

**NAAHAR PUBLIC SCHOOL [CBSE] SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL
ACADEMIC YEAR (2022-2023)
ANNUAL EXAMINATION**

**STD: XI
SUBJECT: ENGLISH
Tr. INITIAL: Ms. MARGRET**

**MARKS: 80
DURATION: 3 Hrs
DATE: 01.03.2023**

Section A Reading (18 MARKS)

1. Read the text carefully and answer the questions: (10 MARKS)

High-altitude climbing is still a very dangerous task despite the availability of oxygen masks and other protective equipment which modern climbers take with them. These, of course, are indispensable accessories of climbing, but more important than these is the stamina of the climber which ultimately determines the success of his attempt. Throughout his journey, death is his constant companion which he can keep at a distance only with his superb presence of mind. He has to tread every inch of the ground with the utmost care, for a false step may not only strike him a fatal blow but also bring disaster to the whole expedition. That is why all expeditions invariably take with them local guides who are experienced climbers and who have a thorough knowledge of the nature of the terrain. Moreover, a huge amount of capital is needed for financing these expeditions, and this is generally provided by governments or rich private organizations.

The primary objective of the mountaineering expedition is to get to the top of a high mountain, which, in the past has withstood all attempts to conquer it. But it should not be presumed that the expedition is a complete failure if it does not reach its destination. Sometimes operations are temporarily suspended because of bad weather, loss of some valuable equipment, or the sudden death of a very important member of the party.

Every big expedition takes with it men who are interested in botany, geology & various other branches of science, and these men carry with them equipment for recording their observations concerning the weather, the terrain & different forms of life in higher altitudes. Other scientists, explorers & expeditionists utilize the fruits of their observations. Thus, every unsuccessful expedition contributes to the success of later expeditions. The British Expedition led by colonel Hunt would have found their way to Everest much more difficult had not earlier expeditions armed them with useful knowledge about the death-dealing weather which they had to encounter in the Vicinity of the summit.

To ordinary people, mountaineering need not be a fearful journey in the land of snowstorms, where the brave adventurer is always face to face with death. They can scale less ambitious heights, rest their weary limbs under a quiet shelter and feast their eyes on the distant landscape. In the company of friends, they can enjoy an outing near a waterfall or cross into the next Valley with haversacks full of provisions dangling from their shoulders. All those who can afford to go to a hill station should seek this innocent pleasure, for it can be had without any risk to life or limb.

i. What is the factor that determines the success of the climbers?

- | | |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| a). Availability of protective equipment | b). Height and weight of the climber |
| c). Availability of oxygen masks | d). The stamina of the climber |

ii. What precaution should the climbers take during their journey?

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| a). Have a subtle presence of mind | b). Avoid causing a disaster |
| c). Have a good sponsor | d). Take local guides along |

iii. In what way does a mountaineering expedition contribute to the wealth of Knowledge?

- a). Even a failed expedition contributes to the success of later expeditions
- b). Mountaineers carry equipment to record observations about weather and terrain
- c). You learn to conquer the biggest hurdles of life
- d). People interested in different branches of science accompany climbers

iv. How is an ordinary mountaineer's experience different from that of a regular expedition?

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| a). All of these | b). They don't have to worry much about finances |
| c). They don't have to be face to face with death | d). They can savour the landscape from a distance |

v. How does a local guide help an expedition?

- a) They help clean the environment on the way
- b) They can help in case of fatalities
- c) They know the local language
- d) They know about the place they live in

vi. Why can an expedition not be a failure?

- a) Temporarily suspending operations become a necessity at times
- b) Recorded observations of incomplete expeditions still stand useful
- c) Reaching the destination does not mark its success
- d) All of these

vii. How are recorded observations of mountaineers useful to others?

- a) It would otherwise not be possible to know about Everest
- b) They give an insider's outlook to mountaineering
- c) It prepares future mountaineers for what they're going to deal with
- d) They are not of much help as nature keeps evolving

viii. What is the primary objective of a mountaineering expedition?

