

HALF-YEARLY EXAMINATION**SUBJECT: ENGLISH**Name : TanishayRoll Number : 33Class : IX- EMax. Marks : 80Date : 22/09/2017Time : 3 hrs**The question paper is divided into three sections :**

Section A: Reading (20M)

Section B: Writing & Grammar (30M)

Section C: Literature (30M)

Instructions :

1. This paper consists of 11 questions.
2. You may attempt any section at a time.
3. Marks are indicated against each question.
4. Attempt all the questions.

Section A: Reading (20 Marks)**Q1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:****BERRY BOUNTY**

1. Heaps of luscious red ripened strawberries in leafy cups tempted me to buy some more at Arthur's Seat, the queen of all points in Mahabaleshwar at a height of 1,470 mts. Being highly perishable in nature, the farmers wanted to sell them as fast as they could. And strawberries selling as less as Rs. 60 a kg was an offer I simply could not resist.
2. Going by the brand name "Mahabaleshwar strawberries", all the strawberries grown in the Mahabaleshwar- Panchgani region of western Maharashtra are sought after. The British had brought these strawberry plantations from Australia. The cool climate and red soil are conducive to its growth. Berries like raspberry, mulberry and gooseberry too grow in abundance.
3. I was there for four days and saw simple economics theory of demand and supply regulating the prices. The prices rose to Rs. 80 per kg on weekends as tourists flocked from Pune and Mumbai. Shankar, a strawberry seller said the berries fetch Rs. 150 per kg as summer holidays commence and by the end of May are sold at a premium of Rs. 250 per kg.
4. I was keen to visit a village farm, and Suresh Jadav, the owner of two acres of strawberry farm, obliged. Riding pillion on his rickety motorcycle became an added adventure, for the narrow roads led to muddy tracks ensuring a jolty ride. But the sight of the fields with rows of strawberry shrubs cheered me up. Admiring the shrubs, Suresh said caring for the plants was like raising one's child. They need a lot of protection from pests and diseases.
5. The cultivation starts just after Ganesh Chaturthi (around September) when the fields are ploughed. Bunts are made and fumigation done, after which the fields are covered with plastics to prevent weed growth and erosion. Cow dung manure is added and fields sprayed; then seedlings are planted through holes punched in plastic sheets. Strawberries are ready after Diwali and the season lasts from December to May, the production peaks during February and March, when they are the cheapest.
6. Suresh and I picked the berries early in the morning. I was delighted to see around 30 kg of strawberries. He put 'Atki' (a local leaf) in cardboard boxes to keep them cool and packed there. I left with loads of sweet memories and boxes of even sweeter strawberries.

On the basis of your reading answer the following questions:

- (a) What tempted the author to buy some more strawberries? (1)
- (b) Why were the strawberries being sold at such a low price? (1)
- (c) Why do berries grow in abundance in western Mahabaleshwar? (1)
- (d) What was the reason for variation in the price of strawberries? (1)
- (e) Describe in a few words the author's ride to a village strawberry farm. (1)
- (f) Why is, according to Suresh Jadav, caring for the strawberry plant 'like raising one's child'? (1)
- (g) Why are the strawberry fields covered with plastics after fumigation? (1)
- (h) During what time of the year are strawberries the cheapest to buy and why? (1)

Q2. Read the following passage carefully:

CONVERTING PLASTIC WASTE INTO PETROL!

1. Alka Zadgaonkar believes in creating something of value even out of waste. Since last year, she has been demonstrating to Indian and foreign experts how waste plastic can be converted into petrol, offering a solution to one of the world's biggest environmental problems- waste plastic disposal.
2. Head of the Department of Organic Chemistry at Nagpur's G.H Raison College of Engineering, Zadgaonkar recently signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) for manufacturing and marketing petroleum products generated from waste plastic. She has been given Rs. 5.9 million for the pilot project.
3. How did she hit upon the idea? "Both plastics and petro-products are hydrocarbons. The only difference is that in plastics the chain of molecules is longer. So, I wondered if it was possible to break the chain into small segments to convert it into value-added fuel," says 40-year-old Zadgaonkar.
4. Zadgaonkar's method is simple: (shredded plastic waste- free of oxygen- is heated with coal and a secret chemical. The products include fuel range liquids, coke and LPG range gases. About 1kg of plastic and 100 gm of coal churn out a litre of fuel, which contains the gasoline range. More processing, Zadgaonkar claims, yields refined petrol.)
5. "We can use any waste plastic recycled any number of times," says Zadgaonkar. She has received a patent from the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).
6. Zadgaonkar claims almost all plastic products- bags, polyvinyl chloride (PVC), old raincoats and broken buckets can be converted into fuel through her processing method. There is also no problem with residue disposal or emission, as the solid residue is coke and the gaseous emission is pure LPG, she says.
7. The quest is significant for India, which produces 7,000 tones of waste plastic every day. Zadgaonkar calculates that even if 50 percent of this waste is converted, the country would have approximately 2.5 million litres of petrol everyday, and significant volumes of diesel and lubricating oil.
8. Also, unlike in crude oil processing (this conversion can be carried out in smaller low-investment plants. Zadgaonkar says the processing costs are also low because this distillate, unlike crude oil, contains no sulphur or lead. With further value addition, more expensive petro-products like alfa-olifins and aviation-grade gasoline can be obtained from the liquid distillate.)
9. She is contemplating the launch of her new product within a year. A pilot plant with a capacity of 15 tonnes will come up in Nagpur within 6 months, followed by plants in Delhi and then all over the country.
10. Will reclaimed petrol be cheaper than ordinary petrol? According to Zadgaonkar, the process of conversion costs Rs 7.50 per litre. Along with raw material expenditure, the total cost of petrol production would be about Rs. 12. However, she says it is not possible to determine the exact cost at this stage.
11. Zadgaonkar is happy that she has contributed in suggesting ways to solve the plastic waste problem of the country.

