

Subject: English

SPV-I

Time: 3 Hours

Class: X

2017-18

Maximum Marks: 80

Set-A

INSTRUCTION:-

- Attempt the paper in order.
- Keep to the word limit.

Section –‘A’ Reading

Q. 1. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow:- (12)

Kite fights, spirited duels up in the skies

1. **Changa chait!** The piercing and excited cry, literally ‘the kite is cut’, rang out on a pleasant afternoon in Kathmandu. This was a spectacle repeated many times during the fortnight of Dashain, the auspicious festival in Nepal. Kite-flying was an integral part of the festival and the skies would be full of them. Some people believed that kite-flying was a way of requesting the rain god Indra not to send down any further rain and to bring prosperity to the kite-fliers. Others believed kite-flying was a way of contacting and honouring ancestors or of guiding the recently deceased to heaven.
2. Initially we were happy just watching the kite fights and running to reclaim those that landed in our compound. Sometimes there would be heartbreak when a gust of wind would take the kite to a neighbouring property, much to the delight of the children there. On other occasions the kite would get entangled in the branch of a tree or come to rest on the roof of one of the compound buildings. The best climbers in the group would then have to undertake the somewhat hazardous act of retrieving the kite.
3. Later on, when we were able to cajole our parents into giving us some pocket money we proudly become kite-flyers ourselves. The kites we could afford were small and the string ordinary and short in length, but it was always exhilarating to get the kite airborne.
4. On a clear Saturday afternoon we were finally ready for our first kite fight. There were no fighter kites in the vicinity when we launched our lovely green-

and-yellow kite. We took turns with the *lattai* and soon friendly winds blowing northwards had taken ours to a dizzying height.

5. It was then that we noticed, to our east, a large red kite gaining height rapidly. The speed and smoothness of the ascent indicated the flyer was skilful and experienced. The kite seemed a good distance away and we kept admiring it while pulling down our own. All of a sudden, the red kite made a sharp move towards ours. There was no mistaking the menace and intent. We had our hearts in our mouths; our first fight was going to be against a professional. But we were a plucky and wily bunch and game for it.
6. With the attacker closing in, we loosened our string fast. A kite gets cut when the string is taut and the point of contact is static, so the trick was to let our kite float without losing control. We veered our kite sharply away signalling a desire not to engage. The evasive manoeuvres continued for some time. The attacker, sensing that we might get away without engaging in combat, made a reckless bid to intercept us. The red kite spun out of control. All we had to do was to bring our kite down fast and across it to make the cut. A win in our first fight was unbelievable and the jubilant shouts of 'Changa Chait' echoed in our compound!

- ✓ How would the children celebrate the auspicious fortnight of Dashain? 2
- ✓ What is the significance of kite flying for the Nepalese people? 2
- ✓ Give two examples from the text to illustrate that kites were a valuable commodity for the children. 2
- ✓ Why does the author describe their victory in the kite fight as "unbelievable"? 2
- ✓ Find words from the text that mean the same as:
- a) Persuade (para 3) 1
- b) Fearless (para 5) 1
- c) Stretched, stiff (para 6) 1
- d) Triumphant (para 6) 1

Q. 2. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :- (8)

Why we fall under the Potter spell

1. As young wizards and witches raise their wands on the 20th anniversary of his arrival as the 12 – year – old orphan, the designated hero of our times, we ask

ourselves: are we hooked on Harry Potter because of the magic of his personality?

2. The author of what has easily become one of the world's most spectacular publishing ventures is something of a legend herself. A single mother with a small child, Rowling sat in a café just to keep warm while typing out her manuscript. Her first draft did the rounds of publishers before Bloomsbury saw its magical quality and swiped it.
3. Or to quote Rowling: "I was set free, because my greatest fear had already been realized, and I was still alive, and I still had a daughter whom I adored, and I had an old typewriter and a big idea. And so rock bottom became the solid foundation on which I rebuilt my life."
4. Harry is saved in his first encounter with Voldemort, the epitome of evil who destroys his parents. But Lily has encased him with love and that memory remains to save him. The image of mother – love is invoked as tenderly as any visual representation of the Holy Mother and Child.
5. Rowling's latest pictures show her with a golden aura around her, looking slightly bemused, but filled with the magic of her own words. Let it be said here that one of her biggest strengths has been her inventive way with words. As she has said, "Words are, in my not-so-humble opinion, our most inexhaustible source of magic." She is the high priestess of word-magic.
6. But what no one could have predicted is how from the very first book, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*- described as a children's fantasy novel – the sales would be astronomical. The first three books in the series occupied the first three slots in the New York Times bestseller lists, with the same thing happening in the U.K. charts. The number of languages in which Harry Potter rules has risen to 76 by the last count. There are Chinese Harry Potters lurking behind the Great Wall and a Bengali version where Harry Potter bumps into a fan called Jhontu. The fourth book *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* roared its way to become the fastest selling book in history. The sixth book *Harry Potter and the Half-blood Prince* sold 6.9 million copies in the U.S. in the first 24 hours.
7. By now lining up at the doors of bookshops before midnight with the jagged Potter scar and the round spectacles was as mandatory as the flowing gowns and witch's hats. Not to be outdone, the Potter films franchise that followed

created a bigger buzz with real-life actors who brought their own dazzle to the Potter mystique.

