

Solved Paper 2014

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

CLASS-X

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 100

General Instructions:

(i) The Question paper is divided into three sections :

Section A — Reading

20 marks

Section B — Writing and Grammar

30 marks

Section C — Literature

30 marks

(ii) All questions are compulsory.

(iii) You may attempt any section at a time.

(iv) All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.

SECTION-A

(Reading)

20 marks

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions/complete the sentences that follow:

1×8=8

Sniffer dog Tucker uses his nose to help researchers find out why a killer whale population off the northwest coast of the United State is on the decline. He searches for whale faeces floating on the surface of the water, which are then collected for examination. He is one of the elite team of detection dogs used by scientists studying a number of species including right whales and killer whales.

Conservation canines are fast becoming indispensable tools for biologists according to Aimee Hurt, associate director and co-founder of Working Dogs for Conservation, based in Three Forks, Montana.

Over the last few years, though, so many new conservation dog projects have sprung up that Hurt can no longer keep track of them all. Her organization's dogs and their handlers are fully booked to assist field researchers into 2012.

"Dogs have such a phenomenal sense of smell," explained Sam Wasser, director of the centre for Conservation Biology at the University of Washington in Seattle. He has worked with scat-detection dogs since 1997.

Scientists have been using Conservation Canines in their research since 1997. These dogs have enabled them to non-invasively access vast amount of genetic and physiological information which is used to tackle conservation problem around the world. Such information has proved Vital for determining the causes and consequences of human disturbances on wildlife as well as the action needed to mitigate such impacts.

The ideal detection dog is extremely energetic with an excessive play drive. These dogs will happily work all day long, motivated by the expectation of a ball game as reward for sample detection. The obsessive high energy personalities of detection dogs also makes them difficult to maintain as pets. As a result they frequently find themselves abandoned to animal shelters, facing euthanasia. The programme rescues these dogs and offers them a satisfying career in conservation research.

- (a) According to the text there are a few detection dogs like Tucker.
- (b) Tucker sniffs for whale
- (c) The dogs are special because they assist in research without
- (d) The ideal detection dog
- (e) The dog expect as a reward of their hardwork.
- (f) of these dogs make it difficult to keep them as pets.
- (g) These dogs find a career in
- (h) The word 'euthanasia' means

- Ans.**
- (a) According to the text there are a few conservation detection dogs like Tucker. 1
 - (b) Tucker sniffs for whale faeces floating on the surface of the water. 1
 - (c) The dogs are special because they assist in research without much expectation. 1
 - (d) The ideal detection dog is extremely energetic with an excessive play drive. 1
 - (e) The dog expect a ball game as a reward of their hard work. {Sentence can be rephrased} 1
 - (f) The obsessive, high energy personalities of these dogs make it difficult to keep them as pets. 1
 - (g) These dogs find a career in conservation research. 1
 - (h) The word 'euthanasia' means mercy killing. 1

2. Read the passage gives below and answer the questions that follow: 12

Long, long ago in a big forest there were many trees. Among the cluster of trees there was a very tall pine tree. He was so tall that he could talk to the stars in the sky. He could easily look over the heads of the other trees. One day late in the evening the pine tree saw a ragged, skinny girl approaching him. He could see her only because of his height. The little girl was in tears. The pine tree bent as much as he could and asked her : "What is the matter ? Why are you crying?"

The little girl, still sobbing replied, "I was gathering flower for a garland for Goddess Durga, who I believe, would help my parents to overcome their poverty and I have lost my way." The pine tree said to the little girl. It is late in the evening. "It will not be possible for you to return to your house which is at the other end of the forest. Sleep for the night at this place."

The pine tree pointed out to an open cave like place under him. The little girl was frightened of wild animals. The girl quickly crept into the cave like place. The pine tree was happy and pleased with himself. He stood like a soldier guarding the place. The little girl woke up in the morning and was amazed to see the pine tree standing guard outside the cave. Then her gaze travelled to the heap of flowers that she had gathered the previous night. The flower lay withering on the ground. The pine tree understood what was going on in the girl's mind. He wrapped his branches around the nearby flower trees and shook them gently. The little girl's eyes brightened. But a great surprise awaited her. The pine tree brought out a bag full of gold coins which had been lying for years in the hole in its trunk and gave it to the girl. With teary eyes she thanked her benefactor and went away.

2.1. On the basis of your reading of the above passage, answer the following questions briefly.

- (a) Why was the little girl crying? 2
- (b) Where did the pine tree want the little girl to sleep for the night ? 2
- (c) Why was the little girl disappointed when she looked at the flowers and what did the tree do to make her happy ? 2
- (d) What lesson does this short story teach us? 2

Ans. (a) The little girl kept crying because she lost her way in the forest.

(b) The pine tree wanted the little girl to sleep in an open cave, which is a place under it.

