

BUDHA DAL PUBLIC SCHOOL PATIALA
Second Term Examination (13 December 2023)

Subject – ENGLISH CORE

Class XII (Set – A)

Time: 3 hrs.

M.M.80

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)

HAVEN FOR HANGULS

1. On the outskirts of Srinagar city, a majestic swath of forest serves as the last safe abode for many endangered animal and bird species, including the rare Hangul or Kashmiri stag. As snow unsettles life across Kashmir, inside Dachigam National Park life goes on to complete its annual circle and one man, Nazir Malik, who has spent half his life in forests and mountains of the state, articulately pleads for the critically endangered Hangul.
2. Twenty kilometres from the city centre and spread over 141 square km, Dachigam is nothing like the city, there are no rush hours for its inhabitants and the rules of life are primitive and harsh.
3. Here, the strongest and the quickest survive, and among the hundreds of species, who live in Dachigam, including fierce Himalayan black bears and leopards, nature sets a balance to keep intact the food pyramid.
4. The name Dachigam literally stands for "ten villages" which could be in memory of the ten villages that were relocated for its formation. These ten villages were living in this region before the World War 1, the beginning of the early 20th century.
5. Fifty-year-old Malik, who has understood the nuances and the patterns of the wild inside the Dachigam accompanies tourists and research scholars on perilous ventures inside the Dachigam park, where he has spent the last 10 years of his life.
6. "Hanguls are our pride. There should be awareness in the new generation about Hanguls because I think the new generation is very sensitive about nature," Malik, dressed in a camouflage jacket. says to a group of photographers he is guiding on a tour to locate a herd of this rare deer species.
7. Hanguls, or the Kashmiri stag, are marked as critically endangered species, whose number has dwindled from several thousand at the turn of 20th century to a mere 237 in the survey conducted in 2019.
8. Dachigam is the only place which provides a hope that Hangul will survive and continue to walk on the earth
9. Malik is among the few exceptional Kashmiris who have spent their lives in the jungles amidst the nature. He says nature has taught him everything in life.
10. "Nature is a great teacher," he says while using stealth to manoeuvre a steep slope of a snow-covered grass land in the lower part of the national park.
11. "The mantra, to see the wild life, is to remain silent, patient and not disturb them," he says.
12. In the distance, nearly a km away, on the ridge of a mountain, he points towards a herd of Hanguls, which is coming down from the upper Dachigam to lower Dachigam in search of food.
13. "They spend summer in the upper Dachigam, and in winters, they come down to lower Dachigam looking for food," says Malik, who explains that his job is more about passion and interest than anything else.
14. "You need to be passionate about this work. You have to be a jungle," Malik says recollecting close encounters with dangerous animals he had in over two decades in line-of-duty.
15. In 2008, while guiding a 55-year-old foreigner, he crossed the path between a mother bear and her cubs. "I can never forget those 20 minutes. Those were the scariest moments of my life," he says.

A-1

one of the most dangerous encounters with wildlife during trekking and surveys happen with female bears, says Malik. "They are more aggressive," he says admitting that humans were to be blamed for the man-animal conflict. "It is we who intrude into their space, their homes," he says.

Azhar Qadri: The Tribune (Slightly Modified)

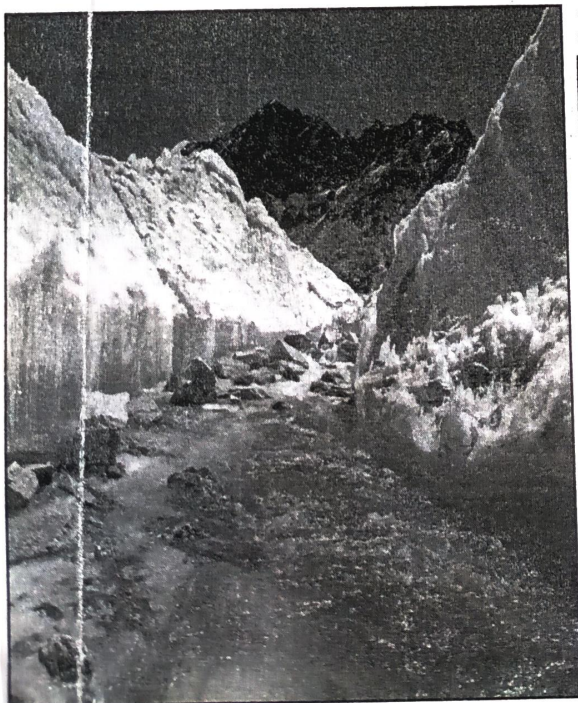
Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

