

St. Paul's School

Half Yearly EXAMINATION 2017-18

Class IX

English Communicative

Time: 3hours

Max marks: 80

✓ Section A- Reading

20marks

Read the following passage carefully:

1. The newspaper is one of the significant signs of modern civilization. It is the most popular form of reading in the present times because it interests all sorts of people. It is full of political news, sports and commercial news, as well as articles by well-known writers. A newspaper keeps us both entertained and informed.

In these days of democracy public opinion rules everywhere. No government can long withstand the pressure of a strong public opinion. It is, therefore, quite clear that if the Press controls public opinion, and public opinion in turn controls the government, ultimately the Press controls the government. It acts as an interpreter between the government and the people and brings the rulers and the ruled together.

The Press also acts as a public court. All evils, corruptions, vices, scandals etc. are given publicity and brought forth to the public through the medium of newspapers. The pressure of public opinion can be brought to bear upon the doers of evil and injustice. The oppressed and the downtrodden may easily demand justice at the bar of public opinion.

Again, to build a nation it becomes necessary to spread ideas of liberty and independence among the masses. The real freedom of a nation is never possible without the upliftment of the common people. Politicians as well as economists can circulate their ideas easily through newspapers, as they reach the most distant corners in the shortest possible time.

Newspapers also tell people what their rights are and teach them how they can protect and exercise these rights. By placing before the readers new view-points every day, they stimulate thought and increase the power of independent thinking. Thus newspapers contribute to the development of knowledge and their educative influence is indeed immense.

The advantages of having a strong, independent and honest press far outweighs the evils practiced by a few cheap, irresponsible newspapers. The newspaper is one of the greatest blessings of civilization and journalism and therefore it should be allowed to have the maximum amount of freedom possible.

Restrictions on newspapers should be as few as possible in order to ensure the healthy growth of a nation. In the present stage of developing civilisation, newspapers are an absolute necessity and given freedom of expression, they are capable of doing immense good to society, the country and the world. Thus the freedom of Press, is the first requisite for freedom of the people.

Answer the following questions briefly:

4x2=8m

- a) Why are newspapers important in everyone's life?
- b) How does public opinion rule everywhere in the case of democracy?
- c) Why is the freedom of Press essential?
- d) When can real freedom come to existence?

i) Which word in the passage means crushed? (Para 3)

4x1=4m

ii) What is the antonym of discourage? (Para 5)

iii) Find the synonym of colossal. (Para5)

iv) The country's healthy growth can happen if only.....

2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: 8x1=8m

Kailash Satyarthi and Malala Yousafzai have been the joint winners of the Nobel Peace Prize, in recognition of their efforts to protect the rights of children. Yousafzai's courageous campaign for female education in Pakistan has garnered more global attention of late, but Satyarthi's work to end child labour is just as important. His South Asian Coalition on Child Servitude has raided factories across India and liberated more than 40,000 bonded labourers.

It is not easy to end child labour in poor countries. In fact, passing laws banning anyone under 14 or 16 from working can actually make the problem worse. Across countries, as many as a third of children are working in the poorest economies such as Tanzania and Ethiopia. The complex economics of family finances show why simply passing laws against child labour can backfire. The impact of India's 1986 landmark legislation against child labour in factories is one example. Some economists studied child labour rates and payments before and after the ban was implemented across different industries. They found the result of the law was to drive wages for children down and the number of hours they worked. The effect was largest among the poor families. They needed the child income. If kids could earn less in a given time, they would just have to earn longer. One further result was that fewer kids enrolled in school; because they were too busy working.

If we are going to sustainably reduce the level of child labour worldwide, we need to provide parents the resources so that they can make the choice to keep children out of the factory or field and send them to school instead. A number of countries have introduced cash transfer schemes that pay families with kids in school. Mexico's Oportunidade programme gives mothers as much for keeping the girl in the ninth grade as two thirds the amount a girl would earn in the labour force. The programme has reduced child labour rates by as much as a quarter. Providing free school meals is another approach to increase enrollment and improve learning.