(c) The girl felt disappointed because the heap of flowers that she had gathered the previous night laid withering on the ground. To make the girl happy, the tree wrapped its branches around the nearby flower trees and shook them gently.

(d) The story here teaches us that, God has his unique ways of helping the genuinely needy person and he would definitely reach out the deserving one.

2.2. Choose the most appropriate meaning of the given words from the option provided.

- (a) What is meant by the word 'cluster' ? 1**
 - (i) group (ii) team
 - (iii) class (iv) party
- (b) What is meant by the word 'approaching'? 1**
 - (i) calling (ii) touching
 - (iii) coming close (iv) running towards
- (c) What is meant by the word 'wild' ? 1**
 - (i) cunning (ii) dirty
 - (iii) unpolished (iv) dangerous
- (d) What is meant by 'the word withering'? 1**
 - (i) dead (ii) shrunk
 - (iii) colourless (iv) unhappy

Ans. (a) (i) group

(b) (iii) coming close

(c) (iv) dangerous

(d) (ii) shrunk

SECTION-B
(Writing and Grammar) 25 marks

3. You are Kritika/Karan. Write a letter to the edition of a leading newspaper voicing your concern about the increasing number of drug users in our country. Using the notes given below, write your letter in about 100-120 words to highlight the dangers of this new age social evil. 5

Notes

Why drug abuse?—No single reason—addicts start out of curiosity—for pleasure—to get over boredom—depression symptoms—loss of interest in sports daily routine, appetite—puffy eyes—unclear vision—mood change—temper tantrums—**STRIKE DRUGS BEFORE THEY STRANGLE YOU.**

Ans. Letter Writing 5 Marks

Abhishek Road,
New Delhi
12th January 2014

The Editor,
The Time of India, Delhi.

Subject: Unrestrained increase in the number of drug users in our country.

Sir,

With great respect and faith in the columns of your newspaper, I wish to express my concern over the unrestrained increase in the number of drug users in our country. Today we unfortunately find ample of drug users throughout the country and this is indeed unfortunate that despite being aware about the dangers and evils of drug addiction there is a steady increase in the number of drug addicts and maximum of them belong to the youth. There is no single reason why people take drugs. Generally the root cause of addiction seems to be curiosity, some

start it for the purpose of pleasure or to get over a monotonous pattern of life. Once, one gets involved into this practice of consuming drugs then it gets impossible for him to return back to his normal lifestyle which is drug free and no matter how hard he may try this evil drug addiction wins the battle. Youth today has become hostile and are themselves moving forth into this darkness. Life has become a synonym for burden in our times although we have been blessed by fantastic technological progress, most of which is used in a wrong way. Unable to cope with increased pressure and competition in professional and personal arenas, the youth is more and more becoming prey to drug addiction. It is a chain of circumstances that has led to symptoms of depression, loss of appetite, mood swings, lack of interest in daily routine, sports, family life, temper tantrums and many more.

Sir, I urge you whole-heartedly to please make a sincere effort in this direction, as we are slowly but surely heading towards a time when drug addiction will become one of the national problems in our country.

Yours sincerely
Kritika.

4. Write a story in 150-200 words beginning with the following line and give it a suitable title. 10

Night before the zonal debate competition ... everyone was fast asleep, while I was practicing suddenly,

Ans. Audacity over anxiety /Fear always subdues your performance 10

A night before my zonal debate competition I was very conscious and tensed and had no clue of what to be done. I had questions and thoughts that had made room in my mind. I kept practising during the daytime so that I could have a sound sleep at night, I tried to sleep earlier. I laid down on the bed but stress accompanied me. I got up again and started revising the topic in my mind. The more I thought of my competition the more nervous each time I felt. Anxiety took all over me and I started forgetting everything. By realizing that, I almost sank into despair.

All of a Sudden, got struck with a huge figure before my eyes. I got horrified and was not able to move at that time. Subconsciously found myself revising my speech. But the figure right before me dint let me, something stopped me against speaking. I went numb, could not utter a word as if the figure hold my mouth. I shifted behind and remembered the Almighty. It was then I got an invisible power from inside and I tried to catch him. As I tried to get hold of that figure, I found there was nothing. My hand just swirled in the air uselessly. I rubbed my eyes and tried to make my vision clear. But there was not an image of the horrifying figure. I was amused and amazed.

In no time, I found my mother coming close to me, she stood beside me and enquired, why was I awake till late at night? I replied her by narrating the whole incident that took place seconds ago. She

explained me the cause of it and convinced me that it was nothing but my fear. Her presence pacified me and I became calm and composed. Now, I was more confident and had audacity to shine in the debate with self-faith. My mother patted me on my back and slept beside me that night. I was confident to give my best and win in the zonal competition.