- a) Nazir Malik articulately pleads for the Hanguls because (1)
- i) they are a source of his livelihood ii) they may become an extinct species
iii) they are the price of Kashmir iv) they are very popular among tourists
- (b) How is Dachigam's life unlike that a city? (2)
- (c) How does Nature set a balance in Dechigam? Answer in about 40 words. (2)
- (d) Explain, in about 40 words, why Nazir Malik is arguably the best guide for tourists, wildlife photographers and researchers interested in Dechigam. (2)
- (e) Complete the sentence appropriate with a characteristic or its description. (1)
- Nazir Malik's opinion about attitude of the modern generation to nature and wildlife can be described as
- (f) Nazir credits for everything he has learnt in his life. (1)
- i) Dachigam ii) Hanguls iii) stealth iv) nature
- (g) In winters, Hanguls move from the upper Dachigam to the lower Dachigam to (1)
- i) escape hunters and poachers (ii) intrude into human habitats
iii) pose for researchers and tourists (iv) search for food and warmth
- (h) The 'man-animal' conflict is a result of (1)
- i) animals intruding into human habitation
ii) human interference in the animal world
iii) photography, hunting and survey expeditions
iv) shifting population of animals
- (i) Select the option that conveys the opposite of 'safe' from the following words used in the passage. (1)
- (i) primitive (ii) perilous (iii) steep (iv) aggressive

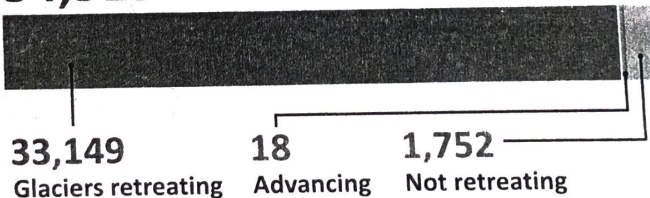
Q2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: (10)

Small glaciers may vanish in long run

Himalayan glaciers are a huge reservoir of water that sustain lives of millions of people in India and many rivers including Ganga, Brahmaputra and Indus originate from the glacial ice.



34,919 Total Himalayan Glaciers



75,779
sq kms

area these glaciers cover, equal to area of Himachal and Haryana put together

WHAT IS NEW

Glaciers in lower altitude losing water at much faster rate

67% loss of volume in last 3 decades in low altitude glaciers in Chandra Basin.

19% loss of water in ones in higher altitude in Chandra Basin.

IMPACT

Can cause water scarcity in the regions fed by low altitude glaciers

(1) A glacier inventory generated by the Space Application Centre of ISRO using satellite data from 2004 to 2010 show that 32,392 glaciers covering over 71,000 sq km are draining into the Indian territory. These glaciers are in the Indus, Ganga and the Brahmaputra basins encompassing the Himalayas, Trans-Himalaya and Karakoram regions.

(2) During the second phase of the project, the work was extended to map glaciers draining into neighbouring countries. This showed 2,527 additional glaciers, a report by the Department of Space tabled in Parliament today said.

(3) Glacier monitoring has been carried out for select glaciers using satellite data to figure out the general trend of the glacier dynamics. Changes in the size of glaciers between 1962 and 2001 were assessed for 2,630 glaciers. The data on the glacier size for 1962 was taken from Survey of India (SOI) topographical maps as reference and that of 2001 was taken from satellite details. The study showed loss of 13.4 percent in area of glaciers.

(4) In continuation, monitoring of change in the size of 2,018 glaciers was carried out using satellite data. It indicated that 87 per cent of the glaciers had showed no change, 12 per cent had retreated and one per cent had advanced. It showed a net loss of 20.94 sq km in the total area of 10,250.68 sq km for all monitored glaciers mapped in 2000-01.

(5) Further, 5,234 glaciers were monitored between 2001 and 2018 across the Himalayan-Karakoram region from Kashmir to Sikkim using satellite data and limited Landsat data. The 5,234 ice bodies included 3,435 debris-free glaciers also. In the Karakoram region, 2,058 glacier bodies were checked and mapped. In this region, gain in area (0.056 per cent) has been observed.

