

**BUDHA DAL PUBLIC SCHOOL PATIALA**  
**Pre Board Examination (8 January 2024)**

**Subject – ENGLISH CORE**

**Class XII (Set – A)**

**M.M.80**

**Time: 3 hrs.**

**General Instructions:**

1. The question paper contains Three sections – Reading, Writing and Literature.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

**Section – A (Reading) (22 marks)**

**Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: (12)**

1. For lasting and clear eyesight, eyes need care in the form of preventive measures, a continuous life-long exercise. Eyes don't just see, they do the talking. This is why of all our senses the most precious is eyesight. Eyes need care in the form of prevention, and knowing some preventive methods in eye care can make your eyes look bright and healthy and leave you with excellent eyesight.
2. How do we keep eyes bright and healthy? Eat good helpings of vegetables, fruits, omega-3 fatty acids, beta carotenes with vitamins A, C and E, enjoy good sleep and avoid direct sunlight. Therefore, good habits and good general health care does play a major role in eye care. Eyes are windows to the human body; while you look out through this window, we, the eye doctors, can look in to find conditions such as glaucoma, abnormal blood pressures, diabetes, heart diseases and other health concerns much before you notice its adverse impact, and help you take preventive measures.
3. It is never too early to begin eye checkups. Throw a torchlight from different directions and look for fixation in newborns and, if in doubt, take the baby to an eye specialist. By the time a child is four, it is imperative to have a check up every year to look for squint, signs of opacity brought in by cataracts and minus or plus powers to decide whether or not glasses are needed. Ultraviolet- protective sunglasses from childhood can help protect eyes from the harmful UV rays. Once in the teens, contact lenses can be worn in place of glasses, but never sleep with them on as they reduce the supply of air and blood to the cornea and can damage eyes. When in 20s, you can get rid of glasses with lasers, Lasik or permanent contact lenses.
4. An emerging and alarming trend is the Computer Eye Syndrome, which appears to be catching on in early adult life. We cannot escape the use of computers but, sadly, our eyes are not designed to cope with these screens. Continuous staring at the monitors reduces blinking, causes strain to the eyes and can lead to dry eyes as well. Therefore, it is always better to take a break of 10 minutes every hour and look at distant objects such as the landscapes or even television.
5. Glaucoma or raised pressure in eyes and diabetic retinopathy are silent killers of eyesight. Therefore, checking eyes once every six months is essential. If afflicted with diabetes, diet, exercise and drugs are to be remembered in that order to keep the doctor away.
6. Around the age of 40, more or less everybody requires reading glasses, a condition known as presbyopia. But now you can get rid of these glasses as well, with lasers called INTRACOR and SUPRACOR. One can develop cataract- defined as the loss of transparency in the natural lens of the eye – at any age, but it usually strikes in old age. It's treated by replacing the opaque lens with an artificial lens called the intraocular lens. The latest incataract removal techniques is called femtosecond laser assisted cataract surgery, which is blade-free, hands-free and makes the operation precise, safe and accurate.
7. That said, eye care is, inevitably, a continuous exercise through life. [546 Words]

Courtesy: "A Sight for Sore Eyes" Dr Kasu Prasad Reddy

**Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.**

- (a) Select the option that may become a preventive measure for eyes as given in paragraph 1. 1
- (i) Eyes need care and continuous life-long exercises.
  - (ii) Eyes need Vitamin C as a preventive measure.
  - (iii) Eyes are designed to cope up with screens.
  - (iv) Eat good amount of vegetables.

