

GYAN BHARATI SCHOOL
Second Pre-Board Examination (2023-24)
English Core (301)
Class-SS2



MM: 80

Time: 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.
3. This paper has 7 printed sides.

SECTION A: READING SKILLS

12 marks

1. Read the following text.

1. Everyone procrastinates. "It's a part of the human condition," says procrastination researcher Tim Pynchyl, a Psychology professor at Carleton University, Canada. "One of the ways we cope is avoidance, and that's what procrastination comes down to: We want to feel good now. The way to do that is avoid the task."
2. "One that almost everyone procrastinates on is their wills," says Steel. "Seventy to eighty per cent of people, when they pass away, have no will or an out-of-date or incomplete will." But death isn't actually the ultimate avoidance trigger. Research has shown that the top tasks people delay are cleaning, advancing their careers, taking care of their health and planning their finances. One big factor for them is fear of failure, of not living up to expectations. Kelli Saginak, a 57-year-old functional health coach from Wisconsin, procrastinated about looking for a new job for years. That inability to take action only confirmed her belief that she would never do any better. "It's totally fear of judgement," says Saginak. "If I don't take the risk, decide or commit, I don't have to face the judgment. Yet it's simply me judging myself."
3. Whatever the motivation (or lack thereof), procrastination is usually not going to be good for you. "Procrastinators experience higher levels of stress, both from leaving things to the last minute and from their own negative and self-critical feelings about their procrastination," says Fuschia Sirois, a Psychology lecturer at the University of Sheffield, England. "Some of the research has shown that this stress increases their vulnerability for catching colds and experiencing digestion issues, insomnia, migraines and muscle tension." One of the most commonly procrastinated activities: going to bed. But bedtime procrastination can lead to sleep deprivation, which in turn can bring about obesity, heart disease and many other health issues. There's one bit of good news: people tend to procrastinate less as they age. "As you grow older, the illusion of our immortality does get stripped away," Steel says. "It becomes clearer: How many summers do we have left? 10? 15? They're really finite. What are you going to do with each of those summers?"
4. The best advice might be to think small. "We used to believe that behaviours follow attitude. But researchers have debunked that notion. If you can prime the pump with a little bit of progress, that motivates you, it can be great." Pynchyl says. So if you have been procrastinating on starting an exercise routine, just put on your walking shoes. If you've been putting off a work project, re-read your boss's notes about it. Next, try sending yourself signals to prompt action. For instance, you might put your lights on a timed dimmer switch to

encourage a consistent bedtime. Finally, reward yourself for each step you take towards your goal. After you've gone to the gym, take a relaxing bath. After you've paid the bills, watch your favourite TV show. (But don't try to convince yourself it will work the other way around!)

Answer the following questions based on the passage above.

- i. Select the option that clarifies Tim Pynchyl's view about what procrastination may come down to. 1
 A. fear of judgement B. thriving under pressure C. avoidance D. acceptance
- ii. From the passage, figure out what could be a possible reason for increased vulnerability to diseases like cold and indigestion? 1
 A. Fear of judgement stemming from procrastination B. Avoiding tasks
 C. Avoiding triggers D. Stress from procrastination
- iii. Share evidence from the text, in about 40 words to support the view that the writer's writing style is descriptive and humorous. 2
- iv. Complete the sentence appropriately with a word or a phrase. 1
 Based on the information given in the extract, one can infer that the author means to _____ the readers.
- v. Select the option that is similar in meaning to the phrase "prime the pump." 1
 A. Encourage the growth of something B. Planning things
 C. Debunking of notions D. Putting in extra efforts
- vi. Explain in 40 words why procrastinating is usually not going to be beneficial. 2
- vii. In the line "But researchers have debunked that notion", what notion has been 'debunked'? 1
- viii. How does the following impact the reader, even though they know that death is the ultimate truth? 2
There's one bit of good news: people tend to procrastinate less as they age. "As you grow older, the illusion of our immortality does get stripped away," Steel says.
- ix. Read the five statements (a) to (d) given below:
- (a) *Procrastination is like a credit card: it is a lot of fun until you get the bill.*
 (b) *Procrastination is the bad habit of putting off until the day after tomorrow what should have been done the day before yesterday.*
 (c) *Every day procrastinating is another day spent worrying about that thing.*
 (d) *Procrastination? No. I just wait until the last second to do my work because I will be older, therefore wiser.*