- a) Climb up and down; alive
- b) Unfurl your flag at the peak
- c) Reach to the top
- d) Experience nature in its vicinity

ix. Find the synonym of "neighbourhood" in paragraph 3

- a) Altitude
- b) Summit
- c) Terrain
- d) Vicinity

x. Find the antonym of "opponent" in paragraph 1

- a) Death
- b) Companion
- c) Guide
- d) Climber

2. Read the following passage carefully:

(8 MARKS)

There is nothing more frustrating than when you sit down at your table to study with the sincerest of intentions and instead of being able to finish the task at hand, you find your thoughts wandering.

However, there are certain techniques that you can use to enhance your concentration. "Your concentration level depends on a number of factors," says Samuel Ghosh, a social counsellor. "In order to develop your concentration span, it is necessary to examine various facets of your physical and internal environment," she adds.

To begin with, one should attempt to create a physical environment that is conducive to focused thought. Whether it is the radio, TV or your noisy neighbours, identify the factors that make it difficult for you to focus. For instance, if you live in a very noisy neighbourhood, you could try to plan your study hours in a nearby library.

She disagrees with the notion that people can concentrate or study in an environment with distractions like a loud television, blaring music etc. "If you are distracted when you are attempting to focus, your attention and retention powers do not work at optimum levels," cautions Ghosh. "Not more than two of your senses should be activated at the same time," she adds. What that means is that music that sets your feet tapping is not the ideal accompaniment to your books.

Also, do not place your study table or desk in front of a window. "While there is no cure for a mind that wants to wander, one should try and provide as little stimulus as possible. Looking out of a window when you are trying to concentrate will invariably send your mind on a tangent," says Ghosh. Emails and phones can be two of the biggest distractions of all. If you don't check email at the beginning of the day, then you'll be able to spend the morning pursuing your own agenda rather than reacting to everybody else's agenda and text messages, phone calls, or alerts interrupting your focus.

The second important thing, she says, is to establish goals for oneself or to choose an anchor task, instead of setting a general target and then trying to accomplish what you can in a haphazard fashion. Assign one (and only one) priority to each work day. Although you plan to complete other tasks during the day, your priority task is the one non-negotiable thing that must get done. The power of choosing one priority is that it naturally guides your behaviour by forcing you to organize your life around that

Section C- Literature (41 MARKS)

VIII a) Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

(1x20 =20)

The Laburnum Top is silent, quite still
In the afternoon yellow September sunlight,
A few leaves yellowing, all its seeds fallen.

i. Identify the correct combination of the (given) poem and the poet.

- a). Ted Hughes : The Voice of the Rain b). Walt Whitman : The Laburnum Top
c) Ted Hughes : The Laburnum Top d) Shirley Toulson : Childhood

ii. Mary said: **Close your cluttered closet.** Identify the similar figure of speech in the above extract used by Mary.

- a) Repetition b) Metaphor c) Alliteration d) Onomatopoeia

iii. Which of the following is not a part of the dominant 'yellow' colour in the poem?

- a) Goldfinch's face b) The tree and its leaves c) The bird's feathers d) The sunlight

b) Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

Where did my childhood go?
It went to some forgotten place,
That's hidden in an infant's face,
That's all I know

i. Where does the poet think childhood can be found?

- a) Infant's face b) Mother's lap c) Childhood alleys d) Forgotten place

ii. Through the given lines of the poem, the poet wants to convey that _____

- a) Growing up involves maturity and logical thinking
b) Imaginary places do not actually exist in the world
c) Double-faced behaviour of the people in society
d) Innocence of childhood disappears as one grows up

iii. The tone of the poet in the given poem is

- a) Contented b) Remorseful c) Jovial d) Happy

c) Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

The first indication of impending disaster came at about 6 p.m., with an ominous silence. The wind dropped, and the sky immediately grew dark. Then came a growing roar, and an enormous cloud towered aft of the ship. With horror, I realised that it was not a cloud, but a wave like no other I had ever seen. It appeared perfectly vertical and almost twice the height of the other waves, with a frightful breaking crest.

i) Which word in the extract means **forthcoming?**

- a) ominous b) growing c) roaring d) impending

ii. What is the wind dropped?

- a) wind slipped out the hands of author b) wind started coming from below the ship
c) wind fell down d) speed of wind greatly reduced

iii. Why the sky had become dark?

