

DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL Jammu
SESSION- 2024-25
SAMPLE PAPER FOR HALF-YEARLY EXAMINATION

Class : XII
Sub: English

M.Marks. : 80

General Instructions:-

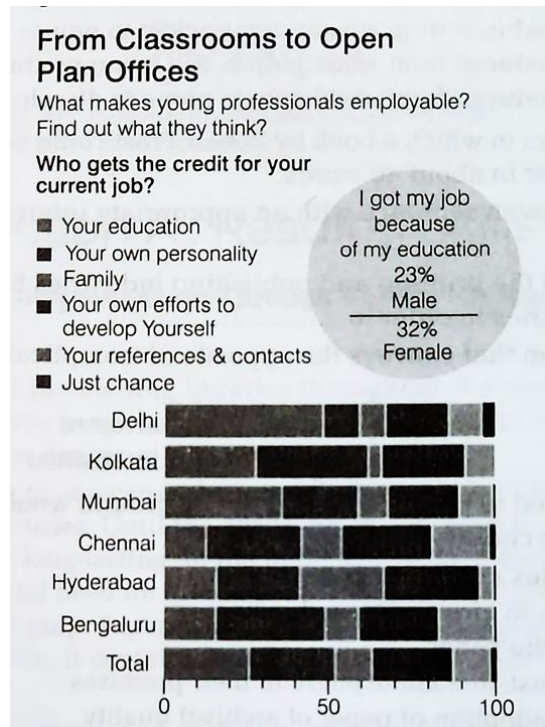
1. The paper is divided into three sections: Section A: Reading
Section B: Writing & Grammar Section C: Literature
2. All questions are compulsory.
3. Read the instructions given with each question, carefully and follow them.
4. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

Section–A : READING SKILLS (22 marks)

I.	Read the following text :	(12 M)
	<p>An urgent problem is now threatening libraries throughout the world. Their collections, which are crucial for diverse purposes as economic development, educational research and recreational pursuits are in danger of disintegration.</p> <p>The problem is mainly due to one cause-the type of paper on which books have been printed for the past one and a half centuries. Until the 1850s, paper was produced from linen or cotton rags and proved to be relatively long-lasting. In the mid-19th century, however, the popular demand for paper and the commercial need for an economic method of production led to the use of mechanically ground wood pulp. Paper manufactured from wood pulp is highly acidic and therefore, inherently unstable. It contains lignin which causes paper to discolour and disintegrate.</p> <p>Programmes are now being developed with two main aims in mind: on one hand, to improve the physical condition of library collections, especially by the process called 'mass deacidification' (to eliminate acid from the paper of published books and insert a buffer compound that will provide protection against future) and on the other, to transfer the contents of existing books to another medium.</p> <p>Libraries will only be able to carry out these special tasks with the assistance of experts such as book conservators and high technology specialists. But, there is another group whose cooperation will be crucial, if the problem of decaying collections is to be arrested: the printing and publishing industries. The existing problem that of book collections already assembled in libraries is of vast proportions.</p> <p>It is intensified by the continuing use of acid-based paper in book publishing. The key issue is, how to preserve the books of the future, not simply those of the past.</p> <p>If the future dimensions of the conservation problem are to be curbed, there will be a necessity of widespread adoption of paper which is of archival quality.</p> <p>This change does not relate to a narrowly perceived need because the long-term preservation of library collections is Important both for the overall social benefits they bring as well as for the special advantages they bestow on the printing and publishing industries,</p> <p>In the first place, libraries are of critical importance to the well-being of citizens, since they provide the knowledge base of society. They contain the record of humanity, the accumulation of ideas and insights and discoveries on which social effort and progress are possible, The destruction of libraries would represent an immense cultural loss, a form of amnesia, which would affect every member of society.</p>	
	Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.	
(i)	How can libraries save their collections? (a) Storing them in air-conditioned rooms	(1)

