

# APEEJAY COMMON ANNUAL EXAMINATION

SESSION: 2023-2024

SUBJECT: English-Language & Literature (184)

CLASS: IX

TIME: 3 hours

M. Marks: 80

## General Instructions:

1. This question paper contains three sections- Reading, Writing & Grammar and Literature.
2. Attempt all the questions in each section.
3. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.
4. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.
5. This question paper consists of 9 printed pages.

## SECTION A - READING

(20 Marks)

Q1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

(10 marks)

1. The phases of the Moon last approximately one month, so it was easy for ancient people to measure that length of time. However, every society needs a length of time shorter than a month but longer than a day so the week was invented.

2. Sunday is, obviously named after the Sun and Monday is named after the Moon. Saturday is named after Saturn. The other days of the week are named after Germanic gods. Tuesday is named after Tiw, the god of war. Wednesday is named after Woden, the chief god. Thursday is named after Thor; the god of thunder and Friday is named after the goddess Frigg.

3. In 45 BC Julius Caesar introduced a new calendar with 12 months. He also added a leap year. The Romans celebrated New Year on 1 March so the name September is derived from Latin words meaning seventh month. October was the 8th month; November was the 9th month and December was the 10th month. In England, New Year was not celebrated in January until 1752. January is named after the Roman god Janus, who was the god of gates, doors, and beginnings. February may be named after the Roman festival of Februa. March is named after Mars, the god of war. June is named after the goddess Juno and July is named after Julius Caesar. August is named after Augustus Caesar. The origin of the names of the other months is not certain. April is believed to be derived from the Latin word *aperire*, which means to open because buds opened at that time. May, may be named after the goddess Maia.

4. In 1582, Pope Gregory 13th introduced a new calendar. The calendar went forward 10 days and century years (like 1800) there would no longer be leap years unless they were divisible by four. Britain adopted the Gregorian calendar in 1752 but in Russia, it was not adopted until after the revolution of 1917.

5. In the early years of Christianity there was a dispute over the date of Easter. In 325, the Nicean Council decided it should be on the first Sunday after the full moon after the Spring Equinox. That is why the date of Easter changes each year. Christmas is, of course, Jesus' birthday. However, it is very unlikely Jesus was really born on 25 December! In ancient times most pagans held some kind of mid-winter festival. Instead of abolishing the old pagan festivals the Church took them over and 'Christianized' them. In 354 AD 25 December was fixed as the birthday of Christ.

6. At the end of the 5th century a monk named Dionysius the Short introduced a new way of calculating dates. Previously dates were calculated from the foundation of Rome. Dates were now calculated from before the birth of Jesus (BC) or before Christ and in the year of Our Lord (AD) or Anno Domini). However, Dionysius miscalculated and Jesus was actually born in at least 4 BC.

7. Before the Reformation, people would often record the date by writing Saint so-and-so's day rather than writing the day of the month. Many saints' days were days of rest and the word 'holiday' is derived from holy.

day. In an agricultural society life was dominated by the seasons. The old word for Spring was Lenten (related to our word lengthen because the days lengthen at that time). Later it came to mean the days before Easter and it was shortened to Lent. The word Spring was first used for this season in the 16th century.

On the basis of your reading and understanding of the above passage, answer the following:

(i) September is counted as the seventh month in the Roman calendar because \_\_\_\_\_ 1

(ii) State whether the given statement is True or False: 1

The idea of a week was invented as every society needed a length of time longer than a day. 1

(iii) What is the significance and origin of the word 'lent'? 1

(iv) State whether the given statement is True or False: 1

The change in the date of Easter every year is because of the decision of the Nicean Council to celebrate it on the first Sunday after the full moon following the Spring Equinox. 1

(v) The Gregorian Calendar \_\_\_\_\_ 1

(a) came into being in 1583.

(b) was introduced by Pope Gregory the 12th.

(c) didn't count century years as leap years unless they were divisible by four.

(d) was adopted by Russia before the Russian Revolution.

(vi) Which of the following is **not** a synonym of the word 'dispute'? 1

(a) discord

(b) feud

(c) agreement

(d) altercation

(vii) Which of the following is true? 1

(a) Days are named after the Germanic Gods.

