

**CLASS XII: ENGLISH (301)**  
**PRE BOARD EXAMINATION**  
**SESSION : 2023-24**

Name

Rajesh Sharma Roll No. 32

Weightage:

80 marks

Time Allowed:

3 hrs.

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, WRITING and LITERATURE.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number in your answer sheet to indicate the option/s being attempted.
3. This paper consists of 12 pages.

**SECTION A-READING - (20 Marks)**

**1 Read the passage given below carefully:**

1. World Conservation Day is celebrated internationally to increase awareness about the best practices needed to protect our natural resources. The Earth is supplied with a limited amount of resources that we all rely upon, like water, air, soil and trees. The World Nature Conservation Movement is a great opportunity to celebrate the progress made and determine to take action, wherever needed. It is time to remind ourselves that we need to give back to nature instead of just using resources without thinking about conservation. There is a need to replenish and recycle the resources we consume from nature.

2. Our forests, rivers, oceans and soils provide us with the food we eat, the air we breathe, the water we irrigate our crops with. We also rely on them for numerous other goods and services. We depend on them for our health, happiness and prosperity. We have a cycle of biodiversity which needs proper conservation.

3. The population explosion remains one of the major reasons why natural resources are getting depleted at a very fast rate. Technological advancement and luxurious lifestyles have led to several environmental problems like global warming, ozone layer depletion, river water pollution and deforestation, which threaten the planet's future.

4. Humans, animals, marine creatures and the environment all need to be protected and conserved for -being. There are many examples of conservation. One is a programme to try to preserve wetlands, or a programme to try and save old buildings. Another example is of an attempt to minimize the amount of electricity used by turning off lights when leaving a room, or an attempt to turn off the running tap to avoid wastage of water. There are lots of examples like these which need implementation.

5. Following these small steps in our daily lives we can help to maintain the balance of nature, thereby saving humankind from the kinds of natural disasters we may face in the near future.

6. Nature also has a profound impact on our minds and our behavior, helping reduce brooding, and stress and increase our attention, capacity, creativity and ability to connect with people. So there is a need to save nature if we want to save life as the two are interconnected and need each other. If we hurt or destroy the environment, surely we will be ruined. We must create awareness among family members, and try and practice a sustainable lifestyle to protect and conserve nature.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the correct options: (1x10=10)

(i) Complete the sentence by choosing the appropriate option. There is an urgent need to conserve our natural resources because

- (a) we are aimlessly using the natural resources and not replenishing them.
- (b) they will be replaced by man-made resources.
- (c) serious efforts are needed to cut down the consumption of these resources.
- (d) we must become alert before it is too late.

ii) In the opinion of the writer, which are the primary natural resources without which our life is not possible?

(iii) In paragraph 1 the writer talks about 'celebrating the progress'. Explain in context.

(iv) The writer would not agree with the given statements based on paragraph 6, EXCEPT

- (a) Stress can be relieved by working overtime.
- (b) Nature can affect man's emotional well-being.
- (c) Lifestyle cannot be changed permanently.
- (d) Destruction of the environment is a temporary measure undertaken by man.

(v) In the context of the given passage, what is the synonym of replenish (para 1)? Choose the correct option.

- (a) scarcity
- (b) restore
- (c) reconcile
- (d) minimize

(vi) List two ways in which forests and rivers help mankind.

(vii) How can the solutions suggested in paragraph 4 be best described?

- (a) unrealistic
- (b) short term
- (c) practical
- (d) challenging

(viii) Why is it fair to say that population explosion remains one of the major reasons why natural resources are getting depleted rapidly?

(ix) Complete the given sentence with an appropriate reference with respect to the following: The writer quotes the example of family awareness in order to \_\_\_\_\_ (Paragraph 6).

1) Choose the most suitable title for the above passage

- (a) Ways to Save the Environment
- (c) Nature A Pharmacy

- (b) Save Nature Save Life
- (d) Nature A Food Factor

2) Read the passage given below:

1. Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) are products that sell quickly at relatively low cost. FMCG is the fourth-largest sector in the Indian economy. There are three main segments in the sector: food and beverages, which accounts for 19% of the sector; healthcare, which accounts for 31% of the sector; and household and personal care, which accounts for the remaining 50% share. The urban segment contributes to about 55% of the revenue share, while the rural segment accounts for 45%. Rise in rural consumption will drive the FMCG market. The Indian processed food market is projected to expand to US\$ 470 billion by 2025, up from US\$ 263 billion in 2019-20.



2. The Indian FMCG industry grew by 16% in 2021, a 9-year high, despite nationwide lockdowns, supported by consumption-led growth and value expansion from higher product prices, particularly for staples. Real household spending is projected to increase 9.1% after 2021, after a decrease of 9.3% in 2020 due to the economic impact of the pandemic. Price increase across product categories will offset the impact of rising raw material prices, along with volume growth and resurgence of demand for discretionary items.

