

Bhavan's Tripura Vidyamandir
1st Terminal Examination (2024-2025)

Class:- 11

Time:- 3 Hours

Name of the student :

Subject:- English

Total :- 80 Marks

Roll: Stream:

Reading Section

A.Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: (10)

1. We live in an age of wonders and miracles. It has been called the 'Age of Science' and different aspects of our life that changed in the preceding centuries have been attributed to science. This is completely true, but it is only one side of the coin. The flip side is that as we have advanced more in the field of technology, something fundamental to humanity has been left behind. Values such as empathy and concern for our fellow human beings are gradually being eroded due to the onslaught of our ever-evolving lifestyles, aided by the marvels of technological advancements
2. Take the example of the Internet. On the one hand, access to information and knowledge at the click of a button is a veritable boon to everyone (especially students) and this has made our lives much simpler. On the other hand, it has severely limited actual contact with teachers, friends and elders. Thus, the learning that a person gains is incomplete as he or she cannot easily take the advice that another person can give on the basis of knowledge and practical experience that is at his or her disposal.
3. Today, a small child can access and navigate the Internet with an ease that still astounds those from the older generation. But what is even more astounding is the neglect of the basic human traits of friendship, relationships and family values. Owing to all the technological advancements and the gadgets available today, children often miss out on the most enriching childhood experiences such as playing outdoor games with friends, which apart from being immensely enjoyable and physically exhilarating, also develop traits such as teamwork and discipline at an early age.
4. But now when the concept of friends is gradually being limited to virtual friends on social networking sites, one shudders to think of the implications for the personality development of a child because the time spent with computers or mobile phones for entertainment can never really substitute for the holistic benefits of outdoor play. Such examples can be found in plenty.
5. Now if we compare the hustle and bustle of modern city life and the peace and calm of a rustic village life, we can see that in cities, life is a race with a variety of factors. It is a race that everyone tries their level best to win, but nobody actually wins as it never ends.
6. As for me, I think this age of rapid development has created at least as many problems as it has solved, if not more. The reason is that the basic goal of life, which should be the pursuit of happiness, has now been replaced by the pursuit of money. Money and happiness are considered analogous in our present society, but they actually are not so. In this mindless pursuit of money, nobody has time now to appreciate the beauty of life, which consists not of multi- billion-dollar skyscrapers, but a simple act of kindness to someone in a time of need.
7. So there is an urgent need to stop for a moment and think about where we are actually heading, is it development or destruction? Do we have to wait until people have grown so much apart from each other that we cannot see the suffering of our own species due to our mindless greed, or can we still mend our ways?
8. To answer this question, I will take the help of that most magnificent of human feelings-hope. I sincerely wish that we, as the most intelligent species on earth, would take our fair share of responsibility and sincerely think about the path we should follow. Though mankind will possibly last for a long time thanks to its determination and sheer ingenuity, we have to make sure we do not lose our humanity somewhere along the way.

1.1 On the basis of your understanding of the passage answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option. (1X6 = 6)

- i. According to the passage, it is like one side of the coin to say that life has changed owing to science as
- (A) age of science has brought wonders and miracles.
 - (B) different aspects of life have changed due to science.
 - (C) there is another side of the coin to look at.
 - (D) this side of coin is true and sufficient to look at.
- ii. Which of the following is not true about the internet?
- (A) It provides an easy access to information and knowledge.
 - (B) It has made our lives simpler.
 - (C) It has limited actual contact with teachers and friends.
 - (D) It can easily give advice based on personal experience.
- iii. Internet hampers the holistic growth of a child by
- (A) encouraging human traits of friendship, society and family.
 - (B) enriching childhood experiences of outdoor games.
 - (C) providing virtual friends and gadgets.
 - (D) developing teamwork and discipline.
- iv. According to the passage, true happiness lies in
- (A) simple acts of kindness
 - (B) rapid development
 - (C) multi-billion-dollar skyscrapers
 - (D) pursuit of money
- v. The word 'veritable' in para 2 means:
- (A) Actual
 - (B) Big
 - (C) Latest
 - (D) Perfect
- vi. Antonym of holistic is
- (A) Agonistic
 - (B) Individualistic
 - (C) Optimistic
 - (D) Pessimistic

1.2 Answer the following questions as briefly as possible. (1X4 = 4)

- a. It has severely limited actual contact with
- b. Money and are considered analogous in our present society but they actually are not so.
- c. We cannot see the suffering of our own species due to our
- d. I will take the help of that most magnificent of human feeling