(b) Jesus was really born on 25 December.

(c) Thor is the God of war.

(d) Holy day is the origin for the word holiday.

(viii) The word 'foundation' in paragraph 6 can be replaced by the word- 1

(a) base

(b) establishment

(c) organisation

(d) incorporation

(ix) What are the new ways to calculate the dates as introduced by Dionysius the Short? 1

(x) Find the antonym of the word, 'condense' in 'paragraph 7'. 1

Q2) Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: (10 marks)

1. The ocean is one of the most unexplored parts of our planet, with a magnitude of undiscovered species and mysteries. It turns out from the studies conducted over the last few decades, this magnificent environment is under serious threat from human intervention, with plastics set to outnumber fish by 2050. Marine life, as we know it, is suffering irreparable damage from the chemical pollution of the waters and the millions of tons of unmanaged waste dumped in the oceans each year. The result is a planetary crisis with over 100 million marine animals being get lost every year, and the decay of the ocean's ecosystem.

2. Around 1,000 species of marine animals get impacted by ocean pollution, and we now have over 500 locations recorded as dead zones where marine life cannot exist. How did this happen, what is causing the marine damage, food and everything below in the marine pollution statistics roundup. The Great Pacific Garbage

Patch is a floating island of debris, accumulated in the North Pacific Ocean by an extensive system of currents called gyres. It is built up from two other waste patches, the western garbage patch near Japan and the eastern garbage patch near America's west coast near California and Hawaii.

3. The North Pacific Subtropical Convergence Zone links the east and western garbage patches, acting as a highway for waste to move from one to the other. Because of this, a small item of debris dropped near California can travel across to Japan, and then eventually get sucked up by these swirling garbage patch vortexes. The Great Pacific Garbage Patch size is quite shocking. These patches of trash are said to be twice the size of Texas and float on the surface but do drop several meters into the ocean in places, which makes the correct size challenging to measure. The world's largest garbage site is mainly made up of microplastics creating a vast cloud, with newer items of debris that haven't broken down as much floating around like chunks in a soup. The great pacific garbage patch effects on marine life are extremely significant.

#### Shocking Ocean Pollution Statistics

- 100 million marine animals die each year from plastic waste alone.
- 100,000 marine animals die from getting entangled in plastic yearly.
- 1 in 3 marine mammal species get found entangled in litter, 12-14,000 tons of plastic are ingested by North Pacific fish yearly.
- In the past 10 years, we've made more plastic than the last century. By 2050, the pollution of fish will be outnumbered by our dumped plastic.
- The largest trash site on the planet is the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, twice the surface area of Texas, it outnumbers sea life there 6 to 1.
- China is ranked #1 for mismanaged waste and plastics. However, the US is in the top 20 with a more significant waste per person contributions.
- 300 million tons of plastic gets created yearly, and this weighs the same as the entire human population, and 50% is single-use only.
- There are 5.25 trillion pieces of plastic waste estimated to be in our oceans. 269,000 tons float, 4 billion microfibers per km<sup>2</sup> dwell below the surface.
- 70% of our debris sinks into the ocean's ecosystem, 15% floats and 15% lands on our beaches.
- In terms of plastic, 8.3 million tons are discarded in the sea yearly. Of which, 236,000 are ingestible microplastics, that marine creatures mistake for food.
- Plastics take 500-1000 years to degrade; currently 79% is sent to lands or the oceans, while only 9% is recycled, and 12% gets incinerated.
- 1950-1998 over 100 nuclear blast tests occurred in our oceans.
- 500 marine locations are now recorded as dead zones globally, currently the size of the United Kingdom's surface (245,000 km<sup>2</sup>)
- 80% of global marine pollution comes from agriculture runoff, untreated sewage, discharge of nutrients and pesticides.