3. The FMCG sector has received good investments and support from the Government in the recent past. The sector witnessed healthy FDI inflows from April 2000 March 2022. Furthermore, as per the Union Budget 2022-23, a substantial amount has been allocated to the Department of Consumer Affairs, an increased amount has been allocated to the Department of Food and Public Distribution. In 2021-22, the Government approved Production-Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industry (PLISFPI) with an outlay of a larger amount to help Indian brands of food products in the international markets.

4. The Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme gives companies a major opportunity to boost exports. The future outlook of the FMCG rural sector looks on track now. Rural consumption has increased, led by a combination of increasing income and higher aspiration levels. There is an increased demand for branded products in rural India. The growth of the organized sector in FMCG is expected to rise with an increased level of brand consciousness, augmented by the growth in modern retail.

Table I. FMCG Products

1. Processed foods : Cheese products, cereals
2. Prepared meals : Ready-to-eat meals
3. Beverages : Bottled water, aerated drinks, and juices
4. Baked goods : Biscuits, bread
5. Fresh foods, frozen foods, and dry goods : Fruits, vegetables, milk, butter, frozen food, and nuts
6. Medicines : Aspirin, pain relievers, and over-the-counter medication that can be purchased without a prescription
7. Cleaning products : Baking soda, washing powder
8. Cosmetics and toiletries : Beauty products, soaps, toothpastes
9. Office supplies : Pens, pencils

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions by choosing the correct option: (1x10=10)

(i) Does the following statement agree with the information given in para 1? Food and beverages segment dominates the Global FMCG market and is expected to retain its dominance. Select from the following:

- (a) True- If the statement agrees with the information
- (b) False- If the statement contradicts the information
- (c) Not Given -If there is no information on this

(ii) What do you think gives opportunities to boost exports?

(iii) Select the option that displays the most likely reason for FMCG rural sector being on track.

- (a) FMCG sector has been unable to get investments from the Government.
- (b) PLI schemes don't reach the rural sector.
- (c) Gross Merchandise Value (GMV) of the online grocery segment in India is expected to double in the next five years.
- (d) There is a desire to buy branded products in the villages too.

(iv) Complete the sentence based on the following statement: The Indian FMCG industry grew by 16% in 2021, a 9-year high, despite nationwide lockdowns because \_\_\_\_\_.

(v) From the given pie chart, which segment of FMCG accounts for the maximum percentage of the sector?

(vi) Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option: The combination of increasing income and higher aspiration levels in the rural areas has led to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) the Government taking a direct interest
- (b) the demand for branded products
- (c) price increases across product categories
- (d) the fall of supply in urban areas

(vii) How is the Government trying to help Indian brands of food products in the international markets?

(viii) Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option:

The concluding paragraph of the passage makes a clear case \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) that the rural people also want branded products.
- (b) that the FMCG industry will not focus on brand consciousness.
- (c) for the role of data analytics in the FMCG industry.
- (d) for the Government's role by providing incentives.

(ix) What will be the impact of increased level of brand consciousness?

(x) Based on the reading of the passage, correct the following statement: The urban segment contributes to about 45% of the revenue share, while the rural segment accounts for 55%.

**SECTION B - CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS ( 20 Marks)**

**3) Attempt ANY ONE given below.**

**(5)**

As the Secretary of Sahar Group Housing Society, draft a notice in 50 words calling for the Annual General Meeting to discuss issues of security and maintenance of public spaces. Specify the day, date, time and venue. Request the members to attend the meeting and give the benefit of their valuable suggestions on the issues in the given agenda. You are Razia/Rashid.

**OR**

The Literary Society of your school is setting up an Editorial Board for the forthcoming academic session. Draft a notice in 50 words to be put up on the school notice-board, inviting students from classes IX-XI to join the Board. The members would be expected to stay back after school for 2 hours once a week to work on the school magazine. You are Sheila/Sameer, Secretary of the Literary Society.

**(5)**

**4) Attempt ANY ONE given below.**

You are the secretary of Haryana Civil Medical Doctors' Association, 2345 Sector 15, Panchkula. You have organized a seminar on AIDS for the members of the association and invited a specialist guest speaker. Draft an invitation for publication in the newspapers.

**OR**

You are the Director of Apex Orientations, a leading name in postal coaching for competitive examinations including IIT-JEE and CBSE-PMT. Draft an invitation to the principal's of some prestigious schools inviting the names of two brilliant students from each institution to attend their Counseling Session free of cost.

**(5)**

**5) Attempt ANY ONE given below.**

Sunshine Public School, Pune requires two sports coaches (one male and one female). Each should be a degree holder in physical education as well as a SAI certified coach in athletics. You have seen their advertisement and you know that you have these qualifications. Write an application in 150 words along with your resumé. You are Praveen M - 114, Najafarh, Delhi.

