

SHIKSHA BHARATI PUBLIC SCHOOL

MID TERM EXAMINATION-2017-18

ENGLISH

CLASS-X

M.M:80

General instructions :-

- A) All the questions are compulsory.
- B) Attempt all the questions according to the given word limit.

SECTION-A (READING : 20 MARKS)

1. Read the passage carefully:

(8 marks)

One of the greatest advances in modern technology has been the invention of computers. They are widely used in industries and in universities. Now there is hardly any sphere of human life where computers have not been pressed into service of man. We are heading fast towards the day when a computer will be as much part of man's daily life as a telephone or a calculator.

Computers are capable of doing extremely complicated work in all branches of learning. They can solve the most complex mathematical problems or put thousands of unrelated facts in order. These machines can be put to varied uses. For instance, they can provide information on the best way to prevent traffic jams. (This whole process by which machines can be used to work for us has been called 'automation') In the future, 'automation' may enable human beings to enjoy more leisure than they do today. The coming of automation is bound to have important social consequences.

Some years ago an expert on automation, Sir Leon Bagrit, pointed out that it was a mistake to believe that these machines could 'think'. There is no possibility that human beings will be controlled by machines". Though computers are capable of learning from their mistakes and improving on their performances, they need detailed instructions from human beings to operate. They can never, as it were, lead independent lives or rule the world by making decisions of their own.

Sir Leon said that in future, computers would be developed which would be small enough to carry in the pocket. Ordinary people would then be able to use them to obtain valuable information. Computers could be plugged into a national network and be used like radios. For instance, people going on holiday could be informed about weather conditions. Car drivers can be given alternative routes when there are traffic jams. It will also be possible to make tiny translating machines. This will enable people who do not share a common language to talk to each other without any difficulty or to read foreign publications.

Answer the following questions briefly:

(1×8)

- (i) What is the greatest advancement in modern technology?
- (ii) What complicated works computers are capable of doing?

- (iii) Write one use of computers.
- (iv) Explain automation.
- (v) Why can't computers lead independent lives or rule the world?
- (vi) How would computers as translating machines help people?
- (vii) What was the prediction of Sir Leon about computers in the future?
- (viii) How can computers help people going on holiday?

2. Read the passage carefully. (12 marks)

1. Why does a person become overconfident? (The reason lies in over assessment of his capabilities. Sometimes people over assess their competence and jump into situations that are beyond their control.)
2. Napoleon Bonaparte, who became Emperor of France would say that the word 'impossible' was common only amongst fools. The overconfident Napoleon invaded Russia in the winter of 1812. This proved to be a big disaster.
3. (Overconfidence generally leads people into misadventures, endangering their chances in life.) It is wisely said that any achievement is a result of two factors—one's personal planning and support from the external world. People, take into account only their planning, generally ignoring external factors. (They become unable to foresee future developments. Hence the great risk of failure is always there.)
4. Then there is the question : how can one manage overconfidence? (The formula is very simple. Before taking a decision, discuss the matter with other informed people with an objective mind and when it is proved that you are about to go off the path, accept reality and say without delay, "I was wrong".)
5. Overconfidence is a flaw, characterizing people who lack the virtue of modesty. Modesty makes you a realist; you become a person who is cut down to size. People of this kind become very cautious; before taking an action, they assess the whole situation. They adopt a realistic approach.
6. Overconfident people live within their own thoughts. They know themselves but they are unaware of others. Living inside their own cell, they are unable to make use of the experiences of others. This kind of habit is highly damaging to all concerned.
7. There is a saying that the young man sees the rule and the old man sees the exception, with a slight change, I would like to say that the overconfident person sees the rule and the confident person sees the exception. Overconfident people are always at risk. It is said that taking risk is good but it must be well calculated, otherwise it becomes very dangerous.

A. Answer the following questions:

(2×4=8)

- (i) Why does a person become overconfident?
- (ii) What does overconfidence generally lead people into?
- (iii) How can one manage overconfidence?
- (iv) What kind of person does 'modesty' make you?