On the basis of your reading and understanding of the above passage, answer the following:

- i) In the ocean what is set to outnumber the fish by the year 2050?  
 (a) pollution (b) plastics (c) human waste (d) garbage
- ii) List any one reason for the following, based on information in paragraph 1.  
 Marine life is suffering from irreparable damage.
- iii) The largest trash site on the planet, the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, is twice the size of which city?  
 (a) Arizona (b) Colorado (c) Texas (d) Florida
- iv) Identify the literary device used in the given statement- "...with newer items of debris that haven't broken down as much floating around like chunks in a soup."  
 (a) alliteration (b) simile (c) personification (d) metaphor
- v) Complete the following analogy correctly with a word from paragraph 3:  
 slug: land /shark: \_\_\_\_\_
- vi) Which of the following is **not** a place from where 80% of global marine pollution comes?  
 (a) untreated sewage (b) agriculture run-off  
 (c) discharge of nutrients and pesticide (d) factory waste disposal
- vii) List one reason for the following, based on information in paragraph 3:  
**A small item of debris dropped near California can travel across to Japan.**
- viii) Select the most appropriate title for the given passage:  
 (a) Shocking Ocean Pollution Statistics (b) Our Planet is in Crisis  
 (c) The Great Pacific Garbage Patch (d) The Threatened Marine Life
- ix) Find a word from paragraph 1 which means the same as "irrecoverable"
- x) An extensive system of currents in the North Pacific Ocean is called \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (a) vortex (b) convergence (c) gyres (d) debris

**SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR (20 MARKS)**

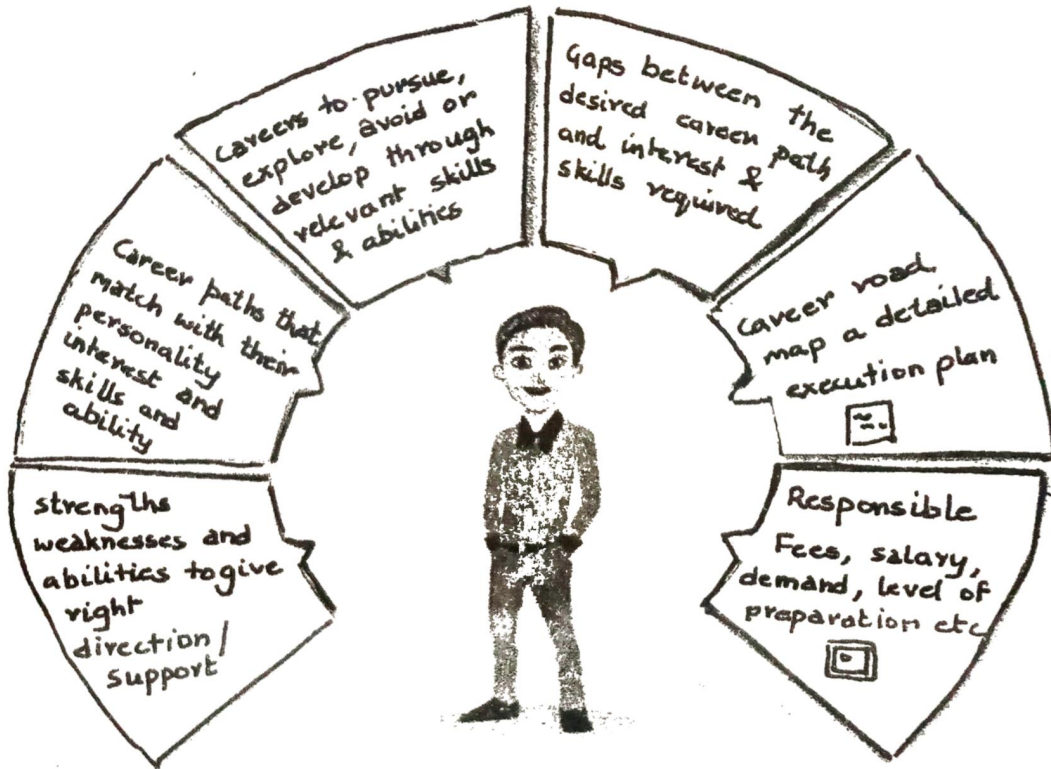
Q3 Attempt **ANY ONE** from the following:

A. Write a descriptive paragraph on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose using the hints given below. (100-120 words) (5)

<b>Name:</b>	Subhash Chandra Bose; Netaji
<b>Birth:</b>	23 January 1897 in Cuttack, Orissa.
<b>Career:</b>	Civil services.
<b>Achievements:</b>	Joined freedom struggle; established Indian National Army
<b>Contribution:</b>	Immense, freedom fighter
<b>Motto:</b>	"Give me blood and I will give you freedom."
<b>Death:</b>	Air crash over Taipei, Taiwan (Formosa) on 18 August 1945

OR

B. A Career Counselling program was organised in your school. The Counsellor shared real-life experiences as well as motivated students to dream and adopt a 'keep trying until you succeed' attitude. Refer to the image below which depicts the key points discussed in the seminar, and write a descriptive paragraph on it, in 100-120 words. (5)



Q4 Attempt ANY ONE from the following.