(Source: Shubhadeep Choudhury: Tribune News Service)

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

- (1) The main purpose of the 'glacier monitoring' described here was to (1)
- a) count the number of glaciers draining into the Indian territory
 - b) photograph the glaciers in the neighbouring countries
 - c) study changes in the sizes and movement of glaciers in the Himalayas and its allied regions
 - d) differentiate between debris carrying and debris-free glaciers.
- (2) Why do you think the data on the glacier size for 1962 was taken from Survey of India (SOI) topographical maps? (2)
- (3) Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option: (1)
- According to paragraph 4, the net loss of glacier area was nearly of the total area of the all monitored glaciers mapped in 2000-01
- a) one fourth
 - b) one fifth
 - c) two thirds
 - d) two fifths
- (4) Why do you think the author has mentioned Himachal and Haryana in the visual? (2)
- (5) State TRUE or FALSE (1)
- Only low altitude Himalayan glaciers are losing water.
- (6) Identify the long term negative effect of glacier changes (1)
- a) Floods
 - b) Loss of vegetation
 - c) Water shortage
 - d) Freak weather
- (7) Complete the given sentence appropriately. (1)
- 67% loss of volume in the low altitude glaciers is a matter of great
- (8) Name the region where the glacier area seems to have advanced, although marginally. (1)

SECTION– B (Writing Skills) (18 marks)

Your school is organizing a charity event. Write a notice to invite students to volunteer for the event and explain the purpose and activities involved. (4)

OR

As the cultural secretary of your school, write a notice to invite students for the auditions of the school's annual cultural festival. Mention the date, time and venue for auditions.

- Q4. Draft an invitation in about 50 words, on behalf of your aunt, Meghna Menon, which she has to share to invite prior work colleagues to the inaugural event of her own investment consultancy firm, in the Acer Mall, Kozhikode, Kerala. (4)

OR

As Dr. Shinha, Secretary of Army Wives Welfare Association, draft a formal invitation in 50 words for the members to attend a lecture on 'Yoga and its Benefits' to be delivered by an eminent Yoga guru. Mention day, date, time and venue.

- Q5. Union Minister of Surface Transport has said that people have to pay toll if they want good roads making it clear that the toll system would stay as the government does not have enough funds. A friend of yours has shown you the above news clipping and has expressed his desire to write a letter to the Editor of an English newspaper in response to the news item. Help him prepare the first draft on the letter by guiding him at every step. Some parts of the draft are already given. (5)

OR

You are Shanti Srinivasan of 7, Mangalore Road, Udipi, Karnataka and you feel strongly about the ongoing Russia – Ukraine conflict. Write a letter to the Editor of an English newspaper decrying the bloodshed and destruction in the war and seeking an early end to it for the sake of mankind. Also, seek the intervention of world leaders, including the Indian Prime Minister, for an early, peaceful and amicable resolution to the conflict.

- Q6. On the threshold of being a world super power, India does have a large young workforce but unfortunately not many in this force are employable for want of necessary skills. Write in about 150 words, an article for a newspaper to (5)

- discuss why Indian education fails to develop employability skills among youth
- describe how this deficit affects Indian economy, industry and business
- suggest what can be done to develop these skills among the young people who are going to be the mainstay of the workforce in the future.

OR

Citizen's Health Council of your city recently organized a unique 'Health Fair' in your school in which awareness about health, its importance and ways of staying fit was brought about through charts, models, lectures and demonstrations. Exercise and fitness equipment was displayed and a workshop on low calorie cooking was also organized. Write a report on the fair for a local newspaper in about 150 words.

SECTION – C (Literature) (40 Marks)

Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow: (6)

A) *And one did stop, but only to plow up grass
In using the yard to back and turn around;
And another to ask the way to where it was bound;
And another to ask could they sell it a gallon of gas
They couldn't (this crossly); they had none, didn't it see?*

