

DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL, JAMMU
ASSIGNMENT
SESSION :2017-18

CLASS : XI

SUBJECT :ENGLISH

SECTION A (READING)

Q1 Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

- 1 The elephant at last came up and was brought below the porch of the house. They are truly ugly beasts, with their grey wrinkled, hairless hides, the huge ragged flappers which cover their ears and with which they fan themselves ceaselessly, the small mean eyes, the hideous trunk which coils itself snakishly round everything, the formless legs, the piggish back, with the steep slope down to the mean, bare tail, creatures so unlikely any other familiar and friendly beast. Before I came back from England, I dreamt of howdahs and cloth of gold trappings, but my elephant had neither. In fact there was nothing grand about him but his ugliness. I dropped into one of two baskets on either side of his back from the porch, a young Malay lad dropped into the other and my bag was tied on behind with more ropes.
- 2 My ride was not comfortable. One sits facing forward with the feet dangling over the edge of the basket. This edge soon produces a sharp ache or cramp, and, when one tries to get relief by leaning back on anything, the awkward rolling position is so painful that one reverts to the former position till it again becomes intolerable. After we had travelled two hours, the baskets slipped down very dangerously and the great bulk of the elephant without any warning gently subsided behind and then just as gently in front, the huge, ugly legs being extended ahead of him. When the pack was adjusted, the driver jumped on the elephant's back, and giving me his hand hauled me up over the head, after which the creature rose gently from the ground and we went on our journey.
- 3 Soon the driver abandoned the elephant for a gossip and a smoke, leaving the animal to go to its own way for a mile or more. The elephant turned into the jungle, where he began to rend and tear the trees and going to a mud hole, he drew what water there was out of it and squirted it with a loud noise over himself and his riders, soaking my clothes with it. When he turned back to the road again, he several times stopped and seemed to stand on his head stiffening his trunk and leaning upon it, and when I hit it with my umbrella, he uttered the loudest roar I ever heard. My Malay fellow-rider jumped off and ran back for the driver, at which the baskets both came down on my side of the elephant.
- 4 On the driver's return, I had to dismount again and this time the elephant was allowed to go and take a proper bath in a river. He threw large quantities of clear water over himself and took up plenty more with which to cool his sides as went along. Thick as the wrinkled hide of an elephant is, a very small insect can draw blood from it and so, like the water buffalo, he wisely plastered himself with mud from the river's edge for protection. I rode again for another two hours, but he

crawled along about a mile an hour and seemed determined to lie down. He roared whenever he was asked to go faster, sometimes with the roar of rage, sometimes with the roar of distress. In despair, the driver got off and walked behind him, but at that point the elephant stopped altogether.

5 The driver tried to pull him along by putting a hooked stick in his huge 'flapper' but this produced no other effect than a series of howls. So, he climbed back on his head, after which the brute made a succession of exaggerated stumbles. The driver with a look of disgust, got off again. I let myself down his unshapely shoulder by a rope till I could see the driver's shoulders as steps. I walked the remaining miles to Kwalakangsa and the driver carried my suitcase. Such was the comical end of my first elephant ride.

- a) The author had previously regarded riding on an elephant as a luxurious means of travel. How?
- b) What purpose did the young Malay serve as far as the author was concerned?
- c) Explain why the writer says that the elephant wisely plasters himself with mud?
- d) Give two illustrations from the passage which show that the elephant was not cooperative.
- e) What made the author describe the end of the elephant ride as 'comical'?

1.1 Find words in the above passage having similar meaning as the following.

- a) Extremely ugly (para 1)
- b) Pulled with a lot of effort or difficulty (para 2)
- c) Get off a horse, bicycle, etc (para 4)

Q2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

The Indian students' need to go abroad stems from the fact that they feel that the western markets offer better job opportunities with high pay packets, they are safe from the point of law and they offer a good quality of life. What is attractive to an Indian is the global recognition for a foreign degree. Until now, a UK or a US degree was more acceptable worldwide and for entry into a multinational company. The Indian Institutes of Technology have reached position of eminence in the United States.

Traditionally, the West has been a magnet for people from other parts of the world. However, as a person has to pass multiple exams to get through their system, especially in professional areas such as medicine and engineering, students from India need to be focused on their options to study and work there. However, most European countries have made the entry of skilled Indian workers easier by easing up visa regulations. The UK which has traditionally seen many skilled and unskilled workers migrate, has eased up visa regulations for Indians who wish to seek jobs in the skilled sectors such as IT whereas Scotland which has a separate Parliament

within the UK, and a new entrant to the Indian education market, has taken several steps to woo Indian and other foreigners.