8. The rise of the boy saviour casting a spell on the populace was not without its detractors. Some saw in Harry a New Age messiah who could challenge Christian beliefs, particularly in the last book where he seems to have been killed only to rise again. There is all the business with the Horcruxes that Harry has to destroy before he can tackle Voldemort. There are seemingly six of them, each one containing a fragment of Voldemort's essence, maybe his soul. The seventh one is lodged unknown to him in Harry himself.

- 1. Why is the Harry Potter series referred to as one of the world's most spectacular publishing ventures? 1
- 2. Describe Rowling's writing routine before Bloomsbury picked up her manuscript. 1
- 3. How did Rowling rebuild her life from her failures? 1
- 4. How does Rowling invoke the image of mother-love through her story? 1
- 5. What according to the author is J K Rowling's biggest strength? 1
- 6. Give an example that illustrates the popularity of Harry Potter among readers. 1
- 7. How did the film industry contribute to a bigger buzz around the series? 1
- 8. Why do critics see Harry Potter as a threat to Christianity? 1

Section --'B' Writing

Q.3. Write a letter to the editor of a daily newspaper discussing how 'Monsoon' has become a season of inconvenience rather than a season of celebration. You are Nikhil/Nikita Sharma (150 words) 1 8

Q.4. Write a story that combines the following three things - a set of keys, a special piece of jewellery and a bowl of soup. (200-250 words) 2 12

Q.5. There is an error in each line. Find the error and write the correct word along with the incorrect word: (1/2x6=3)

	Incorrect	Correct
e.g.	has	have
a)	_____	_____
b)	_____	_____
c)	_____	_____

Recently some scientists has concluded the meteorites found at Earth and long believe to have a Martian

origin might actually have
 been blasted free across Mars'
 gravity for the impact on
 Mars on other meteorites

1/2

- d) _____
 e) _____
 f) _____

eg. Rearrange the following words or phrases to form meaningful sentences (1x3=3)

1. Is the/ flying/ adventure/ paragliding/ recreational / paragliding / and
 competitive/ sport of

Ans. Paragliding is the recreational and competitive adventure sport of flying paragliders.

2. lightweight/ with no/ it is a/ free flying / primary structure/ foot launched/
 glider/ rigid

3. below / suspended/ the pilot/ a fabric wing/ a harness/ sits in

4. and the / the suspension lines/ the wing shape/ aerodynamic forces/ air
 flowing / of the / is maintained by

1/2

eg. Complete the paragraph by filling in the banks with the most suitable options given
 below: (1/2 x 8=4)

This is a recipe that 1) _____ to all Britons living and working in the
 Imperial Raj. Indeed the 2) _____ Indian cooks, British tastes and exotic
 foods have made a lasting 3) _____ British cuisine right down to the
 present day. New, strange and exciting ingredients would be used to 4) _____
 familiar, edible and nutritious meals befitting 5) _____ class that they had
 become. Lack of refrigeration, a hot and humid climate and unfamiliar cooking
 facilities would all 6) _____ make cooking an even more 7) _____
 prospect than it already would have been. However, the results of these intrepid
 culinary explorers could often be an interesting 8) _____ East meets West.

- 1) ~~a)~~ would be familiar
 2) a) combination for
 3) a) impression by
 4) a) try and recreate
 5) ~~a)~~ the ruling
 6) ~~a)~~ conspire to
 7) a) exhausted
 8) a) mix by

- b) is familiar
 b) combination off
 b) impression of
~~b)~~ seek and recreate
 b) a ruling
 b) conspire and
 b) mysterious
 b) mix of
 c) were familiar
~~c)~~ combination of
~~c)~~ impression on
 c) trial and recreate
 c) the general
 c) conspire with
~~c)~~ difficult
 c) mix with

Section --'C' Literature

Q. 8. Read the lines and answer the questions that follow: (4)

*'And it would work' em woe!
for all averred...'*

- a) Who are 'all' and what did they say? 1
b) Why did they change their opinions later? 1
c) Describe the speaker. 1
d) Explain 'work em woe!'. 1

Q. 9. Answer the following questions in about 35-40 words each: (Any Four) (2x4=8)

- a) Comment on Dhumaketu's portrayal of the post-office staff?
b) Why did Gladolia threaten to quit?
c) How did the dwindling audience affect the nightingale? 1/2
d) Why does the mirror describe itself as the 'eye of a little God'?
e) The boys were fiercely protective of their privacy. Do you agree? Why / Why not?
f) Describe the Slaters.

Q. 10. *Time overpowers and conquers all ...* Discuss with reference to the poems 'Ozymandias' and 'Not Marble, nor the Gilded Monuments'. (120-150 words) (8) 1

Q. 11. *'There is more to Anne than meets the eye.'* Discuss this statement in context of the multiple facets of 'Anne' that you came across while reading her diary. (200-250 words) (10) 3

Or

'Secret Annexe is an ideal hiding place'. Do you concur with Anne? Give textual evidence to support your views. (200-250 words) 10