	(b) Laminating the pages (c) Creating a dust-free atmosphere in their premises (d) Widespread adoption of paper of archival quality	
(ii)	The writer would agree with the given statements based on Paragraph 2 EXCEPT (a) the paper produced from wood pulp is not everlasting. (b) the paper produced from wood pulp is acidic in nature. (c) the paper produced from wood pulp is still being produced. (d) the paper produced from wood pulp is prone to discoloring.	(1)
(iii)	Comment on the importance of libraries referred to in the paragraph one. Answer in about 40 words.	(2)
(iv)	Select the option that conveys the opposite of 'complicate', from words used in Paragraph 4. (a) assembled (b) arrested (c) proportions (d) intensified	(1)
(v)	Why did the need to produce mechanically ground wood pulp arise during the mid-nineteenth century?	(1)
(vi)	List the two ways in which a book by Robert Frost could be saved from deterioration and loss. Answer in about 40 words.	(2)
(vii)	How can the tone of the passage be best described? (a) Informed concern (b) Destructive criticism (c) Derisive ridicule (d) Helpless alarm	(1)
(viii)	According to the passage, linen or cotton rags were used as paper until the 1850's. Based on your understanding of the passage, state whether you promote going to back to using them as paper. Give reason for your answer. Answer in about 40 words.	(2)
(ix)	Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference, with respect to the following: The writer fond the printing and publishing industries to be crucial to cause of protecting libraries in order to	(1)
II.	Read the following text.	(10 M)
	<p>Graduates in India feel let down by the education system's failure to equip them with the skills needed to become a success at work, A recent study from Hindustan Times drew conclusions about the state of the Indian Education System and its effect on employability and career success amongst recent graduates, with the youth feeling that their education did not significantly contribute to them landing their first jobs.</p> <p>Young people are feeling out of their depth during the first few years of employment, crediting a deficit of industry links, lack of practical experience and inadequate career counselling at universities for the shortcomings in employability following graduation.</p> <p>Aimed at assessing the efficacy of India's education system, the survey connected with 1,680 young professionals, men and women aged between 21 and 27. Those surveyed have been employed for three years or less, pursuing new-age careers digital entertainment, advertising and media, retail, e-commerce, social media and start-ups - in the six base metro areas: Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Chennai.</p> <p>Only 26 percent of those surveyed felt their education contributed highly to their interpersonal management skills - a key trait needed for interviews and employment. A problem with the relevance and timeliness of university curricula was also</p>	

highlighted with respondents saying their college and university syllabus are not updated regularly.



An overwhelming majority of graduates felt that they lacked the necessary practical experience and blamed the deficiency on inadequate industry-academia linkages, A historical focus on rote learning still prevalent in much of India's educational system can lead to graduates attaining good grades but failing to pick up the skills needed for innovation or out-of-the-box thinking that is so vital in today's workplace. Where some may lack in skills, however, they make up for in character with 26 percent feeling they secured jobs through the sheer power of their personalities.

A case was also made for self-development and taking it upon oneself to bridge the gap inadequate education has left, with 24 percent of respondents believing personal initiatives to improve their skills paid off when it came to landing a job.

Despite the negative outcome of the survey, founder of global learning company XSEED Ashish Rajpal told Hindustan Times the future isn't all black if the system can be overhauled at primary school level, By encouraging children at a young age to engage with the world around them, they learn more practical real world experience and bolster their communication skills and confidence to boot.

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

(i)	State True or False. According to youth, educational institutes need to update and revise their curriculum to meet the needs of the present.	(1)
(ii)	Select the option that displays one of the skills relevant to the present day employment. (a) Innovation (b) Communication (c) Collaboration (d) All of these	(1)
(iii)	Do you think the researchers of the study aimed to highlight the changes required in the Indian Education System by pointing out the problems youth face in getting jobs? Answer in about 40 words.	(2)
(iv)	Complete the sentence based on the following statement. According to the passage, professional education should be introduced at	(1)
(v)	Based on the reading of the text, state a point to challenge the given statement. Answer in about 40 words. By focusing on industry links, practical experience and career counselling, individuals will be wasting their resources and fall back in their studies.	(2)
(vi)	In which state education plays an important role in employability? (a) Mumbai (b) Kolkata (c) Delhi (d) Bengaluru	(1)

(vii)	What do Indian youngsters find about the education system? (a) Provides wholesome factual knowledge (d) The best system in the world (b) Does not have any role in employability (c) Does not promote professional skills (d) All of these	(1)
(viii)	Self development was also promoted to bridge the gap inadequate education has left. Give a reason for such a claim.	(1)

Section B: Creative Writing Skills (18 marks)