- i) The words 'one' and another in this extract refer to (1)
- ii) Complete the following statement with one word only. (1)
The driver who damaged the roadside owners yard while backing his car had a
attitude to both the nature and the stand owners.
a) Neutral b) compassionate c) happy-go-lucky d) callous
- iii) Which of the following might the second car driver mentioned in the extract have said to the roadside stand owner(s)? (1)
a) "What's up, Buddy? Why looking so glum?"
b) "Where does this road lead to, Mister?"
c) "Would you mind if I used your yard to back my car, Sir?"
d) "Here, keep this money. Take it! I mean it!"
- iv) Why did the roadside owner feel that the third car driver was rude and insensitive? (1)
- v) Complete the sentence with ONE word only. (1)
Here cars have been given a human quality. This is an example of the literary device called
- vi) Which of the following can substitute the expression 'didn't it see' without changing the meaning? (1)
a) "It was perhaps hidden."
b) "It did not deserve to be ignored."
c) "It was quite obvious."
d) "It would be seen from quite a distance"

OR

B) *That for themselves a cooling covert make
'Gainst the hot season; the mid forest brake,
Rich with a sprinkling of fair musk-rose blooms:
And such too is the grandeur of the dooms
We have imagined for the mighty dead;
All lovely tales that we have heard or read:
An endless fountain of immortal drink,
Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink.*

- i) Choose the option that correctly lists the literary devices that the expression 'cooling covert' exemplifies.
a) Anaphora and simile b) Transferred epithet and paradox
c) Alliteration and metaphor d) Repetition and parallelism
- ii) How do 'clear rills' protect themselves against the hot season?

Complete the following sentence appropriately.
As used in the extract, the word 'brake' means

- iv) The expression 'grandeur of the dooms' refers to
- the beautiful tombstones or memorials in the memory of the dead
 - the brave manner in which many warriors embrace death
 - the beautiful epitaphs written on the tombstone of the dead
 - poems paying tributes to the dead
- v) State whether the given statement is True or False.

"The last two lines of the extract reiterate the main idea of the poem "A Thing of Beauty".

- vi) "All lovely tales" refer to which of the following:
- The stories about the living legends
 - The stories about the contemporary wars

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

(A) "Oh, how he is bleeding!" Hana whispered again in a solemn voice. The mists screened them now completely, and at this time of day no one came by. The fishermen had gone home and even the chance beachcombers would have considered the day at an end.

"What shall we do with this man?" Sadao muttered. But his trained hands seemed of their own will to be doing what - they could to stanch the fearful bleeding. He packed the wound with the sea moss that strewed the beach. The man moaned with pain in his stupor but he did not awaken.

"The best thing that we could do would be to put him back in the sea," Sadao said, answering himself. Now that the bleeding was stopped for the moment he stood up and dusted the sand from his hands.

- "Oh, how he is bleeding!" This utterance of Hana is an expression of (1)
a) Disbelief b) joy c) pity d) satisfaction
- The expression "But his trained hands seemed of their own will to be doing what they could do" Means that Dr. Sadao worked. (1)
a) Cleverly b) instinctively c) quickly d) sloppily
- List two professional qualities of Dr. Sadao as evident in the extract. (1)
- Give reasons why Sadao thought it best to put the injured man back into the sea. (1)

OR

(B) It cried aloud, shaking my head all the while until I felt the cold blades of the scissors against my neck, and heard them gnaw off one of my thick braids. Then I lost my spirit. Since the day I was taken from my mother I had suffered extreme indignities. People had stared at me. I had been tossed about in the air like a wooden puppet. And now my long hair was shingled like a coward's! In my anguish I moaned for my mother, but no one came to comfort me. Not a soul reasoned quietly with me, as my own mother used to do; for now I was only one of many little animals driven by a herder.

- The narrator protested when her hair was being cut because
a) she considered her hair to be an asset for her beauty
b) she was afraid that her mother would scold her for cutting her hair
c) her community disapproved of cutting of hair
d) she did not want any untrained person to cut her hair

meaning does the narrator wish to convey when she says "Then I lost my spirit"?
 List any two of the extreme indignities that the narrator had to suffer ever since her separation from her mother.
 What kind of hair was dear to the narrator? Why?

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

(A) G. Wells in an interview in 1894 referred to 'the interviewing ordeal', but was a fairly frequent interviewee and forty years later found himself interviewing Joseph Stalin. Saul Bellow, who has consented to be interviewed on several occasions, nevertheless once described interviews as being like thumbprints on his windpipe. Yet despite the drawbacks of the interview, it is a supremely serviceable medium of communication. "These days, more than at any other time, our most vivid impressions of our contemporaries are through interviews, "Denis Brain has written, "Almost everything of moment reaches us through one man asking questions of another. Because of this, the interviewer holds a position of unprecedented power and influence."