Identify the option that displays the statement/s that does/do not correspond with occurrences in the passage. 1

- A. (a) and (c)
 B. Only (b)
 C. (b), (c) and (d)
 D. Only (d)

2. Read the following text and answer the questions that follow:

(10)

1. HIV infection in India was first detected in 1986 among female sex workers in Chennai. Today, with an estimated 5.134 million infections, India is home to the second largest population of people living with HIV and AIDS (PLHA). The Government of India estimates that about 2.40 million Indians are still living with undetected HIV.
2. The executive director of the Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria, suggested that in 2004, India overtook South Africa in having the largest number of people living with HIV/AIDS in the world. The true prevalence of HIV in India is still debatable. Some of the available estimates of incidence have been carried out among prostitutes in Maharashtra (22.1 per 100 person years) and drug users in Chennai (4.53%). There is an urgent need for more studies estimating incidence of HIV in India. The case reporting system for HIV in the country requires improvement as sentinel surveillance has detected HIV in states that had not reported any infections.
3. Studies show that HIV has spread to all groups of Indian society. Over 90% of those infected with the virus are not aware of their status. Most diagnoses occur at late stages of the disease. While the number of voluntary counseling and testing centers on the rise in both government and non-governmental settings in India, facilities have been underused because of inaccurate perceptions of personal risk, a widespread belief that HIV is restricted to high-risk populations such as sex workers, drug users, and truck drivers and the persistence of stigma surrounding HIV.
4. HAART (highly active antiretroviral therapy) is started in India based on the WHO criteria: absolute CD4 count <200 cell/ μ l, patient has an AIDS defining illness or CD4 200–350 with opportunistic infections. Before the introduction of CD4 counts, WHO staging of disease was used to start HAART. However, today, WHO staging for initiation of HAART is restricted to rural areas where CD4 estimation is not available.
5. Shortly after reporting the first AIDS case in 1986, the Government of India established a National AIDS Control Program (NACP) which has now become the Department of AIDS under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. In 1991, the scope of NACP was expanded to focus on blood safety, prevention among high-risk populations, raising awareness in the general population, and improving surveillance. A semi-autonomous body, the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO), was established under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to implement this program and bring about affirmative transformation in the growth of HIV cases.

-Report by S.S. Solomon and A.K. Ganesh, U.S. National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health

Answer the following questions, based on the given passage.

- i. Infer two possible ways that the counseling centers, mentioned in paragraph 3 are underused. 2
- ii. Which of the following is TRUE as per the available estimates of incidence? 1
 - A. There is an urgent need for HIV counseling
 - B. There is an urgent need for more medicinal advances on HIV.
 - C. Case reporting system needs no change
 - D. Surveillance hasn't been able to detect most states with HIV cases.
- iii. What has been the plan of action undertaken by the NACP for the control and check of HIV AIDS? 1
- iv. Identify the most HIV AIDS conscious and aware person from the following – 1
 - A. Ritu – I go for regular counseling and testing, but I am scared about the social stigma.
 - B. Amit – I am aware about AIDS not being a communicable disease, however, I make a safe distance from someone with AIDS.
 - C. Dipali – I research about the various ways in which this disease can be prevented, and try to spread that knowledge.
 - D. Sooraj – I have sent my children to a good school so that they can get the requisite knowledge.

v. The position of HIV AIDS in India DOES NOT reveal that:

- A. over 90% of those affected with the virus are unaware of it
- B. the true prevalence of HIV is still debatable
- C. HIV has spread to only the high-risk societies
- D. India has the second largest population of people living with HIV and AIDS

vi. How might the increase in studies estimating incidence of HIV in India bring slight pause to the rapid growth of cases in the country? 2

vii. Complete the sentence appropriately. 1

The NACO was established under the Ministry of Health and Family welfare in order to _____ 1

viii. State TRUE or FALSE.

The title, "HIV AIDS – The Social Evil" is appropriate for this passage.