III.	Attempt ANY ONE of the two given questions based on Notice Writing in about 50 words.	(4)		
	<p>You are Tanisha, the School Captain of Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya, Delhi. You wish to call a meeting of the students' council to discuss the measures to be taken to check the bursting of crackers in the school premises during Diwali time. Draft a notice inventing details.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>You are Ravi/Rachna, President of the Cultural Forum of your Vidya Sheel School. Your school is hosting an inter-school dance competition on the occasion of its Silver Jubilee celebration. Write a notice informing the students of your school about the same.</p>			
IV.	Attempt ANY ONE of the two given questions based on Formal Invitations & Replies in about 50 words.	(4)		
	<p>A. M/s Shyam Lal & Sons are opening a new branch of their grocery store 'Galaxy Novelties' in Geetanjali Enclave, Dwarka, Delhi. The inauguration ceremony is fixed for Sunday, the 19th of October, 20XX at 11:00 a.m. Prepare a draft of formal invitation letter for the purpose.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>B. You are the Secretary of the Old Students' Association, Mayo School, Ajmer. The 20th Alumni Meet will be held on Sunday, the 28th Sept. 20XX at 8.00 p.m. at Palace Hotel. Write an invitation letter to Mr. Aakash Rai, Director, AR group of Colleges to attend the meet and grace the occasion as Chief Guest.</p>			
V.	Attempt ANY ONE of the two given questions based on Letter Writing and Job Applications in about 120-150 words.	(5)		
	<p>A. As the resident of 16 Shivpuri, Modinagar, write a letter to the Editor of a local daily regarding the long power cuts that your colony has to face every day and the resultant problems being faced by the residents. You can use the following clues.</p> <p>Clues-</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long power cuts • Electrical appliances cannot be used • Suffering due to heat and humidity </td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disrupts working hours (manpower) • Disrupts study hours • Harmful for health (heat stroke) </td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>B. Draft an application for the post of an accountant in Pioneers (Pvt.) Ltd. Co., Hyderabad in response to their advertisement given below. Prepare a resume to be enclosed. You are Nipun/Aparna.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long power cuts • Electrical appliances cannot be used • Suffering due to heat and humidity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disrupts working hours (manpower) • Disrupts study hours • Harmful for health (heat stroke) 	
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JOB OPENING ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT

Pioneers (Pvt.) Ltd. Co., Hyderabad seeks applications from qualified applicants to staff the position of Assistant Accountant, with a starting salary of ₹ 17850+ 2050 Transport Allowance per month plus other benefits.

Minimum Qualifications

- 1- Bachelor's Degree in Commerce or Accounting.
- 2- Knowledge of computers, especially MS Office & MYOB.
- 3- Excellent oral & written-abilities in English
- 4- Be able to work under pressure.
- 5- Possess good interpersonal skills, initiative, integrity, flexibility, adaptability and must be a team player.

Experience At least 2 years working experience in the field of accounting.

Interested Candidates send their applications along with CV to the Manager PO Bit& 1042, Hyderabad, within 3 weeks of publishing of this advertisement.

Or Email your CV's at **ccaccounts1a@mail.com**

VI. Attempt ANY ONE of two given questions based on Article Writing in about 120-150 words. (5)

A. Teenagers today are getting hooked on to the latest gadgets. Write an article on "The Advantages of Technology and its Adverse Effects'. You are Somya/Saurav Taneja. You can use the following clues.

Clues

- Gadgets: Mobiles, iPods, computers
- Greater affluence: Easy availability
- Improved communication : Easy connectivity, faster information exchange, global vision,
- Impact on health : Sedentary lifestyle, obesity, eating habits
- Impact on academic performance
- Social impact

OR

B. Our performance in the Olympics has told us that we do not pay enough attention to athletics and outdoor games. It is time we revised our attitude. Sports should be an important part of school's daily routine. Write an article in 150-200 words in 'Importance of Outdoor Games'. You are Sreeja/Thomas. You can use the following clues.

Clues

- Increases strength and flexibility
- Reduces stress and anxiety
- Promotes better sleep
- Encourages teamwork and collaboration
- Teaches sportsmanship and fair play
- Develops skills (e.g., teamwork, leadership, time management)
- Builds discipline and work ethic
- - Encourages goal-setting and achievements

Section C: Literature Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text (40 marks)

VII. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two given. (1X6=6)

*A. Perhaps the Earth can teach us
as when everything seems dead
and later proves o be alive.
Now I'll count up to twelve
and you keep quiet and I will go.*