- i) What inference can you draw about the art of interview from H.G. Well's experience and example? (1)
- ii) Answer in one word. (1)
The expression 'thumbprints on his windpipe' suggests that Saul Below found the interview to a/an experience.
- iii) Choose the option that BEST illustrates the meaning of the word 'serviceable' as used in the extract. (1)
a) Repairable b) Useful c) Indispensable d) Significant
- iv) Complete the following sentence appropriately. (1)
The author quotes the views of Denis Brain in order to
- v) In the expression 'everything of moment', the word 'moment' means (1)
a) Sensation b) time c) news d) importance
- vi) 'Because of this.....' 'This' here refers to (1)
a) many drawbacks of the interview as a genre
b) people's impressions of their contemporaries
c) the important information nits questions and answers yield
d) the interviewer's unprecedented power and influence

OR

(B) He had the ability to look cheerful at all times even after having had a hand in a flop film. He always had work for somebody – he could never do things on his own – but his sense of loyalty made him identify himself with his principal completely and turn his entire creativity to his principal's advantage. He was tailor-made for films. Here was a man who could be inspired when commanded. "The rat fights the tigress underwater and kills her but takes pity on the cubs and tends them lovingly – I don't know how to do the scene, "the producer would say and Subbu would come out with four ways of the rat pouring affection on its victim's offspring. "Good, but I am not sure it is effective enough," the producer would say and in a minute Subbu would come out with fourteen more alternatives. Film – making must have been and was so easy with a man like Subbu

- i) List any two character traits of Subbu as evident from this extract.

... in one word
... sentence. "The rat fights the tigress underwater and kills her but takes pity on the cubs and
... them lovingly" is an example of

a) understatement b) exaggeration c) irony d) climax

What does the author mean when he says that Subbu could be inspired when commanded?

If something or someone is 'tailor-made' for something, it/ he/ she is

Cite textual evidence to support the view that Subbu habitually shirked work.

Subbu made film making look like a / an

a) uphill task b) dead end c) child's play d) fine – art

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

- Why did Gandhi go to Lucknow in 1916? What changed the course of Indian History here?
- "Film making must have been and was so easy with a man like Subbu". Justify.
- What made Roland Barthes frustrated? What did he want to do?
- What did Sophie tell Geoff about her 'meeting' Danny Casey?
- Why do you think the poet empathized with the people in the countryside and not with the city people?
- What are the writer's view about interview as a form of Journalism?

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

- How did Bama's brother think they could throw away 'indignities'?
- Although the American was an enemy of Dr. Sarao's country, why did the latter decide to save him?
- What were Zitkala – Sa's objections to the cutting of hair?

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

- Although the author of 'Poets and Pancakes' had a tiresome and unchallenging job at the Gemini Studios, he found refuge in writing and reading. His interest in literature and writing is evident in the text in many places.
When the pall of despondence spreads over our dark spirits, we find solace in the lap of mother nature, according to Keats. Be it nature or art, both have for times immemorial inspired human beings to counter the mundaneness of life. Comment. (Poet and Pancakes and A Thing of Beauty)

OR

- Imagine you are Pablo Neruda, the poet of Keeping Quiet. What advice might you offer to Robert Frost, the poet of A Roadside Stand, in the context of his conflicted emotions, as displayed in the given lines.

*The requisite lift of spirit has never been found,
Or so the voice of the country seems to complain,
I can't help owning the great relief it would be
To put these people at one stroke out of their pain
Pen down your advice in a letter to frost*

Q13. Answer any one the following questions in about 120-150 words. (1×5=5)

- a) Imagine your school has organized a panel discussion on “Oppression and its Evils”. You are one of the speakers. As part of your address, you are required to reflect on the lessons and ideas from the story, “Memories of Childhood”.
Draft a speech for the same.

OR

- b) The escaped soldier in ‘The Enemy’ reaches his country, where he is reunited with his family. He can’t thank God as he recalls the harrowing experience and his subsequent rescue and recovery by Sadao and his wife Hana who were a God send for him. He expresses his thoughts in a diary entry.

As the American soldier, write the diary entry expressing your gratitude.

You may begin this way:

I have served in the army for decades now but have been caught by the enemies. But in the