

**PERIODIC TEST (22 July 2017)**  
**CLASS X**  
**PAPER- ENGLISH**  
**SET-A**

Time: 1 1/2 hrs

M.M. 50

**Q1. Read the following passage carefully :**

**(12)**

The daily commute from home to work in a Mumbai local is a fascinating experience. The Railway is the biggest leveller in this city. What caught my attention one day in the ladies compartment was that everyone – from a 10-year-old girl accompanying her mother – sat with earpieces on, plugged into their own world of music and private thoughts, consciously avoiding eye contact with anyone, lest a need should arise for small talk. Or worse, a conversation throughout the journey.

We all live in a plugged – in world where communication is child's play. But one of the biggest casualties of this connected world has been the art of conversation. We simply don't have the patience to talk anymore. Or even listen to others. Says an advertisement executive, "conversation is a formality these days. Even when friends meet and talk, their eyes are glued to their phones. I have heard people say, 'Make it quick. What do you have to say?' It's almost like they are waiting for the 'talk' part to get over so they can relax, go back to texting and checking their Facebook statuses."

We live in a self-absorbed world. We love talking, arguing, debating in our own heads. The moment it becomes real, we lose control. Whether it is a sociologist's speech on the caste system, a superstar's article on being a Muslim in India, or TV debates that sound more like slanging matches; our inability to listen and talk to people to understand their point of view, stands out.

A spiritual guru BK Shivani asks, "Whether on social media platforms, TV or in real life, why are conversations only about winning or proving a point these days? BY choosing to fight a corner, aren't we saying to the world that we would rather be right than happy? Winning an argument isn't winning. It is the ego's way of trying to convince us that we are victorious because we have avoided defeat.

A professor of the social studies of science and technology at one of the US universities writes in her latest book one of the main reasons people don't converse anymore is that "a conversation takes place in real time and you can't control what you are going to say. We get edit, and that means we get to delete, and that means we get to retouch the face, the voice, the flesh, the body" Texting is preferred to talking. Emails have made our conversations crisp, cool and to the point. Whether it's an official mail or a personal text, we can type and retype till we see a sentence that satisfies our ego. There is no room for mistakes.

1.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions briefly: (2×4=8 marks)

- (a) Why is the local train in Mumbai called the biggest leveller? (2)
- (b) Why do people avoid talking to each other? (2)
- (c) Why don't people have patience these days? (2)
- (d) How have emails changed our way of communicating? (2)

1.2 Choose the most appropriate meanings of the given words from the options provided: (1×4=4 marks)

- (a) 'Accompanying' means .....
  - (i) along with
  - (ii) away
  - (iii) to walk
  - (iv) to support



- (b) 'Glued' means .....  
 (i) peeled      (ii) stitched      (iii) stuck to      (iv) twined
- (c) 'Convince' means .....  
 (i) to speak      (ii) to make someone agree  
 (iii) to disagree      (iv) to report
- (d) 'Crisp' means .....  
 (i) stiff      (ii) breakable      (iii) soft      (iv) short and sweet

**Q2.** During the summer break you are planning to visit ..... along with 9 friends. Write a letter of enquiry to a travel agency Ajit Travels, Chandigarh, asking them for information of the journey, facilities and other details. You are Rohan/Rajni. (5)

**Q3.** Develop the given line and write a story in about 150-200 words: (5)

I was on my way to the airport to take a flight to .....

**Q4.** 5. Given below is a paragraph on how kites came into existence. There is one blank in each line. Fill in the blanks with appropriate word. ( $\frac{1}{2} \times 6 = 3$  Marks)

Kites have (a) ..... long and illustrious history, starting perhaps as (b) ..... as 260 BC when a Chinese general, Han Hsin, used (c) ..... to overthrow (d) ..... evil emperor. There (e) ..... many versions of the story and one is (f) ..... Han ordered his men to build a kite and fly it over the emperor's palace.

**Q5.** 6. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each of the lines. Write the incorrect word and the correction in the space provided. ( $\frac{1}{2} \times 8 = 4$  Marks)

	Incorrect	Correct
(a) Community service sensitise people to	.....	.....
(b) other's needs and supports inclusive	.....	.....
(c) development to the underprivileged	.....	.....
(d) sections with society. Courses about social	.....	.....
(e) work prepares frontline workers for	.....	.....
(f) takes up assignments in social welfare	.....	.....
(g) organisations. Practical work including	.....	.....
(h) 50 hour of structured internship to man projects.	.....	.....

**Q6.** Rearrange the following: (3)

- are realized/could dream of/more discoveries/than the world/in dreams
- of our/and experience/make use/fullest knowledge/dreams
- when awake/make use of/which we are/they can/the facts, not aware of

**Q7. Read the following extract carefully and answer the questions that follow:** (4)

**Mrs. Slater:** Elizabeth's that sharp she'll see I'm after it, and she'll drive a hard bargain over it.

Eh, what it is to have a low money grubbing spirit!

- a) What bargain is being discussed here?
- b) Explain - low money grubbing spirit.
- c) What do you above remarks reflect about the speaker's attitude and nature?

**Q8. Answer any three of the following questions in about 30-40 words each.** (6)

- a) Why did Nocola and Jacopo go to Poleta every Sunday?
- b) Why were Mr. and Mrs. Jordan visiting the slaters after so many years?
- c) Who gains the most out of the vanity match between the two rival-ladies in "Mrs. Packletide's Tiger" and how?
- d) The frog calls the bird "stupid". Was the nightingale truly a stupid creature? Give reasons in support of your answer.

**Q9. Answer the following question in about 120-150 words.** (4)

Which human follies have been exposed in the story "Mrs. Packletide's Tiger"? What values cause human beings to commit such follies?

