

H.S. PRE-FINAL EXAMINATION, 2021-22**GENERAL ENGLISH****Full Marks : 100****Time : Three hours****SECTION A (10 marks)**

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: 10
- (i) Air pollution is an issue which concerns us all alike. One can willingly choose or reject a food, a drink or a life comfort, but unfortunately there is little choice for the air we breathe. All, what is there in the air is inhaled by one and all living in those surroundings.
- (ii) Air pollutant is defined as a substance which is present while normally it is not there or present in an amount exceeding the normal concentrations. It could either be gaseous or a particulate matter. The important and harmful polluting gases are carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, ozone and oxides of sulphur and nitrogen. The common particulate pollutants are the dusts of various inorganic or organic origins. Although we often talk of the outdoor air pollution caused by industrial and vehicular exhausts, the indoor pollution may prove to be as or a more important cause of health problems.
- (iii) Recognition of air pollution is relatively recent. It is not uncommon to experience a feeling of 'suffocation' in a closed environment. It is often ascribed to the lack of oxygen. Fortunately, however, the composition of air is remarkably constant all over the world. There is about 79 per cent nitrogen and 21 per cent oxygen in the air, the other gases forming a very small fraction. It is true that carbon dioxide exhaled out of lungs may accumulate in a closed

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and overcrowded place. But such an increase is usually small and temporary unless the room is really airtight. Exposure to poisonous gases such as carbon monoxide may occur in a closed room. This may also prove to be fatal.

- (iv) What is more common in a poorly ventilated home is a vague constellation of symptoms described as the sick building syndrome. It is characterized by a general feeling of malaise, headache, dizziness and irritation of mucous membranes. It may also be accompanied by nausea, itching, aches, pains and depression. Sick building syndrome is getting commoner in big cities with the small houses, which are generally over furnished. Some of the important pollutants whose indoor concentrations exceed those of the outdoors include gases such as carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, oxides of nitrogen and organic substances like spores, formaldehydes, hydrocarbon aerosols and allergens. The sources are attributed to a variety of construction materials, insulations, furnishings, adhesives, cosmetics, house dusts, fungi and other indoor products.
- (v) By products of fuel combustion are important in houses with indoor kitchens. It is not only the burning of dried dung and fuel wood which is responsible, but also kerosene and liquid petroleum gas. Oxides of both nitrogen and sulphur are released from their combustion.
- (vi) Smoking of tobacco in the closed environment is an important source of indoor pollution. It may not be high quantitatively, but significantly hazardous for health. It is because of the fact that there are over 3,000 chemical constituents in tobacco smoke, which have been identified. These are harmful for human health.
- (vii) Microorganisms and allergens are of special significance in the causation and spread of diseases. Most of the infective illnesses may involve more persons of a family living in common indoor environment. These include viral and bacterial diseases like tuberculosis.

(viii) Besides infections, allergic and hypersensitivity disorders are spreading fast. Although asthma is the most common form of respiratory allergic disorders, pneumonias are not uncommon, but more persistent and serious. These are attributed to exposures to allergens from various fungi, hay and other organic materials. Indoor air ventilation systems, coolers, air conditioners, dampness, decay, pet animals, production or handling of the causative items are responsible for these hypersensitivity diseases.

(ix) Obviously, the spectrum of pollution is very wide and our options are limited. Indoor pollution may be handled relatively easily by an individual. Moreover, the good work must start from one's own house.