**OR**

A leading news channel recently gave a live coverage of some young slum dwellers being beaten up mercilessly by the police for crimes not committed by them. Such atrocities shake the very faith of the people. Write a letter to the Commissioner of Police urging him to adopt effective measures to curb such brutality against innocent people. You are Nita/Nitesh, a resident of Guwahati.

6) Attempt ANY ONE given below.

You have just finished Class 12 and are seeking admission in college. You are looking forward to the freedom from parents and the strict discipline of school life. However, you also realize that freedom brings with it responsibility and a mature preparation for your forthcoming career. Write an article in 150 words on what college life spells for you. You are Surabhi/Suresh.

OR

You are Radha/Ranjan of Daulat Ram Public School, Vadodara. Your school recently celebrated twenty-five years of meritorious service to the cause of education. You were asked to cover the event as a student correspondent of the school magazine. Write a report of 150 words.

### SECTION C - LITERATURE ( 40 Marks)

7) Read the given extracts to attempt the questions with reference to context.

Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given

(1x6=6)

Now we will count to twelve  
and we will all keep still.

For once on the face of the Earth I speak in any language,

Let's not speak in any language

Let's stop for one second,  
and not move our arms so much.

It would be an exotic moment  
without rush, without engine

(i) The poet counts up to twelve as a countdown to

(a) lift arms.

(c) stop all activities.

(ii) The poet appeals to the people that they should

I. keep quiet.

III. celebrate festivals.

Choose the most appropriate option :

(a) Only II

(c) Only I

(b) speak in different languages.

(d) be without engines.

II. not move.

IV. not hibernate.

(b) I and II

(d) I and IV

(iii) Choose the option that displays the same poetic device as used in the third line of the extract :

(a) lightning danced across the sky

(c) children spilling out of their homes

(b) greedy good doers

(d) fight like cats and dogs

(iv) The benefits of 'Keeping Quiet' include

I. harmony

II. non-violence

IV. meditation

III. brotherhood

Choose the most appropriate option :

(a) I and II

(b) II and IV

(c) I, II and III

(d) I, II, III and IV

(v) Complete the statement with reference to the extract : The poet suggests we will all be together when \_\_\_\_\_.

(vi) The word 'exotic' in the extract most nearly means:

(a) unique

(b) luxurious

(c) rich

(d) illusive

OR

I saw my mother, beside me,  
doze, open mouthed, her face ashen like that  
of a corpse and realized with pain that  
she was as old as she looked but soon put that thought away,  
and looked out at Young Trees sprinting,  
the merry children spilling out of their homes,

(i) Identify the phrase that indicates youthful energy.

(ii) Which thought is the poet trying to put away ?

(a) missing the flight

(b) fear of losing her mother

(c) leaving her mother behind

(d) reaching Cochin

(iii) The poet's mother is described as 'open mouthed' because \_\_\_\_\_.

(a) she is curious

(b) she is surprised

(c) she was dead

(d) she was dozing

(iv) Complete the following analogy : children spilling : metaphor :: \_\_\_\_\_ : personification

(v) The sight of the trees and the children helped the poet \_\_\_\_\_.



(vi) In the given extract, the phrase 'realized with pain' indicates the poet's

- (a) anxiety
- (c) troubled past

- (b) desperation
- (d) ill-health

8) Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.

The make-up department was first headed by a Bengali who became too big for a studio and left. He was succeeded by a Maharashtrian who was assisted by a Dharwar Kannadiga, an Andhra, a Madras Indian Christian, an Anglo-Burmese and the usual local Tamils. All this shows that there was a great deal of national integration long before A.I.R. and Doordarshan began broadcasting programmes on national integration.. This gang of nationally integrated make-up men could turn any decent-looking person into a hideous crimson hued monster with the help of truck-loads of pancake and a number of other locally made potions and lotions.

(i) How was there national integration long before A.I.R. and Doordarshan in the make-up department ?

- (a) The staff consisted of a Bengali, a Maharashtrian, a Dharwar Kannadiga, an Andhra, a Madras Indian Christian, an Anglo-Burmese and Tamils.
- (b) They recited slogans of national integration.
- (c) The staff studied make-up techniques of various states.
- (d) Their clients were from various states.

(ii) Select a suitable word from the extract to complete the analogy : front : rear :: ravishing :

\_\_\_\_\_.

(iii) Select the correct option to fill in the blanks :

The make-up artists could turn \_\_\_\_\_ looking people into \_\_\_\_\_ looking men and women.

- (a) ordinary; pleasant
- (c) pleasant; ugly

- (b) ugly; good
- (d) monstrous; beautiful

(iv) The word 'pancake' in the extract mostly means

- (a) brand name
- (c) savory

- (b) lemon cake
- (d) preservative

(v) Based on the above extract, choose the statement that is true for the make-up department.