A. You visited an 'Old Age Home' with your friends. Using the hints given below and your own ideas, make a diary entry of what you saw and experienced there in 120-150 words. (5)

Hints: Old Age Home — people mostly above sixty years - peaceful surroundings - spacious - good sanitation - regular medical checkup - feeling of co-operation - means of recreation.

OR

B. Write a story in 120-150 words with the help of the following outline. Give a suitable title to the story. (5)

"It was late in the night when Tarun heard a loud thumping sound on his roof. It woke him up and he....."

Q5 Attempt the following questions.

i) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence. (10 Marks)

The mechanic \_\_\_\_\_ the vehicle since the morning.

(a) repaired

(b) repairing

(c) has been repairing  
page 5 of 9

(d) will be repairing

ii) Read the conversation between customer and shopkeeper. Complete the sentence by reporting the shopkeeper's reply correctly.

Customer: Can I have a bottle of juice?

Shopkeeper: Sorry, we only have milk bottles.

The customer asked the shopkeeper if he could have a bottle of juice. The shopkeeper apologized and said \_\_\_\_\_.

iii) Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line.

Genius does what it must, and talent does what it \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) can                      (b) would                      (c) may                      (d) should

iv) Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

"At sunset, the villagers go looking for the boy who hadn't returned with his sheep."

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction
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v) Complete the given sentence, by filling in the blank with the correct option:

"Shanaya \_\_\_\_\_ the photos on the table so that her mother could see them."

- (a) spread on                      (b) spread out  
(c) spread in                      (d) will be spreading

vi) The students or the teacher \_\_\_\_\_ (has/ have) to inform the Principal.

vii) Fill in the blanks with the correct option.

The girl shouted, "\_\_\_\_\_ the window!" Later she \_\_\_\_\_ help her with the task.

- (a) Shut; requested me to                      (b) Shuts; requests me to  
(c) Shutting; requests them to                      (d) Shut; requested them to

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

"Students can bring their admit card for the examination without fail."

Use the given format for your response.

Error	Correction
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ix) Transform the following direct speech into reported speech:

He said to Jyoti, "Has anybody been unkind to you?"

x) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the sentence.

The cooker didn't whistle because there \_\_\_\_\_ something wrong with it today.

- (a) must be                      (b) should have been                      (c) must have been                      (d) could be

### SECTION C : LITERATURE

(40 marks)  
(5)

Q6 Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the following.

A. *In accordance with our social ranking as the new teacher saw it, I was asked to go and sit on the back bench. I felt very sad, and so did Ramanadha Sastry. He looked utterly downcast as I shifted to my seat in the last row. The image of him weeping when I shifted to the last row left a lasting impression on me.*

(My Childhood)

- i) What did the new teacher ask of Kalam? 1
- (a) To leave the class (b) To sit with another friend  
(c) To read a poem aloud (d) To occupy the last seat
- ii) According to the extract, what feelings did Kalam and his friend go through? 1
- 1) nervousness    2) fear of rejection    3) sadness    4) rage    5) helplessness  
(a) 1 and 3 (b) Only 4  
(c) 3 and 5 (d) Only 3
- iii) What left a deep and lasting impression on Kalam? Answer in about 40 words. 2
- iv) Complete the analogy by selecting the suitable word from the extract. 1  
laughing: chuckling::crying:\_\_\_\_\_

OR

B. *At my slightest movement the snake would strike me! Death lurked 4 inches away. Suppose it struck, what was the medicine I had to take? There were no medicines in the room. I was but a poor, foolish and stupid doctor. I forgot my danger and smiled feebly at myself. It seemed as if God appreciated that. The snake turned its head. It looked into the mirror and saw its reflection. I do not claim that it was the first snake that had ever looked into a mirror. But it was certain that the snake was looking into the mirror. Was it admiring its own beauty?*