- (i) Who can teach us?
 (A) nature (B) Earth (C) noble persons (D) Assonance
- (ii) What can the Earth teach us?
- (iii) The figure of speech used in the lines "as when everything seems dead/and later proves to be alive, is
- (A) transferred epithet (B) irony (C) metaphor (D) assonance
- (iv) What does the poet wish to convey in the last line of the poem?
- (v) What does the poet reiterate again at the end of the poem?
- (vi) The poet is an advocate of violence. (True/ False)

OR

*Yes, in spite of all,
 Some shape of beauty moves away the pall
 From our dark spirits. Such the Sun, the Moon,
 Trees old and young, sprouting a shady boon
 For simple sheep; and such are daffodils.
 With the green world they live in; and clear rills
 That for themselves a cooling covert make
 Gainst the hot season: the mid forest brake,*

(A Thing of Beauty)

- i) Choose the option that displays the same poetic device as used in 'Some shape of beauty'.
- (a) What tale of terror, now, their turbulency tells!
 (b) They can only shriek, shriek.
 (c) Does it dry up like a raisin in the Sun?
 (d) Mine is a long and a sad tale!
- ii) What does 'all' in line one refer to?
- iii) Why are our spirits dark?
 (a) Because of night (b) Because of suffering
 (c) Because of disappointments (d) Both (b) and (c)
- iv) Complete the sentence with ONE word.
 When the poet says that "Some shape of beauty moves away the pall away from our dark spirits", he refers to power of nature.
- v) State whether the given statement is True or False.
 Beauty can be found in all aspects of nature.
- vi) Give an apt title for the above extract.

VIII. Read the given prose extracts from Vistas carefully and answer the following objective type questions (DO ANY ONE). (1X4=4)

A. *The Maharaja's anxiety reached a fever pitch when there remained just one tiger to achieve his tally of a hundred. He had this one thought during the day and the same dream at night. By this time the tiger farms had run dry even in his father-in-law's kingdom. It became impossible to locate tigers anywhere. Yet only one more was needed. If he could kill just that one single beast, the Maharaja would have no fears left. He could give up tiger hunting altogether.*

- i) Complete the sentence appropriately, with reference to the extract.
 The writer refers to the dreams of the Tiger King to highlight
- ii) What does NOT lead to a 'fever pitch'?
- iii) Select the most suitable title for the given extract.
 (a) Maharaja's Determination
 (b) On the Way of Killing a Hundred Tigers
 (c) The Selfish King
 (d) Killing Other Creatures

	<p>iv) 'By this time the tiger farms had run dry even in his father-in-law's kingdom.' What does this line tell us about the Maharaja?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>B. <i>A Take the microscopic phytoplankton - those grasses of the sea that nourish and sustain the entire Southern Ocean's food chain. These single-celled plants use the sun's energy to assimilate carbon and synthesise organic compounds in that wondrous and most important of processes called photosynthesis. Scientists warn that a further depletion in the ozone layer will affect the activities of phytoplankton which in turn will affect the lives of all the marine animals and birds of the region, and the global carbon cycle. In the parable of the phytoplankton, there is a great metaphor for existence : take care of the small things and the big things will fall into place.</i></p> <p>(i) Choose the option that marks the ODD ONE OUT based on your reading of the above extract.</p> <p>(A) Global carbon cycle gets effected with small changes. (B) Single-celled plants use sun's energy for photosynthesis. (C) Depletion of Ozone layer will affect activities of phytoplankton. (D) Little changes in the environment don't effect the environment.</p> <p>(ii) What do you understand by phytoplankton? (iii) Metaphor is something representative or symbolic of something else. The below given statement is NOT an example of metaphor. (True/False) (iv) is known as the sea grasses that nourish and sustain food chain.</p>	
IX.	Read the given prose extracts from Flamingo carefully and answer the following objective type questions (DO ANY ONE).	(1X6=6)
	<p>A. <i>Together they have imposed the baggage on the child that he cannot put down. Before he is aware, he accepts it as naturally as his father. To do anything else would mean to dare. And daring is not part of his growing up. When I sense a flash of it in Mukesh, I am cheered. "I want to be a motor mechanic," he repeats. He will go to a garage and learn. But the garage is a long way from his home.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(Lost Spring)</i></p> <p>i) Complete the given sentence appropriately. 'They' in the given extract refers to</p> <p>ii) What is not a part of 'his' growing up? iii) Select the correct option to fill in the blank. The 'baggage' in the extract refers to</p> <p>(a) the bag containing bangles (b) the job of bangle making (c) the blame of their crimes (d) the job of selling bangles</p> <p>iv) Based on the above extract, choose the statement that is TRUE for 'them'. (a) They are figures of authority. (b) They are scared of government. (c) They are suppressive. (d) Both (a) and (c)</p> <p>v) Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that Mukesh's dream will require determination and sincerity. vi) Why does the writer state that the boy accepts bangle making as naturally as his father?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>B. <i>"Since you have been so nice to me all day long, as if I was a captain, I want to be nice to you, in return, as if I was a real captain — for I do not want you to be embarrassed at this Christmas season by a thief; but you can give back the money to the old man on the roadside, who has the money pouch hanging on the window frame as a bait for poor wanderers.</i></p>	