SECTION B : CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (18 marks)

3. Attempt the following in about 50 words. 4

4. You are the Secretary of the Residents' Welfare Association (RWA) of Live Well Housing Society, Patparganj, Delhi. Draft a notice for the society notice board informing residents about the inauguration of the new 'Satsang Hall' and temple, and sharing the necessary details. Also include the news of the Municipal Councilor coming as the chief guest for the same.

5. Attempt the following in about 50 words. 4

Sh. Anand Malhotra and Smt. Amita Malhotra, your grandparents have received an invitation from your father's aunt residing in another city. The invite is for the success celebratory dinner marking the IAS examination clearance of her grandson. Your grandparents wish to attend the event, but would need to be picked from the airport. Create an appropriate reply accepting this invitation on behalf of your grandparents.

6. Attempt the following in about 120-150 words. 5

A. You are Radha / Rajiv, resident of 186-B, Ramlal Road, Panipat. You have recently completed your B.A B.Ed. from M.D.U., Rohtak. Delhi Public School, Panipat has advertised the requirement of PGTs, TGTs and PRTs in the local newspaper. You find this to be a great opportunity and wish to apply for a TGT post. Write a letter in 100-120 words, responding to the given advertisement, submitting your candidature with detailed bio-data.

SITUATION VACANT
Delhi Public School, Panipat requires PGTs, TGTs, PRTs for its upcoming session 2018-19, candidates should have good command on the subject, excellent communication skills, pleasing personality, sanguine approach to teach students, essential qualification required for the post, walk-in-interview on 17th April at 317-R, Model Town, Panipat (Haryana) -121456 Contact : 999xxxxxxx, 932xxxxxxx, 983xxxxxxx

7. Attempt the following in about 120-150 words. 5

B. You were invited to watch a special programme "India's Got Talent" held in Red Fort grounds, where specially-abled children presented their latent talents in a marvelous manner. As Asha/Ashvin Shah, a correspondent of *Current News*, write a report about the same in 120-150 words. Use the cues given and your own ideas.

- Children from Nav Kiran NGO
- Dance and vocal performances on patriotic songs
- Showcase of talent
- Appreciation by CM of Delhi
- Tokens of appreciation

SECTION C : LITERATURE (40 marks)

7 Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two given.

6

A. *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,
Rich with a sprinkling of fair musk-rose blooms*

i. Choose the option which states the theme represented in the given extract. 1

- A. The beauty of nature
B. The power of imagination
C. The sensory reception of elements
D. The colour therapy of nature

ii. State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE with reference to the extract. 1

By referring to our spirits as "dark", the poet emphasizes that we have been developing evil intentions towards others.

iii. Complete the sentence appropriately. 1

The 'sprinkling of fair musk-rose blooms' most appropriately conjures up _____

iv. The use of the phrase 'moves away the pall' creates an effect of _____ nature of beauty. 1

v. Based on the rhyme scheme evident in lines 2-7 of the given extract, which word would rhyme with line 8? 1

Combs tall fumes

vi. Select the option that is NOT true about nature, as per the given extract. 1

- A. Nature is beyond real
B. Nature is soothing
C. Nature is uplifting
D. Nature is therapeutic

8. Read the given extracts and answer the questions that follow. 4

There were innumerable forests in the Pratibandapuram State. They had tigers in them. The Maharaja knew the old saying, 'You may kill even a cow in self-defense'. There could certainly be no objection to killing tigers in self-defense. The Maharaja started out on a tiger hunt.

The Maharaja was thrilled beyond measure when he killed his first tiger. He sent for the State astrologer and showed him the dead beast.

"What do you say now?" he demanded.

"Your majesty may kill ninety-nine tigers in exactly the same manner. But..." the astrologer drawled.

"But what? Speak without fear."

"But you must be very careful with the hundredth tiger."

"What if the hundredth tiger were also killed?"

"Then I will tear up all my books on astrology, set fire to them, and..."

"And..."

"I shall cut off my tuft, crop my hair short and become an insurance agent," the astrologer finished on an incoherent note.

i. What is the significance of the old saying that the king remembered, "You may even kill a cow in self-defense"?

1

ii. Select the option that best describes the King and the astrologer in the extract.

