D.A.V. CENTENARY PUBLIC SCHOOL, PANIPAT

PRACTICE SAMPLE PAPER-3

ENGLISH

CLASS-XII

Time-3 Hours M.M.100

SECTION- A

(READING) ( 30 Marks)

1.Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. [12]

“I have found a girl who will suit you admirably — Ugoye Nweke, the eldest daughter of our neighbour, Jacob Nweke. She has a proper Christian upbringing. When she stopped schooling a few years ago, her father (a man of sound judgment) sent her to live in the house of a pastor where she has received all the training a wife could need. Her Sunday School teacher has told me that she reads her Bible very fluently. I hope we shall begin negotiations when you come home in December.’

On the second evening of his return from Lagos Nnaemaka sat with his father under a cassia tree. This was the old man’s retreat where he went to read his Bible when the parching December sun had set and a fresh, reviving wind blew on the leaves.

“Father,” began Nnaemeka suddenly, “I have come to ask forgiveness.”

“Forgiveness? For what, my son?” he asked in amazement.

~~“~~I can’t — we must — I mean it is impossible for me to marry Nweke’s daughter.”

“Impossible? Why?” asked his father.

“I don’t love her.”

~~“~~Nobody said you did. Why should you?” He asked.

“Marriage today is different…”

“Look here, my son,” interrupted his father, “nothing is different. What one looks for in a wife are a good character and a Christian background.”

Nnaemeka saw there was no hope along the present line of argument.

“Moreover,” he said, “I am engaged to marry another girl who has all of Ugoye’s good qualities, and who…”

His father did not believe his ears. “What did you say?” he asked slowly and disconcertingly.

“She is a good Christian,” his son went on, “and a teacher in a Girls’ School in Lagos.”

“Teacher, did you say? If you consider that a good qualification for a good wife I should like to point out to you, Nnaemeka, that no Christian woman should teach. St. Paul in his letter to the Corinthians says that women should keep silence.” He rose slowly from his seat and paced forwards and backwards, this was his pet subject, and he condemned vehemently those church leaders who encouraged women to teach in their schools. After he had spent his emotion on a long homily he last came back to his son’s engagement, in a seemingly milder tone.

“Whose daughter is she anyway?”

“She is Nene Atang.”

“What!” All the mildness was gone again. “Did you say Nene Atang? What does that mean?”

“Nene Atang from Calabar. She is the only girl I can marry.”

This was a very rash reply and Nnaemeka expected the storm to burst. But it did not. His father merely walked away into his room. This was most unexpected and perplexed Nnaemeka. His father’s silence was infinitely more menacing than a flood of threatening speech. That night the old man did not eat.

Nnaemeka, for his own part, was very deeply affected by his father’s grief. But he kept hoping that it would pass away. If it had occurred to him that never in the history of his people had a man married a woman who spoke a different tongue, he might have been less optimistic. “It has never been heard,” was the verdict of an old man speaking a few weeks later. In that short sentence he spoke for all his people. This man had come with others to commiserate with Okeke when news went round about his son’s behavior. By that time the son had gone back to Lagos.

(From ‘Marriage is a Private Affair’ by Chinua Achebe)

(a)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | (i) What is the most important quality that Ugoye possessed to be a good wife? [1] |
|  | (ii) What were the disqualifications of Nene according to Nnaemaka’s father? Why? [2] |
|  | (iii) How did Nnaemaka’s father react? How was the reaction different from that he had expected? [2] | |
|  | (iv) What was Nnaemeka optimistic about? What would have made him less optimistic? [2] |
|  | (v) What did Nnaemeka mean when he said, “Marriage today is different…”? [2] |

(b) Pick out the words from the passage which mean the same as each of the following: (1X3 = 3)

(i) Excessively dry, hot or thirsty (Para 2)  
(ii) A speech or other piece of writing with a moralizing theme (Mid-passage)  
(iii) Sympathize with (last Para)

2. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow: (10 marks)

1. The first written public examinations were introduced over 2,000 years ago with the establishment of the imperial examination system in 606 AD in China. By the middle of the 19th century, competitive examinations had been introduced in Britain and India to select government officials. Public examination in schools have a shorter; but still considerable, history.