In the US, the largest number of foreign students come from India followed by China. The number from both the countries is 79,736 in the academic year 2003-2004 according to the Institute for International Education, an internationally recognized non-government organization. For the third consecutive year, India is the leading country of origin for international students in the US. The assistant secretary of state, consular affairs, US department of state, MaursHarty, stated recently, "The education industry in the US is the \$12 bn industry....students and business travelers became our number one priority so that we could regain the competitive advantage of attracting students to the US. It was our responsibility to make the visa process as efficient a process as we could because the hard earned salaries of the Indian parents are best applied in American varsities. Indian students bring a great diversity to our camps, great experience, great wisdom and they are good students."

Australia has eased up study and tourist visas for Indians. After study, a person from India does not have to come back to the country to apply for work visa. Individual regions in Australia compete with each other for attracting students. IDP Australia boasts of being the major export development and marketing company for Australian education as it is a conglomerate of all Australian universities and operates in 34 countries, India being one of them. There is expected to be a 15 percent to 25 percent increase in the number of Indians going to Australia for higher education.

Moving over to Canada, Popular with Punjabi migrants, it has traditionally attracted non skilled and skilled workers in equal measure from India. That country has now opened its doors to International students including India, making use of the decline in the student population post 9/11 US terror blasts, when the US tightened its security and visa measures. The country has an excellent public education system and education is more or less free. However, foreigners are charged market rates. The decrease in young population has necessitated Canada to open up its education system for foreign students.

- a) On the basis of the reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Also supply an appropriate title to it.
- b) Write a summary of the above passage in 80 to 100 words.

SECTION B (WRITING AND GRAMMAR)

Q3. Balwinder Singh of 15 Krishna Nagar Delhi is selling his old study material for AEEE preparations. Draft an advertisement in 50 words for the classified column of reputed newspaper

OR

You are Arjun/ Aparna of St. Joseph Convent School, Dehradun. Your school is inviting students to participate in an Inter-school On-the-Spot Painting Competition

organised by the Lion's Club of your district. As General Secretary of the Painting Club of your school, Write a notice to put up on school notice board.

Q4. You are the Manager of Goodman Sports Limited, Shalimar Garden, Delhi. A consignment sent by you to one of your regular customers was found to be of inferior quality. You have received a letter complaining of this from the customer. Write a letter of apology, explaining the causes and your plan for replacement.

Q5. Write a speech on the topic " capital punishment should be abolished ". Consider yourself Manavoberoi, president Human Rights commission.

OR

Rishikesh is popular in India for river rafting. A well known rafting guide gets drowned while saving six guides. Write a report to be published in local daily covering mishap in 1500-200 words.

Q6. Edit the following passage. There is one error in each line. Identify the incorrect one and write down the correct one.

- a) The exhaust Earth groaned _____
- b) and quivered under a glare _____
- c) of the sun. Spirals in heat _____
- d) rose from the ground on if _____
- e) from molten lava. The painting _____
- f) lizard crawl painfully over _____
- g) the hot rocks on search _____
- h) of the shady crevice. _____

Q7. Rearrange the jumbled words to make a meaningful sentence:

- a) I'll be having/Shahrukh Khan/at a five star hotel/next week/dinner/with
- b) The man /was/dead/the letter/addressed/to whom/had/he

SECTION C (LITERATURE AND TEXT)

Q8. Read the stanza and answer the following questions given below:

The cardboard shows me how it was

When the two girls went paddling.

Each one holding one of my mother's hands,

And she the big girl---Some twenty years or so.

- i) Who are the girls mentioned here?
- ii) Who was the big girl here?
- iii) What does the use of cardboard depict here?

Q9. Answer any three of the following question.

- a) Why did the old lady offer tea to Andrew?
- b) Why didn't Albert Einstein want to learn dates?
- c) Why was Aram not ready to return the horse?
- d) Why are our grasslands and croplands deteriorating?

Q10. What is the theme described in the poem "Father to Son". Explain with reference to the poem.

OR

The school system often curbs individual talents. Discuss with the reference to the chapter "Albert Einstein at school".

Q11. Attempt any one of the following:

Why did Ghost want to frighten the Otis family?

OR

Give a brief character sketch of Ghost of Sir Simon Canterville?

Q12. Why did ghost want Virginia to pray for him? What do you think Virginia as a person?

OR

Describe the humorous elements in the novel "The Canterville Ghost"?