

**MONTHLY TEST – 1 (MARCH 2019)**

**ENGLISH CORE (RE-TEST)**

 **Class: XII Max Marks: 80**

 **Date : 20.04.2019 Time: 3 hrs**

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| **General Instructions** **This paper is divided into three sections:****Section A: Reading – (20marks)****Section B: Writing – (30marks)****Section C: Literature & Long reading text - (30marks)****All sections are compulsory.** **Separate instructions have been given for each section and each question.** **Follow these instructions carefully.****Do not exceed the word limit.** |

**SECTION –A (READING) - 20MARKS**

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**Q1. Read the passage given below:**

 1. **Occasional self-medication has always been part of normal living. The making and selling of drugs has a long history and is closely linked, like medical practice itself, with belief in magic. Only during the last hundred years or so, as the development of scientific techniques made it possible diagnosis has become possible. The doctor is now able to follow up the correct diagnosis of many illnesses-with specific treatment of their causes. In many other illnesses of which the causes remain unknown, he is still limited, like the unqualified prescriber, to the treatment of symptoms. The doctor is trained to decide when to treat symptoms only and when to attack the cause. This is the essential difference between medical prescribing and self-medication.**

**The advance of technology has brought about much progress in some fields of medicine, including the development of scientific drug therapy. In many countries public health organization is improving and people’s nutritional standards have risen. Parallel with such beneficial trends are two which have an adverse effect. One is the use of high pressure advertising by the pharmaceutical industry which has tended to influence both patients and doctors and has led to the overuse of drugs generally. The other is emergence of eating, insufficient sleep, excessive smoking and drinking. People with disorders arising from faulty habits such as these , as well as well from unhappy human relationships , often resort to self –medication and so add the taking of pharmaceuticals to the list .Advertisers go to great lengths to catch this market.**

**Clever advertising, aimed at chronic suffers who will try anything because doctors have not been able to cure them, can induce such faith in a preparation, particularly if steeply priced, that it will produce-by suggestion-a very real effect in some people .Advertisements are also aimed at people suffering from mild complaints such as simple cold and coughs which clear up by themselves within a short time.**

**These are the main reasons, why laxatives, indigestion-remedies, painkillers, cough-mixtures, tonics, vitamin and iron tablets, nose drops, ointments and many other preparations are found in quantity in many households. It is doubtful whether taking these things ever improves a person’s health, it may even make it worse. Worse, because the preparation may contain unsuitable ingredients; worse because the taker may become dependent on them; worse because they might be taken excess; worse because they may cause poisoning , and worst of all because symptoms of some serious underlying cause may be asked and therefore medical help may not be sought. Self-diagnosis is a greater danger than self-medication.**

 **(a)On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (minimum four), wherever necessary. Use a format you consider suitable. Supply a suitable title to it. (5)**

**(b) Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words. (3)**

**Q2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: (12m)**

1. There were three kinds of boarders in the convent. The first class boarders, who were given a breakfast of cereal, eggs and toast, meat at lunch-time, snacks at tea and pudding after supper; the second class girls, who had only cereal at breakfast, rice and fish curry at lunch and no pudding at supper; the third class boarders, who got only a gruel made of maize in the morning, rice at lunch and gruel again at night. Worse off than even the third class boarders were the children without parents. They were the ones who cleaned the lavatories, swept the droppings of the turkeys and the dead leaves from the kitchen yard, chopped firewood, helped in the kitchen and ate only two meals of gruel a day.

2. They wore white and exuded the smell of rancid coconut oil which they had applied to their dusty hair. These children were nearly always busy filling up the wooden tubs in many bathrooms that they hated drawing water from the well for their own baths. They therefore bathed only once a week.

3. The oldest of these children was a 70year, old lady called Rocky Mariam who went to the bazaar with baskets to buy the provisions for the cruising - house. Whenever she came on the scene the turkeys chased her, making loud friendly sounds, and she spoke to them in Malayalam in a quavering voice full of affection. They are calling me Ammachi (mother) said the old lady one day pointing at the gawky birds.

4. The cook laughed and her laughter resembled the cackle of birds. She was called Felicitas and was respected by all the children. It was within her power to give them an extra ladle of gruel if they pleased her. She was weedy and emaciated. Her teeth looked like rusty nails, being pointed and discolored by the betel and tobacco she chewed the whole day long.

5. After each vacation each of us brought from our homes, sweets and fruits and banana-chips. Once, My grandmother had sent with me a bunch of ripe bananas which disappeared from our dressing room at night. It was obvious that someone very hungry had eaten them, creeping into our rooms while we were asleep, for we found the peels lying outside the window.