2. At present, the examination system in India in characterised by heterogeneity. They differ in their vintage, organisational design, financial stability, autonomy, organisational culture and credibility. For instance, the National Institute of Open Schooling is unique in conducting exams through the distance mode; the Indian School Certificate Examination confines itself to only private schools; and the West Bengal Board of Madrasa Education is for Islamic educational institutions only. In a situation where public funds are involved, the equity, efficiency and transparency of this expenditure need to be assessed to ensure that the taxpayers money is being spent with due care and concern. The Amrik Singh report (1997) on reorganising boards wondered, Can there also be a system whereby it becomes possible to grade and categorise the boards in respect of how efficiently and honestly examination are organised?

3. To do so, a set of parameters were chosen to measure effectiveness, quit, transparency and economic efficiency of the functioning of these organisations. These include indicators like cost incurred per students, fee charged per student, number of examinees per employee and number of affiliated schools per employee. An analysis was made of the boards chosen on the basis of these parameters. The functioning of a total of 20 boards was analysed in terms of 18 performance indicators in 2005.

4. The data collected from the states shows that most boards have an operating surplus. However, the boards seem to be more sensitive to the needs of the disabled. All of them have some special provisions for such candidates. While these provisions vary widely in scope, most provide for a longer duration of examination, concessions in the examination of languages. The CBSE, along with the Maharashtra board, seem to fare the best.

5. Another important measure of effectiveness of the functioning of the boards is the time taken for declaration of examination results. It was found that this ranged from a mere 26 days in the case of Karnataka Secondary Education Examination Board in 2005 to 48 days for class X in neighbouring Maharashtra. The Supreme Court has recently issued directions that results should be declared within 45 days from the end of examinations. In 2005, 10 of the 20 boards, which provided this information, could not declare results within 45 days.

6. The reason for such a wide variation in performance in such a vital parameter was the processes utilised. Boards, which have adopted a centralised system of assessment in comparison to the earlier system of sending answer sheets to examiners, have an obvious edge. Similarly many boards have outsourced the work of compilation of results faster and used technology extensively. These boards are also able to declare results. In addition, agencies, which have consciously designed question papers with a high proportion of multiplechoice responses, do not need much time for evaluation. In fact, the Karnataka board has 60 percent of all the questions as objective type

**A. On the basis of your reading of the above passage answer the following:**

(a) How have the Chinese played an important role in enhancing the education system? (1)

(b) Mention any four distinguishing features of examination in India? (1)

(c) What are the basic parameters to measure effectiveness in functioning of an organization? (1)

(d) What is the time limit fixed by Supreme Court for declaring the results? (1)

(e) What efforts are being made by different Boards to declare the results at the earliest? (1)

(f) What factors make Karnataka secondary school examination Board superior to the other Boards?  (2)

**B. Find out the words which mean the same as the following :  (3 marks)**

(a) keep on hold/restrict (para 2)

(b) easily seen / clear (para 6)

(c) thorough and detailed examination (para 7)

3.Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. [8]

So great is our passion for doing things ourselves that we are becoming increasingly less dependent on specialized labour. No one can plead ignorance of a subject any longer, for there are countless of do-it-yourself publications. Armed with the right tools and materials, newly-weds gaily embark on the task of decorating their own homes. Men of all ages spend hours of their leisure time installing their own fireplaces, laying-out their own gardens, building garages and making furniture. Some really keen enthusiasts go so far as to make their own record players and radio transmitters. Shops cater for the do-it-yourself craze not only by running special advisor services for novices, but by offering consumers bits and pieces which they can assemble at home. Such things provide an excellent outlet for pent up creative energy, but unfortunately not all of us are born handymen.

Wives tend to believe that their husbands are infinitely resourceful and versatile. Even husbands who can hardly drive a nail in straight are supposed to be born electricians, carpenters, plumbers and mechanics. When lights fuse ,furniture gets rickety, pipes get clogged, or vacuum cleaners fail to operate, wives automatically assume that their husbands will somehow put things right. The worst thing about the do-it-yourself game is that sometimes husbands live under the delusion that they can do anything even when they have been repeatedly proved wrong. It is a question of pride as much as anything else.

