

21 March 2017

Set-B

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT – II (2016-17)
ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE
Class - X

Maximum Marks: 70

Time: 3 hours

Instructions :

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

Section A	:	Reading	20 marks
Section B	:	Writing & Grammar	25 marks
Section C	:	Literature & Long Reading Text	25 marks

SECTION A (READING :20 marks)

1 **Read the following passage carefully :**

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Style is a way of writing, a manner of expressing one's thoughts and feelings in words. The matter remaining the same, the manner may change. It may be *high sounding*. It may be simple and yet emotional. It may be plain, just a brief statement without feelings. It may show lack of decency. The same fact may have different effects on the reader because of *variations* in styles.

Some simple people think that style, or what might be called 'good style' or 'literary style', is something that can be added to plain thoughts or a plain statement of facts, as icing can be put on to a cake. A student once said to me, "I have written my report, but I have brought it to you to put some style into it". I could not put style into it. It was already written in a certain style, though it may not have been a very good style. I could have re-written it in a different style. Then it would have been my arrangement of facts, my choice of words, my own style. As a man thinks and feels, so will he write. If his thoughts are *muddled*, his style will also be muddled. If his thoughts are clear and sharp, his writing will be clear and sharp.

Raymond Chapman states, 'Bad writing is caused not so much by mistakes in grammar as by weakness in style'. Weakness in style here means *clumsiness* in expression, lack of *precision* and accuracy, and anything that *hinders* the writer from conveying his meaning clearly to the reader.

Style in this sense means 'Clean English'. I chose this term because it seems to me the best way of describing English that is clear and doing its job of *conveying* meaning clearly to the reader. It has nothing to do, of course, with decency or indecency. The commonest weakness of all writers of English, whether in England or outside it, is lack of cleanliness in the use of the language.

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

1. What do you understand by 'Style' ?
2. What does our style of writing mainly depend ?
3. When does our style become 'graceless' ?
4. Is it possible to 'put style' in anyone's writing ? Explain.
5. What is the most important part of a good style ?
6. What hinders clarity in style ?

	<p>7. State briefly Chapman's views on style.</p> <p>8. What is the significance of cleanliness in the use of language ?</p>	
2	<p>Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :</p> <p>Sparrows under threat</p> <p>(1) Gone are the days when house sparrows were the most common birds amongst bird species in India. The chirpy sounds made by these small birds are rarely heard today; and their absence, even though tiny, is increasingly becoming noticeable. Due to decrease in numbers, a bird as common as the sparrow was included by the IUCN in its Red Data List of threatened species in 2002 alongside the glamorous snow leopard, tiger and red panda.</p> <p>(2) How and why did these common birds that were once regarded as dominant bird species, suddenly disappear ? This is a question frequently asked by ornithologists, researchers, scientists, and bird lovers. At a discussion on disappearing sparrows organised by Toxics Link in collaboration with India International Centre, in Delhi on Tuesday, experts discussed the reasons for the decline in the sparrow population.</p> <p>(3) The destruction of wetland bird areas, loss of shrub vegetation coupled with reduction in potential breeding sites, has accelerated the rate of decline in the sparrow population in India. But the major reason for this decline in their number is the scarcity of insects and grains which serve as protein supplements for the young ones of sparrows. The presence of anti knocking agents like lead in petrol is known to cause deadly poisoning in birds.</p> <p>(4) Since sparrows are sensitive to changes in the environment, they serve as an important bio-indicator for a healthy urban ecosystem, indirectly indicating human health, and their decline today has started resulting in increasing diseases among the people, said Neeraj Khera, Technical Expert - Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). She added that the growing numbers of rock pigeons has created an imbalance among the species and they now dominate the bird population. People in urban areas are often seen feeding grains to rock pigeons. Due to availability of plenty food which gives these pigeons bliss of food security has resulted in over-explosion of their population. These pigeons are now occupying the nesting spaces of sparrows, as a result of which the sparrow population has drastically declined in urban areas in the country.</p> <p>(5) Recognising the importance of people's participation in conservation, Sharma highlighted the Citizen Sparrow Project that aims at creating a constituency for sparrows among the citizens in need to be saved before they can be seen only in books or on the internet.</p> <p>(a) What is the major reason for the decline of sparrow population ?</p> <p>(b) Why is there an explosion of pigeon population in the cities ?</p> <p>(c) When were the common house sparrows included in the Red Data List of threatened species and by whom?</p> <p>(d) What, according to the passage, is the cause of deadly poisoning to the birds?</p> <p>(e) What is meant by 'drastically' (Para 4) as used in the passage ?</p> <p>(i) slowly (ii) amazingly</p> <p>(iii) severely (iv) gradually</p> <p>(f) 'bliss' (Para 4) can be best replaced by the word :</p> <p>(i) happiness (ii) sadness</p> <p>(iii) calm (iv) excitement</p> <p>(g) The synonym of the word 'glamorous' (Para 1) can be :</p> <p>(i) fearful (ii) stunning</p> <p>(iii) misunderstood (iv) powerful</p>	12

SECTION C (LITERATURE : 25 Marks)

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

8	<p>Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow</p> <p>The wedding-guest he beat his breast, Yet he cannot choose but hear : And thus spake on that ancient man, The bright-eyed Mariner.</p> <p>(a) Why did the wedding-guest beat his breast ? (b) Why was the wedding-guest forced to hear the mariner ? (c) What does 'ancient' mean ?</p>	3
OR		
	<p>Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow</p> <p>We are two lions litter'd in one day, And I the elder and more terrible :</p> <p>(i) Who are the two lions ? (ii) What does 'litter'd' mean ? (iii) Mention one character trait of the speaker.</p>	3
9	Answer the following questions in about 30 - 40 words. (any four)	
9a	"...there are two advanced intelligences on earth ..." What is Michael referring to in the given line and why ?	2
9b	What was Shelley's purpose when he wrote 'Ozymandias' ?	2
9c	Why does D.H.Lawrence refer to the albatross in the poem, 'Snake' ?	2
9d	Why did Antony request the public not to force him to read Caesar's will ?	2
9e	Why did Patol Babu walk away before he can be paid for his role? What does this reveal about his character?	2
10	Answer one of the following questions in about 80-100 words.	
	In the story, 'A Shady Plot', the ghosts inspired writers by giving them ideas. Comment on this helping attitude of the ghosts.	4
OR		
	Faith in one's mentor is essential for success. Explain with reference to Patol Babu.	4
	Answer one of the following questions in about 150-200 words.	
11	What is Anne's greatest fear regarding Peter ?	10
OR		
	Anne rarely comments on her mother's positive traits. Attempt a character sketch of Mrs. Edith Frank.	10
OR		
	"I suppose we aimed too high" - What is the aim ? Why did Helen think so ?	10
OR		
	Write a character sketch of Miss Anne Mansfield Sullivan.	10
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