6. I did not want anyone to know about this petty theft but the assistant boarding-mistress somehow got wind of it and decided to make a huge fuss. After the prayer she told the children that St.Anthony was going to turn the culprit insane within three days. For two days we went around looking for lunacy in others’ faces.

7. Finally at dusk, a terrified girl went up to the plaster statue of St.Anthony in the chapel and began to sob hysterically. The nuns prayed to the saint and begged him to spare the young girl in view of her tender age. She was a plump girl, fond of eating and apparently the convent’s niggardly rations did not satisfy her hunger. She was let off with a gloomy warning from the Mother Superior. She developed convulsions soon after and went home for good.

**2.1 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer each of the questions given below with the help of options that follow: (4m)**

(a) The fact that the orphans were treated in such a harsh manner shows that the members running the convent were\_\_\_\_\_\_

(i) discriminatory (ii) miserly (iii) brutal (iv) unkind

(b) The orphans bathed only once a week because \_\_\_\_

(i) they had no time to bathe (ii) they were busy filling water for others

(iii) they did not have the energy left to fill water for themselves

(iv) they were not permitted to fill water for their baths

(c) Felicitas was\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(i) the cook at the convent (ii) the oldest orphan living in the convent

(iii) the banana thief (iv) the girl whose bananas were stolen

(d) The fact that the girls believed that the thief would become mad shows that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(i) they were very innocent (ii) they were not very intelligent

(iii) they were scared of the authorities (iv) they were very religious.

**2.2 Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:(6m)**

(a) Why do you think were the orphans treated differently from the others?

(b) How did Rocky Mariam treat the turkeys in the convent?

(c) Why was Felicitas so popular with the orphans?

(d) Why are the cook’s teeth compared to rusty nails?

(e) Do you think the narrator felt upset at the loss of her bananas? Give reasons for your answer.

(f) Why did the banana thief develop convulsions?

**2.3** **Find words from the passage which mean the same as each of the following: (2m)**

 (i) rotten/stale (para-2)

(ii) miserly (para-7)

 **SECTION –B (WRITING) – 30 MARKS**

Q3. Mr. Pandey the Personal assistant to the General Manager, GMD Metal Tools Company Limited has been asked to draft an advertisement for two engineers to work in the organization in not more than 50 words. Prepare the advertisement.(4marks)

 Q4.The youth of the country are very vigilant these days and feel concerned about the problems being faced by the people. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily urging him to highlight the role of the youth in eradicating the problems of poverty, unemployment and corruption . You are Rani / Rohit, 15 Gulbarga Society, Surat.(6 marks)

Q5. You are Ram / Rajani an academic counselor. You have been invited to speak on the topic, ‘Books are Our Best Friends’. Prepare a speech in 150-200 words, giving your views on books , how they can be our best friends and how they happen to be better than real human friends and how they can lead us to the great hobby of reading. (10 marks)

Q6. According to 2017 census, literacy rate of hundred percent or around has been achieved by only a couple of states in India. Illiteracy is found mostly among the old and deprived sections of society. What can the youth do to spread literacy in society? Write an article in 150 – 200 words on ‘Role of students in eradicating illiteracy’(10marks)

**SECTION-C (LITERATURE AND LONG READING TEXT) – (30m)**

 **Q6. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: (4m)**

 **I looked again at her, wan, pale**
**as a late winter’s moon and felt that old**
**familiar ache, my childhood’s fear,**
**but all I said was see you soon, Amma,**
**all I did was smile and smile and smile ………**

**(a) What was the poet’s childhood fear?**
**(b) What were the poet’s parting words?**
**(c) What is the poetic device used in these lines?**
**(d) Why did the poet smile and smile?**

**Q7. “What a thunderclap these words were to me!”(4m)**

1. **Who is the speaker of the above line?**
2. **Which were the words that shocked and surprised little Franz?**
3. **Why was it a thunderclap?**
4. **Recall the word/phrase which means “the idea that one’s language is superior to that of others”.**

 **Q8. Answer the following in 30-40 words each: (10m)**

 (a) **What did Wachter tell Franz? What was the latter’s response?**

(b) What do parting words of Kamala Das and her smile signify?

 (c) What did Hamel blame him for?

 (d)“We’ve all a great deal to reproach ourselves with” said M Hamel . Comment.

 (e)Having looked at her mother, why does Kamala Das look at the young children?

 **Q8. Answer the following in 180 to 200 words each: (12marks)**

(a)What message does the story “The Last Lesson” carry?How relevant is it today?(6m)

(b) Attempt the character sketch of M Hamel.(6m)