The rattrap is a Christmas present from a rat who would have been caught in this world's rattrap if he had not been raised to captain, because in that way he got power to clear himself.

“Written with friendship and high regard, Captain von Stahle.”

i) Which of the following CANNOT be attributed to the peddler, according to the above extract?

- a) indebtedness
- b) reform
- c) self-pity
- d) self-awareness

ii) Why did the peddler gift a rattrap as a Christmas present?

- a) It was all the peddler had that he could give away, and represented his turn to honesty.
- b) It symbolized his successful escape from entrapment as he returned the stolen money.
- c) It served as a reminder for Edla to be wary of the dangerous temptations of the world.
- d) It was a practical and convenient present that the lady of the house could effectively use.

iii) The word ‘frame’ has been used to indicate a rigid structure that surrounds something such as a picture, door, or windowpane. There are other meanings of ‘frame’ too.

Choose the option that DOES NOT list the meaning of ‘frame’.

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| (1) a person's body with reference to its size or build | (2) a single complete picture in a series forming a cinema, television, or video film | (3) the triangular structure for positioning the red balls in snooker | (4) a thin solid object that seals a container or hole; a lid |
|---|---|---|---|

- a) Option (1)
- b) Option (2)
- c) Option (3)
- Option (4)

iv) This communication includes

- | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|----------|-----------|
| 1) a promise | 2) an apology | 3) shame | 4) regret |
|--------------|---------------|----------|-----------|
- a) only 4
 - b) only 1
 - c) 1 & 3
 - d) 2 & 4

v) According to the peddler, *the old man on the roadside, had the money pouch hanging on the window frame as _____ for poor wanderers*

vi) Why did the peddler sign the letter as Captain Von Stahale?

X. Answer ANY FIVE of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words. (5×2=10)

- (i) “This is your last French lesson.” How did Franz react to the declaration of Hamel?
- (ii) “On the way down I planned,” remarks Douglas. What plan had he devised?
- (iii) In the story The Rattrap, who was a keen observer - the ironmaster or his daughter Edla? Substantiate your answer with an example.
- (iv) Gandhi felt that he was involved in a 'Conflict of duties'. Explain.

	(v) Explain the significance of the title <i>My Mother at Sixty Six</i> . (vi) 'Garbage is gold for rag pickers'. Explain with reference to <i>Lost Spring</i> .	
XI.	Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.	(2X2=4)
	(i) "That ain't money, mister". When did the ticket clerk utter these words and why? (ii) Why was Dr. Sadao not sent to the battlefield? (iii) How did the hundredth tiger take its final revenge on the Tiger King?	
XII.	Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words.	(5)
	A. 'Bah! I've got plenty of time. I'll learn it tomorrow.' Franz was shocked when he heard that it was the last lesson and he hardly knew French, his mother tongue. The prose <i>The Last Lesson</i> presents that many of us find ourselves in similar situations and regret when all is over. You have recently read the short story and are so deeply moved that you want to include it in your blog. OR B. What is the message of the poem, 'A thing of beauty'? What images does the poet use to describe the beautiful bounty of the Earth?	
XIII.	Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words.	(5)
	A. One must rise above narrow prejudices of race and country to help a human being in need. This is what you have learned from the lesson <i>The Enemy</i> that you just read now. The thought of Dr. Sadao does not leave our mind and you decide to pen your feelings in your diary. Write your diary entry for the same in 120-150 words. You may begin like this- 28 September 20XX. Wednesday 9:30 pm Dear Diary I have always heard about humanity being the biggest loyalty that we humans possess but have found that it is the very quality	
	OR B. Philately helps keep the past alive. Discuss other ways in which this is done. What do you think of the human tendency to constantly move between the past, the present and the future? (<i>The Third Level</i>)	