5. Read the passage given below. Fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate word/phrases from the given options. 3

What we call life is a very complex affair. It is not simply eating, reproducing and finally dying. Every creature (a) these. Man has to lead a highly complicated life. It is like (b) through a maze and coming out. He is an economic being and a social animal. He has to earn, make a home, look after his people and attend (c) his obligations to the society and the Government. So, in order to be successful he has to develop certain qualities.

	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
(a)	is doing	will do	does	do
(b)	gone	going	went	making
(c)	for	into	all	to

Ans.

	(ii)
(a)	will do
(b)	going
(c)	into

6. In the following passage one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it. The first one has been done as an example. 4

Space shuttle Atlantis which is orbiter began its first flight October 1985 and retired recently after completing last flight in July 2011. weighed around 80 tonne. It spent 306 days, 14 hours 12 minutes 43 seconds in space.

e.g. is an orbiter

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)

- Ans. (a) Flight in October
(b) completing its last
(c) 2011 It weighed
(d) minutes and 43

7. Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases to make meaningful sentences. 3

- (a) inside/grandeur/the palace hall/it was/all
- (b) interwoven/pearls/were/flower garlands/ sparkling/with
- (c) wooden stage/painted backcloth/the/ decorated/ with a/was

- Ans. (a)** It was all grandeur inside the palace hall.
(b) Flower garlands were interwoven with sparkling pearls.
(c) The wooden stage was decorated with a painted backcloth.

SECTION-C
(Literature and Long Reading Text)
25 marks

- * **8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:** 1×3=3

He smiled uncomfortably. 'Just plans sir' he answered in a low voice.

- (a)** Who is 'he' in the above lines?
(b) Why did 'he' smile uncomfortably?
(c) What are the 'plans' being talked about?

OR

- * **Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:** 1×3=3

"It didn't take you long to start dividing my things between you."

- (a)** Who speaks these words and to whom?
(b) What things are being referred to?
(c) Why did they start dividing the things?

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

- (a)** Why did Mrs. Packletide give up big-game shooting? 2
(b) What does the woman search for in the mirror everyday? 2
(c) What are the three things that the grandfather plans to do on Monday? 2
(d) How does Louisa Mebbin exploit the incident of killing the tiger to her greatest advantage? 2

- * **10. Answer any one of the following questions 80-100 words:**

The poem 'The Frog and the Nightingale' tells us how simple and genuine talent is exploited by people for their personal gains. Write a letter to the poet Vikram Seth mentioning how deeply you were touched by the poem and how beautifully it exposes the bitter truth of life.

OR

The poet in the poem 'Not Marble nor the Gilded Monuments' reveals the stark reality that everything comes to an end gradually by the impact of time. Keeping this in view, write an article on the topic 'Time Works Wonders.'

- 11. Human spirit to live triumphs in every circumstance? Discuss in detail in light of 'The Diary of a Young Girl.'** 10

OR

What impression do you form of Gestapo on its way of handling the Jews after reading 'The Diary of a Young Girl'.

- Ans.** The quote provided suits best for Anne and her family scribbled in the 'Diary of a young Girl' as it teaches us that we humans do possess the quality of winning over ever circumstance. We can elaborate this taking instances from the diary of Anne Frank, Before the family went into hiding, it was a happy family but boredom and hopelessness crept into their lives after they hid themselves. Many a times Anne felt herself to be a songbird without wings and felt depressed and frustrated at her hiding but even then, she managed to find certain moments of hope and happiness. They celebrated both Hanukkah and St. Nicholas Day in whatever way they could. They carried themselves to the celebration mode, exchanged gifts, lit candles and sang songs. That was the time when they did not bother for whats going to happen in future and lived in the moment. The spirit to live, despite all struggles of life was trying to be victorious. They tried to enjoy every moment which they could so that spirit triumphed even in hiding and helped them pass their time smoothly.

OR

Gestapo were very inhuman while dealing with the Jews. Anne mentions in her diary that the Jews were taken to a big camp and there was nothing in the name of food that they were given to eat and much less water to drink as water was available only for one hour a day. Thousands of people shared only one toilet and a sink. The heads of women and children were often shaved off. Gestapo treated them in a very harsh and cruel way. Mr. Alfred Dussel told the residents of the secret annexe that many Jews had been subjected to a dreadful fate. Every night the grey green military vehicles cruised the streets and knocked at every door to ask for the Jews if they were found at that place, they were immediately taken away, exactly like the slave-hunting of old days. The Jews were given harsh punishments until they nearly died. They had no mercy even for the sick or elderly. They did not even spare babies or pregnant women. They all were supposed to march to their death.

- * **12. What was the writer experience at the World Fair like? Explain in your own words.** 10

OR

It was through nature that Helen learnt the lessons of life. Discuss the role of nature as a teacher