Last spring my wife suggested that I call in a man to look at our lawn mower. It had broken down the previous summer, and though I promised to repair it, I had never got round to it. I wouldn’t hear of the suggestion and said that I would fix it myself. One Saturday afternoon I hauled the machine into the garden and had a close look at it. As far as I could see, it only needed a minor adjustment; a turn of a screw here, a little lightening up there, a drop of oil and it would be as good as new. Inevitably the repair job was not quite so simple. The mower firmly refused to mow, so I decided to dismantle it. The garden was soon littered with chunks of metal, which had once made up a lawn-mover. But I was extremely pleased with myself. I had traced the cause of the trouble. One of the links in the chain that drives the wheels had snapped.

After buying a new chain I was faced with the insurmountable task of putting the confusing jigsaw puzzle together again. I was not surprised to find that the machine still refused to work after I had reassembled it, for the simple reason that I was left with several curiously shaped bits of metal which did not seem to fit anywhere. I gave up in despair. The weeks passed and the grass grew. When my wife nagged me to do something about it, I told her that either I would have to buy a new mower or let the grass grow. Needless to say that our house is now surrounded by a jungle, buried somewhere in deep grass there is a rusting lawn mower which I had promised to repair one day.

Questions:

(a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes in points only, using abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply a suitable title. [5]

(b) Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words. [3]

Marks:8

*SECTION – B WRITING (30 marks)*

4. You are Rohan \ Reshmi planning to open a yoga club in your city. Design a poster highlighting the importance of yoga and giving the necessary information about the club . (4)

5. You are Amit \ Amita living at f-25 ,shalimar colony , New Delhi . You have observed that many school – going children drive around on bikes without a valid driving license, thereby endangering their own lives as well as those of others . Write a letter to the editor of a national daily with a view to sensitizing students about the risk involved in underage driving. Also give suggestions. (6)

***verbal inputs***

teenager driving bikes

endangering lines

parents should not allow them

traffic police need to be strict

6. You feel concerned about the wrong habits among youngsters . Write a speech about it for the morning assembly of school in about 150 – 200 words . (10)

***VERBAL INPUT***

Most of the youngsters have developed bad habits

Ignoring studies

Eating fast foot, avoiding home – cooked good

7. Sonali is disturbed to see that despite the government legislation against dowry , cases of bride burning are on the increase as per the newspaper reports . She being a social worker decides to write an article on the need for eradicating this social evil so as to reduce the ever increasing divorce cases in the country. Write the article in about 150-200 words for publication in ‘The Hindu’ (10)

SECTION:C TEXTBOOKS (40 MARKS)

Q8- Read the extract given below and answer the following questions:

(4marks)

Now we will count to twelve

And we will all keep still

For once on the face of the earth

Let’s not speak in any language”

Let’s stop for one second’

And not move our arms so much

1. Name the poem and the poet.
2. How long the poet want to stay still?
3. What does he hope to achieve by keeping quiet?
4. What does the poet mean by ‘not move our arms so much’?

Or

….and felt that old

Familiar ache, my childhood’s fear,

But all I said was, see you soon, Amma,

All I did was smile and smile and smile

1. What was childhood fear that now troubled the poet?
2. What do the poet`s parting words suggest?
3. Why did the poet smile and smile?
4. What do you mean by ache?

9. Answer any four of the following in (30-40) words each: (4x3=12)

(a) what removes ‘the pall from our dark spirits’? How?

(b) why can’t the bangle makers of firozabad organize themselves into a cooperative?

(c) what consolation did people give when they saw Derry`s acid burnt face?

(d) what did the governor tell the secretary of the examination board about Evans?

(e) why did the villagers come to school on that day? (Last lesson)

10. Answer the following in about 125 to 150 words: (6 marks each)

Describe the difficulties faced by Gandhi ji at champaran.

or

Why did the peddler accept Edla’s invitation when he had already declined the ironmaster’s to go to his house with him?

11. Zitkala sa’s experience in ‘memories of childhood’ is that of a victim of the caste system. What kind of discrimination does Bama’s experience depict? What are their responses to the respective situation?

12. “Bravery brings happiness and ecstasy”. Substantiate the dictum keeping in mind dr. Kemp’s role in the story “the invisible man”

13. Attempt a character sketch of marvel?