B. Read the following passage:-

Great Indian digital divide

1. The revolution in information technology (IT), far from helping India to leapfrog to a post-industrial society, threatens to rupture the social fabric by enriching a few at the cost of many.
2. In a very short time and quite unexpectedly, India has risen to considerable eminence in the world of information technology. This year, software products are expected to account for \$ 5.7 billion in exports and will account for a quarter of the growth in the economy, which is expected to grow nearly seven per cent. Within eight years, predicts a recent study by McKinsey & Co. and the National Association of Software & Service Companies (Nasscom), India's annual IT exports could hit \$ 50 billion about 33 per cent of global software exports. Such a surge is expected to generate 2.2 million jobs – and push our growth rate near the double digits that many East Asian Tigers enjoyed before the 1997 crash.
3. For the rapidly growing middle class, which was desperate to make its presence felt but remained mired in the great Indian outback of the global economy and regretfully watched the industrial revolution pass it by, this is the moment they have been waiting for. When countries like Japan and Germany, the objects of Indian admiration, should come knocking on our doors to solicit our talent to invigorate their industry, it is indeed redemption of sorts. And IT is the cause of it all.

4. The big question is, will IT do an encore for India as a nation, and not just for a wafer thin percentage of IT-literate Indians, mostly the poster boys of the IITs?
5. IT has, as yet, failed to touch the lives of the average citizen and India is nowhere close to being a knowledge economy or society. As per the International Data Corporation (IDC), in a survey of 55 countries, India ranks 54th on its Information Society Index.
6. The fact is, it is a straightforward reflection of the deep inequality of our education system which breeds a few 'geniuses' at the cost of the entire nation. A study by former director of the National Centre for Software Technology, R. Narasimhan, points out that nowhere is the digital divide more glaring than in IT education. The report warns that India's 'obsession' with the software industry and its exports orientation is leading to the churning out of unemployable students on one hand and bright whiz-kids on the other. While the latter are lured away by overseas employers, the former remain unemployable.
- Narasimhan cautions against the 'hype' associated with the phenomenal growth of India's software industry defying rational explanations and built up into a 'mystique of sort' which breeds false hopes.
7. India's software industry is a poor employment generator. In the mid-Nineties, some 20,000 people were actively employed in software export services. In contrast, there were three million registered unemployed graduates in the Nineties. While the 'Narasimhan study doesn't mention number of **hobs** lost due to computerisation, one could comfortably add a million to the number.

- 1.1 Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option: (6)**
- i. The revolution in IT threatens to break apart the social fabric because.....**
- (a) the stocks of software companies have risen at BSE
 - (b) it has helped India to rise beyond the industrial society
 - (c) it is enriching a few at the cost of many
 - (d) it has created a gulf between the rural and urban sector
- ii. Growth in export of Indian software products and national economy have been achieved because of.....**
- (a) global recession
 - (b) liberalised economy
 - (c) public private cooperation
 - (d) eminence of Information Technology
- iii. It is a time of pride for the middle classes in India because.....**
- (a) developed industrial nations will require Indian software professionals to invigorate their industry
 - (b) they are desperate to make their presence felt
 - (c) they have remained stuck in the mud of global economy
 - (d) they have regretfully watched the industrial revolution pass by them
- iv. The digital divide is clearly visible in IT revolution because.....**
- (a) it has improved a lot of average Indian citizen
 - (b) it has benefitted only the products of IITs or some IT-literates
 - (c) it has made India a knowledge economy or society
 - (d) non-IT trained students run the IT institutes
- v. Narasimhan's report cautions against 'hype' around IT software industry because.....**
- (a) it is rational
 - (b) it breeds false hopes
 - (c) all look for foreign assignments
 - (d) it attracts even the dullards
- vi. The word 'redemption' in para 3 means.....**
- (a) recoupment
 - (b) recumbent
 - (c) recovery
 - (d) redeeming
- vii. Find the words from the passage which are similar in meaning. (2)**
- (a) Recovery (para 3)
 - (b) Very easily seen (para 6)

C. Read the passage given below carefully:

1. Research has shown that the human mind can process words at the rate of about 500 words per minute, whereas a speaker speaks at the rate of about 150 words a minute. The difference between the two at 350 words is quite large.

2. So a speaker must make every effort to retain the attention of the audience. The listener should also be careful not to let his mind wander. Good communication calls for good listening skills. A good speaker must necessarily be a good listener.

3. Listening starts with hearing but goes beyond. Hearing, in other words is necessary, but is not a sufficient condition for listening. Listening involves hearing with attention. Listening is a process that calls for concentration. While listening, one should also be observant. In other words, listening has to do with the ears, as well as with the eyes and the mind. Listening is to be understood as the total process that involves hearing with attention, being observant and making interpretations. Good communication is essentially an interactive process. It calls for participation and involvement. It is quite often a dialogue rather than a monologue. It is necessary to be interested and also show or make it abundantly clear that one is interested in knowing what the other person has to say.