**Q10. The eminent oculist Dr. Chisholm couldn't do anything about Helen's eyesight, yet a meeting with him proved to be beneficial. Comment.** (4)



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M.M. 50

**Q1. Read the following passage carefully :**

(12)

1. The buildings that we live and work in have a major impact on the environment since they consume energy and resources, and create waste. There are countless studies which show a direct correlation between an occupant's health and adequate daylight and ventilation. With our lifestyle and the majority of our time spent indoors, the design of our spaces is of great importance.
2. Over the last few years the term 'Green Building' has been used extensively by everybody. It implies these projects have incorporated measures like energy-saving, water conservation and ventilation. The important thing to remember is that when we decide to build or buy a new home or office, we must ensure that it is Green-certified. Secondly, even if your current space is not designed according to Green standards, you can still protect the environment by adopting a few simple strategies.
3. The first thing to be kept in mind is energy saving. Major energy consumption happens when we use appliances, air conditioners and for lighting. It is best to use 3-star or higher-rated air conditioners and appliances at home. They are rated by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency. We need to clean the air filters in the AC regularly. Turn off plug when not in use. Chargers and appliances, even if they are not turned on, will consume electricity if they are connected to a plug point.
4. Water is fast becoming a scarce commodity and fresh water is brought in large tankers to most city homes and apartments. So we need to save water. This can be done by fixing water saving fixtures in bathrooms and by turning off the taps while brushing teeth.
5. Recycling waste is another important thing that all of us need to do. Many cities have large, unsightly and ever-growing landfills surrounding them. These are not only an environmental hazard, but a breeding place for disease-causing germs. Surprisingly landfills are filled with materials that can be easily recycled. Most countries in the world collect trash in a segregated form because it becomes easier to recycle. One of the simplest ways to reduce waste is to reduce our consumption of items that produce waste.

1.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions briefly: (2×4=8 marks)

- (a) Why do buildings have a major impact on the environment? (2)
- (b) What does 'Green building' mean? (2)
- (c) Why will chargers and plugs even in switched off mode consume electricity? (2)
- (d) What is the easiest way to reduce trash? (2)

1.2 Choose the most appropriate meanings of the given words from the options provided: (1×4=4 marks)

- (a) 'Impact' means .....  
(i) effect      (ii) *alter*      (iii) huge      (iv) effort
- (b) 'Countless' means .....  
(i) few      (ii) many      (iii) different      (iv) crazy



- (c) 'Incorporated' means .....  
 (i) taken with (ii) separate (iii) together (iv) included
- (d) 'Hazard' means .....  
 (i) remedy (ii) help (iii) danger (iv) secure

**Q2.** You are interested in learning Web Designing through a correspondence course. Write a letter to the Principal of National Institute, C.P Road, Mumbai enquiring about the details of fee and duration of the course. Imagine yourself as Shreya/Shivam of 15, Civil Lines, New Delhi.

(5)

**Q3.** Develop the given line and write a story in about 150-200 words:

(5)

On Sunday, I was watching T.V. suddenly, I heard people shouting outside

.....

**Q4.** Read the following passage. Fill in the blanks with appropriate word. Write the answer in your answer sheet against the correct blanks. Do not copy the whole passage. (1×3=3 Marks)

The gooseberry tree (a).....dear to Lord Vishnu because it emerged (b)..... him says the Vishnu Purana. Another story links the tree's origin to Brahma. The ninth day (c).....the bright fortnight of the month of Karthika is observed as Amla Navami.

**Q5.** There is a word missing in each line. Write the missing word along with the one that come before and the one that comes after it. (½×8=4 Marks)

	Before	Word	After
(a) S. Ramakrishnan, 38, was one the busiest men	.....	.....	.....
(b) in Aylkudy, quiet village in Tamil Nadu. He was	.....	.....	.....
(c) Engineering student and wanted to join the Navy.	.....	.....	.....
(d) During his selection unfortunate incident took place.	.....	.....	.....
(e) He fell doing exercise in a very awkward pose and that	.....	.....	.....
(f) left him quadriplesic. He lost use of his legs.	.....	.....	.....
(g) He was forced the wheelchair from that time	.....	.....	.....
(h) but he did not lose his spirit. Sitting on wheelchair	.....	.....	.....
he started learning to play the violin.			

**Q6.** Rearrange these words/phrases to make meaningful sentences. (1×3=3 Marks)

- (a) that life began / centuries ago / scientists think / twenty million / on earth / about
- (b) endless process / the plants and animals / of evolution / are the products / we see around / us / of an / which
- (c) by their environment / all the animals / and / are moulded / are products of / their habitat

**Q7. Reference to context:**

**(4)**

*Now the frog puffed up with rage.*

*"Brainless bird-you're on the stage*

*Use your wits and follow fashion*

*puff your lungs and follow fashion*

- a) Why was the frog puffed up with rage?
- b) What did the frog tell the nightingale to do?
- c) What happened when the nightingale puffed up with passion?
- d) What personality trait of the frog is depicted in these lines?

**Q8. Answer any three of the following questions in about 30-40 words each.**

**(6)**

- a) Why did Mrs. Slater shift the bureau from grandfather's room?
- b) Louisa Mebbin had a protective elder sister attitude towards money in general. How?
- c) Why were the author and his friend attracted towards the two boys?
- d) Why is the frog's joy both sweet & bitter?

**Q9. Answer the following question in about 120-150 words.**

**(4)**

Both the boys at Verona were full of grit, determination and hope. At a young age they exhibited qualities that are difficult to come by even in adults. This story teaches us not to lose hope and courage even in adverse situations. Discuss.

**Q11. What early memories does Helen have about her father?**

**(4)**