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| (i) What is an air pollutant? | 1 |
| (ii) Why do we feel suffocated in a closed environment? | 1 |
| (iii) Name some harmful polluting gases. | 2 |
| (iv) How can one overcome the dangers of indoor air pollution? | 2 |
| (v) In what forms are the air pollutants present? | 2 |
| (vi) What is sick building syndrome? How is it increasing? | 2 |

SECTION B (20 marks)

2. Draft a poster on the topic "Tree Plantation Drive" to create awareness for a healthy environment. 5

OR

You are Amit/Amrita, the Cultural Secretary of your college. You are planning to organise a cultural programme. Write a notice for the college notice-board inviting names of students willing to participate. 5

3. You are Raj/ Riya of A.G College, Guwahati. Your college recently celebrated the World Environment Day. Write a report in 100 words for your college magazine giving details of the celebration. 5

OR

You have witnessed a train accident in which a Mumbai bound Guwahati Express got derailed. Write a report in words to be published in *The Assam Tribune*, Guwahati. You are Joy/Jyoti. 5

4. You want to sell your flat in Golaghat. Write an advertisement giving necessary details in about 50 words. 5

OR

Hotel Lake View, Tinsukia, needs a young and smart lady receptionist. Write an advertisement to be published in the 'Situation Vacant' column of a local newspaper. 5

5. Write a letter to the editor of *The Sentinel*, Guwahati about the problem of water scarcity in your locality. Also suggests some ways to improve the positions of water supply. 5

OR

Write an article on the effectiveness of the online mode of education during pandemic. 5

SECTION C (14 marks)

6. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate preposition (any four): 1 × 4 = 4
- I sent ____ him.
 - He looks _____ my estate.
 - She sat ____ the fire.
 - The cat jumped ____ the wall.
 - He sat ____ the tree.

7. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb given in brackets (any four):
- a. The patient ____ (die) before the doctor arrived. 1 × 4 = 4
 - b. A good boy ____ (obey) his parents.
 - c. I ____ (go) tomorrow.
 - d. I ____ (meet) him last week.
 - e. She ____ (sit) in the library when I saw her.
8. Change the voice of the following sentences (any two): 1 × 2 = 2
- a. I am reading a book.
 - b. The girls have sent the flowers.
 - c. Do you know him?
9. Change the form of narration in the following sentences: 2 × 2 = 4
- a. I said to him, "How long will you stay?" He replied, "For five days".
 - b. He asked me if I knew Ram. I replied that I did not.

SECTION D (56 marks)

10. Answer the following questions (any six): 2 × 6 = 12
- a. What makes the city of Firozabad famous?
 - b. What is Saheb looking for in the garbage dumps?
 - c. Briefly describe the scene observed by the author from the veranda of his bungalow on the bank of the Brahmaputra in 'Memoirs of Chota Sahib'.
 - d. Why is Rajkumar Shukla described as being 'resolute'?
 - e. Why are the young trees described as 'sprinting'?
 - f. What do the parting words of the poet and her smile signify?
 - g. What will counting up to twelve and keeping still help us achieve?

11. Answer the following questions (any six):

4 × 6 = 24

- a. Mention the hazards of working in the glass bangles industry.
- b. Why should child labour be eliminated and how?
- c. Describe the author's reminiscence of the forest bungalow at Kushi in 'Memoirs of Chota Sahib'.
- d. Give an account of the author's experiences of the floods on the North Bank of the Brahmaputra during the monsoon in 'Memoirs of Chota Sahib'.
- e. Why did Gandhi consider the Champaran episode to be a turning-point in his life?
- f. Why has the mother been compared to the 'late winter's moon'?
- g. What is the 'sadness' that the poet refers to in the poem 'Keeping Quite'?

12. Answer the following questions (any four):

2 × 4 = 8

- a. Who is the Tiger King?
- b. What did the royal infant grow up to be?
- c. Mention some of the other names of the Tiger King.
- d. Why did Zitkala-Sa find the 'eating by formula' a hard trial?
- e. Mention the things observed by Bama on her way home from school.

13. Answer the following questions (any three):

4 × 3 = 12

- a. What will the Maharaja do to find the required number of tigers to kill?
- b. How did the hundredth tiger kill the maharaja?
- c. Why did Zitkala-Sa feel oppressed in new establishment?
- d. Describe Bama's experience as an untouchable in 'Memories of Childhood'.