- a) lights of the ship were switched off b) a wave was approaching ship
c) a cloud was approaching ship d) night was approaching

d) Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

A FLAWLESS half-moon floated in a perfect blue sky on the morning we said our goodbyes. Extended banks of cloud like long French loaves glowed pink as the Sun emerged to splash the distant mountain tops with a rose-tinted blush. Now that we were leaving Ravu, Lhamo said she wanted to give me a farewell present. One evening I'd told her through Daniel that I was heading towards Mount Kailash to complete the kora, and she'd said that I ought to get some warmer clothes. After ducking back into her tent, she emerged carrying one of the long-sleeved sheepskin coats that all the men wore.

i. The author was heading towards which place?

- a) Mount Everest b) None of these c) Mount Kailash d) K2

ii. Which of the following figure of speech has been used in the line **banks of cloud like long French loaves**?

- a) Alliteration b) Metaphor c) Oxymoron d) Simile

iii. Which of the following facts can be inferred from the above extract?

- a) Lhamo didn't try to understand author b) Daniel was the translator of the author
c) Daniel was the translator of the author and Moon and Sun were both visible in the sky
d) Moon and Sun were both visible in the sky

e) Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

CYRIL: [moving to the table; annoyed] Why not?

MRS. PEARSON: [coolly] I couldn't bother.

CYRIL: Feeling off-colour 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.

i. What can you say about Cyril from the given lines?

- a) He is dumb and acts superior in front of his mother b) He takes his mother for granted
c) He is arrogant and egoistic d) He always disrespect his mother

ii. The phrase **feeling off colour** means

- a) feeling sleepy b) feeling tired c) feeling ill d) feeling lazy

iii. Why does Cyril act aggressive?

- a) Because he was getting late b) Because his mother had not made tea for him
c) Because his mother was behaving strangely d) Because his mother insulted him

iv The **change** referred to Cyril is a change in the way she is treated by the neighbour.

- a) True b) False

f) Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

At the corner of the road I looked up at the name-plate. Marconi Street, it said. I had been at Number 46.

The address was correct. But now I didn't want to remember it any more. I wouldn't go back there

because the objects that are linked in your memory with the familiar life of former times instantly lose

their value when, severed from them, you see them again in strange surroundings.

i. Where was the name plate of Marconi Street put up?

- a) at the far end of the road ASKUS
- b) at the edge of the road
- c) at the front of the house
- d) at the corner of the road

ii. How did author convince herself that she had come at the right address?

- a) she had looked at the name of the street
- b) she had looked at the number of the house
- c) she had looked at the number of the house and name of the street
- d) she had looked at the colour of the house

iii. Why did she not want to remember the address?

- a) number of the house was already displayed
- b) she did not want to go there again
- c) name of the street was already displayed
- d) she had a poor memory

iv. Why did author not want to go back there again?

- a) she noticed her own thing there
- b) her own things had lost their importance for her
- c) her former life was still in her memory
- d) the surrounding was unfamiliar

IX . SHORT ANSWERS: (Any 3)

(3X3=9)

1. How did the narrator's children Jonathan and Suzanne show courage in the hour of great storm?

2. 'Our optimistic attitude helps us to face extremely dangerous situations.' Discuss with reference to the story 'We're Not Afraid to Die....'

3. Did the boys return the horse because they were conscience-stricken or because they were afraid?

4. What advice does Mrs Fitzgerald give Mrs Pearson regarding being the boss in her family?

5. "I have done something, Oh God ! I've done something real at last." Why did Andrew make this statement?

X. LONG ANSWERS :

(2*6=12)

1. A doctor must remain committed to saving life. Unfortunately, this commitment is rarely to be seen nowadays. Comment. We need to examine the situation seriously. Even though the entire society has become extremely greedy, doctors cannot afford to give up their noble ideals as they deal with human lives.

OR

How did the city come to be named Melon City? Describe the events that led to its naming.

2. What was the outcome of the interview between Mrs. Dorling and the narrator? Answer in the context of The Address.

OR

You will probably agree that the story, The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse, does not have breathless adventure and exciting action. Then what in your opinion makes it interesting?