1

A. King : proud, Astrologer : innocent

B. King : over confident, Astrologer : confident

C. King : cruel, Astrologer : kind

D. King : shameless, Astrologer : proactive

iii. Which of the following best summarizes the King's attitude towards the tigers?

1

A. False pride and ego are born out of a selfish nature.

B. Pride is spiritual cancer: it eats up the possibility of love.

C. Insecurity kills the sense of self and identity.

D. It is brave to love all species, it is only cowardly to want to kill them all.

iv. What is the reason for the Maharaja being 'thrilled beyond measure'?

1

9. Read the given extracts and answer the questions that follow.

6

A. Whenever I looked up from my writing, I saw M. Hamel sitting motionless in his chair and gazing first at one thing, then at another, as if he wanted to fix in his mind just how everything looked in that little school-room. Fancy! For forty years he had been there in the same place, with his garden outside the window and his class in front of him, just like that. Only the desks and benches had been worn smooth; the walnut-trees in the garden were taller, and the hopvine that he had planted himself twined about the windows to the roof. How it must have broken his heart to leave it all, poor man; to hear his sister moving about in the room above, packing their trunks! For they must leave the country next day.

i. List any two sensory details present in the extract.

1

ii. "For they must leave the country next day." Who does 'they' stand for?

1

A. the students

B. the Germans

C. M. Hamel and his family

D. Franz and his family

iii. Complete the sentence appropriately.

1

The phrase 'broken his heart', in context of the extract, suggests that _____.

iv. Pick evidence from the extract that helps one infer that M. Hamel was nostalgic.

1

v. What does the phrase 'sitting motionless' indicate about the condition of M. Hamel?

1

vi. What is the figure of speech used in the sentence "Fancy! For forty years he had been there in the same place..."?

1

A. Alliteration

B. Personification

C. Simile

D. Synecdoche

10. Answer the following questions, in about 40-50 words.

5 x 2 = 10

47) Gandhiji believed that real freedom is freedom from fear. How did this prove true in solving the problem of sharecroppers?

48) In what context does the author of *Lost Spring* make the following statement about Seemapuri, "Food is more important than an identity"?

- ~~c)~~ Despite his philosophical insights, the vagabond fails to resist temptations. What would you attribute this to? Explain with reference to any one instance from the text.
- ~~d)~~ Christopher Silvester shares author's reservations about interviewing. Bearing that in mind, what would you like to ask when interviewing a writer of your choice?
- ~~e)~~ Elaborate upon the kind of effect that Asokamitran's style of writing has on the readers.

11. Answer the following questions, in about 40-50 words.

(2 x 2 = 4)

- ~~a)~~ Bama's experience is that of a victim of the caste system. What kind of discrimination does Zitkala-Sa's experience depict? What were her responses to her respective situation?
- ~~b)~~ Dr Sadao and Hana look upon their time in America with disdain due to the prejudice that they might have been subjected to. Considering this situation, explain how racial prejudice taints a person's soul forever.

~~12.~~ Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words.

5

According to Aristotle, "Poverty is the birthplace of either revolution, crime or passive acceptance." Sometimes, the three may co-exist. Compare and contrast how the story *The Rattrap* and the observatory account *Lost Spring* raise the issue of poverty and its consequences.

OR

Today's youth is completely engrossed in the busy lifestyle and too involved with technology. They often forget to appreciate the beauty around them and do not introspect over their actions. With ideas from the poems 'Keeping Quiet' and 'A Thing of Beauty', write a speech to be delivered on International Youth Day, highlighting the importance of quiet introspection and appreciation of some beautiful sights.

~~13.~~ Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words.

5

In the name of rituals and/or superstitions, animals are often tortured, killed and kept captive. Humans do not realise what they are doing to prove themselves as superior. The 'Save the Tiger' project aims to protect tigers from illegal poaching. As an activist, write an article on the Cruelty Towards Animals for an e-magazine. You can take hints from the story *The Tiger King*.

OR

In his letter to Charley, Sam writes, "... then I got to believing you were right." Charley is both happy and excited about knowing that even Sam has found the third level at the Grand Central Station. As Charley from *The Third Level*, express your thoughts on how you feel about this now in the form of a diary entry.
