

ENGLISH COMMUNICATION SKILLS

STD XII

Max. Marks: 70

Duration : 2 ½hrs

Instructions:

- 1) This paper consists of four Sections A, B, C and D. All sections are compulsory.
- 2) Do not exceed the prescribed word limit where ever it is given.
- 3) Figures to the right indicate marks allotted for each question.
- 4) Choice is given only in Section C. Q. No.3.1.

SECTION A (20 marks)

1.1. A. Rewrite the following sentences using the correct form of the underlined word: - **02**

- (i) The winding mountain roads look danger and steep.
- (ii) Work hard in order to success.

1.1.B Rewrite each of the following sentences as per the instructions given in the brackets:- **04**

- (i) I met _____ old man who still works hard for _____ living.
(Insert suitable Articles)
- (ii) Chandu was too embarrassed to speak.
(Use 'so.....that')
- (iii) As soon as the sky turned grey, it began to rain. (Use 'No sooner')
- (iv) The Manager wrote most of the reports.
(Change to Passive Voice)

1.2.A. Replace the underlined word with a synonym. Rewrite the sentence without changing the meaning:-**02**

- (i) Discipline and honesty help man lead a contented life.
- (ii) I do not like people who are hostile.

1.2.B In each of the following sentences , select the most appropriate alternative for the underlined word:- **02**

- (i) Most youngsters are always in a dilemma with regard to their future.
A predicament
B disorder
C poise
D tension

- (ii) The cool mountain environment made me feel serene.
- A chilly
 - B uneasy
 - C peaceful
 - D sublime

1.3 Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below :-

05

One day, a young boy was preparing himself for a race in his small native village. He and two other young boys were to compete. A large crowd had gathered to witness the sporting spectacle. A wise old man, upon hearing of the little boy, had travelled far to bear witness also.

The race commenced, looking like a level heat at the finishing line, but sure enough the boy dug deep and called on his determination, strength and power. He took the winning line and was first. The crowd was ecstatic and cheered and waved at the boy. The wise man remained still and calm, expressing no sentiment. The little boy however, felt proud and important.

A second race was called and two new young, fit challengers came forward to run with the little boy. The race started and sure enough the little boy came through and finished first once again. The crowd was overjoyed again and cheered and waved at the boy. The wise man remained still and calm, again expressing no sentiment. The little boy, however, felt proud and important.

"Another race, another race!" pleaded the little boy. The wise old man stepped forward and presented the little boy with two new challengers, an elderly frail lady and a blind man. "What is this?" quizzed the little boy. "This is no race" he exclaimed. "Race!" said the wise man. The race started and the boy was the only finisher. The other two challengers were left standing at the starting point. The little boy was ecstatic. He raised his arms in delight. The crowd however was silent, showing no sentiments towards the little boy.

"What has happened? Why do the people not join in my success?" he asked the wise old man. "Race again", replied the wise man, "...this time, all three of you, finish together" continued the wise man. The little boy thought a little, stood in between the blind man and the frail old lady, and then took the two challengers by their hand. The race began and the little boy walked slowly, ever so slowly, to the finishing line and crossed it. The crowd were thrilled and cheered and waved at the boy. The wise man smiled, gently nodding his head. The little boy felt proud and important.

"Old man, I do not understand! Who are the crowd cheering for? Which one of us three?" said the little boy. The wise old man looked into the little boy's eyes, placing his hands on the boy's shoulders, replied softly "Little boy, for this race you have won much more than in any race you have ever run before and for this race the crowd cheers not for any winner!"

Questions:

- (i) Why did a large crowd gather in the village?
- (ii) How did the wise man react when the boy won the race?
- (iii) Who were the challengers for the third race?
- (iv) Give the meaning of the word 'ecstatic'.
- (v) Use the word 'overjoyed' in a sentence of your own.

Computers, one of the greatest advances in modern technology, are widely used in universities. They are capable of doing extremely complicated work in all branches of learning. For e.g., they can solve the most complex of mathematical problems, put thousands of unrelated facts in order, can count the number of times the word ‘and’ is used in the Bible. Thus, they work accurately and at high speed and can save research worker’s years of hard work. This whole process by which machines can be used to work for us has been called ‘automation’. In the future, automation may provide human beings with far more leisure than they have today.

Computers have also proved to be a boon for the doctors. By providing the machine with a patient’s data, the doctor is able to diagnose the nature of the patient’s illness. Similarly, machines are used to keep a check on a patient’s health record and bring it up-to-date. Doctors therefore have immediate access to a great many facts which helps them in their work. We are heading fast towards a situation when a computer will be as much a part of man’s daily life as a telephone or a calculator.

Question:

On the basis of your reading of the above article, write the para-wise topic and sub-topics using the format given below. Do not write sentences. Use only meaningful phrases:

I : _____

A : _____

B : _____

II : _____

A : _____

SECTION B (20 marks)

2.1 Write a descriptive paragraph using the following words/ phrases: - (About 60 words) **05**

friend’s birthday, programme to watch a movie, Panjim, went on two-wheeler, late, speeding, lost control, dashed against another vehicle, minor scratches, no movie, unforgettable birthday.

2.2 Given below is the first line of an incident. Complete the paragraph expanding the idea specified.

05

Today was an important day for me. I had to be on time for the event.....
.....
..... (About 60 words)

2.3 Your friend has developed the habit of eating unhealthy food which is in turn affecting his/her health. Write a paragraph convincing him/her to give up the habit informing of the risks of eating such food. (About 60 words) **05**

2.4. 'Teenagers are considered to be careless and irresponsible'. Write a paragraph arguing in favour or against this notion. (About 60 words) **05**

SECTION C (20 marks)

3.1 Write an essay in about **150 words** on any **ONE** of the following topics: - **08**

- (i) My On the Job training experience.
- (ii) Laughter is life's best medicine.
- (iii) Environmental Degradation – Who is to be blamed?

3.2 You are A. Fernandez, Purchase Manager of Nature's Resort, Colva, Goa. Write a letter of complaint to The General Manager of Bharat Potteries, M.G. Road, Pune, informing him that the order of crockery placed with them reached your resort in a damaged condition. Demand replacement of damaged articles. Invent necessary details. **(Use full block format)** **05**

3.3 Write a letter of application in response to the following advertisement, giving your complete C.V.

"Safe Insurance Company seeks experienced candidates to manage office of five employees. Good communication skills and computer knowledge essential."

Apply to Human Resource Office, P.O. Box 714, Margao, Goa. You are P.S. Pednekar residing at 44, Green View Colony, Ponda. **(Use full block format)** **07**

SECTION D (10 marks)

4.1. A. Answer the following questions in about 10-15 words: - **02**

- (i) In the lesson Shakespeare's sister, why was Judith beaten by her father?
- (ii) According to Tagore, what function does nature impart on old Indian dramas?

4.1.B. Which are the two classes of precious things that God has gifted humans with?
(Lesson- Modern Improvements) (30-40words) **02**

4.1. C. (i) How does John Keats speak of the smallest creatures' of nature contributing towards the poetry of earth? (30-40words) **02**

(ii) Why does Wilfred Owen refer to the sunbeams as 'fatuous' in the poem 'Futility'?
(30-40 words) **02**

4.1. D. Do you favour Selvi's decision of returning to Vinayak Mudali Street after her mother's death? Justify your answer with supporting points. (30-40 words) **02**
