qualifies as a ballad. Justify.
- v What was the 'appalling spectacle' Maxwell noticed when he returned from having a hurried meal? (Mijbil the Otter)

Q9. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.

(2×3=6)

- i Griffin's brilliance as a man of science fades before his darker traits. Comment. (Footprints Without Feet)

10th Em Ay

ii. 'Attack is the best form of defense'. Justify this statement with reference to the character of Ausable in 'The Midnight Visitor'.

iii. What are the subtle ways in which the lady manages to deceive Horace Danby into thinking she is the lady of the house? (A Question of Trust)

Q10. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. 6m

A. What advice might "chatterbox" Anne (Frank) have for the quietly imaginative Amanda? Present this as a conversation between the two.

You may begin this way:

Anne: Gosh! You do run off into some strange worlds, don't you?

Amanda: (*nods*) Well...

B. Being impressed by Custard's feat, the young seagull's sister wrote a letter to Custard seeking advice on addressing the situation with her younger brother. Write Custard's response to this letter. Base the advice on his experiences.

You may begin like this:

Dear Ms Seagull,

Thank you for seeking me out. I am humbled. Based on my limited experiences I feel...

Q11. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. 6m

A. Imagine Richard wrote a letter to his mother when he was studying at Harvard University, thanking her for motivating him and being a constant source of support throughout his growing up years. Write that letter of gratitude as Richard. (The Making of a Scientist)

OR

B. Your teacher conducted a debate activity in the class, and asked you to put forth your views on 'Frugality in Life is the Ideal Way to Live'. Write the debate script with points to supplement your stand, for or against the motion with reference to 'The Necklace'.