(The Snake and the Mirror)

- i) What do you think the snake was doing in front of the mirror? 1
- (a) The snake was giving an alarming look at the doctor.  
(b) The snake was looking at the narrator who was staring at himself in the mirror.  
(c) The doctor had tamed the snake to stare at the mirror.  
(d) The snake had coiled on the doctor's left arm and was looking at its reflection.
- ii) What was the economic condition of the doctor? 1
- (a) The doctor had a smooth sailing and was soon planning to marry a doctor.  
(b) The doctor was not economically sound.  
(c) The doctor owned a garret and was soon going to shift to a new apartment.  
(d) The doctor was prosperous and had a lavish lifestyle.

iii) What made the doctor smile feebly at himself? Answer in about 40 words. 2

iv) Complete the analogy by selecting the suitable word from the extract. 1

Rich: poor:: wise: \_\_\_\_\_

(5)

Q7 Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the following.

A.

*A slumber did my spirit seal*

*I had no human fears.*

*She seemed a thing that could not feel*

*The touch of earthy years.*

(A Slumber did my Spirit Seal)

i) Identify the rhyme scheme of the given lines 1

- (a) abcd
- (b) abba
- (c) abab
- (d) abac

ii) The poet seems to have indicated \_\_\_\_\_ 1

- (a) his deep love towards his beloved and reaction of a sudden death.
- (b) his unwavering faith in his beloved.
- (c) that he believed his beloved would live forever.
- (d) his undying love for nature.

iii) Pick the meaning that does not display what 'slumber' means in the context given. 1

- (a) a state of permanent sleep
- (b) half awake
- (c) sub-conscious
- (d) wide awake

iv) What human fear is being referred to in the line: 'I had no human fears.' Answer in 40 words. 2

OR

B.

*I will arise and go now, for always night and day*

*I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore;*

*While I stand on the road way, or on the pavements grey,*

*I hear it in the deep heart's core.*

(The Lake Isle of Innisfree)

i) When does the poet hear the music of the waves? 1

- (a) While he's in deep sleep
- (b) When he stands on the concrete roadways in the midst of traffic
- (c) Through the day and night while he is at work
- (d) While he stands under the glimmering night sky

ii) Why are the sounds of the lake described as 'low'? 2



iii) What does the word 'grey' symbolize?

- I) Cement and concrete that cities are made up of
- II) The grey colour of the poet's house
- III) The dullness and lifelessness

- (a) Both I and III
- (b) Both I and II
- (c) Both I, II and III
- (d) Only II

iv) Which poetic device is used in the line 'lake water lapping with low sounds'?

- (a) Alliteration
- (b) Metaphor
- (c) Repetition
- (d) Personification

1

Q8 Answer **ANY FOUR** of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words. (4x3=12)

- i) What message does Evelyn Glennie leave for the people about music? (The Sound of Music)
- ii) Why does the world remember Einstein as a world citizen? (A Truly Beautiful Mind)
- iii) What reason did the County Inspector give for Margie's slow progress? How did he correct it? (The Fun They Had)
- iv) The "Baudhnath Stupa" is a haven of quietness in the busy streets around. Comment. (Kathmandu)
- v) Human life is full of hardships. How does the poet reveal it? (Wind)

Q9 Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words. (2x3=6)

- i) Grandfather thought he would keep Toto as a pet. But he was wrong. Why? (The Adventures of Toto)
- ii) Sergei says "I am happy that my words have taken effect." Why does he say so? (The Beggar)
- iii) "Goodness can never be destroyed". Illustrate with reference to the story "The Happy Prince".

Q10 Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. (1x6=6)

i) Why did the narrator's father say, "Does the seagull not fly across the sun, alone and without a nest? Elaborate in your own words. (My Childhood)

**OR**

ii) Bring out Gerrard's intelligence, presence of mind and sense of humour. How do these traits help him to outwit the intruder? (If I Were You)

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

i) "My cat was back and so was I". What made the author say so? Explain in context of the lesson "A House is not a Home".

(1x6=6)

**OR**

ii) Justify the title "The Last Leaf".