B. Complete the following sentences:

(1×4=4)

- (i) Confident person sees \_\_\_\_\_.
- (ii) Over confident people live within \_\_\_\_\_.
- (iii) The synonym for 'Endangering' from para 3 is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (iv) The antonym for 'subjective' from part 4 is \_\_\_\_\_.

SECTION-B (WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR : 30 MARKS)

3. You are Manav. You are distraught about the rising number of crimes against women. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily expressing your concern on the issue. Also suggest measures. (8 marks)
4. Write a story in 200-250 words based on the input given below: (10 marks)  
The stadium looked festive - match going on - all excited - suddenly \_\_\_\_\_

OR

He was hungry and tired - could do anything for food - but didn't know how to get food, so ...

5. Complete the following paragraph by filling in the blanks with the help of the given options: (1×4=4 marks)

When we read (a) \_\_\_\_\_ a happy person we smile, (b) \_\_\_\_\_, if the character (c) \_\_\_\_\_ angry, we frown. Everybody (d) \_\_\_\_\_ a smiling face.

- |              |              |               |             |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| (a) (i) off  | (ii) about   | (iii) from    | (iv) on     |
| (b) (i) as   | (ii) because | (iii) whereas | (iv) when   |
| (c) (i) is   | (ii) became  | (iii) are     | (iv) am     |
| (d) (i) like | (ii) likes   | (iii) liked   | (iv) liking |

6. The following paragraph has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the error and its correction as shown in the example. (½×8=4 marks)

There is some truth of a common saying that dogs became attached to persons, cats are general attached to places. A dog will follow their master anywhere, so a cat keeps to the house it was used to. Even then the house changes hands, the cat will remain here, as long as that is kindly treated by the new owners.

	Error	Correction
e.g.,	of	in
(a)	_____	_____
(b)	_____	_____
(c)	_____	_____
(d)	_____	_____
(e)	_____	_____
(f)	_____	_____
(g)	_____	_____
(h)	_____	_____

7. Rearrange the words and phrases given below into meaningful sentences. The first one has been done as an example. (1×4=4 marks)

- (i) to find/it was/princess/very difficult/a real
- (ii) all over/of one/he/in search/travelled/the world
- (iii) but no/real/many/one seemed/he saw/to be
- (iv) what/could/he/to/not/understand/do

Section c

(30 marks)

8. Read the extract given below and answer the following questions

(4 marks)

"Ali comes out very slowly, turning after very few steps to gaze at the post office. His eyes were filled with tears of helplessness, for his patients were exhausted, even though he still had faith."

- (1) Why was Ali's eye filled with tears of helplessness ?
- (2) What has exhausted his patients ?
- (3) What did Ali still have?
- (4) Why did he gaze at the post office ?

Or

" Then she turns to those liars , the candles are on the moon.

I see her back , and reflect it faithfully.

She rewards me with tears and an agitation of hands ."

- (1) What does the word 'those' stand for in stanza ?
- (2) Whom dose she turns to ?
- (3) Why does 'she' reward the mirror with tears ?
- (4) What does the mirror do ?

9. Answer the following question in 30 – 40 words each .

(2x4=8 marks)

- a) The post master says to Ali, "what a Pest you are , brother !" Do you agree with the statement ? Give reason for your answer ?

- b) What comparison does the poet draw between the poetry and the monuments ?
- c) What changes does grandfather make in his new will ?
- d) Who was Loona Bimberton ?

✓10. Answer the following question in about 100- 120 words (anyone )

" pen is more powerful than time and sword". Explain with reference to the poem - " Not Marble , Nor the Gilded Monuments".

Or

(8 marks)

" The moral values are degraded in respect and care within the members of the family itself ". Explain this statement with reference to Mrs. Slater and Mrs. Jordan .

✓11. Answer the following question in 200- 250 word . (10 marks )

what made Helen the centre of attraction ?

Or

Write a brief character sketch of Helen keller's father .