A-1



- 1
- (b) What is the significance of eyes as windows to human body?  
 (i) Eye doctors find out major health problems while seeing in our eyes.  
 (ii) Eye doctors also look at this window.  
 (iii) Eye doctors find various health conditions such as glaucoma, etc.  
 (iv) Eyes are windows to human health.
- (c) Share evidence from the text, in about 40 words, to support the view that the Computer Eye Syndrome is an alarming trend. 2
- (d) Complete the sentence appropriately with a characteristic or description.  
 Eating good amount of vegetables, fruits, omega-3 fatty acids, beta carotenes with vitamins A, C and E, enjoy good sleep and avoid direct sunlight helps \_\_\_\_\_ 1
- (e) Select the option that is similar in meaning to 'grievously affected especially by disease' from paragraph 5. 1  
 (i) blink (ii) inevitably  
 (iii) intelligently (iv) afflicted
- (f) Explain in about 40 words, why "...contact lenses can be worn in place of glasses, but never sleep with them on". 2
- (g) In the line, 'That said, eye care is, inevitably, a continuous exercise through life', the word 'inevitably' refers to \_\_\_\_\_ 1
- (h) How does the following impact our eyes? 2  
 'Monitors are bad for our eyes.'
- (i) Read five statements- (1) to (5) given below. 1  
 (1) Eyes don't just see, they do the talking.  
 (2) It is never too early to begin eye checkups.  
 (3) Once in the teens, contact lenses can be worn in place of glasses, but never sleep with them on as they reduce the supply of air and blood to the cornea and can damage eyes.  
 (4) Glaucoma or raised pressure in eyes and diabetic retinopathy are silent killers of eyesight.  
 (5) Around the age of 20, more or less everybody requires reading glasses, a condition known as presbyopia.
- Identify the option that displays the statement that DOES NOT correspond with the occurrence in the given passage.
- (i) Only (1) (ii) (1) and (2)  
 (iii) (3) and (4) (iv) Only (5)

**2. Read the passage given below.**

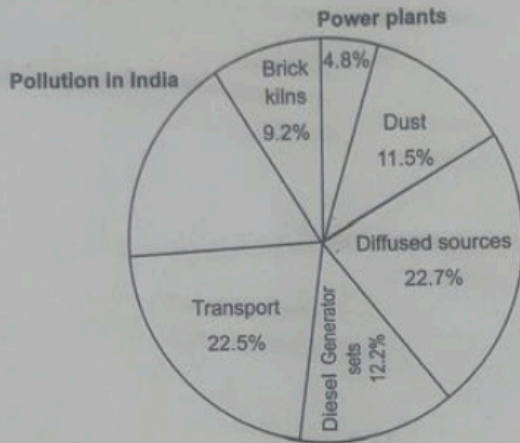
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1. Air pollution is a major threat to human health. The United Nations Environment Programme has estimated that, globally, 1.1 billion people breathe in unhealthy air. The World Health Organization (WHO) has estimated that urban air pollution is responsible for approximately 800,000 deaths and 4.6 million people lose their lives every year around the globe.
2. Traffic and transportation problems, inadequate drainage facilities, lack of open spaces, carbon emission, and the accumulation of waste aggravate the problem. Air pollution is associated with increased risk of Acute respiratory Infections (ARI), the principal cause of infant and child mortality in developing countries.
3. Urban air quality in most mega cities has been found to be critical and Kolkata is no exception to this. An analysis of ambient air quality in Kolkata was done by applying the Exceedance Factor (EF) method, where the presence of listed pollutants' (RPM, SPM, NO, and SO<sub>2</sub>) annual average concentration are classified into four different categories; namely critical, high, moderate, and low pollution. Out of a total of 17 ambient air quality monitoring stations operating in Kolkata, five fall under the critical category, and the remaining 12 locations fall under the high category of NO<sub>2</sub> concentration, while for RPM, four record critical, and 13 come under the high pollution category. The causes of high concentration of pollutants in the form of NO, and RPM have been identified in earlier studies vehicular emission (51.4%), followed by industrial sources (24.5%) and dust particles (21.1%).
4. Later, a health assessment was undertaken with a structured questionnaire at some nearby dispensaries which fall under areas with different ambient air pollution levels. Three dispensaries have been surveyed with 100 participants. It shows that respondents with respiratory diseases (85.1%) have outnumbered waterborne diseases (14.9%) and include acute respiratory infections (ARI) (60%), chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases (COPD) (7.8%), upper tract respiratory infection (UTRD) (1.2%), Influenza (12.7%), and acid-fast bacillus (AFB) (3.4%).

A-2



5. To live a healthy life and have better well-being, practising pollution averting activities in one's day-to-day activities is needed. These pollution averting practices can only be possible when awareness among the masses is generated that the air they breathe outdoors is not found to be safe. (361 Words)



Answer the following questions, based on the given passage.

