

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT – II (2015-2016)
ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE
Class - X

Time: 3hours Maximum Marks: 70

Instructions :

The question paper is divided into **three sections.**

Section A	:	Reading	20 marks
Section B	:	Writing and Grammar	25 marks
Section C	:	Literature	25 marks

SECTION A : READING(Reading : 20 Marks)

1 **Read the following passage carefully :**

8

The earth is occasionally hit by *craggy remnants* of creation known as asteroids. About 150 are known to cross the earth's path. These lie in a loose belt between the Mars and Jupiter like so much *rubble* left over from creation. The first asteroid was too faint to be seen by the naked eye. It was discovered by an Italian monk named Guiseppi Piazzi, working at an observatory in Palermo, Sicily. The largest found so far is about 8 km wide.

Slamming into the earth at roughly 26 km a second, a large asteroid could explode with the force of a million hydrogen bombs, *lofting* enough *pulverised* rock and dust to block most sunlight. Cold and darkness could last for months, *crippling* agriculture and probably a good part of modern civilization, leading to the deaths of billion or more people from starvation.

"The risk is real", Dr. David Morrison of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Ames Research Centre in California, who was co-chairman of the study by nearly 100 scientists, said in an interview. Dr. Morrison further says that the asteroid threat has dawned on scientists only slowly and is hard for layman to comprehend. But the *unambiguous* fact, he said, is that mankind lives in a kind of cosmic shooting gallery.

Dr. Morrison says that there are *clues* of the asteroids in the large number of *impact craters* found throughout the solar system by robot spacecraft exploring planets. There are numerous craters found by geologists on the earth also. Some 130 have been discovered with the list growing by five or six a year. The largest crater, which is in Ontario, is 198 km from rim to rim.

New awareness of asteroid impacts has increased the *appreciation* of close *encounters* and mysterious events. In 1908 in the Tunguska region of Siberia a cosmic object that never reached the earth's surface exploded in the atmosphere with a force of some 20 hydrogen bombs. The resulting shock wave flattened hundreds of square miles of forest area.

On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions briefly.

1. What is the earth occasionally hit by ?
2. Where are asteroids found ?
3. What has made piazzis famous ?
4. What have the scientists realised?
5. How can an asteroid cause darkness?
6. Where is the largest crator?
7. Who said 'The risk is real' ?
8. What happened in 1908 in the Tunguska region ?

2 **Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :
Internet better than books ?**

- (1) Browsing the internet is better than reading books for boosting the brain power of middle-aged and older adults, new research has found. Scientists discovered that searching the world wide web exercised the mind far more than reading and was similar to completing crosswords and puzzles. "The study results are encouraging, that emerging computerised technologies may have physiological effects and potential benefits for middle-aged and older adults," said principal investigator Dr. Gary Samll, a professor at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behaviour at University of California.
- (2) "Internet searching engages complicated brain activity, which may help exercise and improve brain function." The study, the first of its kind to assess the impact of internet searching on brain performance, is published in the American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry. As the brain ages, a number of changes occur which impact on performance, such as general wasting and reductions in cell activity. The team found that for computer-savvy middle-aged and older adults, searching the internet triggers key centres in the brain that control decision-making and complex reasoning.
- (3) They worked with 24 research volunteers between the ages of 55 and 76 with healthy brain function. Half of the study participants had experience searching the internet, while the other half had no experience. Age, educational level and gender were similar between the two groups.

12

- (4) Both sets performed web searches and read books while undergoing Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) scans, which recorded the subtle brain-circuitry changes experienced during these activities. This type of scan tracks the intensity of cell responses in the brain by measuring the level of blood flow during tasks.
- (5) All study participants showed significant brain activity during the book-reading task, demonstrating use of the regions controlling language, reading, memory and visual abilities, which are located in the temporal, parietal, occipital and other areas of the brain. But internet searches revealed a major difference between the two groups. While all participants demonstrated the same brain activity that was seen during the book-reading, the web-savvy group also registered activity in the frontal, temporal and cingulate areas of the brain, which control decision-making and complex reasoning.
- (6) "Our most striking finding was that internet searching appears to engage a greater extent of neural circuitry that is not activated during reading - but only in those with prior internet experience," said Dr. Small, who is also the director of UCLA's Memory and Ageing Research Centre. Volunteers with prior experience of the internet registered a twofold increase in brain activation while web searching when compared with those with little internet experience.
- What happens as the brain ages ?
 - What did the new research reveal about boosting brain power ?
 - What is fMRI ?
 - What was the most striking find of the study ?
 - An antonym of 'discouraging' as used in (para 1) is _____.
 - emerging
 - motivating
 - encouraging
 - challenging
 - 'engages' as used in (para 2) can be best replaced by _____.
 - removes
 - involves
 - gathers
 - accompanies
 - The alternative title to the passage can be :
 - The good side of internet browsing
 - Brain and internet
 - Age of Internet
 - Studying on internet
 - 'prior' as used in (para 6) means _____.
 - no
 - pre
 - post
 - extra

SECTION B : WRITING AND GRAMMAR(25 Marks)

3	Write an article in 100 - 120 words on "Fast food joints should be the last option". All junk food supplied at these fast food corners is actually harmful and crippling hunger gradually. You are Anu/Anup.	5
4	Write a story in 150-200 words beginning with the following : It was the night before the selection interview I had applied for the post of the Sports Secretary. While everyone was sleeping peacefully I could not even close my eyes. In spite of knowing that I'm not capable of changing what is destined, I could not hold my excitement to face the Interview Board.....	10

SECTION C : LITERATURE(25 Marks)

Read one of the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:-

- 8 “..... I just came to tell you to stop bothering us for assistance ; you aren't going to get it. We're going on strike !” 3
- (a) Who is speaking to whom ?
- (b) What does 'assistance' mean ?
- (c) Why are they going on strike ?

OR

- Near them, on the sand,
Half sunk, a shattered visage lies, whose frown
And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
- (a) What does 'visage' mean ?
- (b) What expressions does the face of the statue reveal ?
- (c) What quality of the sculptor is referred to ?

Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each.

- 9a How does Antony prove to the crowd that Caesar was not ambitious ? 2
- 9b Who says; “Et tu Brute” ? When are these words spoken ? Why ? 2
- 9c What kind of king was 'Ozymandias' ? 2
- 9d Baren Mullick was brilliant at his work. Do you agree ? Give reasons. 2

Answer one of the following questions in about 80-100 words:

- 10 The spoken word carries weight. Discuss with reference to the speeches of Brutus and Antony. 4

OR

- Do you think computer games like the ones Shultz and Michael play can be used to teach or inculcate any positive values among children ? Give reasons in support of your answer in 80-100 words. 4

	Answer one of the following questions in about 150-200 words:	
11	What gifts did Anne's father receive on his birthday ?	10
	OR	
	Write a character sketch of Anne Frank	10
	OR	
	Describe the 'Frost King' incident pertaining to plagiarism that darkened the bright sky of Helen's childhood.	10
	OR	
	Attempt a character sketch of Helen Keller.	10
	-o0o0o0o-	