- (a) The make-up artists were welcomed by the actors.
- (b) The make-up artists were poorly paid.
- (c) The work done by the make-up artists was not appreciated.
- (d) The department exhibited national integration.

(vi) Bring out the irony in the above given extract.

OR



the following extract and answer the questions that follow :

Similarly, we have a lot of empty spaces in our lives. I call them interstices. Say you are coming over to my place. You are in the elevator and while you are coming up, I am waiting for you. This is an interstice, an empty space. I work in empty spaces. While waiting for your elevator to come up from the first to the third floor, I have already written an article!

(i) Umberto Eco, was

- (a) a professor of semiotics, an author
- (b) an interviewer, a novelist
- (c) a journalist, a professor
- (d) a publisher, an author

(ii) Rationalise, to support the given statement :  
Similarly, we have a lot of empty spaces in our lives.

(iii) Rewrite the sentence by replacing the underlined phrase with its inference :  
I call them interstices

(iv) On the basis of the extract, study the two statements, I and II given below :

- I Umberto Eco works even in the spare time between activities
- II. Umberto Eco does not like to be interviewed.

Choose the most appropriate option :

- (a) I can be inferred from the extract, but II cannot
- (b) I cannot be inferred from the extract, but II can
- (c) I and II are true
- (d) II is the reason for I

(v) Replace the underlined word with its antonym from the extract.

Umberto Eco does not like to waste time. He writes an article while he is proceeding to the elevator.

(vi) Umberto Eco's views on his manner of work are based on \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) facts
- (b) an interview
- (c) his blog
- (d) hypothesis

9) Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.

(1x4=4)

Students on Ice, the programme I was working with on the Shokalskiy, aims to do exactly this! Taking high school students to the ends of the world and providing them with inspiring educational opportunities which will help them foster a new understanding and respect for our planet. It's been in operation for six years now, headed by Canadian Geoff Green, who got tired of carting celebrities and retired, rich, curiosity-seekers who could only 'give' back in a limited way. With Students on Ice he offers the future generation of policy-makers a life-changing experience at an age when they are ready to absorb, learn, and most importantly, act.

(i) Complete the sentence appropriately, with reference to the extract. The writer refers to the educational opportunities as 'inspiring' because-----.

(ii) Which of the following would NOT be 'a life changing experience'?

(a) Being given the lead role in a play.

(b) Going on an adventure trip.

(c) Playing a video game.

(d) Meeting a great leader you admire.

(iii) Select the most suitable title for the given extract.

(a) Adventure with a Mission.

(b) Adventure - The Spice of Life

(c) The Wanderlust

(d) Students of the Future

(iv) Why does the writer refer to 'act' as more important than 'absorb' or 'learn'?

OR

Derry : What do you do all day ?

Mr. Lamb : Sit in the sun. Read books, Ah, you thought it was an empty house, but full. Books and other things. Full.

Derry : But there aren't any curtains at the windows.

Mr. Lamb : I am not fond of curtains, shutting things out, shutting things in. I like the light and the darkness, and the windows open, to hear the wind.

(i) The description of the house indicates that Mr. Lamb \_\_\_\_\_ .

(ii) The expression 'does not like shutting things out, shutting things in'

(a) welcoming nature.

(b) poverty-stricken existence.

(c) lack of resources.

(d) confused state of mind.

(iii) Mr. Lamb spends his time \_\_\_\_\_ .

I. reading books

II. cooking meals

III. shutting things out

IV. enjoying beauties of nature

Which of the following options are appropriate ?

(a) I and IV

(b) II, III and IV

(c) I and II

(d) I and III

(iv) On the basis of the extract, study the two statements, I and II given below :

Mr. Lamb liked meeting people.

II. Mr. Lamb accepted life as it came.

Choose the most appropriate option :

(a) I can be inferred from the extract, but II cannot.

(b) II can be inferred from the extract, but I cannot.

(c) Both I and II can be inferred from the extract.

(d) Neither I nor II can be inferred from the extract.



13) Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 150 words.

(1x5=5)

Imagine Zitkala- Sa and Bama meet each other. They both share their experience of being from marginalized communities. They reflect on instances of oppression they faced and how those instances proved to be the source of strength to fight against such oppression. Write down their discussion in a creative way, with reference to their experiences.

OR

After seeing off the enemy soldier, Dr. Sadao must have felt relieved. He was able to uphold the oath that he had taken as a doctor. Dr. Sadao made an entry into his daily diary explaining the dilemma faced by him and how he resolved it. Imagine yourself to be Dr. Sadao and express his thoughts. (You may begin like this : I was able to uphold the oath that I had taken as a doctor....)

-----