- (a) Infer main idea of the survey, highlighted in the given passage. 2
- (b) Select the option that displays the correct 'cause and effect' relationship. 1
- (i) Cause: traffic and transportation problem :: effect : 4.6 million deaths
- (ii) Cause : lack of open spaces :: effect : mega cities
- (iii) Cause : air pollution :: effect respiratory diseases
- (iv) Cause : air quality monitoring stations :: effect : emission of  $\text{NO}_2$
- (c) How many people lose their lives due to air pollution every year in India? 1
- (d) Identify the person suffering from a disease caused due to air pollution. 1
- (i) Roshani – I'm suffering from fever since last week.
- (ii) Ciara – I'm suffering from baldness.
- (iii) Hamid – I'm suffering from respiratory disorders.
- (e) Which of the following is the correct opinion of the researcher on the development of mega cities? 1
- (i) Cities face transportation problems due to heavy traffic.
- (ii) Urbanization leads to deterioration of air quality.
- (iii) Mega cities are the right spots to study air pollution.
- (iv) Cities face the problem of congestion.
- (f) What is the recommendation to the readers from researcher's point of view? 2
- (g) Complete the sentence appropriately. 1
- Pollution caused by transports is much more than \_\_\_\_\_.
- (h) State TRUE or FALSE. 1
- The use of diesel generator is responsible for more than fifty per cent of air pollution.

**SECTION- B (Writing Skills) (18 marks)**

Q3. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 50 words. (4)

You Are Shalini/ Shailesh, incharge of the NSS Club of St. Andrew's School, Bhopal. Write a notice about a charity show being organized by the club to collect articles and money for people affected by earthquake in Uttarakhand. Include relevant details such as purpose of the show, kind of events, tickets and show timing, etc.

**OR**

As the Sports Captain of your school, write a notice in 50 words informing budding cricketers to attend trials for Under-16 and Under-18 for final selection to the school teams. Sign off as Sunny Arora. Invent all necessary details as required.

Q4. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 50 words. (4)

You are Dr. Swarupa Mitra, an eminent oncologist working at Rajiv Gandhi Cancer and Research Institute. You have the honour of being invited as the Chief Guest at a Public Function by the Secretary Lion's Club. However, due to sudden illness you are unable to attend the same. Draft a suitable reply in about 50 words.

**OR**

You are Rohana/ Rohit. You have been invited to attend the wedding of your friend's brother. Respond to the invitation regretting your inability to attend it. Invent necessary details and do not exceed more than 50 words.

Q5. Attempt ANY ONE of two in about 120-150 words. 5

A. During summer months after your exams are over, you want to utilize your time by working in a leading chain of superstores. You are Gunjeet/ Gagan. Write an application for the post of a supervisor giving your complete bio-data to the HR Manager, Apna Ghar, GK Part II, New Delhi.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>APNA GHAR</b> <b>SUPERVISORS</b> <b>Wanted</b> <b>FOR LEADING CHAIN OF SUPER STORES</b> <b>Opportunity for Aspiring Supervisors</b> <b>WHO DO WE NEED?</b> <b>Freshers, Experienced, Both Welcome</b></p> <p><b>Required:</b> Bachelor's degree in any stream <b>Skills:</b> Capacity to supervise various stores, have the ability to solve the problem, multi-tasking ability.</p> <p>Please send your resumes to – APNA GHAR, GK-II, New Delhi</p>
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**OR**

B. You are Bhavjeet Kaur of 25/A, Defence Colony, New Delhi. You are deeply concerned about the growing apathy of people towards eve-teasing in local buses. Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper expressing your concern and suggesting ways in which women can ensure their own safety.

- eve-teasing in local buses— a cause of concern
- incidents of women thrown out of buses
- women's security— at risk
- adopt the latest defence techniques
- reaction to the situation



Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 120-150 words.

- A. Every day you read in the newspaper about the increasing rate of crimes in Delhi. You live in Delhi and feel really bad about it. As Chinara Gulati, write an article for your school magazine on the topic.

- Delhi— a city of crimes
- murders, robberies, kidnappings, etc.— affairs of the day
- criminals— involve in nefarious activities
- the higher ups of the society— the main projectors
- movies, people, etc. add fuel to fire
- efforts made — a city to live in

OR

- B. You are Nitin Sharma, the newly elected Secretary of Einstein Society of Cambridge School, Nagpur. Write a report in 120–150 words for the school magazine about the 'plantation week' held recently in your school.