Answer the following questions briefly:

- a) What made Satyarthi and Malala feel that their efforts had been paid off?
- b) How can child labour be ended?
- c) What was the impact of legislation against child labour?
- d) What must be done to let parents send their children to schools rather than to the factories?
- e) What has helped to bring down child labour?
- f) What is Mexico's programme?
- g) How has the Indian government encouraged children to give up labour?
- h) Find the word from Para 1 which means free.

Section B - Writing and Grammar (30m)

3. Though there is a ban on plastic bags, they are still available and are used without a second thought by most Delhites. Plastics pose a great threat to health and environment. If some states of India have successfully banned the use of plastics, why can't the capital of India? On the basis of this write an article in 100-120 words on the dangers involved by using plastic products and their manufacturing and sale in the market. You are Ankush/ Ankita, trying to aware the regular readers of Samvaad, the fortnightly newsletter of your region. **8m**

4. On the basis of the following hints develop a story in 200 words.

Man elbows Sujata in a crowd - she discovers cell phone missing - calls her own number - man picks up and when she starts to explain about important documents on it, man hangs up. Instead of going to the police, Sujata takes matter into her hands..... **12 m**

5. Choose the most appropriate options from the ones given below to complete the following passage: **3m**

Do not wait (a) -----me (b) -----6 o' clock (c) ----- you and me there is no secret.

(a) (i) for (ii) with (iii) by (iv) in (b) (i) after (ii)to (iii) with (iv) at (c) (i) among (ii) between (iii) in (iv) from

6. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction in the space provided against the correct blank number. **4m**

	Incorrect	Correct
I was work in a store that sold	(a) -----	-----
hand bags and luggage while a	(b)-----	-----
woman came in for return a	(c) -----	-----
purse she has purchased a few	(d) -----	-----

days early. The store policy was not
to take return of use goods
but a woman assured that
The item is still brand new.

- (e) -----
- (f) -----
- (g) -----
- (h) -----

7. Read the conversation below and complete the paragraph that follows.

3m

Teacher: Vijay, why are you late today?

Vijay: I came on foot. I have injured my leg.

Teacher: Yesterday also you came late to the S.St class.

The teacher asked Vijay (a) ----- . He replied (b) ----- . The teacher told him (c) -----

Section C - Literature

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

4m

Then took the other, a just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;

- (a) How was the second road different from the first?
- (b) What does the choice of the road signify?
- (c) "And took the other as just as fair, and having perhaps the better claim." What is the better claim?"
- (d) Identify the poetic device in the above extract.

OR

"Yes, I need your help. You know when you were away, Karamveera came as usual. I opened the magazine. I saw the picture that accompanies the story of Kashi Yatre and I could not understand anything that was written."

- (a) Who spoke these words and to whom?
- (b) How did grandmother know the details of the story published in Karamveera?
- (c) Why couldn't grandmother understand anything on her own?
- (d) What help did grandmother need and from whom?

9. Answer four of the following questions in 30-40 words each:

4x2=8m

(i) Why was Duke brought home? How did Chuck welcome him?

(ii) Do you think Mrs Al Smith is the representative of American outlook? Give reasons.

(iii) Describe the relationship between Avva and the narrator in the story, How I Taught My Grandmother to Read?

(iv) What is the refrain in the poem The Brook? What does the poet wish to convey through it?

(v) Why does the poet compare the song of the solitary reaper with the two singing birds - the nightingale and the cuckoo?

10 Answer one of the following questions in about 100-120 words:

8m

Lord Ullin was so full of self - pride that he couldn't let his daughter marry someone whom he couldn't accept. This led to the tragic death of his loving daughter. Based on this write your views on, Pride goes before a fall.

OR

Gaston was an opportunist and a better businessman than Juliette, comment on this based on the drama, A Villa For Sale.

11. When Jim thought George and Harris could rely on him for packing, Jim's intentions were to supervise. Describe the chaos during packing for the boat trip .

10m

OR

Describe the episode of pitching the tent.