- (a) On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions: (2x4=8)
- How did Alka Zadgaonkar hit upon the idea of generating petrol from waste plastic?
 - Briefly describe the procedure adopted by Zadgaonkar for obtaining petrol.
 - What makes Zadgaonkar's invention environmental-friendly?
 - Give two reasons why Zadgaonkar's method of producing fuel makes more sense than crude oil processing?
- (b) Choose the most appropriate option in each of the following: (1x4=4)
- The word 'patent' (paragraph 5) means the same as
 (A) Award (B) warning (C) copyright (D) notice
 - The word 'quest' (paragraph 7) can be replaced by which of the following?
 (A) Solution (B) process (C) search (D) range
 - The word 'contemplating' in paragraph 9 means which of the following?
 (A) Refusing (B) suggesting (C) delaying (D) expecting
 - Which of the following words from the passage means the same as 'broken down or torn to pieces'?
 (A) Refined (B) shredded (C) reclaimed (D) generated

Section B: Writing & Grammar (30 Marks)

Q3. Commercials are the best way to sell one's product. But these advertisements shown on television lure the children and some of them try to copy the heroes of these commercials. Arun Bakshi was one such victim who tried to copy the commercial ad of a well-known cola by trying to jump from the first floor of his house. As a result, he got his legs fractured.

His elder brother, Rishi decided to write an article for a newspaper to highlight the adverse effects- all these commercials/advertisements have on the children today. As Rishi, write the article in about 100-120 words. (8)

OR

You notice many street children playing or working during the day in your area. Write a diary entry in about 120 words describing these children. (8)

In your diary you should include:

- how many children you see- how many of them are boys and how many girls and of which age group do they belong
- what they do- what kind of games they play or what kind of work they do
- what you think of them and their condition
- what you would like to do for them

Q4. Making use of the following notes, write a short story in about 200-250 words. Make your story interesting by adding a suitable setting, characters, dialogue and events: (12)

(Priya- 14 years old- domestic help- excellent singer- natural singer- would often sing while at work one day a visitor noticed her sing- made a video of her song- uploaded it on You Tube- Priya becomes a singing sensation)

Q5. Complete the following passage by inserting suitable word in each blank: (½x6=3)

Scavengers are birds and animals that feed (a) on dead (or injured) animals and plants. They clean the planet's organic waste. The moment they get nature's warning signal- odour-they quickly (b) come to the rescue. They break down the organic material into smaller pieces, (c) which are eaten by decomposers and broken down into chemical parts. These chemical parts, including nitrogen, carbon (d) and other nutrients, are used again by plants and animals. (e) without scavengers, the world (f) will be covered with dead plants and animals.

- Q6. The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each of the lines against which a blank is given. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheets against the correct blank number: (½x8=4)

Migratory birds have fascinating human beings for much years since of their uncanny ability to found their way home for thousands of miles away. Now a new study have found a scientific reason behind its – birds have magnetic beaks who help them navigate.

(a) fascinated
(b) many
(c) due to
(d) find
(e) from
(f) has
(g) it
(h) which

- Q7. Rearrange the following words and phrases to make meaningful sentences: (1x3=3)
- (a) in/ constant struggle / is a / this world/ life
(b) race of life / tries to / his fellow men / outstrip/ every man / in the
(c) successful / he / has the capacity / promptness, / comes out / who is alert / to act with / and

SECTION - C
(LITERATURE - 30 MARKS)

- Q8. Refer to the context given below and answer the questions that follow:

'Entirely furnished with all the fixtures, just as it is, with the exception of that one little picture signed by Carot.'
(1x4=4)

- (a) Who speaks these words and to whom?
(b) What is the context of the conversation here?
(c) Why did the speaker want to keep the picture?
(d) Why did the speaker offer to reduce the price for the couple? What was the actual reason for reducing the price of the villa?

OR

~~X~~ Or is it some more humble lay,
Familiar matter of today?
Some natural sorrow, loss or pain,
That has been and maybe again'

- (a) Name the poem and the poet.
(b) Who is singing and where?
(c) What is the poet trying to guess?
(d) What does 'humble lay' stand for?

- Q9. Answer the following questions briefly in about 30-40 words each: (2x4=8)

- (a) Why has the poet compared the Solitary Reaper's song with the song of a nightingale and a cuckoo bird?
(b) What did the professor mean by intelligent reading?
(c) Why does the poet choose the road 'less travelled by' in the poem 'The Road Not Taken'?
(d) How did Duke coax his master to make an effort to walk?

Q10. Answer the following question in about 100-120 words.

(1x8=8)

Imagine the grandmother completes reading the novel 'Kashi Yatre'. She derives immense pleasure from self-reading. Later she writes a page in her diary about her learning experience from her granddaughter and her own determination and perseverance. Write the diary entry in 150 words.

OR

On the basis of your understanding the poem 'The Road Not Taken' analyse what is the need of making correct choices in life? Which factors and values would you consider before making an important choice?

Q11. Answer the following question in about 150-200 words.

(1x10=10)

How did the farmer of Brobdingnag make Gulliver a source of earning? How was Gulliver affected by being turned into an exhibit?

OR

What is your impression of the emperor of Lilliput? Elaborate on his character.