- which programme? purpose of the programme
- who attended?
- what type of trees planted?
- negative impact of trees felling
- impressive photo session

**SECTION – C (Literature) (40 Marks)**

- Q7. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two given: (6)

A) *What I want would not be  
confused with inactivity.  
Life is what it is about;  
I want no truck with death.  
If we were not so single-minded  
about keeping our lives moving,  
and for once could do nothing,  
Perhaps a huge silence  
might interrupt this sadness  
Of never understanding ourselves  
And of threatening ourselves with death.*

*(Keeping Quiet)*

- i) Which of the following themes is best represented in the given extract? (1)
  - a) Power of silence and thought
  - b) Power of violence
  - c) Power of war
  - d) Power of disputes
- ii) State whether the given statement is TRUE OR FALSE, with reference to the extract. (1)  
The poet wants to have no association with death as death is the end of life.
- iii) Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)  
The poet asks to \_\_\_\_\_ in the whole extract of the poem.
- iv) The literary device used in the line, "what I want would not be confused with inactivity" is \_\_\_\_\_ (1)
- v) Based on the poem rhyme scheme, in the given extract, which word would rhyme with line 2? (1)  
captivity, taste, haste

- vi) Select the option that is NOT true about the punctuation mark used in the line 3 of the given extract. (1)
- Creates a sense of continuity and flow that connects the line with the second one.
  - Encourages the reader to continue reading seamlessly without any pause.
  - Creates a sense of anticipation and expectation for the reader.
  - Encourages a revisit to the ideas in the preceding line.

OR

B) *I saw my mother  
Beside me,  
Doze, open mouthed, her face  
Ashen like that  
Of a corpse and realized with pain  
That she was as old as she  
Looked but soon  
Put that thought away*

(My Mother at Sixty-Six)

- Which of the following themes is best represented in this poem?
  - Depiction of human relationships
  - Power of imagination
  - Inevitable relationships
  - Immortality of art and literature
- Where is the poetess going when she said, "home to Cochin last Friday"?
- Select the word that WILL NOT complete the sentence appropriately.  
The extract discusses \_\_\_\_\_.
  - fear of childhood
  - fear of pain
  - stolen childhood
  - fear of loss
- State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE.  
The poetic device used in the line, 'she was as old as she looked' is same as the one used in the line, 'she was as busy as a bee'.
- What message do these lines highlight, in the context of familial relationships, and the speaker's sense of anxiety and fear at the prospect of losing her mother?
- Complete the sentence appropriately.  
The daughter cringed with pain at the realization that her mother \_\_\_\_\_.

Q8. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. (4)

(A) DERRY: And no one'll kiss me, ever. Only my mother, and she kisses me on the other side of my face, and I don't like my mother to kiss me, she does it because she has to. Why should I like that? I don't care if nobody ever kisses me.

MR. LAMB : Ah, but do you care if you never kiss them.

(On the Face of It)

- Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)  
The author's purpose in using contractions, is to \_\_\_\_\_.
- Why does no one kiss Derry? This is because of \_\_\_\_\_. (1)
  - His shabby appearance
  - his half-burnt leg
  - his outdated clothes
  - his half-burnt face
- What kind of attitude Derry has towards life? (1)
- What is the tone of the speaker in the first line? (1)



OR

(B) "We must simply tell them that we intend to give him to the police \_\_\_\_\_ as indeed we must, Sadao. We must think of the children and your position. It would endanger all of us if we did not give this man over as a prisoner of war."  
(The Enemy)

- i) Who is the speaker of the above lines and who is the listener?
- ii) Who are 'them' being referred to here?  
a) Neighbours    b) Friends    c) Servants    d) Doctors
- iii) Dr. Sadao will not be arrested on the charge of harbouring an enemy \_\_\_\_\_.
- iv) What did Sadao and Hana do finally with prisoner of war?

Q9. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. (6)

(A) Poor man ! It was in the honour of this last lesson that he had out on his fine Sunday clothes, and now I understood why the old men of the village were sitting there in the back of the room. It was because they were sorry, too, that they had not gone to school more. It was their way of thanking our master for his forty years of faithful service and of showering their respect for the country that was theirs no more.

While I was thinking of all this, I heard my name called. It was my turn to recite. What would I not have given to be able to say that dreadful rule for the participle all through, very loud and clear, and without one mistake? But I got mixed up on the first words and stood there, holding on to my desk, my heart beating, and not daring to look up.  
(The Last Lesson)

- i) List any two details M. Hamel discussed in the given extract. (1)
- ii) How did M. Hamel react to this show of 'non-performance'? (1)  
a) He didn't utter a harsh word in response.  
b) He ignored his pupil's lack of commitment.  
c) He let the iron ruler talk.  
d) He let Franz be free and sent him out.
- iii) Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)  
The old men of the village on the back benches were \_\_\_\_\_.
- iv) Pick out an evidence from the extract given that helps one infer his way of showing patriotic love for his land and language. (1)
- v) Who is the 'Poor man'? (1)
- vi) Which of the following headlines best suggests the central idea of the given extract? (1)  
a) Faithful services of M. Hamel    b) Respect for human beings  
c) Honour to the village people    d) Too late for school