4. Good listening is an art that can be cultivated. It relates to skills that can be developed. A good listener knows the art of getting much more than what the speaker is trying to convey. He knows how to prompt, persuade but not to cut off or interrupt what the other person has to say. At times the speaker may or may not be coherent, articulate and well-organized in his thoughts and expressions. He may have it in his mind and yet he may fail to marshal the right words while communicating his thoughts. Nevertheless a good listener puts him at ease, helps him articulate and facilitates him to get across the message that he wants to convey. For listening to be effective, it is also necessary that barriers to listening are removed. Such barriers can be both physical and psychological. Physical barriers generally relate to hindrance to proper hearing whereas psychological barriers are more fundamental and relate to the interpretation and evaluation of the speaker and the message.

1.1 On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it, using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary - minimum 4) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it. (5)

1.2 Write down the summary of the above passage in about 80 words. (3)

WRITING SECTION

D. You are Jay / Jaya of 12, Shiva Nagar, Tripura. You want to sell your flat as you are shifting to another city for work. Draft a suitable advertisement in not more than 50 words to be published in The Pune Times under the classified columns. (3)

E. You are a member of the social awareness team of your school and you have to participate in an awareness drive regarding the importance of water. Prepare a poster highlighting the importance and ways of rainwater harvesting that can be implemented by the residents of the area. (3)

F. Write a speech in 150-200 words on 'Benefits of early rising' to be delivered by you in the morning assembly of your school. You are Karuna/Karan, Head Girl/Head Boy. (5)

G. You are Mukul / Mahima of Alps Public School. Your school has organized a debate on "Social Media and It's Effects" and you will be participating in your school. Prepare your views against or in favour of the motion. (120 – 150 words) (5)

Grammar

H. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of tense from those given in brackets. (1X3=3)

- I am attempting the Civil Services exam coming up, so I (am/ is) studying hard these days.
- My grandmother (carries/ carrying) a walking stick when she goes out for a walk.
- Shashi isn't at home. She (is/ are) out shopping with our father.

I. Rearrange the following words or phrases to make meaningful sentences (1X4=4)

- the/ on/ forests/ the/ industry/ oil/ depends
- do/ get/ the/ forests/ from/ what/ we/ products/?
- the/Indian/English/exploited/the/farmers
- pay/the/had to/poor farmers/high taxes/very

LITERATURE

H. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follows :- (1X3=3)

*When did my childhood go?
Was it the day I ceased to be eleven.
Was it the time I realised that Hell and Heaven,
Could not be found in Geography,
And therefore could not be,
Was that the day!*

- From which poem are the above lines taken and who is the poet?
- When did the poet know that 'hell' and 'heaven' are imaginary concepts?
- Why is the poet worried?

J. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follows (any three) :- (1X3=3)

Our boat Wavewalker, a 23 metre, 30 ton wooden-hulled beauty, had been professionally built, and we had spent months fitting it out and testing it in the roughest weather we could find. The first leg of our planned three-year, 105,000 kilometre journey passed pleasantly as we sailed down the west coast of Africa to Cape Town. There, before heading east, we took on two crewmen – American Larry Vigil and Swiss Herb Seigler – to help us tackle one of the world's roughest seas, the southern Indian Ocean.

- Where did the second crewman hail from?
- For how long did they decide to stay in water?
- Why were the crewmen hired?
- What is the name of the boat?

K. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follows :- (1X4=4)

CYRIL: [briskly] Hello-Mum. Tea ready?
MRS PEARSON: No.
CYRIL: [moving to the table; annoyed] Why not?
MRS PEARSON: [coolly] I couldn't bother.
CYRIL: Feeling off- color or something?
MRS PEARSON: Never felt better in my life.
CYRIL: [aggressively] What's the idea then?
MRS PEARSON: Just a change.
CYRIL: [briskly] Well, snap out of it, Ma, and get cracking. Haven't too much time.

- (1) What does Cyril want from Mrs. Pearson? (2) What does feeling 'Off-color' mean?
- (3) Who had exchanged personality with Mrs. Pearson? (4) Who is Cyril?

L. Answer the following questions :- (3X3=9)

- What for did Professor Gaitonde enter the Forbes building? What was his experience there?
- Explain the statement, "King Tut is one of the first mummies to be scanned -in death, as in life...."
- "Don't fret, mother , I'll not run away ".Why do you think Andrew say so?

M. Answer the following questions: - (6X2=12)

- How does the story suggest that optimism helps to endure "the direst stress"?
- Mrs. Annie Pearson and Mrs. Fitzgerald are totally opposite to each other in their attitude. Show the difference in their personalities.