OR

(B) "The official inquiry assembled a crushing mountain of evidence against the big planters, and when they saw this they agreed, in principle, to make refunds to the peasants. "But how much must we pay?" They asked Gandhi. They thought he would demand repayment in full of the money which they had illegally and deceitfully extorted from the sharecroppers. He asked only 50 percent. "There he seemed adamant," writes Reverend JZ Hodge, a British missionary in Champaran who observed the entire episode at close range. "Thinking probably that he would not give way, the representative of the planters offered to refund to the extent of 25 per cent, and to his amazement Mr. Gandhi took him at his word, thus, breaking the deadlock."  
(Indigo)

- i) Who were the members of the official commission of inquiry?



The line, "They thought he would demand repayment in full of the money which they had illegally and deceitfully extorted from the sharecroppers," can be classified as :

- i) a) a fact      b) an opinion      c) a research      d) a theme
- iii) Explain any one inference that can be drawn from the line, "The official inquiry assembled plenty of traces against the big planters, and when they saw this they agreed, in principle, to make refunds to the peasants."
- iv) Rationalize to support the given opinion, "There he seemed adamant," writes Reverend J.Z. Hodge, a British missionary in Champaran who observed the entire episode at close range.
- v) Complete the sentence with ONE word.  
The big planters were agreed to refund \_\_\_\_\_ share.
- vi) What did the officials think about the refunds to the peasants?  
a) Gandhiji would demand repayment in 25%  
b) Gandhiji would demand nothing.  
c) Gandhiji would demand repayment in full of money.  
d) Gandhiji would take strict action.

Q10. Answer any five of the following questions in about 40-50 words each. (5×2=10)

- a) What was the outcome of the neglect of the French language in the region? (The Last Lesson)
- b) What are the differences in the ambitions of Saheb and Mukesh? (Lost Spring)
- c) Do you sympathise with the peddler after reading the story "The Rattrap"? Why/why not?
- d) Aunt Jennifer was a true victim. How does the poet use the image of 'fingers fluttering through the wool' to highlight this.
- e) Rajkumar Shukla is described as being 'resolute'. Give reason.
- f) "Our dreams and disappointments are all in our minds." Comment with reference to the chapter "Going Places".

Q11. Answer any two of the following questions in about 40-50 words. (2×2=4)

- a) How did the tiger king acquire his name?
- b) What kind of relationship did Dr. Sadao Hoki share with his father?
- c) How do geological phenomena help us to know about the history of humankind?  
(Journey to End of the Earth)

Q12. Answer any one of the following questions in about 120-150 words. (1×5=5)

- a) The characters in prose sections, Mukesh in The Lost Spring and Sophie in 'Going Places' are two different kinds of daydreamers. One is who fulfilled his dreams in real and the other is one who always lives in imaginary dreams. The daydreaming can affect our lives positively as well as negatively.  
Imagine yourself as a motivational speaker who has to address high school students. Write this address in about 120-150 words elaborating on occurrences from the two texts highlighting realistic and unrealistic types of day dreaming.

OR

- b) 'Poets and Panckes' includes this telling, "What is an English poet doing in a film studio which makes Tamil films for the simplest sort of people?" Comment on Stephen Spender.  
In Keeping Quiet, we are told that: "It would be an exotic moment without rush,  
Imagine a conversation between you and Stephen Spender about your dream goals. Create this exchange with reference to the two extracts given above.



Answer any one of the following questions in about 120-150 words. (1×5=5)

a) On returning home, Bama narrated the funny stories to her elder brother Annan. Her brother explained her that it is not funny in anything she told to him, instead all these incident shown caste discrimination. As she understood the events, she felt disgusted and sad.

Imagine yourself to be BAMA and express your feelings and also discuss what the Constitution of India does for this.

OR

b) Both Derry and Mr. Lamb suffered from handicaps, yet their outlook towards life is totally different. Instead of letting it pull them down, they both found a way to overcome it in their own way. You wish to include a cameo of both in your upcoming blog post.

(A cameo is a short description that neatly encapsulates someone or something)

As a part of the research, compare and contrast the experiences faced by the two and their responses to these experiences, in about 120-150 words.

(Clue: include similarities and differences in the discrimination they faced – their feelings – determination to overcome – success)